

















FOREWORD

Loreto College Coleraine is part of a worldwide network of schools, all sharing the same philosophy of education. Loreto schools are centred in God, rooted in Christ and animated by the spirit of Mary Ward, the founder of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was her desire to respond to the needs of the time and to provide an education appropriate to the differing needs of her students. It is striking how relevant this vision remains in the 21st century. Within the Loreto philosophy of education is a belief that all Loreto schools should be inclusive and that is why our Board of Governors was prompted to end academic selection and move towards an all ability school. In doing so, the vision and values of Mary Ward will find expression in the experience of a wider range of students.

Next September sees the first intake of Y8 pupils to be admitted under our new criteria and we look forward to welcoming them as Loreto students and as part of the worldwide Loreto family. We hope that, as with previous Loreto students, each of these new students feels valued as an individual and that they enjoy an enriching and liberating education empowering them to be men and women of courage who are alive to the needs of humanity and committed to making a better world. Our wonderful contribution to charities this year is a testament to this.

As ever, Loreto Lore does a wonderful job capturing the unique ethos of the College, as well as recording the many activities throughout the school year. I can thoroughly recommend it. The school is a vibrant, busy community with so much happening that it is hard to keep up with all our achievements and successes and I would like to congratulate and thank Mrs Little and her editorial team on yet another magnificent publication.

Thihael F-James

Principal
Loreto College Coleraine

Mr Michael James



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Bean Uí Mhaoláin (Irish, Spanish)

Bean Uí Mhianáin (Irish)

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Mr Ian O'Hara Mr Liam Otterson Mrs Selena Young

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Canteen Staff: Mrs Helen Heaney

Mrs Zara McMaster Mrs Celine Moore Mrs Teresa Mullan Mrs Siobhan Shirlow Mrs Caroline Weir

Lunchtime Supervisors: Mrs Becky Parsons

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Mrs Jenny McGarvey

Groundsman: Mr Donald Turner



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STAFF NEWS

EDITORIAL

It was maybe six weeks into the school year. The weather was just starting to get colder, and the bleak reality of early mornings, darkening evenings, homework, assessments, marking and exhaustion was starting to hit home. Some were looking forward to Half Term; others were starting to feel it would never come. And then one Sunday night, the muchpostponed event which some had scoffed that no-one could ever do, took place, as Felix Baumgartner was taken to the edge of space. Having ascended to 128,100 feet in a stratospheric balloon, he then made a freefall jump, rushing toward earth at supersonic speeds before parachuting to the ground. Baumgartner's jump was watched live on YouTube alone by over 8 million people, the worldwide interest reflected too by a noticeable spike in postings on social media.

Beyond the courage, and the science, and the finely-calculated risk of the attempt, what fascinated me most as I stood in my kitchen that Sunday night, was the spectacle of just how tiny that one man looked in the face of the vast eternity of space surrounding him as he jumped. I watched him standing on the threshold of the capsule, pausing for a few moments before his skyfall. Surely this was the emblematic, defining statement of the insignificance of the individual human being in the face of the eternities of time and space. In terms like this, none of us is anything but a tiny dot on a landscape which stretches out forever. And yet each dot is important: each person is important, just as each dot forms an integral, if almost imperceptible, part of the painting created by the pointillist Impressionist artist.

A year in the life of a school is an awful lot less easily defined than the moment of that history-making fall from space. There are so many days which are just routine: when we respond to bells, lessons are attended, corridors are busy, and many cheese toasties are enjoyed in the Café Lorette. But days like this merge and form the pattern of a week or a term or a year or a lifetime: tiny individual dots which merge to form a portrait of reality. In compiling the School Magazine, each year, I try to make the tiny dots make sense. The tiny dots are each of us, each of our interests and activities, and all of the moments throughout the year which have been remembered in a photograph, a story or a thoughtprovoking poem. And each of us is just like Felix Baumgartner on the verge of that skyfall into the record books: tiny, finite, limited, but with the capacity to make our history write itself.

This, I think, is my thirteenth School Magazine as Editor, and I hope it does not prove unlucky! This year, as in all previous years, compiling the Magazine has been both interesting and arduous. And as in all previous years, I could not have completed it without the support and assistance of many people who have helped the bigger picture come together. Everyone in school has ideas to contribute, and I am grateful for all these suggestions, articles, photographs, practical advice, assistance and encouraging words. In particular, I would like to thank Mr James for his advice and support, Miss Toner and Mr Gallagher for helping to ensure that photographic assignments run smoothly, and Mr Rice and Mr Elgin for their computer and photographic expertise. In the School Office, Miss Stewart, Mrs Dougan, Mrs Johnston and Mrs West continue to offer great assistance, no matter how frequent, how onerous and how urgent the requests.

As always, the members of the Editorial Committee have contributed much to the Magazine. Many have written and commissioned articles, others have helped behind the scenes and everyone has responded with enthusiasm and interest to the creation of a coherent overview of another busy year. Everyone involved has been generous about contributing ideas, energy and time to the production of a full and lively record of 2012-2013. Each individual contribution may seem like a tiny dot, but the work that everyone has done has formed a pattern which proves that Loreto students are creative, imaginative, and full of life and humour. And maybe that pattern tells us all we need to know about our school, this year and every year.

Mrs C Little, Editor

Editorial Committee (Y13-14)

Caoimhe Cooke (Y13)
Una Marie Darragh (Y14)
James Granleese (Y14)
Ben Levy (Y13)
Jack McCann (Y14)
Patrick McCloskey (Y13)
Catherine McLaughlin (Y14)
Eilish McLaughlin (Y14)
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Louise Hickey (Y12)
Annie McBride (Y12)
Paul McFerran (Y12)
Tiarna McGinty (Y12)
Rebecca McKillen (Y12)
Nicole McNicholl (Y12)
Maria McQuillan (Y12)
Ceara Mellon (Y12)

Junior Associates (Y8-10)

Aidan Boyle (Y10) Finn Lestas (Y9) Kate McLaughlin (Y10)

Room is no exception to that rule. welcome It has once again been an eventful welcome Miss A year among the Loreto staff, with Assistation happy events, good news and Felicity

Loreto is a busy place, and the Staff

happy events, good news and many, many cups of tea and coffee.

We returned in September with good news to celebrate, as both Miss O'Neill and Mr Loughran had got engaged over the Summer break (though not, as some students speculated, to one another). Miss O'Neill was married to Mr Paul Mellon at Christmas, while Mr Loughran left for the the course of the year a pleasure to work get to know them.

The students often the staffroom is like that they imagine to in a giant nest of many structurally sound scaffolding of red gets.

Summer break with a spring in his step and a wedding ahead in July, to Miss Marianne O'Kane.
Congratulations and very best wishes to both happy couples!

the Loreto family have already been in school to visit: congratulations to Mrs Brenda Sweeney and her husband Vincent on the birth of their daughter Cara; to Mrs Ciara

Some very tiny new members of

Ui Mhaolain and her husband Dan on the birth of their son Fiachra, and to Mrs Meabh McGreevy and her husband Andrew on the birth of

their daughter Aoife.

Through the course of the year we welcomed some long-term substitute teachers: Miss Kerri McGurk for Religious Education, Bean Ui Lochlain for Irish, Mrs Eileen Diamond for Spanish, Miss Kayleigh Gauld for Geography, Mrs Cathy Black for ICT/Computing, and Mrs Attracta O'Harte for RE. We also welcomed back Mrs Aideen Ahern for some Literacy support, and Mrs Eileen Fullerton for

Mathematics and Numeracy. We welcomed Mrs Anca Smyth and Miss Alex Brownlow as General

Assistants, and welcomed back Mrs
Felicity Ferris to the School Office in
the course of the year. It has been
a pleasure to work with them all and

The students often wonder what the staffroom is like: I suspect that they imagine teachers living in a giant nest of marking, made structurally sound by an intricate scaffolding of red pens and with the added sustenance of caffeine. Marking proliferates, but many other things happen too. There have been various fund-raising initiatives (mostly involving the presence of coffee and buns) for causes close to our hearts, such as Macmillan Cancer, Leukaemia Research NI, the Motor Neurone Disease Association, Action MS and the Ulster Cancer Foundation. Various members of staff have somehow found the energy to complete halfmarathons and sponsored walks for their chosen causes, such as Mr Kevin Conroy, Mr Emmett Harkin and Mr Peter Loughran, who took part respectively in the Omagh and Walled City Marathons, or Mrs Oonah McEwan, Mr Paul Cunning and Mrs Lorraine McCool who completed 'Michael's Big Stroll' in memory of former student Michael Clarke, in aid of Meningitis Research NI. In June, Mr Clarke Rice and his wife Alison took part in a moonlit trek up (and down) Slieve Donard for Leukaemia Research NI. During the Easter holidays, Mrs

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America with Trocaire, as part of a mission to inform teachers from Ireland about the valuable work being done in projects to help women, using funds raised in Irish schools and communities. Also at Easter, Miss Julie Galbraith spent time on a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes - an annual event for Miss Galbraith since her own schooldays. The Summer of 2012 was especially memorable for Mrs Maureen McCullough, who was one of the many Games Makers at the London 2012 Olympic Games: Mrs McCullough was able to take our Sports Captains to the London Paralympic Games for a day in early September. As we all prepare to return to school in September, Mrs Claire McConnell will be embarking on an entirely different adventure, as she begins a career break undertaking Christian parish work in Singapore with her husband: we wish her every success and blessing in this wonderful endeavour.

Lorraine McCool travelled to South

Finally, many congratulations to Mr Keith Elgin who has achieved his Licentiateship of the Irish Photographic Federation, as well as winning a PAGB Gold Medal for Projected Digital Imagery (NI Photographic Association), and to Mrs Katrina Brolly and to Mrs Siobhan McCarry who have each achieved the Master's in Education degree, with Distinction, from the University of Ulster.

Mrs C Little



HEADS OF SCHOOL

Our Heads of School for 2012-2013 were:

Head Boy : Niall Reid

Head Girl: Aileen McAlister

Deputy Head Boy : John McLister

Deputy Head Girl : Catherine McLaughlin

Sports Captains : Cristin O'Kane and Liam McGoldrick

Deputy Sports Captains : Claire Tracey and Ruairi Mooney





PRIZEGIVING 2012-2013

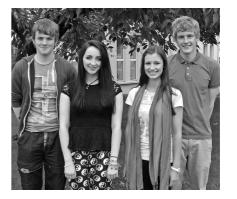
TOP CLASS RESULTS FOR LORETO COLLEGE A LEVEL STUDENTS

A Level students from Loreto College Coleraine have achieved the best results seen in the college in the past three years.

An impressive total of 86% of the Year 14 class of 2012 gained three or more grade A*- C results at A Level, with a total of 27 students gaining three grade A results or better. The 27 students gaining 'straight As' were: Caoimhe Bond, Ciara Brankin, Anna Breslin, Michael Cheuk, Eoin Cunning, Dhruv Dahiya, Conal Gormley, Jordan Hardyway, Hannah Janes, Emma Kelly, Mary Kate Mackle, Daniel McAleese, Ruairi McAuley, Thomas McCloskey, James McCullagh, Niamh McGahon, Aodhan McIlvenny, Megan McLaughlin, Orlagh McNicholl, Maria Mooney, Hannah Morren, Shannon Mullan, Eimear O'Kane, Megan O'Kane, Terese Rafferty, and Bronagh Ward.

Of all A Level grades gained by the Loreto College Year 14 students of 2012, 13.1% of grades were A*, 47.8% of grades were A or better, while 78%.6 of grades were B or better.

Among the top achievers at Loreto College were Caoimhe Bond, who gained four A* grades in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics and grade A at AS in Further Maths. Mary Kate Mackle, meanwhile, gained three A* grades





in Biology, Mathematics and Physics and a grade A in Chemistry, while Natalie Costello gained three A* grades in Biology, Economics and Geography and a grade A in Chemistry. Caoimhe, Mary Kate and Natalie were among ten students from Loreto College who gained two or more of the coveted A* grades.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commented that he was absolutely delighted with the results achieved by the A Level students of 2012, which were a deserved reward for the students' hard work, effort and enthusiasm during their A Level years and throughout their time at Loreto. Mr James also paid tribute to the members of the Loreto College staff who had dedicated so much effort and expertise in guiding the students towards these outstanding results.

On behalf of everyone at Loreto College, Mr James congratulated the A Level students on their tremendous results and wished them every success in their next steps to university and beyond.





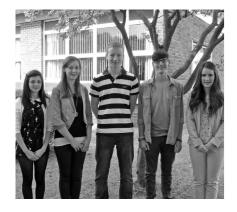
GCSE SUCCESS STORY FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

As the summer holidays 2012 drew to a close, students and staff at Loreto College Coleraine were preparing for the new term by celebrating outstanding GCSE results in the June 2012 session.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the Year 12 students of 2011-2012 and to their teachers for their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication in gaining excellent results across the full range of subjects on offer at the College.

Mr James explained:

'Of our Year 12 group who sat the GCSE examinations in June 2012, 94% achieved 7 GCSEs at A*-C, with 93.2% gaining 7 GCSEs at A*- C including English and Mathematics. Meanwhile 99.1% gained five GCSEs at A*- C. We are delighted with these excellent



results, which are very much in keeping with the outstanding results gained by Loreto College students over recent years.'

The achievement levels at the top end of the scale at Loreto College were high, with a magnificent 47 students gaining seven grade A results or better. Twelve students scored 7 A* grades or better, with six students gaining 9 A* grades, and one student scoring ten A* grades. Among these top achievers, Caoimhe Cooke, Peter Devlin, Shane Donnelly, Niamh Dowdall, Patrick Kerr, and Alice McGee gained nine A* grades while Niamh Dowdall scored a magnificent ten A* grades.

The students who gained seven A grades or better were: Conor Anderson, Christopher Bradley, Julia Brzozowska, Bronwen Butler, Naomi Butler, Caoimhe Cooke, Niamh Dowdall, James Downey, Katie Dysart, Adam Gellatly, Aoibheann Gillan, Kirstin Ingram, Patrick Kerr, Edward Lane, Ben Levy, Kevin Liken, Sara McFarland, Rosanna McAleese, Patrick McCloskey, Alice McGee, Damian McGrath, Cliodhna McIlvenny, Brendan McKillop, Eoin McKillop, Eilis McNamee, Ruairi McPoland, Ciara Morren, Karla O'Boyle, Nicole O'Hagan, Sorcha O'Hara, Rachel O'Kane, Roisin Parahoo, Luke

Roantree, Ellen Thompson, Karl

Wachala-Kelly.

Traynor, Donald Turner and Fergus

Peter Devlin. Shane Donnelly.

Mr James congratulated these students and all those who took their GCSE examinations at Loreto College last summer, on behalf of all the staff of the College, and wished the students well in the next phase of their studies.







EXAMINATION ACCOLADES FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

A current student and two former students from Loreto College Coleraine have been recognised among the very top students achieving A* grades in a variety of subjects in last summer's CCEA GCSE and A Level examinations.

At A Level, Natalie Costello was placed first among all those who entered CCEA A Level Geography and CCEA A Level Economics. This is a remarkable achievement for Natalie, who has now taken up a place to read Medicine at Queen's University Belfast.



Also at A level, James McCullagh was placed second among all those who sat CCEA A level Economics. James, a well-known figure, who finished as runner-up in the BBC's Young Apprentice 2011, took first place in GCSE Economics in 2010, and is now working for Saatchi & Saatchi in London.

At GCSE level, there was another success for the Loreto College Economics Department, as Markus Condren was placed second among all those who took CCEA

GCSE Economics. Markus has returned to Loreto College this year to study Biology, Chemistry, Economics and Mathematics.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated all three students and their teachers: Miss E A Curry, Mrs M McGreevy and Mr L Shaw (Geography), and Mr G McGouran and Miss S O'Neill (Economics) on these wonderful achievements, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.





EXAMINATION AWARD FOR FORMER LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A former student from Loreto College Coleraine has been rewarded by the Royal Geographical Society following her success as one of the very top students achieving A* grades in last summer's CCEA A level examinations.

'CCEA Celebrating Excellence 2012'



'CCEA Celebrating Excellence 2012'



'CCEA Celebrating Excellence 2012'





At A Level, Natalie Costello was placed first among all those who entered both CCEA A Level Geography and CCEA A Level Economics. This is a remarkable achievement for Natalie, who has now taken up a place to read Medicine at Queen's University Belfast. In recognition of her success in Geography, Natalie received an Excellence Award from the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG).

Commenting, Steve Brace, Head of Education at the Royal Geographical Society said: 'The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) congratulates Natalie on her exceptional grade. This is testament to her hard work and ability as a geographer, along with the high quality teaching that has taken place in her school.'

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated Natalie and her Geography teachers, Miss E A Curry, Mrs M McGreevy and Mr L Shaw on this wonderful achievement, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.

FORMER LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT RECEIVES CCEA EXCELLENCE AWARDS

A former student from Loreto College Coleraine has been presented with awards in recognition of outstanding achievement in her A Levels at the annual CCEA Celebrating Excellence ceremony.

Natalie Costello took first place in CCEA A Level Economics and A Level Geography. She was also presented with the NI Consumer Council Award for Excellence in Economics. Natalie is now studying Medicine at Queen's University Belfast.

Speaking at the event, Anne Marie Duffy, Director of Qualifications at CCEA, commented:
'CCEA takes pride in organising this special 'Celebrating Excellence' event, which is now in its fourteenth year. It allows us to recognise the achievements of some very talented young people, as well as the support and encouragement of the families, friends and teachers who have been integral to their success.

'A Levels continue to be a valued qualification for universities and employers and CCEA was very pleased to see a record 32,908 entries for GCE A Level examinations in Northern Ireland this year. We wish all the students here today all the very best in their future endeavours.'

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated Natalie on this superb achievement, and paid tribute to her teachers, Mr Gerry McGouran and Mrs Stacey Mellon (Economics) and Miss Liz Curry, Mrs Meabh McGreevy and Mr Liam Shaw (Geography) on their dedication, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.

SENIOR PRIZE-GIVING HIGHLIGHTS EXCELLENCE AT LORETO COLLEGE COLERAINE

The annual Senior Prizegiving was held at Loreto College on the evening of Wednesday 19th September 2012. The Prize-giving highlights the academic, personal and extra-curricular achievements of a significant number of the College's Senior students, including the Class of 2012 group who completed their A Level studies in June 2012.

The Guest Speaker at the Prizegiving was Mrs Blathnaidh Colhoun, representing the Loreto Education Office in Dublin. Addressing a College Hall packed to capacity with prizewinners, parents, friends and members of the College's teaching staff, and speaking on the theme of 'Fill your mind with everything that is true, everything that is noble', Mrs Colhoun said:

'Broadly speaking, there are three audiences here this evening: young people, now past pupils, your parents, guardians and families and the teaching staff of Loreto College Coleraine. The advice to the Philippians which comes at the end of the school's mission statement speaks to all of us here, partners in education as we are. It reflects the tone and import of the life's work of Mary Ward, the founder of IBVM or Loreto as it is known in Ireland.

'It gives me great pleasure to address the prize-giving ceremony for the Class of 2012. Before I do so, you might appreciate an overview of the speaker's credentials. Mr James, whom I thank for inviting me, asked me to speak to you in my role as Loreto Education Development Officer. This is my second year in the role. I am currently on secondment from the school where I am Principal which is Loreto College, Crumlin Road. The school is an all girls school situated on the edge of the south inner city of Dublin and is designated disadvantaged. Prior to that, I worked as teacher of History and then Deputy Principal in Loreto College Foxrock, a fee-charging school in one of Dublin's suburbs. My work as Loreto Education Officer has brought me to every Loreto school in Ireland over the past year so this is my second visit to Coleraine and I hope to be here again soon.

'By far the most enjoyable, happy, frightening, complex, frustrating and enjoyable occupation I have had all through is to be a mother to our three children, now all finished school. As parents and teachers here will know, it can be a busy life!

'The young men and women

evening, have been educated

who have returned to school this

in a school which embodies the principles and vision of Mary Ward, founder of Loreto. You have had the opportunity to participate in a wide range of academic subjects but also, in the spirit and reality of educating the whole person, to contribute to at least some of a vast array of extra curricular areas available to you. I read of the many sports available in the school though I'd have to admit that it was trampolining which caught my eye! From the Duke of Edinburgh Award to drama, public speaking and music, from the Salters Festival to Young Enterprise NI, there seems to be something for everyone. Whether you have participated fully or not in extra curricular activities in school, you will have learned that there is a balance to be achieved between all areas of your lives. I hope that you will continue to play on a team, sing in a choir, take part in a local or college drama group or take up an interest which you haven't yet had time to pursue. Do not underestimate the value of remaining active or involved in activities which are different from your work or study as well as those which relate to it. We take for granted that these things are available in school but they are there because interested teachers choose to give of their time and energies. I hope that some time in the future, you will learn from their example and do the same for someone else.

'The education of the young person to be an agent of social change is core to Loreto Education philosophy. At the annual Loreto Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation conference, we offer to schools the opportunity to send

student representatives to work together to progress the social justice agenda in the network of Loreto schools. There is ample evidence of a deep commitment to this aspect of Loreto education in Loreto College Coleraine. The links with Sandleford Special School and St Vincent de Paul are an indication of the commitment to justice and social awareness at local level. Coleraine's connections with your sister school in Darjeeling and with the newest foundation in Sudan are evidence of the school's connection with Loreto worldwide.

'Discernment is a word closely associated with Mary Ward and Loreto. It is that act or indeed inaction of sitting on an idea, a thought or a decision until you arrive at what is right. You know it is right for you because it sits with who you are. You are moving into a stage of life where the decisions you make have to be owned by yourselves. I am struck by the part of your mission statement which states that the college actively encourages among its students "an awareness that they are personally responsible for the choices they make'. You will always be your parents' children but in some years, when you are quite ready, they will be able to allow you to be independent in your decision making. You might make mistakes along the way or bad decisions or you might miss opportunities but this is all part of learning, maturing and becoming your own person. When you prove to yourselves and your parents that you can make good decisions, rooted in the right values and motivation, you will have become strong enough to engage with the world on your own terms. But we never stop learning, at least, I hope not!

'Whatever course you have chosen, whether you will go to work or take a year out, whatever the future holds for you, we would wish you a good, good life and courage as you face a life unsupported by school,

where everything is new and probably daunting. Above all, it is important to get balance, between study, work, leisure time, interests, friends and relationships. Look after yourselves. Each one of you is unique and irreplaceable.

'It seems like yesterday when, on a June day, I brought my first child to visit the school where she would start in the September of that year. Though Seamus Heaney's poem, 'Mother of the Groom' captures the feelings of a mother for her son, it is about the speed with which we lose our children to their own lives.

"What she remembers
Is his glistening back
In the bath, his small boots
In the ring of boots at her feet

Hands in her voided lap
She hears a daughter welcomed
It's as if he kicked when lifted
And slipped her soapy hold"

'This evening marks the end of school for the young people here and can be a time of uncertainty for parents too. The routine of school in your child's life is no longer there. If your son or daughter is the eldest in the family, it can be especially strange, not least if he or she has to move away from home to study or work. If he or she is the youngest, you may welcome or regret the end of a phase in your lives. Whatever way it is, our children never leave our consciousness. They remain within our mental space, they are part of who we are. When they move out of school and or reach the age of 18, they are still our children. Though they assume the rights of adulthood, parents retain a large portion of the responsibilities! There is some truth, however, in this rather whimsical quotation:

"Don't be discouraged if your children reject your advice. Years later they will offer it to their own offspring."

'More seriously, worries about our



children's future, their security, emigration, the economy, personal finances, will not go away. We live in difficult times when governments are muscling in to reduce our personal means for reasons that do not always make sense to us. There is much that we don't actually choose in a democracy!

'What you did choose to do was to send your children to Loreto. Now they have finished school. The most difficult thing for us parents is to let go sufficiently to allow them be themselves. Do we want them to become replicas of ourselves? Do we want to be able to describe them to friends and neighbours in such a way as which will reflect well upon ourselves? Is it our relationship with them that we value above anything else? When they find themselves in trouble, in a broken relationship. failing exams, will they come to us? When we've got over the initial anger or disappointment about something which has happened, will we stay with them, accompany them yet further? If the answer is 'yes' then I think that we will have taught them a lesson that is more important than anything they'll learn in a lecture theatre.

'Congratulations on having brought these wonderful young people to this stage in their lives. Each one is truly precious and you as their parents have done your very best by them.

"What the best and wisest parent wants for his own child, that must the community want for all of its children. Any other ideal for our schools is narrow and unlovely; acted upon it destroys our democracy." John Dewey (1859-1952)

'The leaders and teachers of Loreto Coleraine have taken a courageous step in the history of education in Northern Ireland by making the decision to adopt a non-selective admissions policy from 2013.

Grammar school education has

always and ever been associated with the education of the "brightest" by which is meant most academic pupils. Dewey, quoted above, challenges that notion. Every parent knows that each child in a family is different. I am absolutely aware of the opportunities that grammar school education afforded to children in Northern Ireland in the past, opportunities which would have been denied them prior to its introduction. My own mother got her secondary education in the early 1940s on the back of a scholarship to Our Lady's in Newry. She would not have gone on to secondary school or third level otherwise. However, times have changed, and changed again since the immediate post war period.

'The Sustainable Schools Policy

will result in the closure of schools which are regarded as uneconomic and therefore unviable. The results for small and rural communities. is the closure of small schools which are dear to the communities in which they are located. This is causing considerable pain to parents and their children and to teachers who face unemployment. The Trustees of Catholic schools in Northern Ireland have worked to mediate the changes proposed by the Minister in an effort to halt the closure of Catholic schools. Catholic Trustees, of which Loreto is one, are committed to the inclusion of children of all abilities in their schools. Loreto has stated its agreement with the principle of non-selection. Loreto Coleraine has made the courageous move in that direction. Over the past year, I have attended area meetings in Derry, Omagh, Limavady and Holywood. Change is painful and difficult but the consequences of selection are that hundreds of young people are excluded from experiencing success at school and the opportunity to have a better quality of life when they leave.

'For non-selection to work across Northern Ireland, the league table approach to assessing the success or otherwise of schools, has to be challenged, I would suggest. If we measure the success of schools using but one criterion, that of academic, then we take a very narrow definition of education. If the only way of judging a school based on the answer to one question, What are the results like? then we have forgotten that education should be for every child. The message being sent out to young people and their parents is that there is only one kind of success and that pupils deserve the schools that they get. That of course, applies to schools at the top and bottom of league tables. "What the best and wisest parent wants for his own child, that must the community want for all of its children. Any other ideal for our schools is narrow and unlovely: acted upon it destroys our democracy." John Dewey (1859-

1952)

'A Loreto school should be a living, breathing example of equality, justice and inclusion within itself. Inclusivity is core to Loreto education. Of course we can cite scripture for a purpose, to paraphrase Shakespeare. We can argue that selection gives opportunities to children who would otherwise not make it in the system. That is undeniable, but one of the less desirable outcomes of selection is that across Northern Ireland, students are being marginalised in a different way. They are being marginalised by virtue of their exclusion from some schools. The schools which do not get to take in the students with the best grades end up down the league tables, creating a two tiered education system. The reality is that children from areas of disadvantage, children in poverty, children who cannot make the grade for whatever reason are dealt a double blow. At the end of the day, our children



lose out as the system watches over and perpetuates segregation in all its forms. As parents, we want to do the best for our children. As teachers, we should want to do for the children in our schools what we would have done for our own. "Is this what I would want for my own child?" If every school Board, principal and teacher was able to answer that honestly, the education system might look very different indeed.

'Loreto philosophy recognises every child as gifted. Children have one go at secondary school. What an appalling injustice to tell them that they are weak or bright before they even start! It's as if they come out of primary school fully formed. The child is under pressure either way. If we operate out of this deficit thinking, we are telling young people that there isn't enough for everyone and that some of them don't deserve a share. Loreto Coleraine has an excellent reputation. It is the kind of school we would all like our children to go to and I don't believe for one minute that a mixed intake or non-selection will make any difference to that reputation. It will be a richer place which gives room for everyone to grow, to learn tolerance, to take responsibility within your community, and above all, where every child will continue to have the opportunity to reach his or

'Dewey challenges people in every community to behave like the wisest and best parent. A good Catholic school is, or should be, a beacon in the community, a place where all are welcomed of every creed, colour, ability and gift. The pursuit of excellence is not only about the best academic results, though it is about that too, but it is about the value added for each and every student who attends. It is about a teaching staff which is also a learning staff, which I know the staff in this school to be. It is about parents being included in decision

her potential.

making. It is about students at the centre, negotiating their own learning. It is about producing critical thinkers.

'In a recent address to the Learning Without Frontiers conference, Sir Ken Robinson made the observation that the education system is the school students go to, the teachers teach in and principals lead in. By that definition, it is within the power of each and every one of us involved in education to make the system a better one.'

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Mrs Colhoun for an inspiring and interesting speech. He continued:

'Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, Governors and Distinguished Guests.

'I am delighted to welcome you all to our Senior Prize-giving as we look back over another very eventful and incredibly successful year for the College, although a year not without challenges.

'In December last year the local assembly announced swingeing cuts and our school, like all others, had to adjust to a dramatic reduction in its funding. Many of you will also have read stories in the local and national press or heard discussions on the proposed changes for education across Northern Ireland, both for primary and post-primary schools. These proposed changes have raised countless questions and brought a degree of uncertainty in many areas. And whilst many may perceive these changes as a threat, we in Loreto have seen it as an opportunity- an opportunity to ensure that Loreto education is sustained and flourishes in Coleraine, as it has done for the past 82 years. And that is why, several years ago our Governors made the decision to move the school away from academic

selection towards a more inclusive form of education. Loreto College is part of a world-wide network of schools and at the turn of the millennium representatives from all over the world gathered in Kolkakta, India, to consider how young people should be educated in the new millennium. This resulted in the Kolkata Guidelines, a document which guides Loreto Education across the world. So our school here and every Loreto school around the world have, at their centres, a set of values that we try, each day, to instil in our pupils. These values of LOVE, JOY, SINCERITY, JUSTICE and TRUTH are at the core of the Kolkata guidelines and promote an education system which is inclusive of everyone. Therefore, any system which selects based on academic ability naturally contradicts this inclusive ethos. And although the Governors' decision is rooted in and reflects our own Loreto ethos. it is also very much in line with the thinking of the Catholic Trustees and the Department of Education. It is not surprising then, that in all the proposals and plans put forward, Loreto College is uniquely identified as the single provider for Catholic education in Coleraine. Nothing can ever be taken for granted, but we believe that Loreto College can look to the future with confidence.

'This incoming year sees us take the first step in this direction. It is an historic year for Loreto College Coleraine, for education in the Coleraine area and possibly for education in Northern Ireland, Our current Y8 intake is the last year to be admitted using exclusively academic selection and, in the context of Northern Ireland, for a prestigious Grammar School to make this step is both visionary and imaginative. Once again Loreto College Coleraine is showing the leadership and vision needed to ensure the best education possible for all our young people and in doing



so, we are establishing a template that others may follow and adopt.

'However, change can be

unsettling. And in the midst of all these proposed changes, the challenge for us, as educators, is quite simply to keep sight of the pupils in the classroom- the focus for all that we do in school. So how do our Governors' decision and the recent proposals affect students in Loreto? Well in many ways there will be little impact for you, our current pupils. Any changes will evolve slowly as our intake gradually develops from September 2013. We need to hold on to what has already been proven, retaining and building upon what is good, wholesome and healthy. In this respect, we will still have the same teachers, offer the same curriculum and provide the same opportunities that our pupils now enjoy. Our teachers will still have the same high expectations and push pupils to achieve the best results possible. Our standards of uniform, behaviour and our distinctive ethos are firmly established and these will not change. However, it would be foolish and complacent to take this for granted and that is why the school has been planning and preparing for the last number of years. We are confident that we will continue to provide a first class education for any student who comes to us, whether or not they are aiming to go to the top universities. By building on the excellent traditions and successes of Loreto, we can ensure that the school that evolves will be one

'CCEA Celebrating Excellence 2012'



where all students can be content and successful.

'One of our great hopes is that all our pupils at Loreto will be happy. We firmly believe that happy children go on to be successful in all aspects of their life. They are confident in their own ability and work hard to fulfil their goals. We all have a role to play in the ongoing development and achievements of our young people and we have always enjoyed great support from our parents. We recognise that, as the first and foremost educators of your children, this support is vital and, with your continued support, our staff in the College will be doing all that they can to ensure that your son or daughter's time here is a happy and successful one.

'Of course academic achievement will still have great importance and that is why we take time today to celebrate the achievements of students who have excelled in the previous academic year. It is very important that you, the pupils and parents, have this opportunity to celebrate and take pride in the achievements of the school over the last year. I am, once again, delighted by our students' performances in the recent public examinations- the huge numbers of students here tonight bear testimony to this. In recent years our results have consistently placed us among the top Grammar Schools and in the key criteria of 3+ A Levels at grades A-C, where the NI grammar average was 76.5%, our teachers and pupils achieved an

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excellent 88%. Within these results 60% of all grades obtained were A or A* and an incredible 92% of all grades obtained were B or better. At GCSE, results have continued at a similarly high level, with 94% of students gaining 7+ A*- C grades, compared to the Northern Ireland Grammar average of 92%. 20% of all grades gained were A* grades, 49% were A grades or better and 75% of all GCSE grades obtained were grade B or better.

'Individually, at A level, Caoimhe Bond gained 4 A*s and an A in her AS Further Mathematics, with Natalie Costello and Marv Kate Mackle each achieving 3 A*s and an A. At GCSE level, Shane Donnelly was placed joint second in the GCSE mathematics examinations; whilst Adam Gellatly, Sorcha O'Hara, Alice Mc Gee. Peter Devlin and Caoimhe Cooke all achieved 9A*s with Niamh Dowdall achieving 10A*s. These results are amongst the best ever achieved by the school and I congratulate the students and their teachers for their hard work and dedication. (No pressure for next year).

'However, school life is about much more than academic achievements, important as they are. It is also about developing young people and helping them to realise their hopes and their dreams and I am delighted with our students' participation in the life of the College. There are so many extra curricular activities, clubs and competitions, and it is satisfying to witness the enjoyment and friendships these bring, not to mention the numerous successes. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the many staff who give up their time freely to ensure that this enormous range of activities can take place. I am indebted to their generosity and commitment.

'Participation in Gaelic games remains very high with football teams competing in the Ulster Colleges, Nolan, Faul, Ennis and



Mallon Cups. The Senior team progressed to the quarter final of the Nolan Cup, following some fine performances in the group stages and the Year 11 & 12 Gaelic footballers also made it to the quarter finals of the Faul Cup. In the junior school the Y10 football team lost out narrowly to Cross & Passion in the final of the Ennis Cup. However, pride of place must go to the Y9 & 8 footballers who won the Mallon Cup, comprehensively beating Edmund Rice College in the final. Congratulations to Mr Murtagh and the team. The performances of these two junior teams certainly auger well for the future.

'In hurling the College gained another Ulster title when the seniors won the Casement Shield, again beating Edmund Rice College in the final. Teams also competed in the Ulster Colleges, Kirk, Mc Farland and Mc Greevy Cups, with all teams progressing to the knockout stages. 'Involvement in Ulster Colleges Camogie saw similar commitment from Loreto teams, with teams competing successfully at all levels. Congratulations to Maria Mooney and Megan Kerr who both received Ulster Colleges All Star awards. This was the third consecutive year for Maria, who has a distinguished history of representing Loreto in camogie as well as other sports. She was also on the Derry team who made the all Ireland final of the Intermediate Camogie competition on Sunday past and who face a replay against Galway later in the month. We are delighted with the contribution our current and past pupils have made to the success of Derry Camogie in this past year and wish them every success in the replay.

'In soccer, six teams competed in the Coleraine and District Leagues with our Year 8 and Senior teams enjoying the greatest success. The seniors were narrowly defeated after extra time in the final of the Morton Cup, whilst the Year 8s won their Coleraine & District
League title, beating Limavady High
School in the final. Oran Barton,
a Y11 pupil, has been chosen to
represent Northern Ireland at U16
level, in the upcoming Victory Shield
competition. We wish him success
in his endeavours and hope he
can follow in the footsteps of Sam
Boylan from Y14 last year who
represented Northern Ireland at all
levels in schoolboy soccer.

'Netball continues to grow in popularity, with the Senior, Intermediate and Junior teams enjoying a successful tour to Belfast and Antrim. Five teams competed in the Coleraine and District Leagues with the Senior and Intermediate Teams, each finishing in runner-up position.

'Participation in trampolining continues to grow, as does its success. At the Ulster Schools' Gymnastic Association Championships, Jordan McCullough was placed first in the advanced Y9-10 class, Aisling O'Kane took first place in the Y13-14 novice class and the Loreto Team took the overall team competition.

'Following on from their success of last year, teams from the school also participated in the Northern Ireland Schools' Championships for cheerleading. In the senior section of the competition the Loreto Legends replicated their success from last year and won, whilst the Loreto Diamonds took third place. In the Key Stage 3 section, the Loreto Lasers went one better than the previous year, coming second.

'In athletics a sizeable team qualified for, and competed in, the NEEBSA finals, whilst in cross-country Eamon Mc Laughlin was the fastest Y8 boy and Abigail Mc Broom the fastest Y8 girl around the 2000m College Course, winning the seventeenth annual Challenge Shield and Mary McCabe Trophy respectively. Both of these pupils

went on to compete in the Ulster Cross Country finals along with several other athletes from the school. Abigail was placed fourth in her race and, in a year where the Olympics hopes to inspire a generation, we think that Abby is someone to look out for in the future. Other possible stars of the future are Fearghal Close, who finished 12th in his race and Aoife Carr who finished 18th in hers. Aoife is accomplished in many sports and won the Ballymoney under 14 **Up-and-Coming Sports Award last** year, largely for her participation in the European mounted Games, where she represented Northern Ireland.

'The President's/ Duke of Edinburgh Award has grown significantly in recent years, with pupils now able to gain silver and gold awards in either scheme. To complete the awards students must volunteer over an extended period, develop a skill, participate in a physical activity and complete a gruelling 3-5 day expedition. The Award provides wonderful training in life skills, team work and endurance. Over forty pupils are currently completing awards, with similar numbers achieving gold or silver awards. At Easter this year a group of Y13 and Y14 students participated in our very own Loreto Challenge. Students achieve a Gold award by successfully completing a climb to the top (and back down) of Slieve Donard, running 10km and swimming 1000m.

'In other sports, Seamus Mc Allister became the 48-54kg Ulster Boxing Champion and, with Ireland's history and success in this particular sport, maybe he is someone to look out for in four years' time. In archery, our A team was placed third in the Inter-School Archery competition, whilst our B and C teams finished just behind in fourth

'In Art & Design, Kristian Hoy came first in the "Make Art not Waste"



competition, winning a trip to the Eden Project and the opportunity to represent the school and Northern Ireland in the Sustainable Ireland Awards. Pupils also travelled to the CCEA "True Colours" exhibition as well as a joint trip to the Dublin Galleries with pupils from Coleraine Girls' High School.

'As ever. Music and Drama contribute richly to the life of the College through the Drama Club, Senior and Junior Choirs, Orchestra, Traditional group, music and singing tuition. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the school's production of "Guys and Dolls". A cast of over 100 pupils played to packed houses each evening and the rave reviews garnered over the run suggested that this was the best ever show. Congratulations to Mrs Mc Ewan. Mr Gillespie, the cast and all of the staff who worked tirelessly to make this a show to remember. Not to be outdone, the Music Department produced a superb Spring Concert, show-casing the musical, dancing and singing talents of our students. The audience was treated to a variety of orchestral and solo music. traditional dance and music along with monologues from some of our Y13 drama students. The Junior and Senior Choirs competed successfully in the Bangor International and the Ballymena Festivals. The Senior Choir was also invited to sing at the Diocesan Mass for Youth and received great praise for their performance. The Junior Choir supported Phil Coulter in a concert at the Riverside Theatre as well as entertaining shoppers by singing carols at the Riverside Retail Park.

'Drama students from Loreto
College also participated in an inter
schools' event, the brain-child of
Mrs Mc Ewan, but organised by
the local Community Policing team.
"If the Kids are United" provided
a wonderful forum for pupils from
all backgrounds to come together
and develop a piece of theatre. The

final performance at the Riverside Theatre drew a large audience, which was captivated both by the performances and the message that we have so much more in common than we have differences.

'Six of our drama students won top awards at the annual Coleraine Festival. Ben Levy won several awards including the Overall Senior Prize. Conal Mc Ginley also won several awards, including the Junior Festival Cup. Rhianna Gardiner, won several medals and trophies as did Aoife Carr, Emma Crossley and Alexandra McGinley. Mrs Mc Ewan's Y11 drama class won the Schools' Safety Challenge organised by Translink and Musical Theatre 4 Youth. The students performed their winning piece in Belfast and got the opportunity to work with a leading West End Choreographer and Musical

'Science Week is well established on the school's calendar and gives pupils the opportunity to explore some of the more bizarre and wonderful aspects of science. Following on their success at the Young Scientists' Competition last year, Sean McKendry, Jack McCann, Vincent McMullan and Thomas McMullan represented Northern Ireland at the Big Bang National Science and Engineering Competition in Birmingham. Jack won the Goldsmith Prize for Chemistry and Thomas and Vincent were highly commended in the Intermediate Science and Maths category.

'Once again several A Level Spanish students travelled to Granada along with a group of students and teachers from three schools in Co. Armagh. Our students experienced life with a Spanish family and we were delighted that the Spanish students involved were able to make the return trip and enjoy the hospitality of our students and their families just last week. A group of GCSE History students also enjoyed

an educational visit to Berlin, bringing to life some of the history they study in class. Geography and French students are currently planning and preparing for trips to Iceland and Paris and a group of Y9 students will be experiencing the delights of skiing in the not too distant future. Closer to home, many students of Irish participate each year in the residential courses organised annually in the Gaeltacht, whilst Seachtain na Gaelige is a week-long celebration of Irish culture.

'The Senior Quiz Team was narrowly beaten, in a repeat of last year's final, at the quarter final stage of the prestigious Schools' Challenge Quiz whilst the Junior quiz team finished second in the Junior Schools' Challenge. In the UK Team Maths Challenge a team of four Y9 students travelled to London to represent Northern Ireland in the National Final. This first experience of the competition on the national stage has whetted their appetite for the competition in the coming year.

'In the field of Careers and Higher Education, the College hosted its 31st series of Trial Interviews. Through the process, Yr14 students gain invaluable experience and help as they make course and career choices. The volunteers at this event are always impressed with the standard and quality of our students and we are always grateful for their time and support. All Yr13s receive a week's work experience and again we thank all those who support us with this. Year 12 students participated in a Success Skills workshop, Year 11 students enjoyed a workshop on the Economics of Staying in School, Year 9 students received an Enterpreneurship Masterclass and Year 8 students attended a Financial Capability course.

'In the area of entrepreneurship, the school and the wider community were delighted with the success of our very own Young Apprentice, James McCullagh. As a school we were very impressed by James's ability to combine his study with the demands of the show and, even when the show had finished airing, he still managed to keep a great balance between his studies and all the media and business commitments generated as a result of the show. His very impressive A Level results are testament to this. We are still at a loss to know why Lord Sugar did not choose James in the end. But Lord Sugar's loss is Saatchi & Saatchi's gain as James is currently spending a year working

with them in London. We wish him

every success in the future and

makes that first million.

ask him to remember us when he

'The true test of your education in this school will not just be your examination results or what you have won and achieved. It will be how you have grown and developed as a person and how you use your talents and abilities to help others. One of the ways in which all of you contribute to this in school is your generosity in supporting the school's designated charities and, by contributing to our charities you are, in a small way, supporting those less fortunate than yourselves. Last year our students raised £17, 482.73- a truly wonderful total.

'The College attaches great importance to Education for Mutual Understanding, reaching out and engaging with other groups and institutions across the whole of the community. We are especially proud of our links with Sandelford Special School, the work of our Christian Life Community group, our links with the St Vincent de Paul Society and our links with other Loreto schools in developing countries, particularly our sister school in Daejeeling and the latest Loreto school established in Rumbek, Sudan,

'Every school year brings its

challenges, its highs and lows. We remember the loss of family members and friends amongst our staff and pupils and, in particular, the untimely passing of Mrs Kate McSherry. A part-time teacher at the school for many years, Mrs McSherry was at the very heart of the English Department and of school life. She was a wonderful teacher and an even more wonderful human being. She will be

sadly missed.

'On your behalf, I would like to pay tribute to the professionalism and dedication of the teaching staff. Every day they work to the very best of their ability in the interests of you, the students. I feel proud and honoured to have them as teachers in our school and I am confident that they provide a truly outstanding level of service. I commend them to you and thank them on your behalf.

'I cannot leave our teachers without paying tribute to two teachers who left at the end of last year. Between them they gave over fifty years outstanding teaching service here in Loreto, and both Mrs Diamond and Mrs Ahern are living embodiments of the Loreto ethos. Their dedication, their enthusiasm for their subjects and their genuine concern for the pupils will be missed. Again, on your behalf, I thank them for all that they brought to the school in their many years of teaching.

'Our support staff also play a vitally important role in the service of our students. My thanks to all these staff who work quietly in the background to maintain the quality of services, buildings and grounds. Again I would pay tribute to Mr Mullan, one of our caretakers, Mr Montgomery, Chemistry Technician, Mrs Creighton, HE & Art Technician, and Mrs Maxwell from the office staff, all of whom left this year after many years of service to the school and to the pupils. Thanks also to our visiting Priests and the Religious Education Department for the time and effort they put into organising

the liturgies, retreats and seminars throughout the year. Each of these events adds so much to the vibrancy of school life.

'My thanks also to our Governors. The Governance of schools is an increasingly onerous task and the next few years will undoubtedly raise many challenges. I am grateful that in our Governors, we have the expertise and talent to rise to these challenges. I thank them for giving so generously of their time in the best interests of the College and its students.

'My thanks, as always, to the Loreto Community, both here in Coleraine and further afield. Their prayers and support this year and every year are a valuable source of strength and their presence in the convent is a constant reminder of our ethos and connection to a wider family.

'My heartfelt thanks also to you the parents for your trust and support. By working together in the best interests of our pupils we can achieve great things and we are very grateful for your support.

'Finally my thanks to you, the pupils, for your cooperation throughout my first year as Principal. This is your school and you are what make it so wonderful - I cannot thank you enough for your courtesy and pleasant manner. You are the future of our society and you are all important members of our school and we greatly appreciate your own special talents and qualities. Thank you all for making our school so special.

'Ladies and Gentleman, our educational landscape is changing and evolving, but I remain confident that we have the resources, personnel and ability to successfully navigate these changes and retain the traditions and ethos of the school so that successive generations of Loreto students can achieve the same levels of success as these students gaining awards tonight.'



The Prizes were distributed as follows, presented by Mr James, Mrs Colhoun and by various Heads of Department, Heads of Year and members of the College's Board of Governors:

Hannah Morren

Year 14 Academic Awards

Caoimhe Bond	Dhruv Dahiya	Thomas McCloskey	Shannon Mullan
Sam Boylan	Angus Dinsmore	Seana McCracken	Avril O'Donovan
Ciara Brankin	Katherine Giddins	James McCullagh	Eimear O'Kane
Anna Breslin	Conal Gormley	Niamh McGahon	Megan O'Kane
Carla Brogan	Jordan Hardyway	Aodhan McIlvenny	Caragh Rafferty
Katie Burns	Hannah Janes	Ryan McKeegan	Terese Rafferty
Michael Cheuk	Emma Kelly	Megan McLaughlin	Peter Reid
Natalie Costello	Mary Kate Mackle	Orlagh McNicholl	Bronagh Ward
Shannon Costello	Clare Magee	Stephen McNicholl	Sophie Webber
Eoin Coyle	Daniel McAleese	Maria Mooney	

Year 13 Academic Awards

Eoin Cunning

Eimear Anderson	Conor McCloskey	Eilish McLaughlin	Lauren O'Neill
Lee Brownlow	Tomas McCloskey	John McLister	Niall Reid
Darren Close	Caoimhe McGowan	Ruairi Mooney	Clare Tracey
Aoife Kealey	Fiona McGrath	Ger Mullan	
Niall Lennon	Laura McIntyre	Eve O'Loan	
Norene McBride	Catherine McLaughlin	Danielle O'Neill	

Ruairi McAuley

Year 12 Academic Awards

Conor Anderson	Katie Dysart	Sara Macfarland	Karla O'Boyle
Christopher Bradley	Adam Gellatly	Rosanna McAleese	Nicole O'Hagan
Julia Brzozowska	Aoibheann Gillan	Patrick McCloskey	Sorcha O'Hara
Bronwen Butler	Mark Gormley	Hannah McDonald	Rachel O'Kane
Naomi Butler	Kirstin Ingram	Alice McGee	Roisin Parahoo
Markus Condren	Fergus Kelly	Damian McGrath	Hannah Quinn
Caoimhe Cooke	Patrick Kerr	Cliodhna McIlvenny	Luke Roantree
David Devlin	Amy Lafferty	Brendan McKillop	Tara Stewart
Peter Devlin	Edward Lane	Eoin McKillop	Ellen Thompson
Shane Donnelly	Ben Levy	Eilis McNamee	Karl Traynor
Niamh Dowdall	Kevin Liken	Ruairi McPoland	Donald Turner
James Downey	Riona Lofthouse	Ciara Morren	

Year 11 Academic Awards

Ellen May Boyle-McAree	Annie McBride	Hannah McMullan	Emma Mullan
Mairead Carey	Clodagh McBride	Meabh McReynolds	Conor O'Neill
Daniel Connolly	Ronan McCarry	Ceara Mellon	Conall Owens
Courtney Cox	Conal McGinley	Geraldine Mellon	Claire Rafferty
Ciara Dinsmore	Rebecca-Jayne McKillen	Ellen Moloney	Caitlin Richardson
Mairtin Henry	Maria McLaughlin	Brega Mullan	

Year 11 Co-operation and Leadership

Year 11 Diligence

I1A	Clodagh Rainey	11A	Joseph McNerlin
I1B	Katie McCullough	11B	Brogan Mailey
I1C	Louise Hickey	11C	Shauna McIlfatrick
I1D	Jack Danton	11D	Clodagh Gribben
I1E	Roisin Dooley-Nealis	11E	Tiarna McGinty

Year 12 Diligence

Year 1	2 Diligence	Year 1	2 Co-operation and Leadership
12A	Alice McGee	12A	Patrick Kerr
12B	Damian McGrath	12B	Rosanna McAleese
12C	Therese Corrigan	12C	Chris Carson
12D	Aidan Brankin	12D	Saryah McCrossan
12E	Shannon O'Kane	12E	Karla O'Boyle



Other Awards

- 1 The Patricia McDermot Memorial Trophy for achievement in GCSE English: Patrick McCloskey
- 2 The Macaulay, O'Neill & Martin Perpetual Cup for achievement in GCSE Mathematics: Shane Donnelly
- 3 The BKS Perpetual Trophy for contribution to A Level Geography: Natalie Costello
- 4 The AVX Computer Awards for achievement in ICT: <u>A Level</u> Jordan Hardyway

GCSE Bronagh McKinney, Kevin Liken

- 5 The Stanleigh Cup for achievement in Music: Emma Kelly
- 6 The McGeown Cup for outstanding achievement in A-Level Economics: Natalie Costello
- 7 The Ryan McCloskey Memorial Cup for most improved student in Economics: Seana McCracken
- 8 The N & N Trophies' Cup for achievement in A-Level Art and Design: Ashleen Stewart
- 9 The Physical Sciences Award: Caoimhe Bond
- 10 Corn Bhrugha for achievement in Irish at A-Level: Maria Mooney
- 11 The Michael Clarke Memorial Cup for achievement in Drama presented by Yr14 students 2002-2003: Peter Reid, Alex Brownlow
- 12 The Bank of Ireland Trophy for achievement in A Level Home Economics: Niamh McGahon
- 13 The Northern Bank Award for achievement in A-Level Physics: Caoimhe Bond, Aodhan McIlvenny The following awards are for outstanding achievement in individual subjects:
- 14 A-Level Biology: Megan McLaughlin
- 15 A-Level Chemistry: Caoimhe Bond
- 16 A-Level Religious Education: Hannah Morren
- 17 A-Level History: Megan McLaughlin
- 18 A-Level Government and Politics: Odhran McKee
- 19 A-Level Mathematics: Caoimhe Bond
- 20 A-Level English Language: Bronagh Ward
- 21 A-Level English Literature: Shannon Costello
- 22 A-Level Spanish: Bronagh Ward
- 23 A-Level French: Katherine Giddins
- 24 Sports Captains 2011-2012: Maria Mooney, Darryl Wills
- 25 Sports Person of the Year, recipient of the Louise McLaughlin Trophy for outstanding contribution to Sporting Life of the College: Sophie Webber
- 26 The Mother Rose Cup for best Female Athlete in Yr11: Victoria Bell
- 27 Award for best Male Athlete in Yr11: Frank Dillon
- 28 Award for outstanding achievement representing the College in sport at National Level: Megan Kerr, Maria Mooney
- 29 Nolan Cup Player of the Year: Liam McKeever
- 30 Award for achievement in Public Speaking: Ben Levy
- 31 Award for the best article in school magazine: Jack McCann

32 For Full Attendance in 2011 - 2012 Academic Year:

Thomas Bacon	Katie Law	Jack Reid	Oonagh Nugent
Roisin Dooley-Nealis	Ben Levy	Carlos Rojao	Nicole O'Connor
Lucas Levy	Kevin Liken	Liam Gerrard	Aisling O'Kane
Conal McGinley	Alice McGee	Aileen McAlister	Danielle O'Neill
Joseph McNerlin	Cliodhna McIlvenny	Tomas McCloskey	Shane Phillips
Ceara Mellon	Brendan McKillop	Micheala McErlean	Niall Reid
Conor O'Neill	Eoin McKillop	Laura McIntyre	Emma Kelly
Conor Anderson	Eilis McNamee	Paul McKay	Matthew Mailey
Divakar Dahiya	Ruairi McPoland	Sean McKendry	Justin Millar
Aoibheann Gillan	Roisin Parahoo	Aaron McReynolds	Ben Murray
Mark Gormley	Laura Rafferty	Hannah Millar	
Patrick Jackson	Bronagh Reid	Anna Moloney	





Senior Prefects 2011-2012

Marcy Armstrong Hannah Janes Caragh Rafferty Conor Doherty-Greene Caoimhe Bond Mary Kate Mackle Marie Reynolds Kieran Kelly Ciara Brankin Clare Magee Katie Shaw Matthew Mailey Alex Brownlow Rachel Magee Bronagh Ward Patrick Martin Katie Burns Seana McCracken Sophie Webber James McCullagh Laura Christie Niamh McGahon Jamie Armstrong Aodhan McIlvenny Natalie Costello Orlagh McNicholl Michael Bell Thomas McNeill Shannon Costello Maria Mooney Michael Cheuk Ben Murray Niamh Doherty Hannah Morren Eoin Coyle Conor Reid Peter Reid Olivia Doherty Shannon Mullan Eoin Cunning Eimear O'Kane Katherine Giddins Angus Dinsmore Darryl Wills

Special Awards

The Teresa Ball Trophy for Commitment and Spirit: Paul Allen

The Kathleen Toner Memorial Cup: Maria Mooney
The Ciara McLaughlin Memorial Cup: Avril O'Donovan

For outstanding contribution to the Loreto Ethos in GCSE years: Rachel O'Kane, Eilis McNamee

For outstanding contribution to the Loreto Ethos in A Level years: Eimear O'Kane

Deputy Head BoyDaniel BrownDeputy Head GirlEmma KellyHead BoyConal GormleyHead GirlAnna Breslin

The evening concluded with heartfelt speeches of thanks and of nostalgia by the 2011-2012 Head Girl and Head Boy, Anna Breslin and Conal Gormley, both of whom are just beginning the next chapters of their education, at the Universities of Cardiff and Glasgow respectively. The 2012-2013 Head Girl and Head Boy, Aileen McAlister and Niall Reid, presented a token of thanks to Mrs Blathnaidh Colhoun on behalf of all the students and staff of the College.



Year 14 Academic Award winners



Year 13 Academic Award winners



Year 12 Academic Award winners







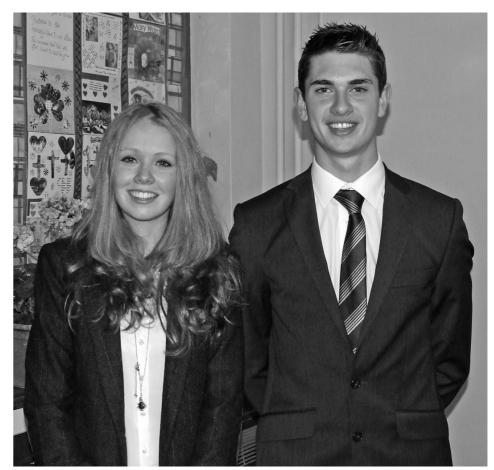
Year 11 Academic Award winners



Year 11 and Year 12 Award-winners for Co-operation and Leadership and Diligence



Special Award winners



Anna Breslin, Head Girl 2011-12, and Conal Gormley, Head Boy 2011-2012



MERIT AWARDS DISTRIBUTED AT LORETO COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

Bronze Merit Award certificates were presented to students from Years 8-10 at Loreto College Coleraine at a special Merit Assembly on 27th November.

The Merit Award rewards consistently excellent classwork, homework and conduct. Certificates are presented at three levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold, and students collect nomination stamps on a regular basis from their subject teachers. The special Assembly was held to reward the students in Years 8-10 who had already gained sufficient Merit awards to attain their Bronze certificate.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the students who had received their Bronze Merit Award, saying that undoubtedly the patterns of hard work and excellent behaviour would now translate into impressive results in the Christmas examinations. Mrs Maeve Close, co-ordinator of the Merit Award system at Loreto College, added that it was encouraging to see so many members of the Junior School receiving a Bronze Award so early in the academic year.



Year 8 Bronze Merit Award winners with Mrs M McGill, Head of Year 8



Year 9 Bronze Merit Award winners with Mr James, College Principal





Year 10 Bronze Merit Award winners with Head of Year 10 Mrs F Pepin

OXFORD PLACE FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

ic Performa

Catherine McLaughli

A final year student at Loreto College has been offered a place at the University of Oxford, following a rigorous examination and interview procedure.

Catherine McLaughlin has been offered a place at Christchurch, Oxford to read Law. Catherine was delighted to be offered such a great academic opportunity, and to learn that she had impressed the selection panels she faced at interview in December. Catherine was Deputy Head Girl at Loreto College, and studied Biology, English Literature, History and Politics for A level, having also taken Theatre Studies as an AS level in Year 13. She held an outstanding academic record and also contributed generously to the extra-curricular life of the College throughout her time at the school.

Catherine was congratulated on this outstanding achievement by Mr Michael James, College Principal, on behalf of all the staff and students of Loreto College.







MERIT AWARDS DISTRIBUTED AT LORETO COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

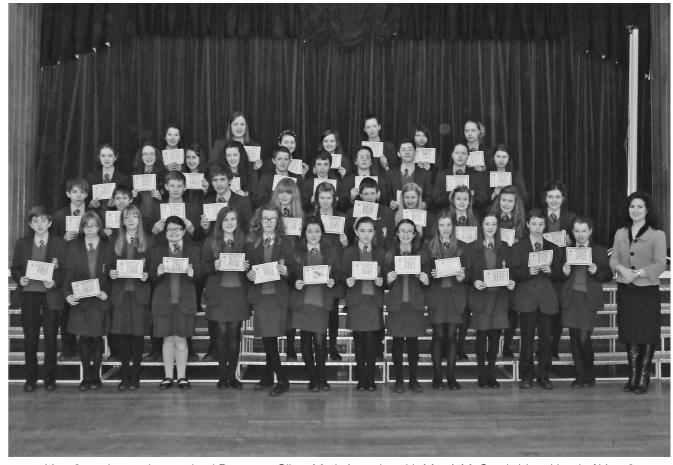
Bronze and Silver Merit Award certificates were presented to students from Years 8-10 at Loreto College Coleraine at a special Merit Assembly on 29th January.

The special Assembly was held to reward the students in Years 8-10 who had already gained sufficient Merit awards to attain their Bronze certificate, with a few students already being presented with their Silver award. This was the second such Assembly of the 2012-13 academic year.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the students who had received their Silver and Bronze Merit Awards. Mrs Maeve Close, coordinator of the Merit Award system at Loreto College, added that it was encouraging to see so many members of the Junior School receiving a Bronze Award, and in particular to see some students already receiving their Silver Award.



Year 8 students who received Bronze or Silver Merit Awards, with Miss B Toner, Vice Principal



Year 9 students who received Bronze or Silver Merit Awards, with Mrs A McCambridge, Head of Year 9



Year 10 students who received Bronze or Silver Merit Awards, with Mrs F Pepin, Head of Year 10



HEADS OF SCHOOL 2013-2014

Just before the Easter holidays, our new Heads of School for 2013-2014 were appointed. They are:

Head GirlRosanna McAleeseHead BoyConor AndersonDeputy Head GirlAlice McGeeDeputy Head BoyBen Levy

On behalf of Loreto Lore, some intrepid reporters caught up with our new Head Girl and Head Boy, to find out the inside story on their plans for their time as shiny-badge wearers...

AN INTERVIEW WITH CONOR ANDERSON, HEAD BOY ELECT

As this was my inaugural piece for Loreto Lore, I felt something of a moral obligation, an almighty responsibility as it were, to uphold and protect the Lore's esteemed reputation as an entity entirely immune to the plague of sarcasm and thus I greet my interviewee, Loreto's newly appointed Head of School, Conor Anderson, with religious formality. A curt nod of the head and a firm handshake serve as an apt precursor to an interview intended to be a model of the English Department's 'War on Sarcasm'- irony, persiflage or joviality in any form was to be strictly prohibited.

The scene, then, was very much a citadel of seriousness, a 'no go area' for the sarcasm war machine, and this atmosphere manifests itself in my opening gambit. I ask Conor: 'It has been but a matter of days since your appointment has been made public, yet your leadership style has already been compared to that of the tyrannical dictator, with one infinitely witty individual, who

shall go unnamed, labelling you as "Kim II Ander Sung". Do you see this comparison as fair?'

Understandably, Conor, having only just worked his way to his new position, deems it unwise to express his admiration for the despotic North Korean ruler and responds with an answer so meticulously and inherently noncommittal, so violently neutral that Nick Clegg himself would be proud of it. He claims that he would like to inform the 'marvellous readers of Loreto Lore' (evidently, the man is a repugnant sycophant) that he 'will not play the role of a dictator' and that apart from 'the extremely witty' nature of this comparison (I have no doubt that our enigmatic, heroic satirist, in whatever dark corner of the world he may be, is flattered), 'it does not reflect upon [him] in any way.' Upon further reflection, rather bizarrely, Conor remarked that he 'shall play a role similar to that played by Gordon Brown- hated by everyone yet doing nothing.'

As I took out the old Blackberry (this interview did not occur with the sacred halls of our beloved Loreto College and anyone who assumed that this sort of monstrous criminality takes place should seriously begin to re-evaluate their lives) to inform Mr. James of this treason, Conor, under the assumption that this kind of behaviour is socially acceptable, assured me that this was a 'joke'... a 'joke'... had I not informed him that 'jokes' of any variation were forbidden? Initially, I rebuked him harshly for his sick crime but after telling him that the only 'joke' here was his haircut, I decided to show mercy. All of those who are unfortunate enough to know Conor Anderson will understand that his actions were more likely

from incompetence rather than malevolence.

Still feeling rather disgusted, I decide to press on. History seems to show that a good leader will have been influenced and inspired by the wisdom and leadership of others before them, and so I ask my now former friend: 'In the same way Ghandi inspired King, and King influenced Hume, which figure will most strongly influence and inspire your style of leadership in Loreto and why?' In light of his previous answer, I await for him to respond with the words, 'Adolf Hitler', yet Conor surprises me with an answer which suggests that perhaps he is indeed somewhat human. 'My mother is someone who has undoubtedly influenced my leadership style,' said Conor, with tears coming from his eyes, 'because she would kill me if I didn't say her.'

He continues, 'Her sternness and ability to scold me without actually shouting at me will always be in my mind when I am scolding the first years. I say this because I don't feel I can take inspiration from people who I only know by name.' While such a response shall undoubtedly strike fear into the hearts of Loreto's first years, one could almost say that Conor espouses a certain amount of wisdom here. Perhaps there is some hope for the Head Boy after all.

Rather cruelly, it would seem, I have yet to mention Conor's fellow Head of School, Rosanna MacAleese. Like most of Loreto, I am sure, I am delighted to see that at least one deserving individual has been appointed to represent our school, yet I am also curious as to Conor's thoughts on the potential dynamics of their impending relationship

as Head Boy and Girl. There are few scenarios quite as fascinating as a political power struggle: the Soviet Union and America, Lenin and Trotsky, Blair and Brown and now, it appears- Anderson and MacAleese. I ask Conor: 'Do you predict a peaceful partnership or an inevitable battle for supremacy, and if such a struggle were to arise, would you regard young McAleese as a formidable opponent, or merely a political puppet to your unquestionable and authoritative

rule?'

Bitterly, Conor comments that he 'has had six years of experience in taking orders from Rosanna in drama, and as far as [he's] concerned, the eleventh commandment is "Thou shall not disagree with Rosanna"! Clearly these two have a troubled past. and, bearing in mind Conor's rumoured support for the North Korean nuclear missile programme (which he is yet to deny), Rosanna will require all her tact and alleged ruthlessness to defend her position. Ever the diplomat, however, Conor goes on to say that they 'will put [their] past behind [them], enforcing the rules TOGETHER and work in conjunction with one another as heads of school.'

At this point it is mutually decided that 'thon'll do bai'. In his first official interview as Head Boy of Loreto College, Conor has embodied the notion that 'power corrupts, absolute power corrupts absolutely.' Undoubtedly, Conor is, by all accounts, 'civil' (perhaps the highest honour a man from Limavady can bestow) yet if he were, God forbid, allowed the power to implement the kind of tyrannical, imperialist thoughts which begin to formulate in his mind, Loreto, as we know it, would be destroyed. Perhaps, more than anything else, this interview has highlighted the urgent need for

the Loreto socialist revolution and abolition of the anti-democratic, aristocratic Head Boy and Girl oligarchy. Our only comfort now is that Rosanna can perhaps halt Conor's rise to ultimate power and, fundamentally, the 'Loreto Anti-Sarcasm Resistance Movement' is very much in safe hands...

Patrick McCloskey Y13

WHY ARE MY SKINNY JEANS NOT SKINNY?'

Saryah McCrossan (Year 13) caught up with newly appointed Head Girl Rosanna McAleese for an exclusive interview. Here is what she wrote.

Jealousy is a mindless thing and one that stares most girls in the face when such characters as these arise. In my years, I can say that growing up as a chubby, unfashionable, most likely smelly and very unsociable child, that I for one was jealous. Knowing Rosanna as a child, but never quite in close enough contact to be her friend, was disheartening. Thank God for secondary school: it gave her the chance to be my friend, the friend she had always wanted to be, but just never knew it.

My envy was directed at someone who once said whilst away on a youth club retreat at 11 years of age, 'I would prefer not to sleep in her room' (implying me)- she was able even then to make her preferences known in a polite way. I support her in what she said: I too would not have 'preferred' it if I was her. I never quite understood why my skinny jeans were never quite skinny when standing beside her.

I ask Miss McAleese to allow me to gain an insight into what I deem to be a 'repulsively structured lifestyle'. As she glides into my sitting room, dressed in a black, pinstriped playsuit, mini mouse tights, Doc Martens, topped off with some Topshop accessories, I am ready to begin my interview.

With a rather limited Personal Statement of my own, other than being able to finish two boxes of Jaffa Cakes on a Friday night and bend my thumbs backwards, I can't help but feel awkward asking about her accomplishments.

What must it be like to be so busy, I ask her. 'Well I just love the busyness, I hate feeling useless, I love having activities planned to keep me occupied,' she smiles. I reflect back on my past week of endless Coronation Street episodes and lack of physical exercise.

I was drawn to Rosanna because of her extensive list of accomplishments, ranging from academic achievements, all Ireland Camogie titles, to being an all round musician and actress. I told her that I was impressed by her long list of accomplishments: 'Thanks, I just keep trying to make myself as sellable as possible, as I want to get far with University and jobs'.

I then look at her Doctor Martens to think, 'One day I may be shining them for her.' Her drive and ambition, with an ability to remain a down-to-earth, normal sized headed girl is very remarkable. It is actually me who has now gained the nickname 'melonhead' within our friend group, due to my lack of self awareness of how tight one should tie their hair back as a young teen to avoid 'big head syndrome', caused by the look of no hair. I want to know what her happiest achievement is: 'I remember how happy I was opening my GCSE results (which put mine to shame). I also remember lifting our all Ireland Trophy with my team at Croke



Park, that moment was ultimate happiness, I simply can't describe what that meant to me!'

Wow! I have to scan through my brain to think of my most treasured accomplishment- there are two that pop into mind: the day I won a food eating competition consisting of no liquids, pink panthers and a stopwatch; or finding a man in Starbucks who had hair to the backs of his knees. I most definitely remember my feeling of happiness then.

When asking about her preferencesport or the arts- she answers laughing, 'I can't choose, they both play such a large part in my life. I play Camogie and netball, both of which I get a thrill from playing. I love being part of the school life in the teams; it gives me something to look forward to other than school subjects.'

Rosanna has played many major roles on the Riverside Theatre's stage which I have gone to watchutterly thrilling, even as her jealous best friend I am willing to say it. 'Drama gives me release from fitness; it allows me to act out in ways other than on the pitch or court.' Her singing voice also achieves a hint of the green-eyed monster. 'I love traditional music with family, gathering and singing songs we all know.' I've been lucky enough to attend one of these gatherings and let's just say, 'the banter was 90' with guitars and singing late into the night. My family, unfortunately, would be too uncoordinated to achieve this due to lack of musical talent.

Being the usual guest that I am in the McAleese household for weekly feeds of tea and biscuits, it's no surprise to say that her house also reflects her, and her family's endless achievements. Two trophy cabinets meet your eyes when you enter, endless plaques on the mantelpiece and 5 photo frames, all roughly the size of a small first year, containing small pictures of the family's achievements (in some of which I am in the background giving moral support).

When seeing Rosanna you are immediately struck by her straight, never braced teeth and blonde hair, matched with blood boiling genetically inherited legs. I look down at my slightly discoloured jeans and practical jumper and sigh. Who likes the funny friend who once weighed the same as a small elephant?

When I ask Rosanna about her idea of a good balance between achievements and relaxation she politely tries to save my feelings: 'I don't think being busy is for everyone, it's just how I prefer to be, I think I'd be bored otherwise. In my free time I work in Bishops (highlighting her highly fashionable, again jealous inflicting discount on the finest of shoes) and watch musicals, I am obsessed with Les Mis'. Going to give her some respect, that film is 'mint', as she describes it afterwards.

Looking at her personal statement, it is obvious to see that she has much to offer. Grades in singing, multiple school sporting teams, choir, school representative, impeccable reputation and flawless reports.

I ask her to sum up her life in ten words: 'family, respect, sport, friends, reputation, music, Made in Chelsea, drama, fashion, and of course Saryah.' Her willingness to suck up to the interviewer gains her brownie points.

I suppose we all need someone to envy, even if it is our best friend.

Full credit, if I did half the things she gets up to, I would need counselling due to excessive brain stimulation. I thank Rosanna for a, well... flawless interview and we break for a well deserved chocolate covered digestive.

MERIT AWARDS DISTRIBUTED AT LORETO COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

Bronze and Silver Merit Award certificates were presented to students from Years 8-10 at Loreto College Coleraine at a special Merit Assembly on 18th April.

The special Assembly was held to reward the students in Years 8-10 who had already gained sufficient Merit awards to attain their Bronze certificate, with a few students already being presented with their Silver award. This was the third such Assembly of the 2012-13 academic year.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the students who had received their Silver and Bronze Merit Awards, saying that undoubtedly the patterns of hard work and excellent behaviour would now translate into impressive results in the Summer examinations. Mrs Maeve Close. co-ordinator of the Merit Award system at Loreto College, added that it was encouraging to see so many members of the Junior School receiving a Silver Award, and in particular to see some students already receiving their Gold Award so early in the academic year.





Year 8 students who received Merit Awards



Year 9 students who received Merit Awards, with Mrs A McCambridge, Head of Year 9





Year 10 students who received Merit Awards, with Mrs F Pepin, Head of Year 10



Year 8 Gold Merit Award winners with Mrs M Close, Merit Co-ordinator



Year 9 Gold Merit Award winners with Mrs M Close, Merit Co-ordinator

Loretolore Mag. 12-13

MERIT AWARDS DISTRIBUTED AT LORETO COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

Bronze, Silver and Gold Merit Award certificates were presented to students from Years 8-10 at Loreto College Coleraine at a special Merit Assembly as the academic year drew to a close.

The special Merit Assembly was held at Loreto College in the final week of the school year to reward the students in Years 8-10 who had already gained sufficient Merit awards to attain their Bronze and Silver certificates, with particular

congratulations being paid to those who received their Gold. This was the final such Assembly of the 2012-13 academic year.

On Thursday 20th June, the students who had received their Gold Merit Awards were rewarded with a day out: the students enjoyed lunch at McDonald's before watching a film at the Portrush Playhouse.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the students who had received their Gold, Silver and Bronze Merit Awards, saying that undoubtedly the patterns of hard work and excellent behaviour would be something to continue in their new year groups from September. Mrs Maeve Close, co-ordinator of the Merit Award system at Loreto College, added that it was encouraging to see so many members of the Junior School receiving a Gold Award as the academic year drew to a close.



Year 10 Gold Award winners with Mrs F Pepin, Head of Year 10





Year 10 Silver and Bronze award winners, with Mrs F Pepin, Head of Year 10



Year 9 Gold Award winners, with Mrs A McCambridge, Head of Year 9



Year 9 Silver and Bronze award winners, with Mrs A McCambridge, Head of Year 9

LORETO COLLEGE REWARDS EXCELLENCE AT ANNUAL JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING

The annual Junior Prizegiving was held at Loreto College Coleraine on Thursday 21st June, as the academic year drew towards its conclusion. The Prizegiving highlights the academic, personal, extra-curricular and inter-personal successes of the Year 8-10 students of the College and is a celebration and commendation of these achievements and qualities.

Welcoming the Year 8-10 students and their teachers to the Prizegiving, Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, said:

'I am delighted to welcome you all to our Junior Prize-giving at the end of another very busy and eventful year for the College. Life in school seems to be getting more and more hectic, with more expectations and more things to do - whether it is introducing a new curriculum, sitting examinations, raising money for charity, rehearsing for shows, going on trips or competing in another competition - there is always something else. And the wonderful thing is that no matter what it is we all respond positively and rise to the challenge.

'Education, as with most things, does not remain constant. It is continuously changing and evolving and the challenge for us is to maintain the highest standards in this changing landscape. And as a Loreto school we are firmly rooted in the Loreto ethos with our core values of LOVE, JOY, SINCERITY, JUSTICE and TRUTH - the values that we try, each day, to instil in you. These values of are at the core of the Kolkata guidelines and promote an education system which is inclusive of everyone and which has prompted our Governors to move away from the use of academic selection. And for the first time, this year in September. we will admit a cohort of students who have not had to sit a transfer test. Some people have questioned

the wisdom of this change, but as the proposed changes from Area Based Planning and The Post-Primary Review have been revealed, it is clear that the Governors' decision fits in well with the grander scheme of things, with Loreto College identified as the single school to deliver Catholic education in Coleraine. This will necessarily mean that we will have to work with the other Catholic schools in Coleraine to develop this vision, but we can be assured that Loreto College will continue to flourish in the future.

'Any change will evolve and develop slowly over the next number of vears. We will retain and build upon what we know to be good and what has been proven to be successful. We will have the same teachers, deliver the same curriculum and offer the same opportunities to all our pupils. We will still have the same high expectations and encourage and push you to perform to the best of your ability. We are justly proud of our high standards of uniform and behaviour and these will not change. Our distinctive Loreto ethos is firmly established and will act as the foundation for us to build a strong and resolute future. However, we are not complacent and take nothing for granted. We know that we will have to work hard to continue to provide a first class education for any student who comes to us; whether they aspire to go to University or choose to follow a different career pathway.

'Of course, in today's highly competitive world, academic achievement remains significant and that is why we take time today to celebrate the achievements of students who have excelled in some way in this current academic year. It is very important that we, as a community, have this opportunity to celebrate and take pride in the achievements of our students over the last year. I congratulate and

commend you for your diligence and hard work throughout the year and, in particular, your preparation for the summer examinations. If we all try to do the best we can and if we do the simple things well, then we can all achieve to the best of our ability.

'However, school life is not only about academic success, it is also about developing you as young people and helping you to realise your hopes and your dreams, whether that is on the sports fields, creating works of art, acting on stage, developing culinary talents or playing a musical instrument. We all have unique gifts and talents and everyone can excel at something. As ever, I am thrilled with your participation in the whole life of the College. Your involvement in all of our extracurricular activities brings a great richness and diversity to the school and there are so many activities, clubs and competitions available to vou.

'It is rewarding to witness the enjoyment and friendships you get out of these, not to mention the numerous successes. This year has been particularly successful and today I will focus largely on our Junior School successes. Y8 boys won the NEBBSA Basketball Tournament and were runners up at Northern Ireland level, whilst. not to be outdone, the Y8 girls won and were runners up in the NEBBSA Netball Tournament. The Y10 Soccer Team won the Coleraine and District League whilst the Y9 boys lost out in a fiercely contested final. We have had great success in Gaelic sports this year, with the Senior Camogs winning the Fr Davies Cup. the Senior Hurlers (including Aaron Christie in Y9) winning the Ulster Shield and the Y11 and Y10 boys winning the Nagle Cup. To hold three Ulster titles in one year is a significant achievement and I congratulate the players and their coaches on



these fantastic successes. It has also been a particularly good year for our Cross-country teams, with the Minor Girls coming 1st in the Districts, 2nd in Ulster and 3rd in the All-Ireland races. The Mini Boys also won the Districts and came third at Ulster level. Aoife Carr competed as an individual qualifying for the all-Ireland Junior race and acquitted herself very well on the day. Continuing a family tradition, her younger sister Niamh won the Mary Mc Cabe trophy with Cathal Kearney winning the Y8 Boys' Shield. Again congratulations to all the runners and to Mr Cunning their coach.

'The Junior Choir won the Bangor Festival and completed a trip along with the Senior Choir to London, performing a memorable concert in St Paul's church in Covent Garden. Both the Carol Service and the Spring Concert provided a wonderful forum for the choirs and the school orchestra to showcase their abundant musical talents. Again thanks to the Music Department for rehearsing and producing these programmes. Cahir McLaughlin, won the Loreto X-Factor and released his own EP. (However, I'm not sure if there is any truth in the rumour that he will be touring with One Direction next year). Emma Crossley, Orla Rafferty, Eve Gardiner and Niamh Cunning all won prizes for drama at the Coleraine Festival. Four Y10 Irish students were runners up in the Junior Gael Linn quiz and at Christmas all Y8 students showcased their creative talents in our annual Scor Na Nollag. Aidan O'Boyle, a Y10 student, is a Northern Ireland Karate Champion and he participates in the world Championships in September later this year. Thirty Y9 students had a very successful Ski Trip to Switzerland, whilst the Geography Department had an equally successful trip to Iceland - so much so that they are now planning a trip to China.

'This is only a flavour of all the successes throughout the year and

apologies if I have missed anyone. I would encourage everyone to try and get involved next year in at least one of the many extra curricular activities that the school provides every day of every week. These activities give you the opportunity to develop new friendships, to travel to new places, to be part of a team and to grow in confidence and self-belief.

'However, the true test of your

education in Loreto College will not be your examination certificates or what you have won and achieved. It will be how you have grown as a person and how, in later life, you use your talents and abilities to help others. One of the ways in which you all contribute to this is your generosity in supporting the school's designated charities. And this year, despite the poor economic climate you have been wonderful in this regard. This year, to date, you have raised well in excess of £22 000 and I congratulate you on such a wonderful total. We donated 32 Christmas Hampers to local families and 212 shoeboxes were sent off for the Road to Hope campaign. It is not surprising that we were awarded the Northern Area Winners from Action MS, having raised £4545 for this particular charity. We have also raised over £4000 for our own Loreto Missions during the Mission Sale alone and this money will go to help our sister school in India as well as the emerging Loreto school in Rumbek. My thanks go to Mrs Mc Cool, who does a wonderful job coordinating these efforts and to the Form Teachers who support her in her endeavours. This year Mrs Mc Cool had the opportunity to travel to Peru and observe how the £6207 you raised for Trocaire could be spent. It is easy for us to take for granted all the trappings of modern living, but by taking time and effort to raise money for people less fortunate than ourselves we are able to give something back and offer help where it is most needed.

'None of these activities could happen without the support and

hard work of our staff. On your behalf I would like to pay tribute to the professionalism and dedication of our teachers. Everyday they work to the very best of their ability in the interests of you, the students, and I know that they provide a service which is second to none. I feel proud and honoured to have them as colleagues and as teachers in our school. I commend them to you and thank them on your behalf.

'I would like to take this opportunity to thank a few teachers who will be leaving us at the end of this year and who have made a great contribution to the school. Miss Mc Gurk, Bean Ui Lochlainn and Mrs Diamond all joined us during the year to cover the maternity leave of Mrs Mc Laughlin and Bean ui Mhaolain. They have embraced the Loreto ethos and have worked tirelessly with enthusiasm and professionalism. Again, on your behalf, I thank them for all that they have brought to the school this year.

'Our support staff also play a vitally important role in the service of our students, often working quietly in the background to maintain the quality of services, buildings and grounds. My thanks to Mrs McDonnell, the Librarian; Mr Lynn, the Bursar and Mrs McGuckian, the Bursar's assistant; Mrs Dougan, my own secretary; Miss Stewart, Office Manager; Mrs West the Study Supervisor, Mr Otterson, Senior Technician on behalf of all the technicians; Mrs Johnston on behalf of all the Classroom Assistants: Mr Weir. Caretaker: Mr Turner, Groundsman and Miss McCann. Head Cook on behalf of all the canteen staff. Thanks also to our visiting Priests and the Religious Education Department for the time and effort they put into organising the liturgies, retreats and seminars throughout the year. Each of these events adds so much to our school

'On your behalf I would like to thank our Governors. The Governors give generously of their time and expertise in making the many important and often onerous decisions in the best interests of the College and its students.

'My thanks also to the Loreto Community both here in Coleraine and further afield. Their prayers and support are a valuable source of strength and their presence in the convent is a constant reminder of our Loreto ethos and they provide a connection to the wider Loreto family.

'Finally, my thanks to you the pupils, for your continued support. Loreto College is your school and you are what make it exceptional- I thank you for your cooperation, your courtesy and your pleasant manner. When I look out at you today, I see

the future leaders of our society and I feel confident that the future is in good hands. Not everyone will have gained an award here today, but I would remind you that you are all important members of our school and we greatly appreciate your own special talents and qualities. Thank you all for making our school so special.

The prizes were distributed as follows, and were presented by Mr James, the Heads of Year 8, 9 and 10, Mrs McGill, Mrs McCambridge and Mrs Pepin, and by various Heads of Department.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
Sylvia Smyth	Molly Brennan	Cariosa O'Harte
Cabrina Farren	Anna Morrison	Emily Moore
Fionnuala Keane	Dominic Bradley	Aoife Keane
Sian Donaghy	Eva McGrath-Olivan	Niamh Carlin
Jason Moore	Niamh Cunning	Aidan O'Boyle
Eve Gardiner	Aoife Kelly	Maggie McBride
Cait Passmore	Shauna Kelly	Connie Baxter-Mulvenna
Susan McKendry	Shannon O'Kane	Emma Crossley
Donal Close	Finn Lestas	Caitlin Cosgrove
Thomas Baxter-Mulvenna	Caitlin Ferris	Darcey Kelly

YEAR 10 LORETO JUNIOR CERTIFICATE

This certificate is awarded to all Year 10 pupils in recognition of their academic performance, application and diligence.

PROGRESS AWARD

YEAR 8 PROGRESS	YEAR 9 PROGRESS	YEAR 10 PROGRESS
Kirstie Brown	Niamh Doherty	Aoife Boorman
Danny Burns	Aimee Ingram	Daniel Dallat
Molly Canning	Valentino Jayamanna	Sean McGill
Niamh Carr	Megan McIvor	James McKeown
Serena Corbett	Leon McMullan	Lucy McMullan
Saoirse McAuley	Caitlin Meenan	Caitlin Norton
Orlagh McCloskey	Abbey Murray	Daniel O'Kane
Adam Purvis	Kevin O'Kane	Liam Tosh
	Mairead Tully	
	Daniel Walton	
	Nicole Williams	

PRIZES FOR DILIGENCE

YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
8A Riona Lafferty	9A Victoria Tsang	10A Cain McKendry
8B Courtney McKeague	9B Glen O'Donovan	10B Oliwia Widuto
8C Joseph Mullan	9C Sarah Dillon	10C Kathryn Taggart
8D David Brussard	9D Alicja Cichy	10D Reece McKeever
8E Aida Nemeth	9E Caitlin Ferris	10E Orlaigh Toner



PRIZES FOR POLITENESS

YEAR 8 YEAR 9 **YEAR 10** 8A Oran Somers 9A Jack Galbraith 10A Laura McGonigle 8B Joseph McClements 9B Roslyn Sinclair 10B Emmett Brolly 8C Caitlin Moore 9C Fearghal Close 10C Conor Rogan 9D Aaron Christie 10D Caitlin Martin 8D Conor Olphert 8E Ben Culleton 9E Sean McKeever 10E Eoghan McCullagh

PRIZES FOR BEING WELL ORGANISED

YEAR 10 YEAR 8 YEAR 9 8A Sean Roddy 9A Rebecca Dillon 10A Katy McMullan 8B Cassie McGilligan 9B Shauna Kelly 10B Dominika Dutkiewicz 8C Thomas Doran 9C Joseph Mulholland 10C Saoirse McPeake 8D Adam Glenn 9D Joy McFerran 10D Conor Craig 8E Michael Carlin 9E Niamh Boorman 10E Kate Bradley

PRIZES FOR GOOD STANDARD OF UNIFORM

YEAR 8 YEAR 9 **YEAR 10** 8A Emma Connolly 9A Kevin O'Kane 10A Alex Christie 10B Liam Ferris 8B Anna McKeown 9B Eoin Doherty 8C Hannah Mullan 9C Jordan Miller 10C Michael Dallat 9D Cahir Hasson 8D Weronika Blaszczyk 10D Molly Maguire 8E Niamh McCloskey 9E Cahir McLaughlin 10E Shaun Wallace

PRIZES FOR CONCERN FOR OTHERS

YEAR 8 YEAR 9 YEAR 10 8A Klaudia Silakowska 9A Luke Boyd 10A Christopher Doherty 9B Nicole Kelly 10B Caitlin McFall 8B Eimear Kellv 9C Niamh Doherty 10C Eimear Carey 8C Zara Leese 8D Anna Brolly 9D Shannon O'Kane 10D Aoife Bradley 8E Owen Tsang 9E Emma McLaughlin 10E Sarah Purvis

PRIZES FOR POSITIVE ATTITUDE

YEAR 8 YEAR 9 YEAR 10 9A Niamh Cunning 10A Emma Martin 8A Cathal Kearney 8B Andrzej Krystowski 9B Roisin Bryson 10B Emma McGeehan 8C Yasmin Peacock 9C Orla Bradley 10C Maria McLarnon 8D Orla Wallace 9D Finn Lestas 10D Joel Dinsmore 9E Mary Mullan 10E Rebecca O'Kane 8E Sean Coyle

100% ATTENDANCE

YEAR 8 Orlagh Carey Sian Donaghy Catherine Dougan Finn McEwan Orla Wallace Finlay Hutchinson Sean Dooley-Nealis Carmen Owens Aoibheann Conway Thomas Doran Fionnuala Keane Serena Corbett Owen Tsang YEAR 9 Oisin O'Harte Niamh Boorman Matthew Connolly Shauna Kelly Roisin McMorrough Cahir Boyle Callum Johnston Abigail McBroom Sarah Moore Riona Pauling Aaron Christie Nicole Kelly Eamon McLaughlin Joseph Mulholland Victoria Tsang

YEAR 10

Eimear Carey Clodagh McGahon Eliza Richardson
Mollie Maguire Bronagh McNicholl Jane Telford



DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

Top 10 Readers in Year 8 (based on books borrowed from the Library):

Aoibheann Conway Andrzej Krystowski Tyrone Quinn Oran Somers
Serena Corbett Finn McEwan Oonagh Rafferty
Eoin Jordan Susan McKendry Liam Riche

Outstanding Achievement in Public Speaking: Rebecca Dillon 9A and Finn Lestas 9B

Le Prix Français: Cariosa O'Harte 10A

Best Contribution to School Magazine: Kate McLaughlin 10B

Shakespeare Prize for Best Essay on Shakespeare in Year 10: Aoife Keane 10E

Young Artist and Designer: Emily Cameron 10D Gael Og na Bliana: Anna McGuigan 10C El Premio de Espanol: Kate McLaughlin 10B

Religious Education Awards: James Moore 8E, Matthew Connolly 9C, Niamh McElhinney 10C Year 8 ICT: Conor Moore 8B, Fionnuala Keane 8C, Aaron Myers 8C, Thomas Baxter-Mulvenna 8D

Year 9 ICT: Kristian Hoy 9A, Dominic Bradley 9B, Aoife Kelly 9E

Best in KS3 Science: Emily Moore 10A

Top Year 8 Geography Investigations: Female Sian Donaghy 8A, Male Thomas Doran 8C
Top Year 9 Geography Investigations: Female Niamh Cunning 9A and Roisin McMorrough 9A,

Male Dominic Bradley 9B

Drama AwardsBest MaleBest FemaleYear 8Ciaran McCarry 8AOonagh Rafferty 8AYear 9Oisin O'Harte 9BJoy McFerran 9DYear 10Tiarnan McGarrell 10DRebecca O'Kane 10E

Junior Mathematics Challenge: Best in School: Molly Brennan 9A

5 Star Athletes

Year 8: Oliver Clyde 8D, Finlay Hutchinson 8B, Conor Moore 8B, Adam Purvis 8A.

Year 9: Fearghal Close 9C, Calum Johnston 9A, Adam Kerr 9A, Aidan McGonigle 9B, Jordan Miller 9C, Anna Morrison 9A, Shakeera Nazeer 9C

Year 10: Aoife Carr 10A, Mark Cassidy 10A, Alex Christie 10A, Conor Gillen 10E, Cahir Loftus 10e, Daniel O'Kane 10B, Sean Quinn 10D.

Athletes of the YearMaleFemaleYear 8Finlay Hutchinson 8B, Jason Moore 8ESusan McKendry 8BYear 9Fearghal Close 9ERiona Pauling 9BYear 10Alex Christie 10AAoife Carr 10A

Swimmers of the Year, Year 8: Caitlin Thompson 8B and Finn McEwan 8B

Team Successes 2013: Junior Choir

Minor Girls Cross Country, Mini Boys Cross Country Year 8 Basketball, Year 8 Netball, Year 10 Soccer.

Contribution to the Sporting Life of the College at KS3: Bronagh McNicholl 10D

Senior Hurling Medal-Winner in Ulster Shield: Aaron Christie 9D

SPECIAL AWARDS

Generosity and Commitment: Aideen Reid 10B Perseverance: Dervla Molloy 10E

Participation in School Life: Cormac McCarry 10D, Aoife Carr 10A

The Kate McSherry Memorial Cup

for Contribution to the Loreto Ethos in the Junior School: Aidan Boyle 10D, Cariosa O'Harte 10A







Winners of the Year 8 Academic Awards, with Vice Principal Miss Belinda Toner



Winners of the Year 9 Academic Awards, with Vice Principal Miss Belinda Toner



Winners of the Year 10 Academic Awards, with Vice Principal Mr Stephen Gallagher



Distinction Award winners in the Year 10 Loreto Junior Certificate, with College Principal Mr Michael James







Year 9 Politeness Award winners, with College Principal Mr Michael James



Year 9 Award-winners for Positive Attitude, with College Principal Mr Michael James



Year 8 and 9 Concern for Others Award winners, with Mr Michael James, College Principal



Year 9 and 10 Diligence Award winners, with Mr Michael James, College Principal and Mrs Frances Pepin, Head of Year 10







Loreto College's Year 8-10 Athletes and Swimmers of the Year, with College Principal Mr Michael James at the annual Junior Prizegiving



Special Award winners, with College Principal Mr Michael James



Cariosa O'Harte and Aidan Boyle, winners of the Mrs Kate McSherry Memorial Cup for Contribution to the Loreto Ethos in the Junior School



Anna McGuigan, winner of the Year 10 Irish Award



Winners of Awards for Participation in School Life and Perseverance



Year 10 Award Winners 2013



CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS 2012-2013 INTRODUCING YEAR 8

We are delighted to present our Year 8 classes of 2012-2013.

Year 8 have enjoyed their first year at Loreto and now feel very much at home. They are enjoying getting to know their Head of Year, Mrs M McGill, and their form teachers: Mrs McGill, Miss Galbraith, Mrs McAleese, Mrs McGreevy and Mrs McNicholl.

In Year 8, Loreto students enjoy a wide curriculum spanning English, Mathematics, Religious Education, Science, History, Geography, French, Spanish, Irish, Drama, Music, IT, Art, Home Economics,

Technology, Physical Education, Swimming, Use of Library and Learning for Life and Work. They also have weekly form classes and quickly get involved in a range of extra-curricular activities.

Many of our Year 8 students have already joined school teams for a wide range of sports. Many have also joined the Junior Choir, the Orchestra, and are taking instrumental or singing lessons. Students have also got involved in charity collections, drama groups, Maths Club, creative writing competitions, the Environmental Group, school liturgies and much more.

Our Year 8 students each have a mentor from Year 13- a friend from an older year group who will be on hand to offer advice or assistance when needed. All our Year 8s and their Year 13 mentors went on a sponsored walk in Mountsandel Forest at the end of September, to raise money for charity and enjoy an afternoon together. In addition to this, each form class has a Senior Prefect (Year 14) to watch out for them

We are glad to see our Year 8 classes looking so happy and we are enjoying getting to know them!







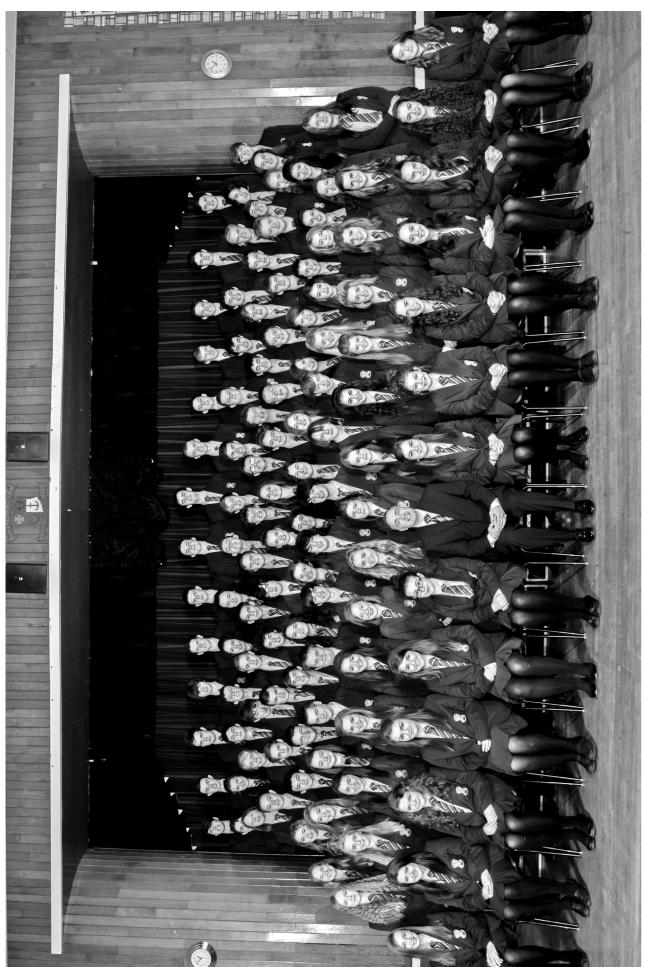




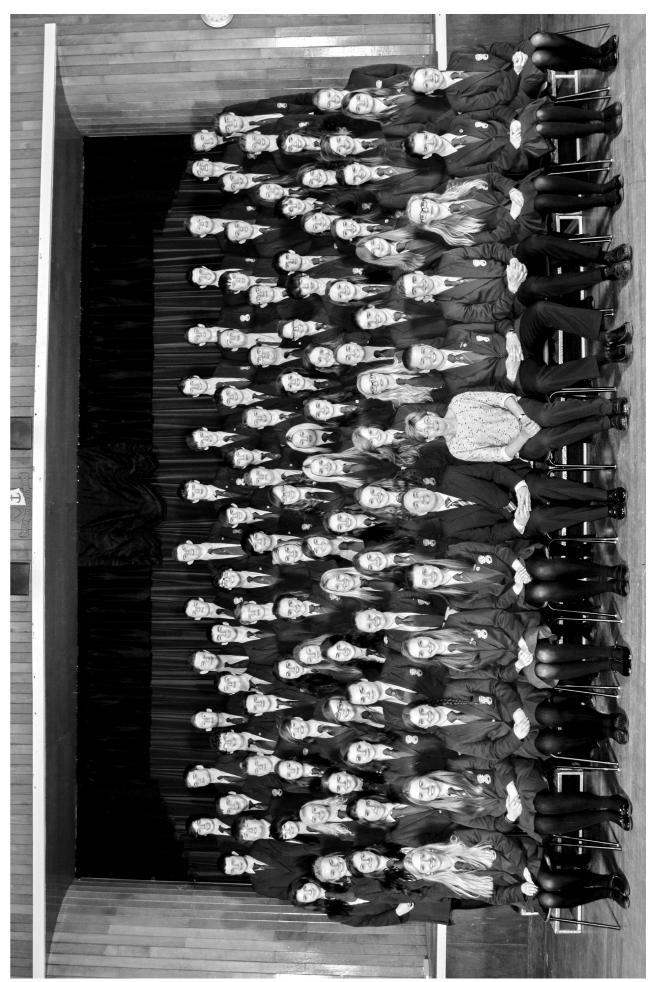








YEAR 12







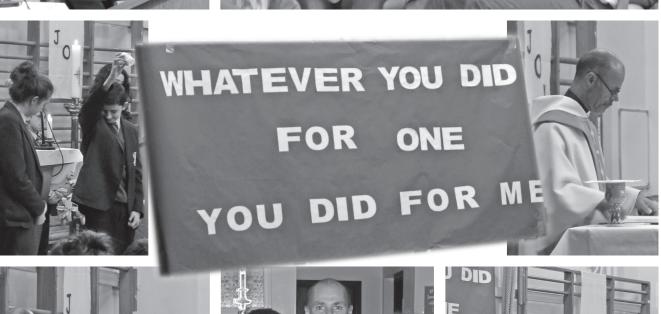
SCHOOL LITURGY

OPENING MASS 2012-2013

The Opening Mass for the academic year 2012-2013 was celebrated at Loreto College Coleraine on Tuesday 25th September 2012, by Father Rory Sheehan and Father A Brankin. The theme of the Mass was 'Whatever You Did For One, You Did For Me' and offered reflection on themes of friendship and the importance of helping others.











Organised by school Liturgist Mr Kevin Conroy and by the members of the RE department, with support from the Music Department and Art Department and involving every member of the school community and the Loreto Community, the Mass provided an inspirational reflection for the year ahead.



YEAR 14 OUT-TAKES





YEAR 8 RETREAT 2012

Year 8 classes took part in their first annual Loreto Retreat on 1st October 2012. The Retreat, organised by members of the Religious Education Department, was facilitated by final year student teachers from St Mary's University College Belfast, many of whom are former students of Loreto College.

Some of our Year 8 students can be seen here enjoying their retreat.













LORETO COLLEGE CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS WITH CAROL SERVICE

The feast of Christmas was marked in Loreto College Coleraine with the annual Carol Services, held in the College Hall during the final week of The Carol Services featured some the Autumn Term.

Organised by the College's Music Department, a Carol Service open to members of the public and friends of the College was held on the evening of Thursday 13th December, while the Carol Services for Junior and Senior students, organised by the Religious Education and Music Departments,

were held on Tuesday 19th December.

dramatic performances and tableaux, a variety of thoughtprovoking readings and reflections, and performances by the Senior and Junior Choirs, school orchestra and vocal soloists. The event also marked the debut of the newly-formed Loreto Male Voice Choir, who performed a medley of Christmas carols with great distinction, receiving a rapturous

reception. The Service provided a peaceful interlude of reflection in the busy preparation period for the Christmas festivities.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all those involved in preparing the Carol Services, in particular to the Music and Religious Education Departments and to all the staff and students who put so much time and effort into the creation of such moving and reflective services.

























TREVOR RINGLAND DELIVERS TALK TO LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

On Wednesday 30th January, Loreto College Coleraine welcomed Mr Trevor Ringland MBE and Mr Harry Boyle to the Year 14 General RE programme. The theme of their talk was 'A Shared Future'. Mr Ringland works as a solicitor, as well as having a distinguished history in rugby. He was also the Vice Chairperson of the Ulster Unionist Party and became involved in a controversy over the new leadership of the party, surrounding the issue of whether the new leader would be prepared to attend a Gaelic Football All-Ireland Final in Dublin if an Ulster Team were to take part. On 4 October 2010, Ringland resigned from the Ulster Unionist Party as this was declined.

Mr. Ringland has been active with Peace Players International, an organisation devoted to promoting inter-religious unity in Belfast through sport. Mr. Ringland and David Cullen won the 2007 ESPY Arthur Ashe for Courage Award. He was also awarded an MBE for services to the community in Northern Ireland in the New Year Honours 2009.



Mr. Harry Boyle gave a personal testimony in which he relived losing his brother John at the height of the Troubles. His contribution touched both staff and students. Along with Trevor, he is wholly committed to building a future based on mutual respect and understanding.

The talk was a very valuable addition to the General RE programme, giving students time to engage and reflect on their own feelings, while also giving them an opportunity to ask questions and gain a better understanding of the importance of a shared future. The input from both gentlemen was inspiring and thought provoking.

Mrs Siobhan McCarry, Head of Religious Education at Loreto College, thanked Trevor Ringland and Harry Boyle for their time and commitment in speaking to the students, on behalf of the staff and Year 14 students.

Loreto Loreto Mag. 12-13

YEAR 14 RE TRIP TO CRUMLIN ROAD PRISON

The Year 14 Religious Education students had the opportunity to visit Crumlin Road Prison, along with the members of the RE Department, in March 2013.

Designed by Sir Charles Lanyon, the prison was built between 1843 and 1845 and cost £60,000. Built as a replacement for the County Gaol on Antrim Street in Carrickfergus, and known as the County Gaol for Antrim, it was constructed of black basalt rock on ten acres at the bottom of the Crumlin Road. Partly based on HM Prison Pentonville, it was one of the most advanced prisons of its day. Built within a five-sided wall, the four wings are up to four storeys in height and fan off from the central area which was known as The Circle. The prison was originally built to hold between 500 and 550 prisoners in cells that measured 12 x 7 feet. It was the first prison in Ireland to be built according to 'The Separate System', intended to separate prisoners from each other with no communication between them. Later, especially in the early 1970s, as many as three prisoners were placed in each cell due to the rising tensions in Northern Ireland as a result of the Troubles. We were fortunate enough to witness first hand the development of the interior design of the cells over a

period of 150 years. Beginning with cold concrete rooms with nothing but a wooden block to sleep on, right up to a habitable space with each prisoner being provided with their own washing facilities.

The first 106 inmates, who were forced to walk from Carrickfergus Prison in chains, arrived in 1846. These inmates, who were men. women and children, completed the changeover of the two prisons. Children from impoverished working-class families were often imprisoned at the gaol in the early years for offences such as stealing food or clothing. Women inmates were kept in the prison blockhouse until the early 1900s. Ten year old Patrick Magee, who had been sentenced to three months in prison, hanged himself in his cell in

The Crumlin Road Gaol closed its doors as a working prison in 1996. After extensive renovations, the gaol has reopened as a visitor attraction and conference centre. Today you can take a guided tour of the prison and hear about the history of the site from when women and children were held within its walls, through to the political segregation of Republican and Loyalist prisoners and learn about why the decision was taken to close the prison.

During the tour we got the chance to sit in the Governor's chair, view all the wings from the circle and, of course, pay a visit to the condemned cell, before seeing the execution cell where the majority of the 17 men were hanged.

The imprisonment of the Suffragettes in 1914 was particularly relevant to us due to our close study of feminism in the A2 Ethics course. Although none of them were among the seventeen hanged, we were surprised to learn from our tour guide that this particular group of women caused most disruption within the confines of the prison as they refused to 'respect a society that did not respect them'.

The trip as a whole was extremely rewarding and provided us with an invaluable insight into human experience, along with some first hand case studies of crime and punishment which coincidentally featured in our A2 Ethics exam! On behalf of the Year 14 R.E. programme, we would like to thank both Crumlin Road Gaol and our own R.E. department for a very interesting and informative day.

Eimear Anderson and Caoimhe McGowan Year 14



POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

A group of Sixth Form students from Loreto College Coleraine have each been presented with the Pope John Paul II Awards.

Twenty-two final year students from Loreto College were presented with the Pope John Paul II Award in recognition of their commitment and dedication to parish involvement and social awareness. The Pope John Paul II Award was created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was very committed to young people and had great belief and confidence in them. It allows young people to be able to take an active part in the life of their Church, in the life of their community and society, and also become more aware of the teaching and roles of the Catholic Church. The Award is earned by voluntarily taking part in activities of Parish Involvement and Social Awareness for a set period of time, and by the preparation of a presentation.

The students were presented with their Awards at a ceremony at the Millennium Forum, Derry, on 19th March. The Awards ceremony featured guest speakers, singers and a live radio interview with two students who had participated in the Award. The Awards were presented by Monsignor Eamon Martin, Coadjutor Archbishop Elect of Armagh, and Friar Alessandro from Assisi.

The students from Loreto College who completed the award were: Eimear Anderson, Liam Browne, Jamie McAlary, Aileen McAlister, Norene McBride, Laura McIntyre, Olivia McLaughlin, Leanne McNally, Aoife McReynolds, Megan McWilliams, Niamh Meehan,

Anna Moloney, Ger Mullan, Aisling O'Kane, Cristin O'Kane, Emma O'Kane, Lauren O'Neill, Dearbhla Rafferty, Gemma Reid, Sara Reid, Paul Roantree, and Clare Tracey.

The students, along with the members of the Religious Education Department at Loreto College, who had guided and encouraged them in achieving the Award, were congratulated on their generosity and commitment by Mr Michael James, College Principal. Reflecting on what they had learned, the students felt that the scheme had allowed them to grow in their faith and in confidence, and had given them the opportunity to live their faith through action.

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD -

A Student Perspective

The Pope John Paul II Award is dedicated to the memory of the late Pope John Paul II whose love of young people was so profound. The Award was launched by the Papal Nuncio to Ireland on 7th November 2006 in the Diocese of Derry.

The Award was created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them. Through the Pope John Paul II Award, young people are enabled to take an active part in the life of their Church, in the life of their community and society and also become more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic

Church throughout the world. It allows young people to understand that religion and faith is not just for learning, nor is it a list of rules, but that it is for living in our day to day lives.

We had first heard about the Pope John Paul II Award in the junior years of school and hearing the representative from the award scheme (as part of our Year 13 Group R.E programme) talking about the experiences we could gain from it, only encouraged us further to enroll in such a rewarding and beneficial scheme.

From the beginning we had no doubt that setting aside hours both within and outside school would be challenging during our final year at Loreto, but the unforgettable experiences and eye-opening insight we gained from this made any sacrifices we had to make very much worthwhile. Each individual student participated in a wide range of activities providing a large support network in our local community. The activities included singing in folk groups, reading at Mass, involvement in charity work inside and outside of school including SVP, Justice League and Friends of Africa. Many students also became heavily involved in their local clubs, through participating in youth clubs, in underage training and various fundraising events.

The 6th annual ceremony in which we received our awards took place on the 19th March 2013 in the Millennium Forum in Derry. The receiving group of students were treated to a beautiful meal in the Mandarin Palace in Derry alongside Mr Conroy, Mrs



McCarry, Miss Galbraith and Miss McGurk. Monsignor Eamon Martin, Archbishop Elect of Armagh and Friar Alessandro from Assisi presented 505 young people from the Diocese of Derry and beyond with their awards.

Monsignor Martin, highlighted to us, the young people gathered in the Millennium, that 'something else is needed in today's world -something that can only be found in friendship with Jesus Christ.' Reflecting on the mission of St.

Columba, leaving Derry to spread the Gospel of Christ, he too called us young people to mission, in the world we live in today. The enthusiasm and joy of those present was obvious, particularly when Friar Alessandro, the 'Voice from Assisi', addressed the students in particular, and performed a number of songs from his album which is widely recognised throughout the world.

The feedback from each student involved in the programme was

always positive and the skills that we developed through participating in such activities will no doubt be carried with us for the rest of our lives.

We would definitely recommend future Year 13 students to participate in this award scheme as Pope John Paul II himself once said whilst addressing the Second Vatican Council, 'it is you people who are to form the society of tomorrow.'

Eimear Anderson Year 14





Loretolore Mag. 12-13

LEAVERS' MASS FOR YEAR 14 CELEBRATED AT LORETO COLLEGE









Year 14 students - the Class of 2013 - and their parents celebrated the end of seven happy years at Loreto College with the teaching staff of the school at a special Mass held on the evening of Thursday 9th May, celebrated by Father Raymond McCullagh. The theme of the Mass was 'Keep It Lit', inspired by the carrying on of the light of baptism, of family, and of friendship. The Mass celebrated the friendship the



Musical contributions from a group of talented singers





and instrumentalists lent a tone of emotional reflection to the evening, which concluded with a big-screen display of photos from throughout the seven years which the class of 2013 had spent at Loreto. In the previous fortnight, Masses had also been celebrated at Loreto College for the Year 12 and Year 13 examination classes. As the examination period approached, everyone at Loreto College wished the Years 12, 13 and 14 students perseverance in their studies and every success in their examinations- and beyond.







HEAD GIRL'S SPEECH

Céad Míle Fáilte Romhaibh go léir anseo anocht - an sagart, na mná rialta, tuismitheoirí, muinteoiri, bliain 14 agus mo rang Ghaeilge san aireamh.

Tonight, I attempt to summarise 7 years of our time at Loreto. I'd like to cast you all back to September 2006 when we first started here as year 8's. I'm sure you all have many pleasant memories of your first days at school and the excitement you felt, or maybe you don't really remember it at all.

I'm not too sure if many remember this apart from my parents, but you could say I had a few teething problems in the beginning of my time here, which are all distant memories now of course. I somehow ended up on two group class registers. When I was in music with Miss Stewart, she received a worried phone call from Mr Cunning saving I was supposed to be in Art. And then the next day I was in Home Economics and should have been in PE. As a First Year this felt like the biggest problem ever, not knowing many people and always turning up to the wrong classes, but thankfully Mr Cunning and Mr Scullion sorted it

A couple of weeks later, I missed my connection bus home from Ballymoney. With no money, phone or other bright ideas, I started to power walk the 4 miles home. My mum was on holiday in Germany at the time and my Dad was working so I was thinking oh oh! I was terrified. It was getting near that stage of the evening between dusk and dark and I even began singing Mass songs to keep my mind from thinking too deeply about being alone in the Ballymoney countryside. There could have

been badgers or anything in the hedges but luckily I was walking so fast they stayed out of my way. However, all ended well and my auntie came to the rescue as she picked me up along the roadside just as I was turning into my road home.

The reason I tell you all these rather unfortunate stories is to explain how things can quickly turn around. At the start I thought, Oh dear this is not going too great, but in actual fact I grew to love Loreto and now I have to leave is the saddest thing of all. A change can bring new challenges, but perseverance and adjustment to the situation can turn it all around. As the theme of tonight's Mass implies, never give up, always keep going and you'll get there. From those early mishaps, I've learned to stay calm and approach situations positively. There really is no point in getting stressed out. I also think you need a sense of humour and the ability to not take yourself too seriously in order to get along smoothly in life.

However, let's just say not everything goes according to plan... Dissecting hearts in Biology with Mrs Doherty turned into a rather eventful experience in Yr11. A dead rat in a box that was placed in Peter's school bag mysteriously ended up at a bus stop in Portstewart. It was only after investigation we found out who the culprit was... Nichola Cassidy!

Lauryn Mc Aleese nearly set the Home Economics department on fire trying to microwave naan bread but luckily the smells from that day have long since dispersed.

Talking of smells. 'Cad é an boladh ufáscah sin?' If you don't know what that means Bean Úi Mhianian

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can translate later! It's funny, we never did perform that play in Irish! Bheul Chrochur mo chara! Seo muid anois... I'll have to start talking to myself now in Irish as nobody understands my Irish quite like you. We had some fun chatting and laughing away while the rest of the year didn't have a clue what we were on about... but really all we were talking about was the weather or our hobbies!

Perhaps this year has been our most successful in terms of sports in the college. The Camogs became Ulster Champions and all Ireland Runners up, the Boys retained the Casement Shield and, of course, the Senior Netballers, who finally won the Coleraine & District League, also became North East District Champions. The success really came down to hard work, training and maybe 7 years of practice, but we all got there in the

We also got involved in Self Defence, Zumba Dancing and Cheerleading. Some of you might remember the time my daddy drove our team of cheerleaders to the competition in the Antrim Forum and drove off without me. While the other girls were in stitches laughing I was left waving on Rasharkin Main Street. Thanks to my good friend Justyna for remembering about me and shouting STOP! I could go on and on about all the funny, embarrassing things that have happened but I know there's a Nathan Carter concert on tonight so I'll try and speed this up.

This year I'd say has been one of the busiest we've had yet. Between university open days, trial interviews, UCAS deadlines, coursework, January modules, sporting activities, our X Factor, retreats, group RE and



study we really have accomplished quite a lot over the last few terms. But in saying that I think we've all had fun and are really going to miss Loreto when we leave.

They say variety is the spice of life and I fully believe this philosophy. Whether you are academically minded, an athlete, a musician, or creatively inspired, set out to accomplish your full potential. Be whatever you want to be. And I know there are those of you who aren't sure what you should be doing just yet but have faith and stay calm: it will all work out for the best, as everything happens for a reason and God has a plan for us all. Do the best you can. Dedicate and commit yourselves to being the best version of you that you can be. You really can do anything you set out to achieve and don't ever forget

And this was truly verified by the success of our X Factor just before Christmas. It is clear from the hard work and co-operation that we as a year group showed just how much can be accomplished when we all work together using the unique talents that we all have. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved. I also hope Cahir Mc

Laughlin remembers us all when he's selling out arena tours and making millions! We, the class of 2013, can look ahead in anticipation of exciting times to come, knowing that we have left our positive, influencing mark at Loreto. The younger year groups will hopefully be inspired to do even greater things and the lasting memories we have created will leave a permanent impression that all can aspire to in years to come.

School is a place that teaches us things both on purpose and by accident. It is this combination of book learning and life learning that gives us the foundation for all that we are to become. Loreto not only provided us with a first class education, it has moulded us into the type of people we are today. We will always be influenced by Loreto's core aims and values, and we should continue to recite our Loreto prayer and remember that 'each day is full of opportunity, help us to use it well.'

I could not leave here tonight without thanking Mr James, Miss Toner, Mr Gallagher and all the teachers who have taught us over the past 7 years. There really are no words to express our gratitude for all that you do for us. You have been excellent role models and always go beyond the call of duty in our best interests. I would also like to thank all those staff who work tirelessly in the background to ensure the school functions smoothly. We really appreciate all that you do, so a big thanks to the office staff, cleaners, assistants, caretaker and to all our friends down in Café Lorette, the work you do for us will never go unnoticed. Thank you.

So Class of 2013, this is it! Thank you all for the past 7 years! Good luck and aim high.

It has been my absolute pleasure being Head Girl of this great school and I'd like to end my speech with the words of Dr Seuss:

'Congratulations, today is your day, you're off to great places, you're off and away. You have brains in your head, you have feet in your shoes, you can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own and you know what you know, and you are the one who'll decide where you'll go!'

Aileen McAlister, Head Girl 2012-2013



HEAD BOY'S SPEECH

Well, that's it, our last day at school is officially over, a time which, when we came to Loreto back in 2006, seemed so far away. But true to the saying, time does fly when you're having fun! It seems like only yesterday we boarded the bus for our first day at 'big school', weighed down by our huge school bags... some of us were clearly expecting to do more work than others. However, despite the nerves we had, we soon settled in and developed friendships.

In our time at Loreto we have completed our GCSE's and are now about to complete our A Levels. Over these past 7 years we have learned so much in this wonderful school, not to mention texting without looking, sleeping without getting caught and the importance of team work in class tests. We have developed from a group of individuals back in Year 8 to an individual group of friends gathered in this hall tonight. It may be the last time we will all be in this hall as a year group. However, as we go our separate ways, I hope the friendships and memories which we have made here will stay strong.

There are many things which we will miss about Loreto; the teachers, the people and the craic, but I think that's is safe to say some of the things we won't miss are the huge task of writing our UCAS personal statements, the smell of burnt toast in the Common Room and the traumatizing sprint from the Senior Study to Geography... and yes, as Year 14's we did still run to Geography class.

Throughout our years at Loreto we have built up many great memories which we will take with us as we leave. There was the day

when Poddy Black arrived into school with 3000 pennies to pay for his formal ticket, and the Friday afternoon when a phone call came to the Senior Study to say that someone had reversed into Shane Phillips' beloved Suzuki Swift, only to find out that it was an 18th birthday prank. And now you would have to ask Mrs West for any more details on that one. There was also the formation of 'THE KINGDOM', a corner of the common room dedicated to men with an extreme love of chairs and sofas. And finally, who can forget Sean McKendry's Fight for this Love performance at our retreat?

On behalf of the class of 2013, I would like to thank all our teachers for their hard work, dedication and determination. They have worked endlessly to prepare us, not only for our exams, but also for our future careers. No gift or token of appreciation would ever be enough to show our thanks for everything which you all have given us.

There are two teachers who I would like to give particular credit to, as they have helped and guided us over these past 7 years, and that is our Heads of Year. Mrs McCambridge was our Head of Year for our first five years at Loreto. She helped get us settled into school and stuck by us through both the high and low times of our first 5 years at the school.

Then it was Mrs McGoldrick, who took over for the last 2 years as our Head of Year, 2 years which should have been easier as we were now classified as young adults... however I'm not sure if she would agree. Mrs McGoldrick is not only the mother of Liam, she was also like a mother to our year group,

caring for us all just like a mother would and encouraging us like one too. She is a fair woman and has always stood by us, so our sincere thanks to you Mrs McGoldrick.

Also, I would like to thank you, our parents, who sit opposite us in this hall tonight. You have believed in us and supported us all the time. It is you who have helped and guided us up to this point in our lives.

Finally, I would like to thank 'THE BOSS' – Mr James. You were our teacher for our first five years and then moved on to become our Principal for the last two years. I would like to thank you, along with Miss Toner and Mr Gallagher, for all your hard work and dedication throughout our years at the school and, more importantly, your perseverance over the last few days... however, I can now assure you we have all reached maturity.

Loreto has provided us all with an education which is second to none. The Loreto ethos of freedom, justice, sincerity, truth and joy is one which will stand us all in good stead, not only in our time at school but also throughout our lives. Loreto has helped to shape us all into the people we are today and has brought out the best in all of us as pupils, as well as preparing us for our future careers. Before we are let loose into the big bad world, there is only one thing which stands in our way: our A Level exams, and so all that remains for me to sav are 3 words which many of you will have heard me say on many occasions within school... KEEP ER' LIT!

> Niall Reid, Head Boy 2012-2013



END OF YEAR MASS MARKS CLOSING OF TERM AT LORETO COLLEGE

The closing of the 2012-2013 academic year was marked at Loreto a busy, productive and successful College on 24th June with a Mass to celebrate the successes and the friendship of the past 12 months at the Castlerock Road school. Celebrated by Rev Father Rory Sheehan, the theme of the Mass was 'The Year of Faith'.

Speaking on behalf of all the staff and of the Senior Leadership Team, Miss Belinda Toner, Vice Principal, expressed her gratitude to all the

students and staff of the College for year at Loreto College. Paying tribute to temporary members of staff. Mrs Eileen Diamond. Cabrini Bean Ui Lochlain and Miss Kerri McGurk, who were leaving at the end of term, and congratulating Mrs Stacey Mellon and Mr Peter Loughran respectively on their recent and approaching weddings, Alice McGee and Ben Levy, Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy, expressed the thanks and good

wishes of the student community to these teachers and all members of the Loreto staff.

Miss Toner also paid tribute to the members of the Loreto Community in Coleraine for their constant support and prayers, and to the members of the Loreto Religious Education Department, who had presented a Year of Faith prayer card to every member of the school community as a memento of the 2012-2013 academic year.











HELPING OTHERS

FUND-RAISING AT LORETO COLLEGE

It has been another busy year of fund-raising for the College's designated charities, with great work going on among the members of the Loreto Social Justice group, led by Mrs Lorraine McCool and SVP group, led by Mr Kevin Conroy. In the course of the year, Loreto College students have raised a magnificent total of £22,520 for its designated charities.

Activities during the first three months of the academic year included Trad for Trocaire music sessions, a Sponsored Read by students from Year 8 -12 in aid of Praxis Mental Health Care, and a Cake Sale in aid of the Society of St Vincent de Paul. Year 8 and Year 13 also completed a Sponsored Walk in aid of Action MS, while students were busy collecting for Christmas Hampers and creating Christmas Shoeboxes. As Christmas approached, the students and staff of Loreto College prepared to raise funds for the Loreto Missions on the traditional Mission Day, just before the Christmas holidays. In early October, students Leanne McNally and Roisin Parahoo accompanied Mrs McCool to the JPIC Conference at the Emmaus Centre Dublin. This event was run by the Loreto Network, and was attended by representatives from all Loreto schools, who enjoyed speakers and workshops on global issues such as Debt and Aid.

In the Spring Term, the central issue was the annual collection for Trocaire. In addition to the traditional form class collections and associated activities such as sponsored silences (an initiative of great delight to teachers...), Wednesday 6th March saw the entire Year 11 group 'Connecting for Change' by tying themselves together and embarking on a sponsored walk around the hockey pitch, raising £1158. During Lent, the Justice Group created a visual display of solidarity, encouraging students to add their handprints to the display spelling out 'Loreto College Connects for Change'. This busy and popular event was organised over a week of breaktimes. World Water Day, 22nd March, was also marked. The Justice Group spoke to Year 8, who in turn produced posters and leaflets for displays. Carlos Rojao (Year 13) created a structure from recycled water bottles, spelling out H20. One aim of the group was to introduce a plastic bottle recycling facility within the school. The Justice Group liaised with River Ridge Recycling who, impressed by the pupils' environmental awareness, provided a bin, free of charge. We intend to properly launch the recycling programme in September, with containers placed in the lunchroom and canteen, and for the Justice Group to be responsible for weekly collection and emptying into the bin. Just before Easter.

£2000 was presented to ICHPT prior to the annual Lourdes visit: Miss J Galbraith, along with students Rosanna McAleese and Eilis McNamee, took part in this visit during the Easter break.

On Sports Day, students raised £333 for the British Heart Foundation. The school received skipping ropes from the organisation and then ran a Skipathon. Eve Gardiner won the challenge with 111 skips non-stop.

The articles which follow give a snapshot of some of our fundraising events this year.

TRAD FOR TROCAIRE AT LORETO COLLEGE **COLERAINE**

Traditional music sessions were held at Loreto College Coleraine on Friday 12th October 2012 to raise money for Trocaire.

Organised in tandem with Comhaltas Ireland events, the sessions saw students from throughout the College's age-range performing in Break and Lunchtime sessions, with some help from a few very talented members of the teaching staff.















Under the leadership of Mrs Maeve Close and Mr Gerry McGouran - both teachers and musicians - a range of instrumentalists, playing fiddle, harp, whistle, traditional flute and accordion, entertained enthusiastic audiences, in the College canteen at breaktime and lunchtime.

Mrs Lorraine McCool, Social Justice Co-ordinator at Loreto College, was delighted to report that the Sessions had raised £171.54 for Trocaire.

All the staff and students who took part in the event were congratulated on their generosity and musicianship by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College.



LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS RAISE ACTION MS FUNDS

All Year 8 and Year 13 students from Loreto College Coleraine took part in a sponsored walk at Mountsandel Forest before the Halloween break, to raise money for Action MS.

ACTION MS

The Sponsored Walk was part of an ongoing programme in Loreto College through which all Year 8 students have a mentor in Year 13, who acts as a friendly contact in the senior school as the new students become accustomed to life at grammar school. The Year 8s and Year 13s enjoyed their walk

as a 'getting to know you' activity, as well as having the joint objective of raising money.

Mrs Lorraine McCool, Social Justice Co-ordinator at Loreto College, paid tribute to the students of both year groups, who between them raised an impressive total of £4545.77 for Action MS. A cheque for £4545.77 was presented to Anne Walker of Action MS on behalf of Loreto College Coleraine on 21st November 2012.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated all the students for their generosity and concern for others, as well as thanking Mrs Lorraine McCool for coordinating the fund-raising element of the event, and Vice Principal, Mrs Belinda Toner, and teachers Mrs Catherine Doherty (Head of Year 13) and Mrs Michelle McGill (Head of Year 8) for enthusing the students in

the forging of positive relationships as the school year



progresses.







Mrs Lorraine McCool, Social Justice Co-ordinator at Loreto College, paid tribute to the students and to their Year Heads, Mrs Michelle McGill (Head of Year 8) and Mrs Catherine Doherty (Head of Year 13) and Form Teachers Miss Julie Galbraith, Mrs Mabel McAleese, Mrs Meabh McGreevy, Mrs Maureen McCullough, Mrs Sinead Mullan and Mr Raymond McKay, for their hard work and enthusiasm in organising this event.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL DRAWS GENEROUS LORETO COLLEGE DONATION

Students and staff at Loreto College Coleraine carried out some very impressive work for some of the College's designated charities during the first three months of the Autumn Term.

Throughout October and early November, students and their form teachers were hard at work collecting and organising materials for the annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal for the Road of Hope organisation. 'The Road of Hope' is a Rasharkin based charity whose aim is to support the children and elderly in Eastern Europe, who have suffered extreme isolation, poverty and trauma as a result of conflict. The shoeboxes, filled with every-day items such as soap and facecloths, toothpaste and toothbrushes, hair accessories, small toys and sweets are delivered annually to those who wouldn't otherwise receive a Christmas present. This year, an impressive total of 212 shoeboxes were collected by Loreto's pupils and these will in turn, bring joy and hope to those who need it most

this Christmas. Fiona Kelly of the Road of Hope organization paid tribute to the members of the Loreto College Social Justice League for their hard work, dedication and concern for others in collecting such an impressive number of shoeboxes for the appeal.









LORETO PROVINCE LEADERS PAY TRIBUTE TO LORETO COLLEGE FUND-RAISING

The Principal, staff and students of Loreto College Coleraine have been thanked by Noelle Corscadden IBVM, Province Leader of Loreto Ireland, for the tireless work carried out in Loreto College to raise funds for the Loreto Mission in South Sudan.

In the school year 2011-2012, the Loreto schools network, students and past pupils raised over €104,000 for this project - money which is used to provide for the needs of the students, and teachers for the school.

The Loreto Secondary School in Rumbek currently has 120 girls as pupils, and will be able to take two Form 1 classes in 2013, as its new dormitory and classrooms have now been completed. The Primary School has over 250





students but has no buildings: the school is sheltered by five trees. It is hoped that building of classrooms will begin in 2013. At present the Primary School has classes from Kindergarten to Class 2; in 2013 the Sisters hope to offer class 5 and 6 to the local girls, to encourage them to come to school and prepare for Secondary School. Alongside this, the Loreto Mission runs an Adult Learning Programme and there is a Teacher Training programme run by Solidarity South Sudan.

Paying tribute to the students and staff in Loreto College Coleraine and in all schools in the Loreto Network, Noelle Corscadden commented:

'This mission is very ambitious, and very necessary for the girls in South Sudan. It costs a lot and has many

challenges and so we are deeply grateful to you for

your encouragement and support at all times. Without your help this mission would not be possible.'

MISSION SALE CONCLUDES BUSY TERM OF FUND-RAISING AT LORETO COLLEGE

The Social Justice Group at Loreto College Coleraine had a very busy Autumn Term, with a number of events and initiatives going on to raise funds for a variety of very worthy causes. Activities culminated on in late December with the annual Mission Day, raising funds for the Loreto Missions worldwide.

























































As the Christmas holidays approached, the students and staff of Loreto College continued their efforts in support of a number of extremely deserving causes. Thursday 20th December saw the annual Mission Day, a fun day to promote fair trade, the Millennium Goals and the Loreto Missions worldwide. The day allows students from all year groups to become involved in a variety of activities such as quizzes, sporting challenges and games of skill, with the focal point being the Loreto Christmas Market in the College Hall. The Market this year featured a stall selling Ugandan goods produced by orphans, which was introduced to Loreto

by Bethel Community Outreach NI, and the event was visited by Samuel McGeorge and a Ugandan representative and teacher. Also on offer were materials from Tuesday's Child, a charity which is currently supporting children in war-torn areas.

Fair trade gifts, as well as pre-loved jewellery and fashion accessories, were on sale, and for some a definite highlight was the range of seasonal treats on offer in the café run by Year 13 students in the College's Home Economics suite. In the afternoon, many students enjoyed forming a lively audience for Loreto X Factor, organised by the College's Head Girl, Aileen

McAllister and Head Boy, Niall Reid. The Loreto X Factor was won by talented singer Cahir McLaughlin (Year 9). In second and third places, respectively, were boyband The UnWanted (Year 10) and dancer Joshua Benini (Year 8). An impressive total of just over £4000 was raised on the day for the Loreto Missions.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all the students and staff who had worked so hard in these endeavours, under the leadership of Social Justice Co-ordinator, Mrs Lorraine McCool and Mission Day Co-ordinator, Mrs Mabel McAleese.













































XTRA SPECIAL MISSION DAY

Everyone in Loreto knows that Mission Day is one of the most looked forward to days of the year, primarily for most, because it's the one day of the year where students are allowed to wear their own clothes to school. This for others is nothing but a dilemma. How to dress? To avoid all fashions or to start setting your own? Besides the clothing aspect of Mission Day, it is a day of Christmas Cheer for teachers and students alike. It is a day where deadlines are pushed aside and Christmas exams are forgotten. Mission Day has everything required to get students into the festive spirit, whether it be buying their cup of hot chocolate with marshmallows, or watching some of your favourite teachers wearing hats and competing against the Year 9 boys in an exclusive

Gaelic match, there is surely something for everyone.

However, this year, Mission Day was different. This year, The X Factor came to a town near us: The X Factor came to Loreto itself. We had all heard of this revelation; had all seen the posters advertised around the school for weeks prior to the event. In all honestly, I for one was unsure of what to expect. We had had 'Loreto's Got Talent' when I had been a Year 8 student, so I assumed it would be something similar to this, and didn't give this competition much thought.

Soon after hearing of the competition, my Year 14 cousin told me that she had been a judge at the auditions which were being held after school. This surprised me as

I didn't realise the competition was going to be taken so seriously. I had also been told that there had been some truly impressive auditionees. By this stage I was beginning to get excited to see what musical talent Loreto had to offer.

And so, on Mission Day, every seat in the hall was filled. I had been told that my year group was going to have to watch it from the Drama Theatre. I didn't exactly know what this meant, lacking all common sense as I do- I figured it was impossible to watch an event that was taking place in the Assembly Hall from the Drama Theatre. However, I was sorely mistaken to find the Drama Theatre had been set up with a large overhead screen with direct footage from the assembly hall.



It was 1:00pm and the show began. The four judges were introduced: Ms Wilson, Mrs McEwan, Mr Gallagher and Mr Cunning, each dressed to impress in black suits and dresses. I'm not entirely sure why, but the thing that I remember most about the Judges coming to the front of the stage was Mr Gallagher's tremendous Usain Bolt impression. I have no doubt this image will remain with me for a long time!

The show was also exceptionally well presented by Ruairi Mooney and Jarlath Bradley and the entire competition was a roaring success. Another thing that stands out in my mind was Mr Cunning complimenting one of the junior singers on their song choice. Exclaiming loudly, 'That was a brilliant song choice; I'm a big Snow Patrol fan myself!' Needless to say it was slightly awkward when he was informed by Mr Gallagher that the song was in fact 'Fix you' by Coldplay. Perhaps not such a big fan after all? The acts took to the stage one by one, each displaying tremendously high levels of talent, putting myself to shame. The show had something for everyone: there was a rock band consisting of Year 14 students, a junior music group, a male soloist who also played guitar and Irish dancers, to name but a few.

Alas, all the acts had performed and it was the interval. The judges were in the midst of making that all important decision and the crowds were chattering amongst themselves in anticipation.

Suddenly, the overhead screen lit up on the stage. All the students howled with laughter as we saw the most senior members of staff in our school dancing around a cartoon grotto in the form of cartoon elves. I think I speak on behalf of all the senior students when I say the child in all of us came out and there was

something hilarious about seeing your Principal and VP's disguised as elves, prancing around Lapland. Moreover, the video clip had finished and the screen went blank again. However, this did not last long, and within 30 seconds the teachers of the school were back on the screen doing a dance to the song 'Is this the way to Amarillo?' This was true entertainment. To those of you in the school who have not yet seen this production, please make sure to put it on your 'to do list' before you leave. It would be nice if we could politely remind our teachers of it when we are accused of not taking them or the work they give us seriously.

Finally, the jury reached their decision. The winners were announced and the winner's single replayed for one last time. Needless to say, only three of the acts were placed, but each of them was without a doubt a credit to the school. First place went to Cahir McLaughlin who sang and played his guitar. A deserving winner who faced some brilliant competition.

And so, soon after, Mission day had reached its end. It had been eventful and 'The X Factor' production was a real credit to the senior prefects and the Heads of School, Aileen and Niall. Let's all hope next year's Senior prefects can repeat their success, or even go one better this Christmas!

Laura Rafferty Y13

MISSION DAY ANTICIPATED AND ENJOYED BY ALL

Mission day, on 20th of December 2012, was, as always held to raise money for Loreto abroad. This one day in the year is set aside by teachers and pupils as a 'fun

fundraiser', aimed to support other Loreto schools around the world who are less fortunate than us. The event had lots of stalls set up all over the school run by pupils to raise as much money as possible.

The stalls and events packed around the school focused on providing aid for Loreto in Rumbek. This school, for African girls, is still under the final stages of construction. The stalls sold food and drink, as well as secondhand goods and there was even a charity stall selling produce made in Uganda. The fundraiser lasted all day and people were generous, paying what they could. This day is set up every year, and the amount raised is usually outstanding, stretching into four figures most of the time.

The day ended as always after lunch, with an added extra bit of fun to thank all those who contributed so generously. This year the event focused on re-introducing a past success, brought back by popular demand: the much missed and very successful The X factor. This year the Head Girl chose to organise the X factor 'Loreto Style' an event that had been run in previous years and enjoyed by many. The idea was a tremendous success. There were ten finalists who performed and the winner, Cahir McLaughlin, was picked after a short, but heated debate. The day in total raised a four figure sum for Loreto's school in Rumbek, and helped to contribute to the other Loreto missions. Equally as important, everybody really enjoyed the event and developed new friendships.

Finn Lestas Y9



LORETO COLLEGE SVP GROUP HAMPER APPEAL MAKES GENEROUS DONATION

The St Vincent de Paul Youth
Group from Loreto College
Coleraine completed a busy term of
hard work in the service of others
by collecting and assembling
Christmas hampers, to be
distributed to local families in need
of some assistance at this time of
year.

Thirty-two large hampers were

collected, assembled and wrapped by the group, which is composed of some very public-spirited senior students, under the leadership of Religious Education teacher Mr Kevin Conroy. These hampers were presented to representatives from the Society of St Vincent de Paul from St John's and St Malachy's parishes, Coleraine, who received them with great

enthusiasm and appreciation on behalf of the families to whom they will be donated.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the students and Mr Conroy for their consideration and generosity in encouraging students from throughout the school to donate to this excellent cause.





PRAXIS THANKS LORETO COLLEGE FOR FUND-RAISING EFFORTS

A representative of Praxis Care NI paid tribute to students and staff from Loreto College Coleraine who raised money for the charity during the Autumn Term through a sponsored Readathon.

Praxis Care is a major provider of services for adults and children with a learning disability, mental ill health, acquired brain injury and for older people, including those with dementia. The group was established in 2002 by the merging of 3 well established charities in Northern Ireland.

The Sponsored Read was carried out by students from Year 8 -10, and those in Year 11-12 who study English Literature, in aid of Praxis Mental Health Care. The importance of this work was reinforced during a talk to Year 13 by a representative of Praxis intended to encourage the Year 13 students to raise awareness of this cause among younger students. This Readathon raised an impressive total of £815, in addition to raising the profile of reading for pleasure throughout the year groups which took part.

In recognition of the generous donation from Loreto College, Geraldine Andrews visited the





College on 12th February 2013, to present the College Library with some books for its Junior Fiction section. Mrs Fiona McDonnell, College Librarian, was delighted to receive the gift of new books - especially as this is the second consecutive year in which the Loreto Library has received such a presentation.

Mrs Lorraine McCool, Social Justice Co-ordinator at Loreto College, paid tribute to the staff and students who had worked hard to raise this generous sum in the Autumn Term, and thanked Geraldine Andrews for the gift of books on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



MILLENNIUM VOLUNTEER AWARD FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A student from Loreto College Coleraine received a certificate from the Millennium Volunteers organisation in recognition of time spent in service of others in her local community.

Gemma Reid, who is in her final year at Loreto College, received recognition for spending one hundred hours visiting patients in Altnagelvin Hospital and a residential care home in Limavady. Modest about her achievement, Gemma commented that she had greatly enjoyed the experience

and that it was something which she hoped to continue. In fact, Gemma is currently finishing her two hundred hours' community volunteering accreditation, for which she will receive a certificate signed by John O'Dowd MLA, Minister for Education.

The Millennium Volunteers
Programme is a UK wide initiative
designed to promote and recognise
sustained volunteering among
young people aged 16 -24. The
Millennium Volunteers programme
was launched in Northern Ireland in

1999, and has offered opportunities for more than 4000 young people to gain their Awards of Excellence.

Stephanie Grundon of Limavady Volunteer Bureau, who presented Gemma with her Millennium Volunteers Certificate, paid tribute to her hard work and dedication in support of others. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commended Gemma on her quiet, unassuming service and congratulated her on this impressive award.



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LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS RAISE FANTASTIC TROCAIRE FUNDS

Students at staff at Loreto College Coleraine raised a magnificent total of £6207.46 for Trocaire, during the annual Trocaire campaign during Lent at the College.

Individual students and various form classes were presented with certificates and fund-raiser pins at special assemblies held at Loreto College in late April, in recognition of their hard work in support of this excellent cause. The top fundraising classes in each year group were: 8E (Form Teacher Mrs S McNicholl), 9B (Form Teacher Mrs S McBroom), 10B (Form Teacher Mrs M Close), 11A (Form Teacher Mr K Conroy), 12A (Form Teacher Mrs A O'Kane), 13C (Form Teacher Mrs S Mullan) and 14B (Form Teacher Mrs O McEwan).

The top individual fund-raisers were: Owen Tsang (Year 8), Shannon Donaghy (Year 11) and Ciaran O'Kane (Year 9). Between them they raised over £350, with Owen receiving a Jet Centre gift token for raising the most: an impressive sum of £182.

Mrs Lorraine McCool, Social Justice Co-ordinator at Loreto College, spent Easter week in Honduras with Trocaire, visiting projects which exist only because of the fund-raising done in Ireland. Paying tribute to the students and their teachers on their efforts to raise such a tremendous sum, Mrs McCool said:

'A very sincere thank you to everyone who took on board the

Lenten campaign and helped achieve this remarkable sum. Having spent Easter week in Honduras with Trócaire I feel prouder than ever of our school's efforts because I have seen first hand where the money goes and the projects we are supporting. It was just wonderful to see how our fundraising efforts here in Loreto can have such a long term impact on the lives of women, children and rural farmers living in such poor and often unjust situations.'

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Mrs McCool and to all the students and staff who had contributed to raising this remarkable amount of money during the six weeks of Lent.





Loretolore Mag. 12-13

LORETO COLLEGE MAKE SVP CONTRIBUTION

Members of the Loreto College Society of St Vincent de Paul have presented a cheque for £1291.58 to Mr Sean McGillan, President of the St John's Parish Chapter of the SVP.

The money raised represented hours of effort and enthusiasm by the members of the Loreto SVP, under the leadership of RE teacher Mr Kevin Conroy, and Social Justice Co-ordinator Mrs Lorraine McCool. The students organised a sweet sale (which proved so popular that it sold out in minutes!) among a variety of activities which got all the

staff and students of the College involved.

The total amount raised by the group was £1451.58, and a further £160 was donated to the Friends of Africa appeal run by former student Aoife Owens: Aoife had been an avid supporter of the Loreto SVP group throughout her time at the College.

Speaking on behalf of the Society of St Vincent de Paul in St John's, St Mary's Dunboe and St Malachy's parishes, Sean McGillan paid tribute to the dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to the service of others which had been demonstrated by the students and their teachers in raising this extremely generous contribution.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commended all the students and staff who had organised, and got involved in, the various activities throughout the year, which had included sales, bag-packing, visits to a local residential retirement home and the collection of hampers during November and December.



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LORETO SVP - A REVIEW OF A BUSY YEAR

There is no doubt that times are tough for families at the moment, but another successful year in the school's branch of Saint Vincent de Paul shows just how much we do care for the most vulnerable of our society. This success has been built upon previous years of commitment by its members to the society but, most of all, the generosity of our donators, and I would just like to extend a word of thanks to all those who helped us in any way throughout the year.

Our first fundraiser of the year was our annual bun sale at Halloween and it allowed the whole school to give into their sweet tooth. Many of our members stayed up to the early hours baking and preparing buns for the mad rush of sugar-craving first years the next day but, most of all, it was a phenomenal success, raising £350. Not a bad start to the year!

We continued our success with bag packing in Sainsbury's, thereby helping the Coleraine branch of

SVP: we raised a fantastic £810 and even got to chat to Mrs Ahern for a while. As always, the hamper appeal at Christmas is taken up with enthusiasm by all the form classes throughout the school. This year was no different as we were able to bring together a brilliant selection of thirty-two hampers. These hampers are then handed over to the Coleraine branches of SVP and distributed to those who need the most help during the festive season. The staff also took it upon themselves to help out at Christmas by wishing each other all the best over the Christmas holidays by writing a short message on a board in the staff room and making a small donation to the society. Our final fundraiser was inspired by the phrase 'like child in a sweet shop': we hoarded in the sweets, made the bags and our very own Pick 'n' Mix was born. On the day of the sale, all the sweets were sold out within six minutes, not to mention the euphoria that surrounded guessing how many strawbs were in the giant tub. James Gillen was

the lucky man, guessing 287. All in all, our sweets gathered an amazing £205.

The society is not just about fundraising, though. Throughout the year many of our members stayed in after school and visited the Edenmore Nursing Home just down the road, and spent time with the elderly residents there. At the end of the year, we decided to donate £150 to a previous member of the society, Aoife Owens. She, along with many others, travelled to Zambia with Friends of Africa to help out the locals there, in teaching, building and other beneficial projects.

Once again, I thank anyone who helped us during the year. In the coming years we would love to see more people joining the school branch of SVP: it is open to all pupils in Year 11 and above and you will always be greeted with a warm welcome in the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Conor O'Neill Year 12



A display for World Water Day created for the Loreto Justice League by Carlos Rojao, Year 13



The new Recycling Bin for Plastic Bottles



Loretolon Mag. 12-13

MICHAEL'S BIG STROLL - RAISING FUNDS FOR MENINGITIS RESEARCH NI

On the final Saturday before the Summer Holidays, a small but intrepid group represented Loreto College in an 18-mile walk from Coleraine to Ballycastle, to raise money for Meningitis Research NI. The walk was in remembrance of those who have lost their lives to meningitis, and those who have survived it. The group is campaigning to have the Vaccine B made more available, and a donation of £150 was made on behalf of Loreto College.

The walk held a particular significance for those at Loreto because it was carried out in memory of Michael Clarke. Michael was a student at Loreto from 1997-2003; his life was tragically cut short by meningitis during the summer just after his A level examinations.

Michael is remembered with great fondness by his friends, former classmates and former teachers, and among the walkers in often inclement conditions on Saturday 22^{nd} June were some of those who had known him at Loreto. Mrs Mary Clarke, Michael's mother, was very touched that he is still so fondly remembered in his old school; it was emotional for all that the finishing point of the walk was the memorial bench for Michael at the Ballycastle seafront.

Loreto College was represented at the event by teachers Mrs Oonah McEwan, Mrs Lorraine McCool and Mr Paul Cunning, teaching assistant Miss Alex Brownlow, and Sr Rosemary Gallagher of the Loreto Community. Also taking part were former students from the class of 2003, Maeve Diamond and Aine Trolan, as well Mrs Mary Trolan, who remembered Michael fondly as one of her daughter Aine's friends. Year 11 student Christy Laverty represented the current Loreto student body at the event.

Although the walk was long and tiring and the weather was often bad, those who completed it commented that it had been a wonderful opportunity to remember their friend, and to laugh and smile at their memories of happy times with him. With fond memories of Michael Clarke in mind, Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all those who had given up a valuable Saturday at a busy time of year for this touching and highly worthwhile tribute.



TROCAIRE TRIP TO HONDURAS

During the Easter holidays, Mrs
Lorraine McCool, Social Justice
Co-ordinator, spent time in
Honduras with Trocaire. The trip
was organised by Sally O'Brien,
who was originally from Dungannon
but lives in Honduras, to give her
support to families who live there.
The trip was to basically meet
partners with Trocaire and to show
that the money raised was actually
making a difference in sustaining
development.

Mrs McCool received an e-mail inviting her to go along with a small group of teachers, to see how the money they raised was being utilised. When we spoke to Mrs McCool, she said that she had been apprehensive at first but was glad that she had accepted the invitation. After the pre-workshop in Cookstown, where the teachers all met up and got to know each other a bit, she started to look forward to it; she told us that she had prepared herself for it to be an emotional trip and had not been quite sure what to expect.

The flight went from Dublin, to New York, on to Houston and then landed in Honduras. On the trip

itself, many activities and visits took place, and Mrs McCool informed us about some of these. Communities were visited, and on these visits, we were told, Mrs McCool was really touched, as seeing these communities from a teacher's perspective, and visiting schools, was very moving. There was a radio for testimonies for woman who went through the literacy programme, and that demonstrated how much woman could feel empowered and become more able to contribute to society and their community.

The basic skills gave the people a sense of ownership; some of these people living in extreme situations were running markets and businesses to sustain themselves and the community. Mrs McCool found the women to be inspirational, and observed that the value put on education was so contrasting to its status in developed countries. The people were thankful for something that we take for granted, and Mrs McCool commented that it was lovely to see an enthusiasm and a love for learning.

One part of the trip that stood out for Mrs McCool was meeting a sixteen year old girl, who had a one year old daughter. The child's father was abusive and this girl was in a refuge centre. Reflecting that the girl would be the same age as Loreto's Year 11 students once again marked the contrast between the childhood experience in the developing world and that in the western world. This girl's life was mapped out already, with her child to look after, whereas here we are naive in comparison.

We were told by Mrs McCool that her expectations were different before going. She had not expected the trip to be so positive: there was poverty in the physical conditions, with a lack of commodities, but the people didn't seem impoverished. They shared a sense of community with each other, came together, shared what little they had and this gave them a sense of belonging. Another point that Mrs McCool found moving was the fact that they thanked God before anyone else: something that was the same in all the communities they visited. Their strength of community and faith sustained them.





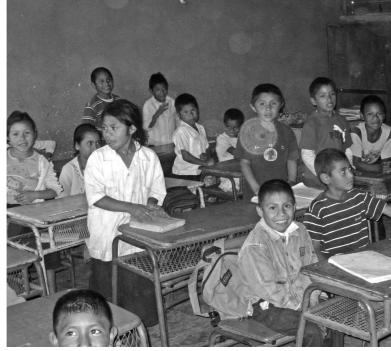












The people Mrs McCool met didn't feel hard done by, but instead had a vision for the future. They didn't wait around for money, but rather worked hard every day. Trocaire works on a loan system: they give money to the communities to start them up and the communities pay them back when they can. Even though these communities remained indebted, Mrs McCool saw that they were still proud, and willing to do whatever it took to sustain themselves.

The clichés of the under-developed world were shaken off; it wasn't like going into an emergency situation. The communities plan for the future and farmers already have begun exporting goods to Germany. They do not sit around, they constantly want to move on and build more for themselves. One woman whom Mrs McCool met was running

her own enterprise by powering stoves with methane from cow manure. The sense of resilience and resourcefulness in hardship was far advanced from what we can do. They were good humoured and always smiling, seeming to be full of life.

Mrs McCool said the trip was beneficial, as she learned about Trocaire, saw the hard work going on in all schools funded by Trocaire, and saw the sense of community they all shared. The people accepted them as part of their community and showed great hospitality to them; they even went so far as to make them hand made gifts and ornaments, gave them fabrics and jams they had made as parting gifts. These people, who are in poverty, were giving what they had to show their appreciation.

Commenting on Trocaire, Mrs McCool told us that what they do is commendable, but there is always room for improvement. It is not all about the money; it is about awareness building and campaigning for communities who suffer from injustice. Land grabbers try to steal these people's land, the one thing they have to produce for themselves. The government in Honduras often takes the produce, and the schools are not funded. Injustice abounds.

Reflecting on this and on her trip as a whole, Mrs McCool quoted Nelson Mandela:

'Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity, it is an act of justice.'

Interview by Jack Reid and Stephen Reynolds Year 13



LOOKING AHEAD

LORETO COLLEGE SENIOR PREFECTS LEARN TO LEAD

A group of final year students from Loreto College Coleraine enjoyed a half-day workshop with a team from the Royal Navy on Wednesday 19th September.

























The aim of the day was to foster skills of leadership and teamwork in the group, all of whom have been given the role of Senior Prefects for their final year.

In the course of the half-day session, the students faced a number of physical games, teamwork challenges and problem-solving scenarios. Each of these games enabled the students to develop their own individual leadership skills, as well as focusing on their ability to work together as members of a team.



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Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commended the students on their enthusiastic participation in this demanding workshop, and paid tribute to the excellent leadership of the event by the Royal Navy representatives. Mr James added that the skills of leadership and teamwork will be invaluable to the students throughout their final year at school and far beyond it as they prepare to enter the world of work.

year at school and far beyond







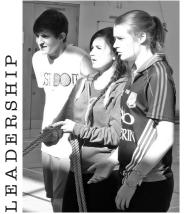


















SIXTH FORMERS PUT TO THE TEST AT LORETO COLLEGE TRIAL INTERVIEW EVENING

Loreto College Coleraine held its thirty-first annual Trial Interview evening on Thursday 18th October 2012, organised by the College's Careers Department. The purpose of the Trial Interview evening is to provide final-year A Level students with the opportunity of experiencing the interview situation and of benefiting from the constructive criticism and advice of the interview panel. Each student presents himself or herself for one interview in his or her chosen career area; after some debate among the interviewing panel, he or she is then provided with feedback on both their performance at interview and also on the opportunities available in that area of employment.



























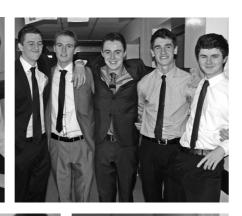
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A total of twenty interview panels, made up of almost fifty interviewers from a wide range of professional and academic disciplines, and including numerous former students of Loreto College, provided the students with advice, feedback and the benefit of their expertise. Miss Maria Flannelly, Head of Careers at Loreto College, commented that the evening had been a highly beneficial and interesting opportunity for the students involved, and was grateful for the input of the members of the interviewing panels. She added that the event had helped forge the College's links with the wider community, helping the students in the development of life-skills as well as contributing to their preparation for further study and employment in their chosen career area.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commended the Sixth Form students on their conscientious efforts in presenting themselves for their interviews, and paid tribute to the Careers Department and the Interview Panel members for their hard work in the successful running of the event.











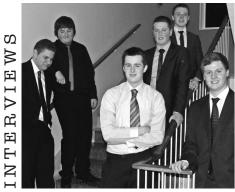
















LORETO STUDENTS ATTEND IRISH LANGUAGE CAREERS DAY

Carntogher Community Association hosted an Irish Language Careers Day recently in Maghera Leisure Centre, with TV presenter, Tomaí Ó Conghaile acting as Fear an Tí. Loreto College's Year 12 and Year 14 Gaeilgeoirí were part of a 300 strong crowd attending the event, and it was clear that the students found it extremely informative and inspirational in terms of careers guidance.

To begin the event, there was a series of guest speakers who each shared their own personal experience of working in the Irish language sector. Each of them explained the benefits of bilingualism; that by having two languages you have twice the chance of gaining employment.











The guest speakers included Leonne Ní Loinsigh, Irish language Development Officer for Carntogher; Ursula Uí Dhonnaile, Líofa Development Officer; Síne Nic Ailí, Conradh na Gaeilge; Greg Toner from Queens University, Caitríona Nic Seoin; Community and Business Executive Officer; Antaine Ó Donnaile, Head of Irish Department within the BBC and also rap musician and dance entrepreneur, Tura Arutura.

The second part of the event allowed pupils to browse the stalls in attendance, from both employment and educational sectors. These included Siopa An Carn, Samhlaigh, Ciste Craoltóireachta Gaeilge, Líofa, Magherafelt District Council, Pobal, Meon Eile, Conradh na Gaeilge, Foras na Gaeilge, Queen's University Belfast, University of Ulster and St Mary's University College.

Loreto College's Irish teachers Bean Uí Mhianáin and Bean Uí Mhaoláin paid tribute to their senior Gaeilgeoirí for the manner in which they had conducted themselves and for the enthusiasm they had shown on the day.



ENTREPRENEURIAL EXPERIENCE FOR LORETO FIRST YEARS

All Year 8 students at Loreto College Coleraine took part in a workshop organised by Young Enterprise Northern Ireland on Wednesday 7th November 2012.

Entitled 'Your School, Your Business', the workshop seeks to facilitate the transition from junior to

During the course of the workshop,

the first year students were also

Sixth Form students- the senior

students shared their expertise

and experience with their junior

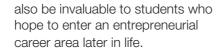
Karen Murphy, Young Enterprise

aim is to make school as positive

College.

given the opportunity to work with

senior school for the students, as well as fostering in them a sense of business and enterprise awareness. Young Enterprise Northern Ireland conducts seminars in the classroom that focus on skills the students will need to be successful in their new school- skills like communication and team work. These skills will







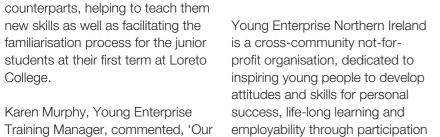






an experience as possible for these young people. The skills they learn now can be applied in any new experience, and will therefore help them prepare for success in their working life when the time comes.'

success, life-long learning and in practical business programmes. Miss Maria Flannelly, Head of Careers at Loreto College, and Mrs Sinead McNicholl, Employability and Learning for Life and Work Co-ordinator, commented on the excellence of the seminar programme experienced by the Year 8 students, which had proved highly beneficial in developing their awareness of entrepreneurial skills and employability, and paid tribute to the Workshop Co-ordinator, Ms Shaunagh Brolly of Young Enterprise Northern Ireland.





The annual Open Day was held at Loreto College Coleraine, a Voluntary Grammar School, on the morning of Saturday 12th January 2013, drawing a large number of prospective students and their parents from throughout the College's extensive catchment area.

Following an address by College Principal Mr Michael James, Primary 6 and 7 students and their parents, as well as prospective Sixth Formers, were given the opportunity to explore the school, benefiting from the experience of members of the teaching staff and a number of current Loreto students- from both Junior and Senior forms- in order to form an accurate picture of what life as a Loreto student entails. Visitors to the College were treated to a variety of stimulating displays, from performances by the traditional Irish group and the singing ensembles and displays of talent by several groups of Drama students to 'hands-on' contact in Computer Studies, Science and Technology.

For some the highlight of the morning was a visit to the College's state-of-the-art Sports Hall and Technology Suite. Others were delighted by the cookery demonstration in the College's Home Economics Departmentespecially as many of the culinary treats on show could be sampled!

The morning also saw the launch of the new 'Welcome to Loreto College' DVD, which gives a snapshot of life as a Loreto student.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commented: 'On our Open Day, we were keen

to stress that a whole range of opportunities is open to any student who applies for a place at Loreto College. We are well equipped to offer all our students the possibility of excellence in a whole range of academic and extra-curricular areas. The students who helped to introduce our school to visitors on Open Day are themselves a fine example of the ethos of hard work, excellence and community spirit which makes Loreto College unique.'

With all academic departments and many extra-curricular activities represented during the Open Day, the event was a very successful one, building on the College's links with the local community and encouraging many young people to apply for a place in the Year 8 Class of 2013 and 2014.

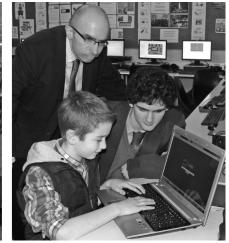










































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CAREERS WEEK AT LORETO COLLEGE COLERAINE

Students and staff at Loreto College Coleraine took part in a Careers Week from 14th-18th January, exploring how all subjects across the curriculum prepared students for the world of work in terms of skills, knowledge, qualifications and workplace relevance.

In the course of the week, a number of visiting speakers drew students' attention to the opportunities which were being opened to them by their current studies.

On 14th January, Michelagh O'Neill their (a former student of Loreto College) outly and Professor Paul Jowitt from the Institute of Civil Engineers spoke to Mar Year 13 students of Maths, Physics, Students of Horizontal Students of Maths, Physics, Students of Physics,

On 17th January, a representative of Queen's University Belfast delivered a lecture to Year 10 students on the importance of GCSE choices and the wide range of degree courses available at QUB. She also delivered a lecture to Year 12 students on the importance of AS

subject choices and the need to check carefully what the admission requirements are for the wide range of degree courses available at QUB. The students also heard about some of the many accolades QUB has received and the superb facilities available there for students.

Throughout all areas of the Loreto College curriculum, a variety of talks took place, with Sixth Formers talking to Year 10 and Year 12 students about their experience of GCSE and A Level studies and their plans for the future, and staff outlining what former students of their subjects had gone on to do. Many departments invited former students to talk to classes about their own career paths and the

opportunities which their chosen subjects could open up to the young, enthusiastic student of today.

In addition to this, Careers-focused lessons were going on throughout the Loreto campus- for instance Year 12 students were exploring job application and interview skills and the writing of letters of application and CVs in English lessons. In the course of the week, all subject departments contributed a display of Careers-related materials to the central Foyer area, to be viewed by all students, staff and visitors to the College.

Miss Maria Flannelly, Head of Careers at Loreto College,







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commented that the Careers Week had been a great success in bringing the issue of employability, workplace skills and the wider relevance of study in all subject

areas to the forefront of students' minds at a particularly critical time. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Miss Flannelly and the Careers

Department for their hard work and enthusiasm in co-ordinating the Careers Week, and to all the subject teachers who had participated in the activities on offer.





Year 9/10 students meeting Ryanair pilot Stephen McGrath during Careers Week

LORETO YEAR 8 STUDENTS 'MOVING ON'

Loreto College Coleraine played host to a 'Moving On' target-setting workshop for all Year 8 students on the morning of Tuesday 29th January 2013.

Entitled 'Target Setting and Self Evaluation Term 2, Moving On', the workshop was run by Miss Belinda Toner, Vice Principal and by a team of Year 8 form tutors: Miss Julie Galbraith, Mrs Mabel McAleese and Mrs Meabh McGreevy, alongside Head of RE Mrs Siobhan McCarry.

The Year 8 students worked through a series of activities in the course of a busy and enjoyable afternoon. These included: teambuilding and problem-solving; discussion of the qualities of a good leader and how these might be

attained; and learning to see school as a community and become more involved in school life. The students were assisted in the challenges of the afternoon by a group of mentors from Year 13, an excellent example for the Year 8 students of young people who had successfully negotiated the challenges of the junior years relatively recently. All Year 8 students had set themselves personal and academic targets in September, during their first days at Loreto College: the workshop was a perfect opportunity for them to reassess these targets and to consider how far they had progressed towards making these aspirations happen.

At the end of the morning, the students enjoyed a presentation of

photographs, which showed them enjoying a range of activities in their first five months at Loreto College, testimony itself to the progress they have already made and how well they have settled into school life. Miss Belinda Toner commended the Year 8 students on their enthusiastic participation in the afternoon's activities, and paid tribute to the Year 13 mentors and the team of teachers who had led the workshop, commenting that it had been a very successful, productive and enjoyable event. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all the members of staff who had had led the workshop, as well as to the Year 13 mentors and the Year 8 students for their enthusiastic participation.





















LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS GAIN THE SKILLS TO SUCCEED

All Year 12 students from Loreto College Coleraine took part in a Success Skills Workshop on Wednesday 20th February.

Organised by the College's Careers Department in conjunction with Young Enterprise Northern Ireland, the workshop asked students the question: 'How prepared are you for the future?' with the aim of putting the students' GCSE studies and post-16 decisions into the context of preparing for the world of work, developing employability skills and trying to give them that extra 'edge' when looking for their dream job.

The workshop, led by Shaunagh Brolly of Young Enterprise Northern Ireland, sought to help students to improve their employability skills and capabilities for life at school, for their careers and for the world of





work. Activities carried out in groups included an opportunity for students to analyse their own learning styles, explore employment opportunities, and get to grips with some of the realities of career development, such as completing application forms and experiencing a job interview situation. Students were also given the opportunity to consider their own strengths and areas of interest, and match these to potential career areas.

Miss Maria Flannelly, Head of Careers at Loreto College, and Mrs Sinead McNicholl, Employability Co-ordinator, agreed that the workshop had been a very valuable opportunity for the students to put their GCSE studies into the context of preparation for the world of work and to assess their own qualities and aspirations with a future career plan in mind. Mr Michael James,





College Principal, paid tribute to Miss Flannelly and Mrs McNicholl as well as to Shaunagh Brolly of Young Enterprise Northern Ireland, adding that they had run an event of tremendous benefit and value to all Year 12 students.



























LORETO COLLEGE YEAR 11 STUDENTS LEARN TO 'Laugh in the Face of Exams'

Year 11 students from Loreto College Coleraine attended a Study Skills workshop entitled 'Laugh In The Face Of Exams' on Tuesday 26th March. Presented by Ben Best of local organisation Tree Of Knowledge, the workshop sought to prepare and motivate the students for the fast-approaching examinations season as the Easter holidays began.

Designed to help students prepare for exams, the 'Laugh In The Face Of Exams' session equips students with tools and techniques to cope better with the pressures of sitting exams. It is an interactive workshop, which aims to encourage students to adopt a positive attitude, deal effectively with stress, aim high to improve their results, take an emotionally intelligent approach to learning and set goals for the future.

Mrs Jane Nugent, Head of Year 11 at Loreto College, commented that the workshop had been highly motivational in preparing the



students for the busy and demanding months which lay ahead. Mr Stephen Gallagher, Vice Principal, paid tribute to Mr Ben Best, who led the workshop, for his energy and enthusiasm in inspiring the students, and to the Year 11 students for their active participation in the workshop.







OF STAYING IN SCHOOL

All Year 11 students at Loreto College Coleraine enjoyed a workshop on The Economics of Staying in School on Monday 8th April 2013.

Thanks to Young Enterprise
Northern Ireland, the Year 11
students now know the value of
staying in school. The 'Learn to
Earn' programme, presented by
the Young Enterprise team, helps
students understand that, by not
acquiring further qualifications,
they may be dooming themselves
to jobs which will limit their lifestyle
possibilities in later life.

'With university fees on the rise, many students are wondering whether the cost of education is worth the investment,' said Karen Murphy, who runs the programme. 'Some students wonder whether

they can even afford it. The prospect of thousands of pounds of student loan debt is one reason students are re-thinking whether getting a post-secondary qualification is worthwhile.'

The Economics of Staying in School programme is designed not only to show students in stark terms the difference between what they could earn if they pursued further qualifications, but also the difference in their future lifestyles. Through a variety of interactive activities during the course of the day, the students explored the choices they will make in the years ahead, as well as the realities of budgeting and the cost of living.

'Continuing education needn't mean university qualifications,' continued Karen Murphy. 'Other courses can also increase a young person's potential employability. We discuss a variety of options, including university qualifications, apprenticeships, certificates and training schemes. Consideration is also given to the possibility of the students one day running their own business. The emphasis is on encouraging the students to obtain sufficient information to enable them to make an informed choice of career.'

Miss Maria Flannelly, Head of Careers at Loreto College, thanked the Young Enterprise representatives, Shaunagh Brolly and Jackie Smyth, along with Maria McLaughlin of Bank of Ireland and Patrick Mcllroy of Citibank, who led the day, for their interesting and thought-provoking contribution to the Year 11 Careers and Employability programme.











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PSNI TALK FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

A group of students from Loreto College Coleraine received a very informative talk from Chief Superintendent Kevin Dunwoody, Head of Training for the PSNI, on 11th April 2013.

Chief Superintendent Dunwoody outlined for the students, who were from the Junior, GCSE and A Level years at Loreto College, the importance of skills associated with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in the problem-solving tasks associated with Police work. Chief Superintendent Dunwoody also outlined the importance of skills in Communication and Computing, demonstrating with examples drawn from issues of great interest and relevance to the students themselves, such as use of social networking and mobile phone technology.

Thanking Chief Superintendent Dunwoody on behalf of all the students and staff present at the talk, Miss Maria Flannelly, Head of Careers at Loreto College, commented that the talk had given a fascinating insight into the range of career opportunities available within the PSNI, and how the skills learned at school could be transferable into such a rewarding and worthwhile area of employment.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP MASTERCLASS FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

All Year 9 students at Loreto College Coleraine, took part in an Enterpreneurship Masterclass run by Young Enterprise NI on Tuesday 23rd April 2013.

The half-day programme aimed to provide students with an understanding of what is involved in setting up and running a business. In the course of the workshop, students engaged in activities designed to give them an understanding of the skills, attitudes and behaviours of entrepreneurs

and an opportunity to consider selfemployment as a career option. The activities in which the students took part were designed to help foster their inspiration, enthusiasm and vision as well as to develop their entrepreneurial skills.

Ms Shaunagh Brolly of Young Enterprise NI, who led the masterclass, commented that the Year 9 students had participated with great enthusiasm and had shown great promise and determination in the activities

throughout the workshop. Mrs
Sinead McNicholl, Citizenship and
Employability Co-ordinator at Loreto
College, paid tribute to Ms Brolly
and to the Year 9 students following
a lively, enjoyable and stimulating
day's active learning. Mr Michael
James, Principal of Loreto College,
commended Mrs McNicholl, who
had organised the day, along with
Ms Shaunagh Brolly and the Year 9
students for their enthusiastic and
constructive participation in such a
memorable day of learning.















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'PROJECT BUSINESS' WORKSHOP FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

All Year 10 students at Loreto College Coleraine enjoyed a halfday workshop entitled 'Project Business' on Tuesday 21st May, facilitated by Young Enterprise Northern Ireland.

The workshop saw the students working in groups to act as though they were running a mini business for the day, considering the aptitudes, challenges and risks involved in setting up and running a company. The students worked together to identify their

own strengths and how these could be best deployed in a business situation. The workshop also gave them the opportunity to engage in teamwork, creative thinking and problem-solving, negotiation, decision-making, timemanagement, target-setting, as well as developing their skills of communication and presentation.

Shaunagh Brolly of Young Enterprise Northern Ireland, who led the workshops, commended the Loreto College students on their enthusiastic and positive participation, while Mrs Sinead McNicholl, Citizenship and Employability Co-ordinator at Loreto College, commented that the workshop had been of great benefit to the students in showing how skills learned in school could be transferable to the world of work. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commended the students, Mrs McNicholl and the workshop leaders from Young Enterprise NI on a very busy, stimulating and interesting day.













FOR PRIMARY SIX PUPILS

Primary Six pupils from seventeen schools enjoyed Taster Mornings at Loreto College Coleraine towards the end of May, exploring a range of activities on offer at this prestigious Voluntary Grammar School.

Pupils from all seventeen schools:
Ballyhackett PS, Crossroads
PS Kilrea, St Aidan's PS, St
Antony's PS, St Brigid's PS, St
Canice's Dungiven, St Colum's
PS Portstewart, St Columba's PS
Kilrea, St John's PS Coleraine,
St Malachy's PS Coleraine, St
Patrick's PS Loughgiel, St Patrick's
PS Portrush, St Patrick's PS
Rasharkin, St Patrick's & St Brigid's
Balerin, and Termoncanice PS
Limavady - enjoyed a wide range
of activities including: team-building

games in PE; hands-on sensory development and learning about the application of science to everyday life; poetry writing in the English Department; making healthy smoothies in Home Economics and numeracy games in Mathematics. The pupils also had the opportunity to experience the school canteen, Café Lorette, and to meet Year 10 students from the College, many of whom had attended the same primary schools as the visiting students.

During the morning, Primary teachers and Classroom Assistants also had the opportunity to meet the team of teachers and Senior Leadership Team members taking part in the event. Further Taster Mornings took place in mid-June for Primary 6 pupils from a number of other local primary schools.

Miss Belinda Toner, Vice Principal at Loreto College, who co-ordinated the Taster Mornings, commented that the events had been a great success and that it had been a great pleasure to welcome so many enthusiastic young pupils to the College. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, added that he looked forward to welcoming many of these pupils back as Year 8 students in September 2014, continuing the strongly forged traditions of partnership between Loreto College and the many local primary schools.























TASTER DAY POEMS

During the Taster Days, some wonderful acrostic poems were produced by our visiting Primary 6 pupils. The poems on these pages are just a snapshot of the creativity which was at work on those mornings! Eagle-eyed readers may spot two poems by our Year 10 mentors...

Katie is really into sport,

Animals are the thing I like a lot,

Tigers are so cute, also cats, dogs and dolphins,

I like to play the violin,

Entertaining is what I like to do.

Outstanding sportsmanship,

Dog named Coco,

Home I love.

Relax and have a cup of tea with my Granny,

Athletic,

Nifty and cool.

Nice Neil

Educated in PE,

Interested in football,

Like playing for Eoghan Rua.

Animals are all I want to learn about,

Ostrich is my favourite one.

I love playing the piano.

Football is my favourite sport,

Everybody is my friend.

Coolness with a football at my feet.

Outstandingly calm under pressure.

Nice with my friends,

Not just one friend, lots of them!

Aine is my name,

Irish dancing and football are what I like to do.

Naomh, Andy, and Hannah are my best friends,

Enjoy doing

Athletics.

Playing camogie I like as well.

Patricia is my middle name.

Every day I play with my dogs, Scruffy and Max.

Ready to rumble.

Liverpool is my favourite team.

Everton you smell,

Yuck.

Camogie is my favourite sport,

Animals are so cool,

I like to play the tin whistle,

The Witches is my favourite book,

Entertaining is what I like to do.

Has great craic playing camogie,

And loves the band Maroon 5!

Nothing's better than my golden Labrador Jess.

Naomh is my best friend.

And I would love to be a firefighter when I grow up.

Hannah O'Hagan loves to do boxing in Errigal!

Big collie as pet,

A very talented player in football,

















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Never bully anyone,

Enjoy a good laugh,

You can trust me.

On my birthday I get money,

Kangaroos are my favourite animal,

A good friend to have,

Never stop winning in football,

Every day I go to school.

My favourite subject is English,

Olly Murs is my favourite singer,

Reading books make me feel adventurous,

Great artists are my idols,

Animals are my drawing passion,

Never say no to artistic inspiration!

Alex awesome

Likes reading books, playing outside, having a laugh.

Excited about getting home from school,

X-box I like to play.

Watching films is one of my favourite things to do.

Excited about everything.

Brian, Luke, Joseph C, Eimear and Ruairi are good

friends.

Books are one of my favourite things.

Jumping and being lively,

Oh how I love it so,

Having fun is the best.

No, do not fret,

Jumping is allowed in Loreto.

Oh if you are a madman like me,

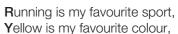
Every day will be tidy.











And I don't like red.

Never leave anybody out.

Of all the football teams I can choose,

Liverpool is my favourite.

I love to play gaelic.

Venus is my favourite planet.

Every day I play with my brothers.

Rangers is the worst team ever, along with Man Utd.

Bríanna is my name,

Running is amazing,

I love all animals but dogs are the best.

Anna is one of my best friends.

Never will I like Brussels sprouts,

Nowhere is worse than school.

Adventure books are my favourite.

Caring and sharing is always nice,

Orange and yellow are my favourite colours,

Running and playing with my friends is fun,

Every day I like to play football, You are my best friend, Niamh!

Being creative and active,

Racing and fun.

On the pitch camogie makes me happy.

Never look at the dark side, always look at the bright

Always spending time with my family and friends.

Getting into an adventure in the wild,

Happy is my goal in life.

Making others happy,

Animals are fun and playful,

Rain is a drizzle of darkness, sun is the sign of happiness.

Yummy food is the type I like.









Michael is my name,

I am ginger.

Cycling is my hobby,

Hate One Direction!

Aidan is the best.

Eats food for fun.

Loves Mrs Little!

My name is Michael,

I love to relax.

Checking work is not fun.

Having craic is great!

Always having fun with friends,

Eating burgers is brilliant,

Liking guads is awesome!

Jack is the name and X-Box is the game,

And dogs I love as well.

Corey, Brian and Michael too, the best friends a boy could get.

Kind and loving and caring too.

Being with my friends is a cool thing to do,

Running and running, that's a thing I do,

Orange, red and blue are cool colours.

With family and friends I am unstoppable.

Never ever will I tell a lie.

Cailléne is my name. I love camogie.

And school that's what I don't like.

I love One Direction, and I

Love some dogs, sorry all kinds of dogs.

Little is my sister, she is so smelly,

Erin is a friend of mine.

Niall Peoples is my cousin,

End of stories is the worst.

Luke is my name.

United States is my favourite place.

Killers, crime and gory history are the best,

Electric cars are my fave.

One Direction I absolutely hate!

Numeracy's my least favourite subject,

Enormous dinosaurs are my favourite animals.

I'm the best reader in the class.

Lazy days I love,

Lettuce I hate.

Counting all my names takes ages,

Only four more to go!

Now time for a very long poem.

So I'm from Portrush.

Trust me it's cold,

And rains all the time.

Next to my house are fields of cows,

They moo all through the night.

In the morning I go to school.

Nearly time for class.

At 8:55 the bell goes:

Run!

Over the corridors,

Skipping to English class.

At the door, registration.

Now time for roll call.

Next, Geography.

Every class is lots of fun.

Time for a snack, it's break.

Eating in the canteen,

Singing in the schoolyard.

Slam-dunkin' in PE.

Baking in HE,

Adding chemicals in Chemistry,

Xylophone in Music,

Taking notes in History,

Eeeeep....

Run for home,

Make it to the ice cream van,

Under the trees.

Loreto College is

Very cool, and Kevin

Eakin is a legend,

Not just because he's tall,

Not just because he's ginger,

All because he's Keví!

Cool classic,

Active.

Runnina.

Angry,

Lovely, smart,

Awesome.

Nice

Magnificent, magical and marvellous,

Class reader.

Cool and funky and love to be funky,

Outrageous,

Awesome.

Like reading and love to write.

N is for noble,

I is for intelligent,

A is for affectionate,

M is for magnificent,

H is for hyperactive. L is for love 1D.

A is for amazing,

V is for very cool,

E is for energetic,

R is for radiant,

T is for too cool for school,

Y is for youthful.

Jumping, enthusiastic and playful,

Understanding and reliable and joyful.

Doesn't like One Direction. Energetic, loves Art and Animal Action.

Oh yeah I'm the best friend you could ever have! **K**eeping promises and trustworthy,

And I love Lord of the Rings.

Never hurt any living thing,

Everyone needing help, I'll help!

WHY OXFORD? WHY NOT?

When I arrived at Oxford University last December for an interview to study Law, I believed I knew exactly what to expect. Even after deciding to apply when I got my AS exam results in August, I maintained the typical impression of Oxford and its infamous interview process- austere, abstract, unforgiving. I'd braced myself for the bizarre questions which desperate searches on Google and articles in the Daily Mail had thrown at me (I can now sustain a lengthy discussion as to whether cabbages have rights and why bananas are curved). I'd put on my best scowl to deter any jumped-up, snobby little soand-so who wanted to engage me in a conversation about how many A stars I'd got at GCSE or how many instruments I played. Somehow, as I arrived at my chosen college, Christ Church, I'd come to the self-absorbed conclusion that I was the only normal person in the 17,241 people who had applied that year. I'd been taken in by every Oxbridge myth in the book, by claims of elitism, class division, and academics chained to their desks.

Looking back now, I realise just how ignorant and presumptuous I was. My experience of the Oxford interview couldn't have been more entertaining, enjoyable or friendly. As we queued for our rooms in the college and filed timidly into the dining hall (one benefit of applying to Oxford is the chance of a great mini-break- as good a reason as any, surely?) I recognized the same look on each applicant's face- a mixture of wariness, awe and complete and utter terror. There are obviously those who do fit into the typical 'Oxbridge' mould- braying, superior, uber confident- but they were totally outnumbered by their friendly, modest and really very normal fellow candidates. I met so many lovely people at Oxford from all sorts of different backgrounds, and now it seems ridiculous to have imagined anything otherwise. I was made to feel settled and comfortable throughout my stay at the university, and while it may seem grand at first, with prayers in Latin before your spaghetti (delicious) and tutors in mortar boards scrutinising you while you tuck into your chocolate

quaint, historical assets rather than scarv deterrents. Another myth I would have to

cake (also delicious) such traditions are

dispel was that of the interview process. I can only speak for myself, but headlines

Reference Such as Country Such such as 'Oxbridge interview completely the opposite to my experience. Yes, the interviews are rigorous and you do have to do

your research, as well as think on your feet, but I can't imagine things would be different at any other university. The tutors carrying out the interviews were very eager to put me at my ease and couldn't have been more approachable and down-to-earth, even helping me out

if I got stuck. Rather than the strange

questions I'd panicked about for months, the discussion was one based around legal situations and putting forward an argument, a format I'd been prepared for in my practice interview at Loreto. Nor do you have to put on a sterling performanceparticularly in my first interview I felt as though I was floundering and made a number of mistakes. But that's the benefit of multiple interviews- nobody can

deny that you're given a fair chance to succeed.

So if you enjoy learning, have a good academic record and really want to get the best out of your chosen degree, I'd thoroughly recommend giving the Oxbridge application a bash. I know it all sounds a bit sales pitchy, and clichéd, but I speak the truth- contrary to popular myth once again. For me Oxford also makes financial sense, with great halls of residence, fantastic resources and even the opportunity for one-on-one teaching. You might get further than you think, which my experience certainly proved!

I leave you with one piece of advice, should you ever find yourself at the Christ Church interviews, and I hope my Google translated Latin is accurate:

'Conantur scolorata collyridam.'

Do try the chocolate cake.

Catherine McLaughlin Year 14



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is all around us, in everything we do or say, From what we add to our food to the electronic games we play.

It tells us what makes the things around us tick, I wonder if this reaction is endothermic?

It reminds us about our solids, liquids and our gases, Our elements, compounds and atomic masses, Test tubes, beakers and tripods too, Chemistry class, there is always something new.

Safety precautions to keep us in line,
Be sure to read the warning sign.
Corrosive, highly flammable, irritant to the eyes,
Toxic, harmful, wear these goggles you despise.

Lithium, Potassium, Neon, Argon, Silver and Gold, These are elements, so I've been told. They are arranged in a perfect, organised table, Demitri Mendeleev was more than able.

Protons, Neutrons and Electrons, they're all great fun, And finally that's my Chemistry poem done! Rachel Wilkinson Year 11



All Year 9 students at Loreto College Coleraine, took part in a half-day Science Masterclass on Thursday 4th October 2012.

Presented by Shaunagh Brolly of Young Enterprise Northern Ireland, the workshop introduced students to the career opportunities open to them in the world of science, and the relevance of science to everyday life. The workshop was also facilitated by members of the Loreto Science Department, including Mrs Sheila McBroom, Co-ordinator of Junior Science at Loreto College.

During the course of the morning, the students worked collaboratively on a number of problem-solving exercises. This









included a forensic science type 'CSI' exercise, in which scientific methods were used to solve an imaginary crime: the theft of an expensive necklace. Later, the science of everyday life was explored with pupils looking at the effect of water and isotonic drinks on sporting performance: they measured their resting pulse, undertook exercise, and then remeasured their pulse rate, some having consumed a sports drink, some having consumed water, and then discussed and evaluated their findings.

With enthusiasm levels among the students showing tremendous appreciation for the workshop, it was deemed a great success by Mrs Sheila McBroom, who coordinated the event. Mr Frank
Scullion, Head of Science at
Loreto College, commented: 'The
workshop allowed the pupils to
see (and use) real applications of
science. Such activities challenge
the pupils in a number of other
ways- working effectively with
others in small groups- listening and
observing carefully to build all the
evidence, and so on.'

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all those who took part in the Science Masterclass, commenting that it had provided a valuable experience for the students to put their learning into the context of its application to real life situations, as well as to a number of potential career areas.

CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is fun, but be careful you don't run,

It's the best class for making gas,
But be careful you don't break any

There are many experiments in order to make elements,

We use the periodic table and bottles which you daren't mislabel. There may be bangs and most certainly clangs,

Lots of actions and reactions.

Explosions and corrosion.

So as you can see, Chemistry is the

best,
Apart from when you have a test!

Cariosa O'Harte Year 10















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SUCCESSFUL SCIENCE WEEK AT LORETO COLLEGE COLERAINE

Loreto College Coleraine held its annual Science Week from 12th - 16th November 2012, incorporating visits from partner schools and exciting, enjoyable learning experiences for all age-groups among the College's students.

Pupils from partner Primary Schools, St John's PS, and Christie Memorial PS, each spent time exploring the Environmental Trail in the Loreto grounds. They were assisted on their explorations by Year 11 students and members of the Loreto College Biology Department, Mrs G Doherty, Mrs S McBroom, Mrs S Mullan and Mrs S Young. Both groups were lucky enough to explore the trail before the stormy weather took hold, and were able to admire the stunning autumn foliage on the Loreto campus.

There was a great variety of events for the College's own students: all Year 10 Science classes took part in a tightly-contested wall display competition, with the aim of identifying the uses of 'Colours in Science'. These displays were judged by a panel from among the Loreto teaching staff, on the basis of science content, impact, literacy and design: all members of the judging panel were impressed by the talent and creativity on display. The competition was won by 10B, with 10E coming in a close 2nd. Other competitions on offer included a Loreto Doodle contest for Junior students, led by the Loreto Art & Design Department, which drew a large number of excellent entries.

The winners were:

Year 8

- 1st Emily Kayleigh Colson-Rice
- 2nd Fionnuala Keane
- 3rd Aoibheann Conway

Year 9

- 1st Eva McGrath
- 2nd Josh McErlean
- 3rd Molly Brennan

Year 10

- 1st Emily Moore
- 2nd Michael Dallat
- 3rd Cariosa O'Harte

Meanwhile all Junior Science classes took part in fun activities such as building paper towers as an exploration of Physics, or taking a forensic scientist's approach to Chemistry.



































Lunchtime demonstrations were available in turn in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with the Biology department offering an informative talk from a visiting Marine Biologist. The Chemistry lab was full to capacity when Mr Scullion demonstrated some exciting experiments including 'the screeching jelly baby' and 'careful what you mix- sugars and acids start a fire.' In Physics the A level and GCSE students led Phonebook Physics demonstrations to enthuse younger students, ably assisted by Physics teachers Mrs Maeve Close and Mrs Katrina Brolly. Year 13 and Year 14 Physics and Biology students availed of a very interesting Careers Lecture by Bronagh White of the Pharmacy Department of the University of Ulster, Coleraine, helping to raise their awareness of just one career to which their scientific studies would have great relevance.

Also during the course of Science Week, all Year 8 students from Loreto College, along with Year 13 Physics students, had the opportunity to take part in STEM Physics workshops on the topic of Forces and Energy, in the STEM Module, which spent several days at Loreto College to facilitate this.

Launched in 2009, the STEM Module is a mobile laboratory and workshop equipped with everything required to deliver a state of the art learning experience to schools across the province. The STEM Module project is funded by the Department of Education and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, and managed by the North Eastern Education and Library Board. The students learned about the development of all kinds of flying machines from

the first attempts at flying to the early rockets produced in China, to modern day rockets launched to travel in space. They then had the opportunity to design and make their own rockets, learning how to optimise flight time and distance of travel of the rockets. The students thoroughly enjoyed this informative and innovative workshop, which developed both their understanding of the use of forces and motion and a highly competitive atmosphere as each student tried to maximise the flight of their rocket. The Yr 13 students also had the opportunity to track their rockets using Google Earth and then applied the data to projectile motion which they are currently studying. Y13/Y14 biology students also had the opportunity to view insects using the electron scanning microscope. The Year 8 and Year 13 students and their



teachers thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the STEM module and were enthusiastic about the learning experience it offered on such an interesting topic.

With all these activities proving very successful, and with high rates of student participation and enthusiasm, Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all the members of staff who had organised the various

events: Mrs Maeve Close (Head of Physics), Mr Frank Scullion (Head of Chemistry), Mrs Geraldine Doherty (Head of Biology), Mrs Sheila McBroom (Head of Junior Science) and all the members of the Science department. Mrs Maeve Close, Mrs Sheila McBroom and Mrs Katrina Brolly, who co-ordinated Science Week, paid tribute to all those who had helped run the events and to the students for their enthusiastic participation.



the most light,

it can ignite!

But it's to become important in

It makes your balloons float up

Though in airship explosions it

Atomic number it is one,

Just think into the future, not too far, People will be driving hydrogen cars!



















Compared to all other elements it's

Though keep away the matches or

This gas no-one can see or taste or

making fuel cells.

really high,

made people cry.

But when it comes to groups it has none.

Emily Moore Year 10









who led the event, were praised by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, for presenting the students with such an interesting









STEM WORKSHOP FOR LORETO COLLEGE PHYSICS AND TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS

This half-day STEM workshop

encouraged the students to see

the value and relevance of Physics

study of Science) to potential future

12 students

enthused and

intrigued by the

demonstrations

offer during the workshop.

The teachers

who organised

the workshop,

Mr Raymond

McKay (Head of

Technology) and

Mrs Katrina Brolly

(Physics teacher),

Royal Navy team

along with the

and interactive

sessions on

had been

and Technology (and the broader

careers, including engineering,

rescue and many others. Head

communication, search and

of Technology Mr Raymond

GCSE students of Physics and Technology at Loreto College Coleraine had an exciting opportunity to put their learning into the context of Science across the Curriculum on Monday 26th November 2012, when they took part in a STEM workshop facilitated by the Royal Navy.





and stimulating learning experience.

OXYGEN

Oxygen, oxygen, it's in the air, Oxygen, oxygen it's everywhere. It was discovered by Carl Scheele, Way back in 1774, And since then we've learnt more and more. It's colourless, It's tasteless.

It's odourless. And without it we would be LIFELESS!

We need it to breathe, As it assists respiration, It supports combustion,

To the dismay of those at the fire station!

Its atomic number is eight, And really it determines our fate, All in all oxygen sure is great! Aidan O'Boyle Year 10















































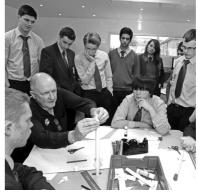














LORETO COLLEGE - PIONEERING BEST-PRACTICE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION

On Monday 17th December, Loreto College played host to a Java programming course for teachers, facilitated by Computing At School (CAS), the representative body for teachers of Computing across the UK. The course was lead by Loreto's Head of ICT & Computing, and local Chairman of CAS, Mr Clarke Rice. A wide range of schools was represented, with

teachers travelling from other local schools, and as far away as Co. Kildare!

This course was in response to a growing demand from pupils and the IT industry for more programming to be taught in schools. Indeed, software development accounts for 25% of job vacancies in Northern

Ireland. The high turnout for this course is testament to those ICT teachers who want to move from a traditional 'Microsoft Office' model of ICT towards the rigorous problem-solving techniques that Computer Science develops. As well as Greenfoot, other successful examples of teaching programming in the classroom were discussed.





This interactive course used *Greenfoot*, an environment for teaching Java through games development. During the day, teachers were introduced to Java and, through Greenfoot's friendly interface, were quickly writing Java code to power a game. While creating virtual crabs that eat worms and that are chased by randomly scurrying lobsters might first seem like an unusual teaching method, the ability to program these develops fantastic analytical skills in students. Once mastered, these skills are transferable to many programming scenarios, including entertainment devices, mobile phone apps and the many hidden computers that facilitate everyday life, such as the telecoms infrastructure.

Since introducing Greenfoot in Loreto, Mr Rice has noticed significantly increased student motivation. Local employers and universities have also commented on the significant difference they see in students with well-developed programming skills, compared to those who have followed a traditional ICT course.

Thanks are due to CAS and the University of Kent for providing course materials and software.

Helium is a noble gas, With 4.0026 as its mass. It has an atomic number of 2 And is commonly used by me and you. It fills up things that float, like balloons and balls, That's why helium's the best element of them all.

But Neon is the coolest element, you know, It's what makes lights and signs glow. It's also part of the stable gases, And has one of the smallest masses.

But Argon's the most common noble gas on the Earth, One percent of the atmosphere, for what it's worth; It is an element that roams the air. Unfortunately for us, there isn't much there. Rachel McIntyre Year 10

ELEMENTS

MERCURY

If you don't already know, my name is Mercury,

I'm a silvery grey metal, A liquid that's fast; Some people call me quicksilver, They know I'm going to last. I do not stick to glass, That's why I'm used in thermometers and barometers. 201 is my reactive atomic mass.

> And I'm class. Cormac Kerr Year 10

MAGNESIUM

Metal, metal, metal and period 3, Alkaline Earth metal. Group 2 element. Neatly and brightly burning when ignited, Every lab needs it! Silvery grey danger, It's lighting up the lab Using 12 protons, electrons and neutrons in the atom.

Metal, metal, metal at the left of the periodic table.

Susan McBride Year 11

CERN EXPERIENCE, SUMMER 2013

A Year 13 student has spoken of his delight after his application to spend a week working at the site of one of the world's largest scientific experiments was accepted. Adam Gellatly will travel to Switzerland during the summer to see first hand the extraordinary work that takes place at the CERN nuclear research centre on the outskirts of Geneva. Adam received the news he had been hoping for after making contact with one of the scientists currently involved in the multi-billion pound underground project.

His interest in the 'Large Hadron Collider'- which lies in a circular tunnel that took a decade to buildwas sparked during a visit to one of its sites last year. Adam is currently in Year 13 at Loreto College, where he is studying Physics, Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics for A

Level. He hopes to pursue Physics at University level following the successful completion of his A Levels.

'There are different sites for different experiments,' explains Adam, who will work alongside Dr David Barney. 'We visited a site in France where ATLAS experiments are conducted, and the more I thought about it, the more I wanted to be a part of it.'

Adam posted his applicationconsisting of his CV and a covering letter explaining his interest in physics- last October, more in hope than expectation that he would receive a reply. 'I applied online and didn't expect to hear anything back,' admitted Adam, 'so I'm obviously very pleased they said yes because it isn't something you get to do every day."

Exact details about the work Adam will be involved with have yet to be finalised, although it is expected to include analysis of supersymmetry (SUSY) and anti-matter data.

So what is Adam hoping to gain from the opportunity? 'I'm not really sure what I can bring [to the team], but hopefully they will see that I have an interest and a passion for the subject. Hopefully they will see someone who is enthusiastic and willing to learn.'

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commented that Adam had shown a tremendous interest in and aptitude for science throughout his years at Loreto, and wished him well on this exciting opportunity.

TURING ESSAY COMPETITION AWARD FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A Sixth Form student from Loreto College Coleraine has been placed first in Northern Ireland in Turing's World Short Story Competition run by Heriot Watt University, Edinburah.

Christopher Carson, who is in



Year 13 at Loreto College, was inspired by his studies of AS Level Computing to write a short story based on the life and work of Alan Turing. Alan Turing (1912-1954) was a British scientist whose pioneering research made fundamental contributions

> to Computing, Mathematics and Biology. This included establishing fundamental limits to what computers can and can't do: the Halting problem: developing techniques and hardware to break encrypted information: the Bombe; designing one of the first digital computers: the ACE; characterising requirements for artificial intelligence: the Turing test; and

exploring the mathematical basis of how living things form and grow: morphogenesis.

Christopher was among a few Year 13 students from Loreto College who entered the competition, and was invited to an awards ceremony in Heriot Watt University in the Summer Term. The competition was judged by Heriot Watt University academics and four top awards - one each for England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales - were presented.

Christopher was congratulated on his success by Mr Clarke Rice, Head of Computing and ICT at Loreto College, who described him as a highly dedicated student and a very deserving winner. Christopher and Mr Rice were congratulated on this tremendous achievement by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



LORETO PROGRAMMERS CONGRATULATED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF KENT

A group of GCSE students from Loreto College Coleraine, who have been studying games development, have been congratulated on their work by the University of Kent. The students, Pearce Burns, Conor McIvor and Rory McCormick, all Year 12 students at Loreto College, developed a range of games in the Java programming language, using the Greenfoot environment. Greenfoot was developed by the University of Kent as a specialised programming environment, designed to be used in teaching and in the development of games and simulations.

Dr Neil Brown, of the University of Kent congratulated the students on their problem-solving skills and their creativity. He said: 'The winners produced impressive games and are worthy prize winners. It shows that ICT and programming can be very creative subjects- just as much as English or Art. I hope that the knowledge of programming that they've gained on the course serves them well, whichever field they end up going into. It shows that with the right teacher, some great, fun work can be produced by school pupils.'

Mr Clarke Rice, Head of Computing and ICT at Loreto College, commented that students had had only a limited amount of time to work on the project, due to Controlled Assessment rules. The impressive nature of their games, which include sophisticated animation techniques, reflects an enormous amount of dedication by the students to pursue excellence in a subject that they clearly enjoy. Mr Rice also acknowledged the importance of being part of the Computing At School Network of Excellence in developing a lively and engaging set of ICT and Computing courses in Loreto, which emphasise preparation for further study and employment.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commended the three students and Mr Rice on their enthusiasm and dedication in developing this project to such a high level of excellence.

ALUMINIUM

Atomic number of 13,
Low density,
Useful element,
Metal,
In Group 3,
Neutrons of 14,
Ideal for construction of aircraft,
Used to make drinking cans,
Malleable.
Jessica O'Brien Year 11



Pearce Burns, Conor McIvor and Rory McCormick, our Year 12 Programmers



LORETO MATHEMATICIANS JOIN NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Three teams from Loreto College Coleraine have taken part in national Mathematics competitions in the course of this year.

At Sixth Form level, Year 14 pupils
Eve O'Loan and Ger Mullan were
joined by year 13 pupils Adam
Gellatly and Shane Donnelly in
the UK Mathematics Trust, Senior
Maths Challenge. Four year
13 students, Niamh Dowdall,
Patrick Kerr, Alice McGee and
Luke Roantree, meanwhile, took
part in the annual QUB Mathematics
Competition.

Representing the Junior School, Year 10 students, Cariosa O', Harte and Corrmac McCarry, along with Year 9 pupils Molly Brennan and Fergal Close, took part in the UK Mathematics Trust, Maths Challenge in April. They were among the top teams throughout the competition and ended in 5th position out of 20 schools.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the three Mathematics teams and their teachers, Mrs Anne O'Kane (Head of Mathematics) and Mrs Martina Mackle, for the dedication and enthusiasm with which they had approached training for their competitions and for the distinction with which they had represented the College in their respective events.









JUNIOR MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

As every year, all Year 9 students took part in the annual Junior Mathematics Challenge, organised by the UK Mathematics Trust. Molly Brennan won the award for Best in School. Three Gold certificates were awarded, to Molly Brennan, Dominic Bradley and Fearghal Close. Twelve Silver certificates were awarded, to Hannah Magee, Callum Johnston, Finn Lestas, Aoife Kealey, James McReynolds, Oisin Brennan, Kai Smyth, Brona Mackle, Cahir Hasson, Eoin Doherty, Glen O'Donovan and Casey Black.

There were 22 Bronze certificates: these were awarded to Flynn Faith-Crothers, Cahir Boyle, Naomi O'Hale, Shauna Kelly, Lorcan Toner, Josh McErlean, Joshua Wan, Caoimhe Kelly, Matthew Connolly, Victoria Tsang, Ciara Wilkinson, Leon McMullan, Orla Bradley, Piers Curran, Eva McGrath-Olivan, Oonagh McAlister, Aidan McGonigle, Erica Cartmell, Grace McAlinden, Karis Taylor, Roisin McMorrough and Sarah Moore.

> Congratulations to all our Junior Mathematicians!

XENON

Oh Xenon, Xenon, You're the best, So distinguished, Above the rest.

A colourless, heavy, Noble gas, One hundred and thirty one Is its atomic mass.

Eight isotropes Of Xenon there are, Can you believe that? It's totally bizarre.

Used in lamps and lights, It turns them blue. There's plenty of Xenon For me and you.

Get with it guys, The rest are pathetic. It'll put you to sleep. Because it's anaesthetic! Odhran McElhinney Year 11

As you know the world has been rapidly advancing in terms of technology. For example the averages person's mobile phone probably has much more computing power than the system used in the Apollo 11 mission back in 1969. Going back a decade, many people would have laughed at the idea of touch-screen phones and of digitally storing large quantities of information. Yet here

we are.

perfect?

other projects such as creating a collage, developing our own DVD/game covers and making our own birthday invitations. The latter of these projects required us to include a photo of ourselves meaning we had to use a digital camera and a scanner, further strengthening our technological

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

The school has responded to this

new generation of computers and

course to Year 10s when choosing

their GCSEs. Digital Technology is

a two year course which is taught

after school and counts as an extra

GCSE. This course would appeal

computers and technology, want

more qualifications to put on their

of their learning. The course can

the Duke of Edinburgh award.

In the first year of the course the

students do Digital Imaging using

the program Photoshop. Guided by

our teacher, Mrs Brolly, we learned

all the basic skills in Photoshop like

cropping an image, manipulating

layers and using tools to move

around different parts of several

advanced skills which we used to

retouch and fix up old/torn photos.

images. We also learned more

We were also assigned several

CV, or just want to get the most out

also be noted as a skill when doing

to those who are interested in

technology by offering an extra

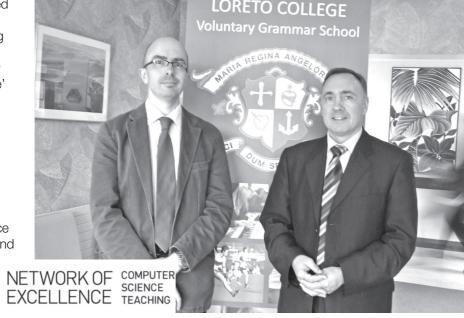
Overall, this year of the course was extremely enjoyable and everyone was amazed at how much they had learned about digital imaging. In the second year of the course the focus is on web design using the program FrontPage, which the whole class is looking forward to using. The Digital Technology course is a fun opportunity where you will learn a lot about using well-known programs and it definitely helps you become more involved in the current technological revolution.

Peter Rogan Year 11

LORETO JOINS COMPUTER SCIENCE NETWORK OF EXCELLENCE

Loreto College, has been confirmed as a founding school within the prestigious 'Network of Computing Excellence', created by the British Computer Society and Computing At School. 'Network of Excellence' status, recognises schools that are pursuing new and innovative standards in the delivery of Computer Science. Loreto is the only school in the Coleraine area, and one of only four schools in Northern Ireland, to be currently recognised by the Network of Excellence. Despite the importance of Computing to the Northern Ireland economy, Loreto is also the only school in Coleraine to offer Computer Science at GCSE and A Level.

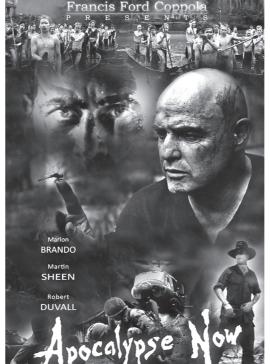
With 25% of all job vacancies in Northern Ireland being in the Computer Science and Information Technology sector, this award reaffirms Loreto College's continuing commitment to providing a high-standard of education that



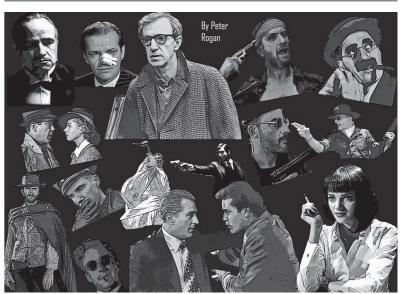
meets the future employment needs of all students.

Mr Clarke Rice, Head of Computing & ICT at Loreto College, paid tribute to the students of Loreto, whose hard work has been a vital part of raising standards in this area. Mr

Michael James, Principal of Loreto College paid tribute to Mr Rice's enthusiasm and dedication for improved standards in the delivery of Computer Science, which has led to a number of innovative extra-curricular activities as well as improved subject offerings.



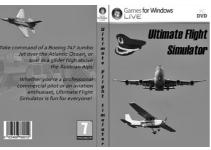




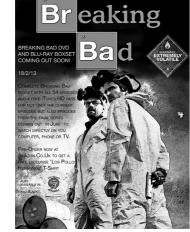


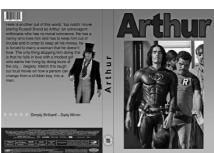












STIMULA PROJECT

In term one this year, a group of 14 Year 12 students studying Technology and Design successfully completed a research project funded by the European Commission and St. Mary's University College Belfast.

The project called Stimula was part of a European research programme involving a small number of schools in Northern Ireland and a wide range of schools across the European Union.

The aim of the research was to study perceptions and motivation towards Technology and Design. The group worked on building model robotic vehicles from a kit of parts and writing control programs so that they could be remotely controlled. They also visited Armstrong Medical to look at industrial applications of computer controlled machines.













MUSIC AND DRAMA

LORETO COLLEGE CHOIR ENTERTAIN CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS

The Junior Choir from Loreto
College Coleraine entertained
Christmas shoppers in the Diamond
Centre, Coleraine and in the foyer
of Sainsbury's supermarket at the
Riverside Retail Park on Friday 14th
December.

The Choir, under the baton of Choirmaster Mr Howard Gillespie, assisted by Loreto College's Head of Music, Miss Roisin Stewart, was accompanied by Year 13 student Ben Levy. Several soloists performed with the choir, along with

a few vocal ensembles of Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 students.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the choir, soloists and their teachers for providing a memorable afternoon's entertainment for local shoppers.



































LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT RELEASES EP

Cahir McLaughlin, a Year 9 student from Loreto College Coleraine, has released his first EP after recording songs he wrote himself with renowned produced/songwriter Tré Sheppard.

Cahir is already well-established as a musical talent at Loreto College, having won the school's Loreto X Factor competition at Christmas, and performed at several school events. He has won various local competitions. and is well known as an upand-coming young performer in the local area.

'Secret Hopes', showcases his unique blend of rock/pop music. It includes a ballad inspired by his late paternal grandfather, along with a song called 'Hold My Hand', which he performed to great acclaim at the Loreto X Factor event.

Cahir, who taught himself the guitar aged just nine years old, is from a very musical family, with his

grandfather having played in showbands and his uncles members of the well-known

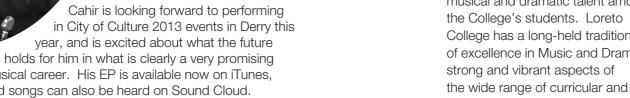
Rory Harkin Band. Cahir previously won some recording time in a studio in

Donegal as a competition prize, and was delighted to have the chance to work and record with Tré Sheppard in his studio.

Mr Michael James. Principal of Loreto College, congratulated Cahir on his stunning performance at the Loreto X Factor competition and on the release of his first EP, commenting that such a talented, modest and determined young musician clearly had a very bright future ahead of him.

vear, and is excited about what the future

musical career. His EP is available now on iTunes, and songs can also be heard on Sound Cloud.



LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS RECEIVE DRAMA AWARD

A group of students and staff representing the Loreto College Drama Department have been presented with an

award in recognition of the College's contribution to the joint project between the PSNI and seven local schools, entitled 'If The Kids Are United'.

The project entailed a number of drama workshops leading to a public performance in the Riverside Theatre, Coleraine, last summer. The project was led by Mrs Oonah McEwan. Head of Drama at Loreto College, along with Sergeant Sean Craig of the PSNI, and was greatly enjoyed by the Key Stage 3 students from all seven participating schools. The project sought to build relationships between young people and the police through a creative exploration of common issues, giving young people a platform to voice concerns about issues directly affecting them.





In March 2013, Loreto College received a Certificate of Recognition from Coleraine Borough Council to pay tribute to the College's Drama Department for its contribution, through the 'If The Kids Are United' project, to community relations in the local area. It is hoped that the

project will run again at some point in the future.

Mrs Oonah McEwan, Head of Drama at Loreto College, commented that the project had done much to bring students from all seven schools closer

together in a joint enterprise, and to demonstrate just how many issues they had in common. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Mrs McEwan for her hard work in preparing the project, and to the students who had taken part for their enthusiasm and dedication.

SPRING CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS TALENT AT LORETO COLLEGE

The annual Spring Concert was held at Loreto College Coleraine on the evening of Thursday 21st March 2013, showcasing the considerable musical and dramatic talent among College has a long-held tradition of excellence in Music and Drama, the wide range of curricular and extra-curricular experiences on offer to students at this prestigious voluntary grammar school.

The concert featured several fine performances from the College's Senior and Junior choirs. Both

choirs have a long-established reputation, having taken many awards over the years at Music Festivals both locally and further afield. Also on display were some of the vocal talents of a number of soloists: Tara Canning, Jamie McGuinness, Rebecca Kealey and Hannah McMullan. There was a very memorable performance of the well-known song 'You Raise Me Up', by the newly-formed Boys' Choir, led by Ben Levy. This was one of several vocal ensembles to perform: there was also a delightful performance from the Year 10 Ensemble.

There were also piano solos of an impressive standard by Rachel O'Kane, Rachel Kelly, and Emma Crossley, as well as performances by traditional harpists Lauren O'Neill and Cariosa O'Harte, and a String Ensemble comprising Eimear Dillon, Connor Dudley-Fergus, Rachel Kelly, and Maria McLaughlin. Many of the ensemble and solo performances were accompanied by Year 13 student Ben Levy, who responded with sensitivity and expertise to the complex task of effective accompaniment.





































The capacity audience in the College Hall also enjoyed the visual spectacle of a variety of dance performances. Two Irish dancing groups performed intricately choreographed Riverdance-style routines. There was an impressive display of set dancing from Donal Close, Feargal Close, Therese Corrigan and Orla Rafferty. Another highlight of the evening came with a monologue from JB Keane's play 'The Field', performed by Emma Crossley.

Finally, a number of instrumental ensembles were on hand to

display their combined talents.

Drawn largely from the Junior and Middle school and led by Maria McLaughlin, the School Orchestra performed a tuneful and lively medley. Traditional music was a significant feature of the evening, with the College's immensely talented Traditional Group delighting the audience. The evening culminated in a stirring performance from the Combined Junior and Senior Choirs and Boys' Chorus, drawing great acclaim from the audience.

Congratulating Head of Music
Miss Roisin Stewart, Music
Teacher and Vice Principal Mr
Stephen Gallagher, Choirmaster
Mr Howard Gillespie, Head of
Drama Mrs Oonah McEwan, and
the various instrumental tutors and
Irish dancing choreographers, Mr
Michael James, Principal of Loreto
College, commented that the Spring
Concert had been a memorable
display of tremendous talent,
offering something for the musical
and dramatic taste of everyone in
the audience.



SUCCESS FOR LORETO DRAMA STUDENTS IN COLERAINE FESTIVAL

Twelve outstanding Drama students from Loreto College Coleraine have taken top awards at the annual Coleraine Festival.

Ben Levy, who is in Year 13, won an impressive array of awards. These included the first place in the Shakespeare Solo and Solo Drama in the Senior age group; Ben was also awarded the Senior Festival Cup, the premier accolade for all prize-winners in the senior agegroups. Year 14 student Una Marie Darragh was also very successful, winning first place in the Over 16 Sonnet and Prose Unseen classes.

There was also great success for students in the GCSE years. Lucas Levy, a Year 12 student, took first place in his age group in the Set Poem, Solo Drama, and Shakespeare Solo classes, as well as winning the award for Most Memorable Drama Performance (Age 15 and under) and the Junior Festival Cup, which is open to winners of all classes for those aged 10-15. Rhianna Gardiner, a Year 11 student at Loreto College, took second place in solo Drama and, performing with Tiarna McGinty (also Year 11), was placed first in the class for Acting of a Poem.

Tiarna McGinty, meanwhile, was placed second in the Novice class. Sisters Bronagh and Orla Rafferty (respectively Year 11 and Year 9) were placed first in Under 16 Duologue, while Conor Dudley-Fergus and Cara Doherty (both Year 11) took second place in the same class.

There was also tremendous success for some Loreto Junior students. Emma Crossley, a Year 10 student, took first place in Ballad Speaking, first place in Prose Unseen and second place in Bible Reading. Niamh Cunning (Year 9)





took first place in the Solo Drama class in her age group, while Eve Gardiner (Year 8) was placed first in the Inventive Storytelling class. All twelve students were congratulated on these superb achievements, and for their tremendous enthusiasm for Drama.

by Mrs Oonah McEwan, Head of Drama at Loreto College, and by Mr Michael James, College Principal, on behalf of all the staff and students of the school.



Loretolore Mag. 12-13

LORETO COLLEGE DRAMA STUDENTS TAKE PART IN PSNI COMMUNITY DVD



Four AS Level Theatre Studies students from Loreto College Coleraine have taken part in a Community Safety DVD made by the PSNI. Students Olivia McCullagh, Conor Anderson, Fergus Kelly and Morgan Lyttle were selected by their teacher, Mrs Oonah McEwan, Head of Drama at Loreto College, to participate in the scheme.

Community Constables Lisa Coyle and Sharon McGowan visited Loreto College on Wednesday 1st May to present the College with copies of the DVD. Both Constables paid tribute to the four students for their participation and enthusiasm in this very worthwhile project.

SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE CHOIRS

It has been a very successful end to the competition and performance season for the Choirs of Loreto College Coleraine.

The school's Junior, Senior and Male Voice Choirs performed with great distinction in the Loreto College Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the competition and performance or college Spring Concert, just before the college Spring Concert, just

The Loreto Junior Choir took first place in the Post Primary Schools' Choirs (15 years and under) class at the Bangor International Choral Festival, winning high praise from the Adjudicators for their sophisticated presentation of a mature programme for such a young age-group.

The school's Junior, Senior and Male Voice Choirs performed with great distinction in the Loreto College Spring Concert, just before the Easter holidays. As a follow-up to this, some members, drawn from all three Loreto Choirs, spent five days in London during the Easter break. As well as exploring the sights of London and attending a performance of the musical *Wicked*, the talented young singers gave a lunchtime recital in St Paul's Church Covent Garden - known

locally as The Actors' Church. Their performance there was met with great praise by all of those lucky enough to attend their concert.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the College's Choirmaster, Mr Howard Gillespie, tutor, Mrs Annie Sharkey, Head of Music Miss Roisin Stewart, Music teacher Mr Stephen Gallagher and to all the members of the College's choirs on a very fine programme of competitions and recitals, throughout the year.

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA 2013

A highlight of the Autumn Term this year will be the Loreto production of Phantom of the Opera. Rehearsals were beginning as June drew to a close, with Mrs Oonah McEwan and Mr Stephen Gallagher at the helm. This promises to be another outstanding Loreto musical with a dramatic edge!



Traditional Group



School Orchestra







Senior Choir and Boys' Choir



Junior Choir

BEN LEVY: LORETO'S LLOYD-WEBBER

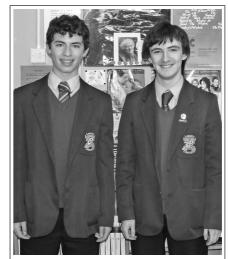
The West End: blinding spotlights, allegro scores, embellished costumes and flawless performances. It's an extravagant and glamorous world of artists that couldn't be further away from the dull, lacklustre life one tends to find looking out into the rain through the Senior Study window. Except for, it seems, Loreto's resident musical and dramatic genius: Ben Levy. Having known Ben for some time now, I've grown accustomed to his eccentric and, some may argue, a little archaic ways. You see, with Ben being the sociable sort of fellow he is, it's very easy to forget the immense talent and flair for the arts he holds behind his witty exterior.

The initial step in his ascent to the stages of the West End began this year with the introduction of the first male choir to take to Loreto's Assembly Hall in several decades...

'The Male Ensemble Choir was set up originally by Mrs Sharkey with the intention to add the male choristers to the Senior Choir, so we'd have a Mixed Senior Choir.' explained Levy. 'I first got involved as a singer, and briefly conducted the choir when Mrs Sharkey was ill iust before last Christmas.'

I didn't want to come across partial or sexist, but I had been under the impression that the majority of boys from Loreto were slightly more reserved than Ben. So I began to wonder: was it hard to find bovs who were genuinely interested in joining the choir, who were prepared to leave their inhibitions at the door and sing for a crowd?

'Sadly, it's quite a struggle to get males to sing in a choral situation,' began Ben. 'There are a good number of males in the School Musicals, but not in the choir! It's a shame. I think. I reckon there are plenty more males in the school who are able to sing, but who are yet to explore their voices. We should really try to encourage the



Ben (right) with his brother Lucas, who has been cast as Joseph

males in Loreto to overlook their preconceptions of singing in a choir and get involved!'

The passion and dedication Ben puts into his music became immediately apparent to me. With this in mind, I asked what his hopes for the male choir were in the long run.

'I hope that the Male Choir will continue to expand and develop, so that they can have fun singing more complicated and advanced songs and, ultimately, that there are as many males in the Senior Choir as females! The members get on well and I think "Bohemian Rhapsody" was definitely a highlight of the Concert!' I agreed, finally asking which song he would most like to conduct the choir in, if he had the choice.

'Oh my goodness!' Ben exclaimed. 'I have so many favourite choral pieces! A few years ago the Junior Choir sang "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" by Rutter, who happens to be one of my favourite composers! I'd love to do the original SATB arrangement of this piece - it's really beautiful.'

Moving on, I decided it was high time that I talked about Mr Levy's up-and-coming production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, No. I didn't make a mistake. I didn't say supporting act or lead role, I said production. This August, Ben will direct his own adaption of the legendary musical by Andrew Lloyd-Webber in the Riverside Theatre, Coleraine and I'm interested to know where this whole idea came from...

'Joseph is undoubtedly one of my favourite musicals. I have been able to play and sing it right through from memory since I was 10 years old,' an excited Levy explained. 'I had thoroughly enjoyed performing in a number of amateur productions and have worked as the Associate Music Tutor for Riverside Youth Theatre for two years. I'd also been teaching piano and music theatre privately for about a year. I'd seen the work of a number of directors and musical directors and finally decided I wanted to give it a try.'

Now I'm not sure if it's memory or initiative that served me, but isn't putting on a musical rather, well, complicated? I asked him about the arrangements that had to be made. Who directs, produces and choreographs the show? Surely it couldn't all be down to Super-Ben.

'Well, before you direct any show you have to organize a number of things. Show rights, Venue hire, rehearsal venues, costumes etc. The first thing I did, of course, was to contact the Really Useful Group (a company owned by Andrew Lloyd Webber - the composer who wrote the music for Joseph) and ask for performance rights to put it on. When they were granted, I contacted Jeremy Lewis, the Administrator of the Riverside Theatre in Coleraine, and asked him about the theatre's availability.

'I'm the Director and Musical Director for the production. As Director, I am ultimately in charge of the show as a whole. That includes everything from staging to



lighting, from costumes to sound. In addition, I am solely responsible for the music, teaching the vocals, conducting the orchestra etc. The choreography, though, is being done by Mrs Venessa Chapman (who actually has choreographed many of the Loreto Musicals including *Guys and Dolls* last year).'

Ah Guys and Dolls... As I reminisced about Loreto's last production, I painfully recalled the nerve-wracking audition process I recently went through for next year's Phantom of the Opera. I consequently asked Ben about the auditions for Joseph and how his final cast turned out.

'There is a lot of work involved and all that responsibility can be quite stressful, but I love the show and ultimately I'd love to work as a musical director in the future, so this is a very valuable experience for me. The audition process was rather intense. We set a day aside during the Easter Holidays, I think, and Peter Wilson (who'll be playing Keyboard 1 in the orchestra), Venessa and I sat in the main auditorium and took auditions. As part of the audition process, I also ran a workshop for everyone who



Ben Levy at work with the children's Chorus in his production of Joseph

wanted to get involved with the show. We split everyone into two groups, and both groups did a singing workshop with me and a dance workshop with Venessa. It was, I like to think, a great success.

'I'm very happy indeed with the final cast. We have very talented principal roles, a strong female chorus and a fantastic children's chorus. They are all working extremely hard for me and we are getting through the show very well. There are also a number of very talented dancers whom Venessa has been teaching since they were

4 years old. They are remarkable and we are making good use of their skills in the production!'

With such a focused and pleasant group of professional performers, driven by the meticulous and enthusiastic direction of Mr Benjamin Levy, the show will no doubt be an absolute success! I would like to thank Ben for his precious time during this busy rehearsal period and close with the immortal show-biz phrase we've all been waiting for: Break a leg.

Caoimhe Cooke Year 13

Winner of the Senior Magazine Prize

A WOMAN'S WORK IS NEVER DONE

An Interview with Mary Dillon

Working full time and being part of a family, Mary Dillon still manages to make time for singing.

You'd have to be an alien if you have never heard of singer Cara Dillon. Her elder sister, however, my mother, Mary Dillon, may be less familiar. Mary was part of a busy and successful folk group back in the 90's and had a full time teaching job. She decided to call a halt to her singing career to raise

my brother and me, but is now back and performing and I'm sure you can't wait to hear how she feels about it all.

Stage Fright

'I'm always quite nervous on stage, until I get started. It really does test your nerves,' Mary says about appearing on stage in front of a large audience. 'There have been a few occasions when I have forgotten lines, so I just made up new ones and hoped for the best,' she laughs. Mary also feels that the best way to overcome stage fright is to know you can trust the musicians on each note they are about to play.

<u>Traditional and Folk music,</u> what's the difference?

I couldn't help but enter a state of confusion when I heard that folk music and traditional music were in fact, different. I had to look into this one. 'I have been asked this



question a lot of times and it is a very difficult question to answer. I think, and this is only my opinion, that folk music is broader in its field than traditional. Traditional music is from the country, it comes from history, whilst folk is a type of music which *can* involve traditional music but spreads its branches much, much wider. Folk has a very popular pop face to it as well, like Mumford and Sons. Amy, you love them!' I was beginning to see the light.

I then moved on to asking which of the two, folk or traditional music, Mary preferred, and what her reasons were. 'I love traditional music: I love the words of the songs, and the fact that they are old songs that have been written hundreds of years ago about important places that we don't want to forget,' she emphasised. 'I also think it's part of our own tradition. These are songs about local places and the people who lived their lives here, people who have shared our land and have shaped our culture.' I had never actually thought about traditional music in this way before and I could now see why people value traditional music as much as Mammy does.

Releasing 'North'

'For me, releasing my album was a combination of events. I started to sing with two other traditional singers as part of a group, Tiona Mc Sherry and Niamh Parsons. They have CDs of their own and they were selling them at gigs, so I thought I may as well make one too!' She laughed. 'My nephew, and your cousin, Odhran Mullan, had just arrived back from England with a music production degree and he was dying to experiment, and so we went at it and that was the combination of events that led to the making of the CD.



Attending Loreto College

I was eager to ask Mary about what her career choices were when she attended Loreto, as my friends and I haven't a baldy about what careers we want to pursue in life. 'I never had any idea about what I wanted to do at school. I think that when you're at school there is an expectation that you will know what you want to be when you are quite young and, while I think that is very good and sensible to think about a future career, I also know that a lot of people never know where they are going, or what they will end up doing until it happens. I think some things just find you along the way.'

Comparisons are easily made

Although Mary and Auntie Cara never feel like they are competing against each other, I have had people ask me who I think is the better singer of the two, and so I'm sure Mary has been asked this too, many times. 'All the time. She is my sister and we both do the same type of singing and, in that respect, of course people are going to compare us.'

Career decisions

'If I was ever asked to choose whether teaching or singing would be my ideal career, I would have to say teaching. Partly it is what I

know, and what I have got used to. I feel quite institutionalised at this stage! I met most of my friends within St Cecilia's so I couldn't imagine not seeing them every day, plus teaching pays the bills. I also don't even think I could cope with being away from home a lot. like Cara does.' I took a breath of relief at this point as the thought of cooking for myself scared me to death. Independence is not my thing. Mary continued, 'Late night hours and hanging around airports are not appealing to me, and it would be a very irregular lifestyle which I don't like the thought of. No, definitely, the teaching has to come first.'

The build up to a singing career, and the interest.

Mary believes that her primary school education was unique. 'The teachers taught us local folk songs, local traditional songs, told folk stories, and we based our school plays on Irish myths and legends. Traditional and folk music was a big part of my education. I studied at Queen's University, and there I met five other musicians and we ended up forming a group called Deanta. We spent all our summer holidays abroad from then on playing at festivals and it was great craic. However, I then got myself a full time job ... yes, the teaching, and decided it would be more beneficial to me to keep singing during the holidays only. I then, painfully, gave birth to you and Shane, so something had to give. I concentrated from then forward on my teaching and bringing up you two and didn't do much singing, or touring.'

Mary craftily turned this interview around and asked me what I thought of her new CD and seeing the odd review of it in magazines and newspapers. 'Yes, Mammy, it's a bit freaky. What's for dinner?'

Amy McLaughlin Year 13



HUMANITIES

COMPETITION SUCCESS FOR LORETO ECONOMISTS

The Economics Department from Loreto College Coleraine, had news to celebrate of an outstanding competition success, with the A level students of 2012-3 keeping pace with their predecessors in the Area Finals of a prestigious nationwide competition.

For the ninth time in eleven successive years. Loreto College. represented by Year 13 students Niamh Dowdall, Alice McGee, Ruairi McPoland and Nicole O'Hagan, qualified for the Area Finals of the Bank of England Target 2.0 Interest Rate Challenge, having taken first place in Northern Ireland in the local heat, held in the Ramada Hotel. Belfast on 26th November.

During the 43 regional heats, teams of four students, aged 16 to 18, analyse UK and global economic data and their possible impact on inflation and the economic

outlook for the UK- just as the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee does each month. Each team must decide if current monetary policy is appropriate or needs to be adjusted, to meet the 2.0 per cent inflation target set by the Government. In a presentation to a panel of Bank of England judges the team explains their decision then justifies it through their answers to questions from the panel. The winning team from each regional heat goes on to one of the six area finals held in February 2013, with the national final held on 22 March at the Bank of England in London.

The Loreto team recommended an interest rate of 0.5%, compared with the Bank of England's official rate of 0.5% set by the Monetary Policy Committee on 8 November 2012. They also recommended a total of £375bn of asset purchases



under the Asset Purchase Facility, compared with the £375bn agreed by the MPC on 8 November 2012.

The chair of the judging panel, Frances Hill, said, 'Once again we were extremely impressed by the standard of presentations today, which clearly reflected the hard work and commitment shown by all the teams.'

Having taken a convincing first place, the Loreto College team went on to compete in the Area Finals of the competition in early 2013. Once again, the team represented their school and Northern Ireland with distinction in the Area Final of the Bank of England Interest Rate 2.0 competition. The team travelled to Manchester on Wednesday 27th February to contest the Northern Ireland, Scotland and North of England final of the hotly-contested competition. With the field narrowed down to 42 schools from all around the UK from an initial entry of 236 schools, the Loreto team performed with distinction at the event, earning high praise from the adjudicators.

The team was placed third in the Area Final, winning a prize of £350 for the school. Loreto College Principal, Mr Michael James, congratulated the team and Vice Principal and Economics teacher Miss Belinda Toner, who guided the students through the competition, on their talent, dedication and success.

LOCAL YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE TAKES TO HOUSE OF COMMONS DESPATCH BOX

A young political representative took to the House of Commons Despatch Box in November as part of the UK Youth Parliament's contribution to the annual Parliament Week.

Jack McCann, from Portstewart. was selected to be Northern Ireland's representative speaker in the annual UK Youth Parliament House of Commons Debate on Friday 23rd November, marking the finale of Parliament Week 2012.

Jack, a Year 14 student at Loreto College Coleraine, had a busy 18 months in local and national youth politics. As a winner of the Rotary Youth Leadership award in 2011-2012, he took part in debates in Stormont, Dail Eireann and the European Parliament, Strasbourg in February 2012. Also in the early part of 2012, Jack became a local representative in the Northern Ireland Youth Forum and the UK Youth Parliament, as well as becoming Northern Ireland's only representative in the UK's first Youth Select Committee, which recently presented a comprehensive report into provision of better public transport services for young people. Jack has brought the expertise from the Youth Select Committee to bear in chairing the subcommittee investigating youth

transport in the Northern Ireland Youth Forum. He was also involved as one of the leaders of the NIYF's 'Votes at Sixteen' campaign, which was recently debated (with motion carried) by the Northern Ireland Assembly.

In October, Jack was one of six political enthusiasts to win a competition, run on socialnetworking site Twitter, to travel to London and spend a halfday touring the Foreign Office headquarters at Whitehall, including the opportunity to have an hour's conversation with the Foreign Secretary, William Hague MP.



With a passion for local and national politics, Jack has worked hard to avail of all these impressive opportunities, and has risen admirably to the challenge they

have set. Jack commented, 'I feel really privileged to have this opportunity and all of the others I've received in the last 18 months. Engaging young people in the democratic process and giving them a platform to discuss the important issues for them is paramount if we are to live in an inclusive society. I really enjoyed having the opportunity to give a speech in the House of Commons and it was exciting too that the debate was broadcast live on the BBC Parliament channel.'

Later in the year, Jack began his quest to be re-elected as the local representative in the UK Youth Parliament.

Promising young people in the constituency area that he would make sure that their voices are heard on the issues which matter to them-things like safe, efficient and cost-effective public transport, and living in a safe, positive and law-andorder led community, with excellent relations between young people and the PSNI- Jack began a proactive campaign on popular social networking websites and in school, to gain as many votes as possible.

Jack was successful in his quest, and was duly elected to the UK Youth Parliament with a landslide majority. In recognition of just how many Loreto College students voted and took an interest in the event, Loreto College was presented with a British Youth Council Schools' Democracy Award, at a reception in Stormont just before the Summer break began.

Jack was congratulated on these highly impressive achievements by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College. With all these achievements to date. it is clear that Jack McCann has a bright future ahead of him very possibly in the world of politics.





AN INTERVIEW WITH OUR MYP

Loreto Lore reporter Patrick McCloskey caught up with Jack McCann MYP, late one night in the Summer Term.

It's been an interesting twelve months or so in Northern Irish politics. We've discussed, rioted and despaired over everything from the sanctity of flegs to 365 days a year marriage, yet in spite of the controversy, in spite of the fact that there are more flegs than brain cells in certain parts of the island, and in spite of the breakup of JLS (may they rest in peace) we should not despair. Hope has prevailed as we have been graced by the emergence of a charismatic young politician. My interviewee, Jack McCann, has enjoyed a very successful debut into the political realm. Nick Clegg may see the Conservative Party as his ally, but Jack was born into it, moulded by it into the Westminster experienced, elected member of the UK Youth Parliament, all-round, self-confessed 'Tory Boy' that stands before me today. The object of this interview (other than including as many 'Dark Knight' references as I possibly can) is to establish whether or not Jack is the aspiring national leader Loreto deserves, or the one it needs.

Indeed it has been a most successful year for Jack, from Loreto to Westminster, but what Loreto really needs to know is: what's in it for us? What can Jack, in his capacity as MYP for East Derry-Londonderry (there'll be no room for taking offence here) City of Culture 2013, do to represent and address the issues that affect the students of Loreto? 'I think it should be stated first that, primarily and most importantly, I have been elected to represent the whole of the 11,100 (approx) young people of East Londonderry - not just Loreto pupils,' he corrects me- evidently his time at Westminster has been fruitful in so far as political correctness and pedantry are concerned.

'I call myself a child of the Good Friday agreement... That's why I am in the process of organising an event around a "shared future. shared space and consideration of our identity" with relevant stakeholders in the constituency. It will be held in the summer months and I would encourage everyone to attend. Also an ongoing issue is anti-social behaviour. I particularly know of it in Coleraine and Portstewart.' Anti-social behaviour in Portstewart? I wonder, have the local youths been getting drunk on street corners on Castle Haut Brion Pessac-Lognan 1982 without first letting it 'breathe', or have they been throwing couscous at the poor child with only three iPads again?

'Some say to me, "Jack, wouldn't it be amazing if you were to become Prime Minister," he finally says after several hundred words of grammatically sound but politically questionable rightist rhetoric. A debatable assertion, certainly, but let us, dear reader, consider momentarily the smaller scale, and less terrifying prospect of Jack being given executive authority over this fine educational establishment. What reforms would be implemented? His answer, in a word- privatisation, but in many more words.

'Privatise the school. Privatise the lot. Contract school facilities like the Hockey, Gaelic and Soccer pitches out at weekends to local sports teams for a fee. Miss Toner can be Chief Financial Officer and bet the capital fees money on Forex and commodity markets so Loreto could get some capital of its own. Use that liquidity to upgrade our facilities- then contract those out (see a pattern here?)?' I don't, but I appreciate the condescension, Jack. 'Have the technology department teaching a BTEC in Engineering,' he continues, 'and allow students to have the opportunity to be enterprising

on their own. If possible, they could apply to Invest NI to further develop their products. I know, from meeting other students, that this can work. Miss Toner, CFO of Loreto PLC, could negotiate a slice of the pie for the college.'

I feel compelled to note at this point that I did not intend for my interview with Jack to unfold in such an overtly political fashion. I had envisaged something of an informal affair: a few anecdotes, pseudo-pleasant small talk, perhaps even sandwiches (I was thinking chicken): he's a Tory-they like that sort of thing. Following this, we would each walk away, filing the encounter under 'moderately entertaining but ultimately futile things done today to waste time before inevitable death'. Jack, however, had very different ideas. As the school's self appointed champion of Conservatism, Unionism, Monetarism, Thatcherism and other such plaques which have crippled the human soul, I assume he felt something of a duty to articulate his beliefs. And as the school's self appointed quardian from all such evils, I can assure you, comrades, that I also felt something of a duty to articulate certain beliefs. Unfortunately, however, Mrs Little has declared that I am 'to stop declaring Socialist Republics in school magazine articles' and so, shackled by the right-wing extremism of Loreto censorship, I must hold my tongue on the issue of privatised education being the very citadel of entrenched social stratification and socio-economic elitism... Oops.

There are a number of thoroughly impressive ideas here though.

There is surely no more able person to entrust our finances to than the financially astute Miss Toner, and the continuing implementation of entrepreneurship and engineering



in the education system is vital. Jack is, by all accounts, a clearly well researched and competent 'politico'.

'Free up teachers to teach,' he cries with growing gusto and a picture of Michael Gove on his heart. 'Create a no fly-or rather, no strike- zone in the college. Unions out: lessons in.' (Perhaps Jack is in need of a lesson on workers' rights). 'Let's have it that our pupils can be taught for all the days scheduled in the school year. Note that if the college was privatised Mr James would be able to exercise total executive authority and negotiate work-related issues. But more importantly, hire and fire as he pleases. And think about this, in a world where Loreto PLC existed performance related bonuses would be available. And rightly so- if I get AAB in my A Levels.'

And so it came to pass that the man who dismissed EMA as 'Extra Money for Alcohol' on national television proposed the introduction of monetary 'bonuses' for students. Isn't irony exquisite? Perhaps, though, I am being harsh. After all, one need only look to the global banking collapse to see the invaluable merits of 'performance related bonuses' and were Hitler, Stalin, Pinochet and all of Margaret

Thatcher's other 'besties' not shining examples of the benefits 'total executive authority' can bring?

I do not have the privilege of knowing Jack, but I was certain that he surely could not exist solely as a medium for the regurgitation of Conservative manifestos. I attempt to appeal to his human side and, bearing in mind this was his last week at Loreto, I ask if he's feeling particularly nostalgic, or has any treasured memories. He replies, 'I'm not a nostalgic. Call McCann crazy, but I always work towards the future. You can't move forward looking backwards. (If only he had told me this before I took my driving test). That's counter-productive. I take memories as they are and bottle them. However, one of the truly memorable times during my period at the College was the big Eureka moment while I was carrying out experiments for the BT Young Scientist Exhibition in which I was a competitor. With the help of Mr McKenna I was investigating the crystal structures that formed when you doped a salt solution with an impurity.' (What followed was a rather detailed scientific description, which I do not understand enough about to copy and paste in). 'I put all my success in the BT Young Scientist Competition and later

competitions down to that moment.'

Rather inspiring, is it not? STEM promotion on an almost Will.I.Am level! Yet Jack is soon to move away from academic reminiscing to 'that time fellow PE class galavantees tied two gymnastic ropes together to make a seat for a swing in the Assembly Hall. I enthusiastically took the relevant position and was then pushed on the swing for some time. I believe I may have been the first student to touch the Assembly Hall ceiling using this method without injury.'

Thus, with this anecdote, curiously reminiscent of Boris Johnson, that pays no adherence to the basic laws of physics, this interview must draw to a close and we must each go our separate ways. I, to apologising to Mrs Little for taking so long to finish this article, followed by copious amounts of television; Jack, towards some variation of efficient and worthwhile activity which shall ultimately contribute to his future success and you, dear reader, towards the realisation that life is nothing more than a meaningless voyage of nothingness towards the port of death. #theend

Interview by Patrick McCloskey Year 13

LORETO COLLEGE REPRESENTED AT UK YOUTH PARLIAMENT CELEBRATION

Loreto College Coleraine was represented at the first UK Youth Parliament Election Celebration, held at Stormont on the evening of 26th June 2013.

In 2013, the UK Youth Parliament held democratic elections in Northern Ireland for the first time, with candidates standing in the same constituencies contested by MPs and MLAs. Jack McCann, a Year 14 student at Loreto College, became the first elected Member of the Youth Parliament for the East Londonderry constituency. Jack already has a distinguished record in both the UK Youth Parliament and the Northern Ireland Youth Forum, having taken a leading role in both in recent years, representing young people on the UK's first Youth Select Committee, on the Youth Forum in NI investigating

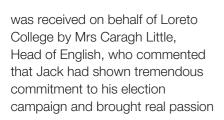
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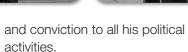
transport, and as a lead speaker in the annual UKYP House of Commons Debate in Westminster. At the Stormont reception, Loreto College was one of some fifteen schools across Northern Ireland to be presented with a UK Youth Parliament Schools' Democracy Award at Bronze level, in recognition of the interest shown by Loreto students in voting in the UKYP elections. The award











Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Jack for his success in the







UKYP election, and wished him every success and fulfilment in representing the young people in his constituency throughout the year ahead.

GEOGRAPHY: YEAR 8 CBD INVESTIGATION

On Thursday 11th and Friday 12th April 2013, the Year 8s from Loreto College went on a Geography Field Trip into Coleraine CBD. Previously, in our Geography classes we had been learning about shopping/retail and needed to go into Coleraine CBD to find information for the project we were going to be completing.

We walked from Loreto College to the CBD, accompanied by the two Geography teachers, Miss Curry and Mr Shaw. Before leaving class we were all split into groups, so when we arrived the teachers told us the rules when doing our fieldwork and then we got into our groups and started our investigation. We collected primary data about how land is used in the town centre.

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We had a really good time doing our fieldwork and afterwards we were ready to start our CBD investigations, which involved mapping out the buildings in Coleraine and the construction of various graphs to show land use and pedestrian numbers.

Sian Donaghy Year 8

Loreto ore May. 12-13

YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO THE GIANT'S CAUSEWAY - OCTOBER 2012

Would it be wet, windy and cold? Those were the thoughts on the minds of most of Year 10 while they got ready for school on Friday 5th October 2012. Appropriate thoughts as the day for the annual Year 10 Geography trip to the Giant's Causeway had arrived. Excitement was building amongst the Year 10s, some of whom were a bit sceptical about the presence of the extinct volcano. We weren't sure if the teachers had told us this and then they would disappear during the day! As Miss Curry went through the plan for the day, we were all feeling too warm as we had dressed sensibly for the north coast weather! Our patience was finally rewarded when we began boarding the two buses that would take us all to the Giant's Causeway. As the bus got closer and closer to our destination, so did the rain clouds. However, as we knew this would probably happen, it didn't dampen our spirits. We had all been given booklets that we would fill out throughout the day and we would try our best to keep them neat and dry!

As we arrived, the heavens opened!
After seeking refuge under the roof of the new, specially designed Visitors' Centre, we began to unravel the mystery of the existence of the hexagonal columns of the Causeway – not the popular tale of the Giant Finn MacCool and his quick-thinking wife, Oonagh. We learned about the existence of the super continent

Pangea and how it had separated over thousands of years to form the seven continents that exist now.

Then it was time to brave the elements and set off down the path to the Causeway, carefully avoiding a run-in with the shuttle bus that carries tourists up and down to the stones. On the way, we were able to spot many characters, some of which included the Dolerite Camel called Humphry, Finn MacCool's boots and eves and, of course. his Granny climbing the side of the Great Stookan pinnacle. During the journey, our hoods went up and down and our booklets were getting more difficult to manage due to the infamous north wind.

Just as the main Causeway came into view, we also gained an excellent picture of the columns and inter-basaltic layer. We stopped again at this point to find out how these were formed- it was due to the lava flow stopping and starting at different times. We also learned that we were about to pass through Windy Gap. As we soon found out, it definitely lives up to its name!

Once we arrived at the famous columns, our next task was to somehow negotiate the now wet and slippery hexagonal stones of the Causeway. After helping each other up and avoiding several near-casualties, we all made it safely to the top. We were then set another task.

We had to split into pairs and count the sides of 25 stones each: this didn't prove too difficult, apart from when it came to finding our partner. We were doing this in order to prove or find false the popular belief that all the stones were hexagonal.

Finally, it was time for our welldeserved lunch-break! Many opted for the warming lunch of soup and tea and we thoroughly enioved it after our morning of walking and learning. After lunch, we set out on a walk to Bushmills, along an old railway track. This was really enjoyable, and the sun had even come out, just for us! As we reached the two buses which were waiting for us, we boarded reluctantly, reflecting on the great day which we had all had. When we got ourselves organised for returning to school, we realised what a state our booklets were in after having to suffer the elements all day. They were in worse shape than us, but luckily we could print off a new copy from the Geography intranet site. On our arrival back at school, our teachers helped us to fill in any blanks and answer any questions we had. Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed our trip to the Giant's Causeway and I think any of us would willingly go back without a second thought. It was good to have a practical experience of 'Geography in Action', and our north coast environment certainly gave us that!

Cariosa O'Harte Year 10

FAIR TRADE IN GEOGRAPHY

Just before Study Leave, the Year 12 Geography students enjoyed a coffee morning with Fair Trade products.







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ICELAND EXPERIENCE FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

A group of thirty-eight students and four teachers from Loreto College Coleraine spent five days in Iceland as the first half term of the academic year drew to a close.

Organised by the Loreto College Geography Department, the Iceland Trip gave GCSE and A Level Geography students an opportunity to put their studies in context and explore the unique landscapes and features of a country which they already knew to be situated at a latitude of 66° north.

During their five-day trip, the students toured Iceland's capital city, Reyjavik, as well as spending a day touring the world-famous

Golden Circle and Reykjanes Peninsula. They encountered features such as the Kerið Crater, the Skalket Church, the Gullfoss, the Geysir and the Þingvellir National Park, declared as a UNESCO world heritage site for its wonderful geological aspect and for its historical importance for the Icelandic nation. The group visited Bessastadir, the residence of Iceland's President, as well as the fascinating, stark, moon-like surroundings of Lake Kleifarvatn. For many, the highlight was the opportunity to swim in the worldfamous Blue Lagoon, a manmade oasis in the lava fields of the Reykjanes peninsula, which owes its existence to a nearby geothermal power plant, which is renowned for its warm, mineral rich waters.

The Loreto group also had the opportunity to enjoy some leisure activities such as ice-skating, bowling, shopping and a visit to the Saga Viking Museum, as well as a day of exploration of Reyjavik to absorb some local culture.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Mr Liam Shaw of the Geography Department who organised the trip, which proved to be an enjoyable, stimulating and educational voyage of discovery further north.































CELAI



ICELAND 2012



For several days in October last year, four teachers had the somewhat tricky task of successfully taking thirty-eight pupils to a foreign land and coming back with exactly the same thirty-eight pupils. The end of the first term this year came to an unusual close, with a trip to Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland.

Admittedly, I'd spent more time Googling the hotel rather than the country, and on arrival was surprised to see that it wasn't entirely the winter wonderland I was expecting, but consisted in many areas of volcanic remnants, a little chunk of which now sits on my bookshelf.

From the waterfalls, to the geysersthe views were spectacular. The only real disappointment was not getting to see the Northern Lights even though Aisling and I would stay up late. While I read, she would gaze out of the window, ready to alert me at the first sign of colour in the sky.

The trip certainly gave us students the chance to contextualise

our studies as we explored the landscape with its unique volcanic features and toured the World famous Golden Circle. However, as well as being educationally enlightening it was the experience of a life time and I would definitely highlight the trip to the Blue Lagoon as one of the most phenomenal excursions. The Blue Lagoon is a geothermal spa located in a lava field with waters reaching an average temperature of 37-39 degrees Celsius; the man made lagoon is fed by the water output of a nearby power plant and was simply stunning. Whilst your body was immersed in the heat you could still feel the frost on your face (completely bizarre!) and while it was almost impossible to see amongst the steam, you could still make out the figures of the other tourists also wearing the complimentary face masks, said to do wonders for the skin!

Thankfully for the sixth form, we also had complete access to our hotel's spa, fully equipped with a pool, hot tub and sauna which made for the



perfect end to the busy days. Like many of the buildings, the hotel looked distinctly lacklustre from the outside, but the interior was quite beautifully minimalist, often white and somewhat calming. Some of the most enjoyable moments were those in the hotel with the whole group; watching 'The Hunger Games' in our own private cinema screening, or despairing at the shockingly large gaps in my own general knowledge as the upper sixth girls were shamelessly crushed in the table quiz.

Amongst the most surreal moments was definitely being read a bedtime story in one of the conference rooms, in onesies, complete with optional cake and coffee.

Never one to miss an opportunity for a cup of coffee, I'm pretty sure I could now write a review of most of the coffee shops in Reykjavik as I spent a lot more money than I'd like to admit on hot drinks there. Much to my dismay, there was no Starbucks, but much to the dismay of everyone else, no







McDonalds! There was however a Ruby Tuesday's with, and I quote, 'normal food!'

One of the funniest novelties were the ice machines that resided on every corridor. Normally, at home I'm sure the ice would have been overlooked, but every night without fail, the juniors used to head to bed at nights with tubs of Ice to chew on, while some of the older pupils got to stay up a teeny bit later and have coffee and hot chocolate at the bar. Never anything stronger than caffeine, mind you.

On the final day, we were unleashed and given time to explore. Looking around the busy streets it was common to see graffiti on the walls, considered art. And it was. There were some incredible portraits and, notably, a giant giraffe painted on

the wall of the most amazing sweet shop I have ever entered- it was entirely pix'n'mix, from the door right to the back wall and I swear I could have spent the whole trip in that shop....

What I enjoyed most though, was the group of people who were in Iceland with me. Amongst them was Emma O'Kane, who was voted the trip's Little Miss Sunshine, Orrin Devlin, fellow coffee-drinker extraordinaire, the unofficial group photographer Eunan Brown and my room mate, Aisling O'Kane. Of course I can't forget the bromance that occurred between Peter and Aaron or the group of Fifth Year girls that, within the blink of an eye, had found a group of boys from another school on a field trip with whom they managed to spend the whole evening bowling.

I'm pretty sure it's safe to say that our trip really wouldn't have been possible without Mr. Shaw and his excellent, to-the-second, time keeping; Mrs McGreevy, Miss Galbraith and, of course, Ms Wilson. On behalf of the group, I would like to thank them again for not only bringing back all thirtyeight of us alive, but for having such great enthusiasm even when stuck on a tour bus for two days with a screaming bunch of minors whose Icelandic stretched as far as the repetition of two words. I'm incredibly glad I was one of the pupils lucky enough to be part of the Iceland 2012 trip; because none of the stories can quite emulate the experience of actually being there, 929.63 miles from home, in the even further frozen north.

Una Marie Darragh Year 14













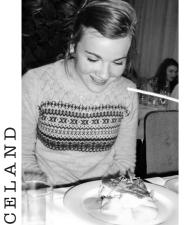
















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GAEL LINN QUIZ TITLE FOR LORETO COLLEGE TEAM

The Irish Department of Loreto College Coleraine are once again thrilled as a Year 10 team has won second place in the regional heat of the annual Gael Linn Senior quiz. The victory took place in The White Horse Hotel, Derry on Tuesday 9th October.

The jubilant team of Clodagh McGahon, Shane McIntyre, Daire Mullan, and Catherine McTaggart soared past over 320 other competitors to win a wonderful second place. The quiz was followed up with a céilí where all

pupils performed numerous dances such as a high spirited 'Waves of Tory'.

To complete a great day, the Gael Linn hosts complimented Loreto's pupils on their impeccable turnout and keen participation.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all the students who represented Loreto College in the event, especially the members of the award-winning team, and to their Irish teachers, Bean Uí Mhianáin and Bean Uí Mhaoláin.



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES MARKED AT LORETO COLLEGE

European Day of Languages was marked with a number of events at Loreto College on Wednesday 26th September 2012, organised by the Modern Languages department.

Marking the European dimension, Year 8-10 students were able to join in a range of lively activities, from a Eurovision Disco, in which all Year 8 students enjoyed music from France, Spain, Germany, the UK and elsewhere, to a multilingual game of bingo for all Year 9 students, to an intensely contested European table quiz for all Year 10 students. Assistance at all these events was received from Year 11-13 students from GCSE and AS level French, Spanish and Irish classes. Meanwhile, throughout all departments of the College, European themed lessons were taking place, with the theme of diversity being explored and a multilingual approach being taken to teaching and learning activities.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Mrs Siobhan Mullan, European and Exchange Co-ordinator, and the members of the French, Irish and Spanish departments who had organised the day's events and, at a special Assembly to mark the occasion, emphasised to students the importance of being part of a rich and diverse European community.











SPANISH VISITORS ENJOY LORETO COLLEGE TRIP

A group of students and teachers from Granada, Spain, spent 10 days with Sixth Form students from Loreto College Coleraine in September, as part of an ongoing exchange programme. Organised by Head of Spanish, Mr Peter Loughran, the exchange aims to enhance students' language skills as well as their understanding and appreciation of each other's culture and customs.

The trip was a return visit, as a party of thirteen Year 13 students from Loreto College had already spent ten days with their partner students in Granada in April 2012. The Loreto College Granada Exchange is organised in conjunction with fellow A Level Spanish students and their teachers from three schools in Co. Armagh: St Paul's High School Bessbrook, St Catherine's College Armagh and St Michael's Grammar School Lurgan.

During their visit, the Spanish students gained several days' experience of everyday life as a Sixth Form student at Loreto College, as well as sampling family life with their host students. They also enjoyed trips to some of Northern Ireland's main tourist attractions: Portrush, the Giant's Causeway, the Titanic Centre and shopping areas of Belfast as well as a day trip to the historic and scenic attractions of Derry. The group also had the opportunity to sample traditional Irish culture with a ceili

in Armagh. The students were, of course, encouraged to perfect their use of English during the trip, and to benefit from their experience of everyday life in Northern Ireland, even if this did occasionally involve some rather unpleasant weather. In turn, the opportunity was there for Loreto College's host students to practise their Spanish- especially important as these students were all preparing for the A Level Spanish examinations later in the year.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, was delighted to welcome the Spanish visitors to the school, and congratulated all the staff and students on the excellent collaborative partnership which existed across the Coleraine -Granada link.



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SCHOOL MAGAZINE LAUNCHED AT LORETO **COLLEGE COLERAINE**

The 2012 edition of the annual School Magazine, Loreto Lore, was launched at Loreto College Coleraine on Thursday 16th November 2012.

Providing a record of all major school and extra-curricular events throughout the 2011-2012 academic year, the Magazine contains hundreds of photos, many in full colour, as well as numerous articles, artistic and creative contributions from students from throughout the College.

Paying tribute to the Editor, Mrs Caragh Little, and the very dedicated team of students on the Editorial Committee, Mr Michael



James, Principal of Loreto College, commented: 'The magazine provides a snapshot of the activities which took place in school in the past academic year, from liturgical to academic, creative to sporting. It is an excellent publication, which provides a valuable record of school life for the years to come.'

TOP MARKS FOR LORETO'S YOUNG CHEFS

Seven promising young chefs represented Loreto College in November in the 2012 Rotary hosted by Loreto College.

Young Chef competition, which was



Year 11 students Sacchi Khullar, Therese Mullaghan, Aine McNamee, Seanann Quinn, Niamh Connolly and Sinead McLaughlin, along with Year 13 student Chris Carson joined

students from St Joseph's College Coleraine in

the local final of the event, which saw students creating a complex menu to be judged by a panel of adjudicators, very much in the Masterchef style.

The adjudicators were highly impressed by all the dishes and menus presented by the students







and, after much deliberation, declared that Aine McNamee of Loreto College was the winner. This means that, for the second consecutive year, Loreto College was represented at the All Ireland final of the event, held in Dublin in early 2013.

In the final, Aine McNamee cooked a menu inspired by her Mum's favourite meal, for a panel of judges at the regional final of the event, held in Grosvenor Grammar School,



Belfast, on Saturday 2nd February.

Aine's appetising menu and her precise attention to detail impressed the judging panel, and she was named winner of the event.

Mrs Sinead McNicholl, Head of Home Economics at Loreto College, paid tribute to chef Paul Catterson, who had worked with Aine on developing her menu to a professional standard, as well as advising her on the execution



and presentation of her chosen dishes. Mrs McNicholl also paid tribute to Aine for her hard work and dedication in preparing for the event, and her calmness under pressure on the day.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated Aine and Mrs McNicholl on this outstanding achievement and wished them well for the final round of the competition.

FUN AND COMPETITION AT LORETO COLLEGE'S SCÓR NA NOLLAIG

14th December 2012 saw a day of excitement, entertainment, enthusiasm and, most importantly, enjoyment. The Irish Department hosted their third annual Year Eight Scór na Nollag: a celebration of craft, music, dance, drama and quiz.

In the run up to the big day, the energetic and enthusiastic Year 8 classes made a fantastic contribution in their thorough in-class preparations. Songs were learned off by heart, creative and inspired Christmas cards were produced and dances were practised to perfection.

To start off the morning's proceedings, each class courageously took to the floor and performed their class song. This was followed by the smaller group acts; with groovy moves, instrument playing and Irish dancing being enjoyed by all. An all-encompassing quiz tested our Year 8 pupils, who rose to the task

and answered the challenging questions laid before them. Additionally, the pre-submitted Christmas cards were judged on adherence to the guidelines, creativity and originality.





Each class accumulated marks from all events and prizes were awarded accordingly. Results were as follows:

Inter class song: 8A/8B
Inter class novelty act: 8A
Quiz: 8A - Owen's group

Christmas cards based on the theme of 'The Gathering':

Winners: Eunan Mac Niocaill 8A, Cabrina Ní Fhearáin 8A, Aaron Ó Mír 8C, Joe Mac Laghmainn 8B, Mollaí Ní Chainín 8E, Eilís Nic Ainmhire 8D, Niamh Nic Uaitear 8D, Jason Ó Móra 8E, Micheál Ó Cearulláin 8E and Ben O Codlatáin 8E

Highly commended in the Christmas card competition were: Olivia Rakowska 8A, Marc Ó Laoghóg 8E, Sian Ní Dhonnchaidh 8A, Cathal Ó Cearnaigh 8A, Seosamh Ó Maoláin 8C, Eve Gairnéir 8A, Owen Ó Brolcháin 8E, Orla Ní Chiara 8D, Úna Ní Raifeartaigh 8B, Fionnuala

Ní Chatháin 8C, Andréis Krystowski 8B, and Seán Ó Dúlaoich-Mac Niallais 8A.

Bean Uí Mhianáin and Bean Uí Mhaoláin, Irish teachers at Loreto College, thanked all Year 8 pupils, who had prepared and participated with such fervent animation. Hearty congratulations were extended on behalf of the Irish Department to the winners of each section and particularly to the overall Scór winners: 8A.















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AT COLERAINE ART SOCIETY AWARDS

SUCCESS FOR LORETO ARTISTS

Two outstanding young artists won top awards at the annual presentation by the Coleraine Art Society, held in late November 2012.

Kieran Kelly, who left Loreto College in June 2012, having completed his A Level studies, won first place in the Coleraine Art Society's Most Promising Artist award scheme, with his prize including an impressive silver salver and a cash award. Runner-up in this competition was Bronwen Butler, who is currently in Year 13 at Loreto College.

Mr Paul Cunning, Head of Art and Design at Loreto College, paid tribute to both Bronwen and



Kieran for their talent, dedication and hard work. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commended both students and Mr Cunning on this remarkable achievement on behalf of all the students and staff of Loreto College.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD PRESENTED TO LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A student from Loreto College this year became the first person in her school to attain the Silver Level of the President's Award.



Sorcha O'Hara, Year 13 at Loreto College, attained this award following some very dedicated and determined hard work in a range of activities.

Sorcha had to undertake Community Service work, work on a personal skill area, and engage in a programme of Physical Recreation. All three activities had to be continued over a period of 26 weeks. In addition to this, Sorcha undertook a three day/two night 'Adventure Journey' hike, in challenging conditions.

Sorcha was congratulated on this superb achievement by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the school. 'Sorcha is the first student from Loreto to attain the Silver level of this prestigious award,' Mr James commented, 'and it is a testament to her hard work, determination and all-round endeavour. An impressive achievement indeed.'



TO ENTERPRISE GOLD

A group of Year 13 students from Loreto College Coleraine was hard at work during the Spring Term in preparation for the annual Young Enterprise NI Trade Fair at Foyleside Shopping Centre, Derry, on 14th February.

The students formed a minicompany, called Midas, and put together a business plan for their company, which produces fashion items. Back in October, the students held a bun sale to help finance their business. Having collected plain tops and t-shirts from fellow students and sourced some at a low price, the students set to work in teams, rejuvenating the plain tops with lively, vintagestyle tie-died patterns. They also designed fashionably minimalist

packaging for use in presenting their product to customers in an attractive manner.

As the February mid term drew near, the students were ready for the challenge of the Foyleside Trade Fair, where they had the opportunity to present their product for sale to members of the public, and also answered questions on their business plan and procedures from a panel of adjudicators. In preparation for the event, some months earlier, the team received some valuable advice from BBC Young Apprentice 2011 runnerup James McCullagh, a former student of Loreto College, who is now working for a top London advertising agency.

On the day, the team won the award for Best Marketing, and returned home delighted, knowing that they had indeed turned their product range at least to the appearance of gold.

Mrs Sinead McNicholl, Citizenship and Employability Co-ordinator at Loreto College, who had been working with the team in preparation for this event, paid tribute to the Year 13 students on their energy, enthusiasm and teamwork throughout several months. Mr Michael James, College Principal, congratulated Loreto team and Mrs McNicholl on their success at the Trade Fair on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.









MIDAS - THE INSIDE STORY

This year, the lower sixth pupils were offered the opportunity to get involved in the Young Enterprise team. Young Enterprise is the United Kingdom's largest business and enterprise education charity. The Young Enterprise charity's aim is 'to inspire and equip young people to learn and succeed through enterprise.' This involved starting up their own business and selling their own products, to gain an insight into the working world. This enabled the pupils to develop their selling and marketing skills, and develop their interpersonal skills by working in a team.

After many debates about what the team should be called, a vote was taken, and so we adopted the name 'Midas'. This name derived from the Greek myth, where everything King Midas touched turned to gold. This was therefore the aim of our team, to work hard, make a profit and enjoy the experience. In order for a business to be successful, the work must be divided. The team was therefore split into different departments. There was therefore a sales team, a marketing team, a human resource

team, an operations team and a management team.

The next vital step was to choose a product. We wanted the product to be relatively cheap and appealing to our age group. After narrowing it down to several different products, we had a vote and the majority voted for the tie-dye kit.

Tie-dye refers to the process of tying and dyeing a piece of fabric or cloth. Our aim was to create kits to tie-dye any old clothing such as t-shirts or shorts. We discovered that, in the UK alone 1.7bn items of clothing are left hanging unused in wardrobes for at least a year. Therefore we tried to encourage the recycling of clothes. After discovering such shocking statistics we believed that tie dying clothing would be a brilliant way to reduce the amount of clothes thrown out in the UK. Instead of throwing away old clothes people could restyle them. The kit would include two different dyes, gloves, elastic bands, studs and gems, as well as a set of easily followed instructions. We decided to name the product "DyeHard" with the slogan "Reduce, reuse, restyle!" We believed this would stand out for our consumers and make our product look even more appealing.

We were given the opportunity to sell these kits at a trade fair in the Foyleside shopping centre in Derry. Each school had their own stall and all the shoppers in Derry had the opportunity to see what each school had to offer and even purchase the products themselves. Although we did not win, we did receive an award for the best marketing and promotion of the product.

The experience was not only a vital insight into the working world at first hand, but was also extremely eniovable and educational for all pupils involved. Being members of the group ourselves, we would strongly encourage the school to stay involved with the Young Enterprise Organisation and encourage pupils to join the competition in the years to come, in order to gain experience of what working life in a professional company will be like in the years to come after School.





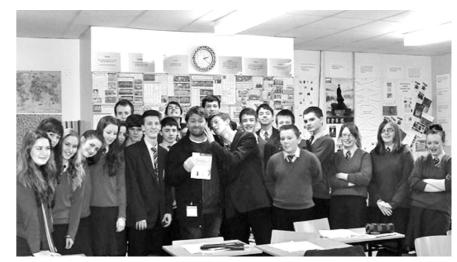


YEAR 11 CLASS MEET A REAL, LIVE AUTHOR!

GCSE English Language class 11D were fascinated to meet author Conor McRevnolds, who visited his former haunt, the English corridor of Loreto College, on Tuesday 12th February. Conor studied English Literature, French and Theatre Studies for A Level and, having left Loreto College in 2005, then took a degree in Theatre Studies and English at Winchester University. He now lives and works in Oxford.

Conor recently recast Charles Dickens' novel A Christmas Carol as a playscript for use in schools- this was published in January by Oxford University Press.

Conor told 11D about his experiences as a writer and as a leader of Drama workshops in schools, about his memories



of university and his time at Loreto. He encouraged the Year 11 students to work hard, to do their very best in their GCSE and A Level examinations and to find a stimulating, challenging and enjoyable career.

Head of English, Mrs C Little, was delighted to welcome back former student Conor, and to receive a signed copy of his first book for the English Department.

FINANCIAL CAPABILITY COURSE FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

to a Financial Capability course for all Year 8 students on Thursday 6th June 2013.

Organised by the College's Economics and Mathematics departments in conjunction with CCEA and Danske Bank, the event was an opportunity for students to engage in a range of interactive activities aimed at highlighting and increasing their awareness of personal finance issues. It also gave them the opportunity to work in teams and to interact with professionals from outside agencies. All of this was geared towards developing the students' skills, knowledge and confidence so they could make more informed and effective decisions about their own finances.

Mrs Anne O'Kane, Head of Mathematics and Miss Stacey

Loreto College Coleraine played host O'Neill, Economics department, who co-ordinated the course, paid tribute to all those involved from the Loreto College Mathematics Department. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, commented that the course had offered an excellent

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opportunity for the students to put their learning into the context of everyday life. Mr James paid tribute to all those who had led the course, and to the Year 10 students who had acted as peer mentors throughout the event.























PARIS TRIP FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

A group of GCSE French students from Loreto College Coleraine spent the final days of the academic year exploring Paris and practising their French.

The twenty students were accompanied on their adventure by Mrs Siobhan Mullan, Head of French at Loreto College, and teacher Mr Sean Murtagh. During their five-night stay in Paris, the group explored major landmarks such as the Champs Elysées, the Arc de Triomphe, the Eiffel Tower, the Latin Quarter and Notre Dame Cathedral. They also had the opportunity to try out their French in various cafés and restaurants and to experience bowling, Paris-style.



A highlight for many was an evening boat trip along the River Seine in a bateau-mouche. Before returning home to begin their Summer holidays, the Loreto students and their teachers also spent a day in Disneyland Paris.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, wished the group *Bon Voyage* as they set off for the French capital, with exciting plans ahead for their five night stay in Paris.

GAELTACHT 2013







Loretolore May, 12-18

Artistic Contributions



















Artistic Contributions



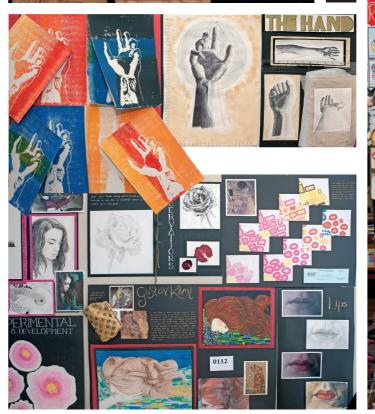
















Creative Contributions

ENGLISH LANGUAGE - A JOURNEY

12am. Yes 12am is at night - 12 noon is day-time. There is no 12pm despite what you were told in P3. Social convention - what is knowinaly present but unknown by so many. Forgive me, I digress and that was just the introduction! Today (or rather, yesterday: it's now 12:06am - trying to keep with the article narrative and that) I completed my eighth A-Level examination of a two month marathon. The indefinite determiner of my future - a 2 hour 45 minute non-stop, calligraphic, mono-limb, aerobic, capillary-straining, everenduring, sweat-emancipating English Language exam paper - asked me to (attempt, with some contempt) analyse changes in American English from newspaper articles dating 1799 and 1963 and then contrast stories told orally and written by a child aged three years. Enriching, engrossing and existential - an adjectival triptych that may contribute to describing the experience one human may face during such an examination. During the past two years I have learned to become linguistically durable. I can strike out an orthographic-phonetic comparison like the Nicks' best pitcher. I can stitch a subject-verb-object-auxiliary verb-compliment clause structure together as well as the local golf Pro shoots a three-iron to Calamity Corner at Royal Portrush on a windy day. I can grip an ellipted, back consonant, letter-ending with all the performing strength of a ferocious Russian-born, pommel-horse, gold medallist.

As I write this article the time is

What I think I can do - is write. However for me, not unlike others, writing has been A Journey. Not a Tony Blair-esque, 'call me Jack', personal prosperity seeking, egocentric and self-indulgently reckless chronicle of my inner thoughts - but perhaps an outlet for creativity where I was challenged elsewhere. It is not secret that I, as much as I appreciate music, am instrumentally incapable of engaging in the pastime. Nor have I an ability to paint or be any kind of a social media 'trendy Wendy' on Twitter or any such networking platform. Exploring short story writing in primary school, poetry in my early years of attendance at Loreto, or my favourite, speech writing, has etched a long lasting imprint on canvas of my short but everreaching writing experience.

In the New Year I carried out a detailed analysis of 2012 U.S Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney's language in the first Presidential Debate in October 2012 and, although completed as a coursework task for my A-Level, the broad realm of study I could enter allowed me to explore my interest. I may have been writing a minithesis but, whatever form it takes, isn't that what writing is about? Meeting your targets, achieving your communicative desires, exploring and sharing your interests, commentary, persuasion, debate, expressing humour, exposing the truth, reconciling the past: you don't have to be a writer to write. You don't have to study or even have studied A Level English - we are all linguists. The Western World (in all begrudgingly semantic terms) has a collective literacy rate of over 95% - and even though some of us read, dabble in social media. or

send an email - do we ever write? I don't believe in writing just for the sake of it. Some novelists do that. There has to be purpose, sincere intentions and the establishment of direction. With writing, it doesn't matter who you are - but where you're going.

It took me fourteen years of formal

education to discover that - but I am glad I eventually did. Some probably have caught on sooner. This realisation itself is the purpose behind this magazine entry. After nearly three hours of linguistic torment - where I was tested on a syllabus with an expanse of two years' teaching time - I have finally discovered it. Even written exams have a linguistic purpose. So do clergymen and ministers' sermons, local news articles, that blog soand-so writes - if it is worth talking about, has purpose and selfguidance, consider writing about it. Language isn't for writers, linguists, politicians, social commentators or the media - language is for people. As Frank Carson used to say, 'It's how I tell 'em.' I want to tell 'them' too. Whatever 'them' may be about will only be found in the moment, when they are needed or whey they are utilised. I just hope that I shall safeguard and inherit more language skills with further lifeexperience. My studies of English Language may have ended today - but the implementation of what I know will go on.

I said it was A Journey - and it isn't ending yet.

Jack McCann Year 14



THE LIFE OF A NERD

Hello, I'm James and I am a computer nerd. Well, when I say 'nerd', I just mean that I'm fairly capable when it comes to computers. That's the only thing that makes me a nerd! Well, that and the fact that I do A-I evel Maths. And that I'm socially inept. And that I dislike all forms of sports. And that I'm bad with women. And I wear glasses. And I currently sit on the Loreto Lore Editorial Committee for the second year in a row. But that's it! It's just an unjust assumption that people continually make about me.

You see, it all started with that first problem I solved all those years ago, so long that I don't even remember what that initial problem was. But that's all that it took for me to be branded for life. Okay, now I'm just over-exaggerating. Wait, no I'm not! The countless phones, iPods, laptops, computers, TV's, Xboxes, Nintendo DS's, PS3's and anything remotely electronic that have been dropped in my lap over the years, always with a heartfelt and sincere request of 'This here isn't working, g'on, fix it.' I have become the regional helpdesk for all things that teachers would confiscate if found on your person in class.

But being a nerd isn't meant to be that bad these days; we seem to rule the world with our websites, computers and software. Even shows like 'The Big Bang Theory' has added a certain new appeal to nerds from those of the opposite gender (girls). Unfortunately, none of these girls currently attend Loreto College Coleraine or reside within a 50-mile radius of me. Trust me, I've checked. Several times.

I'm going to let you in on a secret now, something sacred in the eyes of nerds and computer people everywhere, and that is: we haven't got a clue what were talking about. One word. Google! Any problem at all that's brought to us, we wait and then, when we're sure no one's is looking, the problem is fired into Google and we wait with baited breath for the internet to tell us what to do next. Unfortunately, this does not always work because even the great and mighty Internet doesn't know how to fix a phone that's been dropped more times than a ticking suitcase at Heathrow Airport. We just tell the person that we did everything we could, but there's only so much that can be done for a phone that missing every key except 3, 5 and *.

The problem with this scheme arose when my reputation as a 'nerd' preceded me and I was asked to help in the 2012 Mission Day, particularly the 'X Factor', where I was tasked with creating the video at the start showcasing the acts. To do this I was given a digital video camera from the Drama department and 4 weeks. This was one of the

times where even Google didn't have the answer. Thankfully, after extensive panicking, nervous fits and crying I was able to scramble together a video that was in some way presentable and I somehow managed to uphold my façade as someone who has a clue what they're doing.

So I leave you now with a warning to all who think they might be like me but still have a chance to escape before the world finds out that you can use a computer for more than going on Facebook and staring at dressed-up sloths on the Internet. Never let them know your secret! Pretend that you think you can solve any computer problem by either turning it off and on again or, in extreme cases, by pressing Crtl+Alt+Del repeatedly until something happens.

Do this every time and you may be able to stay hidden but, if they ever suspect you, grab your inhalers and run! Run for the hills! But, unfortunately, as portrayed in several accurate stereotypes and clichés, we nerds are not known for our physical capabilities and high stamina. So when we run, they will chase us and we will be caught (or we simply collapse after sprinting several metres) and then we will be forced to fix that person's technological mishaps. It's just the price we nerds have to pay.

James Granleese Y14









ROOM 101

As part of English this year we had to write a speech on things that we would put in Room 101 and tell everyone why they annoyed us. Then we had to try and understand why people hated them and, to be honest, it was only when some people brought up things that annoyed them, that I actually realised soon after that these things really irritate me as well.

I believe prejudice, discrimination and inequality should be put in Room 101 because everyone is the same. So does it matter what colour your skin is, what religion you are or what you have done in the past? No these things don't matter, so I don't understand why people continually place a massive importance on them. I believe that you should judge a person on the size of their heart and not what they look like. I think all these things should be banished as all they do is hurt people. Does not liking one particular religion make you any happier? No it doesn't. Would you be a lot happier if people didn't judge you for what you looked like, what mistakes you have made and for what religion you are? Yes, you probably would be a lot happier, and I know so many people who would be a lot happier if people weren't constantly watching their every move to see them make a mistake. So let's all banish prejudice, discrimination and inequality.

Another thing that I would definitely banish is crowd pleasers, the people who run with the crowd. When I look at these people I sigh to myself and think, 'Are you really the kind of person who wants to be popular so badly you can't stand on your own two feet?' If everyone tried to please the crowd, we'd all be clones, because we'd all have the same hairstyle (long ginger hair), we'd all wear the same

clothes (Loreto uniform, I would love to see the boys in the skirt), and we'd all listen to the same music (Taylor Swift, of course). We'd all be identical, and there would be no fun in that. Why should you try to be something that you're not? As Taylor Swift once said, 'If you're lucky enough to have something that makes you different from everybody else, don't ever change.' I'm sure you will all agree that crowd pleasers should go into Room 101, never to return.

One last thing really irritates me; yes it frustrates me! Yes, I know that I said discrimination should be banished but ... I've never actually seen a woman do this: men are the real culprits here. I really hate it when men wear socks with sandals. The look is so dated, but then again, I don't know if the look was ever in date. It's so awful that it should be a crime; socks with sandals. What is going through their minds? Then you hear men saying, 'It's a warm day, today, I think I'll put my sandals on and let a bit of air at my feet.' I feel like yelling back, 'Well take your socks off then. They're not going to help the air get to your feet!' It is just so frustrating, and the worst part is the look is typically associated with Ireland. Even when you go on holiday people nudge each other and point at the men saving, 'You know he's from Ireland: he's wearing socks with sandals.' So I believe that if there is any justice in the world, wearing socks with sandals should be banished for all eternity.

So, as you have read, these things annoy me, and I'm sure after my rant here, you will realise how much these things annoy you too. So let's get rid of prejudice, discrimination and inequality, the crowd pleasers and, of course, socks with sandals.

Danielle Dempsey Y11

MY LIFE STORY SO FAR: THE DIARY OF A COOL KID

Once upon a time in a world called Earth, a child was born. His name was Michael Carlin. That's me. It was 2000 when it all happened, in France. I was born. My Mum and Dad called me Michael.

After two years I was walking and nearly talking, but we moved from France to Hong Kong, where I lived in a really big apartment building with a pool, in which I nearly drowned! Our apartment building was on a big hill which led to a zoo with loads of flamingos. In Hong Kong, I went to school in Sunshine House: I had to take a bus to school.

We stayed in Hong Kong for three years and then moved to Mumbai, in India, where we lived in another apartment. I went to school at DSB Agerman Bilingual school, where there were only about 9 pupils in my class. I found it weird seeing that there was a population of 20 million people in Mumbai! Another thing that happened there was that my friend Jordan poured water in my hair and, given that it was about 80C, my hair and head could have been set on fire. We stayed in India for three years and then we moved to Ireland, where I've been for five years... and I'm obviously still here!

I moved to Ireland in P2 or p3, and I went to St. Colum's, where I got an A in the transfer test and came to Loreto. During my time in Ireland I have done four years of trampolining, three years of Scouts, I have played for Coleraine for a year. I also did Ju-Jitsu for a year, but didn't like it.

Michael Carlin Year 8

Loretolore Mag. 12-13

GER: DOC BROWN OR DOCTOR MULLAN?

His childhood was spent delighting in 'home lab kits'. He is a competing member of a Regional Mathletes team. He studies the periodic table for 'fun'. To date, he has a straight A* academic record. It seems obvious to me that a rather disturbing obsession with science has been manifested within Ger Mullan from a very early age. However, in spite of my fears, let's not forget he is the only other person I know, bar Mr Scullion, that could make my death 'look like an accident', (note to self: check sandwiches for traces of potassium cyanide from now on). I muster up the courage to interview this absurdly intelligent boy on his passion for science and his career plans for the future...

As I sit, nervously anticipating Ger's arrival, visions of crisp white lab coats, wild silvery manes of hair and successions of haphazard explosions come to mind. Okay, so I'm not interviewing Doc Brown from Back to the Future but I'm certainly not the only person who has assigned Ger the mad scientist label. With a résumé such as his, I couldn't imagine Ger becoming anything less than a chemical mastermind in later life, just a few equations away from creating Northern Ireland's answer to nuclear warfare. Suddenly the moment is upon me. My palms expel a film of perspiration. It's do or die time, almost literally: if the interview goes badly I could be in big trouble. Remember the cyanide sandwiches? As he appears, I'm shocked and horrified to find that Ger looks curiously... normal? No pocket full of pens, no doubleglazed-thick glasses, no handbooks on WMDs. Just a wave and a smile. Well he's not fooling me: I know that what he really wants is catastrophic chemical destruction, right?

Disingenuous social pleasantries over with, I begin to ask questions. I voice my concerns about his deep passion for science, which is far from healthy, if you ask me. It doesn't make sense: a teenager entirely obsessed with doing laboratory experiments. His face shows apparent thought, inwardly calculating his answer, something I had expected from such a scheming person. And yet, he says, with a look of surprise, that he doesn't understand how anyone could view his love for science as being out of the ordinary, if they really know him properly. So I need to get to know the real Ger, do I? Well let's start with his magnificent school record.

For those who are unaware of the facts, Ger has amassed an intimidatingly impressive set of exam results over the years, not to mention being repeatedly headhunted to represent the school for Maths and Physics competitions and, most recently, accepting an invitation for an interview at Cambridge University. He holds the sort of curriculum vitae that could take him anywhere in life (I hear North Korea is currently partaking in bomb tests, if that helps at all), and on that thought I ask Mr Over-Achiever what career he hopes to embark on next year. I knew it! A nuclear phys – what? A doctor? You mean to tell me Ger Mullan, crazy scientist extraordinaire, wants to spend his life handing out sugar-free Thomas the Tank Engine lollipops to 'brave little soldiers' who've popped their elbows out of their sockets? No, you have to be sympathetic and humane to be a doctor, you can't go around blowing up China in your spare

'I knew I wanted to do something sciency," Ger begins to explain, noticing that my jaw had almost hit the ground. 'Well, the more I found out about medicine, the more I began to like it. I always like to help people out, and I like that medicine incorporates both the scientific side with the social side.' Okay, so we all knew about the scientific

side, but now Ger claims he has a social side too? I'm intrigued, and ask what extra-curricular activities he thinks he is associated with (I add that in no way does a study group count). 'Well I love music! I play guitar and I'm learning bass as I go along. I'm in a band called Furmon at the moment, and we have our first gig next month! I'm very excited and nervous about it. I just hope I don't mess up too badly. I like to meet up with my friends at the weekend, and go to someone's house, the cinema, or out.' He chuckles to himself, outwardly wondering whether sleep can be classified as an interest too. Wow! Ger Mullan doing ordinary, everyday, average-Joe stuff. Aside from being unnaturally intelligent, he enjoys music, movies and sleep, just like a mere human would! Or perhaps he really is more human than I thought.

The more we chat, the more my prejudices about him are disproved. His perfect Saturday night isn't spent drawing up revision timetables: he frequents gigs with his many cosmopolitan friends. He didn't watch Pinky and the Brain as a child and agree with their themes of scientific dictatorships and world domination: he stared at tractors. He doesn't want to use his vast knowledge of chemicals to help harvest new atom bombs: he wants to help heal people who are sick and injured. Ger really isn't anything like what I had imagined at all.

Growing up in a large, close-knit family, Ger was raised with a set of compassionate and caring values that he finds imperative to continue to practise today. And, let's be honest, with three younger sisters running around, I'm sure he learned his fair share about patience and tolerance in those earlier years as well. Showing this deep-rooted concern for others, mixed with his dedicated love of science, Ger's aspirations of becoming a doctor seem to make much more sense.



However, as I recall the rather strict shirt-and-tie environment of Medicine, I immediately worry that the talented, funny and very individual boy before me, won't stay very individual for too long. With such a high pressured, fast paced career, anyone would find it tough not to lose themselves along the way. 'I know everybody changes. And I know Medicine can burn you out. You still need to remember how to laugh as a doctor and you can't forget who you are as a person.' As I slowly begin to understand his personality better, another important facet of Mr Mullan's character that I uncover is his steadfast will to stay true to himself, and the self-assurance to know exactly the kind of person he is. Yes, with his uncommon fascination for science he really could be a nuclear physicist. But vet, with his love of music he could just as easily front an indie band. Alongside this and his love of physics he could be a new generation Professor Brian Cox. And then again with his instinctive need to care and unlimited patience. Ger would even make a great teacher! Nevertheless, he feels that becoming a doctor is more of a vocation, almost as though Medicine has chosen Ger

I couldn't have got anyone's character more wrong. He's not an insane scientist as I had first thought, and I'm not afraid of eating my sandwiches anymore. Ger Mullan is an intelligent, considerate, stand-up guy, equipped with, pretty much, the perfect credentials for studying Medicine. So don't be too surprised if, in the near future, you have to pay a visit to a GP and he gives out sugar-free lollipops at will. You could even have your appointment postponed due to an impromptu band practice. But don't worry, the delay wouldn't be anything personal. It's just Doctor Ger Mullan, after all.

and not the other way round.

Caoimhe Cooke Y13

THE JOYS OF SCHOOL

6:30am sharp, I prise my eyes open, I look outside and the sun is just rising. I climb back under the covers and wait For the dreaded shout of my mother, 'Tiarna! It's time to get up, you're running late!'

Lunch packed, breakfast eaten, Mummy it's time to go, the bus won't keep waiting! Into the car and to the bus stop we go. In the door and along the empty corridors, The morning bell goes and the 'rush hour' Begins, people spilling out of everywhere.

Up the stairs to History 3, roll call and a general chitchat. First bell goes and off to class we all go, Break time comes and break time goes, The clock the focus for most of us.

Period 7: yes, it's time for lunch! Time flies and before we know it the Bell goes again and with a moan of despair We travel up the Irish stairs, a few more hours, That's all we have to last, that's what makes the Periods seem to go so fast!

Quarter past three, the sigh of relief when We hear the final bell, off home we go. Homework done, time to relax! Oh no, except For that History test tomorrow!

Revision done and my bag is packed, Finally off to bed I go! Under the covers I climb and my alarm I must set, Half past six always seems to come too soon!

Day in, day out, we follow the same routine, Forgetting how long we've been doing this. It seems to get harder with every dreary morning, But on the bright side, it's not long till summer! Tiarna McGinty Year 12

MY LIFE SO FAR: WHAT MY GRANDMOTHER MIGHT WRITE TO ME...

Dear Aida.

I'm so happy for you darling! I remember when I first saw you and when you rode your bike for the first time! I'm so pleased that you got into Loreto! Oh the time! Sometimes I cry when I remember how you used to play in the garden... I'm so sad that you left Hungary. It was three years ago... oh the time goes fast. I miss you so much.

I remember when you took photos with your sister... look, I sent one to you. I even sent the picture of you in the pram. Aww those crazy days! Do you remember when you closed the garage door on your grandfather's back? Or when you ripped all the photos in the album when you were three? Maybe you don't remember, but I still can. Oh, and why did you cut your hair? It was nearly a metre long! Ahh I can't believe that you're 12. Already!

I remember when your grandfather and I went out to visit you in Ireland. Ha ha, it was Winter, and he slipped on the ice into the water! It doesn't matter now.

I wish you to have many friends, to learn hard and remember me!

Love, Your Grandmother

Aida Nemeth Year 8

KILLING TIME

I'm sure we have all heard the phrase 'killing time', but in fact it is time that is killing us. You may also have heard 'Time is the best teacher, unfortunately it kills all its students.' This is true: you can't outlive time itself and we must not waste our time. The famous saying 'Practice Makes Perfect' springs to mind. If we do not take the time to practise, especially for sport, how are we meant to improve? We need to make time in our schedule or fill blanks in our schedule to gain skills.

We can't make time go any faster or slower. We still cannot travel back in time and relive parts of our past and change things. This is why we should think before we act, and try to live with very few regrets. Then, whenever a time machine is invented, you will have very little to change and can just go back and re-live the moments you really enjoyed... plus if, during your life, you don't kill time, then you will be spoilt for choice on what to go back to re-live.

Now stop reading this, and go and enjoy every moment of your life from now on...

Still here? I hope not.

Stephen Reynolds Year 13





MUSINGS OF A BOOKWORM

Over the past few months I have become known for what even I can admit is abnormally fast reading skills. I am often asked how I manage to be reading a new book every day, or how I can manage to read two or more books at one time. But why, as my dad puts it, do I read so fast I practically eat my books? Because the power of words is phenomenal. Books can take you to a new world; can transport you to all new places whether it is Hogwarts, Narnia or Middle Earth. When you open a book it's like you are living someone else's life even just for a while. And sometimes it can be the complete opposite, as C.S Lewis once said, 'We read to know that we are not alone.'

Someone once told me that books can't really impact on people's lives, but I believe that they really can. They don't have to make you change your entire point of view on a topic or make you want to change the world, but even when

a book makes you laugh or cry it is impacting on you. I recently finished reading a book by one of my favourite authors and when I had turned the last page I can honestly sav it affected me: I was sad to see the end of the series even if it wasn't a life-altering novel.

People can get seriously attached to books and their characters; I know, I'm one of them. My friends and I have spent hours in the past talking about them like they were people we knew: about how we wanted them to be happy or what we wanted to happen for them next. Even now over a year after a book was released we have long conversations about the break up of one of the couples in the series. So what if someone thinks we're obsessed? They're right, but that isn't the point. The point is that we care enough and it affected us enough that it still lasts with us today. We may be fangirls (an internet term for someone who is

a huge fan of a book, movie or TV show to the point of obsession), but all that time spent on Tumblr staring at pictures of actors, fan art of characters and passages from books all show that those stories did impact on us in a way that lasts for a long time. Look at the Harry Potter series for example, it's been six years since 'The Deathly Hallows' was published and two years since the last movie was released, but it is still one of the biggest book series in the world and its fans continue to talk about it like it was only released yesterday.

Reading is a form of escapism; if I need to lose myself for a while all I need to do is pick up my favourite book and become part of that world. It's what makes me want to become an author and someday I hope to impact on someone else's life the way books have impacted on mine.

Louise Hickey Y12

THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING!

On the 28th of February 2013 Pope Benedict XVI stepped down from his position of the leader of the Catholic Church, leaving the 1.2 billion Catholics of the world without made, and it was not the decision a leader and resulting in the first conclave in eight years. The news of Benedict's resignation shocked people all over the world, as it was the first in six centuries. The role of the Pope has always been considered a job for life, as shown by Pope John Paul II who refused to step down despite his many health problems, and, as a conservative, Benedict wasn't expected to break this unwritten rule.

The Conclave, which is held in the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, is an election made by the College of Cardinals as they are sealed inside the Chapel with 4 votes a day until a decision is made as to who will be the next Pope. A two-thirds majority is needed for the new Pope to be elected plus there must be an

acceptance from the candidate. On the 13th of March, the white smoke rose from the chimney in the chapel, signalling that the decision had been many had been expecting. Over the next hour Jorge Mario Bergoglio, a Cardinal from Buenos Aires, was prepared for the announcement and, as he stepped out onto the famous balcony at St. Peter's Basilica he did so as Bishop of Rome, leader of the Catholic Church and Sovereign of the Vatican City.

You could clearly see the excitement of the crowds, who had camped out for days, although there was also a sense of shock as Jorge's 'moment' was considered to be over. But I can't deny the excitement felt by myself, my family and my friends as we waited for the announcement, and why wouldn't we be excited? The next conclave may not be for another decade and who knows

what will be happening then! Pope Francis is the first Jesuit, first Francis and first Latin American to be given the role and there have been many unusual 'firsts' before him. Pope Benedict IX (the youngest Pope ever, aged between 11 and 20) was the first to be Pope on more than one occasion, sell the papacy and resign from the papacy. Pope Joan (an old legend) was the first and only woman to be Popeit is believed that she disquised herself as a man and took on the role before she was found out several years later.

However, technically, any male who has been baptised in the Catholic Church can be elected Pope, although it is almost unheard of to happen without the candidate being a cardinal, so if any of you fancy a career in the Papacy and want to make some new 'firsts' of your own, vou know where to ao!

Louise Hickey Y12

THE NOSTALGIC MUTTERINGS OF A 16 AND 1/2 YEAR OLD OR THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST (IN YOUR REVISION)

Ever since I turned fifteen years old, the books on my windowsill have grown into an alarmingly large family. You might be wondering what the correlation is between my age and the number of books I now have on my window-shelf, but it all makes sense once I remind you of a certain phase of life.

The GCSE years.

It has now been a year and seven months since I began preparing for these not-so-trifling horrors. And the total has now reached a jaw dropping forty-nine books. FORTY-NINE BOOKS.

Before you begin to wonder at the sanity of my parents, for letting me purchase these now-abandoned books, I will assure you that many of these books are borrowed, library owned, with some bought. I still find however, that every time I enter Limavady library, I have to

hide from a certain librarian. She still hasn't found me yet.

Thankfully.

But the pile still sits mournfully. looking at me.

It is not that I don't want to read these books. It is, as many others in my year would say, I feel like I have so little time to read books, or do anything else but schoolwork. I sometimes think that I miss junior years at Loreto (and then I remember the subjects I hated and breathe a sigh of relief). But one thing that I really miss is free time; as I am forcefully reminded, every day I waste not studying, is a day lost in the grand scheme of exams. It sometimes feels like this year, the school years that are supposed to be 'the best of your life' are bogged down with the anvil on your shoulders that is school work, and the constant reminder that time is

running out. And to me, the window shelf is yet another reminder of that. One could compare the GCSE vears as a landslide that falls on us as soon as we begin them- it seems like it will never stop hurling more things at you.

And summer- that tranquil time, when we are meant to enjoy long summers that once we start working, we will never really be able to have again. Those are the days we are meant to waste completely, so we can have those moments to rethink of later in life. But GCSE's still manage to ruin them a little, as we spend the whole two months agonising over our marks, and rethinking how we think we did in the exams until we have firmly decided that we have failed them all utterly- unless you are disgustingly confident.

But, the window shelf need not wait much longer, as I only have

> (gulp) 3 months left of these horrors. Then I can spend my time, catching up on the books that have been patient for months and the librarian to whom I will aive my profuse apologies.

Until September arrives, and thus begins the work for AS and A Levels. And the cycle will (of course) likely begin again. Sigh.

Maria McQuillan Y12





ONE DIRECTION LIVE IN BELFAST ODYSSEY ARENA, 7TH MARCH 2013

It's safe to say that the 7th March marked a very, shall we say, memorable night in the teenage years of so many young ladies here in Northern Ireland. With over 8700 young female voices screaming in unison at One Direction, I'm still avidly trying to work out why on earth I (almost) still have full use of my hearing.

After an incredibly cringeworthy video showing the five-piece holding 'the party of the year', the boys emerged from behind the scenery, to be greeted with a chorus of 'I love you!' 'Will you marry me?' 'You're gorgeous!' and then some phrases which simply cannot be repeated in a School Magazine.

After launching into the title song of their first album, 'Up All Night', followed by 'I Would' and 'Heart Attack', everyone's favourite Irishman, Niall Horan, smirked as the crowd exploded following his

remark of, 'It's loud in here.' Every young girl in the room was dressed to impress her favourite bandmember, and it was evident that the boys were having fun with it.

Perhaps the most entertaining moment of the evening was the typical mid-section interlude, in which the boys gave their rendition of the much-loved 'Fresh Prince of Bel Air' soundtrack and a jaunty chorus of 'Can't Touch This'. followed by Twitter questions from members of the audience – which of course caused more deafening screams. Although it pains me to admit it, the group's cover of 'Teenage Dirtbag' by Wheatus and Comic Relief mash-up of Blondie's 'One Way Or Another' and The Undertones' 'Teenage Kicks' proved a great success with the crowd. who, to my great surprise. sang along with every word of the older classics.

Of course, all good things must come to an end and, after a hormone-induced, pop-rock-filled two hours, the concert certainly finished with a bang. The end of the night saw the group's two biggest hits, ('That's What Makes You Beautiful' and 'Live While You're Young' for those of you who lack 1D knowledge) followed by each member making their individual exit to an excited blur of streamers, balloons, fire, confetti, an abundance of glitter and far too many tears!

April Murray Year 12

BASKETBALL (A HAIKU)

Spin on finger
Shoot in the net
Score a three pointer? You bet.
Pearse Donaghy Year 9





A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DROP OF WATER IN A SWIMMING POOL

SPLASH!

Another child jumps into the pool.

He is splashing around like a little pup
Can he swim or can he not?

Legs and arms flying in the air They are all splashing around Like they don't care.

I get thrown in the air
By those giant leaps
I hope I don't land
In the water deep!
Nora McIlvenny Year 8

WHY DOLLS ARE DESTINED TO BE DISMEMBERED

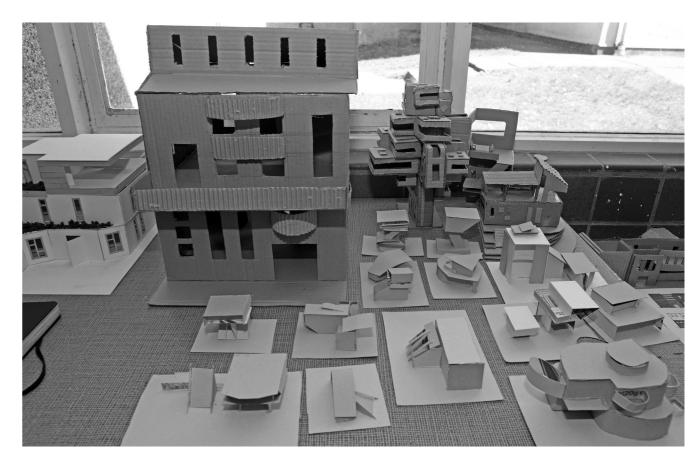
I remember the days when my childhood toys were tucked safely away in their box in the corner of my garage, waiting for the eventual charity haul, or to be forever entombed there. Then, on the 18th of August 2012, we welcomed a cocker spaniel puppy into our family; we named him Asterix. When we got Asterix, he was a quiet, adorable bundle of fur that slept rather a lot and liked his food. But, within a few weeks, a hellhound was born.

Asterix certainly lived up to his stereotype; he was a real hunting dog. That is, he dug holes in the garden that were easy to fall into; he hounded and pestered the poor cat and wreaked havoc and destruction anywhere he looked. But we loved him all the same (though it was great when he stopped chewing electrical cords).

However, the worst was yet to come, when Asterix discovered that OUR old toys, were even better to chew than his special chewy toys. (He ate them all. Completely.) I had lost several toys to his crusade before we even noticed that he was sneaking upstairs and snaffling them from our rooms. But what was really creepy was how he tore the toys apart. I recall, on one occasion, coming back home one night after going to a friend's house, only to find on the doorstep a teddy with half its face chewed off. Now THAT was terrifying- it was like his version of the horse's head, but without the threat (I hope!).

But there is nothing like a clinically insane dog for company. I like to think of his as the Hannibal Lector for Dogs- without the penchant for cannibalism. Though he does enjoy his steak VERY rare... (you can guess what I mean). But in any case- in our house at least, no toy is safe from the clutches of Asterix. And, needless to say, I now find it all very amusing (but only when it's not MY old toys!).

Maria McQuillan Y12





THE HIDDEN IDENTITY OF AN ENGLISH STUDENT

It's first period on a Monday morning. I gaze around English 4 to see most of my classmates chattering amongst themselves regarding the happenings of the past weekend. Mark Gormley is sitting next to me, bright-eyed and shiny shoed.

Before I begin my interview and ask Mark his first question, I can't help but notice that Mark has managed to establish the perfect hairstyle today. It's not too neat, but not too messy; a perfect combination of the two, enabling the style to be an exact replica of his idol, Joey Essex of TOWIE.

And so, after thoroughly analysing Mark's appearance, I begin by asking him a basic question about how he's feeling this morning. To which Mark replies with a subtle shrug of the shoulders and says, 'Yeah, good, well, I have training today after school.' I suspect Mark expects me to know this is a good thing and so I keep on the topic of football and proceed by asking Mark why he enjoys football training. Mark looks at me for a second, as if to say, 'What's not to like about football?' and tells me, 'It's just really good.' Mark stops and realises this is not a very informative answer and so goes on jokingly, 'Plus it means myself and around twenty other guys have a football date with Mr Murtagh and Mr Murphy.' This is not exactly the answer I was expecting and, as I am unsure of exactly how to reply, I am keen to move on.

I've known Mark for around six years now and he has always given me the impression that he is fairly sure of himself, not big-headed or cocky as such, just 'confident', as he has always liked to put it. And so, with this in mind, I ask Mark if he would consider himself a strong,

talented footballer. Mark thinks about the question, the obvious restraint in his eyes preventing him from blurting out, 'Well yes, I would say that actually!' After around seven seconds of analysing the question, Mark humbly replies, 'Well, at the moment I play on the school's starting team, so you can decide that for yourself.' I figure this vague, yet humble answer does in fact prove my point.

I next ask Mark if he's looking forward to any upcoming games, and he tells me that he's very much looking forward to the team's semifinal next Thursday. 'It's the furthest we've got in a number of years and I feel that we have a strong chance of winning it,' he says. I ask Mark if his contribution on the starting team has anything to do with this strong chance, and he informs me that it is not his contribution solely, but the contribution of the team as a whole, and that, collectively, the boys have a good chance of winning. Modest Mark is shining through in this

With his obvious love and passion for his sport, I now ask Mark if he would be keen to captain the school's team next year as a Year 14 pupil and he tells me that it is not in his hands to decide, but in those of his manager. This position automatically sounds more like a business deal. "I would love to captain the senior team and I think it would be a real honour to do so," he tells me. I ask him what he thinks his chances are and what qualities he thinks are essential for a captain to possess. I am bombarded with a list of qualities necessary for captaincy. 'A captain needs to be a good leader,' he begins. 'Also, a good people person and someone who can lift the boys' heads when we face difficult patches in a game. Obviously they would also have to

have the skill required in Gaelic.' But what are Mark's chances of becoming captain? 'Well,' he begins, 'I'm not saying I have all of those qualities, but I would like to think I do have some of them, as do other boys on the squad though.' It was nice to see that, regardless of how much Mark would love to be captain, he has taken other people into consideration and so this was another well answered question from confident-not-cocky Mark.

Mark's obvious passion for football has really come to the fore and so I wonder aloud if he would be interested in pursuing a career as a footballer, to which he quickly says, 'No I don't.' He claims it is just something he does for fun in his free-time. He tells me that he thinks if you take something fun like football and try to make a career out of it, the fun would be lost. Although Mark does also tell me that he would love to play for the Derry Senior team at some stage, but that he doubts this would work if he were to pursue a career in Medicine. He goes on to say, 'Medicine can be extremely rewarding as you are helping and curing people. It's things like this that can make a real difference in the world.' These are deep words from Mark; now I can really see a softer side coming to the surface.

I go on to ask Mark if he has had any interesting achievements or exciting occurrences that have had a big impact on him. This is when he begins telling me about his time spent in America last Summer with the UPD group. Mark tells me about how amazing the trip was and about the application process, as well as what he had to go through to be picked. Mark is very enthusiastic about the topic and it is obvious that this experience has had an extremely positive influence



on his character now. He tells me all about the friends he made and how he is now looking forward to seeing them again soon in the Summer. He would recommend anyone who has the opportunity to take the experience.

We look out the window of the classroom at the greenhouse area and get somewhat distracted by how cold it looks today, and we go on to talk about the school's pond, which Mark's brother Conal, a previous Head Boy, had been thrown into. I see my opportunity to ask Mark his next question: 'What's it like being the brother of Conal Gormley?' Mark laughs and tells

me he has a good relationship with his brother. He 'doesn't feel any pressure' to fulfil the role as Head Boy and doesn't feel competitive against his brother. This is encouraging to hear.

After discussing Conal further and the positions of the senior boys of LCC on the field, I realise that our class is nearly over and I only have time for one more question. Stepping aside from the football field, I decide it would be interesting to hear how the superstar would spend an ideal night out, and he tells me in his best 'gangster voice' that his perfect night out is 'out in da town with me mates in Essex.'

After interpreting my disapproving expression, Mark admits that he doesn't in fact go out much at all but does enjoy occasionally having a night out with friends.

It has been an interesting interview and Mark clasps his hands together as the bell rings. He asks that I don't portray him too badly to his peers and I tell him I won't. It was interesting to see how Mark definitely loves his sport and yes indeed, he can have strong opinions, yet by the end of the interview it is clear to me that Mark Gormley is actually a big softie at heart hiding behind a gumshield.

Laura Rafferty Y13







Loretolore Mag. 12-13

THE GREATEST THING IN THE KNOWN UNIVERSE

For many, the greatest thing in the known universe is a singular thing: family, water, oxygen or electricity, to name but a few. But for me the greatest thing in the universe isn't something on its own, it's all of these things and other essentials combined to aid our survival, and overall happiness in life.

Family are the building blocks of everything we strive to be and do, raising us to be the people we are today and providing every foundation, support and encouragement we need to prosper and develop in today's tough society. They're so important when we need cheered up after a rough stressful period of time in our lives, or even just to put a smile on our faces at the end of a long day at school. Without them, where would we be today? I know for a fact that I personally wouldn't get very much done if it weren't for my mum's guidance throughout everything. Our families provide us with a home, somewhere where we can drop the varied personas, and simply be ourselves: where the mask drops and we feel comfortable, at ease and secure. Family are the people we can count on, whom we know have nothing but unconditional, guaranteed and genuine care and love.

Water, the basic essential of everyday life. This substance, whose importance everyone strives to highlight, yet fails to recognise when it is taken for granted. Washing, cooking and overall survival, are just some of the few uses of water that we lack appreciation for. I know that I wouldn't think twice about leaving the tap running, or throwing out a full bottle of water if I hadn't drunk it in a couple of hours.

Another extremely important aspect of life for me is self-determination and pride. For example, when we see the participants of games such as the Paralympics, the drive and sheer determination those people have would put so many to shame and make you reconsider why we complain about so many little, unimportant things. These people, who would have every right to give up, given their circumstances, persist and achieve such amazing things through their inner strength and will to do something huge with their lives. Surely that is something that has to be counted as a blessing in our universe. For some, the greatest blessing known is life itself. People who are fighting for their lives, struggling through life with very little but a shack made of straw or unclean, unsafe water to their name, who simply wake up everyday and thank God for giving them another day and another breath. Those people who are more than thankful to even have a quarter of the opportunities we're given throughout our lives, and who don't take anything they're given for granted. When you look at things from this perspective, and weigh up that some people lack even the basics, we can see that being given the opportunity to live this life is amazing in itself.

Electricity is the main power supply to all our essentials in modern day life. If it weren't for electricity, how would the wonders of medical treatment such as life-support be carried out? How would lives be saved everyday, and illnesses treated? There would be no more easy contact between friends and family, no television to watch and no baby scans to determine how a couple's unborn child is developing, or even to determine the baby's gender.

When we consider the amount of things we take for granted, that are so hugely important and so greatly sought after by those in need, we realise that there is no particular hierarchy of greatness, that so many various things are necessary for good health, happiness and prosperity. People's opinions differ, and it is hard to pinpoint an overall best aspect of life, and this is why I am inconclusive as to what is the greatest thing in the known universe.

Nicole McNicholl Y12

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DROP OF WATER IN A SWIMMING POOL

I'm just a drop of water,
One whom no-one dares bother,
Because I'm the biggest,
The bravest and the BEST,
This is my life in a swimming pool!

Strange creatures in the water thrashing,
Making so much noise you wouldn't believe.

Could this be worse than the sound of a building crashing?
This is my life in a swimming pool!

People shouting and screaming with fun,

Could you believe that all this can be done,

Because of drops of water, just like me?

This is my life in a swimming pool!

The strong smell of chlorine,
Cleansing my home,
This is where I'm free to roam!
This is my life in a swimming pool!
Cabrina Farren Year 8

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF WATER

Wide open ocean.

Arctic and Antarctic filled with your frozen gleam.

The Summer days bring your need.

Everybody drinking and slurping you.

Rivers full of you rushing down the mountains.

Sick needing you.

Living you and drinking you.

In the Third World you are scarce.

Fresh or salty in all kinds of format.

Even the plants need you to live.

Cathal Kearney Year 8

GCSE YEARS

Being a GCSE student is difficult, as you know, Past papers, past papers, past papers, learning as you go,

Headaches, struggles and panic, it all sounds pretty manic.

But there are perks to this stage in our lives as you will see: it's been a good enough experience for me. More maturity, intelligence and responsibility,

More trust, more friendship and more freedom to roam, Teachers around to accompany you and ensure you're not alone.

So take it from me: ask for help, work hard and don't try to do it all on your own,

And then you will realise how easy it will be To achieve good grades in your GCSEs:)

Nicole McNicholl Y12

CRIME DRAMAS: HONESTLY, WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS?



Crime Dramas. There are so many of them. At least one, on every channel, every single day. And when they think they're running short, they'll just make more (UTV especially). Don't get me wrong, I love them. I love trying to figure out "whodunit". Was it 'Colonel Mustard in the drawing room with the...? You get the idea. Crime Dramas often revolve around a storyline involving the death of a child. The prodigious acting talents of an emotionally distraught David Tennant - reeling from a troubled past - are then employed to solve said murder, amid a mass of shady characters and, "He definitely did it!"s.'

The action is furthered by the eerie setting - a lonely Shetland island or rural village in the English countryside where 'everyone knows everyone'- and the relationships of the investigators with the suspects. Over the series, normally 4 or 5 different people are brought in for questioning, culminating in the shocking discovery of a culprit, more often than not the victim's father or mother.

After we watch a crime drama at home, my mum says, every time, without fail, 'You could suspect anyone couldn't you?' And how right she is....you end up believing anyone and everyone is the murderer, such is the power of persuasion and false trails, left to completely fool and grip you. Atmosphere is everything: throw in a snow encrusted setting and a foggy camera lens. With characters moving in slow motion to a background of melodramatic music and the crime drama is born! Have your 'good cop, bad cop' routine and your investigators living on cups of coffee.

Crime dramas grip me from first episode to last line, and producers have certainly 'cracked' the mystery of T.V boredom.

Aidan Boyle Y10



YOLO

You Only Loreto Once

As my time at Loreto draws rapidly to its close, I've found myself thinking more and more about the seven years I've spent here.

In that time knee-length, grey socks quickly changed to black tights, pig-tails to the purposefully messy top-knot and finally the yellow and blue stripy tie was promoted to a royal blue senior one. It's almost inconceivable to think that in a few short weeks, not only will I (finally) be turning eighteen, but I'll also be sitting A levels, the results of which will determine if I attain a place at university, if I can finally make up my mind about where to study!

At the time I thought choosing GCSE's was hard and now I would give anything to be making that choice again.

Being in the junior school seems like such a distant memory: if there weren't so many embarrassing photos, I could almost believe it was just a vivid, feature-length dream.

As Year 8s some of us wanted to be Captain of the sports teams, others aspired to be Head Boy or Girl, but what I really sought after was to be a lead in the school show. In the junior school, watching the 'Calamity Jane' rehearsals and singing in the chorus, I hoped that one day, if I was I lucky enough, I would be the one leading the chorus, and last year that happened when I got the chance to take centre stage as Adelaide in the school production of 'Guy's and Dolls'. The sense of achievement I felt reading my name on the cast list surpassed that of even being cast in my first main role in the Riverside and I was elated at the thought of being immortalised along with my predecessors, the pupils whom I had once looked up to, along the drama corridor's very own 'Hall of Fame'.

Admittedly, there have been a few

cross words, a missed deadline or two and the very occasional, unwelcome make-up wipe. But it was the simple things that made life at Loreto wonderful at times. There was the initial excitement of being allowed to drink tea for the first time in class and I would force myself to drink it, not wanting to miss out on the chance of feeling like a proper grown up, even though I'd probably have preferred juice. I remember picnics by the convent that possibly, maybe, weren't 100 percent permitted, but happened on the rare occasion, and the ice cream that we'd kept in a coolerbox would always be inedible by the time it reached lunch. It was days out with the choir that would make you truly thankful for the blue knee length skirts because at least then you weren't dressed in a floor length tartan number. Not to mention the class solidarity you'd feel when trying to whole-heartedly convince the teacher that that essay wasn't due today, but in fact next week. And I doubt any current Year 14 will ever be able to listen to Cheryl Cole's 'Fight for this Love' without picturing Sean McKendry strutting his stuff at not one, but two school retreats!

Although I'm still waiting on my Hogwarts letter, which has undoubtedly just got lost in the post, I couldn't really imagine going to school anywhere else. Loreto has been more than just a centre of education. My teachers, peers and friends have really helped make my time at Loreto special and, having so little time left, is genuinely terrifying but equally as exciting. Although I feel more than ready to leave the work behind, I'm not ready to leave some of the people, some of the classes, and I'll even miss the building itself: from the carpeted drama theatre, equipped with its own very useful sofa, right down to the eternally cold R.E corridor that smells almost comfortingly of soup.

Looking round the Common
Room I can't quite believe that the
first girl in our year to get an after
school detention is on her way
to becoming one of Glasgow's
finest doctors, that the boy sitting
opposite is a few months away
from beginning dental school, and
that the group of girls first to grab
the kettle at break time are actually
going to be teachers in a few years.

At the start of the year we were warned that this year, and subsequently our time at Loreto, would be gone in a heartbeat and at the time I had no idea just how right they were.

Una Marie Darragh Y14



THE IMPOSSIBLE ACT OF REVISION

I cannot study. Simple as. It's just something I don't seem to be able to do and that is not a good trait to have as an A-Level student hoping to progress into further education. But who can blame me? Revision's dull. Not many people will disagree with this and those who do, I don't think I'd like very much. I mean, there are so many better things we can do instead, well I say 'better', I mean 'more entertaining' or 'less mind-numbingly boring'- I once spent an RE class writing 'Spoiler Alert' on the first page of the Book of Revelations on every Bible I could

Now don't get me wrong, it's not that I hate learning. I love learning, but by some weird mental defect I am only capable of learning facts that will, in no way, help me later on in life. A good example of this is that fact that I know that it is anatomically impossible for a pig to look up at the sky. Now, I will never need this fact in everyday life- the only time this fact will ever be useful is if the pigs rise up against us and we need to decide on the best plan of attack. This is, however, very unlikely to occur, so this fact, like countless others, gets sorted in my head alongside the population size of Vanuatu and Hitler's birthday. It's hard to fit anything else into my head with all that's already crammed in there.

So, as you can imagine, studying does not come naturally to me. It definitely doesn't make it easier the fact that, in today's world, there's roughly about a million different things out there just calling to me, promising escape from the mundane world of A Levels. In order of what I can see around my room, I have, within arm's length of me: a television, an Xbox 360 with about 15 games for it, a bookcase filled with the obvious, and an iPad

with about another 15 bookcases' worth of literature on it. How can anyone expect to choose revision over any of those? Even worse, none of these can hold a candle to the biggest distraction of all that we try, and fail, to not get sucked in by. That, of course, is the Internet.

The Internet is truly brilliant. I mean, how can you not love the Internet? It really does have something for everyone. Animals dressed as humans? It's got it. Sad, pathetic teenagers with no life who won't shut up? You're reading this, aren't you? Looking for love? Actually, maybe it's not the best idea to use the Internet for that. But, nonetheless, you'd be hard pushed to find anything more interesting than binomial expansions and the Data Protection Act of 1998 on the Internet.

My school, in fairness, does try to help. They try to compete with all these alternatives and nearly force us to do the work required to make the past 14 years of education worthwhile. They do this by making available to us, a 'Senior Study'. This is a large room with a carpet floor, cushioned seats and radiators that actually radiate heat on a regular basis. They did this to give us students a secluded area where we could sit comfortably and revise in peace and quiet, free from all distractions made available to us. But did we actually work in this comfortable, warm place? Of course not! When we got the chance, we put out heads down and slept. It must be difficult for teachers to motivate students to work, when we genuinely prefer being unconscious over it.

The worst part of all this is that I know I'm going to regret not revising. I'll sit there, on whatever distraction most appeals to me

that day, knowing that, in a few hours, I'll be sitting there, doing an exam, staring at a blank page and trying to remember anything to do with whether or not the US Constitution protects the rights of its citizens and, of course, nothing will come to mind other than the storyline of 'Lost' and the lyrics of 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. From that and, I suppose, this entire piece in general, you can imagine how optimistic I am about my results. But maybe this is a good thing. Maybe these certain-to-becatastrophic results will be what I need to scare me into revising for the summer! Well, I say that now, but deep down I know that little will change and I'll still be on the Internet to the small hours in the morning, hours before a lifechanging exam and not caring in the slightest.

James Granleese Y14

AMAZING SPACE

From Saturn to Jupiter to Pluto to Mars,
There's only one planet that we can call ours,
In this one plot of land in the greatness of space,
We've lived and we've thrived and evolved as a race.

There must be more life forms somewhere in space,
But maybe they're scared of a new place,
Maybe we'll discover them someday,
And they'll join us to live, work and play.

In all of the planets in all of space,
All of them sitting in their own place,
There is only one we call home turf,
And that planet's name is Earth.
Finn Lestas Y9



SERENDIPITY

You can say what you like: whatever you happen to believe in, you can not deny that sometimes things just seem to happen of their own accord. Sometimes these are good things; sometimes, unfortunately, not so much. However, the most unexpected things can turn out to be the best.

You could gather all the relevant scientific evidence possible to try and prove me wrong, but I honestly think that these things are just one massive accumulation of everything we've ever done and, on occasion, the universe just all comes together in a brain-bending clash of events.

I guarantee that you can think of at least one instance in your own life where there has been no real explanation for something seemingly completely coincidental, but which, in hindsight, seemed like it was predetermined from the outset. For example, there is a theory which suggests that for every single minute, seemingly trivial and insignificant decision made by absolutely everyone that ever has been and ever will be alive, there is an entirely separate UNIVERSE that exists in which said individual has made the opposite decision.

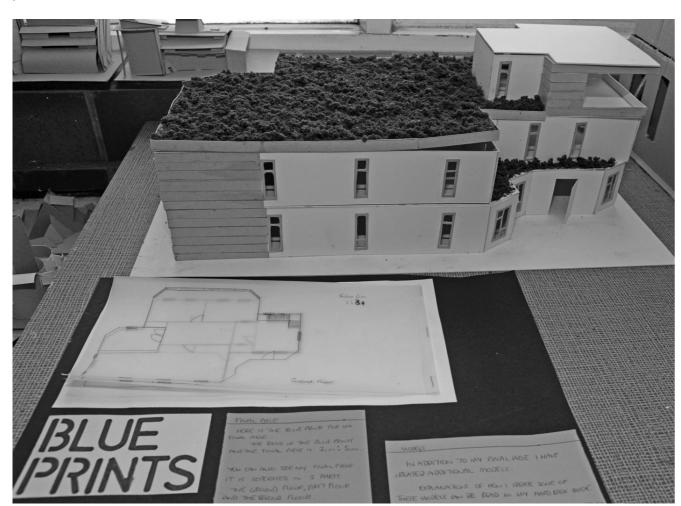
So that one day you had to go somewhere and decided to take a different route, or maybe even caught the bus for a change? BAM! Somewhere else, trillions of light years away, let's say for the sake of argument, the alternative you took the same route and maybe met their future spouse as a result of it, while you in this universe end up marrying someone else entirely. As a result of your one miniscule action, so mundane that you most likely didn't even think anything of it at the

time, you possibly just triggered a completely different series of events for the alternative you.

Just think about that. So theoretically, there is potentially an alternative version of you, someone who is living and breathing and absolutely identical to you in every single way, yet completely and blissfully unaware of your distant existence, co-existing in an eternal parallel and leading an altogether different life just because they made one different decision to counter your choice- subconsciously. All this could be happening hundreds of, in some cases maybe even thousands of times over, all while most of us will never have the slightest inkling about any of it.

I for one think that's pretty mind blowing in itself.

Sophia Devlin Y12





MY DOUBLE LIFE

I'm afraid that I have a confession to make: as of late August 2012, I began leading a double life of sorts (don't worry, it's nothing weird or dangerous, like moonlighting as a private investigator, although that would definitely be worth writing about). As if the seemingly relentless demands of GCSE weren't enough, I decided to take on even more work.

You're probably wondering why I'm writing about my Saturday job (where I probably work in a café you passed once and thought was a bit over priced) for the minimum wage, but it's so fulfilling I feel as if I've really, truly grown as a person and gained responsibility and such, and so on and so forth until you throw this magazine away from you just to have something to do in order to distract yourself from the sheer blinding, unadulterated, tooth numbing boredom (and I wouldn't blame you if I'm perfectly honest).

However, this is not the case. For although (all sarcasm aside), I am not a waitress- I didn't have the hand-eye coordination for that- and I am unpaid, I genuinely do love my work and I couldn't be happier that I get to do what I do on a regular basis: I became a music journalist.

Set your snorting disbelief aside: when I say 'music journalist', I don't mean someone who discovered the existence of Wordpress and/ or 'alternative' music and decided to start a typically whiny adolescent blog/review site (read: attention seeking, readily available to public viewing, modern equivalent of a diary. Think a badly written "Catcher In The Rye" meets obsessive indie/ metalcore fan, complete with a mild superiority complex and self esteem issues, and spare yourself from visiting one of these pathetic excuses for a website).

When I say 'I'm a music journalist'which is, incidentally, far more often than I care to admit- I mean a real, live, keyboard battering, press pass wearing, caffeine dependent writer, with multiple email accounts filled with gig invites and semipermanent panda eyes to bootnot to mention a slightly inflated
ego, as (deep breath) sometimes
people actually read what I write
and (gasp of disbelief) thank me
for my feedback! My poor, frazzled
friends and parents are bombarded
with continual anecdotes and news
regarding people and bands they
didn't even know or care existed,
until I decided I could talk about
them for a solid four minutes
without even pausing for breath.

You may be asking how on earth this happened and, if I'm honest, I'm still asking myself the same question. However, it was all the result of a rather fortunate coincidence.

Aged fifteen, I was scouring the internet for like-minded musicians who also wanted to start the best band to come out of Northern Ireland this side of The Undertones (or just musicians who were willing to tolerate a fifteen year old bassist. I know, I know, try not to judge me too much). So, eventually, after a severe amount of scrolling through search results, I stumbled upon a site called 'Chordblossom', which was devoted to supporting the local music scene in any and every way possible. After reading up on the site's ethos a bit further, I signed up as a member to their message board and, after working up some much needed nerve, I emailed the CEO and founder asking if I could maybe, possibly, perhaps, prettyplease, write for them. To this day, I maintain that it is the single most squirm inducingly formal email I have ever had the misfortune to read or write.

Thankfully however, being the lovely people that they are, Chordblossom probably dismissed my extreme formality as being related to some form of social or nervous disorder, and asked me to write a sample review for them. Thrilled to bits at the possibility of becoming involved in Northern Ireland's largest independent music website, I did what any wannabe writer would do... I didn't write it.

Now keep in mind, this wasn't in any way because I didn't want to write for them. I did, more than anything! But there was just so much pressure, and oh I had no time, and was that a guitar that needed to be played? I kept putting it off and putting it off, until eventually I just assumed they'd be so irked, they wouldn't get back to me at all, even if I produced a piece worthy of the NME.

Incredibly enough, two months after our initial interchange, the head honcho contacted me, asking if I'd still be interested in writing for them. Still in shock, I stayed awake that night until four in the morning, tirelessly spell checking and continually writing and rewriting my first review.

Since then, I've fallen headfirst down into the rabbit hole that is the Northern Irish music scene. The website, which celebrated its first anniversary in February, has imploded with interest from bands and punters alike, and last year's winner of our now annual 'Kickstart' competition, a singer-songwriter who goes by the alias of 'Soak', has been signed to Universal Records. She credits a lot of her success to the help provided by Chordblossom, as do countless other acts across the North, signed and unsigned alike.

Regardless of whether it ever amounts to an actual 'iob', paid or otherwise, just seeing the difference a bit of coverage can make to a local band, in terms of their own confidence and the people that listen to them, is more than enough for me, and the same goes for everyone else who helps out with Chordblossom on an entirely voluntary basis. At the end of the day, it's also really brilliant to see something thriving that people are involved in just for the sheer love of music. (I'm resisting the urge to add the almost obligatory "Duuude" and accompanying peace sign, but I do mean it).

And I guess that the free press passes definitely aren't too bad either!

Sophia Devlin Y12



Loretolore Mag. 12-13

THE HOUSE WIZARD

I threw my backpack down aggressively and soon it came to my attention that there were a lot of white hairs on the floor, and curtains and furniture that weren't there when I left the house that morning. My first thoughts were that my parents had finally taken my advice and bought a cat to serve and protect our family, but, as I took a closer look at one of the hairs, I heard someone giggle excitedly. The sound had come from under the sofa. I did what any lad would do and hit the floor in order to look under the sofa. Lo and behold, amongst some hundred dust bunnies and stray socks was a white haired man, which explained all the thick alabaster hairs scattered around the room.

At this point, I took a moment to empathise with the kids from the Cat in the Hat. I was alone in my house, but now I was alone in my house with a giggly old man. He got up, shook off the dust and presented himself to me as 'The House Wizard.' He did have a very



wizard-like appearance: sparkly garb, wrinkly skin, fluffy face and grand, booming voice. Although when I stopped to think about it, I realised that I had never before met a wizard. I asked him why he had come to me. He said, 'Follow me,' and proceeded to lead me into my own back garden, where I discovered a strikingly purple Landrover, covered in glitter.

The house wizard sat in the driver's seat and started the car. I sat beside him and watched as he sped up and crashed through the fence and flew out the drive at ninety miles per hour. As we travelled down the road, getting faster and faster, the world around us transformed. Through my window, all I could see was a blurry, psychedelic haze. Metallic colours dripped and undulated in the fragile atmosphere outside.

And then we were inside a house. It took me a while to process what had happened. While I was scared, I looked at the house wizard's face

that he was sure of what he was doing. The purple Landrover ground to a halt immediately; so quickly that the house wizard and I were flung through the windscreen and landed on the rough blue carpet before us.

and it was clear

'Welcome,' said a confident voice from a small oak chest. Needless to say, the house wizard got up majestically and opened the chest. As I blinked, he was absorbed into the chest, and the chest

closed. I ran over, still startled by the previous events. My hands repeatedly slip off the lock of the chest due to their frantic shaking. Knowing it is useless, as I have no way to even unlock it. I sit back and observe the surroundings. I notice that I'm in a room with forestry wallpaper and a scent of trees. Aside from the blue carpet and the oak chest, there is nothing in this room. I stand up and my legs shake their way to the walls. With my fingertips I touch the walls, and they begin to vibrate, like touching a pool of water. My finger goes through and I feel a gust of air blow past it, then my hand goes through, and I feel a breeze and then my arm, and I decide to go the whole way through.

My face and body go through and I open my eyes to see myself, not through my eyes, but through what looks like an overhead camera, in a forest, filled with plant life and the noise of forest animals.

I met the house wizard standing under a tree accompanied by a bear with a soulful look in its eyes. As I walked closer to the bear, the wind picked up. He challenged me to a fight and I accepted.

The house wizard took me aside and told me that I was no match for the seven foot bear. 'It is time for you to return home, Kate,' he said. 'You're right,' I said. I was disappointed that we were going home. The house wizard peeled off what turned out to be a self adhesive beard and it was revealed that this 'house wizard' was actually just my dad. He poked me in both of my eyes, giggled and, when I opened them after yelling in pain, I was back in my living room alone, but this time there were no white hairs on the furniture or people under the sofa.

All the events described in this story are one hundred percent true.

Kate McLaughlin Y10

Winner of the Junior Magazine Prize

DEADLINES

We're always given deadlines to meet. It's usually to make life a little easier for the person on the receiving end. Even before we're born, we're given a due date - an expected time of arrival. How many babies are born on time? I wonder if this determines our punctuality for later life. By nature, there are those of us who are notoriously late. The people who sleep in, miss the bus, arrive late for class and hand coursework in several weeks after the deadline.

Then again, there are those who are meticulously punctual. It's even stranger that the majority of people can be classified into one category or the other. We can tell by looking at people which category they belong to. Their stance, movements, facial expressions, pace or the fact that they continue to check the time every thirty seconds can help us to identify what kind of person they are and some of the qualities they possess.

In school every day, we can spot the people who are late for Geography, those who want to kill time before reaching the Main Study, hungry students rushing to the canteen with the hope of beating the lunchtime rush, and someone who has forgotten to do an important piece of work. The simplest gestures and actions can depict an array of emotions. Shrunken shoulders and hands in pockets, feet trailing on the ground. Head down, hands clasped around schoolbag straps, short legs moving quickly.

It's disappointing to admit we're so easily read and categorised, because it seems preferable to be difficult and invite someone to decipher the story by looking further than the cover.

The deadlines never stop. Bills have to be paid on time. Six weeks until your first exam. You have to decide your career path by this time

next year, when you'll be applying to universities. We can predict what we want to do with our lives. Finish university by the time I'm twenty-three. Get a job and work for three years. Travel for six months. Buy a house by the time I'm twenty-nine. Get married at thirty. Have two children by thirty-five. And a nice car. Grow old gracefully and retire.

But how much can we be certain of? The one thing we can't put a deadline on is life. No-one knows how much time we have. It could be one year. It could be ninety. Who's to say we don't? The tardy taxi-driver isn't going to know any more than the prompt businesswoman.

So the next time you have a deadline to meet, take a deep breath (or Rescue Remedy if you find it helps). There will hopefully be another one.

Ceara Mellon Year 12

WHAT GENTLEMEN WEAR - A FASHION COLUMN

Following last year's entry- a fashion column called 'Cringe', which detailed my personal irritations concerning recent teen fashion trends, I have gained new-found confidence to offer a sequel to avid fans of my writings. This year I offer a special guide to fellow graduating male classmates and other aspiring 'Gentlemen.'

Beauty and intelligence may live within but possible spouses, employers and social acquaintances shan't reach that realisation without the appropriate style. Though I do admit, acquiring such attire per occasion can become most complicated. Even a casual trip to the gym may create some preworkout hysteria - and that's before the exercise begins. Wearing sweatbands might seem like a good



idea at the time but, unbeknownst to some, they are actually reserved for marathon-runner-wannabes and Rocky film extras. You might also want to consider who you are working out with. If venturing on one of those romantically enthralling gym dates (I'm not sure if they are real, who really knows what fit and healthy people do for fun?) I suggest going for high-end

175

breathable leisure clothing in the Nike-Adidas category to protect against excess perspiration. Though if you are perspiring to a Niagara-falls degree, aren't you just showing off?

Gentlemen also need to avoid the tragic 'office-worker on tour' look that our current Prime Minister seems to sport so disastrously well on holiday. Maximise your personal enjoyment without the hesitation of the 'what black shoes will I wear?' moment. Your office clearly isn't in Gran Canaria. Do not fret: the foreign bartender won't mistake sandals for unprofessionalism as long as you keep your Blackberry in your pocket.

Continuing with office wear catastrophes, would-be corporate



interns and interviewees should take heed of the finale: my last instalment of advice. The shoes you wear with your suit say absolutely everything about you. Whether you decide to go for the authoritative leather-strap wristwatch, plain chic cufflinks or that Windsor knot decorated silk tie, won't help you avoid the embarrassment of wearing brown shoes with a black suit - even if you are sporting a Barker-Remus combination. You may have purchased a couple of well-fitting Marks and Spencer suits to serve as your corporate armour. However, in any jousting tournament, fellow competitors seek to penetrate your personal weak spots - you certainly don't wish for them to receive the upper-hand by noticing tatty and poorly tied laces. To eliminate any uncertainties on the matter I have a diagram to accompany my description. You should like it as a would-be internee or professional - corporate types love charts and diagrams.

Though at the risk of sounding like Samantha ('I'm so beautiful woman hate me') Brick, I too have to confess to some fashion blunders of nuclear proportions. To my detriment I have been guilty of wearing a brown leather wrist watch with a suit. As a wouldbe upcoming political-type I have also allowed my favourite lilac tie to grace Westminster committee rooms. Try speaking with political authority on transport matters when you demonstrate rather aptly the look of a teenage-disco geek making one of those first 'mature' steps by wearing 'girl colours'. Readers may also be interested in the time I thought wearing bright purple socks to meet the Foreign Secretary, Rt. Hon. William Hague MP, would enhance my youthful, yet knowledgeable nature. If they had matched, that may have

Alas, I appeal directly to my fellow would-be Gentlemen- with a capital 'G'- for the properness of attire and being. We simply will have to strive on with our decade-lasting obsession to appear on-form, ontrend and on-par with our fellow corporate chums. We'll meet hurdles some days: a shirt collar might be creased, your cufflinks may not exactly match your shoes on that crucial client meeting but, rest assured, I have faith in you. I have faith in us.

With our resolve, ever-present, knows-no-bounds altruism and office-bound rhetoric to accompany our new-found fashionable glory, we can minimise our misfortunes and maximise our profits. May all your endeavours be fruitful and blameless.

Jack McCann Year 14 Corporate Fashionista around through the shrubbery in the back garden- but like I said, our house is 90% glass so he's sure to be spotted. Which is my intention.

I'm getting ready, still debating how I should perform in my Maths paper tomorrow. Regardless- I'm going to give my parents the impression that I will fail by blatantly sneaking out with this strange, foreign boy. They take rebellion well, but I imagine that in any family my actions would be unacceptable. This will show them.

My Dad knocks on the door.

'Hey, we were calling yousomeone's at the door for you!' he shouts from outside the door (I mostly don't let them in my room). 'Apple? Can you hear me?'

"YES, DUH!" I shout back. Groanzone. He doesn't reply and I hear his brogues clipping away into another room.

As soon as my Dad was out of the vicinity I panicked- what if it was Tim? The dope probably didn't understand my text. I descended the bespoke oak staircase tentatively. But our house is so stupidly open plan that I could see from halfway down the stairs that it had in fact been Tim at the door and, furthermore, that my mum had invited him inside. He was sitting on the long, abstractly shaped, lime leather sofa which occupied almost all of the living space. He wasn't wearing a shirt- I was warned by my friends that he often braved the elements with a bare torso. It was unsettling, especially since it couldn't have been more than 5 degrees outside.

My mum emerged from the kitchen area with sushi, urging Tim to take a chunk. 'Apple! Who's your friendhe's very quiet,' she said, grinning at Tim.

'Ugh!' I replied, my disgusted expression lost on her. She was embarrassingly wearing a ridiculous pair of round red, glasses coordinated with red matte lipstick. This was topped by a way-too geometric bob haircut. I haven't even started on her outfit. In short, it was stupidly stylish- some white and grey futuristic monster of a dress.

Tim contrasted- wearing only an overly bleached pair of blue jeans and once white trainers. You could clearly see that he had left a trail of dirt from his entrance on the perfectly white carpet. Despite this, my mum embraced his presence wholeheartedly. She looked at me as though I had presented her with a delicate little dove rather than some scruffy freak from school. He didn't take any sushi, he regarded it with suspicion and leaned over the plate

No one was talking. My mum just kept grinning like an idiot while Tim unblinkingly stared at the plate of sushi on the coffee table. I stood with my hands on my hips- growing increasingly agitated. 'WELL?' I demanded, finally.

to sniff the selection more than once.

'Hmmm?' said mum, absently.

'AREN'T YOU GOING TO SAY ANYTHING?'

'Oh...' She cleared her throat and glanced at Tim. 'Where are my manners... how... are you?'

I rolled my eyes and grunted loudly.

'REALLY- IS THAT ALL? NOTHING ABOUT HOW I HAVE AN A-LEVEL EXAMINATION TOMORROW AND INSTEAD OF STUDYING I'M OFF GALAVANTING SOMEWHERE WITH TIM? UGH- YOU'D PROBABLY LOVE IT IF I FAILED AND ENDED UP A BIG FAILURE-WOULDN'T YOU?'

I caught sight of myself in one of the many highly reflective windows I was surrounded by. Honestly, I was scared of the apparition of myself as a red, veiny, psycho. My mum looked apologetic, but clearly couldn't articulate anything other a quiet mumble.

'Well,' I said quietly but nonetheless defiantly. 'That's just what I'm going to do. Come on, Tim.'

Tim robotically stood up and followed me to the grand doorway, silent as ever.

'Wait...' my mum said, sounding defeated. 'Apple, I just...' I turned to face her, my eyes burning right into her soul, possibly allowing her to realise for the first time just how LAME/embarrassing/ horrific she really is. And Dad too.

'Could I... just get my Nikon- as this moment epitomises the theme of my upcoming photography exhibition, "Youth Knows No Pain"

I made sure that Tim slammed the door behind him as we left.

It turns out he had travelled here via BMX bike, and intended us to both travel on the one BMX as a mode of transport to wherever. Really, all I could think about though was cadence and mechanics and how when poised on the bike, his foot formed a little triangle within the wider circle of the tyre.

I stood abjectly debating whether or not to ask him to leave, in which case I would sneak back inside and study quietly into the night. At that moment I realised that I wanted to do well, but for myself more than anything else. As long as I was undiscovered in the house, my message would remain intact. My decision was cemented when he uttered his first words, pointing off into the distance:

'That creek over there? Me and cousin drowned a rat in there one time.'

I asked him to leave.

I quietly opened the front door. Praying my mum wasn't in the open plan living cum dining room/kitchen. I was lucky. I slithered back upstairs- feeling somewhat deceitful and a tiny bit guilty. I shouldn't really have lost my temper like that. Anyway, I made it back to my bedroom- with Slayer still thrashing through my iPod speakers. I turned the volume down and could hear a fragment of my parents' conversation in their bedroom next door:

'Apple is just such a....' my mum began. I thought she might say something incriminating.

'Free spirit!'

I sighed, lifted my textbook from the table and fitted in an extra, late night hour of revision.

Ellish McLaughlin Year 14

APPLES AND ORANGES

(6th June, 8.40pm - night before Edexcel Maths Paper 2)

"Apple! Apple, downstairs darling, Apple?"

I ignore it. I'm closing my eyes and seeing equations, triangles and Maths, Maths, Maths and more Maths. I didn't really want or need to revise any longer, I wasn't sure vet if I wanted to do really really well or fail catastrophically. I got an offer from LSE to do Maths a couple of months ago and I didn't tell my parents. I'm now sure that they would love it. You see, I pursued Maths and STEM etc. as, on reflection, an admittedly pathetic reaction to my parents' arts inclination. They both went to Goldsmiths in London at the same time as like half the members of Blur in '88. They studied something biscuity and pointless and they don't understand maths or anything intrinsically logical. But I could do no wrong really- rebellion in any sense in this house was either

excitedly described as "gritty" or dismissed as "adorable". If I did well then they would be proud- but they were perennially proud anyway.

In short, my parents are LAME, faux-hemians. They got rich off art-they run a stupid online business that connects 'emerging talent to emerging independent galleries'. They won't rest until every starving artist is eating Waitrose dinners from fine china. LAME. People should make honest money from real skills- like being able to construct Edexcel spreadsheets or having watercooler charisma.

So we live in this big, white, stupid glass incubator that you've seen on Grand Designs like a thousand times. I described it as an incubator the day the innumerable windows were being fitted and my mum threw her head back, laughed and then tweeted it to the architect who then re-tweeted it. What a jerk. I'm up in my room anyway, currently not revising, feeling unsure but

mostly apathetic and playing Slayer. I don't like Slayer but I can't imagine my parents like them either. I got this denim waistcoat with loads of Slayer patches from a guy at school last week and I have been wearing it under my blazer ever since to maintain the image. My parents haven't noticed yet.

Which is cool. <----that's sarcasm.

Anyway, the guy that gave me the waistcoat is some Russian guy in my year with really gorgeous cheekbones and eyes set way deep into his face. You could ski on the contours of his face- it sounds weird but he's actually really GL. He's called Tim. I did hear, however, that he eats dry Weetabix at lunchtime- I don't know if that's true, but I don't really want to believe it. I said to him that we should spend some time together and I just got a text from him and he's coming over in either five or 'thief' minutes. He doesn't speak English well. I told him to sneak



Loretolore Mag. 12-13

WHY I'M RESIGNING FROM THE SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Day Six. Word count: three.
Levels of sanity: zero. It is a dull wet day in June, I am attempting to write articles for a certain Loreto Lore which should have been done and dusted over a month ago, and I have to say that I'm feeling rather put out. I've been hoping for some divine inspiration to strike for a while now, for a sufficiently witty and brilliant creative writing piece to suddenly appear on the screen in front of me. No such luck.

Things have become critical. I've been on Facebook seventeen times in the past hour. I've read the showbiz section of the Daily Mail. I've checked the New In on every godforsaken clothing website on the World Wide Web. I've hoovered the stairs, rearranged the cupboards, made a cup of tea. I've been perpetuating for a week now the myth that I'm simply too BUSY to write at the moment, that the drama of 'Jeremy Kyle' and 'Homes under the Hammer' is just too gripping, but the fear of a phone call from Mrs Little asking where my creative contribution is, has become debilitating. Even the monumental question of whether Tasha from Croydon has passed or failed the lie detector test has become inconsequential in comparison to my pressing journalistic quandary.

So here I am, at 2pm on a
Monday afternoon, ready to bash
the keyboard into submission.
I confess I am feeling anger,
disillusionment, self pity. I ask:
why can't I think of something to
write? What cruel twist of fate has
rendered me about as inspired as a
wet lettuce? Why am I suffering this
creative purgatory, I, who joined the
School Magazine Committee in the
most selfless and noble of terms-

and, I hasten to add, AFTER the UCAS personal statements were completed!

It has become clear to me- I am the victim here, not Mrs Little and her committee. I signed up to her project under the impression I would be giving something back to my school, enlightening readers of Loreto Lore to come with words of wisdom and entertainment, not chained to a desk when I SHOULD BE ON MY SUMMER HOLIDAYS. It is not I who have failed the magazine. It, on the contrary, has failed me.

What sort of crazy publication would force its contributors to meet yet more deadlines in the holidays anyway? I mean, really?

Oh, I can hear your protests. I'm aware the pieces were meant to be handed in back in May. Yes, I am also aware we had ample time to meet deadlines. And your point is?

Perhaps I'm coming across as a little unreasonable. But it's not as if I've been sitting here on my backside, you know. What do you mean, other contributors to the Magazine had exams too? And that holiday wasn't all lying around pools and having siestas, I can tell you. Traipsing round the Mediterranean, eating ice cream can actually be rather draining. I'm not complaining or anything- its simply not in my nature- but its just that it's all so UNFAIR!

I've tried everything, I really have.
I give you Doc 1- a hard- hitting,
sombre look at the youth of today,
and how Facebook/Twitter/
YouTube are turning our brains
to mush and Made in Chelsea is

blurring our distinction between fantasy and reality and the teenage generation is going to evolve claws instead of hands because we all text too much.

But it's a School Magazine, not a Doomsday pamphlet. Time to enlist Google: 'ideas/templates for short story.' If that doesn't do the trick, nothing will. Who doesn't like a nice, uplifting, little short story?

But nothing from the list of themes quite jumps out: 'End of the world', 'Teen problems', 'Alien invasion' and 'A Day in the Life of a Coin' of course have their merits, but isn't this all a little, dare I say it.... done? In fact, I don't feel that any of these ideas are worthy of my creative talents at all. No wonder I remain uninspired. I see it now- I am not the problem here: Google is.

And this is how I have come to my decision. I'm afraid I'll have to resign from the Senior Editorial Committee. I simply see no other option.

Yes, I know I'm leaving Loreto in September anyway, but that's another matter entirely.

So, you see, none of this is really my fault at all. And, to be frank, I really have better things to do. These are my summer holidays, for goodness sake. I have parties to go to, outfits to purchase, holidays to plan, people to see.

Oh look, there's a double bill of 'Jeremy Kyle' on next.

Catherine McLaughlin Year 14

CLUELESS

This is my last year of Loreto and though this should be met with colossal merriment on my part, I'm ... not really feeling it. I want to lock myself in the caretaker's closet and never come out and you can't make me! I'll even chain myself to the stairs because I don't want to think of future me: she's too easily manipulated into doing the wrong thing.

Why should I decide what I want to do for the rest of my life at the age of 18? Don't you think it's a tad premature for a girl to make such

big life decisions when she has a 'My Little Pony' top? I can't decide what I want for dinner never mind a career. I feel like the only one in this situation and it's really frustrating. Safe to say, I'll be taking a gap year next year as I've now realised someone who cringes at blood probably shouldn't be a nurse. I don't know, maybe I'll do or learn something useful with my year off like how to do the moonwalk, how long it takes for my sister to clean her side of the room and really just how much daytime TV I can watch without blowing my brains out.

Why can't life and school be more like Hogwarts? I was chosen to go to school here, now they have to sort me into my house but, instead of Gryffindor or Ravenclaw, it'll say Radiography or Physiotherapy. Where's my genie, my fairy godmother, my fountain of knowledge? Looking for a Tiger Mom here, someone need a reliable person to take on the family business that's been passed on for generations? I'm a hard worker! Yes I do feel a tad stressed by all of this and yes, dear, helpful, educated reader, you want to tell me what I should do, and please do. Just wait and let me get a pen!

What if I just live at school... I mean it had boarders before- they just won't know they still have one living in the roof space. I'll be like a ghost of indecisions past! What's the harm? Some food stolen from the canteen here, a shower taken after hours in the PE block there, and lost property becomes my new wardrobe. Life plan sorted.

Loreto, I love you. How could you ship me out and replace me so easily with 120 or more First Years next September? I can change! I'll miss you and your numerous corridors, endless homework, school functions and truly treasured teachers. I'll miss wearing that uniform everyday and the amazing atmosphere you've always provided.

Aoife McReynolds Year 14





THE POET'S LAMENT

I feel that I must write a poem,
Though I find that I've hit a brick wall,
For although I have thought and considered and dreamed,
I've found nothing to write about at all.

This flaw seems creatively fatal, For a subject, or theme, you will own, Plays a really essential part in a poem, Even more than the rhyme scheme or tone.

I suppose I could write about love and romance, But I find all that stuff such a bore. I could write about nature, the country and forests Or the beach where the waves meet the shore.

I could write all about an adventure, Into space, maybe Uranus or Jupiter, But I know very little 'bout far away planets And I can't think of a word that rhymes with Jupiter.

I am lacking in all inspiration, And I'm making no progress I fear. Perhaps I had better give up on this piece Till the thoughts in my head are more clear.

Yeah, that sounds like a plan worth exploring. So I'll finish for better or worse, And I hope that I'll have an idea in my head When I next lift my pen to write verse.

Ben Levy Y13





SPORTS NEWS



Ulster Colleges 'C' Hurling: Casement Shield Final - Friday 9th November 2012

Loreto College, Coleraine 1-10; Edmund Rice College, Belfast 1-4 Venue: Ballymena, All Saints GAC Referee: Liam McBride, Carey Faughs GAC - Throw-in: 11.30am

Loreto College, Coleraine, beat
Edmund Rice College to retain their
Casement Shield title. The final was
a low scoring encounter between
two very committed
and sporting teams.
The Glengormley men
took an early lead
of three points
when they
scored a
goal
after

five minutes. However, Loreto quickly equalised to make the game 1-1 apiece when Thomas Magee doubled a high ball at the edge of the square to the back of the net on the ten minute mark. From here Loreto gained a grip on the game, having most of the possession. A terrific long range point from Liam McGoldrick followed up by three points from John Mullan (one of which was a placed ball) provided the Coleraine side with a two point advantage at half-time - the scoreboard reading 1-4 to 1-2. Immediately after the restart Loreto continued to enjoy a healthy share of the possession. Despite this, Edmund Rice failed to capitalise on a couple of frees from scorable positions. John Mullan was a constant danger to the Belfast side as he racked up another four points in the second half, one from play and another three from frees. Liam

security when he struck two 65's over the bar. Edmund Rice fought hard until the end, adding another two points to their tally in the final ten minutes. However, this was not enough to reduce their arrears. Loreto always maintained their dominance in the middle third of the field to ensure a two goal advantage right up until the final whistle.

Loreto will undoubtedly thank corner forward John Mullan for his excellent scoring display; the Kevin Lynch's Dungiven player finished the afternoon with seven points.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated the team on their tremendous performance in the final, following a spirited campaign throughout the Autumn Term. Mr James also paid tribute to team coach Mr Callum Boyle, and to Mrs Schira McGoldrick, co-ordinator of Gaelic

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McGoldrick gave Loreto further





Games at Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.

LORETO: Conor Owens; Connor Boyle, Sean Frizelle, Mairtin Henry; Paul Roantree, John McLister, Aaron Christie; Ruairi Mooney, Oisin Quinn; Brendan McKillop, Liam McGoldrick (0-3), Eoin McKillop; John Mullan (0-7), Dean O'Kane, Thomas Magee (1-0).

SUBS: Fergus Kelly for Brendan McKillop; Aidan Carlin for Dean O'Kane, Shea Eastwood for Mairtin Henry; Brendan McKillop for Thomas Magee.

Subs not used: Cillian Butler, Tomas McCloskey, Neill Duncan.

How they played

This year saw another excellent Casement Shield campaign with several players adding a second Ulster Colleges Hurling medal to their collection. There were great performances and victories over Edmund Rice (3-14 - 0-4) and St. Patrick's Bearnageeha (3-10 - 2-1) on the road to the final. Twenty-two players, who were drawn from Year 14 right down to Year 9, participated in the three matches played. Their enormous effort and sportsmanship was a great credit to the school and their families.

Conor Owens has now established himself as the best goal-keeper in the school. He is a very reliable minder of the net and his long puc outs put opposing teams under great pressure. Connor Boyle is a skilful and fast player who reads the game well from corner back and he has also proved to be useful in the forwards. As ever, Sean Frizelle has been a great figure of assurance in one of the most demanding positions on the field at full-back. Mairtin Henry is a very dependable and skilful corner back. Paul Roantree capped off another excellent season at right half back. John McLister is a commanding and accomplished centre half back. Aaron Christie in Year 9 has shown a precocious level of hurling ability and athleticism. He will feature prominently in school hurling teams during the next five years! Team captain, Ruairi Mooney, deserves great credit for his leadership qualities and the intensity of his work-rate and fine fielding at midfield, the engine room of the team.

Operating from midfield and centrehalf forward, Oisin Quinn is a very determined and physical player who does a vital job for the team in breaking up play and winning possession. Liam McGoldrick has a terrific sense of positioning; his ability to read the game and sweep up play in front of the half-back line has been a source of security to the team. Liam and John Mullan had an almost telepathic understanding as Liam would drive intelligent, dangerous diagonal balls into corner forward where John would receive them and immediately seek to take on his marker.

Playing at wing half-forward, Brendan and Eoin McKillop win a lot of possession and always give smart passes to other team members in good spaces. Fullforward, Dean O'Kane adds strength to the attack. During the final he always took the game to Edmund Rice and was unlucky on a couple of occasions not to score a goal. John Mullan is a classy corner forward who gave a tremendous performance in the final. His finest point out of the seven he scored on the day came when he trapped the ball on the stick and flicked it up to strike it over the bar without taking it in his hand - a score which any top player in Ireland would be proud of! Thomas Magee's pace would give any corner back trouble and he will always remember the opportunist goal he scored in the final.

A team is only as good as its panel and it would be remiss not to mention the fantastic contribution made by Fergus Kelly, Aidan Carlin, Shea Eastwood, Neill Duncan, Ciaran Tosh and Cillian Butler at various stages during the games.

Congratulations boys, you have done yourselves and the school proud once again.

Mr. C. Boyle





McGREEVY CUP -UNDER 13 ½ HURLING THURSDAY 27[™] SEPTEMBER 2012

A selection of 20 hurlers from Years 8 and 9 participated in the McGreevy Cup blitz at the Mid-Ulster Arena. The first game was against a very strong St. Louis, Ballymena, team. The Ballymena school had the luxury of 28 Year 9 players to pick from! Despite the setback against St.Louis, the boys had an excellent win over St. Colman's, Newry. Aaron Christie (Year 9), Conor McKelvey, Dara McGoldrick, Rory Maguire, Sean O'Neill (all in Year 8) were the stand out performers in this game. Unfortunately, the final game was a defeat at the hands of a good team representing St. Colm's of Draperstown. Although, there may have been a much closer encounter with St. Colm's if it were not for injuries picked up by Jordan Millar, Finn McEwan, Adam Kerr and Oliver Clyde. Every player represented Loreto with great pride and we hope their enjoyment and enthusiasm to play hurling for the school continues well into the future.

KIRK CUP -UNDER 16 ½ HURLING LORETO, COLERAINE (1-4), ST. LOUIS, BALLYMENA (2-11) WEDNESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2013

The scheduling of this hurling competition makes it difficult to get a full quota of matches played as the Year 12s are usually finishing their GCSE studies and the Year 11s are often completing Controlled Assessments. However, there was one very competitive game against St. Louis, Ballymena. Loreto gave an excellent performance in the first half with the score being 0-3 to 0-2 at half-time. Despite the low score, the level of commitment and hard work to defend from the six backs was admirable. Inevitably though, a lack of scores at the other end of the field meant that our defenders became overworked, which meant that St.Louis' forwards found more space and began to open up a formidable lead mid-way through the second half; they eventually won the game by 10 points. We encourage the lads to continue to play hurling in this age group, train with their clubs and not to lose heart as they have a lot of potential.

McFARLAND CUP -UNDER 14 ½ HURLING THURSDAY 25[™] APRIL 2013

The McFarland Cup team faced very strong opposition in the form of St. Louis, Ballymena, St. Patrick's, Keady, and Scoil Mhuire of Buncrana. The boys from Years 8 to 10 gave a very good account of themselves in all three games. Even though the small ball game may rank as second choice over gaelic football for many of them, we hope that they had an enjoyable day and that they continue to show their interest and enthusiasm in hurling next year. Keep training and improving your skills with the hurl, boys!





























URLING















CAMOGIE TRIUMPH FOR LORETO SENIOR TEAM



There was triumph for the Senior Camogie team from Loreto College Coleraine in the final of the Danske Bank Ulster Colleges Fr Davies' Cup competition on Saturday 8th December. Bridging a ten-year gap, the Loreto side collected their second Ulster title with a final scoreline of Loreto Coleraine 3-7 St Pius X Magherafelt 1-4.

A goal from Clodagh Connolly following a defensive error put Loreto into a 1-2 to 0-1 lead and they had the experience in key areas of the pitch to control the game and edge their way to the title. Loreto's Eilís McNamee, Megan Kerr and Claire Tracey were superb at the back, with the latter surging forward during the second half and contributing the pass that set up the score of the game from Kirstin Ingram. Both midfielders Rosanna McAleese and Cristin O'Kane worked hard while there was danger up front from Clodagh Connolly, with Nicole O'Neill accurate from frees.

St Pius X didn't have the same number of players who constantly lifted their game. Many were there for short bursts with Sarah Cassidy and Caoimhe Glass the two that played consistently well. After that 8th minute goal from Clodagh

Connolly, Aimee Devlin hit back with a free, but Loreto contained the scoring threat and added points in the 18th and 28th minutes for a 1-4 to 0-2 interval lead.

A fine goal within 90 seconds, following a surging run by Sinead Conlon, should have heralded a revival from St Pius X, but they couldn't add to it and Loreto added points before a free from Nicole fell short in the 40th minute and Connolly kicked her second goal in a goalmouth scramble. From then until the finish, Loreto were not going to let it slip and Kirsten Ingram finished a superb move for the last score, their third goal, seven minutes from

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time. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the Loreto team and to their coaches, Mrs Schira McGoldrick and Bean Ui Mhainain, on a spirited campaign and dedicated training throughout the season.

The Loreto College team members were: Bronagh McKinney, Claire Rafferty, Eilís McNamee, Catherine McNicholl, Cliodhna McIlvenny, Megan Kerr, Clare Tracey, Rosanna McAleese, Cristin O'Kane Capt, Kirstin Ingram 1-1, Jessica Hickinson, Nicole O'Neill 0-5 frees, Shannon McWilliams, Clodagh Connolly 2-1, Therese Corrigan.







LORETO REPRESENT ULSTER IN ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

The Senior Camogie team from Loreto College Coleraine represented Ulster in the All Ireland B Schools' Final in Co. Wicklow on Saturday 16th February. Earlier in the year, the team had triumphed in the final of the Danske Bank Ulster Colleges Fr Davies' Cup competition on Saturday 8th December. Bridging a ten-year gap, the Loreto side had collected their second Ulster title with a final scoreline of Loreto Coleraine 3-7 St Pius X Magherafelt 1-4.

On Saturday 16th February, the Loreto team contested the All Ireland B semi-final against St Mary's New Ross. The match was played in Co. Wicklow, and not only had the team members been training hard for the fixture, they had also raised funds through cake sales and other activities to fund their travel and overnight accommodation.

On the day, the Co. Wexford side just edged a six-point victory, with the final scoreline St Mary's New Ross 1-2 to Loreto College's 1-2. The Loreto team put up a spirited

display, fighting for points until the final whistle.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the Loreto team and to their coaches, Mrs Schira McGoldrick and Bean Ui Mhainain, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.

'The Loreto team have fought a magnificent campaign throughout the season, with a fantastic dedication to their training and a wonderful team spirit. The team members are an inspiration to our younger students, who will seek to emulate their achievements when their turn comes,' Mr James commented.

Loreto College was represented in this event by: Cristin O'Kane (team captain), Clodagh Connolly, Therese Corrigan, Megan Kerr, Jessica Hickinson, Kirstin Ingram, Rosanna McAleese, Cliodhna McIlvenny, Bronagh McKinney, Eilis McNamee, Catherine McNicholl, Shannon McWilliams, Nicole O'Neill and Claire Rafferty.

THE ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

After many months of preparation, including training over the Christmas holidays, bun sales and late days at school, the big weekend had finally come around. The school was abuzz with great support coming from everyone - the gaelic players, the hurlers, the teachers, and even the nuns, were praving for us! School continued as normal and, as 3.15pm approached, the excitement was mounting. As the final bell rang, we all knew this was the beginning of a very important and momentous weekend for our school - the Ulster Colleges B All-Ireland Camogie Semi-Final.

The whole team and Mrs
McGoldrick, Bean Uí Mhianáin and
Mr. Hill gathered at the Sports Hall
to get on the mini bus, with sweets,
pillows and hurleys galore. It was a
tight squeeze getting everyone and
all the hurls on the bus! A squad of
twenty two girls; it would be unlikely
anyone would forget their very
important phones and iPods. But
as for the kit? As we travelled down



the M1, it quickly dawned upon our teachers that something had been forgotten. Something crucial. Our kit was still in Coleraine! It was too late to turn back as we were halfway there so luckily the McWilliams family came to the rescue, delivering all the kits early the next morning to our very hostel! How Mrs. McGoldrick, Bean Uí Mhianáin, Mr. Hill and the bus driver were not deafened by the beautiful singing of the team I'll never know!

We stopped on the way down for a very healthy McDonalds and coffees and began the remainder of our journey as it began to get dark outside. We reached our hostel in Dublin at around 10pm and quickly checked into our rooms. The team were all buzzing and we were assigned to our rooms. A quick team talk was held near midnight and at the same time we also gathered to sing Happy Birthday to a surprised Clíodhna whose birthday was on that Friday. Some inspirational words were

said by team captain Cristin, and everyone else chipped in with a few wise words. A quick group prayer was said (with some forgetting the words e.g. Cliodhna, and some too giddy to continue e.g. Shaciara, Jessica and Bronagh) before we all called it a night and went to bed.

We rose bright and early at around 8am with nerves jangling and knees shaking, and descended to get breakfast. No fries were allowed that morning though, and all opted for cereal or toast, and of course, most importantly, tea! After breakfast and a brief talk we went back to our rooms to quickly gather our stuff. We then loaded the bus and the Loreto Camogie team were on the road again! Next stop: County Wicklow. We reached the pitch before midday and had a quick puck about, before going in for a quick snack- jaffa cakes, a good cup of tea, and even bananas. We had another puck about with the free takers like Rosanna. Megan and Nicole practising their frees. Eventually we went in and

got kits on and got 'in the zone' after motivational words from Mrs. McGoldrick and Bean Uí Mhianáín. A brief warm up took place before a few final words and the whistle blew to begin the game.

The game was hard fought, with outstanding performances by all on the field. No-one gave up until the final whistle and the hard work put in was evident in the strength of the team. Unfortunately, the game did not go our way and we were narrowly beaten by the strong Wexford side. The game saw the last for Clodagh, Clare T, Cristin and Megan and they definitely went out with a bang! This camogie campaign did not end exactly with the result we wanted, but the achievement and experience of getting to an All-Ireland semi-final with fellow school peers is one that I, and I'm sure the rest of the team. will never forget. An unforgettable experience with a team of unforgettable girls! As always, LORETO ABÚ!!!

Alice McGee Year 13





















GOALS GALORE AS LORETO TRIUMPH IN NAGLE CUP



The Year 10-11 Gaelic team from Loreto College Coleraine scored a decisive victory in the Final of the Ulster Colleges Nagle Cup against Aquinas Grammar, Belfast on 26th April at Meadowbank Sports Arena Magherafelt, where a highly impressive Loreto side confidently came out on top.

Loreto started brightly with early goals from Liam Tosh and Jack O'Doherty, who seemed slightly sharper from the first whistle than their markers. Aquinas found it hard to break down the Coleraine side that played against the wind in the first half. More scores were added by Gareth Doherty, Conor Gillen, Thomas Magee and Shay McLaughin. Scores from attacking half backs Sean Quinn and Conor Rafferty kept the score board ticking. Yet again Liam Tosh and Jack O'Doherty caused problems for Aquinas by doubling their scoring tally after hard work from Shane McIntyre and John Mullan around the half forward line. A great save

from goalkeeper Shea McTaggart and great defensive performances from James Breslin, Conor Boyle and Shea Doherty kept Aquinas out in the first half, which ended with Loreto leading 5-6 to 0-2.

The second half started as it seemed to go on, with Loreto having most of the possession. Solid performances from Loreto's half backs Sean Quinn, James Gillen and Conor Rafferty and their midfielders Shay McLaughin and Conor Gillen protected their full backs, as well as supplying good quality service for the forwards. More scores followed from Conor Gillen, John Mullan, Sean Quinn, James Gillen and substitute Shea Eastwood, to add to a hat trick goal for corner forward Jack O'Doherty, and helped ensure Loreto the victory.

The final score was Loreto 9:12, Aquinas 0:2.

The Loreto team members were: James Gillen (Captain), Connor

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Boyle, James Breslin, Gareth Doherty, Shea Doherty, Conor Gillen, Thomas McGee, Callum McKinney, Shane McIntyre, Shay McLaughlin, Ciaran McNicholl, Shay McTaggart, John Mullan, Jack O'Doherty, Sean Quinn, Conor Rafferty.

The team-members and their coaches, Mr Kevin Conroy and Mr Peter Loughran, were congratulated on a spirited campaign and a tremendous victory by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College.

Games which led to the final;

Loreto 1.6, De la Salle Downpatrick 0.1 (Ciaran McNicholl top scorer with 1.1)

Loreto 7.2, St Joseph's Derry 1.1 (Gareth Doherty top scorer with 2.0, Shane McIntyre 0.4) Loreto 2.5, Edmund Rice 2.2 (Conor Gillen top scorer with 1.3)

Semi-final

Loreto 1.8, Colaiste Feirste 1.2 (Conor Gillen top scorer with 0.7) Match report by team member Conor Gillen (Year 10)





















LOCH AN LUIR CUP: HIGH EXPECTATIONS

As a member of Mr Murtagh's allconquering Mallon Cup Squad last year, much was expected both from the players and the coach this year. Although we were playing a grade higher up, we felt that we were good enough to go on and win this competition, as we strolled through the Mallon Cup with relative ease. Our campaign began in late September, with trials to decide the squad. Two sessions later, the panel was picked, with five new additions to last year's team. Several hard training sessions later, and our first match was upon us. St Malachy's of Belfast were the opponents, and it was a comfortable win for us.

Our next match was against St. Eunan's Letterkenny. To quote Mr Murtagh, we were '#buzzin' for this Faughanvale was to play host to this one. And there was a generally accepted mentality within the squad that this was the big test. If we could win this then we were an established "B" team. But our heads weren't in it on the day. Not helped by a second minute injury to our midfielder Sean Quinn, and our other midfielder, Stiofan Tracey, starting the match injured. But St. Eunan's beat us, and beat us well.

It was then left to Mr Murtagh to pick us up and teach us about 'the pain of defeat'. Our next match was a crunch match against St. Patrick's Keady. Nothing but a win would do. Draw and we were out. Lose and we were out. Kitted out in new tops, we got off to a flying start with a quick goal and strong defensive displays. A few quick points and another goal and we were 10 ahead and cruising at half time.

Keady started the second half quickly, with a goal and a few points. Soon they were level. We edged ahead with a point. It was coming into the last few minutes and cue a couple of controversial decisions from the referee. Fergal Dillon and Conor Gillen both scored clear points, yet the referee signalled both wide. This proved to be our downfall, and the match ended up a draw. We were out. We surrounded the referee at the final whistle but it was no use. The decision was final.

But our team and Mr Murtagh can hold our heads high. In our first year in B football, we acquitted ourselves admirably, and would've qualified but for an implausible showing against St. Eunan's. One thing you can bet however, is that we will be back.

Aidan Boyle Y10



YEAR 10 GAELIC

Loch an Iúir Cup 2012

After being crowned the Year 9
Mallon Cup champions in June
2012, the Year 10 Gaelic team
moved up a grade to play in the
Loch an lúir Cup which would
provide a greater challenge and test
the team against new opposition.
The squad was placed into a tough
group against previous runners up
St. Patrick's High School Keady, St.

Malachy's College Belfast and St. Eunan's College Letterkenny.

Game 1:

Loreto College Coleraine: 6-11 St. Malachy's College Belfast 2-1

The squad was starting to feel the effects of a long club and school season, beginning the match with several illnesses and injuries but it was all too easy in the first group game as the team ran out

comfortable winners. In truth, the game was over as a contest within the first 20 minutes as the goals came at the right time for Loreto. Every player won their battle with their marker and in particular the injured Stiofan Tracey, who was moved to full forward, helped himself to an impressive 4-4. A solid start but the game showed plenty to improve on.



Game 2:

Loreto College Coleraine 2-8 St. Eunan's College Letterkenny 7-9 Sadly it went horribly wrong in the second group game. Again illness and injury took their toll after a large number of the squad were involved in U13 club semi finals, played the night before the game. A much altered team entered the field and from the start took the game to Letterkenny, but misfortune struck as within the first minute influential vice captain Sean Quinn had to be helped off the field after sustaining a very heavy foul. For large spells of the game Loreto dominated possession and moved the ball at ease through the Letterkenny defence, but like most games goals made the difference as Letterkenny broke quickly on the counter attack. Without several key players, midfielder Conor Gillen put in a massive display, dominating midfield while sustaining several

bad challenges. Special mention to team captain Shane McIntyre and vice captain James McKeown who showed why they are the leaders of the team with their never-say-die performances, even when the result was beyond us.

Game 3: Loreto College Coleraine 4-9 St.

Patrick's High School Keady 4-9 After losing the game against Letterkenny, this game became a must win against last year's runners up. The return of several players allowed us to field a full strength team and from the first whistle took the game to Keady. Keady seemed a bit shocked by what was happening and at the end of the first half Loreto were up by 10 points. But Keady showed their determination by clawing their way back into the game with some key scores. As the game wore on the Loreto team started to tire after

a massive first half performance. Going into the dying moments of the game Loreto still led by 3 points but Keady broke and hit a high ball from the 45 metre line that caught the wind and agonisingly went into the top of the net. The game finished a draw and as a result meant the team finished third in the group and couldn't progress to the quarter finals.

Overall it was a massive learning curve for this young squad having moved up a grade to play in a tough group. The lads will look at all three games that could have very easily been won on another day and know the challenge that will await them when they begin the Treanor Cup campaign in January 2014. Plenty of work will need to be done between now and then but I am confident with the right attitude and determination this group can taste success yet again.

Mr S. Murtagh

YEAR 9 GAELIC

Corn Colmcille 2013

Year 9 Gaelic football marks the beginning of a new team ready to embark on their first Ulster campaign. Trials were held before the Christmas holidays and there was a massive turn out of Year 8 and 9 pupils eager to make the squad. This Year 9 Gaelic team had also been moved up a grade in order to test them further at a higher level and the lads took to the challenge right from the very start in a group containing Our lady's Secondary School Castleblayney, OLASP College Knock and Rathmore Grammar School Belfast.

Game 1: Loreto College Coleraine 10-13 Rathmore Belfast 3-5

The team were magnificent in their first game outclassing their opponents from Rathmore Grammar. Rathmore could not deal with the movement and passing of Loreto, who built up a large lead by the end of the first half. Every player won their battle with their markers and we pinned Rathmore in their own half for most of the match. It wasn't until the end of the game when our concentration dropped a bit with such a commanding lead that Rathmore scored the three goals. An excellent start was made with nine different players getting on

the score sheet and it gave the side plenty of encouragement for the rest of the group. In particular full back Feargal Close was extremely commanding keeping Rathmore at bay any time they went forward.

Game 2: Loreto College Coleraine 2-7 OLASP College Knock 0-6

After such a high flying result in the first match, the team had began to work more on the defensive side of their game to ensure goals wouldn't come as easily for their opponents. This had certainly worked as Knock were confined to 0-6 over the full 60 minutes of play. In a match that had a 'cagey' feel about it for long







periods, Loreto's superior technical ability moving the ball at speed made the difference over the course of the game. Goals from wing half forward Eamon McLaughlin and centre half forward Eoin McGuigan put the game beyond doubt at the right time to leave Loreto in a commanding position over the entire match. Special mention to midfielder Aidan McGonigle who was superb in midfield and dictated the entire flow of the match.

Game 3: Loreto College Coleraine 2-6 Our Lady's Secondary School Castleblayney 1-4

After two great results the team played Our Lady's Castleblayney in what could only be described as a swimming pool of a pitch in Stewartstown, after a week of serious bad weather. The difficult conditions really affected the team as we found it difficult to move the ball around like the team is used to. In truth Castleblayney played very well in the difficult conditions and brought the game to us from the word go by edging three points up after the first ten minutes. Loreto then began with much more urgency and edged ahead at half time. Two goals from full forward

Aaron Christie made the game safe until Castleblayney scored a goal in the last minute to ensure a nervous finish to the game. But after holding out, Loreto secured top spot in the group and progressed to the quarter finals of Ulster. Strong battling performances from Sean McKeever, Adam Kerr, Connlaoth McGee and Eoin McGuigan helped the team get over the line in a very scrappy game. Again, centre half back Feargal Close was phenomenal in keeping Castleblayney at bay and set up several attacks with his strong runs up the field.

Quarter Final:

Loreto College Coleraine 0-11 St. Patrick's High School Keady 4-5

After qualifying top of our group, Loreto entered the quarter finals with the favourites tag to advance to the semi final of the Corn Colmcille. Sadly we simply never got going in the match and didn't play anywhere near our full potential. We scored 11 times compared to Keady's 9 but, as the score line suggests, it was goals that won the game for Keady. Playing against a strong breeze in the first half, Loreto dominated possession for long spells but found it difficult to shoot against the tricky

conditions. Keady dug in deep and hit us on the break scoring two goals. In the second half we pushed hard to get the scores we needed but some poor decision making cost the team valuable scores and allowed Keady to counter attack. Keady continued to dig in deep and their goalkeeper was in fantastic form saving three certain goal chances from finding the net. Still only three points down, we committed players forward to try and close the gap until Keady broke again scoring another goal to leave the game beyond doubt.

Underage football is always very unpredictable but although the team was disappointed that we didn't play to our full potential, every player has grown as a footballer and the quarter final will always be a timely reminder of what it takes to be successful at this level. Every player gave it their all and I am certain this team will continue to mature, grow and develop into a successful side that I know they are all capable of. The team has been a joy to coach this year and I look forward to working hard in preparation for our next competition in September - the Loch an Iúir Cup.

Mr S. Murtagh

DANSKE BANK DONATE SPORTS EQUIPMENT TO LORETO COLLEGE

The Gaelic Games club at Loreto College Coleraine has received a generous contribution of O'Neills Gaelic balls and sliothars from the local branch of the Danske Bank.

Danske Bank is the principal sponsor of the Ulster Colleges Gaelic Games competitions, in which Loreto has a proud tradition of participating. Receiving the equipment on behalf of all the many coaches of Gaelic football, Camogie and Hurling, Mr Bob Murphy and Mr Sean Murtagh were delighted to receive such a generous donation, which would assist with the facilitating of training teams to a high level.

Mr Terry O'Doherty and Ms Andrea Colhoun, of Danske Bank Coleraine, were delighted to be involved with the project and wished the Loreto teams every success in the 2013-14 season. Mr Michael James. Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Danske Bank for their generosity and to all the students and staff involved in Gaelic Games at the College for their enthusiasm and dedication.









LORETO COLLEGE HOSTS TOURING NETBALL TEAMS



Loreto College Coleraine played host to two touring Netball teams from schools in England just before the Halloween Half Term.

The Senior Netball team from Loreto College enjoyed a friendly fixture against a team from Wolverhampton Mrs Maureen McCullough and Ms

Grammar School on Monday 22nd October, while the Loreto Junior and Intermediate teams played teams from Godolphin and Latymer Upper School, London, on Wednesday 24th

Julie Wilson of the Loreto College PE Department commented that they had been delighted to welcome both visiting schools to the College and that the Loreto teams had enjoyed their friendly fixtures and the opportunity to meet and socialise with the teams from London and Wolverhampton.

























NETBALL





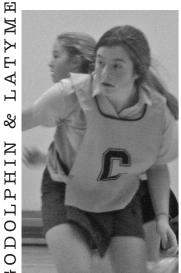












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NETBALL VICTORY SENDS LORETO TEAM INTO NORTHERN IRELAND FINALS

The Senior Netball team from Loreto College Coleraine scored a brilliant victory in the North Eastern Education and Library Board Netball final on Monday 4th February.

Loreto College faced Magherafelt High School in the NEELB final, which was played at the Antrim Forum. Magherafelt had previously defeated Loreto 23-18, earlier in the season, and the match was hardfought and nerve-wracking right until the end. Loreto won by a margin of just one goal: a goal which was scored by Nicole O'Neill in the final seconds of extra time.

The Loreto team was now through to the Northern Ireland finals - a huge achievement for this dedicated,

determined and enthusiastic group, captained by Year 14 student Cristin O'Kane.



The team and their coach, Mrs Maureen McCullough, were congratulated on this tremendous achievement by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the school.

SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE IN NETBALL TOURNAMENT

There was tremendous success for the Year 8 Netball teams from Loreto College Coleraine on Friday 22nd March, when Loreto hosted. and won, the annual NEBSSA Year 8 Netball Tournament.

After a day of enjoyable and tightly-fought matches, the Final was contested by Loreto A versus Loreto B, with Loreto's A Team crowned champions at the end of the afternoon.

Loreto College was represented in the event by some dedicated and talented young Netball players. The Loreto A team was: Sian Donaghy, Alisha Convery, Orla Wallace, Sorcha Dougan, Una Clarke, Caitlin Thompson, Cassie McGilligan and Yasmine Peacock. The Loreto

B team, runners-up on the day, was: Fionnuala Keane, Shannon Campbell, Eve Gardiner, Orlagh Carey, Molly Canning, Ellen Ferris and Catriona Dickey.

Mrs Maureen McCullough, Head of PE at Loreto College, congratulated the girls on a superb day's competition and commended them on their victory, commenting that it had been a wonderful end to a great season.

Mr Michael James, College Principal, added that it had been a wonderful year for Loreto's Netball teams. Loreto's Senior Netball Team was crowned Coleraine and District Champions 2013 and NEELB Senior Champions 2013. Representing the Senior

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Team, Nicole O'Neill (Year 13) is a member of the Under 19 Podium Regional Development Squad. The Loreto Junior Netball Team finished as Runners-Up in the Coleraine and District League, and teammember Aoife Boorman (Year 10) represented Loreto in the Under 15 Regional Development Squad. Meanwhile the Loreto Minor Netball Team were also Runners-Up in the Coleraine and District League, with Niamh Boorman, Aoife Kelly, Caitlin Thompson, Aoife Kealey, Alisha Convery and Sarah Dillon representing the school in the Under 13 Regional Development Squad.

Aoife Boorman, a Year 10 pupil, was selected at trials in October 12 to attend the U15 Regional development Academy for Netball



in Magherafelt HS and Antrim Forum. Aoife was the only one of five girls selected last year at U13 level to make the next level. After attending training sessions since November 2012, coached by top Netball NI coaches, she was selected to represent the North East Antrim region at the Netball NI Area tournament held at the Shankhill Leisure Centre in May 2013. Out of eight teams taking part, her team finished third. This is a fantastic achievement and we wish Aoife every success as she continues to impress the selectors and hopefully

Mr James concluded that these promising young Year 8 Netball teams had much to look forward to in the years ahead, encouraging

get a NI cap!

them to emulate the success of the older teams at Loreto College.

The Year 8 Netball team members were: Molly Canning, Shannon Campbell, Una Clarke, Alisha Convery, Sian Donaghy, Sorcha Dougan, Ellen Ferris, Cassie McGilligan, Yasmine Peacock, Sylvia Smyth, Caitlin Thompson and Orla Wallace.

The Minor A team members were: Niamh Boorman, Erica Cartmell, Sarah Dillon, Paulina Gawronska, Aoife Kealey, Aoife Kelly, Sarah Moore, Anna Morrison, Mary Mullan and Shakeera Nazeer.

The Minor B team members were: Jacinta Averell, Casey Black, Aimee Ingram, Michaela

Ingram, Sarah Kelly, Abigail McBroom, Mary Mullan, Niamh Templeton, Ciara Wilkinson and Nicole Williams.

The Junior A team members were: Naomi Anderson, Aoife Boorman (Captain), Kate Bradley, Carla Doherty, Darcy Kelly, Caitlin Martin, Caitlin McFall (Vice Captain), Anna McGuigan, Cariosa O'Harte and Sarah Purvis.

The Junior B team members were: Kate Bucokoglu, Eimear Carey, Grace Dougan, Caitlin Martin, Maggie McBride, Una McCloskey, Clodagh McGahon, Emma McGeehan, Orlaigh Toner and Francesca Watson.

The Intermediate A team members were: Victoria Bell (Captain), Nicole Cosgrove, Ciara Dinsmore (Vice Captain), Katie McCullough, Shannon McWilliams, Una Mellon and Niamh Wallace.

The Intermediate B team members were: Amy Doherty, Shannon Donaghy, Sinead McAtamney (Vice Captian), Meabh McIlvenney, Rachel McIntyre, Eimear McKeown (Captain) Elizabeth McManus, Aine McNamee, Alana O'Donovan and Caite Skelly.

The Senior Netball Team members were: Shawnee Black, Megan Kerr, Rosanna McAleese, Aileen McAllister, Bronagh McKinney, Eilis McNamee, Megan McWilliams, Anna Moloney, Cristin O'Kane, Nicole O'Neill and Clare Tracey.





LORETO COLLEGE NETBALL TEAMS ENJOY WEEKEND TOUR

A group of 30 students from Loreto College enjoyed a very successful weekend Netball tour on 12th and 13th April, accompanied by their coaches and teachers, Mrs Maureen McCullough and Ms Julie Wilson.

On Friday 12th April, the girls travelled to the Antrim Forum, where they had the opportunity to take part in a Netball training session, run by Gemma Toland and Dawn Baxter from Netball NI. Both these young woman are excellent role models for the Loreto Netball players, having played at a high standard in NI Netball and now coaching and umpiring matches at Senior level. The training, which was an excellent preparation for the 2013-

2014 season, was a mixture of skills and games and the coaches were impressed by the Loreto girls' determination and fitness.

The Loreto group then travelled to Belfast to settle into a hostel on the Malone Road. Following some retail therapy, a pizza night and some sleep, the team-members and their teachers spent Saturday 13th April at Lisburn Racquets Club, to watch the Netball Northern Ireland Shield and Plate Finals. The team supported their local club. Causeway Netball, in the final of the Valeria Walsh Plate; the Loreto contingent helped to motivate the Causeway team by singing and waving posters. After an exciting match, Causeway pulled ahead

in the final quarter, emerging as Plate winners, to the delight of the supporters from Loreto College. Although the Causeway U14 team were not so successful in a later match, the Loreto teachers hoped that the excellent performances by both teams would inspire the Loreto girls to join their local club as well as playing for their school teams. The day ended with a late lunch in Lisburn, followed by the long journey home to Coleraine.

Loreto PE teachers Mrs Maureen McCullough and Ms Julie Wilson commented that the tour had been a great success, and that the girls who took part had greatly benefited from training and watching Netball at such a high level.















SOCCER





















It has once again been a busy year for our various Soccer teams, with some great success and some wonderful team and individual performances. The teams all took part in the Coleraine and District League, with five of our six teams progressing beyond the group stage, three reaching the Final and two crowned Champions.

The Year 8 Soccer team played 5 matches. The boys drew 3-3 with St Mary's High School Limavady, the scorers being Danny Burns (2) and Adam Purvis. They lost their other four fixtures, unluckily, despite plucky performances. The boys lost 4-3 to Ballymoney High School (Loreto scorers Rory Maguire, Danny Kane and Conor O'Kane), lost 6-1 to Cookstown High School (Loreto scorer Conor Olphert), and lost 6-1 to Dalriada and 3-2 to Cross and Passion College Ballycastle.

It was a better year for the Loreto Year 9 team. In the group stage, the boys defeated St Mary's High School Limavady 1-0 (scorer Sean McKeever), defeated Ballymoney High School 4-1 (scorers Kai Smyth (2), Ben White and Aidan McGonigle), and defeated Cross and Passion College 3-0 (scorers Aidan McGonigle (2) and Eamon McLaughlin). In the Semi-Final, the boys took on Limavady High School, with a 1-0 victory, with the winning goal scored by Sean McKeever. St Mary's High School had their revenge though: the boys were defeated 2-0 in the Final by St Mary's.

Our Year 10 team has had a great year. The boys started with a 4-1 win over Limavady Grammar, with Conor Gillen and Fergal Dillon scoring two goals each. They then scored a magnificent 6-0 victory over Cookstown High School: the scorers were Conor Gillen (2), Mark Cassidy, Daniel O'Kane, Feargal Dillon and Shane McIntyre. Next came St Pius' HS Magherafelt, and it was a 2-0 win for Loreto, with Mark Cassidy and Conor Gillen scoring. In the Semi-

Final, the boys scored a wonderful 8-0 victory. The goals were scored by Alex Christie, Daniel O'Kane, with Fergal Dillon scoring two and an inspired Conor Gillen scoring four. In the Final, the boys defeated Limavady High School 7-2 to return home as League Champions. The goals on the day were scored by Conor Gillen, Alex Christie, Mark Cassidy, Shane McIntyre and with a hat trick by Fergal Dillon.

Not to be outdone, the Year 11 team had a great year and an especially busy second term. On consecutive days, the boys lost to Cullybackey High School 3-1, then defeated Coleraine College 5-1. Gareth Doherty scored Loreto's one goal against Cullybackey, while against Coleraine College the scorers were Conor Gillen (2), Gareth Doherty, Callum McKinney and Jack O'Doherty. In the Semi Final, the boys met local rivals St Joseph's College. The match ended in a 2-2 draw, leading to a replay. It was second time lucky for Loreto, who scored a 4-0 victory, thanks to goals from James Gillen (2), Gareth Doherty and Conor Gillen. The Final saw Loreto back against their nemesis, Cullybackey High School: thanks to goals by Oran Barton, Conor Gillen and Jack O'Doherty, the Loreto side scored a 3-1 victory to return home as League Champions.

Our Year 12 team played four fixtures, reaching the Semi Final of the competition. The boys started with a 4-2 victory over Limavady Grammar, followed by a 5-1 win over Ballymena Academy, and topped off by a 3-1 defeat of Ballymoney High School. Sadly, in the Semi Final the boys lost on penalties to Cookstown High School.

Finally, the Year 13 /14 team played a great campaign in a busy year. The boys started with a 4-1 win over Limavady Grammar, followed by a 2-1 victory over St Mary's High School Limavady. This led on to a magnificent 6-1 defeat of Dalriada, which slightly lessened the blow of a 2-1 loss to Ballymena Academy, and the disappointment of a 2-2 draw with local rivals Dominican College Portstewart. In the final, the boys faced tough opposition from Dalriada, who were out for revenge: Loreto lost 3-1 on the day, finishing runners-up in the Coleraine and District League. Top scorers for the sixth form team were Edward Lane, William Lane, Neill Duncan, Orrin Devlin, Conor Kneeland and Markus Condren.

Mr Michael James, College Principal, paid tribute to the members of all six teams and to their coach, PE teacher Mr Paul





INTERNATIONAL CALL-UP FOR LORETO COLLEGE SOCCER STAR

A Year 11 student from Loreto College Coleraine was named in the Northern Ireland Under 16 Football team which contested the annual Sky Sports Victory Shield this year.

Oran Barton, who plays for the Bertie Peacock Youths team as well as representing Loreto College in soccer, was selected for a busy schedule of training sessions and competitive fixture in the Under 16 International side, which is managed by Desi Curry.

The team opened its Victory Shield campaign with two 2-0 victories over Finland, and went into its next match in confident mood on Thursday 27th September: a fixture against tough opposition from a much-fancied England team, packed with players from the Academy teams of many top Premiership clubs. This game was shown live on Sky TV, and Oran's classmates at Loreto College were excited at the prospect of watching him play.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, speaking on behalf of all the staff and students of the College, congratulated Oran on this tremendous achievement and wished him well for his busy season of training and matches.



Loreto College had a very successful day at the annual NEBSSA Cross Country races, sponsored by NASUWT, on Monday 17th December, taking two team and two individual titles, among many excellent performances representing the school.

In the individual events, Abigail McBroom took first place in the Year 9 race, while Aoife Carr won the Year 10 race, having led the event from the very start. Both Abigail and Aoife represented the

NEELB area at the Ulster Schools' Cross Country Finals last year, an achievement which they will each now repeat.

In the team events, Loreto were dominant in the KS3 age groups, with the Year 8 and Year 9 boys' teams each winning their event.

Many members of the Year 9 boys' team will, again, be representing the NEELB area in the Ulster Schools' finals for the second consecutive year.

The Year 8 team members were:

Danny Burns, Ben Culleton, Finlay Hutchinson, Cathal Kearney, Conleth Magee, Finn McEwan and (reserve) Eoin Tsang. The Year 9 boys representing Loreto College were: Oisin Brennan, Aaron Christie, Fearghal Close, Adam Kerr, Eamonn McLaughlin and Glen O'Donovan. The Year 8 Girls' team also performed very well, with great performances in particular from Niamh Carr, Una Clarke and Oonagh Rafferty. Meanwhile Abigail McBroom, winner of the Year 9 race, was well supported by her team, Anna Morrison and Victoria



Tsang; had some members of the Year 9 girls' team not been forced to miss the event through illness and injury, the team would probably have been in medal contention.

Among the Loreto Senior students who took part in the event, there was a great performance from Year 11 girls' team Alana O'Donovan, Una Mellon and Oonagh Jordan, who finished just outside the medals in a very tough race. Likewise, there was a spirited performance from Year 11 boys Syeve Bondarenko, Shea Eastwood, Thomas Magee, Ola Owolabi and Daniel White in the 3200m event - two laps of a tough course.

Mr Paul Cunning, Cross Country
Coach at Loreto College, paid
tribute to all those who represented
Loreto College at the event for their
dedication and hard work both on
the day and in preparation for the
event. Mr Michael James, Principal
of Loreto College, commended
all the students and Mr Cunning
on these remarkable results, and
wished the students every success
in the Ulster Schools' finals in the
following term.











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SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE AT ALL-IRELAND CROSS COUNTRY FINALS

A team from Loreto College Coleraine finished in the Bronze Medal position in the All Ireland Cross Country Finals, held at the University of Ulster's Jordanstown campus on Saturday 9th March.

The Loreto Minor Girls' team,
Molly Brennan, Niamh Carr,
Abigail McBroom, Anna Morrison,
Shakeera Nazeer and Victoria
Tsang (all Year 9) had already taken
first place in the local District event,

followed by second place in Ulster. In the All-Ireland event, three teams from each province had qualified to take part, along with individuals who had finished in the top 15 places. The Loreto Minor team finished in a magnificent third place following a terrific run from all five girls.

In the Junior Girls' race, Loreto College's Aoife Carr (Year 10), competing as an individual runner, was placed 22nd in a field of 114.

Mr Paul Cunning, Co-ordinator of Cross Country Running at Loreto College, paid tribute to all the Loreto athletes who took part in the event on their teamwork, dedication and outstanding performances on the day. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated the runners and Mr Cunning on these magnificent achievements on behalf of all the staff and students of Loreto College.



YEAR 8 CROSS COUNTRY RACE AT LORETO COLLEGE

The eighteenth annual Mary McCabe Trophy race, involving all Year 8 students, took place at Loreto College Coleraine on Wednesday 22nd January 2013. This event was held first in 1996. following the presentation of the trophy by Dr. McCabe, in memory of his wife Mary. The McCabe family had three daughters, Geraldine, Jemma and Anne-Marie, who attended Loreto in the 1970s. All three girls were keen and successful athletes and their parents often came to races and were very supportive of the girls. The silver cup was for Minor Girls' Cross Country and has been competed for each year. There is also a boys' shield and each year, Year 8 boys and girls compete for these two trophies.

The event saw Year 8s completing a taxing run just short of 2000m through the College campus, and this year's winners were Niamh Carr and Cathal Kearney. Mr Paul Cunning, co-ordinator of Cross Country running at Loreto, joined College Principal Mr Michael James in offering congratulations to all those who took part, and commiserations to those who could not do so, or who dropped out due to injury. Mr Cunning added a word of special thanks to the members of staff and senior students who acted as marshals.

Mr Cunning added that a number of previous winners of this event had gone on to sporting success in athletics, hurling, gaelic football and camogie at national and international level, and that many of the medallists could have a bright sporting future ahead. Many of these promising young athletes were selected to represent Loreto at the Cross Country District Championships at the University of Ulster, along with some talented athletes from throughout the school. The students were congratulated on their success to date and wished well for the challenges ahead by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College.

Medals were presented as follows: *Girls*

U 11110	
1 st	Niamh Carr
2 nd	Sorcha Dougan
3 rd	Tiegan Mullan
Boys	

1st Cathal Kearney 2nd Danny Burns

3rd Connlaoth McGee

The two individual winners, Niamh Carr and Cathal Kearney, had their names added to the trophies to join an illustrious list of Loreto athletes:

Girls

113	
1996	Grainne McGoldrick
1997	Judith Kelly
1998	Gemma McCullough
1999	Elizabeth McWilliams

2000 Zakiyya Devaney

2001 Orlagh Daly 2002 Claire Doherty 2003 Louise Boques

2004 Ciara Cunning 2005 Katy Lemon

2006 Anna Breslin2007 Maeve Lofthouse

2008 Nicole O'Neill 2009 Theresa McIlwaine

2010 Orla Rafferty

2011 Aoife Carr 2012 Abigail McBroom

2012 Abigail McBro **Boys**

1996 Sean O'Connell

1997 Eamonn Morgan

1998 Ryan Mullan1999 Sean Paul Henry

2000 Sean Leo McGoldrick

2001 Stephen Friel

2002 David McCulloch2003 Fergal McCloskey

2003 Fergal McClosk2004 Steven Dooley

2005 Dermot Morrow2006 Daniel McAleese

2006 Daniel McAieese 2007 John McLister

2008 Edward Lane

2009 Calvin Heavern2010 Oran Barton

2010 Oran Barton 2011 Shane Molntyre

2011 Shane McIntyre

2012 Eamon McLaughlin

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated all the Year 8 students on their enthusiastic participation in the event, and paid tribute to Mr Paul Cunning and his team of Year 14 marshals who had organised the race.









ATHLETICS

Loreto College was represented with great distinction by fourteen Year 8 students at the Bishops Athletics event, which was held at Coleraine Academical Institution on Friday 7th June. The Loreto team finished in overall third place.

The team members were: Callum Boorman, Molly Canning, Niamh Carr, Alisha Convery, Sorcha Dougan, Finlay Hutchinson, Andrej Krystowski, Finn McEwan, Connlaoth McGee, Cassie McGilligan, Maeve McMorrough, Cianan Mooney, Tiegan Mullan and Conor O'Kane.

SWIMMING GALA 2013

The annual Year 8 Swimming Gala took place on Tuesday 26th March 2013 at Coleraine Leisure Centre. Congratulations to the Year 8 students who took part, and thanks to the many Year 13 students who helped out on the day. The following results were recorded in the competitive events:

Girls	Boys
Group C 1 Length	
 Courtney McKeague Nora McIlvenny Malliadh Devine 	1 2 3
Group C Front	
 WeroniKa Blaszczyk Mallaidh Devine Courtney McKeague 	1 2 3
Group C Back	
 Mallaidh Devine WeroniKa Blaszczyk Cabrina Farren 	1 2 3
Group A Backstroke	
 Caitlin Thompson Cait Passmore Anna McKeown 	 Finn McEwan Connor O'Kane Michael Carlin
Group B Backstroke	
 Una Clarke Shannon Campbell Ellen Ferris 	 Thomas Doran Aaron Myers Mark Logue

Group A Breaststroke

1	Cait Passmore	1	Finn Mc Ewan
2	Maeve McMorrough	2	Anthony Christophe
3	Riona Lafferty	2	Callum Boorman
3	Anna McKeown	3	Connor O Kane
_			

1 Finlay Hutchinson

Group B Breaststroke

1 Aida Nemeth

_	Ellen Ferris Una Clarke		Jason Moore John Mullan
Gr	oup A Butterfly		
1	Caitlin Thompson	1	Finn McEwan
2	Maeve McMorrough	2	Connor O'Kane
3		3	Eunan McNicholl

Group A Front Crawl

1	Caitlin Thompson	1	Finn McEwan
2	Niamh Carr	2	Connor Moore
3	Maeve McMorrough	3	Anthony Christophe

Group B Front Crawl

1	Una Clarke	1	Finlay Hutchinson
2	Orla Wallace	2	Jason Moore
3	Sylvia Smyth	3	Sean Dooley Nealis

Freestyle Relay	Medley	Freestyle Relay
1 8B	1 8B	1 8B
2 8C&E	2 8D	2 8E
3 8D	3 8A	3 8C

SWIMMER OF THE YEAR

Caitlin Thompson Finn Mc Ewan

LORETO STUDENTS ENJOY SKI TRIP

A group of thirty Year 9 students from Loreto College Coleraine spent a week in Switzerland learning to ski, accompanied by three teachers and in partnership with a group from Oakgrove College, Derry.

The group stayed in the Haut Lac International Centre, Les Sciernes, Switzerland – the centre is run by a Northern Ireland family and some of the staff are from Derry and Ballycastle. The Centre is located in a practical and welcoming building set in its own grounds overlooking the picturesque Swiss village of Les Sciernes in the heart of the Swiss PreAlpes. Its fully qualified instructors work with their groups throughout the entire ski day, ensuring safety, progress and lots of fun on the slopes.

During the week, the students from Loreto had breakfast at 8.00 followed by ski lessons both

morning and afternoon, coming off the mountain at 4.30, exhausted. After dinner, they then enjoyed a full evening programme of up to 4 different activities, meaning that they were kept occupied until bedtime. The evening activities included sports, such as table tennis and bowling, activities such as arts and crafts, cookery, pool, table-football, computer games, DVDs, chess, board games, and guizzes. The students were organised into a House system with their Oakgrove College counterparts, and thoroughly enjoyed getting to know their fellow students and their House Leader.

At the end of the week there the centre ran a slalom race for all students, with medals for the top three students in each group. Before the students returned

to Loreto, they each received a Snowlife Snowsport award, stating the level of proficiency they had achieved during their week's skiing. Members of the Loreto group scored from level 3 in the Beginners' group up to an amazing level 8 in the Advanced group.

Teachers Mr Stephen Gallagher (Vice Principal), Mrs Maureen McCullough (Head of PE) and Ms Julie Wilson (PE teacher), who organised the trip and accompanied the group, paid tribute to the Loreto students for the spirit and energy with which they entered into all the week's activities. The students described their week in Switzerland as a fantastic experience, which they would never forget, and many of them returned to Loreto College quite determined to go skiing again as soon as they had the opportunity!





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LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT TO REPRESENT NI IN KARATE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

A student from Loreto College Coleraine has been selected to compete in the WSKA World Championships in Karate in September 2013, as well as taking part in a number of other prestigious events in his chosen sport.

Aidan O'Boyle, who is in Year 10 at Loreto College, started training with the Zanshin NI Shotokan Karate Club in Kilrea when he was only six. Over the next five years, Aidan achieved all ten belts, from white to brown double white, going on to achieve his First Dan Black Belt (Shodan) in March 2010, when he was 11. Two years later, in March 2012, Aidan achieved his Second Dan Black Belt: he is currently the youngest Second Dan in Zanshin in Northern Ireland.

Over the past eight years, Aidan has remained a constant member of Zanshin NI, competing in both Kata and Kumite events throughout this time, achieving many first, second and third places in both events. In 2009, he achieved a special award as Most Determined Student, while in 2010 he was named Most Improved Student and Junior Student of the Year. Eager to share his skills with others, Aidan is now an assistant instructor with the club, in the Jim Watt Centre in Garvagh on Wednesday nights.

In recent years, Aidan's achievements have become more and more impressive. Since 2011, he has been a member of the Northern Ireland Junior squad. In July 2012, he took part in a Shotokan Karate competition in Lifford, Co. Donegal, at which he achieved First Place in Kumite, First in Kata, Second in Open Kata and the award for Best Overall

Junior Competitor of the day. In November 2012, Aidan competed in the Northern Ireland National Championships, achieving First in Kumite and Second in Kata, as well as winning a 'Kick Factor' competition.

Aidan's skills and outstanding progress have not gone unnoticed. In September 2012, when he had just turned 14, he was invited by the KUGB to train along with the England Junior Kumite Squad at the Liverpool Red Triangle. His competition schedule included the Grand Slams in Chesterfield in March 2013, the National Championships in Birmingham in May and the National Youth Championships in Chesterfield in July, which will lead on to the WSKA World Championships in Liverpool, in September. Aidan is the youngest person to have been selected to compete at this level.

Modest about his achievements, Aidan paid tribute to his coaches, Sensei Terry Geddis and Sensei Lisa Hunter, for their vision, expertise and support, as well as all those who have supported him through his eight years to date within Zanshin NI. Terry Geddis, Chief Instructor, commented that it was 'full steam ahead for this promising young Karateka', paying tribute to Aidan's hard work, dedication and enthusiasm, as well as the limitless support of his family, friends and school. Terry urged anyone inspired to get involved in Karate by Aidan's success story to phone him on 07931 981962 or visit the website www.zsni.co.uk or find the club on Facebook.

Mrs Maureen McCullough,
Head of PE at Loreto College
Coleraine, commented that Aidan's success was an exciting and inspiring example to all his fellow students. On behalf of all the staff and students of Loreto, Mr Michael James, College Principal, congratulated Aidan on his achievements to date and wished him every success in his upcoming season of competitions.



LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS RECEIVE FIRST AID CERTIFICATES

A number of sixth form students from Loreto College Coleraine were presented with First Aid certificates from the St John Ambulance and Heartstart organisations recently, in recognition of life-saving skills developed during the course of this academic year.

The students, from both Year 13 and Year 14 at the College, had completed these qualifications during their PE programme, under instruction from PE teachers Mrs Maureen McCullough, Ms Julie Wilson and Mr Paul Byrne, and had great fun trying out their bandaging skills on each other, as well as learning emergency life support. The students received two qualifications. One of these was the Heartstart course certificate, which is funded by the British Heart Foundation. This includes CPR. Recovery position. Bleeding and Choking. Heartstart UK is an initiative co-ordinated by the British Heart Foundation to teach members of the public what to do in a life-threatening emergency: simple skills that can save lives. It provides opportunities for people to learn the vital skills of Emergency Life Support. Through Heartstart UK the British Heart Foundation aims to strengthen the chain of survival by promoting and supporting **Emergency Life Support training** in the community.

The students also gained the Young First Aider certificate, from the St John Ambulance and covers topics such as dealing with asthma, bone, muscle and joint injuries, burns and scalds, fainting and shock and poisons. The Young First Aider course overlaps with the content of Heartstart.

In total, 54 sixth form students from Loreto received First Aid qualifications. Ms Julie Wilson, one of the course instructors, commented, 'The students learnt that the benefit of CPR performed by a bystander in an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest is significant. If you can perform effective CPR whilst the ambulance is on its way you can more then double a person's chance of surviving. It is good to

know that 54 of our pupils could now help save a life by performing Emergency Life Support in the community.'

Mrs Maureen McCullough, Head of PE at Loreto College, and Mr Michael James, College Principal paid tribute to all the students who had attained these qualifications, and wished them well in using their skills in the years ahead.







MY EXPERIENCE AT THE LONDON MINI-MARATHON

This year I ran in the Ulster Schools Cross country, finishing in the top five. I then found out after the race that I had been selected to run in the London Mini Marathon to represent Northern Ireland U13.

It was an amazing opportunity: I got to meet all the runners I run against and I am now really good friends with them. We stayed in a university in the East of London called the Royal Holloway, University of London. At 5am on the morning of the race we had to get up and meet at the front door. Surprisingly, no one was nervous but we were all really excited. We had a really long journey on a coach to central London, but it was worth it because we passed some of London's magnificent landmarks.

When we arrived we got out of the coach and went into a building in London near the starting line which housed the mini marathon runners. Everybody was split up into the three different age groups and the boys were put on one side and the girls on the other. Our U13 Girls' race was the last one to begin. Once the under 15s had gone out then I started to get 'butterflies'. When we went out, we were split up into two different groups- half on one side of the road and the rest on the other side. To warm up, we ran in circles and then stretched for a few minutes. As soon as they called us

to the start everybody was pushing and shoving to get to the front. While we were waiting to

if anyone would like to be interviewed and of course most people put their hands up but, since our race was about to start, she only had time to

start, Denise Lewis came and asked us

interview one person- a girl from England. After that, one of the boys looking after us told us to scream as loudly as we could, but he said that the under 17s were the loudest, followed by us. All of a sudden a whistle blew and we were

We started off by running up past
Upper Thames Street followed by Victoria
Embankment. After that we passed the

London Eye and Parliament Buildings. It was brilliant. We then headed for Buckingham Palace which meant that it was near the end. At this point I was starting to tire. The crowds were so loud on the last 100 metre sprint which helped me to use the last of my energy to get past the line. I finished the 3 miles in 20 minutes and 2 seconds and had an overall place of 79th out of 297. The crowds and the atmosphere were amazing and definitely helped me to keep going!

It was an amazing trip and I would recommend it to others if they get the opportunity.

Abigail McBroom Year 9



EMMA CARBERRY: KICKBOXER EXTRAORDINAIRE

Emma Carberry of Year 10 may appear quiet and unassuming, but she has a talent and a determination which are earning her great success in her chosen sport: Kickboxing.

Never underestimate our 'Kickboxer Extraordinaire'!

Some of Emma's titles in her age and weight class include:

World Champion, British Open Champion, USA Open Champion,

Five Nations Champion, Irish Open Champion, Irish Cup Champion,

All Ireland Champion, Ulster Champion, Combat Champion,

Northern Irish Champion and Best of the Best Champion.

Emma is clearly one to watch for in the years ahead!



LORETO COLLEGE SPORTS DAY AS SUN SHINES

The annual Sports Day was held at Loreto College Coleraine on Monday 10th June 2013, on a day of sunshine and summer weather. The event involved all Year 8-10 students from Loreto College and provided a happy and exciting day of sport for all. There was tight competition in the formal events, but many of the fun events proved equally popular, such as the Year 8 Novelty Races on the Chapel Lawn and various non-competitive fixtures such as tug-of-war, minibus pull and centipede racing. The day was also an opportunity to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation, with a sponsored Skipathon being held as just one of a few fundraising initiatives.

The following results were recorded in the competitive events:

			Boys	Girls
Year 8	100 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Conor O'Kane Jason Moore Owen Brolly	Sorcha Dougan Susan McKendry Cassie McGilligan
	200 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Jason Moore Conor Moore Connlaoth McGee	Susan McKendry Aida Nemeth Niamh Carr
	800 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Finlay Hutchinson Ben Culleton Owen Tsang	Niamh Carr Molly Canning Susan McKendry
	Relays	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	8B 8C 8E	8B 8C 8D
	Shot Putt	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Callum Boorman Finlay Hutchinson Jonathan Meehan	Oonagh Rafferty Zara Leese Fionnuala Keane / Cassie McGilligan
	High Jump	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Liam Riche Michael Carlin Cianan Mooney	Cassie McGilligan Tiegan Mullan Ellen Ferris
	Long Jump	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Thomas Doran / Oliver Clyde Conor Moore Conor McKelvey	Tiegan Mullan Orlagh Carey Susan McKendry
	Athletes of the Year		Finlay Hutchinson / Jason Moore	Susan McKendry
Year 9	100 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Callum Johnson Aaron Christie Valentino Jayamanna	Riona Pauling Shakeera Nazeer Abigail McBroom
	200 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Fearghal Close Daniel Walton Valentino Jayamanna	Riona Pauling Shakeera Nazeer Shannon O'Kane
	800 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Fearghal Close Oisin Brennan Valentino Jayamanna	Abigail McBroom Anna Morrison Molly Brennan
	Relays	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	9C 9A 9B	9B 9E 9D
	Shot Putt	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Aaron Christie Fearghal Close Aidan McGonigle	Sarah Moore Riona Pauling Milena Mroz





			Boys	Girls
	Javelin	1 st 2 nd	Eamon McLaughlin Adam Kerr	Shannon O'Kane Molly Brennan
	Discus	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Aaron Christie Joshua Wan Cahir Boyle	Abigail McBroom Anna Morrison Hannah Magee
	High Jump	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Aaron Christie Fearghal Close Aidan McGonigle	Shakeera Nazeer Hannah Magee
	Long Jump	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Fearghal Close Dominic Bradley Aidan McGonigle	Riona Pauling Roisin McMorrough Victoria Tsang
	Athletes of the Year		Fearghal Close	Riona Pauling
Year 10	100 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Alex Christie Joel Dinsmore Daniel O'Kane	Aoife Boorman Kate Bradley Aoife Carr
	200 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Alex Christie Philip Doherty John Smyth	Aoife Carr Bronagh McNicholl Molly Maguire
	800 Metres	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Daniel O'Kane Aidan Boyle Cahir Loftus	Aoife Carr Bronagh McNicholl Courtney McLaughlin
	Relays	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	10A 10B 10D	10A 10C 10D
	Shot Putt	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Michael Dallat Cahir Loftus Callan McPeake	Bronagh McNicholl Cariosa O'Harte Emma Crossley
	Discus	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Daniel O'Kane Cormac McCarry Alex Christie	Darcey Kelly Emma Crossley / Caitlin Martin Niamh Morrison
	Javelin	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Alex McCloskey Callan McPeake Daniel O'Kane	Cariosa O'Harte Aoife Carr
	High Jump	1 st 2 nd	Alex Christie Odhran McNicholl	Aoife Carr Laura McGonigle
	Long Jump	1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Cahir Loftus Daniel O'Kane Alex Christie	Aoife Carr Caitlin Martin Darcey Kelly
	Athletes of the Year		Alex Christie	Aoife Carr

Mrs Maureen McCullough, Head of Physical Education at Loreto College, paid tribute to all the staff and students of the College who had made the 2013 Sports Day such a memorable and enjoyable occasion.

Mr Michael James, College Principal, thanked the PE Department and the entire school community for the effort and enthusiasm with which they had taken part in this year's Sports Day in the unaccustomed sunshine.







U13 SOCCER TOURNAMENT AT CHS ON 18TH JUNE 2013

Team members

Flynn Faith-Crothers	Yr 9
Victoria Tsang	Yr 9
Zara Leese	Yr 8
Yasmin Peacock	Yr 8
Kaleigh Colson-Rice	Yr 8
Niamh Waterson	Yr 8
Orlagh McCloskey	Yr 8
Caitlin Thompson	Yr 8
Cassie McGilligan	Yr 8

On Tuesday 18th June the U13 Soccer team played their first ever tournament at CHS. With five matches to play it was all a bit daunting but with the sun shining our Loreto girls could only do their best.

They played brilliantly with great defending from Yasmin Peacock and Goalkeeper Zara Leese,





keeping Cullybackey School to a 0-0 draw. The match against Coleraine High School 'E' team started with a different formation with Cassie McGilligan up front. The combination of Caitlin Thompson, Orlagh McCloskey and Cassie resulted in two near misses followed by a brilliant goal from Cassie. CHS however scored a break away goal in the last few seconds leaving a 1-1 draw.

Steady midfield work from Flynn Faith-Crothers, Kaleigh Colson-Rice and Orlagh McCloskey helped keep the ball out of the net leaving another draw against Sperrin Integrated School 'A' team 0-0.

Loreto were now to meet two of the favourites in the tournament who with all that Soccer experience were going to make life hard for the defenders. Victoria Tsang and Niamh Waterson defended brilliantly, passing the ball out to the wings, but the Magherafelt 'B' team beat Loreto 3-0 and Rainey Endowed School also beat Loreto 3-0.

We were disappointed not to be in the semi finals but next year this young team will benefit from their experience and hopefully be one of the teams to be feared!

Loreto player of the Tournament was Yasmin Peacock Yr 8.

Thanks go to Gary Fowler, Coleraine Council's Active Communities Coach, who has been coming into school every Monday afternoon to coach soccer.

Ms J Wilson

YEAR 8 BOYS' BASKETBALL REPORT

Our Year 8 boys' basketball team was quite successful this year. Victories over Abbey Newry and St. Patrick's Ballymena were enough to secure a spot in the Ulster Shield final. Loreto would face off against Ballymena Academy and, after a close contest, they would lose by a four point margin.

Loreto College played host to the NEBSSA Year 8 Basketball tournament on Monday 10th June. Loreto fielded two teams, coached by Mr Emmett Harkin. It was a successful and busy day for the Loreto teams, who began with a victory over St Patrick's HS Ballymena. The Loreto side went on to defeat Monkstown Community School, and qualified to meet Ballymena Academy in the Final.

After a hard-fought game, Ballymena Academy - old rivals of the Loreto team from the Ulster Shield Final - lost out to Loreto after a hard-fought game, leaving the Coleraine side victorious as NEBSSA Champions.

The Loreto team members were: Jason Moore, Sean Irwin, Finn McEwan, Conor Kelly, Conor O'Kane, Aidan McGinley, Connlaoth McGee, Conor Moore, Mark Logue, Donal Close, Darragh McGoldrick, Joseph Mullan, Eoin Tsang, Callum Boorman, Andrzej Krystowski and Ben Culleton.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the Loreto basketball players and their coach, Mr Emmett Harkin, on a spirited day of competition and on a busy year of dedicated training.

Mr E Harkin





ROWING - LORETO STUDENTS AT BANN ROWING CLUB



making their mark at Bann Rowing Club this year. Rowan Clyde (Year 11), Aaron Christie (Year 9) and Rory Stewart (Year 12) were all members of Bann's J16 Craig Cup crew, who were narrowly beaten in the final of the event by Portora Royal School.

Meanwhile, John Smyth (Year 10), Rowan Clyde (Year 11), Aaron Christie (Year 9), Rory Stewart (Year 12) and Eoghan Corrigan (Year 10) are, between them, Loreto's representatives on Bann's J16 and J15 crews, and have had a very successful season. Alongside them (but unavailable for the photos) is Finn Lestas, who is the Cox of the J15 boat.

the Stadium, BBC TV studios, the Velodrome (Pringle), the Basketball (Marshmallow), the Aquatic Centre, the world's biggest McDonalds, the Orbit and so on, everyday on the way to the Riverbank Arena.

If we were on a later shift the Park was packed. Walking was much slower and en route you heard and saw lots of entertainment that kept the atmosphere fun and exciting. There were the 'Live Sites' where spectators could catch up on what was happening at the other venues, view the results and, occasionally, meet some of the celebrities.

The organisation was so precise yet this quote sums up the games for me:

'The worlds most meticulously planned 29 days of uncertainty.' I can't imagine what it must have been like for the athletes competing up the Mall, in Horseguards Parade, running/cycling past Buckingham Palace, swimming in Hyde Park, seeing Tower bridge, The Shard- such well know landmarks everywhere you looked.

As a thank you we were given 'pins' starting with bronze, silver then gold as we reported for duty. On our final shift we got a small bit of the pink turf of the pitch, a 'Merci' pin and a Relay Baton, demonstrating the team work of the Games makers. We were beginning to hear more and more about how 'marvellous' we were. It was simply great to be part it.

The Paralympic Games:

As part of the Get Set Network, preparing schools for the Games, information, news of the Torch Relay, Loreto were given tickets to attend the Olympic Stadium for the Paralympic Games. It was fantastic to be able to return with our Sports Captains and actually see inside the stadium that I had passed by everyday. We saw Jason Smyth qualify for his 200m Final, the Blind Triple Jump and Oscar Pistorious get his gold for the team relay, amongst other marvellous events that day. Truly inspirational.

Remember it's all about what 'You Can Do!'

Mrs Maureen McCullough

LONDON 2012: MY TIME AS A GAMES-MAKER

It is hard to imagine that by the time you read this, a whole year will have passed since London hosted the 30th Olympic Games! 26 sports Championships; 10,490 athletes from over 200 countries.

The journey to become a Games Maker (one of the 70,000 volunteers needed to help host the Games) started online back in October 2010. Interviews were held in Belfast in April 2011 and I got word that I had been selected in December that year. I was given a role on the Events Services Team at the Riverbank Arena ('smurf turf' as it was known because of its blue and pink colour). This is where the hockey was played. I was so delighted because many friends hadn't heard or were told they would be at Rail stations, airports, etc not actually seeing any sport! Another Limavady PE teacher got to drugs test in the Olympic Stadium; others drove VIPs in BMWs, set out Usain Bolt's (and others') starting blocking, or carried athletes' clothing. A friend who works at the University of Ulster prepared and updated the London 2012 Website over the games! It was amazing what the volunteers did!

Games Maker training involved travelling to London four times over the year. This included the venue where I would be on duty. I can still remember arriving at the Olympic Park, still under construction and feeling so proud to be part of the biggest event on earth. I had been to the Hockey World Cup (Dublin) and the Netball World Championships (Birmingham), but this was the Olympic Games!

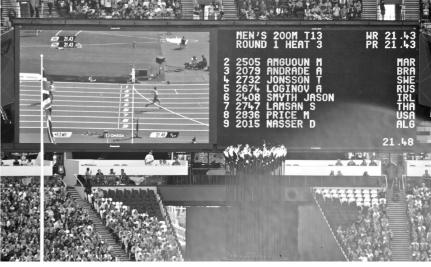
My role was 'simply' to help the spectators have the best time of

their lives. This included smiling at all times, answering queries politely (at all times!), showing people to their seats and ensuring they behaved whilst in the Arena. We looked after safety, crowd control, lost items/people, accessibility, buggies, medical emergencies, etc. We were the 'Face of the Olympics' no matter whether it was raining, people were unreasonable or it was 6.30am (as I'd been up from 4.00am in order to get to the Park).

London was amazing. Locals didn't recognise it because everyone was friendly and people spoke to one another on the underground! Strangers came up to me and starting talking to me, asking where I was from, how I got to be a Games Maker and so on: so friendly. The Olympic Park was awesome. Especially at 6am when it was deserted. Walking past











LORETO YOUNG BOYS V LORETO OLD BOYS: THE END OF AN ERA...AGAIN!

Friday 12th April 2013 was marked on the Loreto College calendar with an event which may not go down in the history books as one of its greatest days. It will however go down as the day that a group of expupils ended an event, steeped in nostalgia, due to several undeniable factors. These factors were mainly age related! The event - the last football match for ex-pupils to tread the school turf they once graced, against the current crop of talented footballers: 16 and 17 year olds against some late 30s and mid 40 year olds. This game however had a special touch. Eoin and Brendan McKillop had the honour of stepping out to play against their father, Stephen. This was the match Stephen wanted to play in most of all. His boys tower over him now and this could be his last chance to install some paternal authority!

So, Paul Byrne was the match official and blew the whistle as we kicked off at a frantic pace. It was so frantic, Anthony Doherty had to delve into his shorts for his inhaler after just 3 minutes - poor Michael O Donovan was not amused as he was wearing them at the time! Michael was clearly affected by the incident, as he received an injury and had to spectate from the touchline for the remainder of the match. The old boys had a restricted squad (Mr G McGouran on the sidelines was an option, but advice on share prices really wasn't the answer!). This enforced alteration to the team formation gave the Young Boys an opportunity to exploit the lack of pace of their older opponents. An attack down the left side resulted in a shot saved by Jim Black in goals, but the rebound was executed clinically by the Young Boys forward. This was a little harsh on the Old Boys and they responded positively immediately. A long ball played to the feet of Eugene Wallace, resulted in the big fella having a shot which the keeper did well to hold on to. The original pass to Eugene wasn't particularly accurate, but anyone who has ever seen Eugene's feet, would know that anywhere within two metres would have been close enough!

The surging runs from James Peden were causing all kinds of problems for the youths, although a long clearance from them sent the ball clear for an ever so slightly, onesided chase. Wallace and McKillop looked as if they were in a threelegged race as they failed miserably to catch a young lad in bright green boots, hammering home goal number 2 for the Young Boys. In our day, the nearest thing to green boots was worn by Paul Mc Garry from Loughguile, but he was from an agricultural background! The score line could have been even worse but for a truly magnificent save by Jim Black. This was to be the turning point in the game.

Half time: Young Lads 2 Old Boys 0. Mr P Cunning was there to provide inspiration to the Old Boys in the form of threats, ridicule and humiliation. Art History memories did come flooding back momentarily! Despite this, a positive response from the Old Boys was shown by some excellent possession, combined with an apparent stubborn streak. Paul Friel pushed into a more forward role and Manus McHenry, well, he just pushed! The Young Boys found it difficult to break the Old Boys' defence, marshalled by Jim Black. James Peden made the game a bit more interesting when he powered away from several challenges and cracked home an excellent solo effort.

2-1 now and there was a lot of male pride at stake. The Old Boys couldn't possibly lose the last match, yet the Young Boys would not want to get beaten by potential Lollypop Men! Chances occurred at both ends but a mixture of solid goalkeeping and comical finishing meant no change to the score line. That was, until 8 minutes from full time, when the Old Boys put together another attack. The ball fell to Manus McHenry who controlled well and coolly slotted home the equaliser. An excellent finish from Manus, who was the only member of the Old Boys team who still fits into his original PE shorts. In the last few minutes, McKillop and the ever green Doherty defended superbly to thwart any advances on their penalty area. And so the final whistle went to end an excellent game. A game played in the manner it ought to be, and a result which fairly indicated the efforts of all involved.

To conclude, the 2-2 score line typically reflected the application of the players, albeit with one side applying experience rather than speed. But the point of the exercise was always for ex-pupils to come back and enjoy their Loreto experience and, on behalf of all the old Boys, I can confirm that we most certainly did. Many thanks to Mr James for his appreciation of the event and what it meant to all the Old Boys. Also many thanks to Mr P Byrne, a current teacher who could really play the game properly and must have found some of the antics amusing to watch. And a special mention to Mr Paul Cunning, who has given his huge amount of support for this event. His enthusiasm to welcome ex-pupils to the school has been truly special. The tea and food he provided afterwards were also warmly received, although fadge, sausages and soup are partly the reason for the canteen seats appearing somewhat smaller than they used to be!

Paul Wallace



ABSENT FRIENDS

News of those who left Loreto College in 2012

YEAR 14 2011-2012

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Kieran Kelly Queen's University Belfast Product Design & Technology Rebecca Lagan University of Ulster Business with Computing	Niall Kealey	Queen's University Belfast	Economics
Rebecca Lagan University of Ulster Business with Computing	Emma Kelly	St Mary's University College	Teaching
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Mary Kate Mackle University of Glasgow Dentistry	Rebecca Lagan	University of Ulster	Business with Computing
	Mary Kate Mackle	University of Glasgow	Dentistry





Sophie Webber

Darryl Wills

Birmingham University

Queen's University Belfast



YEAR 13 2011-2012

Alex Doherty	Northern Regional College	
Danielle Ferris	North West Regional College	Sports Studies
Kirsty McCormick	North West Regional College	Child Care

YEAR 12 2011-2012

Malicka Boreland	Northern Regional College	Performing Arts
John Boyle	St Joseph's College	Sixth Form
Paige Browne	North West Regional College	Art
Shannon Carey	St Patrick's College Ballymena	Sixth Form
Katelyn Gormley	Northern Regional College	Performing Arts
Kieran Keating	Northern Regional College	Applied Sciences
Eamonn Martin	St Patrick's HS Dungiven	Sixth Form
Vincent Masselis	Northern Regional College	Computing
Seamus McAlister	Northern Ireland Electricity	Apprenticeship Scheme
Laura McCaughan	North Coast Integrated College	Sixth Form
Kate McManus	North West Regional College	Health & Science
Pearse McNicholl	St Patrick's College Maghera	Sixth Form
Adam Mitchell	Northern Regional College	Health & Social Care
Dylan Moody	Unknown	
Catherine Morren	St Mary's College Portglenone	Sixth Form
Bobbie-Lee Mullan	Northern Regional College	Health & Social Care
Christopher O'Neill	North West Regional College	Engineering

Wedding

Congratulations







The Toreto Chapel was the scene of a romantic summer wedding on Saturday 27th July 2013, as two former students, Caoimhe McKenna and Michael Dowds, were married there.

Caoimhe and Michael left Loreto in 2005 and we believe that romance was sparked during their school days! Caoimhe was 'given away' in marriage by her father, former Loreto teacher Mr Brian McKenna.



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FROM BELFAST TO BELLARMINE - MY YEAR IN AMERICA

By Páraic Rafferty

Head Boy at Loreto College, 2009-2010

When I was at Loreto, my knowledge of *Kentucky* was based solely on a one-time only visit to the KFC opposite the Water Margin in Coleraine during a study break between my AS exams. The dining experience was far from inspirational; and yet three years later I found myself embarking on a year long study programme at small, private, Catholic university named Bellarmine, nestled in the suburbs of Louisville - the largest city in the U.S. state of Kentucky.

Before describing why this has been the best year of my life to date, and hopefully persuading any students reading this to at least consider studying abroad, I'll explain how I ended up there, for the benefit of those who were wondering (apologies to those who weren't!).

Like most of my year group, I had opted not to be one of those courageous specimens who had 'gone away' to university, and had chosen to study Law at Queen's. The idea was that if I wanted to practise in the jurisdiction of Northern Ireland, I should study there. The fact that Translink could get me home at the weekends in slightly over an hour was just an added perk that seemed like a comfort when my 17 year old self was filling in my UCAS form.

A year a half into my three years at Queen's, Belfast and Translink had lost their charm. I was desperate for a change. So, between January and March 2012, I applied for, and was accepted onto, a scholarship programme with the most creative name imaginable: *Study USA*. Funded by the British Council and the Department of Employment and Learning, it was open to all students studying any degree at

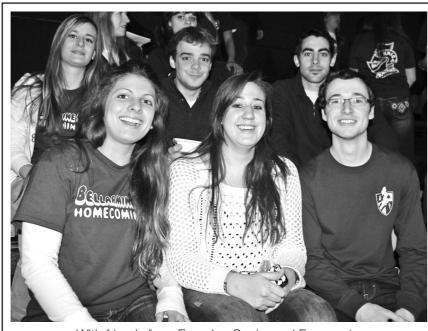
any higher education institution in the North. In my year they sent 72 students to colleges all over America, at minimal expense to the students themselves. I would return to Queen's for my final year - the scholarship was separate from my degree.

So, I arrived at Bellarmine in mid August 2012, not entirely sure what I'd signed up for. Although I'd spent two months working at summer camp in Maine, I'd read that 'the American South' was quite different from the breezy shores of New England. Images from movies like Sweet Home Alabama, or the less reassuring Texas Chainsaw Massacre, flashed across my mind. From the very first day, however, it was a whirlwind of fun, adventure, and self-discovery. That evening I was picked up at the airport by some American students who helped me move into my room and took me to 'the store' to buy some essential supplies. By the time

we'd spent half an hour working out that we call a 'duvet' is what they call a 'comforter', the seeds of friendship had been firmly planted.

The period after arrival was busy, with eight full days of induction to orientate new students to college life. Bellarmine only has approximately 3,000 students - so was nearer in size to Loreto than Queen's, and that meant that there was the opportunity to meet and befriend a lot of the same faces that I would be living and studying with for the year. These included the other international students, who quickly became a close-knit group of 30, representing six of the seven continents.

Together the other internationals and I enjoyed putting our stereotypes of American college life to the test. For example, when I walked into the basement of the first house party hosted by the Lacrosse team that I attended, I turned to my



With friends from Ecuador, Spain, and France at a Bellarmine basketball game, wearing the school crest!

friend from Australia and said, 'We are IN American Pie!'

Although the stereotypical party scene did exist, it was only a small part of college life. The campus could be walked across in ten minutes, and half the student population lived in the 'dorms', so there were always community building activities taking place, such as movie nights, concerts, dances, basketball games, and events themed around every holiday imaginable, even St. Patrick's Day!

American students pay much more for their education than Europeans do, especially at private colleges. As a result they take great pride in their school, and the entire campus was full of 'school spirit'. I was given 23 free T-shirts over the year that had the Bellarmine crest or motto attached; usually they were given out at a school sponsored event such as 'Ball on the Belle' - a Hallowe'en fancy dress party attended by 300 students. Each year it takes place on the Louisville Belle, the oldest operating steamboat in America, which sails students up and down the Ohio River while they party.

Studying at Bellarmine was a shock after Queen's! Most classes had no more than 18 students, whereas I had been used to lecture halls containing 250 students.

Attendance was taken, assignments were regular; I even had a homework diary! Unfortunately, there was no space for merit stamps at the back. In two years at Queen's not one teacher had had cause to know my name; while at Bellarmine they invited me to their homes and children's weddings.

The small classes were another way of making friends with American students. To them the internationals were a constant source of fascination - they marvelled at how we talked and dressed, and by that I mean that we didn't wear shorts and flipflops all the time. Being Irish was a particularly good position to be in,

as over 50 million Americans claim Irish roots.

Some students may be scared to study abroad because they fear being lonely or homesick. That is natural, but if you are willing to be open-minded, friendly, and get involved, I assure you that won't happen, at least not in America. Americans are extremely welcoming to foreigners; they will invite you into their social circles, homes, and cars. The last is particularly helpful in America - their public transport systems could learn something from good old Translink!

To get involved I worked on campus, was a Residence Hall Association rep, and the first ever international student ambassador. That meant that when American high school students visited Bellarmine, I would tell them about my time there and sell it to them, while simultaneously telling them to study abroad in Ireland once they got to Bellarmine! Of course Loreto had given me good practice at being an 'ambassador', a phrase that I hope the teachers still use as much as they used to!

Another thing you get to do as an international student is travel. A lot. It might not be glamorouslong bus rides and cheap hostelsbut in the last year I've been to St. Louis, Orlando, Buffalo, Boston, New York City, Chicago (twice!), Indianapolis, Nashville, New Orleans, Cincinnati, Virginia, Milwaukee, and I still have some travels to come. Other highlights of my year include the Kentucky Derby, the Indianapolis 500, Harry Potter World at Universal Studios, and being eight seats away from the Dalai Lama!

If I hadn't taken a chance and decided to study abroad, I wouldn't have experienced the college lifestyle, the American education system, or the travel.

I also extended my trip to intern in America this summer. There are lots of opportunities like that, although study abroad by itself is impressive on your CV, as it shows employers that you aren't afraid to be independent, take a risk, and embrace unknown situations and other cultures.

But, without a doubt, the best thing about studying abroad has been the friends I have made as a result. Students, unless you go to university somewhere in the UK or Ireland where you know absolutely no-one, there will probably be few times in your life when you will be able to go away without complications and have no social circle, not even family, around you. Study abroad offers you an exciting opportunity to do that, and to become friends with all sorts of people for different reasons, not just because they live near you or went to the same school as you.

Because you have no other contacts in the country where you study abroad, you will become closer in the term or year you spend together than you will believe. I have made exceptionally strong friendships with people from America and all over the world, and have already planned to spend Easter 2014 in Spain with one of them!

I truly hope that you have enjoyed reading about my year. If you think it sounds too good to be true, check out this Youtube video: http://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=PZMIGbxaMEo, or look for my blog on Google: 'From Belfast to Bellarmine'. I left Loreto without ever even thinking of studyabroad and other programmes, such as Erasmus, passed me by, but I will be eternally grateful that this opportunity came along in my second year. As Loreto students, all of you have a lot to teach people in the other parts of the world so, please, don't deny them!

If you study abroad you will never regret it, and you will gain a bank of incredible memories and friends that will last you a lifetime, as well as changing your outlook on life forever!















































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