



Loreto Lore 2016-2017



School Magazine





FOREWORD

As I reflect on the last year, I am once again reminded of the sorrow and shock experienced by our school community following the tragic and untimely death of Y10 pupil, Reece Meenan. Reece was, in many ways, a typical pupil. He was a young boy with a love for football, an irrepressible personality and a huge smile. We remember him with great fondness. It is a testament to the whole school community that we have been able to respond so positively and I have been humbled by the support and friendship shown by staff, pupils, parents and friends during these testing times.

In the midst of this sadness, however, there has been much to celebrate and the school remains a vibrant community. Whether it is performing as a choir member at the Priests' Concert; winning Ulster Hurling or Football Championships; achieving examination successes; travelling to New York or helping out with our charities - there is always something happening within the school and Loreto Lore does a wonderful job recording events and achievements throughout the school year. Amongst the highlights this year was the performance of Tigh Tara, our traditional group, in the Siansa Gael Linn Final at the National Concert Hall in Dublin. It was a truly wonderful event and a fitting showcase for our traditional music talent in the school. As a Scientist, I was delighted with our success in the BT Young Scientists' Competition when we were acclaimed as Best School in Northern Ireland. Congratulations must also go to our Y11 Gaelic footballers for their tremendous win in the Treanor Cup.

As we prepare to expand our Y8 intake in September of this year, I am struck by the huge changes that have happened throughout the world. This time last year we were still members of the European Union, David Cameron was the British Prime Minister and Barack Obama was President of America. Change it would seem is inevitable, whether on a global scale or at school level. We look forward to the future with confidence, secure in the knowledge that any changes will not diminish our core values and that Loreto students will continue to make a valuable contribution in an ever changing world.

I congratulate Mrs Little and her editorial team on another superb publication that captures the unique spirit of the College. The articles presented within this year's Loreto Lore demonstrate how the College continues to progress and develop. As I reflect on the many successes and achievements throughout the year, I offer my congratulations to all who have achieved success and wish everyone continued success in the future.

Michael F-James

Mr Michael James
Principal
Loreto College Coleraine

OBITUARY

IN MEMORY OF *Reece Meenan*

As a school community we were all shocked and saddened to hear about the tragic death of Y10 pupil, Reece Meenan, on Saturday 26th November. Reece was an extremely likeable and popular pupil who participated fully in school life, being a member of both the soccer and Gaelic football teams. Two years ago, he was a vital member of the Y8 soccer team, which won the Y8 league and this year was a key member of the Y10 Gaelic squad, which was due to play in the semi final of the cup. Reece was beginning to develop as a student and was carefully considering his options for the future, with his passion for sport at the forefront of his career aspirations. He was a lively boy with a good sense of humour and he will be desperately missed by his teachers and fellow students alike. May he rest in peace.



130 RED BALLOONS...

All Year 10 students from Loreto College gathered together on the morning of Monday 5th December to mark what would have been Reece's fourteenth birthday and to celebrate his life. The students and their teachers and Year Head Mr K Conroy, along with College Principal Mr Michael James and the Vice Principals Miss Toner and Mr Gallagher, remembered Reece before releasing 130 red balloons in his memory. Red was chosen because it had been Reece's favourite colour; a special balloon was added which contained messages from his closest friends.



Reece Meenan RIP

Up until year 10 I had little contact with Reece. I had known of him from the corridors and heard the odd story, all of which were good of course! It was only when I became Head of Year that I had the opportunity to meet Reece in person. For those of you who knew him, it is fair to say he was a likeable rascal! Indeed, many of my dealings related to Reece being shall we say, a wee bit bold! Did this make Reece any different from most boys his age? Certainly not! Like most of his peers, he enjoyed the fun and the odd bit of mischief, which was even better when he didn't get caught. At times though it was hard not to notice the 'red head' even when he was trying to be inconspicuous!

Personally speaking, I won't forget the night I heard the tragic news of Reece's death. Like many tragedies, the word began to filter out slowly with few people wanting to confirm our worst fears. Our first thoughts were with his friends who were with him and his family who were going through unimaginable turmoil. What happened on Saturday 26th November would ultimately change the lives forever of those closest to Reece. The shock and grief here in Loreto brought it back to us once again, the unpredictable and often unjust nature of life which proves to us that what time we have, we must strive

to make the most of it. To claim I knew Reece, the person, before his death would be untrue. To say that I have learned a lot about him since would be much more accurate. Like me, Reece was an avid Liverpool supporter and longed to see the day when they would be crowned Premier League Champions so that in itself signalled his sense of humour! Indeed, coming from his closest friends, that humour was what set him apart, the one thing they will miss most. Reece had that admirable quality of being able to make others laugh, an ability to see a light hearted side to life, something we could all do well to emulate. He was at his happiest when he was socialising with his friends down the town and in particular, when he made the short journey back to Portstewart where he spent the majority of his life and attended St. Colum's Primary School. He was no stranger to the Golf Club there and his skills were also noted on the Gaelic field of Eoghan Rua. Reece was an all-rounder and the sense of grief at his loss was felt across the local community and beyond.

Reece may well be gone from our sight but the impression he has left will outlive many of us. To see



the compassion our students gave to each other, the comfort they brought to the family both during and after the wake and the

fondness and sincerity which fills their reminiscence of Reece, it is fair to say that he is still very much alive here in Loreto College. This was none more evident than the day the year group released a red balloon each to mark what would have been Reece's 14th birthday on 5th December 2016. There was a real sense that Reece was there watching and giving his seal of approval as we watched the balloons fade into the distance as if they were leaving us and making their way to Reece as a birthday present from his friends.

Everyone who knew Reece will have their own fond memories which they will carry with them and with the help of faith, family and friends, the burden of his loss will hopefully be eased. To Veronica, Paul, John and our past pupil Caitlin, we assure you of our continued prayers and, to all who loved Reece, take heart from each other and continue to call upon Reece whenever you need him. 'You'll Never Walk Alone'. May he rest in peace.

Mr K Conroy, Head of Year 10



PAYING TRIBUTE TO REECE (RIP)

As the news of losing Reece, at such a young age filtered, the school community entered into shock, horror and immense grief. We heard stories from his friends, of the fun they shared, the fullness and vibrancy of his life; his love of sport. Reece was at the stage, where life was an adventure, to be enjoyed. That example has helped his friends to deal with their grief. They have endeavoured to keep his memory at the heart of their year group.

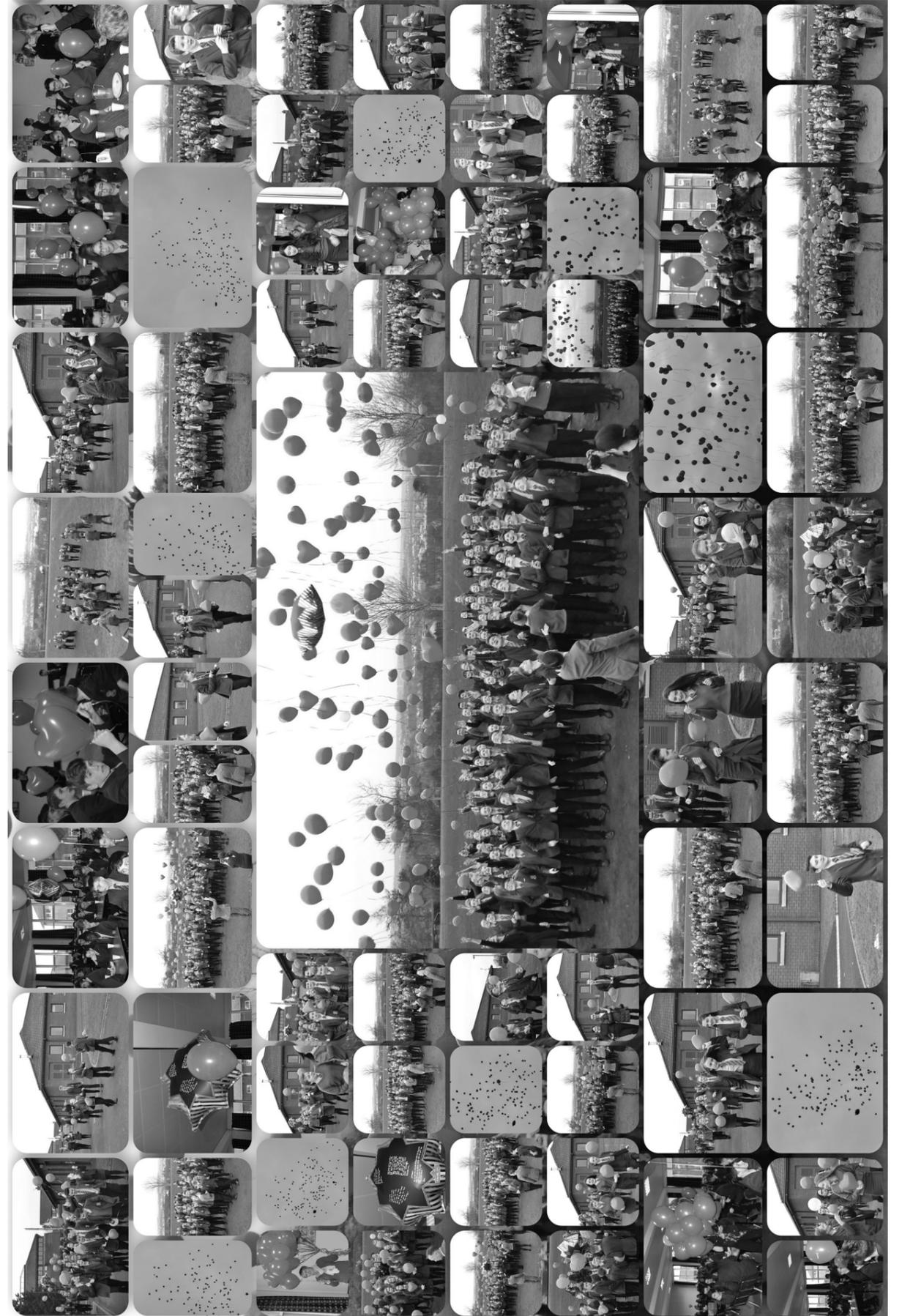
In coming to terms with losing Reece, his friends spent time creating a banner, featuring the crests of his school and the clubs he was a valued member of. The year group signed messages showing their fondness of Reece and happy memories they shared. They all gathered in prayer at the Convent Chapel.

As the date of Reece's birthday approached, his friends proposed a balloon launch in his memory. This proved to be a very fitting tribute to a much loved and missed young man. As a year group, the students released red balloons - Reece's favourite colour.

His close friends decided to begin a fund-raising campaign, to lay a plaque in Reece's memory at Anfield Stadium. As Reece was an avid supporter of Liverpool, this was agreed as another fitting tribute to him, echoing the motto - "you'll never walk alone". Thanks to the support of Tesco's, Coleraine, the boys were supplied cookies to sell in school. Their sale was very successful and their efforts were published in the local newspaper.

Having seen the work the boys were doing, Mr Jamie Selfridge, the Treasurer of Bertie Peacock's Football Club, Coleraine, contacted Loreto. As Reece had been a member of the football club, he wished to meet with the boys and contribute financial support to their plaque at Anfield. This was so appreciated by the boys and the whole school community. Mr Selfridge met with the boys, talking to them and praising them for their positive efforts on Reece's behalf. We are very grateful to him.

As a result of the success of their fundraising, the boys have ordered a plaque, which will be a permanent memorial of Reece, at Anfield Stadium. It is hoped this will be laid and accessible to view around September 2017.



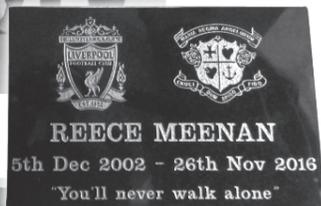


We thank Fr McCullagh for being a continued source of strength. His presence and support throughout the school year is always appreciated. We also thank our Loreto sisters for their continued prayers and support.

The whole community has been so touched by the loss of Reece, as seen in all the thoughtful gestures outlined, from residents to local businesses. We hope that in some way, these can be seen as a comfort to his family and friends. As a school community, we would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Reece's family and friends. We wish to state that our thoughts and prayers continue to be with them all. Reece's friends have planted a bush with red flowers, across from our grotto in the school grounds, in his memory. Red had been his favourite colour - a vivid sign, that he is still, very much a part of our school community, and his memory continues to grow among us all.



A resident in the local area, Mr Gordon, also read about Reece in a local newspaper, and he set about writing to Anfield and Celtic Park to inform them of the loss of such a football fan. In response, letters from the Chaplain in Anfield were forwarded to Reece's family to offer their condolences, along with an invitation to attend the relative parks. Our thanks also go to Mr Gordon, whose kindness was shared with Reece's family. We invited Reece's family and his peers in Year 10, to join with us in Mass on 14th June 2017. Celebrated by Fr Raymond McCullagh, we remembered Reece in our prayers and brought gifts to represent the young man, who lived life to the full, and with a smile. Musicians led the year group in the song 'You'll never walk alone.'



Mrs Siobhán McCarry
Head of Religion



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SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mr Michael Florida-James - Principal
Ms Belinda Toner - Vice-Principal
Mr Stephen Gallagher - Vice-Principal
Mr Frank Scullion - Senior Teacher

TEACHING STAFF

Mr Callum Boyle	English, LLW	Mr Peter Loughran	French, Spanish
Mrs Katrina Brolly	Physics, Science, Digital Technology	Mrs Tracy Loughrey	English, French, Careers, LLW
Mr Paul Byrne	PE, Careers	Mrs Martina Mackle	Mathematics, LLW
Mrs Maeve Close	Physics, Science, LLW	Ms Catherine Marron	English, English Literature, Mathematics, LLW
Mr Feaghall Collins	Mathematics	Miss Leanne Martin	Home Economics, RE, LLW
Mr Kevin Conroy	RE, LLW	Mrs Sheila McBroom	Biology, Science, LLW
Mr Paul Cuning	Art & Design, History	Mrs Anne McCambridge	French, Spanish, LLW
Miss Elizabeth Curry	Geography	Mrs Siobhan McCarry	RE, LLW
Mr Conrad Deighan	ICT/Computing	Mrs Lorraine McCool	English, English Literature, Drama, LLW
Mrs Geraldine Diamond	Mathematics	Mrs Maureen McCullough	PE
Mrs Geraldine Doherty	Biology, Science, SEN	Mrs Oonah McEwan	Drama, Theatre Studies
Miss Maria Flannelly	Chemistry, Science, Careers	Mrs Michelle McGill	Art & Design, LLW
Miss Julie Galbraith	RE, LLW	Mrs Schira McGoldrick	History, LLW
Mr Stephen Gallagher	Music, Maths, ICT	Mrs Meabh McGreevy	Geography, RE, LLW
Mr Emmett Harkin	History, Government & Politics, LLW	Mr Raymond McKay	Design & Technology
Mr Michael James	Physics, Digital Technology	Mrs Sinead McNicholl	Home Economics, Careers
Miss Rionagh Kirby	Chemistry, Science, LLW	Mrs Stacey Mellon	Economics, Careers, Business & Communication
Mrs Caragh Little	English, English Literature		

Mrs Siobhan Mullan French, LLW
 Ms Sinead Mullan Biology, Science, LLW
 Mr Bob Murphy History, Careers, LLW
 Mr Sean Murtagh Design & Technology, Maths, ICT, LLW

Mrs Frances Pepin English, LLW
 Mrs Julie Roantree Mathematics
 Mr Frank Scullion Chemistry, Science
 Mr Liam Shaw Geography, Careers, LLW
 Mrs Fionnuala Simpson French, Spanish, Irish, LLW
 Mrs Brenda Sweeney RE, LLW
 Miss Belinda Toner Economics
 Bean Uí Mhaolain Irish, Spanish LLW

Part time

Mr Eddie McCloskey PE
 Ms Marian McErlan Biology, Science
 Mr Gerry McGouran Economics
 Miss Roisin Stewart Music, RE, LLW
 Ms Julie Wilson PE, Drama

Tutors

Mr Howard Gillespie Singing
 Mrs Annie Sharkey Singing, Piano

Ancillary Staff

School Bursar: Mr Gerry Lynn
 Assistant to Bursar: Miss Trudie Donnelly
 Office Manager: Ms Lynda Stewart

Principal's Secretary: Mrs Pauline Dougan
 General Assistant: Mrs Maja Johnston
 Miss Kirsty Crawford
 Mrs Felicity Ferris
 Miss Aine McGuckian

Classroom Assistants: Mrs Jayne Conn
 Ms Ann Johnston
 Mrs Sharyn Keenan
 Mr John Kildea
 Mrs Karen Lagan
 Mr Ryan McAfee
 Ms Chloe Scott
 Mrs Maxine West

Senior Study Supervisor: Mr Keith Elgin (Computers)
 Technicians: Mrs Kathleen Mitchel (Science)
 Mr Ian O'Hara (Technology)
 Mrs Selena Young (Science)

Librarian: Mrs Fiona McDonnell
 Caretaker: Mr Patrick Weir
 Cook Supervisor: Ms Michelle McCann
 Assistant Cook Supervisor: Ms Martina Tohill
 Canteen Staff: Mrs Teresa Mullan
 Mrs Caroline Weir
 Mrs Helen Heaney
 Mrs Helen Walton
 Mrs Ann Canning
 Mrs Mary Butcher

Lunchtime Supervisors: Mrs Noleen McClure
 Mrs Jenny McGarvey
 Mrs Zara McMaster
 Mr Donald Turner

Groundsman:



Loreto College Staff 2016-2017

EDITORIAL

2016-2017 will be remembered differently by everyone. It was a year marked by tragedy at the end of November, and nobody in school was untouched by the loss of popular, lively student Reece. It was also a year of anxiety, with changes in our own school and throughout the UK and Ireland – Brexit, cuts in school budgets, elections, new specifications, instability felt by everyone teaching, learning or both. In such a year, perhaps especially, we turn to the collective sense of humour of a large school community to get us through... and thus it was that 2016-17 became the year of three things: the bottle flip, the dab and the fidget spinner.

The year started with the bottle flip. Teachers fast grew tired of the 'slosh and thump' sound effect as students tried to execute the perfect toss; one student in an unnamed English class was so excited that he exclaimed, 'Sir!' as one of his attempts to do this unexpectedly went right one dull Friday morning just after Halloween. So much did the craze take off that it was banned following an announcement at Assembly; so much did the students miss it that a bottle flip competition was held on Mission Day. Hard on the heels of the bottle flip came the dab. A swift and sometimes almost graceful move, the dab is rumoured to have dubious origins but certainly took off among students who used it to celebrate everything from good marks to chips in the Café Lorette, to the arrival of 3:15 on Friday at last! A rumour exists that some teachers learned the move: readers will be disappointed to hear that no photographic evidence of this exists. Finally, in the Summer Term, came the fidget spinner. Alleged to aid concentration, the

rapidly-growing population of fidget spinners visiting most Loreto classrooms every day started as fairly basic, but before long, variants appeared which were fitted with lights, made of metal, perhaps to emulate the rotors of a helicopter, or played music. Threats were made to these innocuous devices as they generated a low hum and a slightly glazed expression during class. The pond may have been mentioned.

The harmless preoccupations of a year can sum it up. Despite all the challenges we face, personal and academic, we'll always find those things which get us through it all. Those strategies and tricks might annoy someone else briefly – they will pass. Older teachers, like me, will remember the Tamagotchi year, or the time someone brought their Furby into class. Shakespeare, in Hamlet, talks of the need 'to take arms against a sea of troubles/ And by opposing end them.' Using the trivial to deal with the tragic and the frightening is not a sign of disrespect. Far from it: it's a sign that resilience is peeking through the darkness, that we're trying to keep going. And so the silly and, yes, sometimes annoying trends which lend their crazes to a year sometimes really do sum it up, encapsulating how as a school

community we all try to help one another keep going through difficult or simply tiring times.

As always, I've tried to encapsulate a very busy year in the life of Loreto College in this Magazine. I could never have accomplished this without support, information, articles, photos, and all kinds of assistance from everyone in school. I'd especially like to thank Mr James, Miss Toner, Mr Gallagher and Mr Scullion for their advice and practical assistance throughout the year. Our Office Staff remain unflappable and always helpful, while Mr Elgin always steps in to help with technical or photographic assistance (and you can see many of his outstanding sports photographs in this magazine). Thank you to all the members of staff and students who contributed ideas, suggestions, articles, photographs, artwork or simply showed interest: it is always appreciated very much. Finally, and most definitely not least, my thanks to the members of the 2017 Magazine Committee for their enthusiasm, good humour and articles. Without student contributions the magazine would be a poor representation of school life indeed.

Mrs C Little,
 Editor.

Magazine Committee 2016-2017

Aidan Boyle, Michael Dallat,
 Philip Doherty, Cain McKendry
 Year 14

Niamh Boorman, Rebecca Dillon, Niamh Doherty,
 Valentino Jayamanna, Caoimhe Kelly, Sarah Kelly,
 Aimee Quigg, Adam Taylor
 Year 13

STAFF NEWS

As the staff sigh wearily into their coffee mugs at the end of another busy year, there are the usual changes to think about and goodbyes to say. As always, there have been arrivals, departures, happy and sad times, and this has all added to what make 2016-17 a memorable year.

In September we welcomed several new members of staff: Mr Feaghal Collins (Mathematics); Miss Rionagh Kirby (Chemistry); Miss Oonagh Nugent joined us as a General Assistant until Christmas; Miss Kirsty Crawford worked as a General Assistant throughout the year, while Mrs Jayne Conn and Mr Ryan McAfee joined us as Classroom Assistants.

In the course of the year we welcomed a number of temporary members of staff: Mr Mark Gillen (Biology), and Miss Hannah Morren (Geography), Mr Kiefer O'Boyle (RE), Miss Elise Brammer (Music), Mrs Aideen Ahern (English), Mrs Anne O'Kane (Mathematics), Mrs Sarah McCaughan (English), Mrs Eileen Diamond (general subjects), Mrs Jane Nugent (Science), Miss Karen O'Donnell (PE), Miss Aileen McAlister (Irish) and Mrs Sara Cunningham-Bell (Art & Design).

Congratulations to Miss Karen O'Donnell (PE) who got married at Easter, returning to us as Mrs Karen Wilson – very best wishes to Mr and Mrs Wilson for a happy future together. Congratulations once again to our ICT Manager, Mr Keith Elgin, who once again distinguished himself in the field of photography - no surprise to anyone who has seen his work. And congratulations to the very energetic members of staff who ran marathons and half-marathons, completed triathlons

and took part in staff pilates and metafit classes in the course of the year, or simply quietly and consistently went to the gym, the Park Run, the swimming pool or the sports pitch. Our staff continue to offer a wealth of experience beyond all exam specifications to our students, whether that's the wisdom and empathy drawn from family life, expertise in almost every sport you can imagine, spiritual guidance, expression through drama, music, writing and the arts, a joke (whether good or bad), or just a friendly smile when all seems lost.

As the school year draws to a close, we say farewell to three long-standing members of staff: Mr Paul Cuning, Head of Art & Design, Mr Gerry McGouran, Head of Economics, and Mr Raymond McKay, Head of Technology. We wish them all a long and happy retirement. You can read more about all three distinguished gentlemen in the pages that follow.

At the end of May, we said farewell to Miss Elise Brammer, who had spent most of the year in the Music Department. Miss Brammer brought lots of energy and enthusiasm to her teaching, choir conducting and loved getting involved in all areas of school life. We wish her great happiness in her forthcoming marriage this summer, and on her future career. We also say goodbye to Mrs Sarah McCaughan, who has spent almost half the school year in the English Department. A former student, Mrs McCaughan fitted into the Department seamlessly, and has enjoyed getting to grips with a whole range of Literature and Language classes. We wish her every success and happiness in her new post in Limavady Grammar

School. We say goodbye too to Mr Mark Gillen, who has spent over a year in the Biology Department. Full of humour and enthusiasm, Mr Gillen has made his classes enjoyable for his students, and we wish him well in his new post in St Joseph's College. In June, we also said goodbye to Mrs Karen Wilson, who had spent five months in the PE Department, contributing much to Junior, GCSE, A Level and extra-curricular PE, including taking a starring role in the staff relay team on Sports Day. We also said Slán to Miss Aileen McAlister, who had spent a few months in the Irish Department, stepping in to work very hard at an intensely busy time of year. Our best wishes too went to Miss Kirsty Crawford, who had a very busy year working as a General Assistant, helping out in Learning Support and in Home Economics - a huge thank you to her for her hard work and constantly cheerful demeanour. Finally, we said farewell to our Singing and Choir tutor, Mr Howard Gillespie after many years' service to choral music and singing at Loreto - a tribute follows.

Mrs C Little

Some tributes follow from the Staff Retirement Celebration on Friday 23rd June.

"Last of the Summer Wine."

I'm sure most of you have at some time watched this long-running BBC comedy series. It was a story of 3 school friends, 3 old geezers, whiling away their autumn years and getting up to all kinds of childish mischief. The last member of the trio died just a few weeks back at the grand old age of 96: the actor Peter Sallis, who played the role of Clegg.

Well tonight we're here to mark the occasion, if they'll forgive me, of the retirement of our own 3 old geezers. Perhaps there are openings for the next trio of stars for the sequel of "Last of the Summer Wine." But who would play who?

Well there's Raymond. He could play **Foggy** - tall stature, and the appearance at least, of a gentleman with a military background - stories to be told about life in the admiralty and all the battleships he'd help to sink. He'd come up with all the hair-

brained technological schemes, but would be too sensible to actually try them out himself.

Then there's Gerry. He could be **Clegg** perhaps. The unobtrusive lover of a quiet life, who occasionally enjoys telling stories of his frightening encounters with the fairer sex. He'd be the half-sensible one.

Then, who could play **Compo**? The mad hatter who wears the wellington boots in the height of summer and who is never without

his pet ferret upon his person. The happy go lucky chap who always seems to find himself talked into piloting Foggy's next invention - often just to impress the next door neighbour - Nora Batty. It's a real pity that Paul doesn't appear terribly suited to that part!

In any case, I wish for our three retiring gentlemen all the enjoyment and fun in their retirement that Foggy, Clegg and Compo appeared to have in the comedy series.

Mr Frank Scullion



RETIREMENT OF MR PAUL CUNNING

I've very kindly been given the privilege to say a few words about Paul: to attempt to record just a flavour of the man who has given 40 great years of service to the college.

First, I see Paul as a joker at heart, but equally happy to be the butt of the joke, if it generates enjoyment for those around him:

Like the day he arrived into the staffroom in his long retro trench coat - if he was expecting a compliment he didn't get it. Aideen Ahern was heard to remark - "What Paul, are all the parks closed today?"

And then there were those times, when he might have been looking for a little sympathy or encouragement. He didn't always get what he expected from the fine ladies in his company.

Remarking on one occasion that he would like to do something else for a change, I think it was Catherine who quipped: "What, like go back to class and do a little teaching?"

And I'm sure if he's been told once that he's got such an easy job, teaching "colouring-in", then he's been told that hundreds of times. But he has always taken these remarks in the good spirit in which they were intended.

But of course Paul's at his best when he's the architect of the joke. I first came across his wit under the disguise of a pupil with the rather strange name "Loof Lirpa". I was marking Christmas tests back in 1980 and came across a test with the strangest of answers - and the more I advanced through the test the stranger the answers got. Guess who was supervising that test and guess how much Paul knows about chemistry? And the pseudonym he had chosen? Simply "April Fool"



spelt backwards I was later to learn. Come to think of it, his joke was a little out of season at the time.

Then, amongst so many of his other practical jokes, there was the occasion of Carol Wilson's 40th Birthday party in our canteen. [Carol was then the Head of Music and quite a flamboyant lady.] As we've come to expect, Paul put himself out to entertain and make the occasion that little bit more special - arriving in his pretty bright Lycra suit - I think I'll just leave the rest to your imagination.

There were only 2 other Loreto teachers, during my time, that I believe would have been brave enough to do that: James Logan, the Head of Chemistry before me and Conor Smyth, a PE teacher and legendary story teller. When Paul, James and Conor got together, they were an altogether different kind of trio! You never quite knew what to expect when you were in their company. That, by the way, was when I discovered Paul had a 'hollow leg'. When you see him limping somewhat today, is it any wonder?

Speaking of Carol Wilson, I'm told that Paul sought her out on a beach in the south of Spain: showing up, and again dressing up and indeed



wearing a disguise (this time as an ice cream salesman). Have-a, have-a ice cream I can hear him shouting. I'm sorry I wasn't actually there to see Carol's reaction, and more so, that of her sister and mother. How far will Paul go to play a practical joke?

That was Spain. He tried the same thing on me one summer, but this time in France, driving a hundred miles or more out of his way to surprise my wife Catherine and me. But again, unfortunately I wasn't there. We'd gone west in Brittany when he arrived. Mind you, my in-laws can still remember the strange gentleman who arrived out of the blue and who spoke French like a native - a Native Indian I think they said. To this day, 30 years later, Paul can still tell me the name of that street in Brittany. [Rue des Violettes].

He's a man with an enormous emotional memory and small wonder, considering his emotional investment in the lives of so many others. On that very point: one of Paul's most endearing and admirable qualities is his empathy for others, including - in fact especially including - complete strangers! Loreto has a fine reputation for being a welcoming school to visitors. Well, in that

respect, Paul is in a league of his own. We've all noticed this remarkable phenomenon over the years, and it's there today as fresh as it was 40 years ago. You observe a stranger in the staff room sitting alone, or appearing somewhat ill-at-ease. Barely have you made your observation and the next thing you know, Paul has introduced himself to the stranger and the pair are seated together chatting merrily away. The stranger has 'lit up' and indeed so has Paul.

To get up from your chair during a morning break or lunch break, to draw yourself away from your friends and good conversation, takes a very special unselfish effort. For me this is a mark of the man. It is also a rich part of the legacy that he leaves behind in the college. Now tell me: who's going to step into those size 16 shoes - metaphorically speaking that is? To my knowledge he hasn't ever run away with any of these strangers, so his intentions have always been most honorable.

Kevin McKenna was one of those strangers that Paul helped to settle in some 38 years ago. Kevin only taught for 6 months in the school (a maternity leave for Fedelma Burgess) before moving back to Donegal. It was just as well for me by-the-way, because he'd a terrible influence on me at the time:



Kevin that is! He introduced me to Guinness and I must have put on at least a stone in weight in just that short period. Paul and Kevin have remained great friends ever since. Kevin, Paul's eldest son, takes his name I believe from Kevin McKenna, who in fact stood for him. On Kevin's behalf, and all the strangers you befriended when they needed a friend, I would love to say an enormous thank you Paul.

And we mustn't forget the many spontaneous personalized cards - the cards for individuals, groups and teams - cards with best wishes and congratulations and cards in celebration. It is easy to get so caught up in what you are doing in your own department that you miss what is happening elsewhere, or at least it is for me personally. This has rarely happened to Paul. He's made the cards himself and then taken the time to run around staff to give them the opportunity to chip in and display their sentiments as well.

On this same note, who might you depend on at the very last moment, of a Saturday or Sunday morning, to drive a bus-load of students to a random destination to represent the college?

Yes, Paul of course. If there were Monopoly Points for minutes spent representing the college outside of school hours, Paul would own

London City Centre and all of its suburbs too.

One last attribute of Paul that I would like to extoll (not to embarrass him any further) is his entertainment or event management skills. Indeed, in fairness, I feel compelled to highlight this, as I have a wife and 3 kids that I might not otherwise have, were it not for it! Perhaps somewhat diminished today, but Paul loved to party and he loved to organize parties; the bigger the better. Back in the 1980s he helped organize the annual Halloween Fancy Dress Ball at the Edgewater Hotel. It was at one of those that I 'hooked-up with my nearest and dearest'. A shy young lad, I needed a little encouragement to help me find the right lady. Thanks Paul: 35 years on: so far so good! I bet there are others, perhaps many others that you've helped in a similar way.

I won't say these 3 gentlemen are now 'past it', but I do think I overheard Raymond saying to Gerry this evening: "I can usually remember Monday through Thursday. If you can remember Friday, Saturday and Sunday, let's put our 2 heads together." Probably just one of Raymond's corny jokes, however.

Then to finish: Paul I'd like to borrow (and manipulate somewhat) a few lines from one of your favorite traditional Scottish songs: "The Parting Glass". One I heard you sing often in your younger days.

This is for all 3 retirees if I may:

*Of all the money that e'er you had,
you spent it in good company
And of all the harm that e'er you've done,
alas it was to none but thee
And all you've done for want of wit,
to memory now we can't recall
So fill to thee the parting glass.
Goodnight and joy be with you - all!*

Mr Frank Scullion

PC means many things to many people. Personal computer, politically correct, printed copy (to those teachers who just love essays). To those at Loreto College Coleraine, however, PC means only one thing - Paul Cunning.

The year was 1977. Ready to begin a new school year, a fresh faced, newly qualified Mr Cunning strode through the gates of Loreto into the then Art College, which was beside the old Gate Lodge. At least, this was how I imagined it happening. However when I went to request Mr Cunning do an interview for the school magazine, I learned that it was more a "learn on the job" type of role.

Mr Cunning first came to Loreto in September 1977. For the mathematicians amongst you, you will be able to work out that on the occasion of his retirement in 2017, he will have been at Loreto for a grand total of forty years. An incredible length of time in any job I'm sure you'll agree, but even more so in one such as teaching, a post so open to change and renewal. So, the question I asked myself as I sat down to face PC, with a fresh brewed cup of tea he had made me, was what had kept him in the job for so long?

Mr Cunning began as not just an Art teacher, but also a teacher of English and R.E. Throughout the years he also taught history, however Art was where his passion lay. Mrs Briega Dunn was his first Head of Department, and by his own admission, even she didn't know what she was letting herself in for when she took him under her wing! 1977 was also the year that Loreto first began to admit boys, and Sister Angela Higgins was principal.

Anyone who knows Mr Cunning even a little bit will be aware that he has an incredible number of stories to tell. When I asked him about his abiding memories from his time at Loreto, the one overarching memory was that of his running, which is as he says, "Why I walk like I do!" A major highlight was when he successfully coached the Junior Girls' cross-country team to the All-Ireland title in Cork in 2014. His talents aren't just limited to running however, with PC being the pioneer of the "Loreto Challenge," as well as taking part in the recent "Velo Loreto."

When I asked Mr Cunning about his relationship with his colleagues, he spoke fondly of many school trips that he had supervised on. He has many fond memories of times in France, Spain and Germany with a variety of teachers - Mr Murphy, Mrs Diamond, Mr Loughran, and the now retired Mr O'Kane. He tells a great yarn of when Mr O'Kane and himself were supervising a coach load of students on the way to Zebbrugge in Belgium. After a quick toilet stop, Mr O'Kane turned to PC when they were back on the coach and said: "Remember those three girls who went for chips, have you seen them?" Thank God, no harm was done and the girls were at the back of the bus, but Mr Cunning recalled how funny it was seeing the look on Mr O'Kane's face and the delivery of the now legendary line: "Holy Moses Paul, I've spent the whole trip counting wains." "Working best under pressure" perhaps defines Mr Cunning. He said himself that for the various sets for school shows he designed, the "paint was still wet on opening night."

Unsurprisingly, PC's plans for his retirement are extensive. Along

with his wife Maelisa (married since 1984), he intends to do a lot more cycling and travelling, and visit his son Eoin, who works as a software engineer in Manhattan. His eldest daughter Ciara is getting married this year, and Kevin, his eldest child, is a regular feature on the Derry GAA Special Needs teams. Niamh is the last Cunning to come through Loreto, and PC assured me that she'll be walking to school next year!

Mr Cunning acted as the Union Representative for the NASUWT, and stressed the importance of a positive teacher-pupil relationship in maintaining a successful classroom. Above all, he wants to see pupils succeed, be it at Art or whatever else they put their minds to. He also referenced the superb staff in LCC, especially in regards to the spate of recent tragedies that Loreto has experienced over the past few years. He stressed how pupils and teachers would always look out for each other, and the importance of the school support network.

So, Loreto without Mr Cunning? Whatever will become of it? It's hard to imagine a school year without meeting Mr Cunning wandering about the corridors, or occasionally sticking his head in a classroom door to offer a few words of wisdom - or more often than not, a joke.

The initials PC will forever be synonymous with Loreto. The final word has to be one of thanks to Mr Cunning. His wit and wisdom, and ability to make you laugh even at the most difficult times will be sorely missed.

Thank you Mr Cunning, enjoy your retirement.

Aidan Boyle,
Year 14



RETIREMENT OF MR RAYMOND MCKAY

I feel very privileged to have this opportunity to pay tribute to my mentor and friend, Mr Raymond McKay on his retirement after 27 years of teaching at Loreto.

Raymond has added so much to our school community and enriched the lives of so many students in the wider Coleraine area.

To some, Raymond will have directly influenced their career choices into a world of what we now know as STEM. For others, Raymond will have taught valuable life skills both in and out of the TR1 workshop. But every student has been fortunate to experience teaching of the very highest standard, in Raymond's own unique way of demonstrating technological skills and passing on knowledge mixed with a witty sense of humour. In many retirement tributes over the past few years I have heard colleagues recount how they would often listen outside the classroom of the retiring teacher and be in awe of the teaching and learning going on inside. In Technology and Design, the layout of the department is very unique in that you can see into all four of the main classrooms as well as the foyer area. During my own 6 years in Loreto, I have witnessed (and heard) almost every lesson Raymond has delivered during that time, and I still learn (and subsequently steal for my own lessons) something new each day about a subject he is still as passionate about as ever.

Raymond has held many roles within the school - coordinating lost and found, EMU coordinator, bus duty each afternoon, seven schools' coordinator, health and safety officer, milk man, form tutor and head of department, to name only a few. Another major role that Raymond has been tasked

with is to build the many stage sets needed for the school shows. Around June time every other year Raymond's workshop becomes filled with steps, pillars, platforms, frames and props, turning into reality the vision that Mrs McEwan has for her next big production.

Raymond McKay will be a hard act to follow in the Technology and Design department and will be missed by staff and students alike. In particular, the staffroom will be a quieter place as we lose three real characters from the men's table - Mr McKay, Mr Cunning and Mr McGouran. Raymond was always one for leading the topic of conversation and he would never have let a silence fall over the men's table. Raymond was always up to date with current events, but it was his detailed stories of how things worked and emerging technologies leaving you that little bit wiser as you left the staffroom. Alas, not many at the men's table would dare to admit, but it will be his jokes and warm humour that we will miss the most. Raymond is always quick to come in with a witty pun, no matter what the conversation has taken a turn to.



When a teacher usually retires, they rarely have the need to go back to their old classroom or their department that often. Although Raymond's visits will now become less frequent, it pleases me that like all retiring Technology teachers, Raymond will be still tinkering/fixing/breaking/building many projects at home and will need to return to borrow a few tools or to run something through one of the machines, or maybe even to get a new part 3D Printed! Raymond has been so accustomed to having full access to the department, but even though he will hand over the master keys he has proudly held for the past 27 years, he will be always welcome and will have the freedom of the department whenever he needs it.

I would like to wish Raymond the most enjoyable of retirements and the very best wishes to his family for the future.

*Mr Seán Murtagh
Technology and Design
Department*

*Mr G McGouran with his fellow
Economics Department members*



RETIREMENT OF MR GERRY MCGOURAN

It is with a heavy heart that I say farewell to Gerry; Mr McGouran is closing the door on EC1 after 36 years.

He has been a wonderful teacher and head of department, an efficient Examination Officer and a true friend.

Mr McGouran came to Loreto College in 1981, having previously worked on the missions in Africa and having taught in St Mary's CBS Belfast. When he started in Loreto, the Economics department was just being established, but it grew quickly under his stewardship into one of the largest in the school, achieving success at both GCSE and A Level.

He shared his real passion for Economics with his students. He

had a real ability to bring quite complex economic ideas down to a level which all students could understand. Mr McGouran had a real interest in the Stock Market and was quite an expert in reading stock market movements, this was evident from his teams' numerous successes in the Pro Share Stock Market Challenge which culminated in one of his teams becoming UK national champions, winning an all-expenses paid trip to the USA.

A keen traditional musician, he enjoyed playing with the College's traditional music group at the annual Spring Concert; and on many occasions the sounds of the tin whistle could be heard on the corridors outside EC1 as he took a break from demand and supply, inflation and the balance of payments.

His hard work, dedication and, in many cases, perseverance has had a positive impact on a large number of students who have gone on to achieve success in many parts of the global financial world. Mr McGouran has given 36 wonderful years of service to Loreto College and I am very much personally indebted to him for all that he has done for me. I have been truly blessed to have had the opportunity to work alongside him. He has been a wonderful boss.

I wish him a long, happy and fulfilling retirement, after a job well done.

Farewell and Good Luck

Miss Belinda Toner



RETIREMENT OF MR HOWARD GILLESPIE

Mr Howard Gillespie is leaving Loreto College after many years' distinguished service as a Singing Tutor and Choral Conductor. Well-liked by all those who enjoyed singing lessons and choir practices with him, Mr Gillespie made a wonderful contribution to the extra-curricular life of the College as well as bringing students to excellent standards in solo singing, with many of his students gaining Distinctions in their Trinity College examinations right up to Grade 8 and Diploma standards.

Mr Gillespie also worked very hard with our School Choirs, with both Junior and Senior Choirs taking

awards at the Coleraine and Bangor International Choral Festivals as well as appearing on television in the UTV Choir of the Year competition some years ago.

Not only the rigours of choral singing lay within Mr Gillespie's grasp, though: he has been Musical Director for numerous Loreto College school shows, most recently The Sound of Music in 2015. Other shows over which he presided from the orchestra pit included Guys and Dolls (2011), Carousel (2009), Calamity Jane (2007), My Fair Lady (2005), Oklahoma! (2003), The Sound of Music (2001) and The Boyfriend

(1999). The range of these shows shows the extent of Mr Gillespie's musical talent and experience, and it is no surprise that he inspired and enriched all those who were lucky enough to be in the cast of these many musicals. Mr Gillespie also kept busy in musical life outside Loreto, taking a leading part in church music as well as acting as a Trinity College examiner and Centre Administrator.

Mr Gillespie will be greatly missed in Loreto and will be fondly remembered by his former students and colleagues. We wish him great health, happiness and harmony in his retirement.



FRIENDS OF LORETO 2016-2017

LORETO COLLEGE

Voluntary Grammar School, Coleraine

LORETO COLLEGE HOLDS SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISERS

As the first month of the 2016-17 academic year drew to a close, Loreto College held two highly successful fundraising activities as part of its drive to raise funds for the conversion of the Loreto Convent building into a pastoral centre including several new classrooms.

On Sunday 18th September, over 100 cyclists, including some intrepid members of the Loreto staff, undertook the Velo Loreto Challenge over 30 or 50 mile courses. Miss Belinda Toner, Vice Principal, who co-ordinated the event, and Mr Michael James, College Principal, paid tribute to all those who had organised, helped out or participated in what was an extremely successful event. The cyclists were particularly grateful to the Friends of Loreto Committee and some very dedicated Loreto teachers who provided refreshments after the challenge!

On Friday 30th September, all staff and students at Loreto College took part in a sponsored beach walk. Half the student population walked Portstewart Strand, and half walked the East Strand in Portrush, enjoying



a beautiful Autumn morning and raising funds for the College. College Principal Mr Michael James paid tribute to everyone who took part in the walk and in particular to those who organised it. Thanks to the National Trust, Portstewart and to HM Coastguard Coleraine for safety cover and advice.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who raised money for the annual Loreto Beach Walk. A wonderful **£6,652** was raised.

Mr Murphy's 8B was the top Junior Form class with a fantastic **£541.95**

Mr Shaw's 11A was the top Senior Form class with a fantastic **£491.50**

Well done to you both and a huge thank you to the all the Form teachers for their efficiency and enthusiastic efforts. The individual class totals really reflected a concerted effort and it is very much appreciated.

A draw was held among all those students who had raised £25 or more. The individual winners from the draw were:

Jessie McGilligan 9E won the £100 prize. She raised an amazing **£260!**

Conor Irwin 9C won the O'Neills voucher

Orla Cunningham Yr9 won The Crannagh voucher.

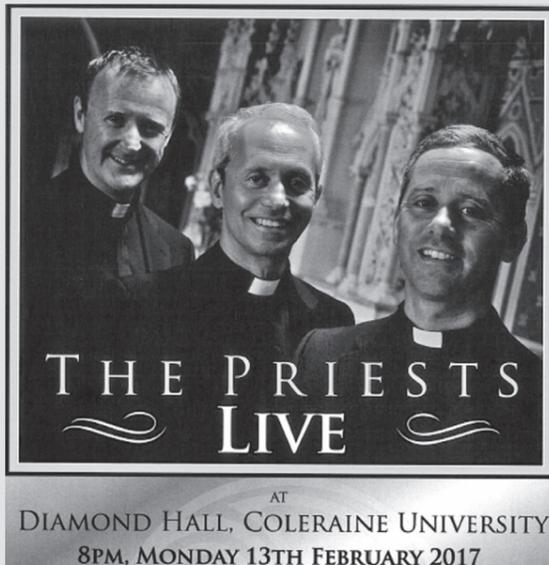
The top fundraisers in each form class were rewarded with a certificate.

A huge thank you to our students' generous families and friends for their support of our annual Beach Walk.

As the 2016-17 academic year continued, Loreto College and the Friends of Loreto continued to raise funds for this exciting development in the College campus and facilities. Proud of its past and its traditions, Loreto College continues to look to the future as it celebrates a proud tradition of Loreto education in Coleraine.



FUNDRAISING CONCERT BY THE PRIESTS



Loreto College was delighted to offer an exciting opportunity for Friends of the College to see the world-renowned Priests in concert.

The College, and the Friends of Loreto, were incredibly fortunate to be given access to the only date they performed in this area to promote their latest album "Alleluia". The Concert took place in the Diamond Hall, Ulster University Coleraine, on Monday 13th February.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College and Chairman of the Friends of Loreto, commented: *"This really was a fantastic opportunity to enjoy an unforgettable evening of beautiful music as well as helping the school raise much needed funds."*

Fundraising continues with Loreto College Superdraw and Coffee Morning

As the 2016-17 academic year moved into its second month, fundraising at Loreto College was continuing. Central to this fundraising was the Friends of Loreto group, established in September 2014 with the aim of raising much needed funds for the development of Loreto College.

The primary project is the ambitious renovation of the beautiful convent building on the College site. This fabulous space will soon be integrated into the school, providing library space, a sixth form centre, learning support and counselling areas. With the renovations proceeding rapidly, Loreto College invited friends, past pupils and school families to a Coffee Morning in the Convent House on Saturday 15th October

from 10am-12 noon, at which visitors had the opportunity to see the progress made to date with the renovation and refurbishment project.

The next Loreto College fundraising project was an exciting Superdraw, launched on Thursday 27th October. A monthly draw was held from October 2016 until June 2017 inclusive. Each month, there was a first prize of £200, second prize £100 and third prize £50. At Christmas there was an extra special 'Super Duper Draw'! A single payment of £45 allowed entry into all the monthly draws.

As the College and the Friends of Loreto reached out to school families, past and present, far and wide, to support Loreto in its continued and expanding work to

help its pupils be the best that they can be, Mr Michael James, College Principal and Chairman of the Friends of Loreto, paid tribute to everyone who has supported the College thus far in its fundraising projects. Mr James hoped that many representatives of Loreto families enjoyed the opportunity afforded by the Coffee Morning on 15th October in the Convent House to admire the work done to date.

With a variety of school projects planned for the years ahead, there can be no doubt that those who continue to support Loreto College through the Superdraw and other fundraising initiatives are helping to secure an exciting and inspirational future for this historic Coleraine school.

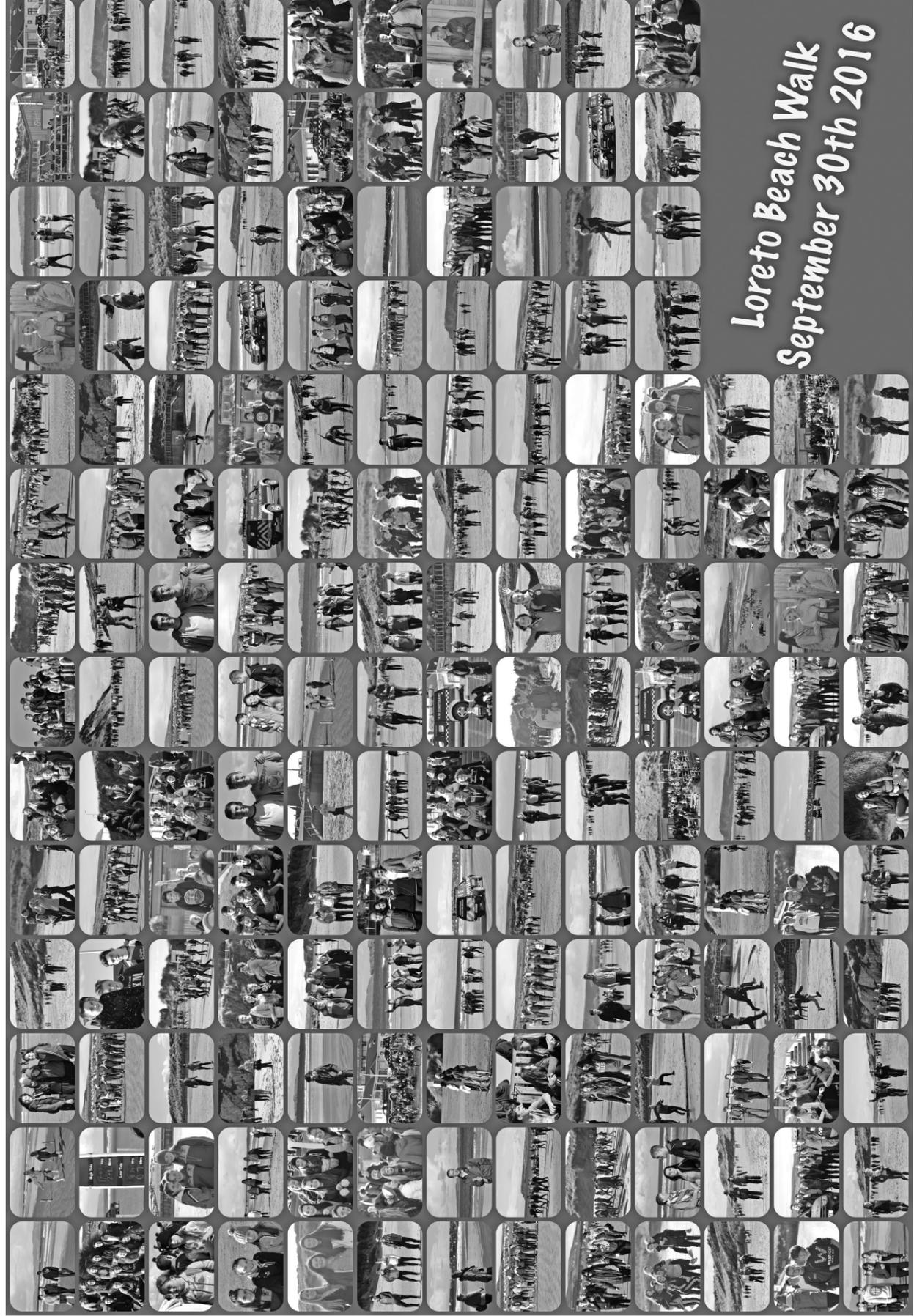
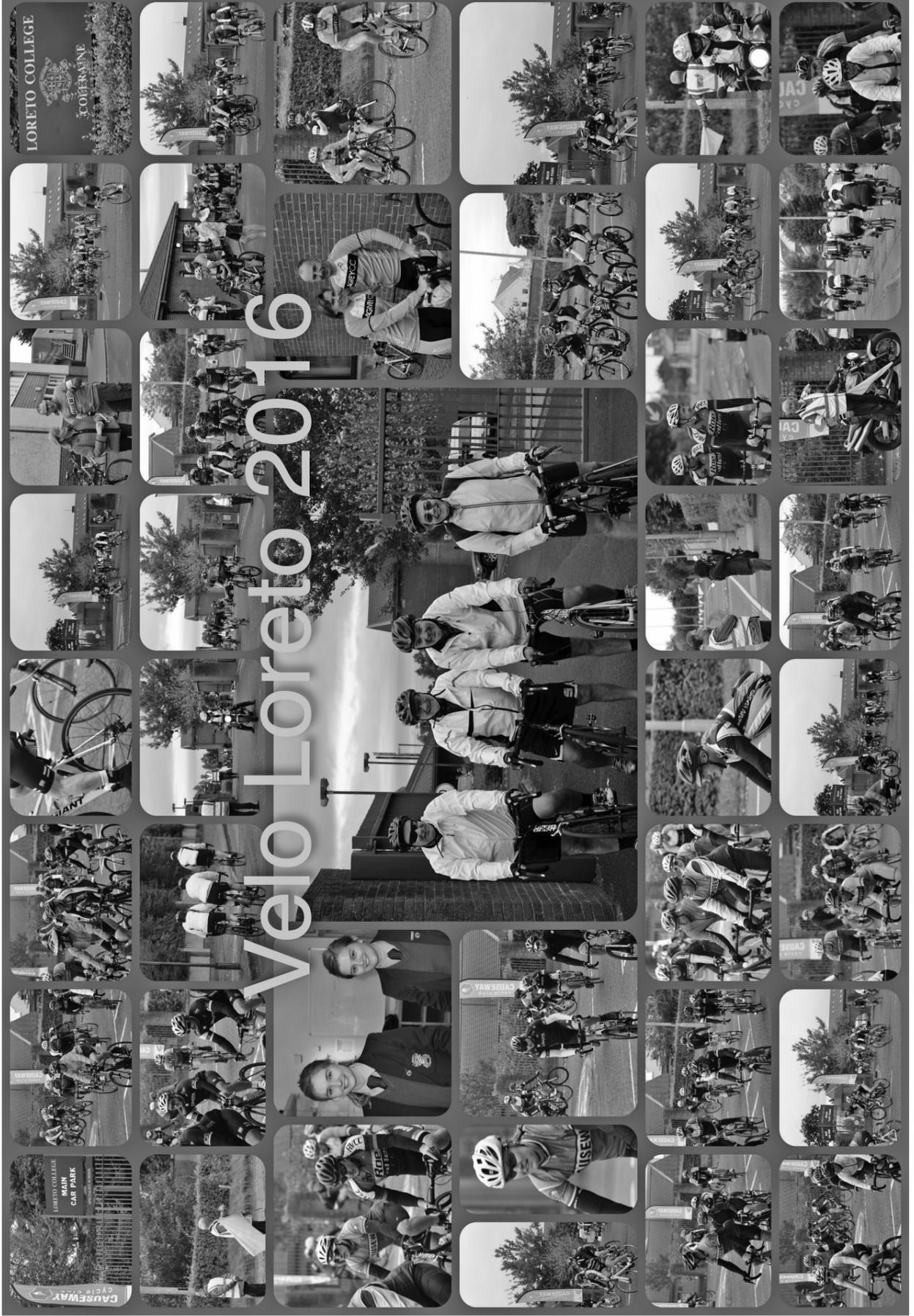
A coffee morning to celebrate the arrival of Summer and the imminent holidays was held in the Convent House on Saturday 17th June.

This turned into an extremely special occasion as we were very privileged to welcome the First Class Relic of St Teresa of Calcutta to the Convent Chapel on the same morning. Those who attended said that there was an extremely special atmosphere, with many who attended to venerate the relic coming to visit the coffee morning in the Convent House afterwards.

We were especially pleased to welcome many of the new Year 8 students who will start their time at Loreto College in September, along with members of their families.

A huge thank you to everyone who made a contribution on the day - we raised **£1160** thanks to the generosity of our many friends.





PRIZEGIVING AND AWARDS 2016-2017

LORETO COLLEGE CELEBRATES EXCELLENT A LEVEL RESULTS

The students and staff of Loreto College Coleraine had much to celebrate as the 2016 A Level and AS Level results were issued on Thursday 18th August.

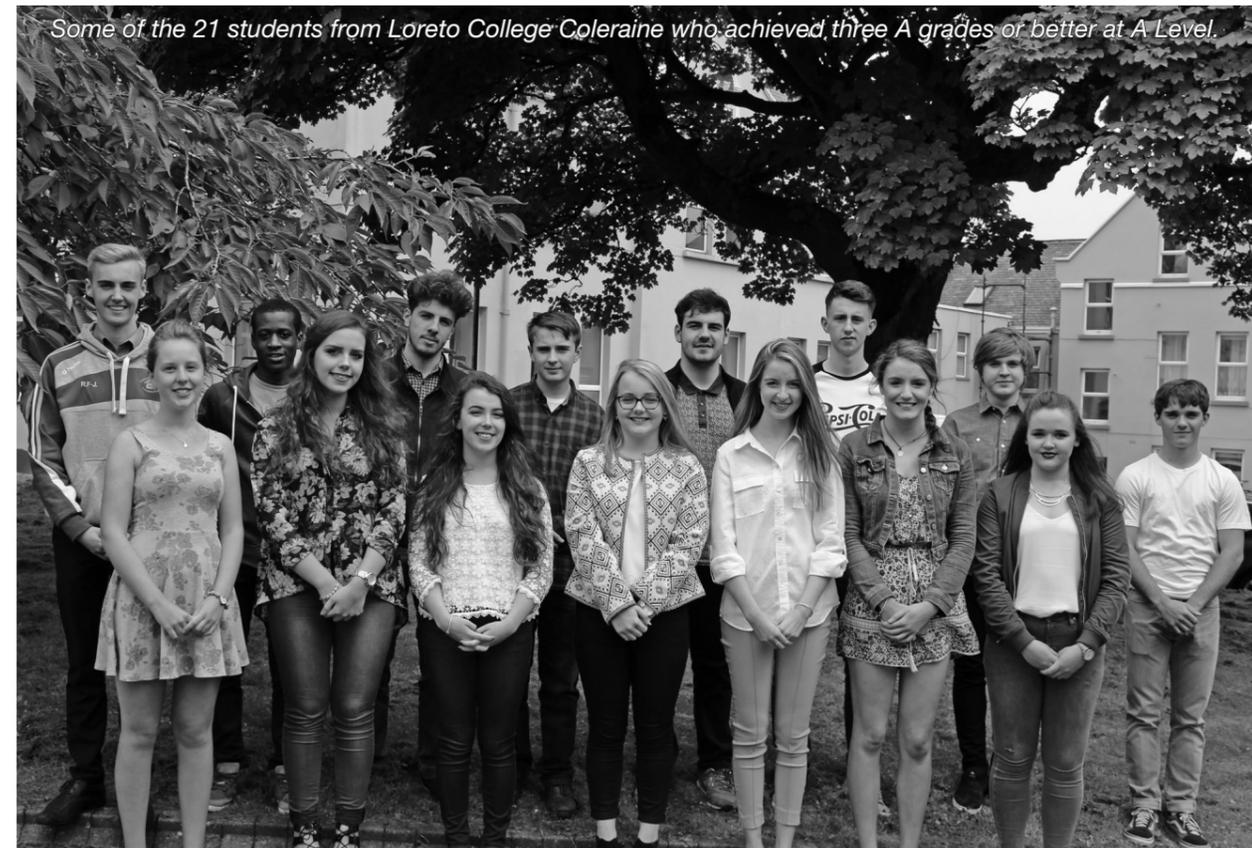
Year 14 students were celebrating some of the College's best ever A Level results, with their successors in Year 13 celebrating excellent results at AS Level.

Speaking on behalf of the College, Loreto Principal Mr Michael James said:

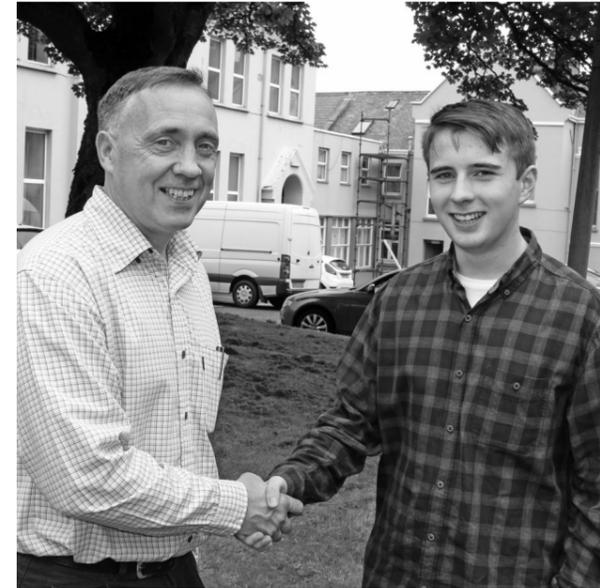
"I am thrilled with the performance of our A Level students who, this year have produced one of our best sets of A Level results ever. Every pupil managed to achieve passes in all of their subjects, with 83.5% achieving three or more grades A - C. 45% of all grades achieved by our students were A* or A grades and over three quarters of all grades achieved were a grade B or better. This is a fantastic reward for all of our students and their teachers and I am delighted that we have been able to build on the successes of*

previous years. Among our top performers, twenty one students achieved the fantastic standard of 3 A grades or better, with Peter Rogan achieving four A grades.*

"Our AS students have also performed better than ever and this is a very positive indicator for the coming year. I congratulate all our students and their teachers for these results and thank them for their hard work and dedication throughout the past year. They all thoroughly deserve these fine results."



Some of the 21 students from Loreto College Coleraine who achieved three A grades or better at A Level.



← Peter Rogan of Loreto College is congratulated by College Principal Mr Michael James on achieving four A* grades at A Level.

Loreto College girls who were among the 21 Loreto students to achieve three A grades or better at A Level.



Loreto College boys who were among the 21 Loreto students to achieve three A grades or better at A Level.

PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP FOR FORMER LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

Loreto College was delighted to learn that a former student had received a prestigious scholarship to assist with his continuing studies at University Level.

Peter Rogan, who left the College in June 2016 and is now reading Medicine at Queen's University, Belfast, was awarded an All-Ireland Scholarship. The scheme, funded by J P McManus, was established in 2008 to support many gifted young students across the whole island of Ireland, giving them extra financial support to enable them to participate in all aspects of college life during their third level education. Peter achieved four A* grades in his A level subjects - Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics, and received the Principal's Award as Loreto's top A Level achiever at the College's senior Prizegiving. He was presented with his scholarship at a ceremony in Limerick in November.



Peter Rogan, former student of Loreto College, who was awarded a prestigious All Ireland J.P. McManus Scholarship for his studies of Medicine at Queen's University Belfast.

Peter was congratulated on this wonderful achievement, and wished well on his further studies, by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.

Delight for LORETO COLLEGE AT GCSE RESULTS

The staff and students of Loreto College Coleraine found much to celebrate on GCSE Results Day 2016, with the Year 12 students of 2016 keeping pace with the outstanding results of previous years at the College.

Speaking on behalf of the College, Loreto Principal Mr Michael James commented,

"I am truly delighted by the wonderful performances of our GCSE students once again. The

results they have achieved compare very favourably with previous results within the school, with 100% of all students achieving five or more grades A- C. 94.5% of all students achieved seven or more grades A*- C, including English and Mathematics, and 63% of students achieving 7 or more A*- B grades. Our students also performed exceptionally well in the top grades achieved this year, with more than half of all grades achieved being A or A*, and 80% of all grades achieved being grade B or better.*

"I would like to congratulate the students and their teachers on achieving such a wonderful set of results. They all deserve great credit for their hard work and dedication throughout the past two years and I am delighted by their continued success."

As the GCSE students of 2016 begin their A Level studies, they do so with a foundation of great success.



Some of the 36 students from Loreto College who attained 7 A grades or better in their GCSE examinations.



Students from Loreto College Coleraine who attained 5 A grades or better in their GCSE examinations.*



Students from Loreto College Coleraine who attained 6 A grades or better in their GCSE examinations.*



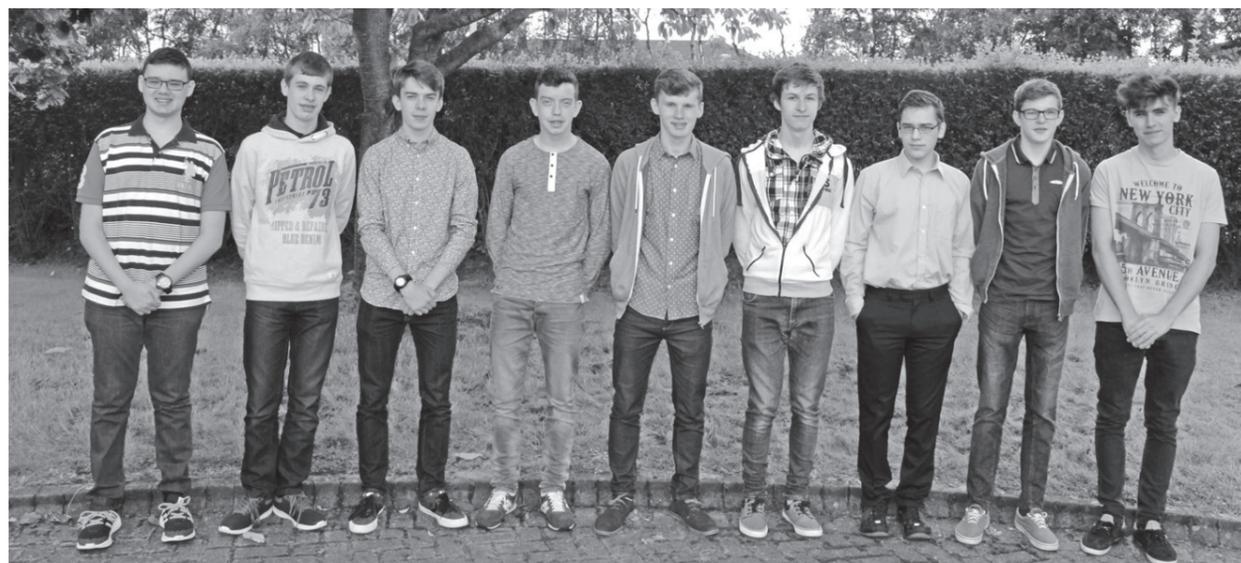
Students Oisín Brennan, Finn Lestas and Molly Brennan from Loreto College Coleraine, who attained 8 A* grades or better in their GCSE examinations.



Molly Brennan of Loreto College Coleraine, who attained 9A* and 1A grades in her GCSE examinations.



Girls from Loreto College Coleraine who attained 7 A grades or better in their GCSE examinations.



Boys from Loreto College Coleraine who attained 7 A grades or better in their GCSE examinations.

SENIOR PRIZEGIVING REWARDS EXCELLENCE AT LORETO COLLEGE COLERAINE



The annual Senior Prizegiving took place at Loreto College Coleraine on the evening of Thursday 15th September 2016. The evening rewards students in the Senior School for excellence in their academic, personal, inter-personal and extra-curricular activities and was an opportunity for the College to celebrate excellence in all aspects of school life in the 2015-2016 academic year. Guests present included members of the College's Board of Governors and representatives of the Loreto Community in Coleraine.

The guest speaker at the Prizegiving was Mr Brendan Mooney, CEO of Kainos, Belfast. A native of Dunloy, Mr Mooney attended Loreto College from 1978-1985. On leaving the College, having achieved A Levels in Computer Science, Economics and Geography, he continued his study of Computer Science at The University of Ulster. Mr Mooney then joined Kainos in 1989 as a graduate software engineer, before moving into a number of technical and commercial roles in Dublin, London and USA. He was appointed CEO of Kainos in 2001.

In addition to his role at Kainos, Mr Mooney has been a Non-Executive Director at Meridio, Property News, the Probation Service for Northern Ireland and, until recently, was a serving Lay Magistrate. In 2013 Mr Mooney was the recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Science (DSc) from the University of Ulster in recognition of his services to business development and, most recently, received an Honorary Doctorate (DSc Econ) for services to business and commerce from Queen's University Belfast.

Mr Mooney spoke fondly of his seven years as a student at Loreto College, commenting that his association with the Loreto Coleraine was a much lengthier one as his mother and aunts had attended the school, with his Aunt Anna having become a Loreto Sister. Memories of enjoyable times combined with an enormous appreciation for the studies, in particular at A Level, which had shaped his career. Paying tribute to all his teachers at Loreto, and in particular those who had taught him at A Level, Mrs Margaret McDonnell for Computing, Mr Gerry McGouran for Economics and Miss Loretta Diamond for Geography, Mr Mooney urged the students present to grasp the opportunities offered by school life as a preparation for every aspect of life in the adult world, both in terms of their future careers and their personal lives. Urging the importance of forging a great career, as a great employee for an inspiring employer, Mr Mooney also urged students to make the most of the opportunities on offer

beyond school life by taking care of their health through regular exercise and enrichment. Mr Mooney paid particular tribute to the caring ethos of Loreto College and its exceptional pastoral care, educating the whole child and ensuring that they are well looked after when challenging circumstances occur. In an inspiring speech, Mr Mooney showed the students of 2016 how an educational experience just like theirs can lead to a career and a lifetime of tremendous success and satisfaction.

Welcoming students, parents and members of staff to the Prizegiving, Mr Michael James, Loreto College Principal, said:

'As you will no doubt be aware in February of this year the Minister for Education accepted the Trustees' Development Proposal, which means that in September 2017 Loreto College will begin to expand, St Joseph's College will begin a phased closure and Dominican College will begin to move away from academic selection. These changes are part of a greater drive to rationalise education and to reduce the burden on the public purse. And this year, once again, we face a year of further financial challenges, with a much reduced budget that restricts our curriculum options and limits our ability to deliver the optimum range of subjects for our students. That we are not the only school facing these budget challenges does nothing to off-set our genuine concerns. However, as always, in Loreto we are willing and ready to rise to these

challenges and to find ways that will allow us to continue as the leading school in the area.

‘As we stand on the threshold of this new era, it is right to stop and ponder what we want our school to achieve and deliver for our students. Certainly today we gather to celebrate academic success and there is no doubt that this is important to our students and their parents. However, I believe that what most of us want as parents is to bring up our children in safety and to keep them healthy and happy. We want them to know the value of the world and the people they encounter and we educate them to care for themselves and for others, whilst allowing them to develop in their own unique way. As W B Yeats put it, “Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.” We hope that here in Loreto we light a flame that our students will nourish and develop as they continue through life.

‘Students do not necessarily remember the precise details of everything they were taught in the classroom, but they do remember the camaraderie of Mission and Sports Days, the trip to Berlin, Beijing or even to Derry. They remember the Camogie or Gaelic final they went to as supporters or team members and they remember their friends and teachers who took them. A Loreto Education is about so much more than achieving grades; it is about reading, it is about art, it is about spirituality, it is about music and sport, and it is about all those intangibles that can never be measured by grades. A Loreto education helps our students to fulfil potential, to make friends, to enjoy school and to develop the skills and capabilities that will allow

them to give something back in society. As Pope Francis outlines, “we educate with the sole object of training and helping to develop mature people who are simple, competent and honest, and know how to love with fidelity, who can live life as a response to God’s call and their future profession as a service to society”.

‘When I reflect back over the last few years I feel extremely proud of our students, not only for the excellent results they have continued to achieve, but for their ability and willingness to look out for each other in times of great difficulty. Our Y14 and Y12 students in particular have been hit hard by the deaths of their friends Anna McAllister, Niamh McCloskey and Michaela Harkin. Their response has been to raise money in memory of these students and to give help to others who are in need. They have done it with a spirit of generosity and selflessness that has been humbling to witness. They really are an exceptional group of young people and, as future leaders in our world, I have no doubt that the future is safe in their hands.

‘Loreto education is built around the core values of the Loreto order and we are delighted that the Loreto Sisters still retain such a vibrant presence here in Coleraine. They retain close contact with us in school and remain our inspiration both spiritually and educationally. We are very proud of the Loreto Heritage they have created and we try to emulate the ideals of Mary Ward in all we do. Our initial renovations to the Loreto Convent building have allowed us to build a physical connection to the convent that now joins it to, and includes it as a part of, the school buildings,

much in the way that the Loreto Sisters are joined to and included as part of our school community. We hope in the near future to organise a coffee morning in the Convent to unveil the renovations.

‘So what will the new Loreto look like? Well, it will be very similar to what it is now in terms of its outlook and ethos. Certainly it will be bigger, with 1050 students as opposed to the current 800. A new fit for purpose wing is scheduled and we are already witnessing the planned refurbishment and development of existing buildings. The school will grow and develop in a phased and managed way, with an expanded Y8 intake in September 2017, followed by the expansion of particular end of Key Stage groups over the following two years, as St Joseph’s closes. Throughout all of this, there will be, as ever, a focus on our current students and maintaining high standards of achievement, uniform, behaviour and manners. We have developed a curriculum at KS4 that offers the opportunity of a purely academic pathway, a more vocational pathway or a combination of both. This will allow each individual to follow a pathway that suits their needs and interests. We are confident that our students will continue to achieve highly in all areas and, as we expand this curriculum in to KS5, every student will be able to access a pathway through the school that leads to university, to further education or to employment. The Loreto of a few years will be a beacon of education in Northern Ireland, showcasing what it is possible to achieve without the use of academic selection.

‘But as I look forward to future successes and developments, I

am aware that tonight is about celebrating the success of our students over the past year. And once again there has been much to celebrate, as our students continue to excel academically and in extra-curricular areas. Our academic achievements saw us top the GCSE league tables and continue to perform strongly in the A Level League tables. Various individuals and teams enjoyed sporting successes and who can forget the wonderful musical and dramatic performances from the Sound of Music and the Spring Concert? We realise that each Loreto student brings a unique presence that adds so much to the life of the school and today we celebrate the talents and abilities of each and every one of our students. We hope that in the future they will be able to use these talents to help society and build a better future for everyone.

‘And of course the academic achievement of our students still has great significance, which 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 take this opportunity to celebrate and feel pride in the achievements of our school. I congratulate all our students and their teachers for their industry and hard work throughout the year and in particular their achievements in the recent summer examinations.

‘Our students have continued to perform extremely well in these recent public examinations- the number of students receiving prizes tonight bears testimony to this. 83.5% of students achieved the key criteria of 3 or more A levels at grades A* - C, with 100% of all students achieving three or more

grades A* - E. 45% of all grades achieved were A or A* and more than three quarters of all grades achieved were grade B or better. Among our top performers twenty one students achieved the fantastic standard of 3 A grades or better, with Peter Rogan achieving an outstanding set of four A* grades and Jack O’Doherty achieving two A*s and two As. Well done to both of them.

‘The results of our GCSE students remain extremely high, with 100% of all students achieving five or more grades A* - C and 95.7% of all students achieving seven or more grades A* - C including English and Mathematics. Indeed 63%, that is almost two thirds of our GCSE students, achieved seven or more grades A* - B including English and Mathematics. Our students also continued to perform exceptionally well in the top grades achieved this year, with 49% (almost half) of all grades achieved being A or A* and 79% of all grades achieved being grade B or better. 40% of our GCSE students gained 6 A grades or better and, at an individual level, Molly Brennan gained 9A*s and 1A with her brother Oisín and Finn Lestas achieving 8A*s and 2 As each. This is a fantastic set of results for these individual students and is a fitting reward for their teachers’ and their own hard work.

‘In the previous GCSE examinations, across all candidates in Northern Ireland, Emily Moore was placed first in Physics and Joint first in Further Mathematics; Maggie McBride was placed joint 1st in Economics and third in Geography, whilst Cariosa O’Harte and Aoife Carr were placed second in Economics and PE respectively. Again, congratulations to these

students and to their teachers for such wonderful performances. ‘However, school life is about much more than academic achievements, important as they are. It is about educating the person as a whole and that is why I am delighted, once again, with our students’ contribution to the wider school life. Participating in extracurricular activities brings a wealth of opportunities and develops friendships and skills that last long after school. This year, again, has been hugely successful in a range of areas and I congratulate all those who have participated throughout the year as well as thanking the many teachers involved. We sometimes take for granted that teachers give so generously of their free time to coach, to arrange matches, to organise competitions and to supervise at the many events. I am personally indebted to the very many teachers who do this on behalf of the school and on your behalf I would like to thank them wholeheartedly for giving so freely of their time to support these various activities and sports. It is only through their selfless dedication and commitment that it is possible for these to happen at all.

‘Gaelic games have once again brought great success to the school with teams competing at all levels in camogie, hurling and football. All teams successfully made it through to the knockout stages but it was once again left to the junior hurlers to return with some silverware. They won the Brother Mallon Cup for a third year in a row and congratulations must go to Mr Boyle and his team- three time Ulster Champions is a fantastic achievement and does not happen by accident: well done everyone. Soccer teams competed at all

levels in the Coleraine and District Leagues, whilst Netball teams won the Y8 Coleraine and District Minor Netball title, with the Y10 and Y11 girls coming runners up in their leagues.

'In cross-country the Intermediate Girls' team qualified to represent Loreto at Ulster and All-Ireland level, whilst in athletics Christopher Doherty represented the school at the All Ireland Multi-Events Pentathlon finals, having finished 2nd in the Ulster competition. Christopher also won two silver medals in the district athletic competitions with Niamh Carr taking Gold in the Intermediate Girls' 3000m race. A group of junior boys made history by becoming the College's first competitive cricket team and acquitted themselves well in their opening matches.

'In individual sports, Aron Lestas took a silver and bronze medal at the Northern Ireland Karate Championships, whilst Year 12 student Emma Mullan became the youngest ever World Shotokan Karate competitor in October. In swimming, Finn McEwan won gold and bronze medals at the Provincial Towns Finals with rower, Connor McGillan, winning the Single Sculls at the Athlone Regatta. Tara Laverty in Year 8, won the Junior Medal at Galgorm Golf Club and is also in the Ulster Golf development squad. 'Away from sport, Oonagh Rafferty and Philip Doherty took first place in their respective sections of our annual poetry competition and a Year 10 team finished second in the Ulster Gael Linn Quiz Final. Kate McLaughlin, a Year 13 student, won first place in the local Causeway Credit Union Art Competition, with Laura Millar from Y14 receiving a Special Commendation in a Coleraine Art

Society Competition. In Science, Daniel White represented the College at the BT Young Scientist competition and was highly commended for his project. Carlo Morelli, in Y12, secured the amazing opportunity to spend a month travelling in Indonesia and Australia, experiencing a range of aspects of family and school life as well as learning about indigenous cultures. Cariosa O'Harte was placed second in the Northern Ireland Rotary Youth Leadership Development competition, having won at local level. Cariosa also found time, along with Maggie McBride, Cormac McCarry and Kate McLaughlin, to compete in the Bank of England Target 2.0 Interest Rate Challenge, under the tutelage of Miss Toner. The team won through their two regional heats – firstly in Northern Ireland and secondly in Manchester before scooping second place in the UK Final in London. Miss Toner is always ready to apportion credit to her wonderful students and I have no doubt that they truly deserve it, but just this evening, I would like to pay tribute to Miss Toner, who has led 11 different teams in the past 13 thirteen years to great levels of success in this competition. She remains committed and motivated to do this despite her many onerous duties as Vice-Principal and I believe she deserves a really big round of applause for all her endeavours on behalf of our students.

'Our production of "The Sound of Music" was certainly a highlight of the Autumn Term, with a week of sell-out performances and rave reviews all round. The breadth and depth of talent on display was both mesmerising and inspirational. Well done and thank you to Mrs McEwan and Mr Gillespie for their wonderful guidance and direction.

Our traditional group, Tigh Tara, ably led by Mrs Close and whom you heard playing at the start of our prize-giving, were selected to perform in the Ulster Final of the prestigious Gael Linn Siansa competition. A host of students obtained distinctions in their Trinity piano and singing exams and Jack Dihmis won the Roslynn McCourtney Challenge Cup for Piano at the Portstewart Festival. The Junior Choir, conducted by Mrs Sharkey, won first prize at the renowned Bangor International Festival for the second year in a row, a fantastic achievement for all concerned. We look forward to our Senior Choir performing with "The Priests" next term, as part of a concert to launch their latest album. This is the only performance they will be doing in the area and tickets will be available from our office in the near future.

'As I mentioned earlier, the true test of our education will be how you mature and develop as a person and how you use your talents and abilities to help others. This year, as ever, we have witnessed many selfless acts by our students. Miss Galbraith and Miss Martin lead by example when they travelled at Easter to Lourdes with a group of students to support pilgrims with particular needs. Forty-four Y14 students received their Pope John Paul II Award for the voluntary work carried out in their parishes and Carla McErlean received the All-Ireland Pramerica Spirit of Community Award for her outstanding acts of volunteering and the positive contribution she made in her local community. One of the ways in which we all contribute is our support for the school's designated charities and by contributing to these charities we are, in a small way, supporting

those less fortunate than ourselves. This year, a hugely impressive total of 272 shoeboxes were collected by Loreto students, to be sent to those in most need at Christmas. Likewise our students responded magnificently to the Refugee Crisis Appeal, with donations being gathered by students in our Justice League. We have also continued to raise money for many different charities, including Trocaire, MS, SVP and The Children's Cancer Fund, as well as our own Loreto missions. I would like to thank and congratulate all our students for their commitment to those less fortunate and in need of our help and, in particular, I would like to commend Mrs McCool for her hard work and commitment coordinating all these efforts.

'On your behalf, I want to say a special thank you to our teachers for their continued professionalism and commitment. This was clearly demonstrated when Mr Scullion was awarded the Royal Society of Chemistry Schools Education Award winner for 2016, recognising almost four decades of excellence and innovation in teaching. I believe that all our staff deserve similar awards and I feel proud and honoured to have them as colleagues in our school. I am convinced that there is no finer staff in any school and I am confident that they provide a level of service that is truly outstanding. I commend them to you and thank them on your behalf.

'This year we also take time to thank those staff members who have moved on to pastures new and to different challenges. In particular we say a fond farewell to Mrs O'Kane and Mrs Nugent. Both of these teachers have served students in our school for over

25 years and their warmth, their generosity and their commitment to their students was a hallmark of their time here in Coleraine. They will be truly missed and, although no-one is irreplaceable, it will be hard to replicate the care and the enthusiastic teaching they have shown throughout their time in Loreto. We miss them both and wish them both well in their retirement.

'My thanks to all our support staff for the wonderful job they do. Every day they play a vitally important role in maintaining the quality of services, buildings and grounds. My thanks also to our Governors, many who are here this evening. They are required to make many important and difficult decisions on your behalf and this has become more significant during these times of austerity. I thank them for their unfailing commitment to Loreto and I am hugely grateful for the time and expertise they give so generously.

'I would also like to thank all those Priests who come to help us celebrate mass and the various sacraments throughout the year. In particular I thank Fr Keaney for his long years of service and wish him well in his new role in America. We are also indebted to Fr McCullough for his pastoral guidance and support through our recent tragedies. I would also like to thank the Religious Education Department for the time and effort they put into organising our liturgies and retreats throughout the year. Their pastoral support during recent times of crises has also been wonderful and is greatly appreciated. In times of need they have provided a focus for us all to come together and share in prayer and reflection and their presence is central to our Catholic ethos.

'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 we look forward to their continued presence in the school in the future.

'As ever, I am truly grateful for the support and help of our parents. Our success and our achievements can only happen with your support. Finally, my thanks to you our students. This is your school and you are what make it so exceptional. You are all important members of our school community and, although it may not always seem like it, we do greatly appreciate your own unique talents and qualities. I thank you for your cooperation throughout the year and the courteous and pleasant manner you invariably display. It is a privilege to be Principal of this wonderful school and I hope that you are proud and will remain proud to call yourselves Loreto students. Thank you.'

As Loreto College continues on target for its expansion, Mr James also mentioned a number of fundraising initiatives: the Velo Loreto cycling sportive on Sunday 18th September, an Open Day and Coffee Morning to unveil developments to date in the Convent House, and a Friends of Loreto Super Draw which would take place over nine weeks.

The prizes were awarded as follows, presented by Mr Brendan Mooney, Guest Speaker, Mr Michael James, College Principal and by various Heads of Department, Year Heads and leaders of extra curricular activities:

Year 14 Academic Awards

Oran Barton	Siofra Gillan	Eimear McKeown	Orla Rafferty
Connor Boyle	James Gillen	Mark McKillen	Janosch Railton
Elaine Boyle	Dylan Johnston	Shay McLaughlin	Daniel Roantree
Emmett Boyle	Ryan Kane	Christine McNally	Peter Rogan
Tara Canning	Rachel Kelly	Ciaran McNicholl	Caite Skelly
Danielle Dempsey	Cormac Kerr	Lauren McNicholl	Chloe Stewart
Cara Doherty	Saachi Khullar	Shannon McWilliams	Ellen Tracey
Connor Doherty	Sinead McAtamney	Sean Mullan	Daniel White
Gareth Doherty	Susan McBride	Jessica O'Brien	Rachel Wilkinson
Megan Downey	Paul McCrystal	Jack O'Doherty	
Ryan Florida-James	Carla McErlean	Olaoluwatofunmi Owolabi	

Year 13 Academic Awards

Connie Baxter-Mulvenna	Conor Craig	Cormac McCarry	Aidan O'Boyle
Aidan Boyle	Emma Crossley	Caitlin McFall	Cariosa O'Harte
Kate Bradley	Michael Dallat	Tara McLarnon	Rebecca O'Kane
Emmett Brolly	Shauna Doherty	Odhran McNicholl	John-Joe O'Neill
Niamh Carlin	Aoife Keane	Emily Moore	Sean Quinn
Aoife Carr	Darcey Kelly	Aoife Mullan	Aideen Reid
Mark Cassidy	Maggie McBride	Daire Mullan	Francesca Watson
Caitlin Cosgrove			

Year 12 Academic Awards

Casey Black	Flynn Faith-Crothers	Eoin McCarry	Naomi O'Hale
Niamh Boorman	Callum Johnston	Eva McGrath-Olivan	Shannon O'Kane
Cahir Boyle	Blanaid Kealey	Emma McLaughlin	Riona Pauling
Dominic Bradley	Aoife Kelly	Roisin McMorrough	Maria Quinn
Molly Brennan	Caoimhe Kelly	James McReynolds	Nikolai Railton
Oisin Brennan	Nicole Kelly	Sarah Moore	Roslyn Sinclair
Maeve Burns	Sarah Kelly	Anna Morrison	Lorcan Toner
Fearghal Close	Shauna Kelly	Joseph Mulholland	Aimee Tweed
Matthew Connolly	Finn Lestas	Emma Mullan	Elizabeth White
Rebecca Dillon	Grace McAlinden	Mary Mullan	Ciara Wilkinson
Sarah Dillon	Oonagh McAlister	Shakeera Nazeer	
Niamh Doherty	Abigail McBroom	Glen O'Donovan	

Year 11 Academic Awards

Kirstie Brown	Cabrina Farren	Lucy McDonnell	Jason Moore
Danny Burns	Eve Gardiner	Aidan McGinley	Megan O'Kane
Niamh Carr	Fionnuala Keane	Nora McIlvenny	Cait Passmore
Donal Close	Cathal Kearney	Susan McKendry	Sylvia Smyth
Sian Donaghy	Conor Kelly	Eunan McNicholl	

Year 11 Diligence

11A	Carmen Owens
11B	Katie McNerlin
11C	Hannah Mullan
11D	Serena Corbett
11E	David Brussard

Year 11 Co-operation & Leadership

11A	Connlaoth McGee
11B	Thomas Doran
11C	Finlay Hutchinson
11D	Joseph Mullan
11E	Megan O'Kane

Year 12 Diligence

12A	Aimee Tweed
12B	Sean Doherty
12C	Oonagh McAlister
12D	Mary Mullan
12E	Tommy-Lee Donaghy

Year 12 Co-operation & Leadership

12A	Eoin McGuigan
12B	Abigail McBroom
12C	Daniel Walton
12D	Ciaran O'Kane
12E	Sophie Craig

Other Awards

- The Patricia McDermott Memorial Trophy for achievement in GCSE English: **Rebecca Dillon**
- The Macaulay, O'Neill & Martin Perpetual Cup for achievement in GCSE Mathematics: **Molly Brennan**
- The BKS Perpetual Trophy for contribution to A Level Geography: **Siofra Gillan**
- The Clarke Rice Memorial Cup for Outstanding Achievement in A Level Computing: **Cormac Kerr**
- The AVX Computer Awards for achievement in Computer Project: A Level **Sean Mullan**
GCSE **Dominic Bradley**
- The Stanleigh Cup for achievement in Music: **Connor Dudley-Fergus**
- The McGeown Cup for outstanding achievement in A-Level Economics: **Eimear McKeown**
- The Ryan McCloskey Memorial Cup for most improved student in Economics: **Shea Doherty**
- The N & N Trophies' Cup for achievement in A-Level Art and Design: **Kate McLaughlin**
- The Michael Clarke Memorial Cup for achievement in Drama presented by Yr14 students 2002-2003: **Niall Hunter**
- The Bank of Ireland Trophy for achievement in A Level Home Economics: **Aine McNamee**
- The Dankse Bank Award for achievement in A-Level Physics: **Peter Rogan**
- The Physical Sciences Award: **Peter Rogan**

The following awards are for outstanding achievement in individual subjects:

- A-Level Chemistry: **Peter Rogan**
- A-Level Biology: **Ryan Florida-James, Jack O'Doherty**
- A-Level Government and Politics: **Paul McCrystal**
- A-Level History: **Orla Rafferty**
- A-Level Religious Education: **Megan Downey**
- A-Level Mathematics: **Dylan Johnston**
- A-Level English Language: **Rhianna Gardiner**
- A-Level English Literature: **Taylor Archer, Mark McKillen**
- A-Level Spanish: **Oran Barton**
- Corn Bhruigha for Irish: **Amy Doherty**
- A-Level Design and Technology Project: **Ciaran McNicholl**
- Award for the best article in school magazine: **Aidan Boyle**
- Sports Captains 2015-2016: **Thomas Magee, James Gillen, Shannon McWilliams, Caite Skelly**
- Sports Person of the Year, recipient of the Louise McLaughlin Trophy for outstanding contribution to Sporting Life of the College: **Caite Skelly**
- The Mother Rose Cup for best Female Athlete in Yr 11: **Niamh Carr**
- Award for best Male Athlete in Yr11: **Owen Tsang**
- Award for outstanding achievement representing the College in sport at National Level: **Aaron Christie, Alana O'Donovan, Niamh Carr**
- O'Doherty Cup Player of the Year: **John Mullan**
- For 7 Years' Full Attendance: **Shannon Donaghy, Jack O'Doherty**
- For Full Attendance in 2015 – 2016 academic year:

Serena Corbett	Eoin Doherty	Callum Robinson	Ryan Florida-James
Sean Irwin	Jack Galbraith	Conor Craig	Olaoluwatofunmi Owolabi
Susan McKendry	Blanaid Kealey	Tara McLarnon	Peter Rogan
Jonathan Meehan	Roisin McMorrough	Cariosa O'Harte	
Owen Tsang	Lauren Monaghan	Conor Rogan	
Molly Brennan	Oisin O'Harte	Liam Tosh	
Oisin Brennan	Nikolai Railton	Jack Craig	

Senior Prefects 2015-2016

Antonia Boorman	Carla McErlean	Rachel Wilkinson	Paul McCrystal
Niamh Connolly	Medbh McIlvenny	Oran Barton	Shay McLaughlin
Rachael Crawford	Eimear McKeown	Connor Boyle	Ciaran McNicholl
Danielle Dempsey	Sarah McKeown	James Breslin	John Mullan
Amy Doherty	Aine McNamee	Daniel Catterson	Jack O'Doherty
Cara Doherty	Lauren McNicholl	Connor Doherty	Olaoluwatofunmi Owolabi
Shannon Donaghy	Shannon McWilliams	Gareth Doherty	Conor Pauling

Megan Downey	Una Mellon	Connor Dudley-Fergus	Daniel Roantree
Rhianna Gardiner	Therese Mullaghan	James Gillen	Peter Rogan
Rachel Kelly	Alana O'Donovan	Ryan Kane	Daniel White
Saachi Khullar	Yasmin Parahoo	Cormac Kerr	
Sinead McAtamney	Caite Skelly	Christy Laverty	
Susan McBride	Ellen Tracey	Thomas Magee	

Special Awards

A Special Recognition Award - Spirit of Loreto: **Sinead McAtamney, Carla McErlean, Medbh McIlvenny, Sarah McKeown, Aine McNamee, Caite Skelly, Daniel Catterson**

The Teresa Ball Trophy for Commitment and Spirit: **Aine O'Kane**

The Kathleen Toner Memorial Cup: **Rachel Kelly**

The Ciara McLaughlin Memorial Cup: **Conor Pauling**

The Principal's Award for Outstanding Achievement in GCSE: **Molly Brennan**

The Principal's Award for Outstanding Achievement in A-Level: **Peter Rogan**

For outstanding contribution to the Loreto Ethos in GCSE years: **Shannon O'Kane**

For outstanding contribution to the Loreto Ethos in A Level years: **Shannon Donaghy**

Deputy Head Boy
Niall Hunter

Deputy Head Girl
Siofra Gillan

Head Boy
Ryan Florida-James

Head Girl
Orla Rafferty

The evening concluded with heartfelt and inspiring speeches by the 2015-2016 Head Girl, Orla Rafferty, and Head Boy, Ryan Florida-James, reminiscing fondly on their time at Loreto College and wishing the students present every happiness and success in the future. The current Head Girl and Head Boy, Cariosa O'Harte and Aidan Boyle, offered a vote of thanks to the Guest Speaker and to all the distinguished guests and family members who had attended the Prizegiving.



Year 14 Academic Award winners at Loreto College's Senior Prizegiving, with Mr Brendan Mooney, Guest Speaker



Year 13 Academic Award winners at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving



Winners of Year 12 Academic Awards at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving



Winners of Year 11 Academic Awards at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving



Winners of Year 12 awards for Diligence and Cooperation and Leadership at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving



Winners of Year 11 awards for Diligence and Cooperation and Leadership at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving



Molly Brennan, winner of the Principal's Award for GCSE with fellow top achievers Oisín Brennan and Finn Lestas at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving.



Peter Rogan, winner of the Principal's Award at A Level at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving. Peter attained four A* grades at A Level and was Gold Medallist at the Irish Chemistry Olympiad during his final year at Loreto.



Winners of the special Spirit of Loreto Award at Loreto College's Senior Prizegiving



Winners of Special Awards at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving



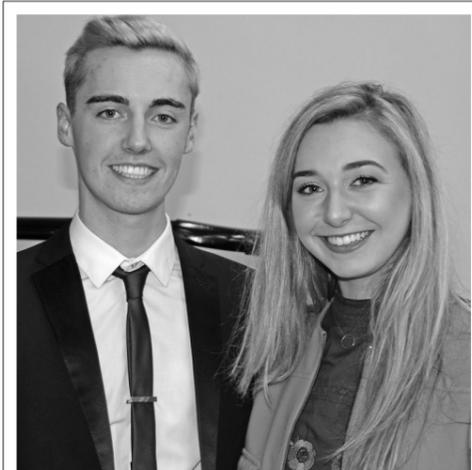
Winners of the awards for Outstanding Contribution to the Loreto Ethos at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving: Shannon O'Kane (GCSE years) and Shannon Donaghy (A Level years).



Cariosa O'Harte and Aidan Boyle, Loreto College's Head Girl and Head Boy for 2016-17 pictured at the College's Senior Prizegiving



Members of the Loreto Board of Governors and Special Guests at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving, including Mr Brendan Mooney, Guest Speaker.



Loreto College's 2015-16 Head Boy, Ryan Florida-James, and Head Girl, Orla Rafferty, pictured at the College's Senior Prizegiving.



Lauren Monaghan, who was presented with a special Overcoming Adversity Award at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving, pictured with her parents.



Winners of Subject Awards at A Level at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving.



Winners of special awards at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving: Dominic Bradley (GCSE Computing), ebecca Dillon (GCSE English), Mollie Brennan (GCSE Mathematics), Shannon O'Kane (Loreto Ethos in GCSE years) and Aidan Boyle (School Magazine Award).



Rachel Kelly, winner of the Kathleen Toner Memorial Cup for contribution to School Life at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving



Aine O'Kane, winner of the Teresa Ball Cup for Commitment and Spirit at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving.



Conor Pauling, winner of the Ciara McLaughlin Memorial Cup for contribution to the life of his Community at Loreto College Senior Prizegiving.

EXAMINATION ACCOLADES FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT



A student from Loreto College Coleraine has been recognised among the very top students achieving A* grades in last summer's CCEA GCSE examinations.

Molly Brennan, who scored a total of nine A* GCSE grades and one A, was placed joint First in CCEA Further Mathematics and Third in Chemistry. She was also placed tenth in GCSE Geography. At Loreto College's annual Senior Prizegiving, Molly was presented with the Principal's Award for GCSE, as Loreto's top achiever in the 2016 session. Molly would later be presented with awards from CCEA in their Celebrating Excellence Awards event.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated Molly and the members of the Mathematics and Chemistry departments on this wonderful achievement, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.

MERIT AWARDS 2016-2017

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.

A number of special Merit Assemblies were held during the course of the year to reward the students who had gained Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

NOVEMBER MERIT ASSEMBLY

The first Merit Assembly was held on Tuesday 22nd November to reward the students in Years 8-10 who have already gained sufficient Merit awards to attain their Bronze certificate. 27 Year 8 students, 50 Year 9 students and 10 Year 10 students received Bronze Merit Certificates, while Oran Tosh Year 8 was presented with his Silver as well as his 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 Merit Award winners



Year 9 Merit Award winners



Year 10 Merit Award winners

MARCH MERIT ASSEMBLY

Merit Award certificates were presented to students in Years 8 and 9 at the Merit Assembly in late March, to reward those who had gained sufficient Merit awards to attain their Bronze and Silver and Gold certificates.

50 Year 8 students received Bronze certificates, while 21 students in Year 8 received Silver certificates. Meanwhile in Year 9, 28 students received Bronze certificates, 44 students received Silver certificates and 12 students were presented with Gold certificates.



Year 9 Merit Gold Award winners



Year 9 Merit Silver Award winners



Year 8 Merit Bronze & Silver Award winners

MAY MERIT ASSEMBLY

Merit Award certificates were presented to students in Years 8, 9 and 10 at Loreto College Coleraine at a special Merit Assembly in late May.

33 Year 8 students received Bronze certificates, while 16 students in Year 8 received Silver certificates and 11 students received Gold certificates. Meanwhile in Year 9, 8 students received Bronze

certificates, 11 students received Silver certificates and 2 students were presented with Gold certificates. Among the Year 10 group, 47 students received Bronze certificates and 7 students were presented with Silver certificates, while one student, Corey Cassidy, received the Gold Merit Award.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the

students who had received their Bronze, Silver or Gold 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 Merit Awards.



Loreto College Year 8 students who received Bronze Merit Awards, with their Year Head Mrs A McCambridge.



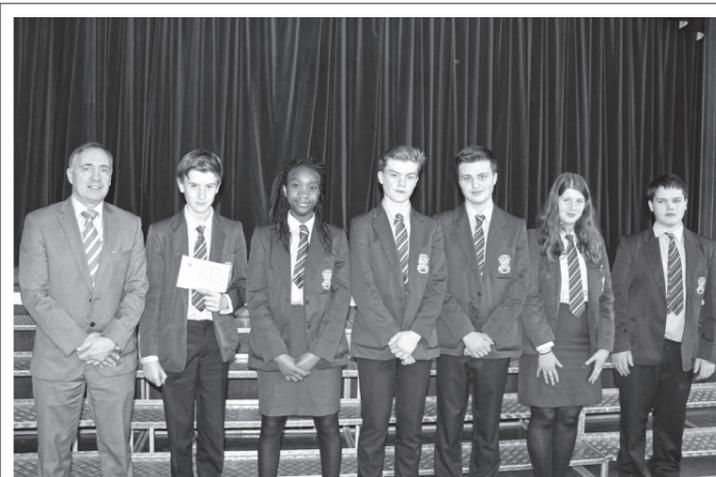
Loreto College Year 8 students who received Silver and Gold Merit Awards, with their Year Head Mrs A McCambridge.



Loreto College Year 9 students who received Bronze, Silver and Gold Merit Awards.



Loreto College Year 10 students who received Bronze Merit Awards.



Loreto College Year 8 students who received Bronze Merit Awards, with College Principal Mr Michael James.



Loreto College Year 10 student Corey Cassidy, who received the Gold Merit Award, with his Head of Year Mr K Conroy.

GOLD MERIT TRIP

Congratulations to all our Junior students who received their Gold Merit Award. The students were rewarded with the annual Merit Trip on Friday 16th June, during which they enjoyed a film at the Jet Centre, Coleraine.

30 Year 8 students (11 from 8A, 2 from 8B, 6 from 8C, 8 from 8D and 3 from 8E), 36 Year 9 students (2 from 9A, 6 from 9B, 9 from 9C, 4 from 9D and 15 from 9E) and 6 Year 10 students (1 from 10A, 2 from 10B, 1 from 10C and 2 from 10E) were successful in gaining their

Gold Merit Award in time to go on the trip.

The students were congratulated by Mrs Maeve Close, Merit Award Co-ordinator, and by Mr Michael James, College Principal, on these wonderful awards.



YEAR 8 ACHIEVEMENTS CELEBRATED

As the academic year reached its mid-point in February, a special Celebration Assembly was held to highlight the achievements and progress of The College's Year 8 students. This assembly aimed to celebrate the successful completion of the pupils' first term at Loreto and its theme was "Be the Best That You Can Be". It was an opportunity to evaluate how far the pupils had come and to launch the next stage of target-setting for Year 8.

In the first term of their first year, the Year 8 students participated in a Study Skills Workshop, completed a set of examinations, contributed to the extra-curricular life of the school and worked together to form close-knit Form Classes. To reward particularly outstanding performance, awards were presented for Academic Achievement and Academic Improvement, as well as Good

Organisation, Good Standard of Uniform, and Concern for Others.

The Head of Year 8, Mrs Anne McCambridge, spoke in praise of the Year 8 students and encouraged them to build upon the success of their initial months to excel further in the months and years ahead. Mrs McCambridge was joined by the Year 8 Form Tutors, Mr B. Murphy, Mrs M. McAleese, Mrs M. McGreevy and Miss J. Galbraith in affirming the exciting and invaluable contribution that the students have already made to life in Loreto.

The award winners were:

Academic Award

- 8A Oran Tosh
- 8B Ellie Dillon
- 8C Niamh McGarry
- 8D Harry Bucukoglu
- 8E Grace McClements

Academic Improvement

- 8A Michael McCloskey
- 8B Colleen McColgan
- 8C Aoibheann Herald
- 8D Orna Taylor
- 8E Oliwia Bednarz

Well Organised

- 8A Darlene Gaile
- 8B Finn Kelly
- 8C Ruairi Martin
- 8D Michael McAtamney
- 8E Grace McClements

Good Standard of Uniform

- 8A Callum McVeigh
- 8B Erin Daly
- 8C Barry McCloskey
- 8D Molly Reid
- 8E John McHenry

Concern for Others

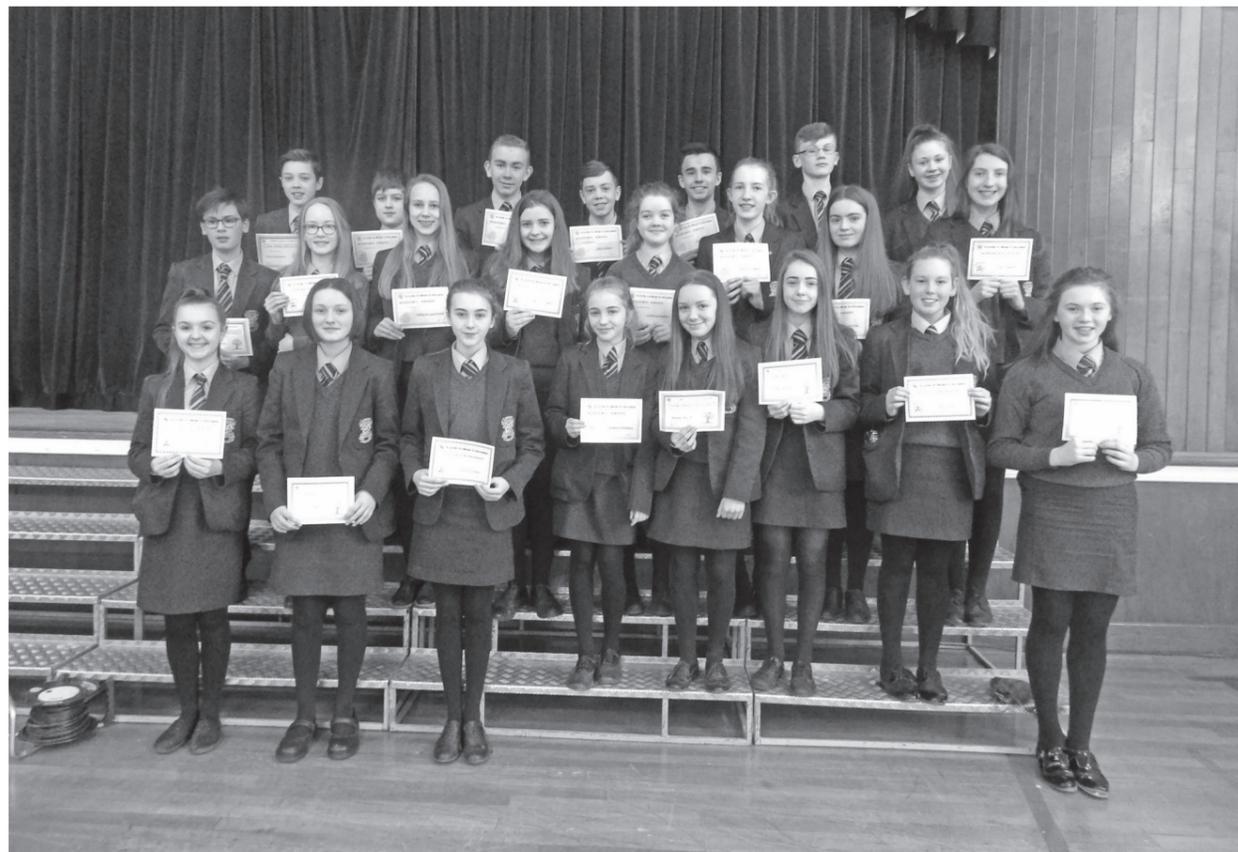
- 8A Peter Wells
- 8B Cara Quigg
- 8C Colleen Heaney
- 8D Zofia Czajka
- 8E Mia Service

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY REWARDS YEAR 9 ACHIEVEMENTS

A special Assembly was held at Loreto College shortly before the Easter holidays to reward students in Year 9 for achievement and commitment in a variety of areas of school life.

The year group Assembly celebrated the successes and achievements of year 9 students during the Spring Term in terms of academic success, sporting achievement, and in music and drama both inside and outside of school. The Form Teacher Award was presented to the student/s who had made a significant contribution to their form class.

Loreto College Vice Principal Miss Belinda Toner commented that the Assembly was a wonderful opportunity to recognise the contribution of the whole year group to the Loreto school community.



EXAMINATION ACCOLADES FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A student from Loreto College Coleraine has been recognised among the very top students achieving A* grades in the 2016 CCEA GCSE examinations.

Molly Brennan, who scored a total of nine A* GCSE grades and one A, was placed joint First in CCEA Further Mathematics and Third in Chemistry. She was also placed tenth in GCSE Geography. At Loreto College's 2016 Senior Prizegiving, Molly was presented with the Principal's Award for GCSE, as Loreto's top achiever in the 2016 session.

At the CCEA Celebrating Excellence Awards event, held at Titanic Belfast on Tuesday 25th April, Molly was presented with her award for achieving first place in GCSE Further Mathematics. Notably, Molly was the only girl among the six joint winners of the award! Molly was also a joint recipient of the John Magaud Memorial Cup for Excellence in GCSE Further Mathematics. Molly attended the Award ceremony with her parents and her twin brother, Oisín.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Molly's determination, hard work and talent, in congratulating her on these awards on behalf of the staff and students of Loreto College, as well as congratulating her teachers. Mrs Geraldine Diamond, who was Molly's teacher for GCSE Mathematics and Further Mathematics, commented on Molly's excellence as a student throughout her GCSE studies, making her a very deserving recipient of these awards.



HEADS OF SCHOOL APPOINTED AT LORETO COLLEGE

As the Spring Term drew to an end, Loreto College named its Heads of School for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The Head Girl for 2017-18 will be Sarah Dillon, who will work alongside Head Boy Fearghal Close. Completing the Heads of School team will be Deputy Head Girl Sarah Moore and Deputy Head Boy Finn Lestas. All four hold impressive academic records as well as having contributed with generosity and commitment to the extra-curricular life of Loreto College.

These four outstanding young leaders will work with a team of Senior Prefects selected from the current Year 13 group. The Head Boy and Head Girl will also lead the 2017-18 Student Council. Sarah and Fearghal, as Head Girl and Head Boy, will also lead the Sixth Form Council alongside their Deputies Sarah and Finn.

Meanwhile, in the final week of March the College appointed the 2017-2018 Sports Captains and Deputies. The Sports Captains are Daniel Walton and Abigail McBroom, and the Deputy Sports Captains are Aaron Christie and

Aoife Kelly. All four have excelled in individual and team sports throughout their years at Loreto College.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, wished all these outstanding sixth form students every success and happiness in these prestigious new roles, congratulating them on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.

JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING REWARDS EXCELLENCE AT LORETO COLLEGE COLERAINE

The annual Junior Prizegiving was held at Loreto College Coleraine on Tuesday 27th 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:

‘You are all very welcome to our Junior Prize-giving at the end of another very busy and successful year for the College, although unfortunately another year wrought with sadness. As we were preparing for our Christmas Tests, the whole school community was shocked by the tragic and untimely death of year 10 pupil, Reece Meenan. And whether as a close friend, an acquaintance, a teacher or staff member, we were all touched in some way by his death. Although we cannot fully understand this loss of life, we recognise that we were enriched in some way by Reece’s presence in our community and we continue to keep him, his family and his friends in our thoughts and prayers. In the midst of the sadness felt by our extended community, I was very heartened by your response and the genuine sense of togetherness that developed. As ever, your humanity and support for each other left me humbled and filled with admiration.

‘There has also been much to be grateful for and to celebrate this year. Our academic results saw us, once again, placed in the top fifteen schools in Northern Ireland

in the annual league tables. These performances at both GCSE and A Level confirm Loreto College as the leading school in the area and this is something of which everyone here should feel rightly proud. And today, as we celebrate the academic successes of you, our Junior School, we are aware that it is your performances that will lead to continued success in the future. Having just completed all the Junior reports I am glad to say that this group of students in front of me has been able to maintain the high standards of previous years and I congratulate you all on your hard work and efforts.

‘This year, as well as academic success, various individuals and teams enjoyed sporting successes. Who can forget the wonderful performance of our Y11 boys winning a Senior Ulster title in Gaelic football for the first time; or the musical brilliance of our traditional group playing at the Siansa final; as well as the fantastic success of our Young Scientists gaining the title as best school in Northern Ireland? We realise that each Loreto student brings a unique presence that adds so much to the life of the school and today we celebrate the talents and abilities of each and every one of our pupils, not just our prize winners.

‘I am delighted that the Loreto Sisters still remain such a vibrant presence in our school and we thank them for their continued support and prayers. We are very proud of our Loreto heritage and we try to emulate the ideals of Mary Ward in our day to day working. Loreto education is value driven and emphasises the importance of relationships, respect and spirituality. Our core values

of Freedom, Joy, Truth, Sincerity and Justice are at the centre of everything we do here in school and we hope that in the future our students will use their talents to help build a more just and equitable society and create a better future for everyone.

‘Once again, as the academic year draws to a close, we face further budget cuts and like most other schools, we wonder how much longer we can survive in a climate of unrelenting financial austerity. There is universal recognition that the future wealth and success of our country depends on a good education for our youth and so it is time for government (wherever it may be) to allocate the appropriate funding to schools. From this September, Loreto College will expand its Year 8 intake with St Joseph’s beginning a phased closure. This increased enrolment provides an opportunity to deliver a broader curriculum, designed to meet the needs of all students, focussing on educating the individual and allowing each person to achieve excellence according to their own standards. However, it needs financial support from the Department of Education to ensure its success. Perhaps, given the announcement from London yesterday, this may now happen. With this support, I have every confidence that we will continue to offer a wide variety of opportunities and a first-class education to all pupils who come to us, as well as having an opportunity to educate more students to share in our traditional Loreto values.

‘Of course, as already alluded to, the academic achievement of our students remains highly significant. So we take time today to celebrate

the achievements of those junior students who have excelled in some way in this current academic year. It is very important that we as staff and pupils take this opportunity to celebrate and take pride in the achievements of our school. I congratulate all our students for their industry and hard work throughout the year and in particular their preparation for the recent summer examinations.

‘School life, in Loreto, is about educating the whole person and that is why I am delighted, once again, with your participation in the wider school life. Participating in extracurricular activities brings a wealth of opportunities and develops friendships and skills that will last long after you have left school. This year, again, has been hugely successful in a range of areas and I congratulate all those who have participated throughout the year, as well as thanking the teachers who have given so freely of their time to help organise and run the various activities.

‘Notable success was achieved this year at the BT Young Scientists competition in Dublin where Emmett Brolly received the Senior Individual award in the Chemistry, Physics and Mathematical Sciences category. Donal Close and Sian Donaghy won a special award for the Best Project from Northern Ireland, with Loreto College named Best School in Northern Ireland to crown a wonderful week of achievement. Five students then went on to win awards at the annual Big Bang Fair, one of the largest events of its kind in the UK, celebrating the achievements of young people in STEM. We congratulate the pupils and thank their Mentors Mrs Close and Mrs Brolly.

‘It’s been another good year for our Gaelic Games teams, starting off with the Junior Camogie team

narrowly losing in the Ulster Final of their competition. In Gaelic football, the Senior team, following a replay, were narrowly defeated at the quarter finals stage of the MacLarnon Cup competition. The Y12 Arthur’s Cup team also made it to the quarter final stage, with the Y9 team reaching the semi-final of the Faul Cup. Meanwhile, the Year 8 Gaelic team qualified to the final stages of their blitz and the Y10 team made it through to the semi-final of the McDevitt Cup. The Y11 team went one better, when they emerged as Treanor Cup Ulster champions following a tightly-contested Final against St Paul’s High School Bessbrook. Continuing our recent success in hurling, the Y12 hurlers won the Maquire Cup to become Ulster Champions for a fourth year. The Y8 Hurlers also became Ulster champions and the Year 9 Hurlers made it to the semi-final of the Reihill Cup. Congratulations to all the teams and their very dedicated coaches, Mrs McGoldrick, Mr Murtagh, Mr Deighan, Mr Murphy, Mr Conroy, Mr Boyle and Mr McAfee.

‘Soccer teams competed at all levels in the Coleraine and District Leagues, whilst the Netball teams did likewise. The Year 8 soccer team emerged victorious in the final of the annual Coleraine and District League and Y8 Patrick Kelly was selected to play soccer for Northern Ireland. A combined Year 9 and Year 8 netball team won an Inter-Schools Netball Tournament, hosted by Dominican College, whilst the Y8 girls won the NEBSSA title. The Year 8 cricket team had a successful first year, winning the local Blitz for developing schools. Again, thanks to all the coaches of these teams, Mr Byrne, Mr McCloskey, Ms Wilson, Mrs McCullough and Mr Kildea.

‘On an individual level, Niamh McGarry took a wonderful second

place in the Ulster Cross-country Championship. Travis Brown won Gold in the Ulster Open Weightlifting Championships and Nicolas Moore won the U14/15 Celtic Crossfit Games. Sophie Price, won a national judo title and Oran and Aidan Somers both received their Karate Black Belts. At the Ulster Schools swimming gala, Year 8 student Niamh McGarry won Silver in the 50M Freestyle, Eoin Mullan won silver in both the 100M Butterfly and 200M Individual Medley events. Shannon Baird was second in the Breaststroke and Orla Quinn was third in Individual Medley, with our relay team placed third.

‘Away from sport, our Irish department was thrilled when a Year 10 team took part in the Gael Linn Quiz, finishing in an outstanding second place in the Ulster Final. In the Credit Union Art & Design competition, Roksana Strugala was placed second and Caitlin Campbell was third, whilst in another age category, Josephine Johnson was placed first, Adam Lawlor was second and Wiktoria Czerwinska was third. Corey Cassidy won his section of the all-Ireland Texaco Art Competition and Anna McGinley took first place in the annual Seamus Heaney poetry competition.

‘The Junior Drama Club staged its first Autumn Show, presenting extracts from Matilda, Bugsy Malone and The Wizard of Oz. Working under the direction of Year 13 and Year 14 Theatre Studies students, the Junior pupils presented really wonderful performances. A host of students obtained distinctions in their Trinity piano and singing exams and the Junior and Senior Choirs, conducted by Mrs Sharkey, performed to a sell-out audience as they joined the world renowned “Priests” in concert. A set dancing team composed entirely of Loreto

pupils won the Scór na nÓg Ulster final and our traditional group, Tieg Tara, having won through the Ulster competition, represented the College in the All Ireland Final of the Gael Linn Siansa competition in the National Concert Hall, Dublin. A fantastic achievement for all concerned and our thanks to Mrs Close for all her hard work in preparing the musicians and dancers.

‘On your behalf, I would like to thank the teachers and other staff members who give so freely of their time to support you in all these various activities and sports. It is only through their selfless dedication and commitment that it is possible for these to happen at all. As the school year comes to an end I would encourage all of you to get involved next year in some of the many extra curricular activities that the school provides every day of every week. You will have opportunities to make new friends, travel to different places, learn to be a team member and grow in confidence and self-belief.

‘In the future, the true test of our education will be how we have allowed you to have matured and developed as a person and how you use your talents and abilities to help others. One of the ways we all contribute to this in school, is our support for the school’s designated charities and I would like to thank and congratulate you all for your commitment to those less fortunate and in need of our help. You responded magnificently to this year’s Trocaire appeal by raising over £6000. Whilst at Christmas, thirty large hampers were collected and distributed by our SVP group and an impressive 312 shoeboxes were collected to bring joy and hope to those most

in need. You also raised large sums for several cancer charities, as well as supporting our own Loreto missions. In particular, I would like to commend Mrs McCool for her hard work and commitment coordinating all these efforts.

‘On your behalf, I want to say a special thank you to our teachers for their continued professionalism and commitment. I feel proud and honoured to have them as colleagues in our school and I am convinced that there is no finer staff in any school. I am confident that they provide a level of service that is truly outstanding and I commend them to you and thank them on your behalf.

‘At this time of year, we also take time to thank those staff members who will not be returning next year as they move on to pastures new and to different challenges. This year in particular we say a fond farewell to Mr Cunning, Mr McGouran and Mr McKay, who together have a combined service of 105 years here in Loreto. Their enthusiasm and commitment to their students has been a hallmark of their time here in Coleraine and, although no-one is irreplaceable, it will be hard to replicate the unique qualities they have brought during their time in Loreto. We wish them well in their retirement.

‘My thanks to all our support staff for the wonderful job they do on your behalf. They play a vitally important role in maintaining the quality of services, buildings and grounds. My thanks also to our Governors, who are required to make many important and difficult decisions on your behalf. They give so generously of their time and expertise and always have the best interests of the College and its students at heart.

‘Thanks also to our Religious Education Department and the many visiting Priests for the time and effort they put into organising and celebrating our liturgies and retreats throughout the year. Their pastoral support, particularly during recent times of crises, has been wonderful and is greatly appreciated. In times of need they have provided a focus for us all to come together and share in prayer and reflection and their presence is central to our Catholic ethos.

‘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 we look forward to their continued presence in the school in the future.

‘Finally, my thanks to you all here today. You, our pupils, are what make Loreto College so special. You are all key members of our school community and we greatly appreciate your own unique talents and qualities. Loreto College is your school and I challenge you to make it the best school it can be, by looking after our buildings and environment as well as striving to the highest standards of manners, respect and courtesy. I thank you for your cooperation throughout the year and the polite and pleasant manner you invariably display. I am extremely proud to be Principal of this school and I hope that you are equally proud to be its pupils. Thank you.’

The prizes were distributed as follows, and were presented by Mr James, as well as by the Heads of Years 8, 9 and 10 and by various Heads of Department.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AWARDS

YEAR 8

Harry Bucukoglu
Ellie Dillon
Alicia Doherty
Sean McAleese
Michael McAtamney
Eva McBride
Grace McClements

Peter McCool
Ellis Mullan
Oran Tosh

YEAR 9

Tori Colson-Rice
Jack Dihmis
Jodie Canning
Peadar Connor
David Farren
Isobel Healy
Anna McGinley

Cara McLaughlin
Conor McNicholl
Katie Mulholland
Catherine Mullan
Lucy O’Kane
Darcy Peacock
Orla Quinn

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

Odhran Doherty
Aoife Ferguson
Darlene Gaile
Julia Gosch
Katy Keene
Conor McCloskey
Ellie McKinney
Ellie McLaughlin
Jack O’Kane
Leah Scullion

YEAR 9 PROGRESS

Ellie Bancroft
Lisamarie Benson
Owen Benson
Patrick Black
Eunan Boylan
Conan Bradley
Alexandra Brooks
James Brown
Kasey Buck
Kasper Budyn

YEAR 10 PROGRESS

Dervla Bradley
Clodagh Brennan
Conn Kilmartin
Cliona McIntyre
Tepenga McMullan
Chloe Mullan
Ella O’Callaghan
Christian Quigley
Sean Scullion
Anna Toner

PRIZES FOR DILIGENCE

8A Rose Christopher
8B Aoife McCarry
8C Orla Mullan
8D Zofia Czajka
8E Sorcha Doherty

9A Hannah Francis
9B Ellie Archer
9C Grace McIntyre
9D Orla Cunningham
9E Ciara McAlary

10A Matthew McGowan
10B Meabh Bryson
10C Naomh McAlister
10D Dervla Bradley
10E Conn Kilmartin

POLITENESS AWARD

8A Jack McNeill
8B Pearse McNally
8C Ruairi Martin
8D Lucie McVicker
8E Michael McAllister

9A Nadia Pritchard
9B Euan Simpson
9C Megan Coyle
9D Eabh McIlvenny
9E Felix Kilmartin

10A Travis Brown
10B Evan Wright
10C Charlie McKnight
10D Peter Clarke
10E Peter Mullan

FORM TEACHER AWARD

8A Amy Darragh	9A Jamie Logue	10A Rhiannon McNicholl
8B Sophie White	9B Sofia Genovese	10B Jack McGill
8C Cara Kearney	9C Neeve Campbell	10C Aine Apperley
8D Peter McCool	9D Shay Templeton	10D Aoife Turner
8E Grace McClements	9E Nadine McAlister	10E Emma Hickinson

GOOD STANDARD OF UNIFORM AWARD

8A Callum McVeigh	9A Wiktoria Czerwinska	10A Hirek Cichy
8B Leah Scullion	9B Adam Lawlor	10B Eoin Mullan
8C Courtney Mullan	9C Connor Radford	10C Jack Walton
8D Eva Kealey	9D Travis Corbett	10D Conor McAleese
8E John McHenry	9E Mirek Bukowski	10E Niamh Mooney

CONCERN FOR OTHERS AWARD

8A Jessica Scott	9A Holly McIntyre	10A Maddie McCormack
8B Cara Quigg	9B Catriona Cassidy	10B Hannah Taylor
8C Megan Cushnahan	9C Anna O'Kane	10C Chloe Starrett
8D Cora McEwan	9D Erin McKeever	10D Zuzia Mis
8E Anita Silakowska	9E Katie Donnelly	10E Cara McDonald

POSITIVE ATTITUDE AWARD

8A Michael McCloskey	9A Sam Haveron	10A Roksana Strugala
8B Colleen McColgan	9B James McDowell	10B Patrycja Zaruska
8C Aoife McIlvar	9C Erin Ferguson	10C Cathal Christopher
8D Orna Taylor	9D Mary Doran	10D Stephen McAllister
8E Paulina Olender	9E Niall McKeever	10E Nicolas Moore

100% ATTENDANCE AWARD

YEAR 8

Erin Daly	8B	Grace McClements	8E	Emma McKnight	8D
Finn Kelly	8B	Cora McEwan	8D	Emmet McMorrough	8C

YEAR 9

Neeve Campbell	9C	James McDowell	9B	Lucy O'Kane	9C
Josephine Johnson	9A	Anna McGinley	9E	Connor Radford	9C
Eimear Maguire	9B	Jude Mullan	9B		

YEAR 10

Cheyenne Corbett	10E	John McErlean	10D	Grainne Purcell	10D
Nikola Felinska	10A	Orla McEwan	10A	Aaron Wallace	10D

DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

Top Readers in Year 8 (Based on books borrowed from the Library)

Elizabeth Cassidy 8B	Caoilin Egan 8B	Anita Silakowska 8E
Erin Daly 8B	Jessica Scott 8A	Zuzanna Zietala 8A
Ellie Dillon 8B		

Outstanding Achievement in Public Speaking: **Anna McGinley 9E, Peter McCool 8D**

Best Contribution to School Magazine: **Philippa Pitt 9D**

Year 8 ICT: **Noah Grove 8E**

Year 9 ICT: **Connor Radford 9C**

Top Year 8 Geography Investigations: **Female: Eilis Mullan 8D Male: Oran Tosh 8A**

Top Year 9 Geography Investigations: **Female: Cara McLaughlin 9E Male: Daniel Sharpe 9A**

Religious Education Awards: **Oran Tosh 8A, Lucy O'Kane 9C**

Year 8 Drama: **Frankie Pollington 8E, Eva McBride 8A, Cora McEwan 8D**

Year 9 Drama: **James McDowell 9B, Lisamarie Benson 9D**

UK Junior Maths Challenge Gold Award: **Conor McNicholl 9A, Mirek Bukowski 9E**

Outstanding Contribution to Traditional Music: **Niamh Mooney 10E, Ronan Close 9E**

Athlete of the Year: Year 8: **Patrick Kelly 8D, Niamh McGarry 8C**

Athlete of the Year: Year 9: **Conrad O'Coisneachain 9C, Erin Ferguson 9C**

Athlete of the Year: Year 10: **Charlie McKnight 10C, Tolulope Jide-Ojo 10B**

Swimmer of the Year: Year 8: **Oisín McNicholl 8C, Niamh McGarry 8C**

KEY STAGE 3 AWARDS

Science: **Matthew Boyle-McAree 10B**

Mathematics: **Kelan O'Kane 10B**

Home Economics: **Meabh Bryson 10B**

Young Artist & Designer: **Teresa Sobocinska 10C**

Le Prix Francais: **Teresa Sobocinska 10C**

Shakespeare Prize for Best Essay on

Shakespeare in Year 10: **Teresa Sobocinska 10C**

English: **Tolulope Jide-Ojo 10B**

Gael Óg na Bliana: **Caitlin Campbell 10D**

El Premio de Espanol: **Matthew McGowan 10A**

Technology: **Cheyenne Corbett 10E**

Drama: **Orla McEwan 10A**

Geography: **Matthew McGowan 10A, Meabh Bryson 10B**

History: **Conn Kilmartin 10E**

Music: **Aoife Turner 10D**

Religious Education: **Charlie McKnight 10C**

SPECIAL AWARDS

Generosity and Commitment: **Hannah Taylor 10B**

Perseverance: **Cathal Christopher 10C**

Contribution to Sporting Life of College at KS3: **Tolulope Jide-Ojo 10B**

Participation in School Life: **Aine Apperley 10C**

Sunshine Award: **Caitlin Campbell 10D, Caoimhe Campbell 10D**

Contribution to Loreto Ethos in Junior School: **Niamh Mooney 10E, Roksana Strugala 10A**



Year 8 Academic Award winners at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Year 9 Academic Award winners at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Year 10 Loreto Junior Certificate Distinction Award winners at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Year 8 and 9 Progress Award winners at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Year 8-10 Diligence Award winners at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Year 8-10 winners of Concern for Others awards at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Winners of the Year 8-10 Form Teacher Awards at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Year 10 winners of Departmental Awards at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Athletes and Swimmers of the Year at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Winners of Special Awards at Loreto College Junior Prizegiving with Mr Michael James, College Principal.



Patrick Kelly, Year 8, selected to play Soccer for Northern Ireland in his age group, with Mr Michael James, College Principal.

SCHOOL LITURGY

MASS CELEBRATED TO MARK NEW SCHOOL YEAR AT LORETO COLLEGE

The Opening Mass for the academic year 2016-2017 was celebrated at Loreto College Coleraine on Tuesday 20th September 2016, by Father Austin McGirr and Father Raymond McCullagh. The theme of the Mass was 'Let It Shine', and it offered reflection on the light of faith which shines in every member of the school community, and how this might be nurtured in the year ahead.

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.

Opening Mass 2016-2017



LORETO STUDENTS ATTEND WORLD PEACE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Wednesday 21st September was 'World Peace Day' and to celebrate it, the Rev David Latimer of First Presbyterian Church in Derry organised a youth-led peace initiative called 'Amazing the Space'. This event took place in the Eikon Conference Centre on the grounds of the former 'Maze' prison and was attended by over 2000 students from schools throughout Ulster. Loreto College was represented by 15 students from across the year groups along with Religious Education teacher Mr K Conroy.

Each school composed a peace pledge prior to the event which

was then inscribed onto metal and hung on an impressive 'peace tree' which was on display in the arena. Representatives from various faiths throughout Northern Ireland were present, and our host for the day was Barra Best from the BBC. The large audience was treated to performances of singing and dancing from an array of schools in the arena as well as a number of live streamed performances from schools across the province. We received many inspiring words of wisdom from the speakers on the day, including Deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness, all of whom encouraged us to do all in our power to strive for peace and to

be an example to other countries across the world.

Loreto's Pledge read: 'Let us celebrate our differences, be proud and live, love and laugh together as one.' This pledge will now be placed permanently in the school. Students representing Loreto College at this event were: Cathaoir McKay, Aoife Carr (Year 14), Aaron Christie, Rebecca Dillon and Victoria Tsang (Year 13), Oonagh Rafferty (Year 12), Annie Levy and Caleb Wan (Year 11), Padraig Kelly, Caitlin Campbell and Sophia-Rose O'Kane (Year 10) and Shea Templeton, Sean Devine, Bronagh McLaughlin and Kasey Buck (Year 9).



YEAR 14 RETREAT

Year 14 students took part in their annual Retreat on Thursday 29th September.

The Retreat was an opportunity for the final year students to reflect, together and as individuals, on their own and one another's talents and characteristics as a busy first half term drew towards its close. Amid the pressure of A level study, university applications and accumulating deadlines,

the day gave the Year 14 students a chance to draw breath and to consider how they value and support one another as a year group, as they move towards the conclusion of their time at Loreto College. The students also considered the theme of time - how time passes, what time together means, and how they use their time. This proved to be a very productive reflection amid the hectic schedule of A Level studies and university applications.

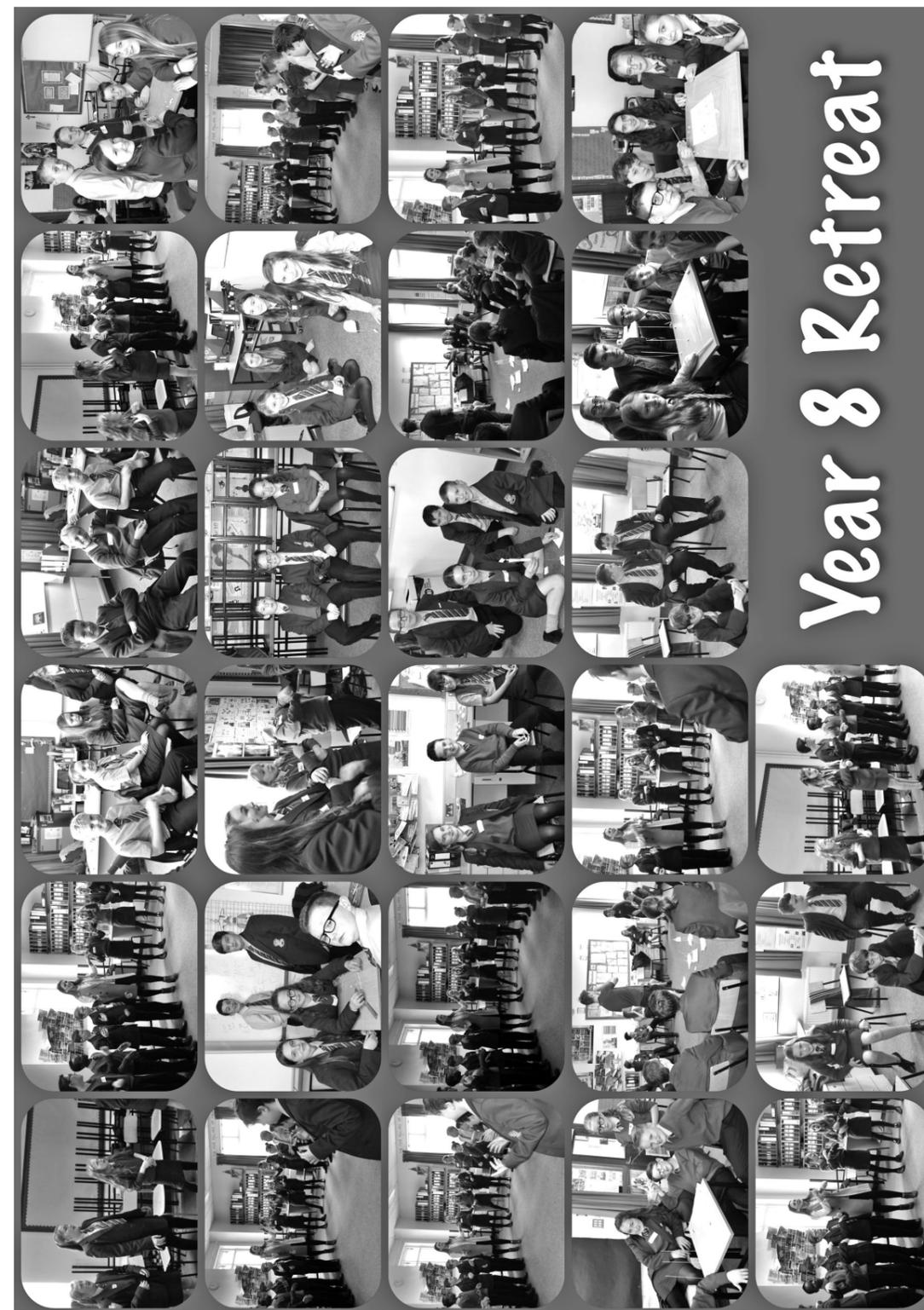


YEAR 8 RETREAT

Year 8 classes took part in their first, annual Loreto Retreat on 7th and 14th October. The Retreat, organised by members of the Religious Education department, was facilitated by student teachers from St Mary's University College Belfast, who are former

students of Loreto College. The retreat was entitled 'New Beginnings'.

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



YEAR 12 RETREAT

All Year 12 students enjoyed their annual day's Retreat on Friday 21st October.

As the GCSE Mock examinations approached, the Year 12 students had an opportunity to reflect on their relationships and priorities, considering family, friend-

ships and the broader community of which they are an essential part.

The Retreat provided a welcome opportunity for Year 12 to spend a day of reflection together at a busy and stressful time of year.



YEAR 11 RETREAT

All Year 11 students enjoyed their annual day's Retreat on Tuesday 15th November.

As the Christmas examinations approached, the Year 11 students had an opportunity to reflect on their relationships and priorities, considering family, friend-

ships and the broader community of which they are an essential part.

The Retreat provided a welcome opportunity for Year 11 to spend a day of reflection together at a particularly busy time of year.



YEAR 13 STUDENTS ENJOY ANNUAL RETREAT

All Year 13 students at Loreto enjoyed their annual Retreat on Monday 21st November. The ice-breaker challenges in the early morning session proved especially popular, generating gales of laughter and some unusual performances, which ranged from

mental arithmetic to a fast-moving song and dance act.

Later in the day, the students took part in some reflection on friendship and faith, concluding with a contemplative service of prayer and reconciliation.



CAROL SERVICE BEGINS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AT LORETO COLLEGE

The feast of Christmas was marked in Loreto College Coleraine with the annual Carol Services, held in the College Hall during the final weeks of the Autumn Term. Organised by the College's Religious Education and Music departments, the Carol Services for Junior and Senior students were held on Wednesday 14th December, as well as a Carol Service for parents and friends of the College, held on Thursday evening, 15th December.

The Carol Services featured some dramatic performances and tableaux, a variety of thought-provoking readings and reflections, and performances by the Senior and Junior Choirs, school orchestra and vocal soloists. 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 Service, 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 a moving and reflective service.



MARY WARD WEEK MARKED IN LORETO COLLEGE COLERAINE

The final week of January saw the marking of Mary Ward week in Loreto College Coleraine.

This was marked by the launch of a competition from Loreto Education Centre, Foxrock. Coupled with the celebration of Catholic schools week, classes in KS3 Religion worked on posters and poems to celebrate the life of Mary Ward, foundress of IBVM, Loreto. The students used their creative talents to illustrate her life and legacy in pictures or poetry.

Members of 8A and 10C can be seen here with their completed posters to celebrate the life of Mary Ward.



POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

A group of sixth form students from Loreto College Coleraine were each presented with the Pope John Paul II Awards at the Derry Diocese's tenth annual ceremony, held in Derry's Millennium Forum on Tuesday 7th February.

Forty-two final year students from Loreto College were presented with the Pope John Paul II Gold 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 to 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. It is presented to 16 - 18 year olds who have been actively involved in their parishes and communities and who have contributed "in a positive way to the life of the Church"; the hope is that this commitment will last well into adult life.

The speaker at the ceremony was Most Reverend Philip Tartaglia,

Archbishop of Glasgow. The ceremony was also attended by Bishop Donal McKeown, Bishop of Derry. Such ceremonies, which began in the Derry Diocese, have now spread to over 20 dioceses in Ireland and England.

The students and the members of the Religious Education department at Loreto College, 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.



KEEPING THE SPIRIT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' WEEK ALIVE

In late January, Mr Conroy and several Year 13 students attended a special Mass in St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry to celebrate Catholic Schools' Week.

The theme of the Mass was 'Learning with Pope Francis to care for our common home'. Pope Francis wrote a Papal Letter called 'Laudato Si', reminding us that we all have a responsibility to care for God's creation.

Each school in the Derry Diocese was presented with a tree to plant as a symbol of the care that we are called to give. The tree is to serve as a reminder to us all to do our part. Mr Conroy and a group of Year 13 students planted the tree on a cold February morning to bring this spirit to life in the Loreto College grounds.



FAITH FRIENDS 2016-2017

The Religious Education department organised outreach programmes with Year 13 students, through their General RE programme in school. Two of the groups had the opportunity to sign up to work with children in local primary schools, preparing for sacraments.

A number of Loreto Year 13 became Faith Friends to P4 pupils, preparing to celebrate their First Holy Communion at St. Malachy's Primary School. Other Year 13 students had the same opportunity, but working with Primary 7 pupils preparing for their Confirmation at St. John's Primary School.

To conclude our year, we had a Mass in Loreto Convent Chapel, celebrated by Fr G. Hasson, on Monday 27th March. All the primary school pupils who had participated in the programme were invited to attend with their senior Faith Friend. The Mass marked the closing of the year with the Faith Friends, which was an extremely fulfilling experience for both the Loreto senior students and their primary school Faith Friends.



St. Malachy's Primary School,
Beresford Avenue,
Coleraine,
BT52 1HJ
Wednesday 5th April

Dear Mrs McCarry,

All the boys and girls in Primary 4 would like to say thank you for spending your time with us in St. Malachy's getting us ready for our First Holy Communion.

We really enjoyed learning the new songs, especially the 'Community Song'. The parachute game was one of our favourite activities. The little play you acted out helped us to learn more about the stories from the Bible.

The Faith Friends from Loreto were very well mannered, polite, caring, funny and friendly. They told us a bit about their school and themselves. We really looked forward to your visits and cheered every time Mrs Walsh told us you were coming.

Thank you very much for organising Father Hasson to say a mass for us. It was a perfect way to end the programme. The girl who sang the hymns was fantastic. The juice and biscuits were a lovely surprise. We had great fun walking through all your corridors - like a maze!

Some boys and girls were very generous with cards and gifts, thank you very much for this.

The programme was a lovely way to get our two schools together; we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

Thanks again,

Hannah
 Chloe Walsh
 Ruairi
 Logan Lewis
 Oisín
 Charlie
 Janny
 Ane TAMZIN
 Katie
 Domini K
 Ella
 Julia
 Ewan Jacky
 Harry
 Adrian Barbek
 (Kedy)
 Klaudia
 Aiesha
 Maciek
 Kau Per
 Katie-Leigh
 Olivia
 Zofia
 Leia
 Leo
 MILLIE
 Caelen
 David
 Ethan
 Malisha
 Seán
 Shannigh
 Arista
 Daniel
 Lucy
 Riley
 Zuzanna
 MAYAB
 Zuzanna





EASTER LITURGY

The annual Easter Liturgy for Holy Week took place on Tuesday 11th April.

Based upon the Stations of the Cross, the Liturgy provided a reflection on the events of Holy Week, concluding with a celebration of the Resurrection.

The reflection was led by the College's Religious Education department, and included dramatic readings and vocal performances by the Junior Choir, singers from the Senior Folk Group and some soloists.



LEAVERS' MASS FOR YEAR 14 CELEBRATED AT LORETO COLLEGE



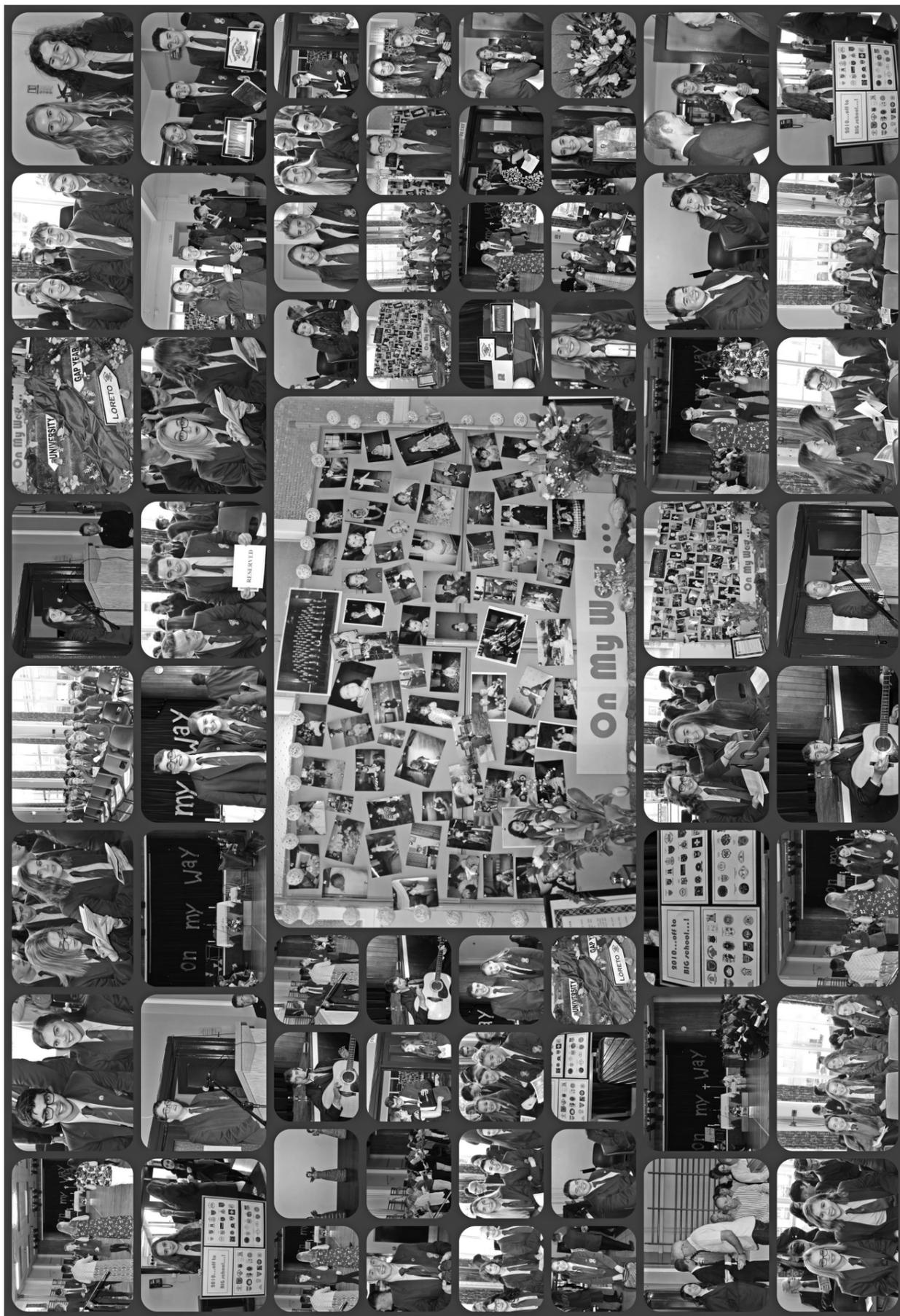
Year 14 students - the class of 2017 - and their parents celebrated the end of seven happy years at Loreto College with the teaching staff of the school at a special Mass held on the evening of Thursday 10th May, celebrated by Father Raymond McCullagh. The theme of the Mass was On My Way, inspired by the idea that the students were now continuing their journey into adult life, following all the many lessons they had learned from their parents, their teachers and one another.



The Mass celebrated the friendship the students (and their teachers) have shared, something which, it is hoped, is not to be left behind as the students close the classroom doors for the last time. As the students finished timetabled lessons and faced the challenges of the A2 examinations, the evening was an opportunity to reflect on happy memories, with laughter, tears, song and prayer.



There were deeply moving and uplifting speeches from Head Girl Cariosa O'Harte, Head Boy Aidan Boyle, Head of Year 14 Mrs Schira McGoldrick and College Principal Mr Michael James. Musical contributions from a group of talented singers and instrumentalists lent a tone of emotional reflection to the evening, which was a wonderful affirmation of the Class of 2017 and their special and utterly unique contribution to the life of Loreto College.



HEAD GIRL'S SPEECH

There have been many times when I have looked forward to occasions at Loreto, but I must admit making this speech hasn't been one of them! Ironically, in September 2010 - just as we were starting our time in Loreto, 'The King's Speech' was hitting the box office - however, unlike Colin Firth I'm not expecting to win any Oscars for mine tonight.

Yes, it's actually been seven years- I don't think it has quite sunk in for many of us, myself included, that our time as pupils of Loreto College, Coleraine is almost over.

Reflecting on my time at Loreto, I could simply measure it in weeks, terms and years; but I know that for me personally I will measure it in a different way: through the lessons I have learned, both in and outside the classroom, and the lifelong friends I have made. The amazing opportunities I have been given, throughout my time as a pupil here, have enriched my experience of Loreto and given me lots of fond memories to cherish. The privilege of fulfilling the role of Head Girl, performing with 'Tigh Tara' at the National Concert Hall in Dublin and being part of the Economics team that presented at The Bank of England in London, have for me been the highlights of a packed seven years. These opportunities, and many others, were made possible by the hard work of a number of individuals who are too modest to be mentioned by name, and would be the last to seek praise and recognition.

I could attempt to use a quote to sum up my experiences here, but in truth, no quote would adequately describe the truly special, unique atmosphere and culture which exists in Loreto. In my own words

then, as a pupil here I have always felt content, happy and at home. There have been numerous joyous times but, as with the nature of life, there have also been times of stress - as you may have heard, there is quite a jump from GCSE to A-Level, but during the times where nothing seemed to make sense and the work was mounting, there was always someone there, either peer or teacher, to help me cope.

As a year group we've had a busy time. Together we've battled through it all: braces, side fringes and, of course, exams. We have travelled all over the world: to Berlin, Rome, America, and even China. We've entertained with our participation in musicals, some of us taking centre stage; others taking on the role of creatures of darkness, backstage. Our charitable and volunteer work has raised vital funds and over the years supported many of those in need, both locally and globally. Our sporting successes- not an area of my expertise, I must admit- have shown our ability to work together.

Whilst we have enjoyed success as individuals and as groups and teams, together our combined GCSE results brought the school to the top of the league tables - no pressure for August then! As we progressed up the school, we grew taller, eventually fitting into our blazers; our ties changed and our teeth straightened, but most importantly we became a tighter knit year group and school community. Now, as the R plates slowly start to disappear from the hockey pitch and we are ready to embark on the next chapter of our lives, we can look back on seven years well spent. I think it's fair to say we have all matured since 2010

- well most of us. We have grown, not just physically and intellectually, but socially and emotionally. We are no longer the same, timid and uncertain Year 8's that walked through the blue gates, but we have evolved into well-rounded and ambitious young adults who, thanks to Loreto, are now ready to take on new challenges. I can't think of a better place for us to have grown up and spent our teenage years, surrounded by the ethos of freedom, justice, sincerity, truth and joy, which we now take with us into the world - whether we are conscious of it or not.

To quote Aidan from a few weeks ago, "Cariosa, your reign of terror is almost at an end." Who I was terrorising I'm not quite sure - Aidan? My year? The entire school? Despite this comment, I still want to thank Aidan who has worked alongside me this last year and put up with my perfectionist tendencies and need for organisation at all times. Thanks to Cormac and Maggie who have supported us both: it has been a privilege to fulfil my role alongside them and their support has made the job all the more enjoyable. I also want to thank the entire senior prefect group for their co-operation and all the time they have given up throughout the past year. A special shout out to Aoife Carr, who accompanied me as substitute Head Boy to the Dominican Formal - looking far more fetching in a red ball gown than Aidan would ever have.

On behalf of all my fellow Year 14s, I would like to take his opportunity to convey our thanks to several people. Fr. Raymond, we thank you so much for joining us here tonight and helping to make our final Loreto mass a truly special

occasion. We also thank you for your personable manner and all your work throughout the years. To our teachers, thank you for all your hard work, patience and the dedication you have shown to each and every one of us. We may have complained about homework and tests but, if we look past all of that, each one of us is truly grateful for every hour you have spent at the whiteboard, marking our work and preparing lessons. You were always there to advise and guide us and even turned a blind eye to the occasional 'calculator' going off during class. To our Heads of Year: Mrs Ahern, who guided us in our very first years here; Mrs

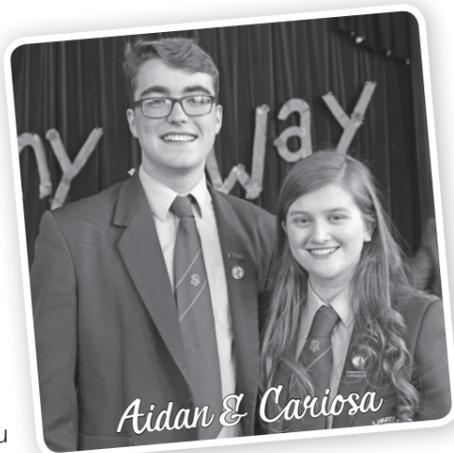
Pepin who had to cope with us at the peak of our teenage years; and Mrs McGoldrick whom we have finished our time here under the watchful eye of. Thank you - we hope you remember us in the years to come, for all the right reasons! And last, but certainly not least, to our parents and guardians: together your support and encouragement has helped us in endless ways.

As we move on to university, gap years or whatever lies ahead, I hope we will always treasure our time here on the Castlerock Road. There have been some truly memorable moments, not least in the last few days. There is no doubt that today

marks an ending, but it also marks the beginning of a new adventure, which I can only hope will be filled with as many laughs and happy memories. University has a lot to live up to, now that Loreto as set the standard.

The final thing I'd like to say is good luck to everyone. We all have a tough couple of months ahead of us, but I hope we can continue to put the work in and do ourselves justice so that we may embark on our chosen paths in September.

Cariosa O'Harte



HEAD BOY'S SPEECH

Good evening,

Here we are. Finished, nearly. Seven years later. Seven years since we walked through the gates of Loreto College in September 2010, with school bags bigger than ourselves, blazers touching our ankles, and friends that we could count on one hand.

Mrs Ahern was our mother for our first two years (she still swears we weren't the reason for her retirement...). Mrs Pepin took over for the rest of the formative GCSE years, before Mrs McGoldrick got her hands on us to finish the job for our senior years.

The smiles of the teachers - most of the time - who have had to face us for 6 hours a day, 5 days a week, 33 weeks of the year, for 7 years,

have proven the basis for many a good result, and not just in the classroom. I would like to thank you all, and especially Mr James, Miss Toner and Mr Gallagher. I know that sometimes it's been difficult, but I like to think that after seven years, we are leaving on good terms. Your help and support has been invaluable, and has enabled our time here to pass as comfortably as possible.

Some of us have had the privilege to be coached by, really and truly, one of the best managers in Ulster in Mr. Murtagh, with incredible journeys to the Rafferty Cup final and Loreto's first foray into the MacLarnon Cup in many years.

The antics of Shane and Co. on the way to matches, the 5th year quarter final against Keady, the amazing nights in Owenbeg and the

incredible, heartbreaking quarter finals at the beginning of this year are days that none of us will ever forget.

There's an old Irish seanfhocail - a proverb - that says: *Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*, which means "Praise the youth and they will flourish." Despite many of us wondering if it was us looking after Mr Cuning or Mr Cuning looking after us - some day he might actually turn down the chance to supervise a school trip - the teachers here have been fantastic, and have helped us to develop into the young men and women we are today.

A very special mention has to go to Mrs West. Miss, you have spent all day every day keeping watch on us. You've acted as our in-school mother/teacher/gossiper/excuse receiver and dictionary. You have taught many of us the very distinct difference between "Can I go to the toilet?" and "May I go to the toilet?" And, if I had a pound for every time I heard "FEET OFF the table" in the Common Room at the end of lunch, I definitely would not need to be sitting my A-Levels. But most of all, Miss, you have been a friend, and we all cannot thank you enough for your kindness, your generosity, and really your all round brilliance.

We so often hear how our teenage years are ones filled with change. We change from being young, innocent children into responsible young men and women over such a short space of time. And yes, you would be right, these years are years of change. You may forget your lessons and your books in your future, but some things you never will. I for one know that I will never forget "Kevy's Cookies," and the look on his face when Mr Gallagher pulled twenty cookies out of his locker, asked him what they were doing there, and Kevin replied, "They're for my lunch." Conor Gillen has certainly "left his legacy." Thanks to Ms Marron, the English Literature class definitely know what a "Heaney Bopper" is. School shows have opened our eyes to talents many of us didn't know we had, and it's amazing

what you can accomplish in a short space of time when you have Mrs McEwan shouting for lines in one ear, and Mr Gallagher shouting for music in the other. The Common Room was something special. From seeing who could cook the most elaborate meal in the microwave at lunchtime, to the odd rave before class, it made for many of our best memories from our time at Loreto. Despite the place looking like a bombsite after every break and lunch, and cleaning it being one of the nastiest jobs you could imagine, it was all worth it. The people, the smiles, the laughs and the tears made us who we are today. Loreto hasn't just taught us how to multiply and divide, speak different languages and how to properly conjugate a verb. It has also taught us respect, understanding and friendship. I have absolutely no doubt that friends made here are friends for life and, despite all the changes ahead in our lives, our friends from Loreto will be a constant presence.

I couldn't possibly let tonight pass without mentioning Cariosa, the best Head Girl anyone could have asked for. I feel a wee bit sorry for her, for having to put up with my laid-back attitude for the past year, generally for saying "Awk it'll be grand" when her stress levels were through the roof. Mr James, Miss Toner and Mr Gallagher can testify as to how many times I've said, "I'm not sure, ask Cariosa," and then everything gets sorted! Cariosa, you

are brilliant. Thank you for all your help and support this year. Our year group really is something quite special. We have a world champion kickboxer, a karate master, a national standard sprinter. We have four of the best young economists in the U.K. We have county camogie players, footballers, and hurlers. We have incredible musicians, singers, actors and artists. I think future generations will all feel a bit safer with doctors like Maggie McBride, dentists like Odhran McNicholl, and engineers like Conor Craig. Ten years from now I might hear Sean Quinn and Mark Cassidy reminiscing about their years on the Loreto football team. Or perhaps come across Aoife Bradley and Shauna Doherty still arguing about what the best thing to eat from the Ramore is (before settling on pasta). Who knows? But as sure as Mr Harkin fancies himself as Michael Jordan, and Mr Conroy as Mo Farah, I know that one way or another, we will all meet again.

So yes, you might forget the lessons. You might forget the corridors. You might forget about Christmas exams, lunchtime detentions and the chicken run. But you will never, ever, forget the people. Because the friendships we have made and the bonds we have forged will last forever. Class of 2017, it has been an honour and a privilege. Thank you all so very, very much.

Aidan Boyle

YEAR 12 MASS

Our Year 12 students celebrated their final day in class before their exams on Friday 12th May. The occasion was marked with the Year 12 Mass, celebrated on their final afternoon. The theme of the Mass was 'Send Us On Our Way', and it was an opportunity for the Year 12 students and their Form Teachers to celebrate five years together

working towards success in the GCSE examinations and beyond.

The afternoon was also a celebration of friendship. Two members of the year group who passed away during their time as Loreto students were fondly remembered: Niamh McCloskey and Michaela Harkin. The students

also took time to pay tribute to their Head of Year, Mrs Michelle McGill, their Form Teachers and subject teachers.

The Year 12 students were wished every success in their GCSE examinations by Mr Michael James, College Principal, and by Mrs McGill, Year Head.



Students who presented gifts at the beginning of the Year 12 Mass.



Photos of Niamh McCloskey and Michaela Harkin were among the gifts presented at the Mass.



Shauna and Connlaith preparing for the Entrance Procession at the Year 12 Mass.



Musicians who led the singing at the Year 12 Mass.



Conor admires the Year Group photo at the Year 12 Mass.



Mrs McGill receives a tribute of thanks from her Year Group

MEMORIAL MASS HELD IN LORETO COLLEGE TO

Remember Reece

A special Mass was held in June to celebrate the life of Reece Meenan, a Year 10 student, who passed away in late November following a road traffic accident.

Reece is greatly missed and very fondly remembered by everyone at Loreto College and the Mass was an opportunity for his year group and teachers to remember him alongside members of his family.

Reece's closest friends have worked hard to raise funds for permanent memorials to him. They raised money in January for a memorial to Reece at Anfield, with a generous donation from the Bertie Peacocks Youth Football Club, of which Reece was a member. Reece was a lifelong fan of Liverpool so this was a particularly fitting tribute. The boys raised money through a cookie sale, assisted by Year 10 form tutor Ms

R Kirby, Head of RE Mrs S McCarry and Classroom Assistant Mrs K Lagan with generous support from Tesco Coleraine.

In addition to this, the boys were assisted by Head of Religious Education, Mrs Siobhan McCarry, in making enquiries about a memorial plaque to be placed in the Loreto College grounds, bearing the school crest and the Liverpool FC crest. Janene and Mark from Limavady Memorials offered to donate the plaque free of charge given the tragic circumstances; the boys were quite overwhelmed by this and hugely appreciative of the company's generosity.

On behalf of Loreto College, Mr Michael James, College Principal, expressed the appreciation of the entire school community to Limavady Memorials, Bertie Peacocks FC and Tesco Coleraine

for their great generosity in these tragic circumstances. Commenting that this support was of tremendous assistance in the College's support of the students who were trying to come to terms with the loss of their classmate, Head of Religious Education Mrs S McCarry added that she hoped that such great acts of kindness would be of solace to Reece's family, as a reassurance that the thoughts and prayers of the school and the wider community remain with them.



END OF YEAR MASS MARKS CLOSING OF TERM AT LORETO COLLEGE

The closing of the 2016-2017 academic year was marked at Loreto College on 28th June with a Mass to celebrate the successes and the friendship of the past 12 months at the Castlerock Road school. Celebrated by Father Hasson of St John's Coleraine and Dunboe Parish, the theme of the Mass was 'A New Road to Travel'.

Speaking on behalf of all the staff and of the Senior Leadership Team, Mr Michael James, College Principal, expressed his gratitude to all the students and staff of the College for a busy, productive and

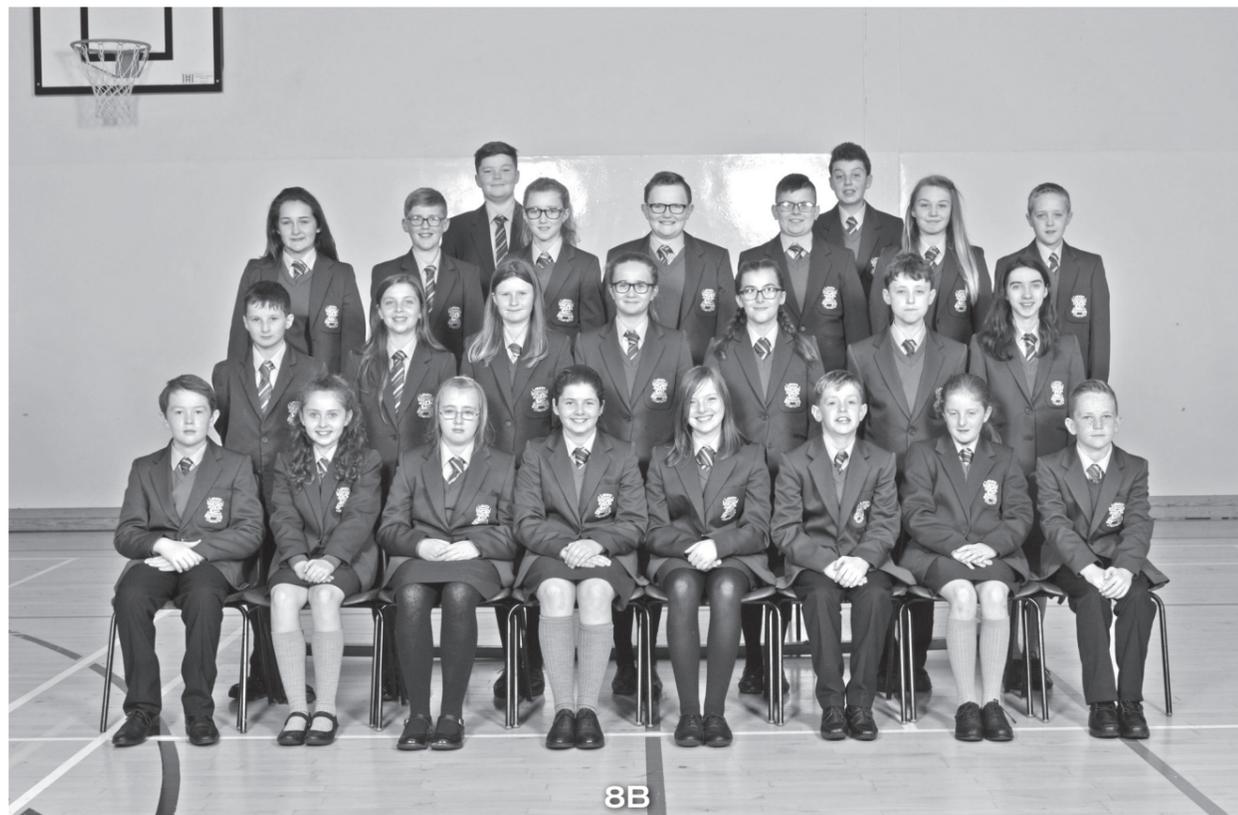
successful year at Loreto College. Mr James also paid heartfelt tribute to three long-serving members of staff: Mr Paul Cuning, Mr Gerry McGouran and Mr Raymond McKay on their retirements, thanking them for their many years of service to the College and wishing them health and happiness in the years ahead. Thanks were also offered to a number of temporary members of staff leaving at the end of the academic year: Mrs Sarah McCaughan (English), Mrs Karen Wilson (PE), Miss Aileen McAlister (Irish) and Miss Kirsty Crawford (General Assistant). Sarah Moore,

Deputy Head Girl and Fearghal Close, Head Boy, expressed the thanks and good wishes of the student community to these teachers and all members of the Loreto staff.

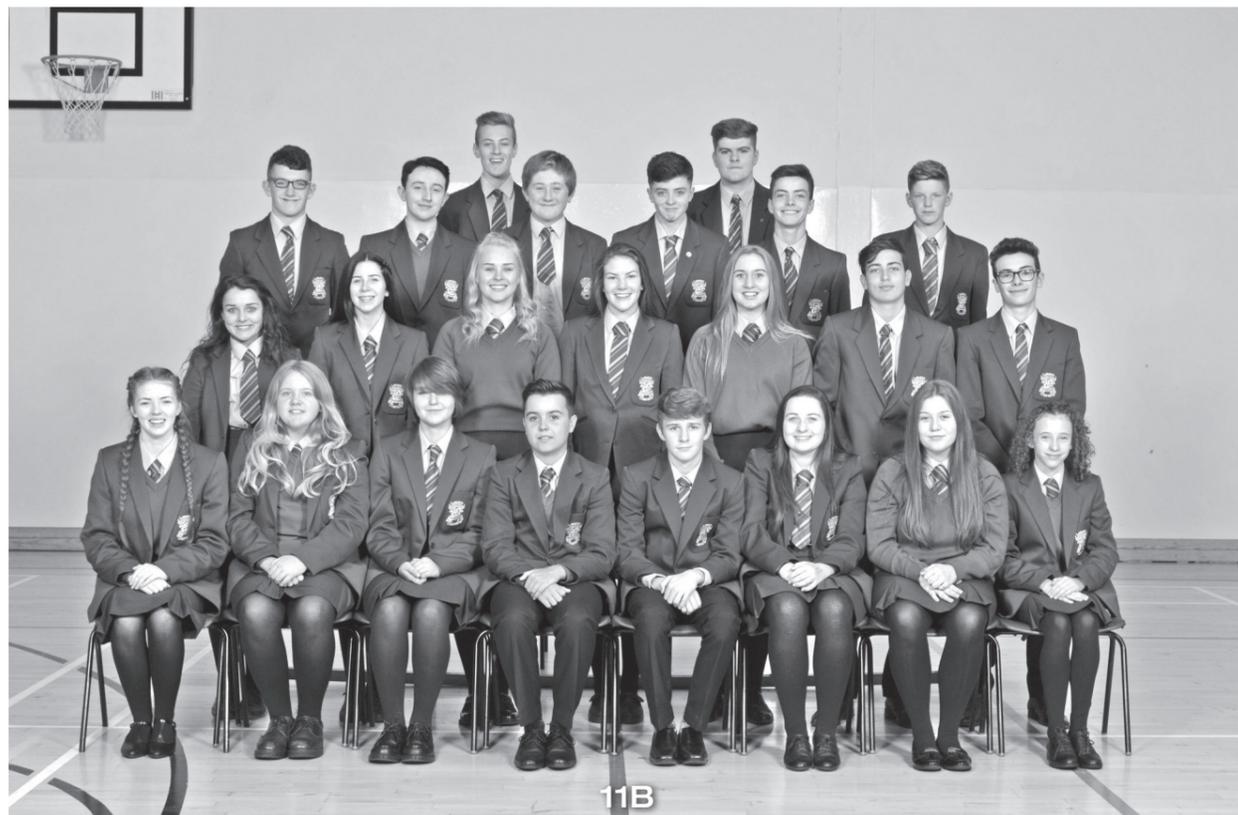
Mr James also paid tribute to the members of the Loreto Community in Coleraine for their constant support and prayers, and to the members of the Loreto Religious Education department, who had prepared a very beautiful liturgy to conclude the academic year.



CLASS PHOTOS 2016-2017

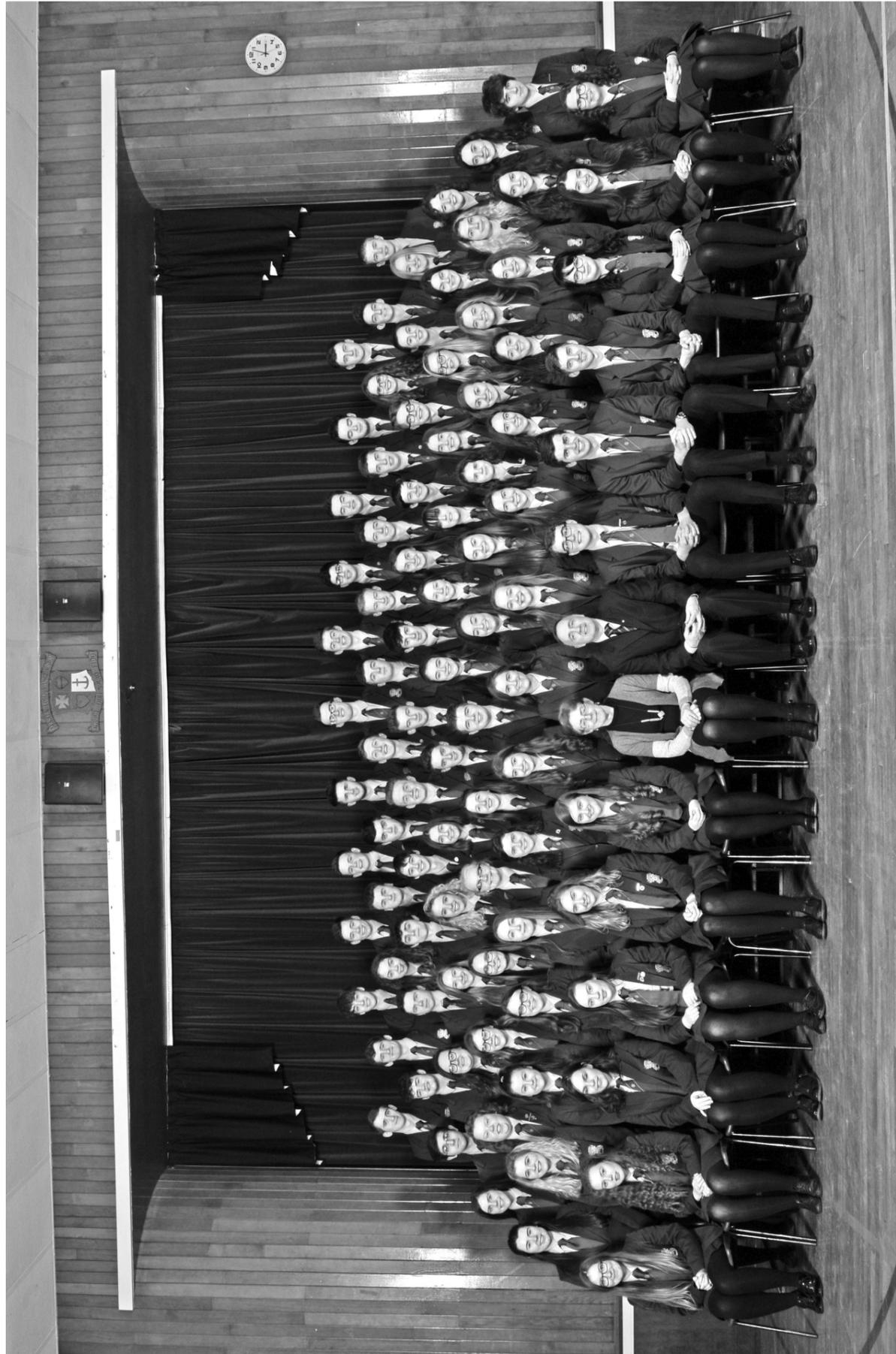


CLASS PHOTOS 2016-2017





YEAR 12



YEAR 14

HELPING OTHERS

As always, it has been a busy year in the attempt to help others, whether that has taken the form of our students and staff taking part in initiatives to support others, or individual, group or whole school fundraising for our various designated charities.

THE JUSTICE LEAGUE

The College's Justice League is a group of Year 13s who have challenged themselves to become humanitarians and follow the Loreto ethos in providing service to others who are in need. By speaking to Mrs McCool, the teacher who guides and facilitates the Justice League, I learned that the aims of the Justice League continue to be inspired by the Kolkata guidelines where Loreto students are encouraged to be "Agents of social change". Guided by the words of Nelson Mandela, who said "Overcoming poverty is not just an act of charity, it is an act of Justice", the Justice League demonstrates advocacy and awareness-raising, as well as fundraising. Mrs McCool added, "I always try to get a balance between the two although sometimes the fundraising demands can take precedence especially when it is often seen as a key/only way for young people to make that difference."

The first campaign that the Justice League embarked on was the Road of Hope annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal. The gift filled shoeboxes collected were sent to and greatly appreciated by those less fortunate in Eastern Europe. For the past few years at Loreto College, the number of shoeboxes collected has grown year on year due to the great effort of the Justice League and greater enthusiasm throughout the school. Mrs McCool addressed the healthy competition that helped the Justice League exceed their target; "Each new group tries to build on the previous year's total, healthy

competition means Romanian orphanages benefit." From the first collection of 88 shoeboxes in the college in the First Year of the appeal, this year the Justice League in school collected 312 shoeboxes to donate to the collection.

At the heart of the Justice League are the students themselves. Mrs McCool certainly had a lot to say about some of the young people who were an integral part of the work of the Justice League this year: "The students themselves have been a wonderful group of young people: full of energy and enthusiasm and so giving of their time and talents." Indeed, the young people in the Justice League have proved how far they'll go as "Agents of Social Change." A few of the young people became Concern Ambassadors: Aimee Ingram, Michaela Ingram, Rebecca Dillon, Naomi O'Hale, Sarah Dillon, Mary Mullan and Ciaran O'Kane. I asked Aimee Ingram some questions about her duties as a Concern Ambassador: "Concern is a charity that works with the world's poorest people to transform their lives. As ambassadors, we raise awareness about Concern as a charity and promote what they stand for." Pope Francis's Laudato Si document promotes the Protection of the Earth, which is an issue that the Justice League tackled in their winter Mission Day efforts. The Justice League was lucky to have Hugh McIlwee invited into school to show the group how he made gifts from recyclable materials from his workplace. These beautiful, vegan,

eco-friendly Christmas gifts were sold by the Justice League at their stall at Mission day, and Mr McIlwee kindly donated the profits of these sales to our ever-inspiring Loreto Missions. Mrs McCool adds, "We now hope to use the same materials and make similar gifts ourselves next year."

One campaign that has been seen by most of the people I interviewed as the most significant and successful is the Trocaire Campaign. This year, the efforts of the entire school led to a spectacular £6000 being raised for Trocaire. Year 14 in particular excelled in their fundraising efforts, particularly Mrs Mellon's 14D class who raised £690 in total. When I spoke to Mrs McCool about this campaign, she was very enthusiastic, "Trócaire had special significance to me this year as the campaign centred on Honduras this year and, having travelled there with Trócaire at Easter 2013, I knew only too well how the fishing villages would benefit from the money and the work that was being done to help reduce the risk of disaster and to distribute emergency packs." Along with Mrs McCool's own experience in Honduras, as well as the enthusiasm and support of all the pupils and staff in the School, the Justice League became a facilitator of an immense show of the Loreto ethos. As part of the Trocaire campaign, the Justice League members organised activities such as individual sponsored fasts and a Climate related treasure hunt. This treasure hunt, devised for

the junior students of the school, allowed pupils to have fun whilst donating to a good cause. It raised £120. Justice League member Ciaran O'Kane agrees that "without the immense support from the staff and pupils" none of this fundraising activity would be possible.

The Justice League is a perfect example of the Loreto ethos in action - I totally agree with Mrs McCool when she tells me this. The Justice League displays characteristics of positivity,

leadership, energy, empathy and service to others - characteristics which are paramount in a good Loreto student. In a greater way, the work of the Justice League depends upon you - the school community. Without your continuous support and display of Loreto characteristics, none of the successes of our school's Justice League would have been possible. Mrs McCool hopes the best for the future of the Justice League, "I'm very grateful for the opportunity to work with such lovely students and

I've no doubt they will continue to be motivated to help those in need, both locally and globally, and to challenge themselves to be 'Agents of social change'." The members of the Justice League concluded that, without the effort and work of Mrs McCool in co-ordinating their work in the school, no campaign would be possible. In working together as a Loreto Community, it is evident that great things can and will happen.

*Caoimhe Kelly
Year 13*

LORETO PRESENTS GENEROUS SHOEBOX DONATION TO ROAD OF HOPE

Students and staff at Loreto College Coleraine have 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 everyday 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 312 shoeboxes were collected by Loreto's pupils and these, in turn, brought joy and hope to those who need it most at 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.

As Christmas approached, the students and staff of Loreto College continued their efforts in support of a number of extremely deserving causes. 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.





FESTIVE FUND-RAISING AT LORETO COLLEGE

The Autumn term came to its traditional close at Loreto College Coleraine with the annual Mission Day on Tuesday 20th December. Raising money for the Loreto Missions, the Mission Day is a Christmas tradition at Loreto College. Students took part in a vast array of fund-raising activities in the course of the day: a beauty salon 'Pamper Parlour' and vintage fashion stall; five-a-side soccer tournaments; hotly-contested bingo games; and a staff vs. boys soccer match were among the activities on offer.

The focal point of the day was the Loreto Christmas Market, which ran throughout the morning in the College Hall, featuring stalls organised by many form classes and year groups. Popular attractions included a craft stall offering handmade Christmas decorations, a hot chocolate stall, Mr Slushtails, as well as bric-a-brac and cuddly toy stalls for those eager to finish their Christmas shopping. The Craft stall on Mission day consisted of goods donated by

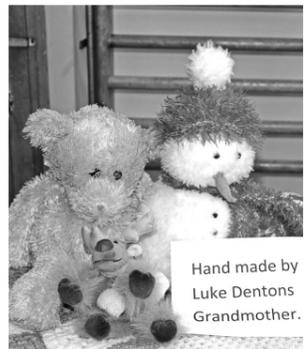
Hugh McIlwee, a school technician at Limavady High School who uses recycled material to create his lovely Irish cottages and snow scene Christmas decorations. He visited the Justice group to talk and showcase his goods and left materials for the pupils to work with and create their own products to sell on next year's stall. He kindly donated all the proceeds to the Loreto missions, over £300! It all stemmed from the Justice group's focus on continuing the message of Pope Francis' Laudato Si document about the protection and value of our earth and its resources.

Another very popular attraction was Santa's Kitchen - the café opened for the day in the Home Economics department, serving a variety of seasonal delicacies throughout the morning. A lively country jive and line dancing session took place just before lunch, led by Year 14 student Aideen Reid. In the afternoon, a variety of activities was on offer, including film-and-doughnut relaxation for many pupils

and a table quiz for sixth form. All Year 10 students took part in an inter-class soccer tournament in memory of their much loved and greatly missed classmate Reece Meenan. The tournament was played in celebration of Reece, who had been a keen footballer, and was won by 10E with 10C finishing as runners up. Both teams were proud to receive the medals and trophy which had been donated in Reece's memory.

The Mission Day raised a total in excess of £3500 for its designated cause, which will be received with great appreciation by the Loreto sisters worldwide and especially in the developing world, who have close links with their sister establishment in Coleraine. The students and the teachers who co-ordinated all these events, especially Mrs Mabel McAleese, Mission Day Coordinator, and Mrs Lorraine McCool, Social Justice Coordinator, were congratulated on this magnificent total by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College.





Hand made by Luke Dentons Grandmother.



FESTIVE FUND-RAISING



Mission Day 2016

LORETO MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER RECEIVES GENEROUS DONATION

In January, a group of students from Loreto College launched a campaign of fundraising in memory of their much-loved friend and classmate, Reece Meenan.

The Year 10 students decided to raise enough money so that Reece's life could be commemorated in the new landscaped area of the stand at Anfield, as part of the Anfield Forever project. Reece was a lifelong and passionate Liverpool

supporter, so his friends felt that this would be the ideal tribute to him.

The students, assisted by Head of RE Mrs Siobhan McCarry, Reece's form tutor Ms Rionagh Kirby and Classroom Assistant Mrs Karen Lagan, held a cookie sale to begin their fundraising, generously supported by Tesco, Coleraine, who provided the cookies free of charge when they heard the story behind the sale. The boys raised an impressive £390, a huge step towards their target of £500.

On reading about this, Jamie Selfridge, Treasurer of Bertie Peacock's Football Club, contacted Loreto College. He was so impressed by the boys' efforts that, on behalf of the club, he wished to 'make up' the funds they still needed to fulfil their goal of £500. As their funds raised had subsequently increased to £400, Mr Selfridge was kind enough to present the boys with a cheque for £100 on behalf of Bertie Peacock's FC.

Reece had been a former player with Bertie Peacock's, and some of his friends still play for them too.

Meeting with the boys, Head of Religious Education Mrs S McCarry, Year 10 Form Tutor Ms R Kirby and College Principal Mr Michael James, Mr Selfridge told the boys how impressed he was by the team spirit shown by their efforts- the very spirit which they always try to encourage in their players- and praised them on their endeavours to set the memorial up in Anfield for their friend Reece. He thought it was a very fitting and appropriate way to remember Reece, as he had been such a football fan.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to Jamie Selfridge and Bertie Peacock's FC for this very generous gesture, and again congratulated the boys and their teachers on this wonderful, fitting tribute to their much-missed classmate Reece.



Loreto Charity Coffee Mornings

Loreto SVP held its annual coffee morning on Monday 13th March from 10:45-12:15 in the convent. Our Traditional Group was in attendance to provide the musical backdrop. This was a wonderful opportunity to support St Vincent de Paul and hear some beautiful music on a Spring morning!

Just before the Halloween break, the staff held the annual Macmillan Coffee Morning, raising an impressive total of £295.



LORETO COLLEGE RAISES IMPRESSIVE TRÓCAIRE FUNDS

The annual Trócaire collections and fundraising took place throughout Lent at Loreto College Coleraine, with all form classes and year groups coming up with interesting initiatives to raise money alongside traditional use of Trócaire boxes in classrooms. An amazing total of £6000 was raised by the entire school community in the course of Lent.

Trócaire's campaign this year was helping to implement Disaster Risk Reduction strategies to help areas in Honduras respond quickly to flooding. Because of the problems experienced due to a shortage of water, or in Honduras's case too much water, it was decided to try and involve pupils in a water related event, partly inspired by World Water Day in March as well. Bearing this campaign in mind, the Justice Group and their teacher-coordinator Mrs McCool came up with some interesting fundraising ideas which were taken up by many form classes and year groups.

Sixteen capped water canisters were made available for classes to complete laps around the hockey

pitch. This proved an effective way of getting the Trócaire message across, as well as raising funds through sponsorship. Mrs McCool's 10E form class and Mrs McGreevy's 8D class took part in a water relay race in late March, which proved to be a really enjoyable event. Mr Conroy, meanwhile, took his Year 10 form class on a walk, but laden with water canisters so the pupils experienced, even briefly, the discomfort of carrying water a long distance. Women in developing countries walk on average 6km per day to fetch water. Miss Galbraith, Ms Kirby, Ms Mullan and Mrs Close also involved their form classes in the Water activity.

Among the top fundraising form classes week by week were: 8B and Mr Murphy with a total of £83.21 in week 1; 9B and their form teacher Mrs McBroom, raising £48.99 in week 2; Mrs McAleese's form class 8C, who raised a wonderful £137.43 in week 3; 10B and Mr Conroy, who raised an impressive £163 in week 4; 14D and Mrs Mellon, raising an amazing £690 in the final week. Over the

course of Lent as a whole, the top fundraisers were:

- Year 8:** 8E and Miss Galbraith, **£320.07**
- Year 9:** 9B and Mrs McBroom, **£565.69**
- Year 10:** 10D and Mrs McCool, **£362.00**
- Year 11:** 11B and Mrs Close, **£153.00**
- Year 12:** 12A and Mrs McGill, **£114.36.**

Year 13 raised £592.21 in total, with top fundraisers 13C and Mrs McEwan raising £138.51. Meanwhile Year 14 raised a magnificent total of £1055.00, with top honours going to 14D and Mrs Mellon, who raised £690. Mrs McBroom and 9B completed a 2K sponsored walk and came a very close second with £565. Year 13 raised £385 at their Trócaire coffee morning while Mrs Mellon and her form class 14D introduced the Lucky Stars draw, gathering great interest with exciting prizes and raising a wonderful £690! Congratulations also go to Mrs McGoldrick, Mr Loughran, Miss Flannelly and Mrs Mellon whose

Year 14 Form classes raised a wonderful £366 at their coffee afternoon, facilitated by the Year 14 Group RE teachers.

Corey Cassidy (Year 10), who raised a wonderful £106. He was rewarded for this generosity and commitment with a certificate and a Jet Centre voucher.

Mrs Lorraine McCool, Social Justice Co-ordinator at Loreto College, paid tribute to all the staff and students of the College for their generosity, dedication and determination in raising this magnificent total for Trócaire during the Lenten season.

For the second consecutive year, our top individual fundraiser was



Loreto College Year 8 students during a Trócaire fundraising activity.

Corey Cassidy our top Trocaire fundraiser this year.



LORETO COLLEGE MAKES DONATION TO ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Loreto College sixth form Society of St Vincent de Paul group presented a cheque for £591.65 to representatives of the St John's, St Malachy's and Dunboe chapters of St Vincent de Paul, following a busy year of fund-raising and activity in the service of others.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is an international Christian voluntary membership organisation that tackles poverty and disadvantage by helping and supporting vulnerable people. Its main objective is the relief of poverty in all its forms without differentiation on the grounds of race, colour, creed, ideology or gender. Members look for opportunities to help those in need and, when asked, visit individuals and families where they are living and assess their needs.

The Loreto College Year 13 SVP group undertook frequent visits to the nearby Edenmore Nursing Home, as well as getting involved in a number of fundraising

endeavours, including a sponsored walk and a Coffee Morning held in the Convent House and the annual Christmas Hamper collection.

Mrs Bernie Cosgrove and Mr Sean McGillan of the St John's Parish Coleraine St Vincent de Paul group paid tribute to the efforts and dedication of the Loreto College sixth formers and Mr Conroy for their generous donation to a worthy cause which can give practical assistance to those who need it in the local area.

LORETO COLLEGE SVP

One of the best things about being a Loreto student is the feeling of community, both within the school community and the local community. Throughout the year, the school participates in many events to help those less fortunate. In particular, a lot of these events are organised by the school's own SVP group and Mr Conroy.

This year, as part of Year13's general RE programme, students were encouraged to learn more about the SVP groups, both locally and worldwide. Having researched the inner workings of the charity, we then produced posters and placed them at various locations around the school during Lent to promote social justice and awareness of how we, as individuals, can do more to help the more vulnerable members within our society. Not surprisingly, this is in keeping with our Loreto ethos.

One of the fundraising events was a sponsored walk. All SVP members in Year13 took part and raised money in their spare time. Having taken part in the walk myself, while I was not particularly enthusiastic about exercising, I was grateful for the minor miracle that for once it didn't rain. However, the most important thing to be acknowledged concerning the sponsored walk is not the weather but the £250 that was raised.



In addition to the success of the sponsored walk, the SVP group, with help from Mr Conroy, organised and hosted a coffee morning in the school's convent for local residents and surrounding parishes. The SVP group donated buns and biscuits and took on the role of coffee and tea makers, with a few students taking a behind the scenes role as dishwashers. Also, the school's traditional music group entertained

the visiting guests. It is safe to say the morning was successful, based upon the £360 that was raised.

Another key part of the Loreto College SVP's activities is visiting the Edenmore Residential Care Home. We took turns to visit the care home in groups during our assigned general RE time. We would sing or play instruments for the residents or just have a

chat and play a few board games. Bingo seemed to be a particular favourite of the residents, who seemed to enjoy the company also. All in all, visiting the residents was an enjoyable experience, as we reached out to some of the most lonely people in society and made their day just a little bit brighter, which is the real aim of the SVP group.

*Aimee Quigg
Year 13*

FINAL FUNDRAISING

All Year 8 students took part in the annual sponsored workout for LEPRa in February, raising an impressive total of £1614.50. On the next page you can see some action from the LEPRa workout. Money was raised on Sports Day in aid of the British Heart Foundation - a pleasing total of £351.40 was raised.

The totals raised for our designated charities were as follows:

Macmillan Coffee Morning	£295
Loreto Beach Walk	£6,652
Shoebox Appeal	£240: 312 boxes
Mission Day Crafts	£300
Loreto Mission	£3,900
Samaritans Vigil	£122
Lepra workout Year 8	£1,614.50
Yr 13/14 Trócaire Coffee morning	£1647
Sr Rosemary Sudan visit	£500
Aware Defeat Depression- sale of Art bags	£30
Bag packing for Deaf Society	£435 + £342
Trócaire Total	£6,000
Sports Day - British Heart Foundation	£351.40
Lourdes for 2 pupils and 1 helper	£1050
Plaque in memory of Reece Meenan	£350
St. Vincent de Paul	£591.65
Cancer Research in recognition of Staff illnesses	£240
Habitat for Humanity bun sales	£900
Michaela Foundation sweet cone sale	£200

SCENES FROM THE LEPRA WORKOUT



STEM NEWS SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS

STUDENTS REPRESENT LORETO COLLEGE AT BT YOUNG SCIENTIST EXHIBITION 2017

Loreto College's Young Scientists were among those honoured at a Stormont reception to pay tribute to all students who had been selected to represent Northern Ireland at the annual BT Young Scientist exhibition in Dublin in January 2017.

Year 12 students Donal Close and Sian Donaghy entered their project, Phone Book Physics, into the Intermediate Chemical, Physical and

Mathematical Sciences category. Meanwhile Year 14 student Emmett Brolly was selected to represent Loreto in the Individual Senior Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences category with a project entitled Bead Fountain.

The students were accompanied to the Stormont reception by Physics teachers Mrs Maeve Close and Mrs Katrina Brolly. Of a total of 2091

project submissions, the two Loreto projects were among 550 to qualify for the final Exhibition, held in Dublin from 11th-14th January 2017.

The students, and their teachers, were congratulated on their selection for the competition and wished well for their final preparations by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



LORETO COLLEGE NAMED BEST SCHOOL IN NORTHERN IRELAND AT BT YOUNG SCIENTIST EXHIBITION

It was an extremely successful week for Loreto College Coleraine at the annual BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition in Dublin.

Loreto College was represented by a number of students from Year 12, Year 13 and Year 14 presenting three projects. Emmett Brolly (Year 14) presented a project entitled Bead Fountains, Year 13 students Dominic Bradley, Fearghal Close and Sean Doherty presented a project entitled Crumple Zones, while Donal Close and Sian Donaghy (Year 12) presented

a project entitled Phone Book Physics.

All three projects received considerable interest from the judging panel at the Exhibition. At the Awards Ceremony on Friday 13th January, Emmett Brolly received the Senior Individual award in the Chemistry, Physics and Mathematical Sciences category. Donal Close and Sian Donaghy won a special award from BT for the Best Project from Northern Ireland. Loreto College was named Best School in Northern Ireland, to crown

a wonderful week of achievement.

Head of Physics Mrs Maeve Close and Physics Teacher Mrs Katrina Brolly, who accompanied and mentored the students, were delighted by these awards and paid tribute to the students for their dedication and enthusiasm. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the students and teachers who had put such a great deal of effort into preparing and presenting their projects, congratulating them on these stunning achievements.



A TEACHER'S STORY ON ENTERING BT YOUNG SCIENTIST AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION



Dr Bryan Keating OBE, Chair of Matrix, presents the Best Overall School from Northern Ireland Award to Mrs Maeve Close for Loreto College Coleraine

Our school had always entered the BT Young Scientist competition in the past and had been very successful over the years, under the supervision of Mr McKenna. Mr McKenna retired in 2010 and we hadn't entered a project until 2016, when he helped a student enter their project in his own time. I had visited the exhibition and knew from Mr McKenna that preparation for the competition was very demanding but, having experienced the event in 2016, we decided to enter three projects in the 2017 competition. One of the greatest challenges for the entry form was thinking of a project which was new, innovative and different. After the initial application, two out of three projects were accepted and the real work began.

Pupils came in at lunchtime and after school and a lot of extra time

was put in. On 30th December we got a call to say that a project had withdrawn from the competition and our third project was invited to take part. Our initial reaction was that we couldn't get the project ready in 11 days, and the pupils weren't even back to school until the 9th



David Hughes, Director of Curriculum Qualification and Standards Department of Education Northern Ireland, students Fearghal Close, Sean Doherty and Dominic Bradley from Loreto College Coleraine with their project 'Crumble Zone' and Peter Morris, BT Ireland.

January to get any experiments done. However, having been at the exhibition the previous year, I knew how much our pupils would enjoy it and so myself and my colleague Mrs Katrina Brolly, really encouraged them to go for it. It was definitely a mammoth task ahead!

Getting to the event

BT were very good helping us with the grant etc, but other than myself and Mrs Brolly, staff members in the school were not really aware of what was going on, as we tried not to disrupt any class time. They were supportive the week of the competition when they realised we were going to the exhibition that week and the excitement started to build. The main challenge (as in our everyday jobs) was time. Free time during the school day is very limited, for both pupils and staff, so to complete anything during the school day was impossible. You have to be prepared to put in extra time but the students (and teachers) worked hard and began to get really passionate about their projects.



David Hughes, Director of Curriculum Qualification and Standards Department of Education Northern Ireland, with students Donal Close, Sian Donaghy, Maeve Close (teacher) from Loreto College Coleraine with their project 'Phone Book Physics' and Peter Morris, BT Ireland.

I would say that the best thing to come out of the competition was how enthused our pupils were when they went home. Our 'late' group consisted of three very quiet young men who had little confidence in how good their project was. Although they didn't win any individual prizes, they were coming up with new ideas and ways to develop their project long before they left the exhibition and they can't wait to go back next year! I could never have predicted this aspect of the competition - what it would do personally for the students, rather than academically. Although a very challenging experience in terms of preparation, the commitment needed and the perseverance when so much is done outside of the classroom, the benefits were fantastic for the pupils, the staff involved and for the school's reputation. We can't wait to do it again!

Mrs M Close,
Head of Physics

The RDS, January 2017

The competition was fantastic! The most incredible part was how much it improved our pupils' confidence and ability to converse with strangers. From day one they were so well looked after by BT staff. Having the accommodation grant meant we were able to stay in a lovely hotel, which was a big deal for the pupils. The three days were tiring and the students were on their feet all the time but they never complained as they were enjoying it so much. They loved the whole thing as I knew they would!

The judging process was nerve wracking for them especially for our group who had got the late call- they didn't feel as good as everyone else initially, but as the 3 days went on their confidence grew. Sometimes the judges asked them a very detailed question and it was only after they had gone, they realised how they could have answered it! A good learning experience for all!

The overall experience

We had great success at the exhibition which surprised us as we couldn't have known how good our projects were in comparison to others who have so much experience of the exhibition. So we went home in high spirits!



Ruth Murphy, Chief Counsel Business and Public Sector in BT presents the Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Senior Individual 1st place award to Emmett Brolly, Loreto College

EXHIBITION DATES FOR LORETO COLLEGE'S WINNING YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Several of Loreto College's top science students were invited to take part in several science exhibitions following their fantastic success at the annual BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition in Dublin.

As a follow-up to their wonderful week at the Young Scientist Exhibition, Emmett Brolly, Sian Donaghy and Donal Close were invited to present their projects at the 'IM Happy' STEM event held in the former HMV in the Diamond Centre, Coleraine as part of the

Northern Ireland Science Festival week. They manned their stands from 10 - 5 on Saturday 18th February, giving up time during the Mid Term break to represent their school.

Sian Donaghy and Donal Close were also selected to take part in the BT Young Scientist Business Bootcamp held at University College Dublin from 26th February - 2nd March. Only 30 students from throughout Ireland were invited to take part, out of 550 individual and group projects in the Exhibition.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated the students on their selection for these prestigious events, along with their mentoring teachers Mrs Maeve Close and Mrs Katrina Brolly, and wished them well for the continuing display of their award-winning projects.



LORETO COLLEGE REPRESENTED AT BT YOUNG SCIENTIST BUSINESS BOOTCAMP

Following their award of Best Project from Northern Ireland at the 2017 BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition, Loreto College Coleraine Year 12 students Sian Donaghy and Donal Close were selected to take part in the BT Young Scientist Business Bootcamp, held at University College Dublin from 26th February - 2nd March. Only 30 students from throughout Ireland were invited to take part, out of 550 individual and group projects in the Exhibition.

Sian and Donal were the only northerners invited to the Bootcamp. They had a great few days at the event, learning lots of business skills.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated the students on their selection for this prestigious event, along with their mentoring teachers Mrs Maeve Close and Mrs Katrina Brolly, and wished them well for the continuing display of their award-winning project.



FORENSICS WORKSHOP FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

All Year 9 students at Loreto College Coleraine took part in a workshop on Forensics on Friday 14th October 2016.

Presented in association with the University of Strathclyde, by a qualified and experienced Forensic Scientist, the workshop introduced students to the career opportunities open to them in the world of crime investigation, and the relevance to this of their studies in Science.

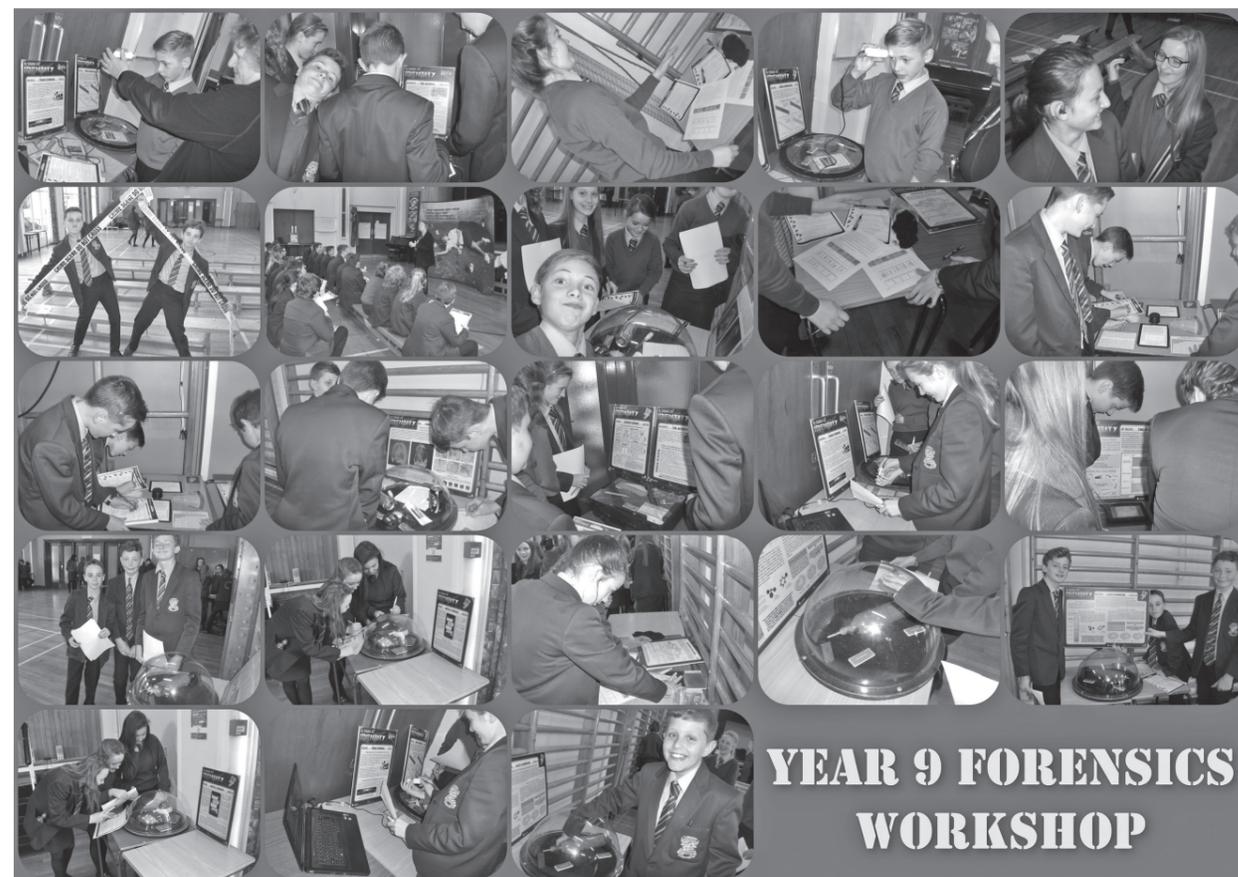
During the course of the half day, the students worked collaboratively on a problem-solving exercise. They were presented with a scenario

in which a student had been murdered; they then proceeded around a series of stations which presented them with various pieces of evidence which led towards the solving of the mystery. The stations tested the students' skills of observation, as well as alerting them to the relevance of elements such as DNA, moulding, blood groups and so on.

With enthusiasm levels among the students showing tremendous appreciation for the workshop, it was deemed a great success by Mrs Sheila McBroom, who co-ordinated the event. Mrs McBroom

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 Forensics workshop, commenting that it had provided a valuable experience for the students to put their learning into the context of an interesting and challenging career.



STEM MODULE OFFERS EXCITING EXPERIENCE TO LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

The STEM Module spent a day at Loreto College on Tuesday 28th February 2017, giving A Level Biology students an exciting hands-on opportunity with equipment and apparatus to which they would not usually have access.

The STEM module delivered a workshop on Microscopy and use of the Electron Scanning Microscope to a group of A-Level Biology students, accompanied by their Biology teachers Mrs G Doherty and Ms S Mullan. The students investigated stomata from the lower epidermis of Laurel leaves using a very high resolution microscope. The haemocytometer was then used

to estimate the population of yeast cells in a solution and the quality of microscope and precision micropipettes. In addition, students had access to images of insect parts, pollen grains and liver fluke produced by a Scanning Electron Microscope.

The access to technological equipment of a standard not available in a school laboratory gave the students valuable experience in the use of the types of equipment more commonly found in industrial and medical laboratories. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the opportunity to use some excellent equipment.

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 Education Authority.

Loreto College Principal Mr Michael James paid tribute to the STEM Module workshop, highlighting the quality of equipment and workshop delivery. He thanked Mrs K Brolly for organising the visit and Mrs G Doherty and Ms S Mullan for their supervision.



ROTARY TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT HOSTED IN LORETO COLLEGE

The local heat of the Rotary Great Britain and Ireland Technology Tournament was hosted in Loreto College Coleraine on Thursday 2nd March 2017.

The Rotary Technology Tournament competition for young people has been accredited by the British Science Association to the CREST Discovery Awards. The CREST Awards scheme is Britain's largest and most widely recognised national award scheme for project work in the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). It is co-ordinated by the British Science Association, a charity which advances understanding, accessibility and accountability of the sciences and engineering.

The RIBI Technology Tournaments, held annually, are a day out for teams

of four students with an interest in engineering, design, technology and science, to design and build a solution to an unseen technical task within a specific time frame. The teams need to have good communication skills, be well organised and able to show the stages of development of their task solution in a design portfolio. Each team's solution as a working model is competitively tested and assessed by a team of judges. Recognition is given to the winning teams in each of three age categories.

President of RIBI, Nan McCreddie said: "Our Technology Tournament programme is one of a range of national youth competitions which Rotary runs annually to help develop the skills and talents of young people. At a time when industry is

facing increasing shortages of skilled workers in the fields of science and technology, we are delighted that the RIBI Technology Tournament has been accredited to the CREST Awards Scheme and hope that this will result in more schools taking part."

At the Coleraine event, teams from Loreto College, North Coast Integrated College and Coleraine Grammar School took part to a very high standard. After a rigorous adjudication process, Coleraine Grammar School teams took first, second and third places - a wonderful hat-trick for the school. Alderman Maura Hickey, Mayor of Coleraine, presenting the prizes, paid tribute to the students from all the schools who had taken part in a tightly-contested competition in the course of the day.



ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY SCHOOLS' ANALYST COMPETITION



On Saturday 25th March the College entered a team into the Schools' Analyst Competition organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry. The event was held in Stranmillis University College, Belfast and a total of 10 schools from across the North of Ireland participated. Our representatives were Shakeera Nazeer, Molly Brennan and Oisin Brennan. The pupils really enjoyed the experience and benefitted from the opportunity to perform some practical experiments beyond the A level specification. Miss M Flannelly congratulated the pupils on their performance and hopes it will encourage them to pursue a Chemistry related career.



COMPETITION SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE MATHEMATICIANS

The Senior Mathematics Team from Loreto College Coleraine finished in fifth place of sixteen teams from top Northern Ireland grammar schools in the UKMT Mathematics competition held at Queen's University on Friday 18th November.

Team members Aoife Keane, Aidan O'Boyle, Molly Brennan and Dominic Bradley finished top in the first two rounds of the competition, but lost some ground in round three. The four team members, all sixth formers preparing for A Levels in Mathematics and Further Mathematics, along with their teacher Mrs M Mackle, had spent much time after school and at lunchtimes training for the competition.



Members of the Loreto College Senior Mathematics team, who finished fifth in the Northern Ireland heat of the UKMT Mathematics competition.

The team members were congratulated by Miss Leanne Martin, Head of Mathematics at Loreto College, on behalf of the Mathematics Department and of the school.

PROMISING RESULT FOR JUNIOR MATHS TEAM

The Junior Maths team, accompanied and coached by Mr Collins, took part in the UK Mathematics Trust Team Challenge event, hosted in St Malachy's College Belfast on Friday 10th March.

The Loreto team was placed sixth out of a field of nineteen of the top schools in Northern Ireland.



UKMT MATHS CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the Year 9 students who performed very well in the annual UKMT Maths Challenge: Conor McNicholl, Mirosław Bukowski, Nadine McAlister, Orla Quinn, Tara Laverty, Jude Mullan, Katie Mulholland, David Farren, Conor Murray, Eunan McGonigle, Jack Dihmis, Niall Owens, Cara McLaughlin, Wiktorija Czerwinska and Anna McGinley.

Particular congratulations to Conor McNicholl and Mirosław Bukowski who won Gold certificates. All other students on the list won Bronze.

BIG BANG SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE SCIENTISTS

Five students from Loreto College Coleraine won top awards at the annual Big Bang Fair at Northern Ireland Young Innovators, held at the Ulster University, Jordanstown on Monday 12th June, organised by Sentinus NI.

The Big Bang Fair Northern Ireland is one of the largest events of its kind in the UK, celebrating the achievements of young people in STEM. At its centre is an exhibition of innovation and exciting project work carried out by students from school throughout Ireland. The event aims to promote interest and engagement in the STEM subjects, for all age groups.

Loreto College Year 12 students Dónal Close and Sian Donaghy won the Queen's University Belfast Maths and Physics prize for their project. In addition to this, Dónal Close and Sian Donaghy were

joined by Year 13 students Dominic Bradley, Séan Doherty and Fearghal Close as Big Bang National Final Nomination winners. Both groups will travel to the National final of the Big Bang competition to be held in the NEC arena, Birmingham in March 2018.

Praising the Loreto College students on their projects, the judges commented that the students were wonderful ambassadors for the school. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all five students and their teacher, Mrs Maeve Close, on this wonderful achievement.



LOOKING AHEAD

OPEN DAY HIGHLIGHTS EXCELLENCE AND OPPORTUNITY AT LORETO COLLEGE COLERAINE

The annual Open Day was held at Loreto College Coleraine, a Voluntary Grammar School, on the morning of Saturday 14th January 2017, 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, meeting a variety of characters from

Literature in the English room 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 department - especially as many of the culinary treats on show could be sampled! Visitors also had the opportunity to visit the Convent Parlour and the school canteen, the Café Lorette, for refreshments, and to find out some of the College's exciting plans for the years ahead.

Speaking about the exciting plans for the future of Loreto, Mr Michael James, College Principal, 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.'

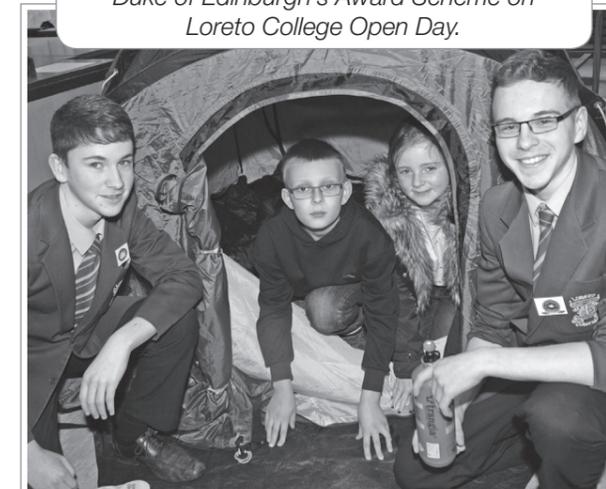
With all academic departments and many extra-curricular activities represented during the Open Day, the event was a very successful one, building on the College's links with the local community and encouraging many young people to apply for a place in the Year 8 Class of 2017 and 2018.

Photos with thanks to the Coleraine Chronicle.

Visiting the Science Department on Loreto College Open Day.



Finding out about The President's Award/Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme on Loreto College Open Day.



Mrs McNicholl, Head of Home Economics, and her assistants on Loreto College Open Day.



Mr Cunning with visitors to the Art & Design Department on Loreto College Open Day.



Visiting the Music Department on Loreto College Open Day.



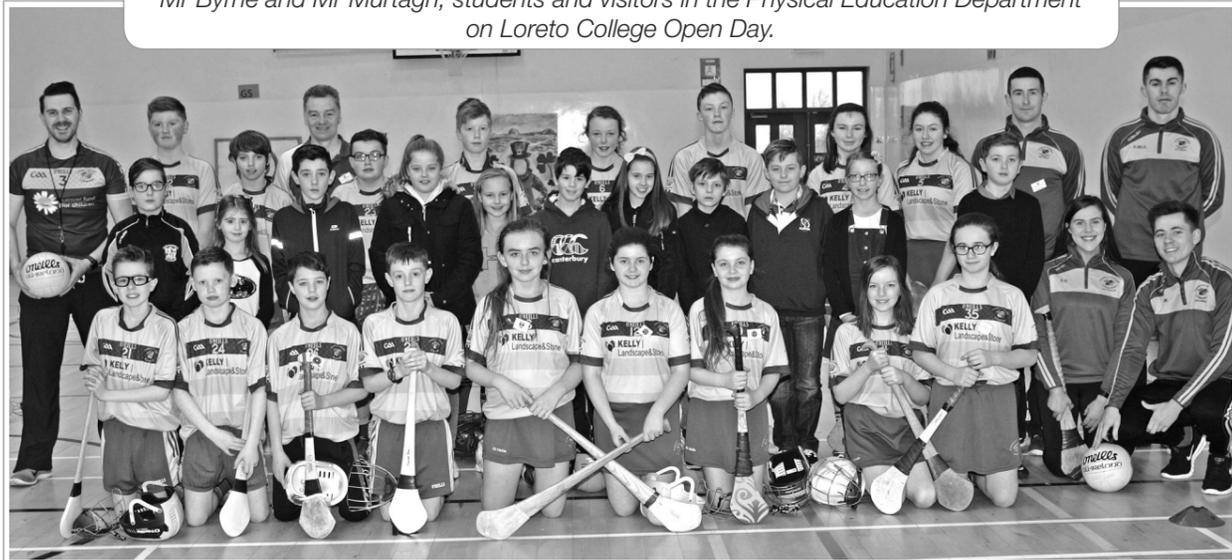
Happy smiles in the Mathematics Department on Loreto College Open Day.



Visiting the Religious Education Department on Loreto College Open Day.



Mr Byrne and Mr Murtagh, students and visitors in the Physical Education Department on Loreto College Open Day.



Year 9 Drama students ready to perform on Loreto College Open Day.



Mr Boyle, Mrs Loughrey and characters from fiction welcome visitors to the English Department on Loreto College Open Day.



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

Loreto College Coleraine held its 35th annual Trial Interview evening on Thursday 20th October 2016, organised by the College's Careers Department. The purpose of the Trial Interview evening is to provide final-year A level students with an 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.

A total of approximately 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.



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 Monday 14th November 2016. Entitled "Your School, Your Business", the workshop seeks to facilitate the transition from junior to 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 also be invaluable to students who hope to enter an entrepreneurial career area later in life. The half-day course involved familiarisation for the students with the roles played in the school as a workplace by the College's various members of staff, as well as giving students the opportunity to see how their skills and ideas could be useful and constructive in a workplace.

Karen Murphy, Young Enterprise Training Manager, commented, "Our aim is to make school as positive 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."



Happy smiles at the Your School, Your Business workshop led by Young Enterprise NI at Loreto College.



Loreto College Year 8 students enjoying their Young Enterprise NI Your School, Your Business workshop.



Loreto College Year 8 students enjoying their Young Enterprise NI Your School, Your Business workshop.

Young Enterprise Northern Ireland is a cross-community not-for-profit organisation, dedicated to inspiring young people to develop attitudes and skills for personal success, life-long learning and employability through participation in practical business programmes. 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, Gail Hamilton of Young Enterprise Northern Ireland.



Gail Hamilton of Young Enterprise NI with Year 8 students at the Your School, Your Business workshop at Loreto College.



Happy smiles at the Young Enterprise NI Your School, Your Business workshop for Year 8 students at Loreto College.

‘PROJECT BUSINESS’ WORKSHOP FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

All Year 10 students at Loreto College Coleraine enjoyed a half-day workshop entitled ‘Project Business’ on Monday 13th February, 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, time-management and target-setting, as well as developing their skills of communication and presentation. Year 13 students acted as mentors and suppliers of raw materials for the business activity.

Gail Hamilton 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.



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 22nd February 2017.

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?' 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 themselves that extra 'edge' to help them get their dream job.

The workshop, led by Gail Hamilton of Young Enterprise Northern Ireland, aimed 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 Gail Hamilton of Young Enterprise Northern Ireland, adding that they had run an event of tremendous benefit and value to all Year 12 students.



YOUNG ENTERPRISE WORKSHOP FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

All Year 9 students at Loreto College Coleraine took part in an Employability programme entitled Explore Enterprise, delivered by Young Enterprise NI on Friday 28th April.

The workshop was delivered by Vivienne Walsh and Edel England of Young Enterprise NI, and included

an introduction to enterprising skills and qualities and learning about being an entrepreneur. The Loreto students enjoyed some hands-on workshops as well as hearing about the success and endeavours of some local entrepreneurs, including Mrs Emma Gunes, who gave an enlightening talk.

Mrs Sinead McNicholl, Employability Co-ordinator at Loreto College, commented that the workshop had been a useful and enjoyable opportunity for the students to put their classroom and extra-curricular learning in the context of the workplace as the end of year examinations approached.



WORK EXPERIENCE 2016-2017

Over 100 Year 13 students undertook at least one period of Work Experience this year, gaining valuable insight into the world of work and their preferred career area.

This is an invaluable opportunity, and one which will influence pupils' future Career decisions: this may include considering Higher Education, undertaking an Apprenticeship or going directly into employment.

Many placements were in the local area and we are indebted to the many businesses and organisations that accommodate and support our students every year. Other placements were further afield in Belfast, Derry and even London thus allowing students to experience living away from home for a short period. Placements included engineering, medicine, accountancy and Optometry.

We wish all of our Year 13 students the best of luck with their future Career choices.

Pictured here are a few of our Year 13 students during their Work Experience:



Anna Morrison and Michaela Ingram at Coleraine Veterinary Clinic, Aoife Kelly and Jack Galbraith at Spatalest, Eva McGrath-Olivan and Sean Doherty at Armstrong Medical, Molly Brennan at Ivan Scott Engineering, and Victoria Tsang at St Malachy's Primary School Coleraine.



PRIMARY SIX PUPILS ENJOY A TASTE OF LIFE AT LORETO COLLEGE

Primary Six pupils from twenty-one 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 twenty-one schools – Ballyhackett PS Castlerock, D. H. Christie Memorial PS Coleraine, Crossroads PS Kilrea, Mill Strand Integrated PS Portrush, Roe Valley Integrated PS Limavady, St Aidan's PS Bellarena, St Brigid's PS Ballymoney, St Canice's PS Dungiven, St Columba's PS Portstewart, St Columba's PS Ballerin, St Columba's PS Kilrea, St John's PS Coleraine, St John's PS Dernaflaw, St Joseph's PS Dunloy, St Malachy's PS Coleraine, St Matthew's PS Drumsum, St Patrick's PS Loughguile, St

Patrick's PS Portrush, St Patrick's PS Rasharkin, St Patrick's & St Joseph's PS Garvagh and Termoncanice PS Limavady - enjoyed activities such as team-building games in PE, an introduction to Biology, Chemistry and Physics, and learning about the application of Science to everyday life, poetry writing in the English department, History and Geography activities, decorating cupcakes in Home Economics, some interactive number games in Mathematics and ice-breaker games to explore character in Drama.

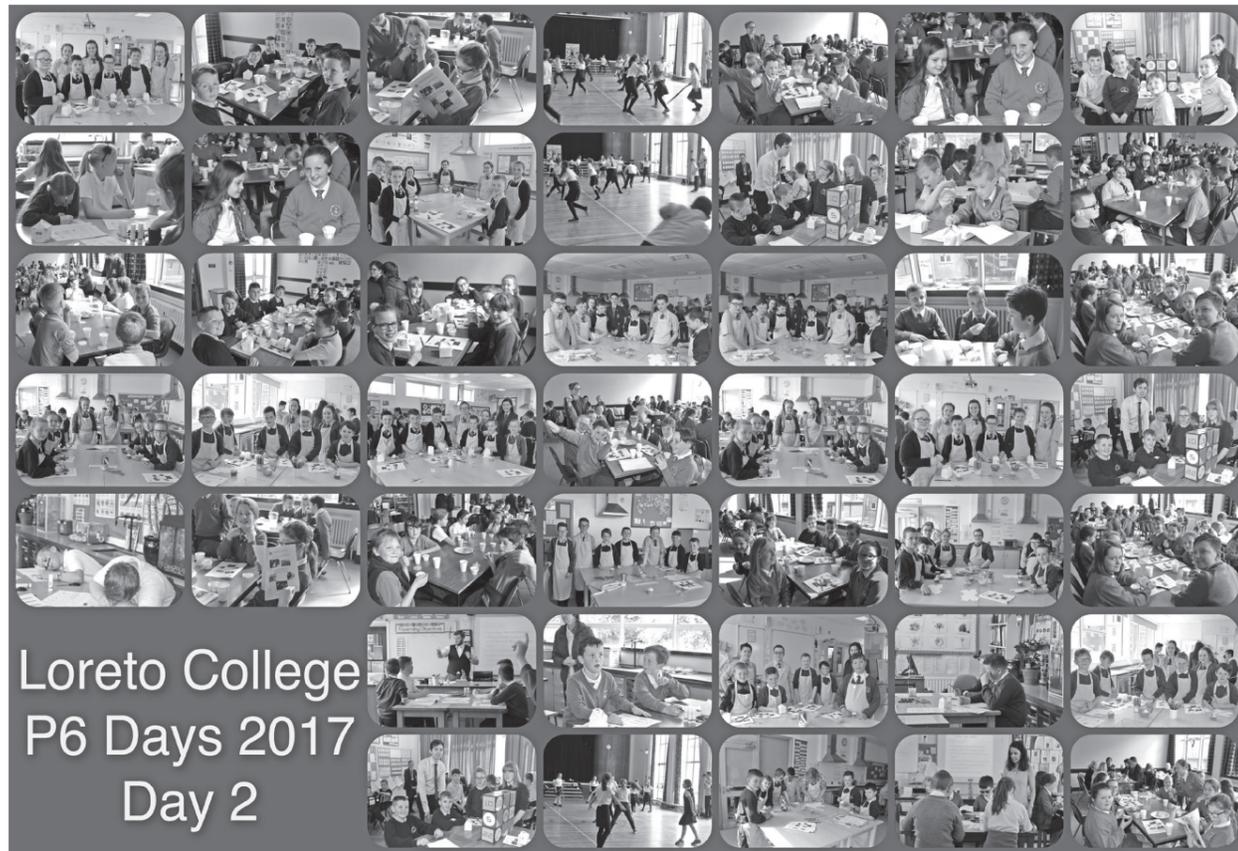
The pupils also had the opportunity to experience the school canteen, Café Lorette, and to meet Year 8 and Year 10 students from the College, many of whom had attended the same primary schools

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.

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 2018, continuing the strongly forged traditions of partnership between Loreto College and the many local primary schools.



Loreto College
P6 Days 2017
Day 1



Loreto College
P6 Days 2017
Day 2



MUSIC AND DRAMA

BILLY ELLIOT

THE MUSICAL TRIP



A group of Drama students, accompanied by Mrs McEwan, Mr Cunning and Mrs Close, along with a group from Coleraine College, spent Thursday 25th August in Dublin enjoying a performance of the musical Billy Elliot.

The group had a wonderful day and absolutely loved the musical as well as the Bord Gais Energy theatre.



LORETO COLLEGE PRESENTS JUNIOR DRAMA PERFORMANCES

On Saturday 26th November, after three months' hard work and preparation, Loreto College's Junior Drama Club staged its first Autumn Show, presenting extracts from three well-known musicals.

Working under the direction of Year 13 and some Year 14 Theatre Studies students, three groups of Junior pupils presented performances of a really impressive standard. A Year 8 group presented a selection of scenes from **Matilda**, a Year 9 group scenes from **Bugsy Malone** and a Year 10 group scenes from **The Wizard of Oz**. All three performances were full of spirit, enthusiasm and great skill and all three delighted the audience of family, friends and friends of the College.

Mrs Oonah McEwan, Head of Drama at Loreto, paid tribute to the team of sixth form directors, musical assistants and lighting/sound technicians who had made the evening such a success and who had worked with great dedication with the junior pupils throughout the Autumn Term. Mr Michael James, College Principal, congratulated all involved on an excellent evening of entertainment which saw over 40 junior pupils getting involved in acting, song and dance on the Loreto stage, many of them for the first time.



Junior Drama Performances, November 2016

SCOR SUCCESS

Congratulations to the Glenullin set dancing team who won first place at the Scór na nÓg Ulster finals in early January. The team members were Tiegan Mullan, Chloe Mullan, Émer Kelly, Áine Apperley, Michael Óg McKeown, Ronán Close, Dónal Close and Felix Kilmartin. These light footed folk were under the expert tuition of Mr Thomas Close and his glamorous assistant Mrs Maeve Close!

As if this success were not enough, Felix and Conn Kilmartin, and Dónal and Ronán Close won the quiz section of the same competition.

Congratulations to them all!



WEST SIDE STORY

WEST SIDE STORY

63 students from Y11-Y14 travelled to Dublin on Friday 20th January to see a production of 'West Side Story'. A wonderful day out for all. The day was organised by Mrs McEwan with assistance from Mr Cunning and Mrs Close.



ALL IRELAND FINAL DATE FOR LORETO COLLEGE TRADITIONAL GROUP

A traditional group from Loreto College Coleraine travelled to Monaghan on Monday 13th February 2017 to represent the College in the Ulster Final of the Gael Linn Siansa competition. On Thursday 16th February, the group was told that it had won through to the All Ireland Final of the competition.

Organised by Gael Linn with support from Foras na Gaeilge, RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta and Irish Music Magazine, Siansa provides a platform for talented teenage groups who aim to emulate groups such as Téada, Altan, Danú, Dervish etc. While Siansa is essentially a competition, the groups are helped and encouraged along the way by highly regarded traditional musicians. The event is run entirely through the medium of Irish. Following an initial filtering through the submission of recordings, the Loreto group was among those selected for the Workshop stage of the competition; the group's performance on the day was outstanding enough for them to win through to the Final.

Musicians drawn from throughout the school are members of the group: Ronan Close (Year 9), Niamh Mooney (Year 10), Dearbhla Ni Choisneachain (Year 11), Donal Close (Year 12), Eve Gardiner (Year 12) Cianan Mooney (Year 12), Fearghal Close (Year 13), and Cariosa O'Harte (Year 14). The group is led by teacher Mrs Maeve Close. At the Monaghan Workshop, the group had the opportunity to work with well-known traditional musicians as well as hearing the performances of other shortlisted groups. In the All Ireland Final, the musicians will perform in the National Concert Hall, Dublin, on Sunday 2nd April - a hugely prestigious event.

The Tigh Tara group and Mrs Close were commended on progressing to the Final of such a prestigious and competitive event by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College.



ALL IRELAND SCOR FINAL IN THE WATERFRONT HALL, BELFAST

The following Loreto pupils qualified to compete in the All-Ireland Scor final held on Saturday 11 February in The Waterfront Hall, Belfast representing their club, Glenuillin, their county, Derry and their province, Ulster.

QUIZ COMPETITION:

Felix Kilmartin	Y9,
Ronan Close	Y9,
Conn Kilmartin	Y10,
Donal Close	Y12.

SET DANCING COMPETITION:

Felix Kilmartin	Y9,
Ronan Close	Y9,
Michael Og McKeown	Y10,
Aine Apperly	Y10,
Chloe Mullan	Y11
Emer Kelly	Y12
Tiegan Mullan	Y12
Donal Close	Y12.

IT IS A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT TO HAVE REACHED THIS LEVEL AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE VERY TALENTED STUDENTS.

LORETO COLLEGE REPRESENTED AT GAEL LINN SIANSÁ FINAL



Loreto College Coleraine was represented in the All Ireland Final of the Gael Linn Siansa competition in the National Concert Hall, Dublin, on Sunday 2nd April by traditional group Tigh Tara.

Organised by Gael Linn with support from Foras na Gaeilge, RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta and Irish Music Magazine, Siansa provides a platform for talented teenage groups who aim to emulate groups such as Téada, Altan, Danú, Dervish and so on. While Siansa is essentially a competition, the groups are helped and encouraged along the way by highly regarded traditional musicians.



These talented young musicians, under the dedicated instruction of teacher Mrs Maeve Close, qualified from an extensive field of traditional groups from throughout Ireland to win a place among the top eight groups in Ireland for the showpiece Final.

Tigh Tara gave a superb performance in the Final, drawing praise from the adjudicators and impressing the National Concert Hall audience. Musicians drawn from throughout the school are members of the group: Ronan Close (Year 9),



Niamh Mooney (Year 10), Dearbhla Ni Choisneachain (Year 11), Donal Close (Year 12), Eve Gardiner (Year 12) Cianan Mooney (Year 12), Fearghal Close (Year 13), and Cariosa O'Harte (Year 14).

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the members of the traditional group and to Mrs Close for their tireless, dedicated work in preparation for the event and their superb performance on the night, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.





SUCCESS IN IRISH DANCING FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

A number of Loreto College students were successful in winning medals and awards representing their Irish Dancing schools in the World Irish Dancing championships, held at the Waterfront Hall, Belfast during the Easter holidays.

The following students were crowned world champions in team competitions with their Dancing Schools:

Tara McLarnon	Year 14	Smith School
Susan McKendry	Year 12	McKenna School
Aine Apperly	Year 10	McKenna School
Eunan Boylan	Year 9	McKenna School
Daire Kelly	Year 8	McKenna School
Fearghal Close	Year 13	Allen School
Dónal Close	Year 12	Allen School.

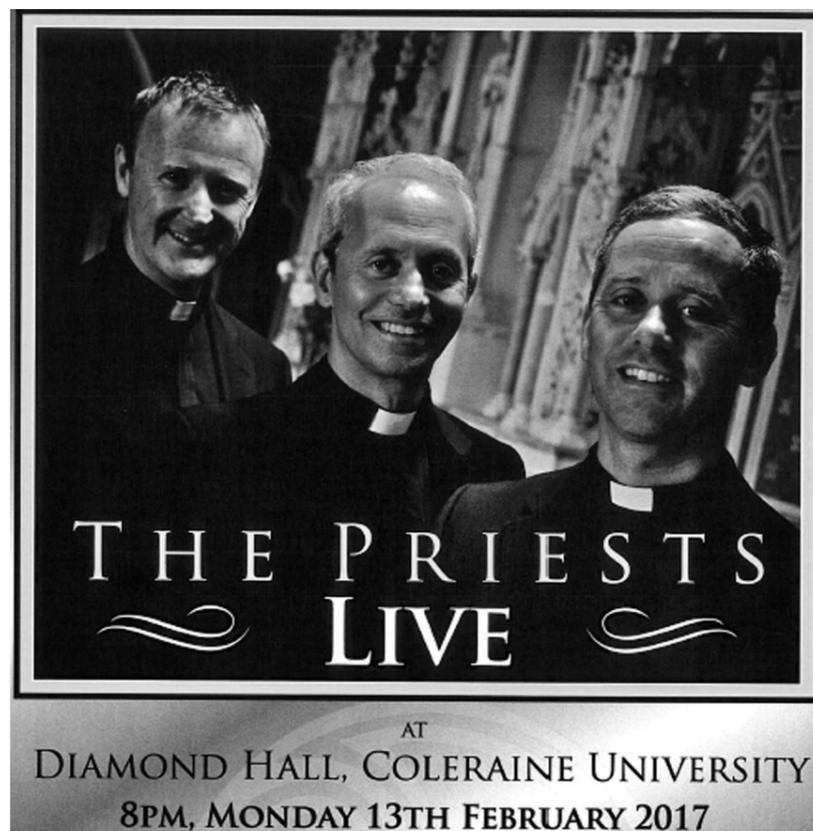
Aoife McIlvar (Year 8) and Ronan Close (Year 9) also won medals, while Maia and Sarah Casson (both Year 8) also participated in the competition.

Congratulations to all these students on their wonderful achievements at the very highest level!

'OUTSTANDING' PRIESTS CONCERT FOR LORETO COLLEGE FUNDS

The Diamond Hall at the Ulster University, Coleraine was the setting for a memorable evening of music on Monday 13th February 2017, as the world-renowned group The Priests performed a concert with funds donated to the Friends of Loreto group for the further development and building programme of Loreto College as the school plans and expands to meet an exciting future.

The Priests - Father Eugene O'Hagan, Father Martin O'Hagan and Father David Delargy - performed an extensive set of songs from their most recent album, Hallelujah, the acoustics of the hall showing off their voices to perfection. There were also performances from the Loreto College Junior and Senior Choirs, which were very well received by the large audience. The Senior Choir and its outstanding soloists have been busy rehearsing for the BBC Radio Ulster School Choir of the Year competition, with both choirs under the expert tuition of Mrs Annie Sharkey and Mr Howard Gillespie. In addition to these musical centerpieces there was a performance by the Set Dancers from local GAA club Glenullin - all Loreto students - who recently represented Co. Derry



in the All Ireland Final of the Scor Na N'Og, in the Waterfront Hall Belfast, having been crowned Ulster Champions in January.

This was an extremely memorable evening of music and dance for all who attended, with audience members commenting that it

exceeded their high expectations. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to the Priests for their exceptional performance and to the many Loreto College students and members of staff who had helped make this such an unforgettable evening.



CONCERT

Spring

The Spring Concert took place just before the Easter holidays, and was a wonderful evening of performances by our Senior and Junior Choirs, School Orchestra, soloists and, of course, our traditional group, Tigh Tara.



Junior Choir



Orchestra



Senior Choir



Traditional Group

HUMANITIES

LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS USA-BOUND

On Thursday 27th October, a group of 44 Loreto College students, led by Mr L Shaw and accompanied by teachers Ms C Marron, Mrs M McCullough, Mrs M McGreevy and Ms J Wilson, departed Coleraine for an exciting excursion to the USA. The trip, centred in the Loreto College Geography Department, took 18 months to plan and both students and staff were very excited to be embarking on such a wonderful adventure.

Their journey took the Loreto group from Coleraine, via Dublin, to three major American cities, Philadelphia, Washington and New York, where they spent six packed days

exploring and learning about the geographical, historical and cultural significance of all three cities and visiting the main tourist destinations.

Many of the students were excited about tasting the wide range of foods available and

of course anticipating the wide range of shopping opportunities on offer. Evenings were taken up with an exciting programme of entertainment and cultural events.

This was certainly the trip of a lifetime for everyone.



The Loreto College group which spent 6 days in the USA at Halloween, with teachers Mr Liam Shaw (tour organiser), Ms Catherine Marron, Mrs Meabh McGreevy, Mrs Maureen McCullough and Ms Julie Wilson

OUR AMERICAN ADVENTURE



The first stop on our pilgrimage of the East Coast was Washington D.C. Our hotel, the Springhill Suites, Alexandria, was situated in the state of Virginia, yet it was only a half hour's drive to Pennsylvania and to the nation's capital. The setting could only be described as 'Americana' - the modern architecture of housing, the presence of several fast food outlets, '7/11' stores, coupled with homages to the Old World and the storied past of America made the reality kick in: we were here.

The highlight of our first night in Alexandria was a short walk to the nearby 'Five Guys' burger joint for stereotypical American delicacies. We ate burgers, burgers, and more burgers, along with bags upon bags of fries. It is no exaggeration when I tell you that we were repeatedly given 2 or 3 kilogram sized bags of every type of 'fry' possible; spicy, salted, regular. I only knew of one kind of chip, but it seems we Irish folk just aren't as well versed in potato-related foods as we might think. To finish the fries entirely would be an impossible feat, but David took down Goliath with a stone, so we gave it a shot. My tongue burned, yearning for something to quell this blaze of hot food in my mouth. The well had run dry as I gulped down all of my

Coca Cola in a mad rush. Luckily in America 'refills' are customary, and I took advantage of this, to say the least.

Repopulating my mouth with cool, sugary sweetness, I was refreshed and ready to dive headfirst into my hamburger. It was covered in ketchup, begging to be devoured whole, but my mouth simply wasn't mechanically proficient enough. It was, to use a favourite word of recently crowned President Donald Trump, 'yuge.'

And don't get me started about the pizzas. By the time you finish a full American pizza, the proposed Wall will have been built, torn down and rebuilt three times. And it's gonna happen folks, believe me. Over in the states they operate on a slice system, and a 'slice' as we know it is inconceivable to them. They look at our definition of a slice and say 'cute.' A single slice in America would feed a man for a full



day. Everything is bigger in the USA, and this recurring theme extends to all aspects of the culture and lifestyle.

As everyone was rather tired from all the travelling, we all went back to the hotel and went to sleep. (Fitness fanatics Sean and I actually went down to the hotel gym...then slept.) This was only day one.

The following day we were up extremely early. We were up and out of the hotel by 7:30am, which would normally be a struggle for me, but surprisingly my sleeping pattern was far more regimented in a country where I hadn't got used to the time zone. Maybe I'm truly an American at heart.

Jetlag had not shown its adverse effects on me yet, and the adrenaline of finally reaching the Land of The Free had just hit me. We packed ourselves into the bus and began the journey to Washington. My American-themed playlist was sorted, so I popped in my earphones and gazed out to my heart's content. The grandeur of the gigantic highways, along with the infinite amount of vehicles on them, was an immense spectacle in itself.

I am an avid gamer, and one of my childhood favourites is a game



called 'Fallout 3,' set in a post-apocalyptic, nuclear war-torn version of Washington. The game had got me well-versed with the various monuments around D.C, so visiting these was highly anticipated.

The monuments did not disappoint, and they were all even larger than I expected (large things are a recurring motif in America).

However, to my dismay, there were no trenches, debris or destroyed buildings near the Washington Monument, nor were there any angry mutant soldiers shooting at me for coming too close. Although many seem to believe that something close to that is a possibility in the near future, due to a certain man moving into the White House, but we won't go there...

The Lincoln Memorial was the grandest of all - composed primarily of marble, it houses a massive statue of one of the greatest presidents to ever live, and the emancipator of African slaves in America. 'Honest Abe' sits proudly, overlooking the giant man-made lake and obelisk-shaped Washington Monument that is itself an enormous piece of architecture. On foot, we explored the entire area around the monuments and the White House, stopping with citizens

and learning about how every single one of them has a distant Irish relative. Our wee country has seeded the roots for the self-proclaimed greatest nation the world has ever seen, which is very humbling.

During our walk, in the distance I could see a few stands selling souvenirs, clothing etc. and was considering buying something. Then...it hit me. A 'Make America Great Again' cap called out to me. I darted across the park to the stall. The cashier knew instantly what I was looking for. '\$10' Deal. On closer examination, I found that my

new prized possession had a 'Made in China' label...

It is abundantly clear that the United States values, respects and honours the bravery and valour of its military. The fallen soldiers are immortalised in various war memorials around the city, which are within walking distance of the nation's military cemetery at Arlington. Seeing the ghostly sculptures of soldiers mid-combat instilled a sense of patriotism in me, a visitor to the country. We had the opportunity to witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The discipline of



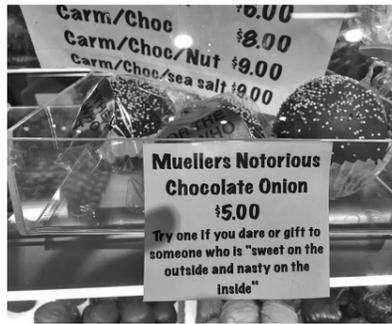


the honour guards is unwavering. Regardless of my views, or the views of others on certain wars the US has participated in, I found it all quite moving.

Our tour of the monuments concluded with a walk to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, which lay across the Potomac River from the Jefferson Memorial. After some solemn reflection, we all proceeded to get lunch, then our next move was to go to the Pentagon City Mall.

The main aim was: A, buy souvenirs for family members; B, find a Toys R US and buy Mega Bloks Halo stuff (yeah I know), and C, buy a Nike snapback and NFL related merch. I partially achieved A and C. The place was enormous, and we almost got lost a few times. There were shopping malls within this shopping mall. It dwarfs Belfast's centerpiece, Victoria Square.

Washington's National Air and Space Museum went down a treat for all of us nerds, plane and spacecraft buffs and alien-lovers. The highlight of this visit was when Philip and I entered the \$10 flight simulator. Best \$10 or £ equivalent I've ever spent. Period. Imagine a miniature, two-seater version of the spacecraft in Barry's, except the cockpit spins 360 degrees around, leading to blood rushes to the head, exhilarating upside down space and air battles, screaming, shouting, and adrenaline junkie fun. If I ever strike gold, I'm putting one of these in my living room, and another in my bedroom.



Dinner was up next: an all-you-can-eat Mexican buffet. Boy oh boy was it good. The amount of chicken and rice that was consumed by me that evening is inconceivable. I just kept going up for more and more and more. I had heard the legends about Mexican food, but goodness me, I wasn't prepared for it in the slightest. My stomach was swollen, I was ready to drift off, and we were back on the bus to the hotel. A solid day's work in Washington was complete, and we were to be up at 7am again the following day.

The hometown of hero Rocky Balboa was our next destination. Philadelphia is known for its long line of heralded pugilists, both factual and fictional. It is home of the famous 'Rocky Steps,' and of course, being a boxer, I had to run up them as fast as I could. I can now tick standing on the Rocky steps holding an Irish flag for a picture off my bucket list. This was a standout moment of the trip for me.

The Big Apple beckoned.

It was happening.

We were on our way to New York City. The concrete jungle. The city that never sleeps. The birthplace of the Dodgers, the Yankees, home to the Nets, the Mets, the Jets...home to Madison Square Garden. It was my favourite city and I'd never been.

There is a certain dynamism about the city that allows its inhabitants to flourish and impact the world in



so many different ways. Oh and it's also the hometown of The Donald.

As I looked out the bus window with my Brooklynite Hip-Hop blaring through my earphones, I could hear the gasps of my companions at the magnificent sight of the titanic city on the horizon. However, the sheer scale of New York didn't hit me until I stepped off the bus... and looked up. I could not see the sky, nor could I see the top of any of the buildings on the street where we had parked. As I saw the bright lights and experienced the buzz of the city, I got extremely animated. Everything was so big and so fast that I couldn't contain it.

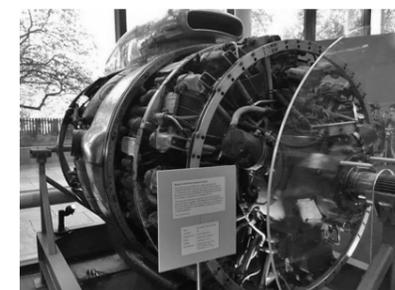
A tour of pretty much the entire space of Manhattan awaited us there and another all-you-can-eat buffet was on the cards. We all ate our fair share in preparation for our visit to the Empire State Building that evening.

The sea of humanity that swarmed into the Empire State Building at the same time as us was astonishing. It took us around half an hour to reach the top, with all the security checks, queuing, more queuing,

several elevator rides, along with several flights of stairs to climb. The wind nearly blew off my snap-back, and at first my equilibrium was a little shaky. Hundreds joined us in gazing over the spectacle that was New York City at night. Another eventful morning, noon and night complete.

A tour of the Rockefeller Centre awaited us the following day, along with an exclusive tour inside NBC Studios. We split into four groups, and as the first group entered the studios, the rest ate lunch and browsed the official NBC store, which was complete with Friends memorabilia, NBC sports gear, Seinfeld stuff, and much, much more.

The penultimate day began with a tour of the Federal Reserve. In the words of Obi-Wan Kenobi, 'you'll never find a more wretched hive

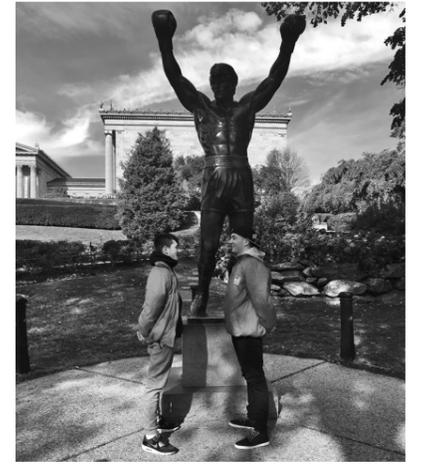


of scum and villainy,' or a perfect description taken from the Bible: 'a den of robbers.' The occult and evil emitted from the walls of this Gothic-styled fortress of Greed itself. We descended into the vault, but at times it was unclear as to whether I was standing inside a bedrock-covered bunker, or the tomb of morality and humanity, but actually, it's just where they keep the gold. Of course all of this is satirical, and the bankers aren't that bad - they gave us a parting gift of some of their shredded money, after all.

We then visited the 9/11 Memorial Centre, which was a touching, eye-opening experience. The building was massive, and many pieces of debris, vehicles etc were placed on display, which gave me a fraction of insight into the destruction that occurred on that fateful day. Still images of the rescue services and helpful citizens days after the atrocity restored some hope in my heart. Everyone came out of this experience more aware and more appreciative of life, family, friends and the opportunity we have been given.

The day was capped off on a much happier note as we visited the filming site for 'Night at The Museum,' the National History Museum. So many mannequins. So many skeletons. So many sculptures. So many artefacts, and so many dinosaur replicas!

Our dinner was at the famous Hard Rock Cafe, and the food was amazing. Chicken burger dressed with salad, bacon and hot sauce, fries to die for and cookies. That is all. Everyone went around the various tables cracking jokes, discussing our favourite parts of the trip, and just taking in all we had experienced. A cameo appearance from Mr Cunning, who was on



holiday with his family, was a shock to us all, and the craic in the room proceeded to reach fever pitch.

Upon our return to the hotel, we gathered together in the breakfast room for a final talk, and some awards were given out. All I remember is that I received the 'best citizen' or something along those lines (ironic when the avid Trump supporter is the most diplomatic).

The final day included a boat trip around the Hudson, where we saw the Statue of Liberty. The final thing we did was 6 hours of uninterrupted shopping around New York.

The journey had now reached its conclusion, as we loaded ourselves onto the coach and said farewell. The Land of The Free and the Home of The Brave had left its mark upon me. I could easily have stayed another week or ten. We had barely scratched the surface. As I boarded the plane from the JFK Memorial Airport I pondered the question... what opportunities lie in wait for me when I return to this land as dreams are made of?

*Michael Dallat
Year 14
Winner of the
Senior Magazine Prize*

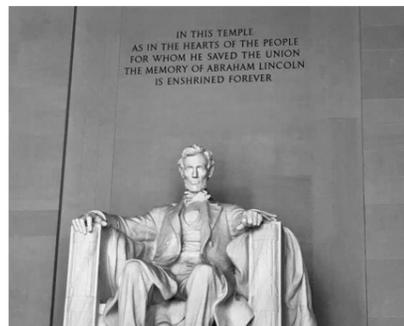


SCHOOL MAGAZINE LAUNCHED AT LORETO COLLEGE COLERAINE

The 2016 edition of the annual School Magazine, Loreto Lore, was launched at Loreto College Coleraine on Wednesday 28th September.

Providing a record of all major school and extra-curricular events throughout the 2015-2016 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."



Members of the Editorial Committee of the 2016 Loreto College School Magazine.



Aidan Boyle, Head Boy at Loreto College, winner of the 2016 Prize for Best Article in the School Magazine.

GEOGRAPHY IN ACTION: YEAR 13 FIELDWORK

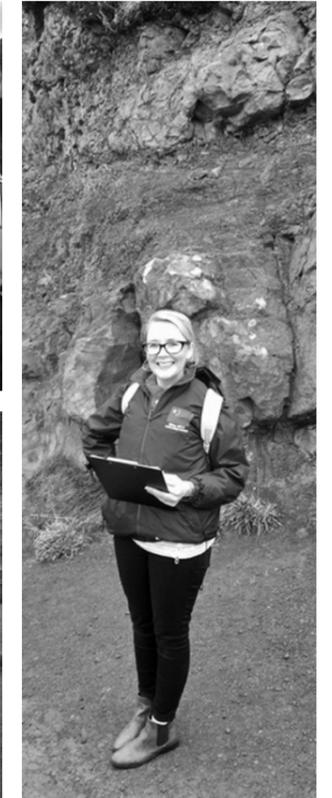
Year 13 Geography students, accompanied by Mrs McGreevy, Mr Shaw and Miss Dixon, spent a day in action on fieldwork on Thursday 29th September. The group was completing a river study along the Knockoneil River, starting on Carntogether Mountain and making their way down into Swatragh town.

The sun was shining for the early part of the day, but by lunchtime the geographers were dodging hailstones! A great day's work by everyone.



YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

All Year 10 students spent a day's Fieldwork at the Giant's Causeway on Friday 7th October.



VOICEOVER OPPORTUNITY FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A Year 12 student from Loreto College was offered an exciting opportunity with Irish Language television channel TG4 this year.

Eve Gardiner has gained the opportunity of part-time work doing TV voiceovers in Irish, and worked this year on TG4 wildlife series 'Na Dúlraóiri', which is a fast-paced wildlife show for 8-12 year olds made by Paper Owl Films.

Loreto College's Head of Irish, Bean Uí Mhaolain, commented: 'Aoibh's natural skill set of Irish and Drama lend themselves naturally to the role. No doubt her star will continue to rise: maith thú a Aiobh!'

Eve was congratulated and wished well on this endeavour by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College.



.....

SUCCESS IN GAEL LINN QUIZ



Loreto College students Dearbhla Bradley, Corey Cassidy, Michael McConnell and Méabh Bryson, runners-up in the regional heat of the Gael Linn Irish Quiz competition.

Loreto's Irish department are once again thrilled as a Year 10 team was placed second in the regional heat of the annual Gael Linn Junior quiz. The victory took place in The White Horse Hotel, Derry on Monday 10th October.

The jubilant team of Dearbhla Bradley, Méabh Bryson, Michael McConnell and Corey Cassidy soared over 400 other competitors to win second place in the regional heat of the competition. The quiz was followed up by an impromptu karaoke and a lively céilí with our own pupils participating enthusiastically! The Gael Linn hosts complimented Loreto's pupils on their impeccable turnout and keen participation.

The Irish teachers, Bean Uí Mhaoláin, Mrs Simpson and Mrs Keenan are extremely proud of all participants and in particular Loreto's prize winners, Dearbhla Ní Bhrolcháin, Méabh Ní Mhuireasáin, Micheál Mac Dhónaill and Corey Ó Caiside.



Scor Na Nollaig 2016

STUDENT COUNCIL: LET'S TALK

Members of the Student Council had the opportunity of participating in a Let's Talk event, hosted by Mark Carruthers, in the Roe Valley Cultural Centre, Limavady, on 14th October.

The Student Council members for this year were:

YEAR 9 Barry Apperley, Cormac Carr
 YEAR 10 Peter Clarke, Charlie McKnight
 YEAR 11 Keeva Smith, Megan McDermott
 YEAR 12 Aoibheann Conway
 YEAR 13 Sarah Moore
 YEAR 14 Lauren O'Kane, Conor Rogan
 Head Girl Cariosa O'Harte
 Head Boy Aidan Boyle



ART AND DESIGN SUCCESSES FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS



The work of Chloe Donaghy and Josephine Johnson proceeded to the next Chapter of the competition.

Six students from Loreto College Coleraine have enjoyed success in the annual Causeway Credit Union Art & Design competition, whose theme this year was 'Dreams Are Made Of This'.

In the 14-17 age group, Loreto College student Chloe Donaghy (Year 11) won the top prize, while Roksana Strugala (Year 10) was placed second and Caitlin Campbell (Year 10) was third. In the 11-13 age category, meanwhile, Josephine Johnson (Year 9) was placed first, while Adam Lawlor (Year 9) was second and Wiktorja Czerwinska (Year 9) was third.

All six young artists were congratulated on these outstanding achievements by Mr Paul Cuning, Head of Art & Design at Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



ART & DESIGN - HOCKNEY EXHIBITION

Two groups from Loreto visited the David Hockney Exhibition in The Mac, Belfast during the Autumn Term. On Friday 30th September, Year 13 and Year 14 Art & Design students enjoyed an afternoon and evening trip with Mr Cuning. Two weeks later, on Friday 14th October, it was the turn of some of our GCSE Art students. Both groups found the visit to be worthwhile and rewarding.

SUCCESS FOR LORETO STUDENTS IN BEGINNERS' MANDARIN

As part of the senior enrichment programme offered by the College, students from Years 11 to 14 were given the opportunity to undertake beginners lessons in Mandarin. Loreto College is very proud to be part of the hub for the Confucius classroom in the Coleraine area. The programme involves both primary and secondary schools in the area.

Students stayed in for one hour after school every Wednesday and Friday and were tutored in Beginner level Mandarin by a Chinese teacher provided by the Chinese government. In May of last year the following students took their HSK 1 exam and were presented with their awards just after Halloween: Antonia Boorman, Aoife Keane, Chloe Stewart, Carmen Owens and Cain McKendry.



Students from Loreto College Coleraine who successfully gained Beginner Level Mandarin Certificates as part of the Confucius Classroom initiative.

This programme continues in the College this year with two classes on offer, beginners and advanced. Both classes are facilitated by two Mandarin teachers, and the project is coordinated in Loreto by Mrs Siobhan Mullan, who congratulated the students on the achievement of their certificates.

LORETO COLLEGE REWARDS PROMISING POETS

Loreto College held a Poetry Competition to celebrate National Poetry Day in October, with students invited to write poetry on any aspect of the theme of Messages. Winners of this school-wide competition were rewarded at College Assembly.

The Year 8-10 Section was won by Anna McGinley (Year 9), with Oran Tosh (Year 8) placed second and Katie Mulholland (Year 9) third.

The Year 11-12 Section was won by Donal Close (Year 12), with Eve Gardiner (Year 12) second and Oliwia Rakowska (Year 12) third, while the Sixth Form Section was won by Philip Doherty (Year 14) with Emily Moore (Year 14) runner-up and Pearse Donaghy (Year 13) placed third.

Mrs Caragh Little, Head of English at Loreto College, who chaired the adjudicating committee,

commented that the standard of entries had been very strikingly high, adding that the final adjudication had been difficult with so many outstanding poems to choose from. All the poets were congratulated by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, and commended on their effort, enthusiasm and talent in entering such outstanding poems for this tightly-contested competition.



LORETO COLLEGE REWARDS PROMISING ARTISTS

Loreto College held a Poster Competition to mark Anti-Bullying Week, with students invited to create posters on any aspect of the anti-bullying theme. The winners of this school-wide competition were rewarded at College Assembly. The competition was organised and devised by Cathaoir McKay, a Year 14 student, and was open to students in Years 8-10.

The competition winners in Year 8 were: 1st Kelcie Bradley, 2nd Amy Darragh, 3rd Zofia Czajka. In Year 9, the winners were: 1st Katie Mulholland, 2nd Hale Gunes, 3rd Sophie Moore. Finally in Year 10 the winners were 1st Nikola Felinska, 2nd Cathaoir McCloskey, 3rd Erin McNicholl.

Mr Michael James, who chaired the adjudicating committee,



commented that the standard of entries had been extremely high, adding that the final adjudication had been difficult with so many outstanding posters to choose from. All the poets were congratulated

by Mr Paul Cuning, Head of Art and Design at the College, and commended on their effort, enthusiasm and talent in entering such outstanding posters for this tightly-contested competition.

LORETO SUCCESS IN PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

A student from Loreto College was placed third in the local round of the Soroptimist International Youth Public Speaking competition.

Eve Gardiner (Year 12) took first place in the Regional heat of the competition, held in the Lodge Hotel, Coleraine on Wednesday 12th November. Eve spoke for 6 minutes on "Living to 100: Good or Bad?"

Mrs Siobhan Mullan, Co-ordinator of Public Speaking at Loreto College, paid tribute to Eve for her excellent speech and outstanding delivery on the night.



LORETO COLLEGE FRENCH DEPARTMENT REWARDS YEAR 8 STUDENTS

The Loreto College French Department rewarded Year 8 students for participation to a high standard in the College's annual French Christmas Art competition.

Year 8 students of French were asked to design their own nativity scene, colour it in and label the colours in French. The standard of entry this year was particularly high with some students making their nativity scene from cardboard and wood. The competition is a team effort by the French department involving all teachers and is designed to promote the Loreto ethos and to reinforce the teaching and learning of the colours in French. Mrs S Mullan, Head of French, commended all prizewinners and thanked the students for participating even if they had not won.

The prizewinners were as follows:

- 1st : Noah Grove and Zofia Czajka.
- 2nd : Sophie Crawford and Oliwia Bernarz
- 3rd : Paulina Oelender, Leah Scullion,
Patrick McGill and Lucie McVicker
- Highly Commended : Elizabeth Cassidy, Ellie Dillon,
Daire Kelly, Sean McAleese, Aoife McCarry,
Sean McKelvey and Jordan Whittaker

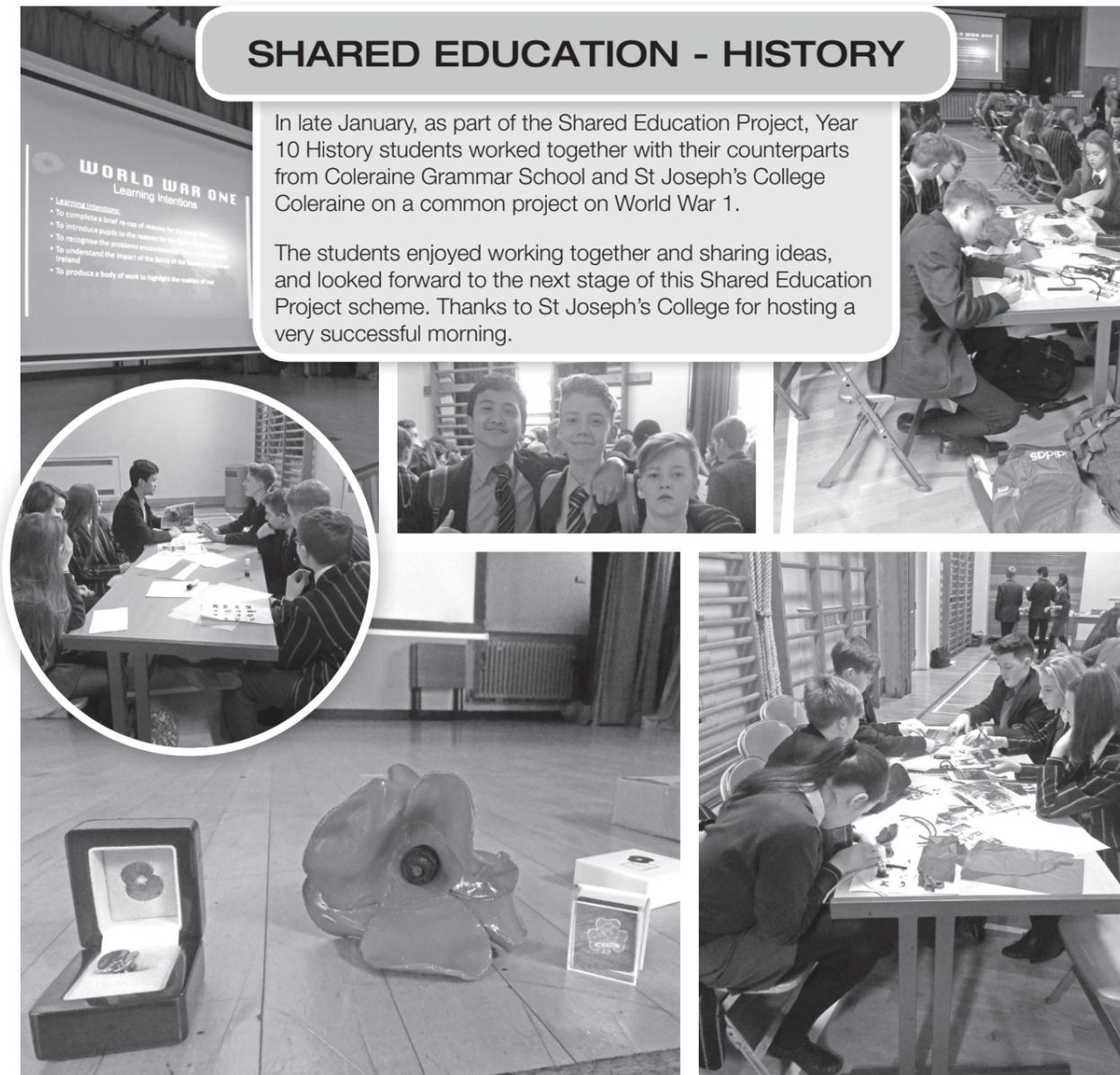
The prizewinners were congratulated on their enthusiasm and hard work by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College.



SHARED EDUCATION - HISTORY

In late January, as part of the Shared Education Project, Year 10 History students worked together with their counterparts from Coleraine Grammar School and St Joseph's College Coleraine on a common project on World War 1.

The students enjoyed working together and sharing ideas, and looked forward to the next stage of this Shared Education Project scheme. Thanks to St Joseph's College for hosting a very successful morning.



SHARED EDUCATION - GEOGRAPHY

A number of Year 9 students got involved in our Shared Education Geography project, culminating in a joint trip to the Giant's Causeway in March.



YEAR 13 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS SHARED EDUCATION PROJECT

Year 13 Government and Politics students from Loreto College and Coleraine Grammar School enjoyed some time working together on Friday 3rd March when they met up for some political discussion in the Loreto Politics Department.

The Politics Workshop was the first meeting between the students from the neighbouring schools, and involved a few ice-breakers and a card sort exercise which involved matching key policies to the political parties. Teachers received feedback from the students after

these activities. Political debate flourished as the results of the NI Assembly Election were coming in as the morning progressed!

The two classes and their teachers then undertook a joint visit to Stormont on Monday 13th March.



SEACHTAIN NA GAELIGE

Seachtain na Gaelige (Irish Week) at Loreto College took place leading up to St Patrick's Day on Friday 17th March.

A whole range of activities went on all week to celebrate all things Irish - language, culture, history and music.

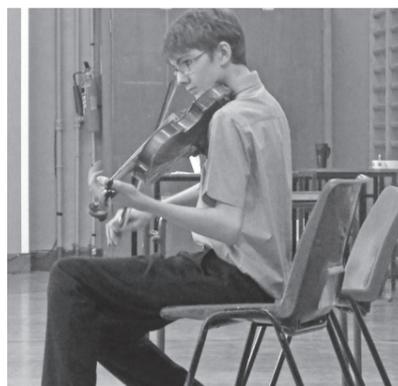
There were words of the day, facts of the day and a variety of games and themed activities across the full range of subjects - not just the

members of the Irish Department are speaking 'an cupla focal' in class! There was Irish bingo in Maths class, the story of St Patrick in RE, explorations of Celtic Art and quizzes on the counties, rivers, and mountains of Ireland in Geography... and much, much more.

Many students enjoyed getting involved in a Guess Who? Competition, involving guessing the Irish celebrity. The Café Lorette

got into the spirit of things too, with bright decorations involving lots of shamrocks and some tasty treats such as green ice cream, shamrock cookies and Irish stew.

Finally, Thursday afternoon saw the culmination of Seachtain na Gaelige with all students of Irish from Year 9 to Year 14 taking part in a concert and céilí in the Assembly Hall, showcasing some of the wonderful talent among Loreto's Gaeligoiri.



LORETO VALUES CELEBRATED IN PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

The values of Mary Ward, foundress of Loreto education, were celebrated in the annual inter-schools debating competition between Loreto College Coleraine and Loreto Grammar School Omagh on 6th April 2017.

Hosted by Loreto College Coleraine, the competition saw students from Years 8-11 making speeches based on some of the core values of Loreto Education. Year 8 students were asked to speak for 3 minutes on either 'Honesty is always the best policy' or 'Mary Ward: a woman for all Seasons'; students from Year 9-10 spoke for up to 4 minutes on 'The importance of good manners in today's world' or 'Mary Ward is possibly the most remarkable woman of the 17th century', while Year 11 students

spoke for up to 5 minutes on 'World Peace is an impossible dream' or 'Mary Ward is as relevant today as in the 17th century.'

In the Year 8 class, first place went to Peter McCool (Loreto Coleraine) and Shauna Keyes (Loreto Omagh), second place to Aoife McCarry (Loreto Coleraine) and third place to Harry Bucukoglu (Loreto Coleraine) and Rebecca McSorley (Loreto Omagh).

In the Year 9 class, Anna McGinley (Loreto Coleraine) was placed first,

Katie Mulholland (Loreto Coleraine) second and Ella Duffy (Loreto Omagh) third. In Year 10, first place went to Hannah McSorley, second to Mia McCormack and third to Ailis Keyes, all Loreto Omagh.

Finally, in the Year 11 class, Orla McGovern and Una McGlinchey were joint first, while Shannon Conway and Zara McGrath were joint second (all Loreto Omagh).

Mrs Siobhan Mullan, Public Speaking Coordinator at Loreto College Coleraine, paid tribute to all the students who had taken part in the competition, commending them on the high standard of their speeches.



SUCCESS FOR LORETO STUDENT IN TEXACO CHILDREN'S ART COMPETITION

A student from Loreto College Coleraine won a Special Merit Award in the 2017 Texaco Children's Art competition.

Corey Cassidy, who is a Year 10 student at Loreto College, won his Special Merit Award in Category G of the competition, with an entry entitled Ocean Madness.

Corey was congratulated on this tremendous achievement by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College. He and his parents were invited to attend an official Prizegiving Ceremony in May at the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, Dublin.

Corey Cassidy of Loreto College, winner of a Special Merit Award in the Texaco Children's Art competition, with his Art teacher Mrs M McGill and Mrs S Keenan, Classroom Assistant.



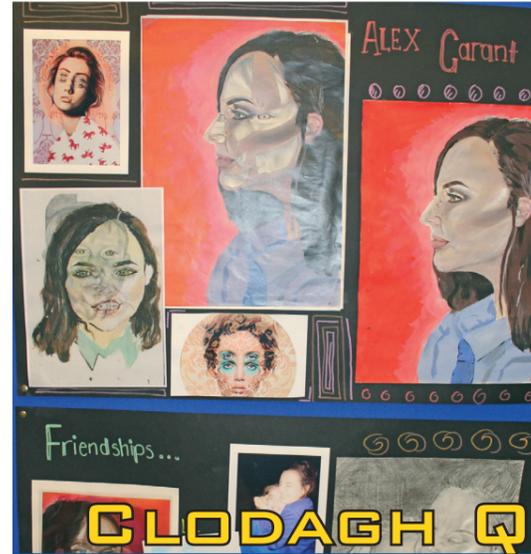
YEAR 9 HISTORY TRIP

All Year 9 students, along with several teachers including members of the History Department, spent a very warm summer's day in Derry on Monday 19th June.

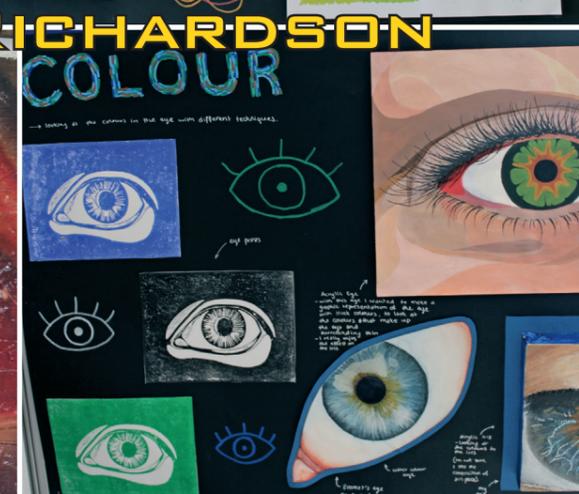
The group visited the Tower Museum, the Guildhall and St Columb's Cathedral as well as having a short walk around the Walls and visiting the Playhouse, where they had booked a room for lunch.



Year 9 History Trip to Derry



Artistic Contributions



Highlights of the Year

LORETO COLLEGE, COLESHANE
LET'S CELEBRATE OUR DIFFERENCES,
BE PROUD AND LIVE,
LOVE AND LAUGH TOGETHER
AS ONE



Creative Contributions

POETRY COMPETITION 2016

If You'd Look You'd Know

I'm in my neighbour's garden
Without his knowledge
And he's forgotten to water
His shrubbery again.

I see a darkened reverie
Along his narrow lane
But he's never home
So I sit here selling

Dead buses and water hoses
To a crowd of no one and the rain
Spurting tomes of atonement
And my electric drills still speaking to the tonnes of dead cement knocking
In the walls of his mind
Screaming at his halls of ash
And his memory
Which has since been long forgotten
Past forgetting in a piece of time and taking it to a riverbank passing
To drown himself in the trash that surrounds him

"It's only fitting," he reminds me
It's only fitting for a time
When smoke rinks and iced signs turned men to dust
And sent the rest a stern reminder of how my impression can meddle with myself
Haunting the mirrors of my future and strangling giraffe's necks, which
Stretch and stretch until they slump over
At the smallest touch
Like a child asleep that won't wake up
Till the morning comes
And the sun sings this song of sorrows loss
And beckons a stump, alone, so that the owls can turn to crows and the
Hedges can grow taller
And the bells can ring and ring until they bellow hollow

If you'd look you'd know
If you'd only look you'd know

I have since never wandered beyond my houses four borders
But that fateful day I changed myself

And the bells rang and rang and the sun sang and sang until the slump
Bellowed hollow

If you'd only look you'd know

Philip Doherty Year 14
First, Year 13-14



Messages

The boy at the back.
The one that no-one needs.
Messages on his face,
He wishes someone would read.

He's laughing at the in-jokes,
A laugh so hollow, full of pain.
He doesn't get their humour,
Too proud to ask them to explain.

His mask of polite interest,
Is crumbling day by day.
No-one cares, no-one asks,
To see if he's still "okay".

The boy at the back.
In the corner, silent as stone,
One message, a simple plea,
Not to be alone.

Emily Moore Year 14
Second, Year 13-14

Messages: Message to the World

Like whispers on the breeze, that's how it begins.
A simple thought, question, word, to get it started.
To let them know, to let the whole world know.
The whispers rise to shouts, crying for help.
Yet the cries fall on deaf ears.
The horrific truth is shown to blind eyes.
And no one takes any notice.

We have become detached, a cold hardened shell.
Numb to the violence, unaware of the suffering.
And unwilling to help.
The world is dying. The signs are here,
Yet we are ignorant, oblivious and unchanging.
We follow the crowd, follow a thought, not our own.
To fit in, to find the norm.

To do so, we are killing the earth.
Killing the nature and killing the people.
Our indifference fuels the screams and violence.
And we still do not hear.
The message is clear:
WE HAVE TO CHANGE.

Eve Gardiner Year 12
Second, Year 11-12

The Risky Text

A small bead of sweat drips down my young brow
I know I should send it, but should I send it now?
I think about how she might reply
She'll probably reject me, which would make me cry
Or she'll sit confused on the edge of her bed
Wondering if I am right in the head
Or maybe she'll respond with a 'hmm' or a 'k'
Which, 'tbh', would ruin my day
My thumb hovers over the button that says 'send'
It could leave a hole in my heart, impossible to mend
Young love, so they say, it is tough
So I delete the message, as I've had enough.

Donal Close Year 12
First, Year 11-12

One Act of Kindness

There's a chemical imbalance in my brain,
Don't know what it is but it's driving me insane.
It's like a heavy block of lead,
A pulsing beat that's in my head.

Makes me wish that I were dead,
When I'm rolling in my bed.
It clutches me, it owns me, and it possesses my thoughts,
I close my eyes; can see it growing like an infectious clot.

But this disease has an enemy,
One that's in our DNA.
Can be given on hallways,
It comes round in many ways.

One way is a smile.
One small act of kindness doesn't take awhile.
It can take any sadness no matter how vile;
Make it shrivel up and in its place, Joy.

So next time you look at someone girl or boy
Think of their life, their 16, 35, 75 years.
Dealing with demons, devils, parasites and fears.

So offer them something that no drug can do:
A smile and watch them return one to you.

Pearse Donaghy, Year 13 - Third,
Year 13-14

Messages

Even though we used to argue a lot
I will miss you, well,
I do miss you.
I miss smiling at our messages,
And texting until late at night.
But now when I read them,
All I do is click, and delete.

Dear darling.....
I can still hear the sound
Of my phone beeping
Everytime I got a message from you.
I can still hear your voice
On the voicemails I got from you.
I can still remember your smile
Looking at our photos,
Faint but still so fine.
Although I do remember
The last promise I made to you
Stopping my flow of tears
I am so sorry, I haven't been able to!
I miss you....Rest in peace.....
Only thing I can do now
Is click and delete.
That is the only way
In which I can try
And forget about our memories
In my mind.
But definitely not in my heart,
Where they belong.

Oliwia Rakowska Year 12
Third, Year 11-12

Messages

Is it my fault the messages don't send?
Is it my fault the nerves won't connect?
My brain lies functionless, not one impulse
crossing the synapse,
I will my brain to tell my arms to raise and my
legs to move,
However the messages don't send,
So here I lie motionless,
Is it my fault my nervous system won't respond?
Is it my fault the messages don't send?

Sian Donaghy Year 12

Messages of Nature

I lie dormant underneath the grass,
Soil engulfing me as I try to move.
The earth has numbed me of my roots
I need to get back in the groove.

I have been hidden for five or six months,
My petals disappeared from view
But soon enough I'll stretch my leaves
And will see the vast sky of blue.

I know the time is nearly here
For all around me sirens sound
The warmer air and the tweets of birds
Send messages to my grassy mound.

My roots wriggle through the debris,
I begin to shoot up and up
Until the gorgeous sun comes spilling through
And my stunning floral dressing blows up!

I bask in the delightful rays of the sun
Around me in the field my friends of spring have sprung!
We chatter together noisily in the muggish air
And sway in the gentle breeze that fills up each lung.

I must make the most of this when I can,
For I am first to bloom and first to die
I will soon shrivel up and retreat back underground
And in the murky depths of darkness is where I'll lie.

Early autumn is looming
And soon I must hide
Kiss goodbye to precious spring
And once again I will have died.

The sheets of frost inform me
Their muffled silence sighs
The messages of winter
Say to hide from Earth's prying eyes.

So I say goodbye to you all
And return to the inevitable darkness
But I will see you all next year
When once more I decorate Winter's starkness.

Anna McGinley Year 9
First, Year 8-10

Messages

Just a few words,
A simple phrase or two,
How I am delivered,
Remains up to you.

Though the method may change,
With each passing year,
I can still summon a smile,
Or beckon a tear.

I can herald new life,
Then become its torment,
A weapon for bullies,
Filled with resent.

I can start a conflict,
And end it as well,
Show glimpses of heaven,
To those staring at hell.

I am declarations of love,
Full of romantic intent,
Changing to expletives,
When anger's let vent.

I am reminders,
Of an all important date,
I am excuses,
As to why you're running late.

I am a donation,
to families in plight,
I am your favourite act,
On a Saturday night.

I nurture friendships,
That distance might end,
Keeping families close,
In the words that I send.

I am many things,
Both placid and wild,
For I am your reflection,
I am your child.

*Oran Tosh Year 8
Second, Year 8-10*

A Message From Granny

Don't be sad because you miss me,
For you will see me another day,
Just promise me one thing,
Don't let the memories fade away.

Even though you cannot see me,
And I couldn't say goodbye,
I am with you every minute,
So you have no need to cry.

I help you in the day time,
I keep you company as you sleep,
I place my arms around you,
To calm you when you weep.

Know that you are not alone,
And what I say is true,
Know that you have made me proud
And I'll be waiting here for you.

*Katie Mulholland Year 9
Third, Year 8-10*

Can I Trust you with my message?

Can I give the wind my message?
Blowing on a gentle breeze,
Can I trust the wind with my message?
To deliver to all that it sees.

Can I give the sea my message?
As the raging water flows,
Can I trust the sea with my message?
To deliver all that it knows.

Can I give the bottle my message?
To keep it safe inside,
Can I trust the bottle with my message?
To give to whom that it decides.

Can I give the letter my message?
To send it in the post,
Can I trust the letter with my message?
To give to those I love the most.

Can I give my voice my message?
Speaking up loud and clear,
Can I trust my voice with my message?
Hoping no one will overhear.

*Grace McClements
Year 8*

Think about what we type!

We click to start,
We click to end,
We click to type,
We click to snap.

Back and forth, old
To new,
It never clicks in
Our minds,
We cannot just
Click to choose
Our lives.

Just a little keypad,
On a screen can
Change someone's day,
People will never
Know what life is
Like.

We only click on
As time passes by.

We cannot control
The world, but
We can make
A difference with
What we type.

*Kady Fleming
Year 9*

A Message

Where there is darkness there will always be light
Sometimes ahead you can't see in the night
The lightness of morning brings joy you can grasp
As long as you're willing it won't be a task.

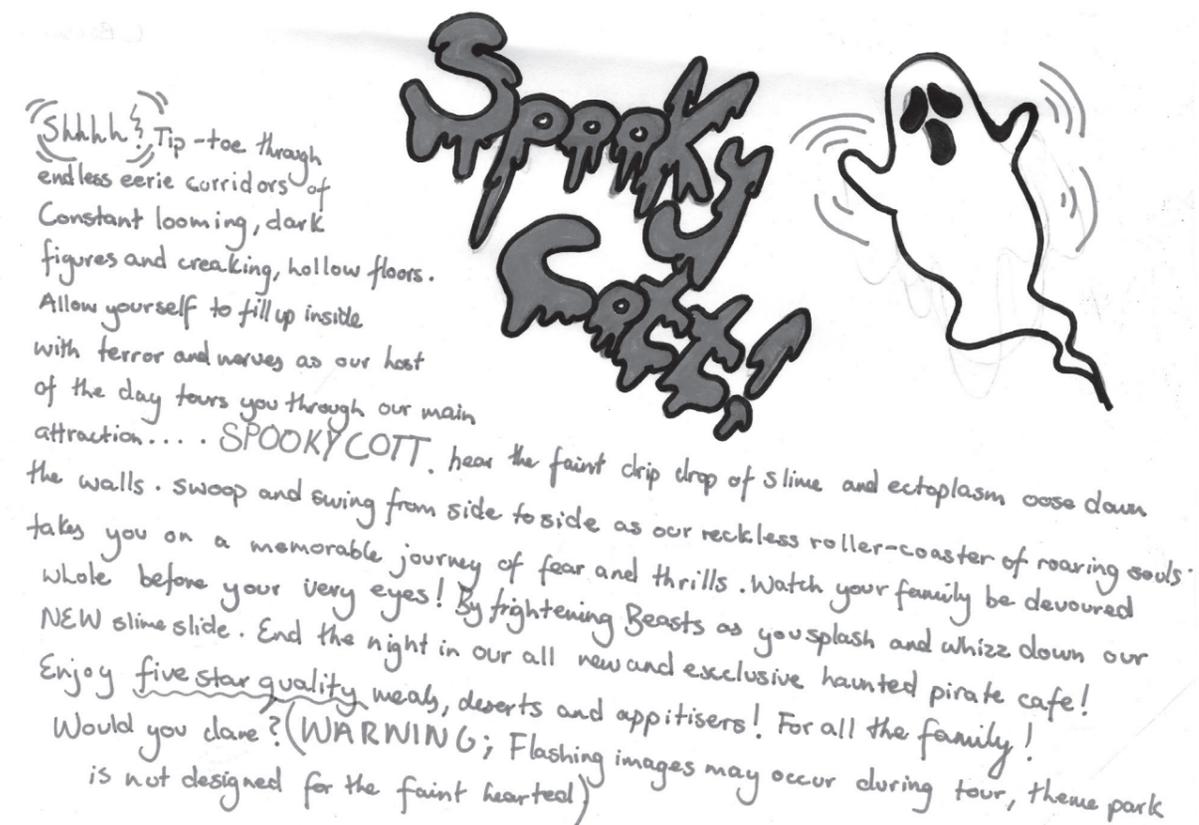
If you look for the lightness you will find it is there
In things unexpected in things everywhere
In sadness, in failure, in tears and in sorrows
Look for the lightness it's in all your tomorrows.

*Joel Ferguson
Year 9*

Messages

More and more as time goes on.
Everyone's heads
Stuck in their screens.
Social media? More like
Anti social media
Going everywhere, the phone goes too
Every one is sending messages to you.

*Aine Apperley
Year 10*



The Spookycott Spinner...

Bronagh McL

Don't miss your chance to ride the heart-stopping, blood-boiling, bone-trembling new ride, The Spookycott Spinner! We guarantee you will have the thrill of your life on this chilling ride. We promise that you will be strapped in for an unforgettable experience that will leave your whole body shaking in trepidation. With high-speed swirling we can ensure you will want to ride again and again and again and again. So will you be brave enough to ride the terrifyingly thrilling Spookycott Spinner?



Messages

I successfully start,
But fail at the end.
Over and over and over again.
Should it be casual,
Or should it be unique?
Enter or delete,
What do you think?
X's or O's?
Emoji's or words?
Over and over and over again.
Romantic or funny?
Happy or sad?
OK! Enough!
Just be yourself.....

Hi.

Hey!
What's up?
Hello?

What next?
I'm fine or I'm good?
Ugh!
Over and over and over again!

Wiktorja Czerwinska
Year 9

Spooky Cott.



Take a stroll through the freaky forest if you dare...

As you nervously tip-toe through knee-deep green overgrown nettles the suspicion of what will happen next will make your blood run cold.

You reach a cluster of houses, and you ask yourself 'Is this over?' but there is much more to come. Bloodcurdling cackling fills the air, and your heart skips a beat.... The urge to run away slowly fades as the fear turns to excitement. The door of a small, spooky grey cottage creaks open and sends shivers down my spine. Before you know it, it's over.

HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY RESIST?!?

The messages of a broken brain

The messages I receive put me in a haze
Causing me to have a suicidal craze.
Like considering a voyage out to sea
I wonder what life could be;
Without the pain, the mistakes, the sorrow
But now my brain is anything but hollow.
The voices tell me you can't do it, you'll fail
As I see my face and skin going pale.
Not being able to move, to breathe or to speak
But only to feel the tears as I weep.
I don't have the powers to stop the trouble
My schizophrenic thoughts will turn my emotions
To rubble.

Cheyenne Corbett
Year 10

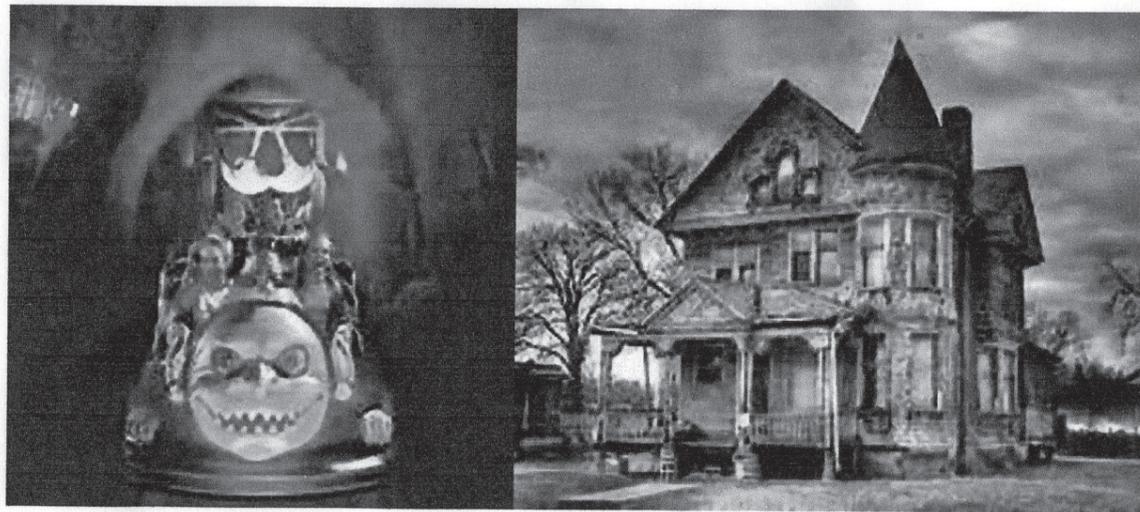
The message of life

When you look around
What do you see?
Do you see any wildlife?
No you see we are the
Cause of wildlife extinction
We need to keep
Our earth clean
Don't be mean
Animals have feelings too
It's time to start fresh
You're not at crèche anymore
You know what you do
When you drop that plastic
You may think it's fantastic
But think
About how it affects the wildlife
Next time think before you drop.

Neeve Campbell
Year 9

Spooky Cott

As you enter the Spooky Cott, not only will you experience a blasting bumpy ride, you will be joined by some blood-rotting zombies, ready to rip your flesh from all internal organs. As your stomach butterflies start to get intense, it's just the right time to have the devils hand approach your twitching shoulder. Then your fearful eyes can see the spine-chilling jump scares that will scare the wits out of you! Then when you think you have had enough, and you're trying to grasp your breath, then wait for the gargling ghouls who seek to have human features, they'll approach you like wildfire and struggle to leave your sight. As the bloodcurdling ride comes to an end we will send you through a superannuated, moth-eaten, spiritualistic haunted house, with spiders dangling off the ceiling, you will also encounter a number of ghastly creatures that will raise the hairs high on your head! Can you resist this once in a lifetime experience?



I knew I had to do the right thing in the End

A young wolf pup is walking through the wood looking for prey. As he walks, the fingers of the pine trees try to grasp his silky grey fur.

He sniffs the air and smells a rabbit. Upon natural instinct he lightens the weight on his paws and treads quietly through the wood. His deep, dark eyes look at every tiny detail. Then, he sees it. A tiny little fluffy ball that is a rabbit's tail.

He pounces and kills the rabbit with one bite. As the wolf turns to head back to his pack, he hears an unfamiliar howl. Baring hi teeth, the wolf growls and then whimpers as three large, intimidating grey wolves emerge from the thick, dense canopy of trees.

The biggest wolf grins showing long, pointy, blood-stained teeth and laughs.

"Well, well, well! Looky here, boys, we got ourselves a pup!"

The other wolves snigger, then the bigger wolf continues on, "What's your name?"

The young wolf pup barely audible gets out, "Fang of the Moon."

"Well, Fang of the Moon. Do you mind if I call you Fang?"

The pup shook his head.

"Well, Fang, you smell."

The pup looked bewildered and the big wolf laughed.

"Oh you don't think so, do you?"

Well you do, but you smell of a certain thing called Innocence."

The wolf spat the last word out like it was dirt.

"Wh-wh-what do you mean?"

The three wolves howled with laughter.

"Well, if you don't know, that's even further proof you are Innocent."

The other wolves growled at that word.

The big wolf spoke again.

"Oh. Nearly forgot, my name's Blood of the Night, but you can call me Blood."

Fang nodded, then asked, "How do I get rid of the smell of

Innocence?"

Blood broke into a wicked grin,

"By becoming one of us."

With that Fang followed Blood and the other two wolves into the forest.

...

Meanwhile, in a secret place in the forest, Fang's pack was going out of their minds waiting for him.

"It's been 2 moons now, and he still hasn't returned!" a wolf with a long scar across his face in a diagonal line across his face barked.

"I know, Claw of the Wind," a female wolf with a crescent shaped patch on her fur said calmly.

"Well, we should send out a search pack! Or howl his name! Something!"

The female wolf nodded.

"As much as it pains me to acquiesce to your pleas, we shall send out a search pack. I think the Howlers shall find him." And with that, she was gone.

"Wait, Crescent of the Moon!"

Claw of the Wind called out. "Not the Howlers!" But it was too late: already he could hear Crescent of the Moon's howl that signalled the Howlers. He shook his head and padded off to sleep.

...

Fang had been enjoying himself. He had become a member of 'Blood of the Rebellion' and had been with them for two full moons.

He no longer smelled of Innocence and was fully grown, and had a larger than usual fang. What he didn't know was that the night he had followed Blood and the other two wolves (whom he now knew were called Bark and Howl), he had been told to sit and had been shown some horrific pictures and had been taught to swear. He had indeed been brainwashed.

When the Howlers appeared to take Fang back to his pack, he and the rest of 'Blood of the Rebellion'

fought them. The Howlers knocked Fang unconscious and carried him back to his pack. When he awoke, he saw the leader, Crescent of the Moon, staring down at him.

"Mum?"

"Yes."

"Where am I?"

"Where you belong."

"Which is?"

His mother sighed.

"Your pack."

"No!" he howled and bolted upright.

"I belong with Blood and Howl and Bark and the other wolves of Blood of the Rebellion!"

Crescent of the Moon looked at him, shocked. Then she threw back her head and gave three loud howls.

Soon the whole pack was gathered around her.

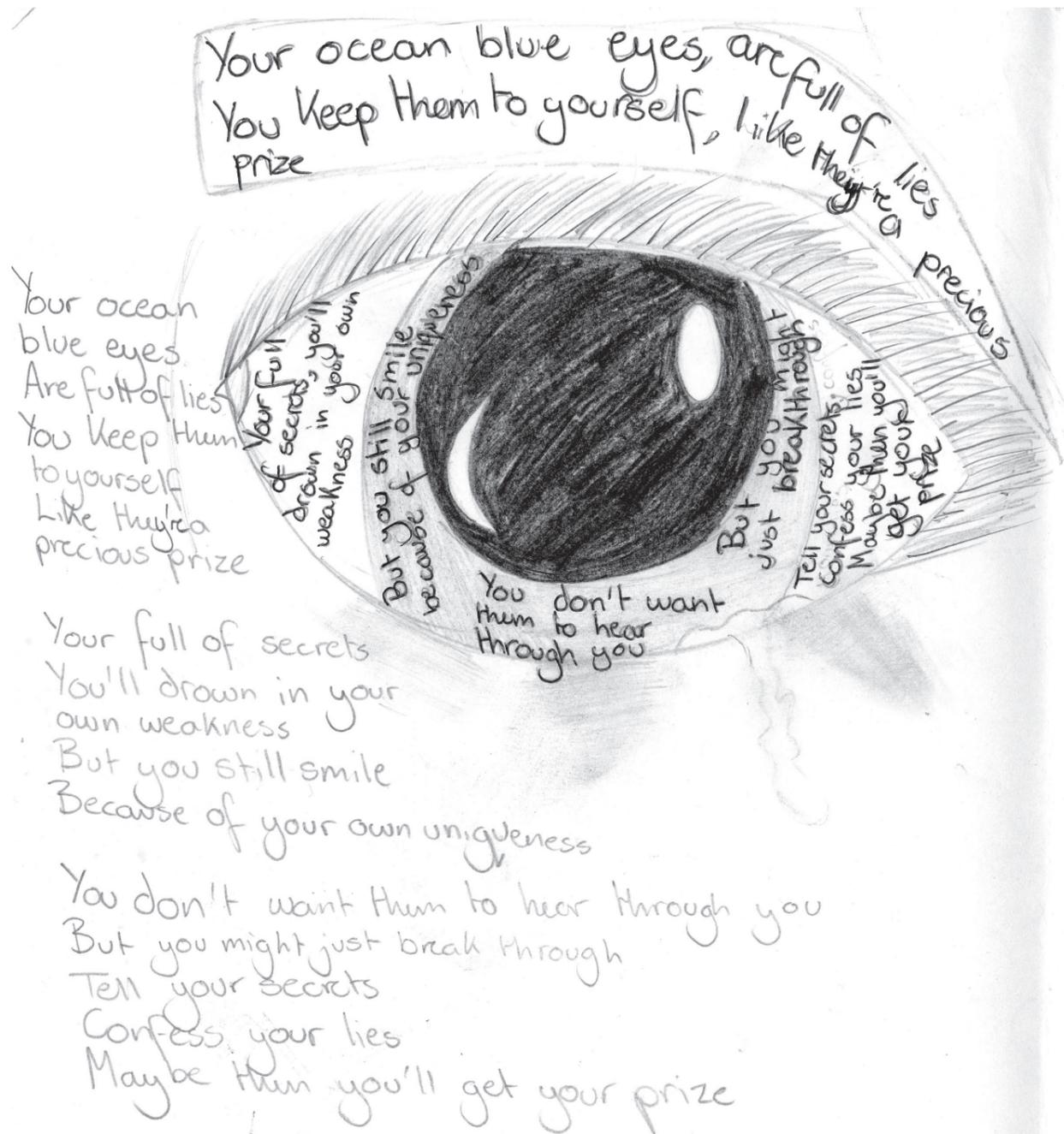
"My pack, I am hereby announcing that Fang of the Moon, of Moon Light Pack, is banished!"

There were murmurs of shock and awe at those words. Then Fang turned and bolted into the woods. He ran back to Blood and there was a huge feast to celebrate Fang coming back. Then Blood gave a speech and said about twenty different swear words. Then he shouted,

"We shall steal all the food from Fang's old pack for our revenge, and it will be so sweet!"

There were howls of delight from all the wolves, including Fang. Then they dashed into the woods.

When they reached the Moon Light Pack, all the wolves were asleep. They stole the food and raced back home. Fang began to have doubts. Then he came to a decision. He took all the food back to the Pack and his mum when she was woken up, and he told her he was shocked. Then he said, "Well Mum, I knew I had to do the right thing in the end."



Olivia Bednarz, 8E

Dreams

When I was young, my family would ask, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" And I would reply, "I want to be an astronaut!" And they would laugh.

A few years later, they'd ask me again, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" A little more serious now And I'd tell them, "It's always been my dream to be an astronaut" And they would laugh, a laugh of nervousness.

Now eight years later they'd ask me, "What is your job now, sweetheart?" And I would tell them the truth, "It's always been my dream to be an astronaut And now my dream has come true! I'm an astronaut." And they would give me hugs, pat me on the back And tell me I had done well by following my dreams.

Alicia Doherty
Year 8

My Dream Job

Apart from living in the lap of luxury, unemployed, relaxing out in the sun, I would quite like to be an author or something involving music. Since I was younger I have always liked writing stories and reading them to my family. My favourite part of English is creative writing as I find it fun and quite relaxing. If I ever was an author, I would like to write books for people around my own age, so 12-13. This is because most of the books I've attempted to read I either didn't like or completely forgot about. My favourite books that I have ever read are The Series of Unfortunate Events books by Lemony Snicket. After reading the first ten I wasn't as interested and never managed to fully read books 11, 12 and 13.

I would love to become a musician as I love music. When I practise the piano I usually end up making up short tunes or songs just by playing a few chords. I think this job would be quite fun as it doesn't sound like it would be stressful or boring, and it would be creative as well. I have also thought about being a music teacher just for a year or two before, hopefully, becoming an author or musician.

Bronagh McLaughlin
Year 9

My Dream Job

When I was younger, I had never thought about what I had wanted to do. Everybody's dream job is to be a famous rich kid, but that's not the case for me. I want to do something with my life, so that people know me. I want to make a change. I could say this now, but maybe in ten years I could be at home, unemployed and on benefits, a complete failure.

But I want to focus on the positive side of life, I want to be able to make the impossible possible. I want to be able to give justice to the poor families affected during the years known as 'The Troubles'. I would like to be an 'angel of peace' and help cure the society we live in.

I want to put a stop to all the terrorism and sectarian acts, to help where we live move forward.

But are we really living under a so-called ceasefire?

With our society comes fraud, sectarian-based elections, unnecessary rude gestures and comments.

One side is stuck in 1690, the other in 1916.

I want to be mutual, and remain mutual. But there is only one way to gain 'peace', it's not democracy and it's not violence, it's freedom.

What is freedom?

Is it being allowed out to go to the park with a few friends? Or perhaps it's a new phone?

What is peace?

Is it saying sorry when you have hurt someone? Or maybe it's just a figure of speech?

What is justice?

Putting someone behind bars if they hurt you? Or is it a thing that you want but can never have?

All I want is freedom, peace and justice.

Freedom is being able to do what your heart tells you to do.

Peace is being able to let both sides come together.

And Justice is facing up to what you have done.

Philippa Pitt
Year 9

My Dream Job

My dream job for when I'm older would have to be an Interior Designer. An Interior Designer is someone who decorates the insides of buildings, eg houses, bedrooms and things like that. I would love to be able to have my own business for this and make it a worldwide-known business. This also means I could travel around the world and not have to take time off work to do so.

Ever since I was around 7, I really wanted to be an Interior Designer. I've always loved decorating my

room and tidying and keeping it really neat; my friends think I'm OCD but I'm really not. I hate when my room is messy and disorganised and I just feel as though I have to clean it straight away. I love adding small but nice things to a room and having loads of colour to make it colourful and bright.

I think I would really love this job as I love painting, looking at furniture and I love seeing an end result after all the hard work during a task which has paid off. I feel as though I wouldn't really be doing much

of the technology work because I don't enjoy Technology and I'm not the slightest bit good at it. Also, even though I love painting and stuff to do with Art, Art is probably my least favourite subject, nor am I any good at it!

I really hope that in the future I can become an Interior Designer and live my dream job. I would love to start into the business side of things when I'm young, in my early twenties, once I leave university, as I would hope to do a course based around my dream job at university as I have a passion for it.

*Kasey Buck
Year 9*

My Dream Job

Slide and glide down slippery slopes. A vertical leap of faith down steep streaming seas. Waver at the waving water as it sweeps you off your feet. You scream and shout and cry with joy - the adrenalin rushes through your body. You smile as you see the old Speedo swimsuit hanging on the rail awaiting a new attempt at a final. You prepare yourself for the possibly dangerous experiment. You sit. You glide. You slip. You slick. You scream and cry at a

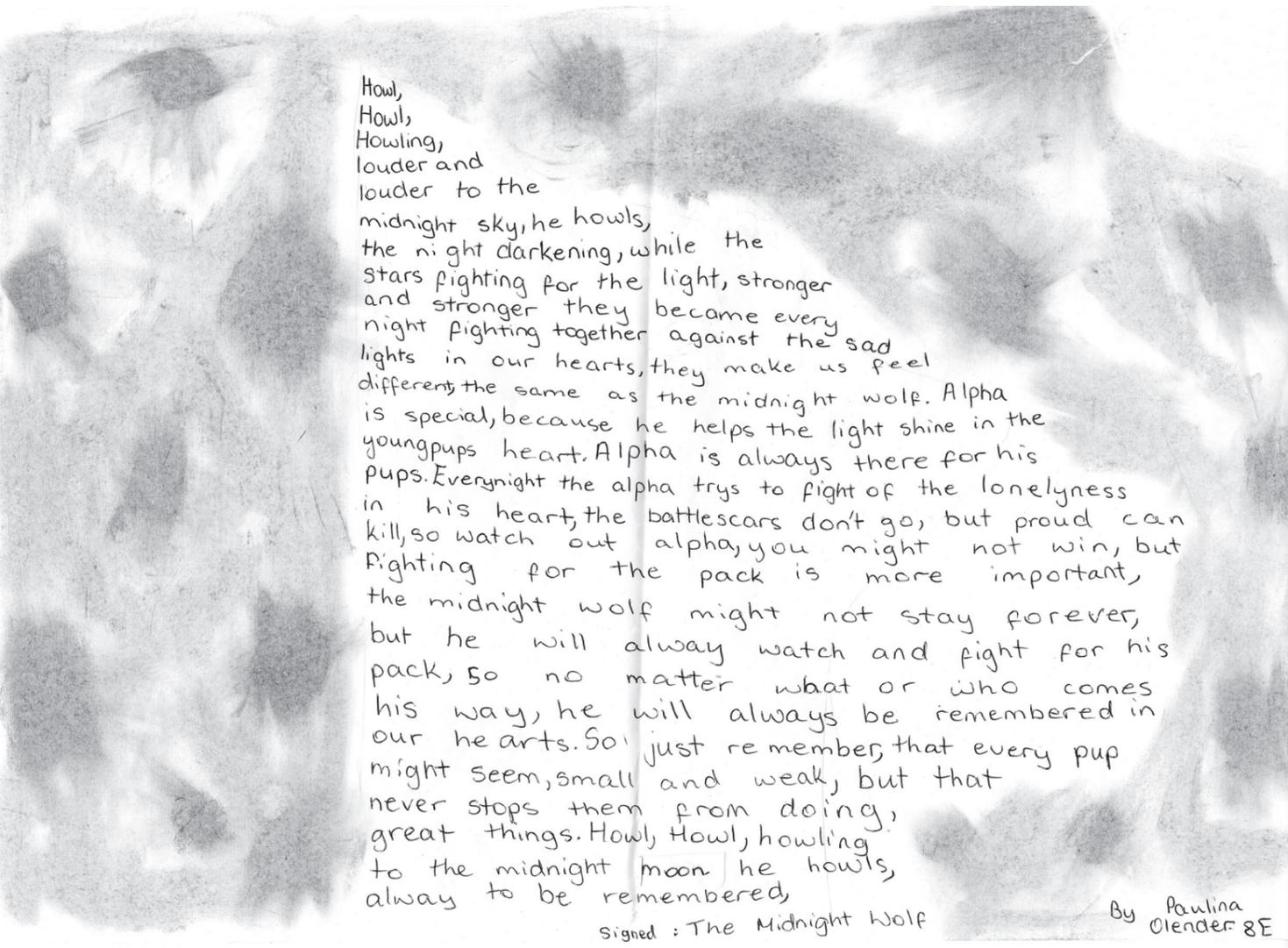
sudden vertical drop. A possible creak and crack here and there, that may be a hazard, but enjoying while you can give a ten out of ten for thrills and excitement.

Another day, another slide, another slip then glide. You give a cry once again at a surprise corner at the end. The water streams up and down, pushes you farther along the water. You jump up. You fly further, falling off the sharp corner. On the ground you land again. That was a busy, three out of ten. Another

day of hard work, slaving away, at a difficult task, the same routine that never stops but somehow has a new twist to the plot. It never gets boring, really, slipping and sliding all day long. Although your hair starts flipping and you're always dripping, it's a good way to start your every day. Don't need Weetabix when you're awake from the thrills.

A water-slide fever, that's my dream job.

*Lisamarie Benson
Year 9*



My Time to Shine!

If someone asked me, 'I'm nervous, how do I survive first year at Loreto?', in a heartbeat I would tell them that Loreto will become your second home. Every teacher, every pupil, will be kind and caring to you. My first year is a bit of a blur, but that's okay. You don't need to know or remember every single detail except the good memories and maybe a few bad ones. First year doesn't last forever, nothing does.

On my first day at Loreto, there were a lot of feelings going through my mind. I was nervous about starting a new school in a new town with new people. I was also quite upset about leaving my old school and a few of my friends behind, but the main feeling I had was joy and excitement about starting a new school and meeting new people. In the morning before my first day, I remember sitting at the

table eating my breakfast, then my Mammy came in and started taking photographs of me. I couldn't help but smile at the camera, I was that excited. When we arrived at Loreto all I could see was bright blue uniforms everywhere; from the way everyone was happy and smiley I knew I would love my new school.

First year went quicker than Bolt running in the final to the finish line in the Olympics. As soon as I knew it, it was Christmas, and that meant Christmas exams. I felt very worried about revising because I had never properly revised before, so the thought of that was scary, but my teachers really helped me get through the exams, so did my friends. I met most of my friends in the first few weeks of school. I met two of my friends on the first day since we were in the same form. I sat beside Brona in Form class since it was alphabetical order, and

we started talking about football because we all played. Then about a week after that, all my friends were eating lunch, then one of them, Lisamarie, started saying, 'You're a spoon!' and I couldn't stop laughing for the rest of the day. That's when we all got close and became a real friend group.

Once Christmas was over and Mid Term too, the focus was on Summer exams. Teachers started to revise with us. That got me nervous for exams, but extremely excited for Summer. Then after the exams, everyone calmed down a lot and juniors all got their results back. I did really well and I couldn't have done it without Loreto and all the staff.

Loreto is a really good school. I'm happy I go there.

*Eabh McIlvenny
Year 9*

The Mirror

I sat on the sofa watching into the mirror, watching a familiar face I knew since I was young. She has dark oak coloured eyes surrounded by long eyelashes that flare out around her eyelids. We were laughing together, like we normally did at inside joke and funny videos and still I was watching her, through the mirror. Her hair fell down to her shoulders, making small twists and waves on the way there. I observed what she was wearing: black bottoms and a cropped hoodie that said 'Adidas' on it in green. After a couple of minutes she pulled out her phone. She was taking pictures of herself again. It was very obvious she wasn't of any great height. She was as short as a dwarf but still never wished to be taller. Confidence filled a room when she walked into it. She always walked into a room with her biggest smile on her face to greet anyone in the room.

My sister and a great friend, Kate.

*Bronagh McLaughlin,
Year 9*

Streets from Childhood

Growing up in 14 Helen Street,
Whilst they brought in their army fleet.
They marched them through,
While the punters drank their brew.
A night at the pub,
Pretty normal for a Derry cub.
I attended a school called Rosemount,
All the teachers used to yap and shout,
'James, why are you late, you live next door?'
I whispered back,
'Sorry Miss I spilled my drink on the floor.'
We went to Mass at St Eugene's,
Me brother and me came back and played music.
We went out and played some 'tibby kick',
While me Manny cursed me Da for ticks.
He didn't come home one day,
He went a different way.
In Derry, women drink Cherry,
Whilst husbands do a cruel deed
On the derelict streets.
The murals,
The funerals,
The peace and deceased.
I rode on my bike for hire,
That was when I heard the gunfire.

My poem tells us about the cruel happenings in Derry during the Troubles.

*Philippa Pitt Year 9
Philippa wins the Junior Magazine Prize for her article and her poem.*

The First Time I saw a Ghost

Some people think that ghosts are one hundred percent made up, and I must admit that I was one of those people until last night. I know that it sounds absurd, but I solemnly swear that I saw a ghost. A real ghost.

I'd had very bad ideas about the whole thing from the very beginning, ever since my brother told me that he was going to take me down to the lake to see the ghost that he often spoke of, in the dark.

It is bad enough walking through those spooky old trees in the daylight, never mind on a dark, dull night!

As we walked down to Wilton Water on that terribly bleak and cold October night, my stomach was starting to curdle with fear. I was trembling like a leaf, and my brother asked was I sure that I was still up for it and I brushed it off my just saying that I was cold. I tried to tell myself that there wasn't really going to be a ghost... or was there?

We tiptoed quietly down towards the lake, and the nerves started to build up more and more, and then we reached the bank. When my eyes fell upon that woman standing motionlessly on the water, my heart almost stopped. It was there and then that I knew it was real, that ghosts did exist.

Now as I sit in my room I try to avoid the dreadful thoughts of phantoms from entering my head. My brother sits downstairs, calm and undisturbed, but little does he know that I lie here, attempting to sleep, unsettled and dismantled, falling to pieces.

Orla Quinn Year 9

My Greatest Achievement

When I was ten years old I entered the Ulster Championships for Irish Dancing. It took around four months of preparation and after each of our practices I sweated like a pig because our dancing teacher worked us so hard!

The Ulsters were really far away, they were in Enniskillen, so I munched on some chips because it was so far away that I nearly fell asleep! My Nana Theresa and I sang songs from Mamma Mia to keep ourselves entertained and we even danced bizarrely any time my Mummy stopped at a red light, which was really funny!

Once we finally got there I could see a gigantic building with a swimming pool inside and some slides that led outside. I was so thrilled and excited that I could be part of this really big event because it was becoming so real now.

When we got inside there was a very long line to sign in and give your money, but when we eventually got into the girls' changing rooms my Mum had to top up my fake tan so my legs weren't pale on stage. The only bad thing about this was that the next day my legs would be brown as a monkey's. I told

my Mum this and she and Nana laughed like hyenas, so loudly that I had to tell them to calm down before they started crying.

After the fake tan was dry I had to put my dress on, which was the exciting part. I really liked my dress because it had little glittery diamonds on it that were the size of flies. Once my number was clipped on it was time to go backstage.

Backstage, you could feel that everyone was really nervous and I was too, but I still wanted to do my dances. So my Mum gave me a kiss, wished me good luck and then went to sit in the audience.

When I had danced all my dances I waited for a very long time for the results, so me and my Nana killed time by playing on her phone.

When the results were finally revealed it wasn't like a normal feis, they were revealed on a big board. To my surprised when I turned around my Nana cried, I thought I had done really horribly but I had actually got ninth place!

It felt so good getting up on stage and getting a big bronze medal, which I still have in my possession. After that, my dancing teacher came over and congratulated me on my success. I know ninth doesn't sound like very much but it was out of 200 or more boys and girls in my age category and still to this day I am flabbergasted that I even got placed! I had such a great day because of my great achievement.

*Ellie Dillon
Year 8*

Girls

Here's to the girls,
Who stumble over air and trip over shoelaces.
Hair in messy buns and loose curls raining down their backs.
Scraped elbows and bruised knees,
But her true strength hidden within her smile.

Here's to the girls,
Made from equal parts fire and fury,
Angry eyes and angrier word.
She's a warrior, her word's a weapon.
She's not afraid to stand up for herself and others.

Here's to the girls,
Who hide away in corners
And with a smile as gentle as the moonlight.
They speak softly and look at you with the kindest eyes.

Here's to the girls,
Covered in gold and shining like the sun,
The streets become her catwalk.
High heels and a short skirt is her signature look,
But that doesn't mean she is any less deserving of your respect than the girl in jeans.

Here's to all the girls,
I wish I was more like you.

*Aimee Quigg
Year 13*

A-Levels: The Trials and Tribulations

A-Levels, the climax of your secondary education and the peak of student life. Every student fears the dawn of their A-Levels after years of hearing horror stories from fellow students about the endless work load and the infinite breakdowns. I'm not going to lie: they are hard; challenging you not only academically but mentally.

But I must say it is great when people ask, 'What do you do?' and I get to reply 'Oh, I'm doing A-Levels.' Instantly a look of admiration washes over them and you can't help but feel proud of all you've achieved (trust me when I say it's an achievement to get into 6th form).

The first week you come back to school after the summer you will never hear the phrase 'A-Levels are a big jump from GCSE's' more than you will in that week. It will make you angry and you will roll your eyes each time you hear it because I for sure did.

But was it not also a big jump from junior school to GCSE's?

I think this phrase is used as a tactical 'shocking device' to try and scare us into working hard from the get go. For me I was waiting for the 'big jump' to hit all year. Most of your chosen subjects build upon GCSE knowledge, much like GCSE's built upon junior school knowledge. Personally, I believe the biggest 'jump' is the work load; two teachers per subject setting different tasks and handing out different deadlines pulls your brain in thousands of directions (I exaggerated a bit, it's only eight or six).

Now to address the one thing that every future A-Level student is looking forward to: 'free' (study) periods. These are a gift from God and will surely be your saviour to avoid late nights when the work load is overwhelming. I urge you to not waste these beautiful gifts because there is no doubt you will regret it.

Senior Study, looking past the luxury of comfy seats is a small place, sometimes packed with over one hundred students rummaging in bags and flicking through pages

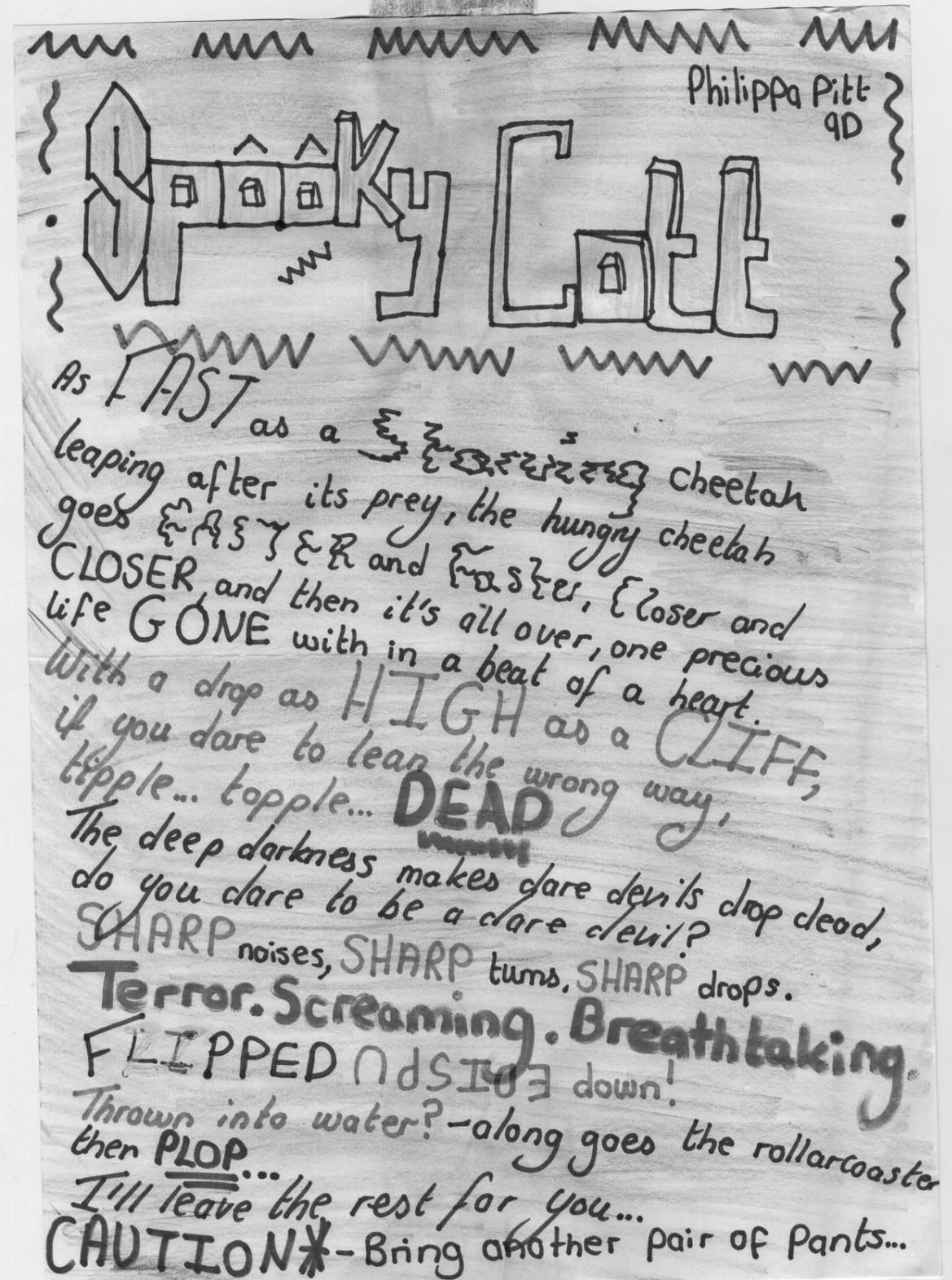
in textbooks. It can be hard to concentrate. Really hard. Most students, me included, find that listening to music through these study periods helps to distract from the hustle and bustle of working students.

There is no need to fear A-Levels. Yes, they are hard but with hard work and a positive attitude you will triumph them. The two years you spend doing A-Levels will be the best years of your life. There is nothing that brings your entire year together more than the prospect that, after these two years, your fellow students, your familiar, comfortable blanket will not be there every single day. It is heart-breaking but exhilarating.

Take every single day as it comes. Leave fall-outs with people in the past. Enjoy the company of your friends. Flood your camera roll with memories of the years. Don't let the work take over, go out and have fun.

I am beginning to see that the old phrase is true, 'School days are the best days of your life.'

Niamh Doherty
Year 13



SPORTS NEWS

GAELIC GAMES

SENIOR GAELIC

The Senior Gaelic team, coached by Mr Murtagh, entered the MacLarnon Cup this year - the first time for some years that our seniors have played at this level. Mr Murtagh's reports on their various matches follow.

Readers who use Twitter should follow @LCCGAA for regular updates on all our various teams in all areas of Gaelic Games - thanks to Mr Murtagh for updating this so frequently!



It was exciting times upon our return in September 2016 with senior Gaelic training starting in preparation for our first season back playing in the prestigious MacLarnon Cup. This group of players had reached the Grade 'B' Rafferty Cup final in December 2014 so it was felt that they should continue playing in Grade 'B' football where it would challenge them further. And what a challenge we had!

Challenge Games:

- LCC 1-16 vs. St. Patrick's Armagh 2-15
- LCC 2-14 vs. St. Patrick's Academy Dungannon 5-20

It was felt that it would be best to test our lads to the maximum by only accepting challenge

games from schools playing in the MacRory Cup 'A' division. Having only moved up from 'C' football to the 'B' grade this was a big test to take on two former MacRory Cup winning schools.

We played Armagh at the start of October in MUSA with both teams working on their preparations for the group stages. Many of our lads were still involved with club semi-finals and finals so the majority of our work had been done so far with our club sides that had been eliminated from the minor championship earlier in the summer. Armagh gave us a massive test: it took most of the first half to get fully up to speed, but especially in the second half LCC played excellent football and showed they can mix it with the big footballing schools. We had two big goal chances at the end of normal time to draw level but

in the end with a crowded defence, and the game being a challenge game, the shot was simply put over the bar. Excellent first run out for the team despite the 2-point loss.

We took on Mr Murtagh's alma mater, St. Pat's Academy Dungannon, a month later in the season over the Halloween holidays in MUSA. We had played our two opening group games by this stage but we were missing 6/7 regular starters for this game due to club commitments and injuries/sickness; Dungannon on the other hand were at full strength. This did however give an opportunity to test new players in the team.

Dungannon in the first half were very good and did overwhelm our new look side with their high press, use of their sweeper and winning of break ball. Still, to score 2-14

against a strong MacRory side was good going and there were individual performances that were very pleasing so it made for a worthwhile game.

Group Stage:

LCC 2-11 vs. Our Lady and St. Patrick's Knock 2-16

After running Armagh so close the week before, I think the team underestimated Knock at the start of the game. Knock had one of those days where everything they kicked sailed straight over the bar: they had scored 5 or 6 points straight from the throw in and it was clear that we had a big task in front of us. We fought back, and, as the half wore on, Dunloy's Fergal Dillon hit the net and Kilrea's Conor Gillen was finding his range with free kicks after missing a few early frees in the game. In the second half, we took full control of the game and it was clear that it was only a matter of time before we took the lead to win the



game. Dungiven's Mark Cassidy scored our second goal with Eoghan Rua's Aidan McGonigle and team captain Shane McIntyre scoring a brace of points. The turning point of the game was the harsh dismissal of Stiofan Tracey with 20 minutes still to play, but for the rest of the half we were in full control. As we approached injury time we were 1 point down and pushing for the win. A mistake carrying the ball out of defence allowed Knock to get a goal and kill off our challenge, only their second score of the entire second half! Kilrea's Conor Gillen finished the game with 7 points in a strong showing.

LCC 2-9 vs. St. Patrick's Downpatrick 0-13

After our opening loss, we had to win our second game against a strong Red High Downpatrick side. We were missing a number of players for this game and only travelled with 16 in the squad, with Kilrea's Y12 Rory Maguire a late

inclusion to the travelling squad, Rory would go on to have a major contribution to the win. It was a very tight first half with Loreto pulling ahead with another goal from Fergal Dillon and super strikes from skipper Shane McIntyre and Eoghan Rua's Devlin Donnelly. In the second half Daire Mullan did great work to win a penalty, with Conor Gillen stepping up to bag a goal to leave a 5-point cushion for the LCC lads. Rory Maguire had been introduced at half time and immediately had made a difference to our attack with his runs out the pitch and his pace on the ball. Back came Downpatrick, but Devlin Donnelly kicked another super long-range score to leave us ahead. Our defence stood strong and saw out the game for a fine first win of the season.

This game was our turning point, with only 16 players the team dug deep to see out the win and generate a buzz around the squad that lasted for the rest of our run in the competition. This game was a





real test of character shown by the lads.

LCC 1-10 vs. St. Columb's Derry 0-12

We played St. Columb's in Owenbeg under lights in a tight affair. St. Columb's had already lost their two opening games and for this game resorted to a new defensive blanket that was tough to break down. LCC started very brightly, treading pinpoint passes through the St. Columb's defence, with Fergal Dillon scoring another good goal for the side. After dominating the first 15 minutes, we fell asleep and allowed St. Columb's back into the game with a series of points. We missed a big goal chance at the end of the half after a fabulous pattern of play between Shane McIntyre, Aidan McGonigle, Mark Cassidy and Conor Gillen with the keeper making a very smart save. If that goal had gone in, it would have been on the highlight reel for years to come!

The second half was poor quality from both teams. The LCC defence was very solid with Stiofan Tracey marshalling his team mates and Eoin Canning in particular was superb in man marking St.



Columb's Derry minor corner forward. Aidan Boyle and Adam Kerr were also both very effective in attacking down the wings. With the game level coming up to injury time, on came injured vice-captain Sean Quinn to kick the winning score. Another big win and we were now qualified for the next stage of the competition.

LCC 0-8 vs. St. Malachy's Castlewellan 0-17

In our last group game, we still had a chance of taking top spot and with it an automatic Ulster QF place after Christmas. Sadly, this game didn't go as planned. We were only two points down at half time and had missed 3 gilt-edged goal chances, just not clinical enough. As the game wore on in the second half, a slick Castlewellan side pulled ahead and saw the game home. We were still through regardless but would have to have a playoff round as Castlewellan had taken the automatic spot in the group. Now time for knockout football!

Playoff:

LCC 3-13 vs. St. Malachy's Belfast 1-18 (AET)



This is one of the strangest and most memorable games that will stick with me for years to come.

Played in Meadowbank 4G at the end of November in beautiful weather, we started very strongly and asserted our dominance on St. Malachy's right from the throw in. Stiofan Tracey and Adam Kerr combined to win the ball back and Ballerin's Shane McIntyre finished a great goal chance after a super passage of 1-2 passing to push LCC into a 5-point lead. St. Malachy's started to come into the game, and their star forward Bobby Burns was causing all sorts of problems. McIntyre, Conor Gillen, Aidan McGonigle and Conor McKelvey were all in fine form keeping the scoreboard ticking throughout the game. In the 40th minute a long ball into the square from Gillen saw Mark Cassidy thump the ball home to leave us well ahead.

We were in the lead for the entire game and looked comfortable until St. Malachy's somehow managed to squeeze a shot past keeper Aidan Gillen, the ball coming off the post, their player and then Gillen before somehow going over the line. This was the first goal

we had conceded in almost 4 full football matches and brought them to within a point of us. They then levelled going into injury time, and even could have completely stolen the game at the end but the game finished a draw 2-11 to 1-14, extra time to be played. In extra time St. Malachy's had all the momentum and raced into a 3-point lead. In the last 5 minutes, it seemed that we would need a goal. St. Malachy's had their defence well packed, Aidan McGonigle picked up the ball on the left sideline and recycled the ball back towards the 45-yard line to Aidan Boyle who had pushed up the pitch. Boyle plays in McIntyre who pings the ball high into the right-hand edge of the square where Cassidy beats everyone in the air to flick back towards the goal. The St. Malachy's goalkeeper jumps along with Conor Gillen but the ball is spilled onto the on running Rory Maguire to thump the ball into the net. Massive score. Game level.

As the seconds ticked by, it was clear the next team to score would win. The defence soaked up St. Malachy's pressure then it was the turn of three of our substitutes to change the game. Kilrea's Eoin McGuigan wins the ball back in our defence and comes out with the ball, he plays a beautiful long pass into Fergal Dillon who fields between two St. Malachy's players and pops the ball to Rory Maguire. Maguire leaves them in his dust and skips past two more players before



being cynically dragged down 30 yards from goal. Free kick. Up steps Conor Gillen.

With 50 seconds left on the clock, Gillen who hadn't missed a free all day, puts the ball on the ground and strikes a fabulous kick right over the black spot. Game over. LCC through to the Ulster QF in February.

http://www.danskebankulsterschoolsgaa.com/match_reports/loreto-last-team-maclarnon-quarters/

Two months of tough work took place with training in Loreto Park, Limavady 4G over the holidays as well as the use of the council owned 4G pitch in Rugby Avenue.

Ulster QF:

LCC 3-7 vs. St. Louis' Ballymena 2-10

The game that got away. I had a feeling that Ballymena massively underestimated us in the opening half. This group of players had easily beaten Ballymena in Y11 and Y12 competitions but Ballymena had managed to get some new players in for senior school and were brimming with confidence.

Aidan McGonigle opened the scoring in Owenbeg under lights. Conor Gillen played a lovely pass to the returning-from-injury Sean Quinn to flick through to Fergal Dillon to finish to the net.

McGonigle had a big opportunity for another goal in the 14th minute but the ball went high and over the bar for a point. Ballymena got back into the game when a shot was well saved by Aidan Gillen in goals but the rebound fell favourably for St. Louis' who tapped it in. LCC had another big goal chance when St. Louis' keeper saved from skipper Shane McIntyre after a fantastic team move through the heart of the Ballymena defence. But it wasn't long until we hit the net again with Conor Gillen drilling the ball to the goal just before half time. LCC 2-4 vs. St. Louis' Ballymena 1-5

We had to substitute key man marker Eoin Canning at HT after picking up a yellow card and a tick with Odhran McNicholl coming into the game. St. Louis' had now crawled back into their defensive shell and tried to curb our attacking play. It was point for point for the next 15 minutes or so. We had looked very comfortable up to this stage but a big turning point was the loss of vice-captain Sean Quinn to injury. Sean had been out for the entire campaign bar that one cameo to beat St. Columb's Derry. He took a kickout from Aidan Gillen in total space, turned and went to go past his opponent but his ankle gave way and a reoccurrence of the original injury had happened. Massive loss.

We then suffered another huge loss with county minor Fearghal Close getting a knee injury and were suddenly without three of our



key defenders. St. Louis' had the momentum and with 6 minutes left had drawn level. Our lads were walking wounded with Stiofan Tracey and Rory Maguire just about still moving. Conor Gillen wasn't for giving up and he worked the ball to the 45-yard line and kicked long to substitute Dara Mooney who fielded at full speed, rounded the keeper and put the ball to the back of the net to lift the entire crowd. Two points up!

Our lads were struggling, the injuries were catching up on us and St. Louis' threw caution to the wind. They hit the crossbar with two minutes to go and we thought we were safe, we thought we had it. We had to make our final substitution with Liam Ferris coming on for Stiofan Tracey due to injury. Ballymena took advantage of this and sent a high ball into the square which we cleared, only for everyone to push up to leave a Ballymena player free in the square, the ball was popped to him and he fisted to the goal. Level. The game would go to a replay!

We massively let St. Louis' out of jail in this game. We were the dominant force. Missed three real good goal chances and gifted them two very silly goals. We now had less than two days to recover from this disappointment to get ready for battle again.

<http://www.danskebankulsterschoolsgaa.com/mcauley-goal-rescues-st-louis/>

Ulster QF REPLAY:

LCC 0-12 vs. St. Louis' Ballymena 2-8

The replay took place less than two days later in Glen, Maghera. Sadly, we had to play on their training pitch which in truth wasn't suitable for a game of this magnitude and was only going to help St. Louis' with their defensive system.

The quick turnaround was tough on the lads. We had lost Sean Quinn to injury, Rory Maguire was unable to start, Fearghal Close was strapped up and just about able to play. We just never got going in this game until it was too late.

St. Louis' started very well in the first half and their defensive shape was hard to cut through like we had done previously in Owenbeg. After 15 minutes it was 3 points apiece with Conor Gillen kicking two points from free kicks and Kilrea teammate Eoin McGuigan kicking a fine score for LCC. The turning point in the first half came when Ballymena won a dubious penalty as the St. Louis' player had definitely been fouled well outside the box, but he was awarded advantage and he kept going until he reached the square and then just fell down. With the penalty scored, Conor Gillen fired over another free to leave a half-time score of LCC 0-4 vs. St. Louis's 1-5.

The trick about playing against a blanket defence is to not allow them to gain a lead, because once they do they will retreat into their shell and try and protect their lead.

We responded immediately with Gillen kicking another free and Adam Kerr sending over a fine score. 2 points in it. We scored two more points from Gillen and McGonigle but during this period St. Louis' hit us for 1-2 and left us with a mountain to climb on 42 minutes, again another dubious goal. From our own kickout Aidan Gillen hit Adam Kerr with a high ball, Adam had been marking a player at least a foot smaller than him but the Ballymena player shoved him in the back, no free awarded, then played the ball into the middle for St. Louis' to score another goal, 5 points in it 0-8 to 2-7.

We responded through Fearghal Close who ran the entire pitch and kicked a truly inspirational score.

15 minutes left, plenty of time. Ballymena scored what proved to be their final score on 50 minutes and we were 5 points behind again. In training we had worked on this scenario against a packed defence and probably in hindsight we went for goals too early in the game, 10 minutes should have been enough time to score what we needed. We dominated the remainder of the game, with Conor Gillen kicking over free kicks and that man again Fearghal Close kicking another fantastic score, we were within touching distance. This time it was Ballymena who were dropping with injuries and the momentum was fully with Loreto. Rory Maguire should have earned a penalty when we were 2 points down but the referee called play on this time. Then time sadly ran out...

<http://www.danskebankulsterschoolsgaa.com/st-louis-ballymena-reach-maclarnon-semis/>

Had there been 5 more minutes of time left, we would have won the game. The team will look back at these two games with regret as not only should we have won the game the first day, we never got going until the final 20 minutes on the second day. But that's football and in football you either win or learn. For the majority of this fine squad it was to be their last game in the yellow and royal blue of Loreto. They have been a credit to their school, to their club and to their families in how they have conducted themselves for the past 6 years of school football and I am confident they all return to our wide catchment area of feeder clubs better players.

In any sport, you will always have more lows than highs, that's just the cruel nature of sport. But when I think of this group of players I think that this is where it all started, this is where the LCC Gaelic tradition has started. Winning the Mallon

Cup as Year 9s in 2012. Asserting themselves in 'B' Colleges football. Having those wrecking matches with Keady. That Rafferty Cup run to the final. Those games with St. Columb's Derry, especially the semi-final battle that night in Owenbeg, what a game! I'll remember Sean Quinn dragging us through the Rafferty QF and SF, I'll remember Liam Tosh's wizardry and how he could lose his man in a telephone box. I'll remember Aidan Boyle's leadership at the back. I'll remember Liam Ferris winding up his targets, and his team mates too. I'll remember training in Ballerin and our defenders shutting out the best forward line in the division, and letting them know about it. I'll remember being tanked as Y10s against Letterkenny and our captain Shane McIntyre standing as a giant in that game, never giving up when so many around him already had. I'll also remember getting sweet revenge on the same Letterkenny side two years later! I'll remember Mark Cassidy's block that gave us a goal in the final, still the best

goal I've ever seen! I'll remember Stiofan Tracey running full tilt at a Donaghmore player and crumpling him with the force of his shoulder, big hit. I'll remember beating Downpatrick with 16 players and Dev's two wonder points that day. I'll remember the playoff scenes with St. Malachy's for that final goal and Conor Gillen's free at the death. I'll remember Fearghal Close's inspirational score in our final game. I'll remember Dara Mooney appearing from nowhere to kick our third goal in the drawn Ballymena game. And I'll remember the craic he had along the way, in Loreto Park, on the buses, in the video analysis and the smiles walking off those pitches, no matter where we were as long as we got to stop in the shop on the way home!

Trophies and medals will ultimately gather dust, but memories, well, they last a lifetime. This group has certainly given the memories that will last a lifetime.

Mr Murtagh



MacLarnon Cup Squad 2016-2017

Back Row (L-R): Conor McKelvey (Dungiven), Oran Bradley (Ballerin), Aidan McGonigle (Eoghan Rua), Adam Kerr (Eoghan Rua), Devlin Donnelly (Eoghan Rua), Fergal Dillon (Dunloy), Aidan Boyle (Eoghan Rua), Daire Mullan (Ballerin), Aidan Gillen (Kilrea), Callum Boorman (Eoghan Rua), Liam Ferris (Eoghan Rua), Conor Gillen (Kilrea), Mark Cassidy (Dungiven), Finn McEwan (Eoghan Rua), Dara McGoldrick (Eoghan Rua), Matthew Catterson (Kilrea), Conor Moore (Eoghan Rua).

Front Row (L-R): Donal Close (Glenullin), Daniel Walton (Ballerin), Matthew Connolly (Ballerin), Eoin Canning (Eoghan Rua), Shane McIntyre (Captain) (Ballerin), Odhran McNicholl (Dungiven), Fearghal Close (Glenullin), Eoin McGuigan (Kilrea), Sean Quinn (Vice-Captain) (Dungiven), Connloath McGee (Faughanvale), Jonny Meehan (Limavady), Rory Maguire (Kilrea), Stiofan Tracey (Dungiven), Dara Mooney (Eoghan Rua).



ARTHURS' CUP 2016

Our Y12/U16.5 footballers had another near miss, narrowly bowing out at the Grade 'C' Ulster QF stages to St. Columba's College Stranorlar. This group have had their fair share of heartbreak, being eliminated at the Ulster QF stage in Y9, the Ulster SF stage in Y10 in extra time of a replay, and also in the Y11 Ulster SF losing by a single point.

Group Stages:

LCC 3-14 vs. Rathmore Grammar 2-11

The team had a very convincing win over Rathmore Grammar School, Belfast. The game was played in Meadowbank 4G pitch and it allowed the lads to gain revenge for a group stage loss to the same opposition when the sides were in Y11. Right from the off, Loreto played a lovely brand of intricate, accurate football and built up a very commanding lead. Eoghan Rua's Finn McEwan and Conor Moore both had excellent games as well as Dungiven's Conor McKelvey and Kilrea's Rory Maguire. It wasn't really until the end of the game that Rathmore closed the gap after the entire starting 15 had been changed. Strong start to the campaign.

LCC 6-19 vs. St. Mark's Warrenpoint 5-8

Another commanding performance from the side in MUSA saw them dismiss Warrenpoint with relative ease. This was the first

time the two schools had met in schools' competitive football after Warrenpoint moved to Colleges football from Vocational schools. By half time the tie was well and truly over but St. Mark's did score a few freak goals which highlighted areas to improve upon. Eoghan Rua's Dara Mooney and Conor Moore did a large bulk of the scoring with Faughanvale's Connaith McGee dominating midfield.

LCC 3-15 vs. Aquinas Grammar 1-5

Loreto dominated this game in Castledawson GAC right from the off. An early goal from Glenullin full forward Cathal Kearney pushed LCC ahead with a rigid defence of Limavady's Jonny Meehan, Glenullin's Danny Burns and Dungiven's Eoin McKeever proving hard to break down for the Belfast side. Loreto coasted to victory and as a result topped their Arthurs' Cup group and progressed to the Ulster QFs.

Knockout Stages:

Ulster QF LCC 1-9 vs. St. Columba's Stranorlar 2-9

After a relatively easy group stage, the team hit a very flat performance in Celtic Park, Derry against Donegal opposition. In a number of ways, the team was unfortunate, losing Dara McGoldrick, Conor Moore and Cathal Kearney to injury before the game, as well as losing Rory Maguire to sickness during the

game, but it was a game that was there for the taking.

It wasn't spectacular by any account, it was a game full of mistakes, misses and over cautious defending. Stranorlar played very defensively and tried to keep their star player isolated in their forward line and relied on him to get the majority of their scores. A poor first half left LCC trailing by 4 points but rallied at half time, and the reintroduction of centre half back Rory Maguire sent Loreto back into the game determined to overcome the deficit. Loreto plugged away at Stranorlar's lead and the game was a draw for large parts of the second half. With LCC 1 point down and approaching injury time, we were awarded a penalty and it looked like we would sneak through to the semi-finals. The Stranorlar goalkeeper made an excellent save to deny the penalty, and Stranorlar hit us on the break to kick another point. From the next kickout they made it 3 points the difference and the game was over.

It was a disappointing way to leave the competition as the side was more than capable of winning the Arthurs' Cup. Incidentally Stranorlar went on to win it quite comfortably themselves! Sometimes winning ugly is the key to going the full distance in these Ulster competitions and it will be something this group of players can improve upon as many of this squad will now immediately step up and join our MacLarnon squad for the latter stages of the competition.

Mr Murtagh

YEAR 11 GAELIC

This was the story of the year. The Year 11 team, coached by Mr Murtagh and Mr Deighan, had a tremendous season and made history for Loreto. Mr Murtagh takes up the story, with assistance via some amazing action shots by Mr Elgin as the team's campaign unfolded.



TREANOR CUP ULSTER CHAMPIONS 2017

Our Y11/U15.5 Gaelic footballers created LCC history by collecting the Ulster Schools Treanor Cup for the very first time.

This was the school's first Grade B Ulster title in 19 years, after several recent successes in the Ulster Grade C divisions. As a result, this group of players will now move into the Grade A division to compete in the prestigious Rannafast Cup in September, again another first for the school to have a team competing in the top division of Ulster Schools football!

Trials took place in early January and a tight 26-man panel was selected to represent the school in the Treanor Cup. In total, we played 8 games en route to



winning the Ulster title and went through the campaign unbeaten, taking all comers and beating high calibre teams such as St. Patrick's Downpatrick (Red High), Holy Trinity Cookstown, St. Patrick's Armagh and St. Paul's Bessbrook.

Loreto Coleraine 4-13 vs. Red High Downpatrick 4-10

Before our opening group game, we had a challenge game against St. Patrick's Downpatrick in MUSA. The Red High had won the Grade B Loch an Luir title when these teams were Y10 so we knew that this game would give us a big challenge before the Treanor Cup started. In tough windy conditions, we won 4-13 to 4-10 and we were able to test out a number of new positions/formations for the squad but it also highlighted the areas that we needed to work on.



Group Stages

Loreto Coleraine 5-9 vs. St. Eunan's Letterkenny 3-15

We opened our first group game against St. Eunan's Letterkenny in Owenbeg at the start of March with the match ending a draw, the only game we didn't win all campaign. We started very flat against Letterkenny and allowed them to build a lead, however every time we got past their midfield line we looked like we would score a goal, scoring five goals in total as the game ended 5-9 to 3-15. This game highlighted further areas we needed to work on but had we taken more of our goal chances we would have won this game comfortably.

Loreto Coleraine 7-17 vs. Holy Trinity Cookstown 1-4



The team responded in exactly the right way in our second group game against pre-tournament favourites Holy Trinity Cookstown in a landslide victory 7-17 to 1-4 in Meadowbank Sports Arena. One of those days where it felt that everything went right, we ripped into Cookstown from the off and effectively the game was over at half-time. Confidence was starting to grow within the squad and defensively our shape was starting to look much stronger.

Loreto Coleraine 3-12 vs. St. Louis' Ballymena 1-5

In our final group game we took on St. Louis' Ballymena in Rasharkin and won comfortably. Again, the team started brightly and were well ahead at half-time. Once again, the shape of the team looked very strong, defensively we were tough to get through and our forward line were doing damage.

With this win our lads topped a tough section to progress to the Ulster QF with Cookstown in second also through to the knockout stages. Ballymena finished third so would go to a playoff with Donaghmore for a QF place and finally Letterkenny were surprisingly eliminated from the competition in 4th place.

**Knock-out Stages
Ulster QF**

Loreto Coleraine 1-14 vs. St. Patrick's Armagh 3-5

In our Ulster QF we took on past MacRory Cup winners St. Pat's Armagh in MUSA. Armagh boasted several players that Mr Murtagh has coached through his club youth teams in Eglishe, with full-forward Michael McGleenan in particular, the star player for his Armagh side needing special attention from Glenullin's James Mullan to curb his influence.

After the heights of the group stages, we hit a fairly flat performance in this game. We started brightly but allowed Armagh back into the game and wasted several good goal chances to put the game to bed. In the second half, we seized control of the game and went 9 points ahead and looked to be safe. In injury time Armagh were to score two goals to close the gap but we



never looked like we were going to lose this game. Neil Moloney was unbelievable in corner back, Ben Dillon had a great game and was very accurate from free kicks and his Dungiven team mate Eoin McKeever put in a man of the match performance, pushing up on the Armagh sweeper and helping himself to 1-2 in the process from corner back. The game did come

at a cost however with captain Dara Mooney picking up a knee injury in the second half.

Ulster SF

Loreto Coleraine 8-13 vs. Holy Trinity Cookstown 2-7

We took on Cookstown again in the Ulster semi-final in Banagher. After our group stage win the lads were well pumped up for a Cookstown fight back as both teams went for a place in the Ulster final. We were without injured captain Dara Mooney as his knee had not recovered in time so Cathal Bradley stepped directly into centre half forward and had a superb game. LCC started against tough elements and Cookstown threw everything they had at us. Again, Eoin McKeever pushed up on the Cookstown sweeper and it payed dividends with Eoin kicking an early point and setting up the first goal for Paul Rafferty to palm home. Ballerin's Kosta Papachristopolous added the second Loreto goal as the first half ended 2-4 to 1-5 in favour of LCC.

The game was quickly put to bed early in the second half with Loreto taking full control of the game. Goals from Paul Rafferty, Kosta Papa and then two quick fire goals from Glenullin's Conor Kearney saw the Cookstown challenge fade. Kearney's first goal was a superb solo run on the counterattack while the second came straight from the training ground with Dungiven's Ben Dillon firing a super switch ball from the right sideline to the back post for Kearney to collect and fire home. Dillon was again very accurate from free kicks in game. McKeever added another goal with Donal O'Kane firing in the final goal from distance (he claims he meant it!) to give another emphatic victory for LCC and progress into a first ever Treanor Cup final.

<http://www.danskebankulsterschoolsgaa.com/loreto-reach-first-treanor-cup-final/>

Ulster Final

Loreto Coleraine 3-11 vs. St. Paul's Bessbrook 1-16

The big final arrived on the first day of the school Easter holidays and took place in fantastic facilities in Edendork GAC, Co. Tyrone. LCC again played against a strong breeze in the first half and started brightly with James Mullan fielding from the throw in and running through the entire Bessbrook defence to fire the opening point. Bessbrook used the elements well, going long with their kickouts and used a high press up the pitch to force mistakes when we tried to run the ball out from the back. Bessbrook had a strong spell up to the 15th minute where they held a commanding 1-5 to 0-3 lead, Glenullin's Paul Rafferty had kicked two super points already by this stage. The Bessbrook goal seemed to awaken Loreto, and Rafferty ran into the heart of the Bessbrook defence before being fouled for Kilrea's Odhran McLarnon to kick the left footed free kick, 1-5 to 0-4.

The game then became end to end with not much scoring taking place, with LCC facing the wind this half it was no bad thing! Loreto had already missed a good goal chance before Kosta kicked in a super ball for Rafferty to catch high above his head, land and hit the back of the net unbalanced in the



23rd minute - 1-5 to 1-4. Again, the rest of the half was end to end with both teams registering a point each, LCC's score came from good work from Aidan Gillen picking out Ben Dillon with a super pass, Dillon then squared to McLarnon on the half way line and he took off leaving Bessbrook players in his dust, ran half the length of the pitch and slotted a super score. Half-time. LCC down by 1 point. 1-6 to 1-5.

Now in the second half Loreto had a strong breeze at their backs and could open up their kicking. Bessbrook hadn't learnt their lesson from the last LCC point as Donal O'Kane fielded another big kick, fed McLarnon right on the halfway line and he went past 5 Bessbrook players to slot over another big score. Level. Bessbrook fought back and kicked a well worked score to go back ahead. Enter injured LCC captain Dara Mooney.

From the next kickout Emmet Morrison breaks the ball to Eoghan Rua teammate Connor Mullan who kicks long into Mooney who collects on the 45-yard line on the right hand sideline. Mooney jinks and dummies his marker before striking the ball right footed, beautiful, it sails over the bar - score of the game. Massive lift. Bessbrook respond with two well worked scores in quick succession before Mooney, who had been only on the pitch 3 minutes at this stage, ran at the Bessbrook defence before setting up Conor Kearney to point to leave a single score between the teams, Bessbrook ahead 1-9 to 1-8. This

marked a period of dominance for LCC as Bessbrook would go 10 minutes without a score. From the next kickout, O'Kane makes another massive fetch in the middle of the field and takes off driving through the heart of Bessbrook's defence, then cracks an un-stoppable shot to the net to put Loreto in the lead. Turning point.

Paul Rafferty pointed again in the 44th minute to leave LCC 3 points up. Bessbrook came back to life, with their full forward kicking three excellent free kicks, off the ground and against a strong breeze. Sides level again. Then in the 51st minute LCC hit on the break, with Ben Dillon doing the same as he did in the semi-final, playing a lovely weighted switch ball, this time from the left wing, to the on running Conor Kearney to slot into the net. Dillon then pointed himself after great play from Pearce McGonigle and LCC were 4 points up 3-10 to 1-12 with 5 minutes left to play.

A disastrous 90 seconds allowed Bessbrook to score 3 points to leave 1 in it. Mooney had a big chance to kill the game off in the 58th minute but the keeper made a smart save and won a free. From the resulting free, the ball falls to Kearney to score and leave 2 points in it.

The game entered injury time and Bessbrook needed the goal. They were fortunate in the first half to be gifted a goal, but they didn't look like they would be able to penetrate the Loreto defence for one all game. LCC repelled attack after attack.



Bessbrook slotted a score to leave one in it but time was running out. In their last attack Gillen, Mooney and McKeever make big tackles to win the ball back and the final whistle goes. 3-11 to 1-16.

Relief. Euphoria. Job done.

The Treanor Cup was coming to the North Coast for the first time ever!

- First time winners of the Treanor Cup in LCC history.
- First 'B' title in 19 years for Loreto after several Ulster titles in 'C' competitions.
- First LCC team to field in the 'A' division in the Rannafast Cup in Sept 2017.
- History makers.

<http://www.danskebankulsterschoolsgaa.com/coleraine-treanor-cup-champions/>
<https://www.derrynow.com/gaa/late-kearney-point-seals-ulster-title-loreto-treanor-cup-thriller/155994>

Mr Murtagh

TREANOR CUP MEDAL PRESENTATION

Members of the Treanor Cup team were presented with their medals and the Cup itself at a special Assembly on Thursday 22nd June. The team members also received specially commissioned jerseys to commemorate their Treanor Cup win. Paul Rafferty received an award of Man of the Match for the Final, while the trophy itself was presented to Dara Mooney, team captain.

Congratulations once again to the team members and their coaches, Mr Murtagh and Mr Deighan.



Back row L-R Leo Passmore (Eoghan Rua), Connor Mullan (Eoghan Rua), Paul Rafferty (Glenullin), Oisín Doherty (Ballerin), Cathal Bradley (Glenullin), Ethan McAfee (Rasharkin), Donal O'Kane (Glenullin), Luke McKendry, James Mullan (Glenullin), Kosta Papachristopolous (Ballerin), Aidan Gillen (Kilrea), Ben Dillon (Dungiven), Cathaoir McCloskey (Dunloy), Ziemek Brzozowski (Glenullin).

Front row L-R Daniel Burns (Ballerin), Michael Og McKeown (Glenullin), Conn Kilmartin (Glenullin), Sean Scullion (Dunloy), Emmet Morrison (Eoghan Rua), Neil Moloney (Eoghan Rua), Odhran McLarnon (VC) (Kilrea), John Butcher (Limavady), Conor Kearney (Glenullin), Eoin McKeever (VC) (Dungiven), Pearce McGonigle (Eoghan Rua), Dara Mooney (Captain) (Eoghan Rua).



Treanor Cup Champions 2017

YEAR 9 & 10 GAELIC

McDevitt Cup - Wednesday 28th September 2016

Mr Murphy tells the story of the Year 9/10 team's season.

Loreto V Holy Cross, Strabane

This was always going to be a tough game for Loreto, but playing with a strong breeze in the first half should have given them a solid foundation on which to build. This was not to be the case, however, as the Loreto boys failed to really click together at any stage. Three points in a row against the breeze for the Loreto lads showed what they were up against. A fine point from Michael Og McKeown set Loreto on the way, but Strabane responded with two more of their own. Conn Kilmartin put another one on the board after sixteen minutes, but a goal and a pint from Strabane within a minute put them firmly in control of the game. Pearce McGonigle and Conn Kilmartin points steadied Loreto again, but a second Strabane goal shortly before half time left Loreto with a lot of work to do in the second half.

Half time score: Loreto 0-4 Strabane 2-6

Loreto began the second half much more positively with points from Kosta Papa and Michael Og McKeown. Strabane replied with a point before Michael added another for Loreto. Four in a row from Strabane in a four minute spell kept them firmly in control of the game. Two pointed frees from Pearce McGonigle kept Loreto hopes alive, but a point and two goals from Strabane crushed Coleraine's hopes of a late comeback. Fionn Calvert added a late goal for Loreto before Strabane added the final point of the game.

Some tired legs after championship games the night before this game meant some of the Loreto lads really struggled through the game. Nonetheless Loreto did have several goal chances that went narrowly wide or were well saved by the Strabane keeper. However, a win in the second and final group match will still see them qualify for the knockout stages of this competition.

Full time score: Loreto 1-9 Strabane 4-12

Loreto V Ballygawley

The pressure was on the Loreto lads to win this game otherwise their season was over before it has barely started and they responded to the challenge admirably. After three minutes Fionn Calvert scored his second goal in two games. Ballygawley replied with two pointed frees, but Loreto came back with two points from Emmett Morrison, the first of which came from a great solo run up the pitch. Another Ballygawley point came only after some great goalkeeping from Conor McGillan. Kosta Papa then scored a goal which was really a long range effort at a point, but was misjudged by the keeper. Ballygawley came back again with another point just before Conn Kilmartin netted for his first of the game. Three points in a row restored some confidence in the Ballygawley team, but Loreto finished the half the stronger scoring three more points, one from Cathaoir McCloskey, one from Conn Kilmartin and the third from a Pearse McGonigle free kick.

Half time score: Loreto 3-5 Ballygawley 0-7

A Sean Scullion point got Loreto off the mark in the first minute of the second half. A Ballygawley goal five minutes later could have given them a great boost, except Kosta Papa replied within a minute with another goal for Loreto. Strong defensive play from Cathaoir Coyle, Neil Moloney and Conor Mullan kept the Ballygawley side at arm's length. Felix Kilmartin scored his final point of the game twelve minutes into the second half, with a Ballygawley free nineteen minutes in being their last score of the game. A string of six points in a row came from Conn, Emmett Kosta, Cathaoir McCloskey and two from Pearse McGonigle.

Full time score: Loreto 4-12 Ballygawley 1-8

Loreto v Ballyshannon, 15th November

After Ballyshannon scored the first point of the game Loreto replied with a string of seven points, two from both Emmett Morrison and Kosta Papa, one each from Cathaoir McCloskey, Meil Moloney and Michael Og McKeown. Ballyshannon hearts were raised with a well taken goal, but Loreto re-established control again with points from Pearce McGonigle and John Butcher. A further two Ballyshannon points followed but Loreto continued to dominate with points from Kosta, Emmett, Pearce, Michael Og and Conn Kilmartin. All was looking great for the Coleraine side until they went to sleep in the last minute of the first half, conceding two goals.

This left the half time score 1-16 to 3-3. Despite the disappointment of the two goals at the end, to score sixteen points in a half was outstanding.

Ballyshannon were much more competitive in the second half and scored the first couple of points before Conn added one for Loreto. The Donegal side score the next point, the only one in the entire game from a free kick! Pearce got two more, which was matched by Ballyshannon. Emmett then added a fine goal to his impressive tally, before John and Conn got two more. Another period of Ballyshannon pressure resulted in two points then a goal from a penalty. Emmett once more steadied the ship with another point, followed by a goal from Kosta. The game looked all but over until two Ballyshannon goals in a minute, the first after a couple of fine saves from Conor McGillan, brought Ballyshannon back into it. Another Ballyshannon point was added before Pearce settled Coleraine nerves with a final Loreto goal. One finishing point for Ballyshannon brought this pulsating match to an end.

This was an impressive day for Loreto's point tally, with nine different players scoring. There were great performances from Conor Mullan, Cathaoir Coyle,

Danny McGarry, Neil Moloney and Thomas Mailey in defence as well. We just need to block some of the holes that appeared before our next game which is in the quarter finals.

Final score: Loreto Coleraine 5-21 Ballyshannon 6-12

McDEVITT CUP ¼ FINAL Loreto Coleraine v St Louis' Kilkeel Monday 21st November 2016

Playing on a perfect 4G surface, despite the freezing temperatures, the Loreto lads scored the first two points of the game, from Pearce McGonigle and Emmett Morrison. A goal on the break from Kilkeel failed to rattle the Coleraine side, who then scored five points in a row, from Pearce, three from Michael Og McKeown and one from Kosta Papa. It was the 28th minute of the half before Kilkeel registered their first point. Another from Michael Og just before the break left the half time scores: Loreto 0-8 Kilkeel 1-1.

The Co Down boys looked a different side in the second half, scoring a point in the first minute. Emmett replied two minutes later with a great point after a long solo run up the pitch. Two more Kilkeel points followed before Emmett

added another for Loreto. Kilkeel replied again two minutes later before Emmett scored his fourth point of the match. Kilkeel came back again with another point before a speculative shot from Pearce was misjudged by the Kilkeel goalkeeper and the ball ended up in the back of the net.

Coleraine seemed to think they had the game won at this stage and sat back, only to see Kilkeel score two more points and a goal, scored from a penalty, which brought the game level with ten minutes to play. Loreto managed to pull themselves together and score the final three points of the game, two from Pearce and one from Conn Kilmartin.

Some great goalkeeping from Conor McGilligan was once more in evidence, while Danny McGarry, Neil Moloney Thomas Mailey, Conor Mullan and Cathaoir McCloskey were all solid in defence. Semi-final up next!

Final Score: Loreto Coleraine 1-14 St Louis' Kilkeel 2-8

Our Year 10 Gaelic team played their Ulster Semi Final under lights in Strabane on a wet, windy Tuesday evening. Mr Murphy (team coach) reports on a match in which our team made us very proud.



Loreto v Falcarragh, Donegal - Tuesday 7th December 2016

Conditions for the game were wet and windy, but the surface on the Sigerson's pitch in Strabane where the game was played, was immaculate. Falcarragh opened the scoring with a fortunate goal in the first minute. Pearce McGonigle and Kosta replied, before Conor McGillan made an outstanding save from point blank range. Two more Falcarragh points kept them ahead before Loreto scores from Felix Kilmartin, Michael Og McKeown and Emmett Morrison kept the Coleraine boys in touch. The teams then traded points up to half time with Loreto's point coming from Emmett again. Another great save from Conor right at the end of the half meant Loreto went in at half time a point down, 0-7 to 1-5. Despite having the wind in this half we had not played well and knew

there was a lot to do in the second half. A goal from Emmett at the very start of the second half was just what Loreto needed, but Falcarragh then replied with a goal and three points of their own. Just when Falcarragh seemed to be getting on top, Conn Kilmartin popped up with an opportunist goal. Michael Og added one more to bring Loreto level with three minutes to play. A Falcarragh point in the thirtieth minute seemed to have won it, but Pearce popped up with a point to equalise. Loreto may even have gone on to win the game in normal time if it had not been for the strong wind. All square 2-9 to 2-9...extra time!

In the first ten minutes of extra time Kosta and Michael Og added two

for Loreto while Falcarragh scored one of their own. Loreto would later regret the number of missed chances during this crucial period of play. In the second period of extra time Loreto failed to score while Falcarragh scored a goal and six points. They took much better advantage of the wind than Loreto had.

Final score 2-11 to 3-16.

The Loreto Year 9 & 10s did themselves proud. They ran until they dropped, some of them literally, and there were some outstanding performances throughout the pitch. It is bitterly disappointing to fall at the semi-final stage of any competition but every one of the players knows that next year the challenge is to go one step further.

YEAR 9 GAELIC - FAUL CUP

The Year 9 Gaelic squad, coached by Mr C Deighan and Mr E McCloskey, contested the Ulster Semi Final against De La Salle, Belfast, on Wednesday 26th April. The team finished top of their group in the Ulster Schools Faul Cup blitz on Friday 31st March. Unfortunately De La Salle edged ahead to win by just a few points on

the day, but the Loreto team put in a great performance throughout the match and the competition. There is much to anticipate from these players in the years ahead.

The team members were:

Eunan Boylan, Patrick Black, Jude Mullan, Cathaoir Coyle, Conor McNicholl, Patrick McGill,

Michael McAlister, Anton McIntyre, Felix Kilmartin, Peter Passmore, Cormac Carr, Donal Heaney, Eunan McGonigle, Cahir McNicholl, Barry McCloskey, Conor Irwin, Lorcan Calvert, Daire Kelly, Sean McAleese, Sullivan Quinn, Sean McKelvey, Peter Wells, Niall McKeever, Fionn Calvert, Ronan Close, and Adam Mullan (all Year 8/9).



Year 8 Gaelic

We welcomed our new intake of Y8 Gaelic footballers in September 2016 and they followed a GAA programme run by Mr McCloskey after school. The Y8 Gaelic season is more stretched out than the other age groups, with two competitions - one in Term 1 and the other in Term 3.

Oisín McGrath Shield 2016

Loreto were drawn in the Grade 'C' level of the competition and travelled to Belfast to take on Aquinas Grammar, St. Malachy's Belfast and Rathmore Grammar in a

blitz format with the top two teams progressing to the Ulster QFs. The team had great wins over St. Malachy's and Rathmore but lost to a strong Aquinas side in the group stages. As a result, the team progressed to the Ulster QFs to take on Tyrone school St. Ciaran's Ballygawley.

**Ulster QF
Loreto 6-1 vs.
St. Ciaran's Ballygawley 10-9**

Our Y8s lost out in the Ulster QF played in Meadowbank 4G at the start of December to a strong Ballygawley side. In a really super

game to watch, goals flew in for both sides but it was St. Ciaran's composure to take points when they needed them that proved to be the difference. Special mention should go to Eoghan Rua's Patrick Kelly who scored 5 of the Loreto goals in this game!

Aquinas Grammar went on to win the Grade 'C' Oisín McGrath Shield for the first time.

Plenty of learning done for this young side with their first taste of Ulster Schools football. The team then joined up with the Y9 squad to compete for the Faul Cup in Term 2.



JM Murphy Cup 2017

In Term 3 the team was reassembled to begin preparations for the next Ulster competition held in June. Once again, our Y8s were to travel to Belfast to take on similar opposition to Term 1 - hosts Aquinas Grammar, St. Malachy's Belfast, Rathmore Grammar and finally De La Salle Belfast were a late addition to the group. Same as before, top two teams would qualify for the Grade 'C' finals.

Loreto were superb in the opening game against De La Salle Belfast, running out comfortable winners with Peter Passmore, Adam Mullan and Tochi Jide-Ojo all in dominant form. LCC then defeated Rathmore easily in their next game. LCC were now onto their third game in a row with St. Malachy's Belfast up next and we missed a few really good chances to take the game. The sides were level for the last 5 minutes but in injury time St. Malachy's scored a winning point. In the final group game Loreto went down to a very strong Aquinas team but with the way other results and score difference worked out, we qualified for the Ulster finals along with Aquinas.

<http://aquinasgrammar.com/2017/06/year-8-gaelic-footballers-win-jm-murphy-cup/> for more match photos



JM Murphy Cup Ulster Finals 2017

6 teams had qualified for the Ulster 'C' finals day with two groups of 3 teams formed to decide who would reach the semi finals:
Group A - Loreto Coleraine, St. Joseph's Coalisland and St. Paul's Bessbrook
Group B - Aquinas Grammar, St. Ciaran's Ballygawley and St. Joseph's Crossmaglen

We took on Coalisland in the first game and missed several good goal chances in the first half. At half time we were 4 points down and needed a big boost. Eoghan Rua's Patrick Kelly started to run at the Coalisland defence and we got ourselves back into the game with a great goal from PK. Peter Wells and Peter Passmore both kicked great scores and we were now level approaching the end of the game. We had several good chances to take the win but at the death Coalisland

hit us on the break and scored a winner.

In the second game we took on St. Paul's Bessbrook. The game was end to end with some great scores taken. Bessbrook ran out winners and sadly we were eliminated from the competition.

Y8 football is extremely competitive at this level and really it all depends on the day how these results go. With the chances we had we should have been out of sight against Coalisland, yet they went the whole way to the final!

We look forward to continuing the development of this young squad and to see what this group of players can do in the new year as a Y9 squad when mixed with our new batch of Y8s.

Mr Murtagh

HURLING

Mr Boyle takes up the story of our various hurling teams this year.

LORETO CLAIM FIRST MAGUIRE CUP HURLING TITLE

The Year 12 hurling team of Loreto College, Coleraine, claimed its first Maguire Cup hurling title on Tuesday 21st March. Playing in blizzard-like conditions against tough opposition at MUSA, Cookstown, Loreto prevailed for a hard fought victory.

In what was literally the last puck in the last of three group games, a late Conor McKelvey equalising point against St Michael's, Enniskillen, put Loreto through to the semi-finals. The Coleraine hurlers also came through the group stage unbeaten, securing a win over St.Columb's Derry, and another draw against Dungloe. Conor Moore, Conor McKelvey and Dara Mooney, all shone in those games.

Some spectacular saves from goalkeeper, Leo Passmore, and excellent defending from Oisín Doherty, Cahir Coll and Anthony

Christopher, prevented any clear goal threats from a good Dungloe team in the semi-final victory. Loreto and St.Michael's, Enniskillen, met again to contest the final in horrible conditions which didn't help either team when trying to create any clear scoring opportunities. Conor Moore was fantastic in the game while his teammates, Callum Boorman and Dara Mooney, went through a lot of work. The entire Loreto defence were solid - as it had been throughout the blitz. Largely because of really poor visibility, and despite Loreto having a seemingly perfect Connloath McGee goal disallowed, the game finished 0-1 to 0-1. In extra time the Arctic-like conditions got worse. However, out of nowhere, as the referee was about to raise his whistle towards his mouth for full time, Conor Moore calmly stroked over the cup winning point.

SENIOR HURLING: CASEMENT SHIELD

Our senior hurlers competed in the Casement Shield again this year. Unfortunately, two hard fought draws against two good Donegal teams, Crana College and Scoil Mhuire Buncrana, were not enough to qualify from the group stages held at Owenbeg in October. On another day, perhaps the golden opportunities in front of goal that were missed might have been taken.

The team and their coaches, Mr Callum Boyle, Mr Eddie McCloskey and Mr Ryan McAfee were congratulated on a superb win by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



In the team photo, you can see: Back row (from left to right): Dara Mooney, Seamus Donaghy, Ryan Connolly, Conor Moore, Leo Passmore, Anthony Christopher, Peadar O'hOisín, Oisín Doherty, Cathair McCloskey, Sean Scullion.

Front row (from left to right): Conor McKelvey, Kosta Papachristopolous, Thomas Doran, Cahir Coll, Connloath McGee, Dara McGoldrick (capt.), Callum Boorman, Jonathan Meehan, Eoin McKeever, Oliver Clyde, Conor McAleese.

YEAR 12 HURLING: MAGUIRE CUP

The Year 12 Hurling panel topped their blitz section in early March to qualify for the Finals Blitz of the Maguire Ulster Cup: well done to the team and to Mr McCloskey and Mr Boyle.

On a very cold, occasionally snowy 21st March, the team went on to win the Maguire Cup - well done to the team and their coaches on a fantastic achievement!



YEAR 10 HURLING: BR MALLON CUP

Sadly, the school could not win a fourth successive Mallon Cup this year! On reflection, the boys will rue a slow start in the first half against St. Patrick's, Dungiven. Two quick goals and a point at the start of the second half brought Loreto back into contention, but towards the

end Dungiven were able to convert another couple of chances to put a dramatic comeback beyond reach. A heavy second defeat to a very dominant and physically imposing St. Paul's, Kilrea, proved fatal to our three-year reign over the Br Mallon Cup since 2014.



YEARS 8 AND 9 HURLING: REHILL CUP

The Rehill Cup team did well to reach the semi-final section. Defeat to very strong opposition in the form of Colaiste Doire and Crana College was a big disappointment to the boys who played with great spirit and determination, but this experience was also a good introduction to hurling for the school for many of our new Year 8s who showed plenty of talent and promise.

TRIUMPH FOR LORETO COLLEGE'S YEAR 8 HURLERS

Loreto College, Coleraine, won the Ulster Colleges Year 8 C grade hurling tournament at the Mid-Ulster Arena, Cookstown, on Friday 26th May 2017.

The Coleraine school's Year 8 team made it through a tough group consisting of St. Benedict's Randalstown, St. Patrick's Bearnageeha, Belfast, and St Paul's, Kilrea. Throughout those three games Loreto did not concede a single goal - winning them all convincingly to finish top of the group. This was due to an excellent collective defensive effort.

The semi-final against Colaiste Feirste was Loreto's first real test in the tournament. Throughout the first half there was nothing to separate the two teams, with both having a number of chances saved or miss the target. The game was very much in the balance until Peter Passmore caught the ball directly from a Cathaoir McFerran puck-out and ran through Colaiste Feirste's defence to put the ball in the net.

Facing a good St. Mary's, Clady, team in the final, Barry McCloskey fired home the opening goal for Loreto while Peter Passmore stroked over two fine points from frees to create a five point lead. However, Clady kicked into gear before the end of the first half and scored the first goal against Loreto in the tournament despite a great effort to prevent it from Dunloy Cuchullains, duo Sean McAleese and Ruairi Martin. Soon after, two quick Clady points left the game all square at half time. Similarly to how they ended the first half, Clady began the second half very strongly by scoring a great goal against a stiff breeze. Loreto was up against it, but the first years dug deep and clawed their way back into the game, creating chance after chance. Peter Passmore was deadly accurate from frees all day and he knocked over two points to leave a one point deficit. Then, in the last few minutes of the game, player of the tournament,

Peter Passmore, scored the winning goal to claim the cup for Loreto.

The Loreto team members were: Cathair McFerran, Ruairi Martin, Sean McAleese, Barry McCloskey, Cara Kearney, Peter Passmore, Peter Wells, Sean McKelvey, Oran Doherty, Edward Mulholland, Niamh McGarry, Colleen Heaney, Donal Heaney, Adam Mullan.

The team and their coaches, Mr Callum Boyle, Mr Eddie McCloskey and Mr Eoin Barry, were congratulated on this superb victory by Mr Michael James, College Principal, on behalf of all the staff and students of Loreto College.



The Year 8 Hurling Team from Loreto College Coleraine, winners of the Ulster C Hurling Tournament.

CAMOGIE

Mrs McGoldrick tells the story of the 2016-2017 Camogie season.

First into the fray this year were the **Junior Camogs** (years 10 - 12). Our first game was against St Paul's and, despite a number of training sessions, we were a little rusty! Tiegan Mullan, one of our best players, was also out injured. So our campaign did not get off to a very promising start. Despite sterling work from Sarah McAllister, Clare White and Kate Doherty in defence, we lost this opening game on a score line of 1:2 to 5:1. However, a lot can be learned from defeats and we definitely improved as the next few games would show. In our next game against St Mark's, we were much sharper- and Tiegan was back. With goals from Cait Passmore, Courtney McKeague and Chloe Mullan, we ran out winners 3:7 to 0:1. Our final game in the group was against St Pius, Magherafelt, who had won all their games so far. Although we were underdogs this would be our best performance of the season. Our forwards certainly found their scoring touch that day, especially Dearbhla McCrossan who finished the game with an impressive tally of 3:1. Tiegan, operating at centre half forward and free taker, proved a real handful for the St. Pius defenders while both Shauna (McGonigle) and Courtney got goals. At midfield Chloe and Sorcha (Duggan) worked tirelessly - also contributing scores: Chloe 1:0 Sorcha 0:1 (off her weak side!).

By half time we were winning 4:2 to 0:1! In the second half our defence was really put under pressure as St Pius came looking scores. Kirsty (McFerran) was a stalwart in goals with her long puck outs relieving the pressure. Orla Carey, finally getting to play in defence, was superb. Also impressive were Erin Kelly and our two youngest players, Cait McAtamney and Erin McNicholl. St Pius did score- 5 goals! However

we managed to get another two goals ourselves which meant a final score of 6:2 to 5:1. We had won!!

That victory and a facile semi-final draw meant we would face St Pius again in the Cup final. This was another very close encounter and we certainly had chances to win the game. The smallest of margins separated the teams at half time and in fact we were leading with about 5 minutes to go but, despite great work by all our defence, we just could not secure the scores we needed. Tiegan was the standout player- from both teams - but victory went to St Pius on this occasion. A great campaign in which the girls really improved from that first game against St Paul's. Hopefully next year we'll go one step further!

The Loreto Junior camogie team's season resulted in heartbreak, as their unbelievable run in the Liatroim Fontenoy's Cup ended with a devastating loss to St Pius X in the final.

Despite being a relatively young team, Loreto gave an extremely strong performance in the final. Captain Tiegan Mullan began the match in her usual manner, scoring a point from play almost immediately. St Pius launched an attack from their puckout, but were unable to get a major score, thanks to Sarah McAllister and Kate Doherty's hard work in defence. A dangerous ball into the square was expertly handled by Kirsty McFerran, who found Dearbhla McCrossan on the clearance for an inspirational long range point. At half time, the teams were level with 2 points a piece, however this did not reflect the standard of camogie that was being played by both teams.

St Pius launched an attack at the beginning of the second half, and

soon established a 3 point lead. However, thanks to Claire White, Sorcha Duggan and Erin Kelly, the St Pius scores did not come easily. Soon, Loreto began to attack the St Pius' lead, with Tiegan opening the Loreto scores in the half with an excellent point from a free, soon followed by another from play. However, despite the best efforts of Naoise Kennedy and Cait Passmore, the Loreto girls were unable to get the goal they desperately needed. As the team tired, Caite McAtamney and Erin McNicholl, both year 10s playing on a year 12 team, showed that they were just as capable as any other player on the field. Chloe Mullan led by example in midfield, refusing to give up even as the St Pius' lead increased, and was rewarded for her efforts with an amazing long range point. This saw the tide begin to turn in favour of the Coleraine girls, and with 10 minutes to go Shauna McGonigle redeemed herself from her earlier yellow card and scored the much needed goal to push the Loreto girls into a 2 point lead. This seemed to give new life to the Loreto forwards, with efforts from Cáit Passmore and Courtney McKeague dropping wide. St Pius responded quickly on the restart and found the back of Loreto's net from a goalmouth scramble. An inspirational catch by Orlagh Carey from the puckout led to a last minute desperate attack by Loreto, and Tiegan closed the scoring with a final point. St Pius' won by 3 points 1:9-1:6, and the Loreto girls were undoubtedly unlucky not to finish their year as Ulster Junior Champions.

Squad: K. McFerran, E. Kelly, S. McAllister, C. McAtamney, K. Doherty, O. Carey, C. White, S. Duggan, C.Mullan, N. Kennedy, T. Mullan, S. McGonigle, C. Passmore, C. McKeague, E. McNicholl, C. Moore, N. Mooney

SENIOR CAMOGIE

This was a disappointing season for a team with a lot of potential. The girls trained well but unfortunately we lost the two games in the group stages against St Pius and St Catherine's, Armagh. Study commitments combined with injuries meant we never had a full squad. There's no doubt however

that training with these older girls helped the junior camogs to progress. In particular, Bronagh McNicholl, Daire McKenna and Mollie Maguire were great in assisting with coaching sessions for the younger camogs. Thanks very much girls.

Squad: B. McNicholl (C), D. McKenna, M. Maguire, A. Bradley, S. Doherty, R. McMurrugh, A. Carr, K. McAllister, E. Carey, C. Doherty, S. Moore, E. White, M. Ingram, A. Ingram, K. McFerran (Y12), T. Mullan (Y12), O. Carey (Y12), S. Duggan (Y12), D. McCrossan (Y11), C. Mullan (Y11).



Senior Camogie Team

YEARS 8 – 10

Attendance at after school training was very encouraging. At the opening blitz we lost our opening game to St Patrick's, Dungannon but victories over St Paul's and St Mary's, Clady meant that we progressed to a semi-final with Our Lady and St. Patrick's, Knock, who were very strong and would actually go on to win the competition outright. However, there are some great young players coming through, especially Year 9s, so hopefully next year will see further progress.

Squad: Year 10: C.McAtamney

(C.), C.McIntyre, N.McAllister, Caitlin Campbell, Caoimhe Campbell, E. McNicholl, A.Turner, O. McEwan, N. Mooney

Year 9: L. O Kane, M. Coyle, C. Cassidy, B. McGonigle, M. Doran, C.Kearney, C. McAlary, C. Calvert, E. Maguire, I. Healey, E.Turner, O.Cunningham, C. McLaughlin, G.McIntyre

Year 8: C. Kearney, N.McGarry

YEAR 8s

We only had about twelve year 8s but what they lacked in numbers they certainly made up for with enthusiasm! Our first game was

against St. Pat's, Dungannon who had about 25 players! We lost this game - we were just a little slow to get going - but in the rest of our games we would go on to defeat St. Paul's, St Pius and St Mary's Clady. Cara Kearney and Niamh McGarry were outstanding at midfield but the attitude and work rate of the entire squad was tremendous. Well done girls!

Squad: C. Kearney (C), N. McGarry, C. Heaney, E Cassidy, C. Eagan, A. Doherty, C. McRwan, A. Darragh, C. Moore, O. Mullam, C. Mullan, C. McColgan, M.J. McNicholl, A. Mcllvar

Mrs S McGoldrick



Junior Camogie Team

THE KELLY MCGOLDRICK MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT THURSDAY 15th JUNE 2017

The year 8 Loreto girls represented the school brilliantly in this excellently run camogie blitz held annually in Greenlough GAC by St. Mary's College Clady. Placed in a very tough group, the girls won 4 out of 5 games, meaning that they narrowly missed out in playing in a final. The girls beat St Killian's Garron Tower, St Paul's

Kilrea, St Pius Magherafelt and St Mary's Clady with all girls playing their part. The girls got beaten by eventual winners Cross and Passion Ballycastle.

Captain Cara Kearney was selected as player of the tournament for Loreto by the tournament organisers.



NETBALL

Ms Wilson takes up the baton to describe our Netball season.

We had excellent results this netball year. The Minor A team won their section of the Coleraine and District League, while the Intermediate A team were runners-up in their section of the same league. The Senior B team were runners-up in their section of the League. The Year 8 team won the Year 8 Coleraine and District Tournament. Well done to all, and thank you to all the girls who turned up faithfully to training each week.

Ms J Wilson

LORETO WIN LOCAL NETBALL TOURNAMENT

A combined Year 9 and Year 8 netball team from Loreto College Coleraine took part in an Inter-Schools Netball tournament hosted by Dominican College Portstewart as the Autumn Term drew to a close.

victorious in the final with a score of Loreto 8, Dominican 4. Loreto was represented by Jody Canning, Megan Coyle, Jessie McGilligan, Anna O'Kane, Erin McKeever, Eabh McIlvenny, Niamh McGarry, Sandra Kamzal, Zofia Czajka and Jennie McGuinness.

Ms Julie Wilson, who coached and accompanied the successful Loreto side, paid tribute to the Dominican College AS Level students who had organised the event and congratulated the Loreto team on their success.

The tournament was organised by Dominican College AS Level Sports Studies students as a component of their coursework. A very well-run event saw four local teams taking part: Dominican College, Loreto College, Coleraine College and North Coast Integrated College. The event was a fundraiser for Habitat For Humanity, with prizes sponsored by Osborne's Butchers, Portstewart.

All teams played one another in a round-robin tournament before the top two teams, Dominican College and Loreto College, faced one another in the Final. The Loreto College team emerged

The Loreto College team, and Ms J Wilson, winners of the Inter Schools Netball tournament hosted by Dominican College.



Students from Loreto College, Dominican College, Coleraine College and North Coast Integrated College who took part in an Inter-Schools Netball tournament at Dominican College.

NETBALL SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

Shortly after the Halloween break, eight netballers from Loreto College attended North East Regional Development Academy Trials in Belfast High School. Three Year 9 girls, Alana Burns, Erin Ferguson and Cara McLaughlin, were successful in being selected to attend the U13 training offered

by Netball NI over 8 sessions. All three girls were part of the Regional Development Academy as Year 8 students, last year.

Meanwhile, Tolupe Jide-Ojo, who is a Loreto College Year 10 student, was successful at Under 15 Future Internationals Academy level, having

attended trials in October, and she began training sessions at the Foyle Arena after Half Term.

Mrs Maureen McCullough, Head of PE at Loreto College, congratulated all four girls on their success, commenting that all at Loreto hoped that they would one day see them playing representative netball.

SUCCESSFUL YEAR 8 NETBALL TOURNAMENT FOR LORETO COLLEGE

The annual Coleraine and District Netball tournament was hosted by Loreto College on Thursday 9th March 2017, with teams from Dunluce School, Cross and Passion College Ballycastle, Limavady Grammar School, Limavady High School, Our Lady of Lourdes High

School Ballymoney, Dominican College Portstewart, Dalriada School, North Coast Integrated College Coleraine and Ballymoney High School taking part.

After a day of lively competition, hosts Loreto College emerged as

Tournament winners, with team member Niamh McGarry winning the Player of the Tournament award.

Loreto College PE teacher and Netball coach Ms Julie Wilson paid tribute to the team members and to all the visiting teams and teachers on an excellent day's competition.



Loreto College Coleraine, winners of the Coleraine & District Year 8 Netball Tournament, with their Coach Ms Julie Wilson.



Niamh McGarry of Loreto College, Player of the Tournament at the Coleraine & District Year 8 Netball Tournament, with Mrs Lisa McElwee-Muldoon, Secretary of the Coleraine & District Netball Association

NEBSSA NETBALL SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE YEAR 8 TEAM

The Year 8 Netball team from Loreto College Coleraine took the NEBSSA Year 8 title after an excellent tournament hosted by Coleraine College on Friday 31st March 2017.

The tournament was contested by a total of ten schools: Ballymena

Academy, Cambridge House, Coleraine College, Cross and Passion College, Dominican College Portstewart, Dunclug High School, Loreto College, North Coast Integrated College, St Killian's College and St Louis' Grammar Ballymena. The schools

were organised into two groups with a round-robin tournament played throughout the morning. In the course of the morning, Loreto lost 6-4 to St Killian's, defeated St Louis' GS 10-1, defeated Coleraine College 9-1 and defeated Cambridge House 13-1. The semi-finals saw Loreto scoring an impressive 11-8 win over Ballymena Academy while St Killian's won through against Dominican College. The final was a tightly contested match between Loreto College and St Killian's, finishing in a 15-9 win for Loreto College.

Ms Julie Wilson, coach of the Loreto College team, paid tribute to the organisers of the event and the hosts, Coleraine College. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, congratulated the Year 8 team members and Ms Wilson on a superb win in a busy day of successful fixtures and at the end of an excellent season of netball for the team.

The Loreto College Year 8 Netball team captain and teacher Ms J Wilson receive the NEBSSA Year 8 Shield.



The Loreto College Year 8 Netball team, winners of the NEBSSA tournament hosted in Coleraine College, with coach Ms J Wilson.



YEAR 9 NETBALL SUCCESS STORY

The Minor A team (Year 9) had a great season. They defeated Limavady Grammar 20-6, defeated Dominican College Portstewart 16-5 and defeated Ballymoney High School 15-1, taking the Coleraine and District League title. The girls celebrated their success with Ms Wilson and Mrs McCullough at Pizza Pomodoro on 14th June.

The Minor B team played two friendly matches, drawing 6-6 with North Coast Integrated College and defeating Dominican College Portstewart 4-1.

JUNIOR A NETBALL

The Junior A team - Year 10 played four matches. They lost 24-2 to Limavady Grammar, defeated Dalriada 16-15, lost 11-10 to Our Lady of Lourdes HS and defeated Coleraine College 14-3, as well as recording a win against Cross and Passion College who defaulted on a match.

INTERMEDIATE NETBALL

We had two Intermediate teams: Intermediate A, composed mostly of Year 12s with some Year 11s, and Intermediate B, composed of Year 11 girls.

The Intermediate A team lost 24-5 to Cross and Passion College's A team, and drew 13-13 with Cross and Passion College's B team. In their final fixture, the girls defeated Dalriada 24-3.

The Intermediate B team, meanwhile, defeated Ballymoney High School 22-9, defeated North Coast Integrated College 26-4, lost 26-24 to Limavady Grammar and lost 16-26 to Limavady High School.

SENIOR NETBALL

The Senior B team, composed of Year 13 girls, played in Section 2 of the Coleraine and District League. In their two competitive fixtures, the girls lost 24-8 to Cross and Passion College and drew 11-11 with Dominican College Portstewart.



SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS ACADEMY SPENDS DAY AT LORETO COLLEGE

A group from the Sports Academy from the township of George, South Africa spent a day at Loreto College on 6th October as part of their tour to Northern Ireland.

Sports Academy George aims to select talented sports people from the Township of George and give them a chance to improve their skills both physically, mentally, socially and spiritually and thus many either go on to further studies or good employment. During the group's time in Northern Ireland, it was due to play only fifteen teams.

With local schools fundraising to facilitate their tour, this was the group's fourth visit to Loreto College: teams previously visited in 2010 (football), 2011 (netball) and 2015 (football). On this occasion, the Academy's netball team, the Rooicats, spent a day in Loreto College.

The highly talented visiting team sang and danced in Assembly on the morning of their visit, then spent the day shadowing the Year 12-14 girls from the netball team they played against during the afternoon.

After lunch in the Café Lorette, the team met a combined Year 12-14 Loreto netball team in the afternoon. The Sports Academy side kept up their tour's winning record during a lively game. Gifts and hugs were exchanged at the end of a very friendly competition.

Mrs Maureen McCullough, Head of PE at Loreto College, described the occasion as memorable and exciting, and paid tribute to the students who had looked after the visiting team, commenting on the friendship which had developed rapidly between the visiting netballers and their hosts. Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, was delighted to welcome the Sports Academy group back to the College and thanked all those who had made such a memorable day possible.



SOCCKER NEWS 2016-2017

The narrative passes to Mr Byrne for soccer news, with some brilliant action shots by Mr Elgin.

Top billing this year goes to the Year 8 team, who had a fantastic first season for Loreto. The boys defeated Cookstown High School 5-0, defeated Cross and Passion College Ballycastle 4-2, defeated Ballymoney High School 6-5, defeated Limavady High School 5-1 and defeated Dalriada 9-2! They went into the Coleraine and District League final with an unbeaten record, facing former opponents Cookstown High School, and held their unbeaten record, winning 4-0 to take the title.

The Year 13/14 team also had a great year. They defeated Northern Regional College 5-3, with goals by Conor Gillen (a hat trick!), Ben White and Siofan Tracey. They also defeated Dominican College Portstewart and Dalriada, reaching

the Final of the Coleraine and District League against St Mary's HS Limavady, losing narrowly in extra time.

The Year 12 team played only one fixture in a season which more or less collapsed due to the other two teams we were due to play pulling out of the competition. This meant that the Year 12s played just one competitive fixture, losing 5-0 to Limavady High School.

The Year 11 team defeated Magherafelt High School 2-1 with goals by Caleb Wan and Luke McKendry, and defeated St Mary's HS Limavady 2-1, with goals by Caolan Brennan and Caleb Wan. They lost 2-1 to Limavady High School, still making it through to the semi-final of the Coleraine and

District League. Unfortunately they lost at this stage to Limavady Grammar, with a final score of 3-1.

The Year 10 team didn't have the most successful season, losing their four fixtures against Ballymoney High School and Dominican College (playing each team twice).

The Year 9 team had a busy season. They defeated Dominican College Portstewart 5-3, with goals by Philip McCloskey, Josh Ferguson, Rafferty McKay, John Quinn and Aton McIntyre. The team lost to Cookstown High School 2-6, with goals by Anton McIntyre and John Quinn, and drew 2-2 with Cross and Passion College Ballycastle, with goals by Anton McIntyre and Oisin Phelan. The team met Dalriada in the semi final, losing 2-1.

Mr P Byrne

YEAR 8 SOCCER TITLE FOR LORETO TEAM

The Year 8 soccer team from Loreto College Coleraine emerged victorious in the final of the annual Coleraine and District League on 1st December, defeating Cookstown High School 4-0 in a fixture played in the Joey Dunlop Centre, Ballymoney.

En route to the final, the boys had faced opposition from a variety of local teams, and held an undefeated record throughout the season. The final saw them score a stylish victory over a very good Cookstown High School team. Loreto went into the game as firm favourites but a great defensive effort by Cookstown kept the game scoreless, despite the efforts of Tochi Jide-Ojo, Peter Passmore and the superb Patrick



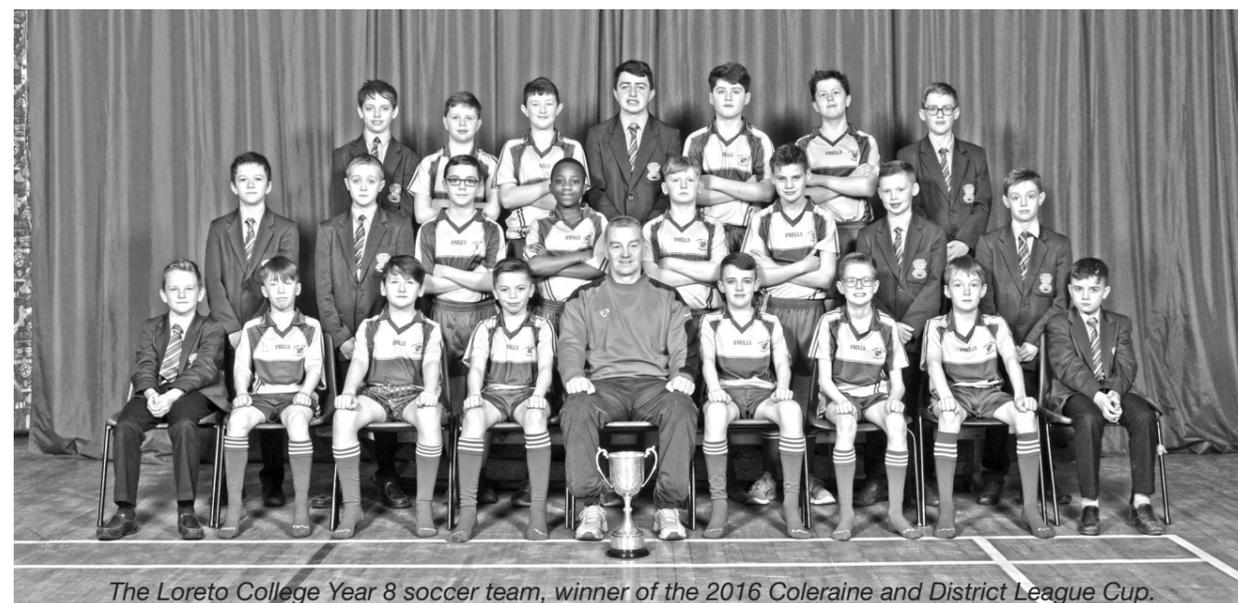
Kelly. Ten minutes from half-time the deadlock was broken, when the impressive Jamie Martin scored a terrific goal from the edge of the box. Many of the Cookstown attacks were extinguished by the collective efforts of Peter McCool, Jamie Martin, Donal Heaney and Pearse McNally, which left Loreto's talented goalkeeper Peter Wells with a quiet game.

The first half finished 1-0 to Loreto but it could have been a lot more if it hadn't been for the lightning

reactions of the Cookstown goalkeeper. The second half began as the first half had ended, with Loreto instantly applying pressure on the defence of Cookstown. The relentless pressure was rewarded when Adam Mullan lobbed the keeper from the edge of the box. Loreto then struck again shortly after when Conor Lundy smashed the ball into the Cookstown goal after some excellent work by Emmet McMorrough and Peter McCool on the wing. With five minutes to go, the icing on the

cake was applied when top scorer Tochi Jide-Ojo netted ensuring that captain Patrick Kelly would be taking the cup back to Loreto. Loreto's scorers were Jamie Martin, Adam Mullan, Conor Lundy, Tochi Jide-Ojo.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, praised the team and their coaches, teachers Mr Eddie McCloskey and Mr Paul Byrne, on their dedication and excellent play throughout the tournament and especially in the final.



The Loreto College Year 8 soccer team, winner of the 2016 Coleraine and District League Cup.



YEAR 8 IN ACTION

INTERNATIONAL CALL-UP FOR LORETO COLLEGE SOCCER STAR



A Year 8 student from Loreto College Coleraine has been selected for the Irish Football Association's Elite Performance Programme, Club NI, in the Under 13 Age Group.

Patrick Kelly was selected for the Northern Ireland Under Age Development Squad to play in the 21st International Manlio Selis Cup tournament in Sardinia from 31st May - 4th June.

Earlier in the year, Patrick took part in a busy schedule of training sessions as well as being part of the squad for the Academy of Light tournament in Sunderland.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, speaking on behalf of all the staff and students of the College, congratulated Patrick on this tremendous achievement and wished him well for his busy season of training and matches.

MORTON HALIFAX CUP FINAL - LORETO COLLEGE v ST MARY'S LIMAVADY

On Tuesday 11th April 2017, the final of the Morton Halifax Cup was held at Anderson Park, Coleraine. Competing in this year's final were the Y13/14 boys of Loreto College Coleraine and St Mary's Limavady.

With the game underway, it was Loreto controlling the early play and, although they dominated possession, there were no clear cut chances. In the 20th minute the stalemate was finally broken, Loreto's Fergal Dillon making an

excellent run into the box, beating a number of defenders before calmly slotting the ball past the advancing keeper, 1-0.

Into the second half and both teams continued to play well, creating chances but unable to convert them into goals. With less than two minutes left on the clock, St Mary's were given a life line following the awarding of a penalty which was powered into the bottom corner, 1-1. The game went into

extra time with both sides having opportunities on goal. It was to be another penalty decision which put St Mary's into the lead with another well taken strike. Loreto battled hard looking for the equaliser, creating a number of opportunities which the St Mary's keeper was able to deal with. With time running out, the Loreto boys all pushed forward in a bid to score that all important equaliser, only to be caught on the break and punished with another goal for St Mary's, 1-3 at the final whistle.





SENIORS IN ACTION

CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS

Congratulations to Niamh Carr (Year 12), winner of the Ulster Clubs' Cross Country race at Warrenpoint on Saturday 22nd October. Niamh runs for the Springwell Athletics Club. She went on to win the Ulster Clubs' race in Donegal on Sunday 6th November.

Other students who took part in the Donegal event, also representing Springwell, were Niamh McGarry (Year 8), Cara McLaughlin (Year 9), Abigail McBroom (Year 13) and Molly Brennan (Year 13). Well done to them all!



YEAR 8 CROSS COUNTRY RACE AT LORETO COLLEGE

The twenty-second annual Mary McCabe Trophy race, involving all Year 8 students, took place in blustery conditions at Loreto College Coleraine on Wednesday 25th January 2017. 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 McGarry and Cahir McFerran. Mr Paul Cuning, 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 Cuning paid tribute to Year 9 student Cormac Carr who acted as 'hare', guiding the Year 8 students around the course, to the senior students and members of staff who acted as stewards, and to the Loreto PE Department and the Year 13 students, Abigail McBroom and Niamh Boorman, who organised the event.

Mr Cuning 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 Ulster

University, along with other talented athletes from throughout the school.

Medals were presented as follows:

Girls

- 1st Niamh McGarry
- 2nd Clodagh Moore
- 3rd Rose Christopher
- 4th Cara Kearney

Boys

- 1st Cahir McFerran
- 2nd Thomas McDonnell
- 3rd Peter Passmore
- 4th Tochi Jide-Ojo.

The two individual winners, Niamh McGarry and Cahir McFerran, had their names added to the trophies to join an illustrious list of Loreto athletes. 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 Cuning and his team of Year 14 marshals who had organised the race.



Loreto College Year 8 girls line up for the annual Mary McCabe Cross Country race.



Mr Paul Cuning presents the Mary McCabe Trophy to Niamh McGarry, along with runners-up Clodagh Moore and Rose Christopher.



The winner and runners-up in the Loreto Year 8 Boys' Cross Country Race: Peter Passmore (3rd), Cahir McFerran (winner) and Thomas McDonnell (2nd).



Loreto College Year 8 boys set off on the annual Mary McCabe Cross Country race.

GOOD DAY FOR LORETO AT DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Forty students, ranging from Years 8-14, represented Loreto at the District Cross Country Championships on a cold, showery and windy winter day. The races were held over a new course at the Ulster University, Coleraine.

There were several notable successes for our students on the day, with several individuals and groups qualifying for the Ulster Finals.

In the Mini Girls race, Niamh McGarry (Year 8) was placed second; in the Minor Girls race Cara McLaughlin (Year 9) was placed ninth; Tolu Jide-Ojo (Year 10), meanwhile, took eighth place in the Junior Girls race. In the older age groups, Niamh Carr (Year 12) took first place in the Intermediate Girls race and Molly Brennan (Year 13) was third in the Senior Girls race.

Among our teams, the Mini Girls (Year 8) took tenth place, the Mini Boys (Year 8) came twelfth and the Minor Girls (Year 9) took sixth place.

Well done to all the runners who took part and to the teachers who accompanied them, Mrs Maureen McCullough and Mr Eddie McCloskey.



LORETO ATHLETES AT ULSTER CROSS COUNTRY FINALS

Five excellent runners from Loreto College Coleraine qualified to represent the school at the Ulster Cross Country Finals, held at the Mallusk Playing Fields on Wednesday 22nd February 2017.

The students who qualified from the NE District event were Niamh McGarry (Year 8), Cara McLaughlin (Year 9), Tolu Jide-Ojo (Year 10), Niamh Carr (Year 12) and

Molly Brennan (Year 13). All five performed to a very high standard on the day.

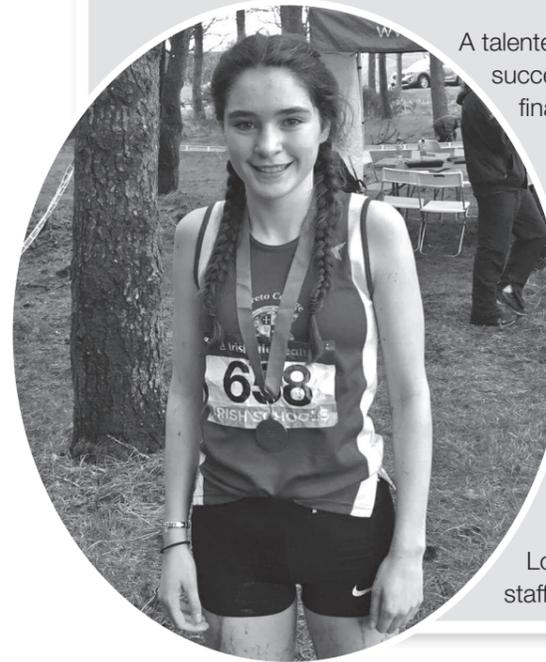
Niamh McGarry took a wonderful second place in the Year 8 Girls' race, while Niamh Carr was placed third in the Intermediate Girls' Race and Molly Brennan took seventeenth place in the Senior Girls' event. Niamh Carr would go on to represent Loreto College and

Ulster in the All Ireland Finals - a tremendous achievement. There were excellent performances from Tolu Jide-Ojo and Cara McLaughlin in their respective events.

All five girls were congratulated on their superb performances by Mr Paul Cuning, Co-ordinator of Cross Country Running at Loreto, and by Mr Michael James, College Principal.



LORETO RUNNER SELECTED TO REPRESENT IRELAND



A talented athlete from Loreto College Coleraine had a successful day at the All Ireland Schools Cross Country finals on Saturday 11th March.

Niamh Carr, a Year 12 student, finished fourth in the Intermediate event in a field of over one hundred runners, and was the only Ulster competitor to finish in the top eight. She covered the 3600m course in an impressive time of 00:16:09.

Niamh has been selected to represent Ireland in the forthcoming Internationals, the only Ulster Intermediate runner to be selected at this level.

Niamh was congratulated on this tremendous performance and on her international selection by Loreto Principal Mr Michael James on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.

ATHLETICS NEWS

ATHLETICS SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A Loreto College student took a superb Second place in the Senior Boys category at the Ulster Multi-Events athletics championships at the Antrim Forum.

Christopher Doherty had to excel in 110 metres Hurdles, Long Jump, Shot, 200 Metres and 800 Metres to earn his medal. Christopher is well known in school as an accomplished and all-round talent, and in the Antrim and Ballymena Athletics Club where he trains.

Mrs Maureen McCullough, Head of PE at Loreto College, paid tribute to Christopher on behalf of all the staff and students of Loreto College on this amazing achievement.



Christopher Doherty of Loreto College, placed Second in the Senior Boys section of the Ulster Multi-Events Athletics Championships.

SUCCESSFUL DAY AT NEBSSA ATHLETICS FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

Loreto College Coleraine was represented by six students at the annual NEBSSA Athletics Tournament on Thursday 4th May 2017: Zofia Czajka (Year 8), Peter McCool (Year 8), Niamh McGarry (Year 8), Cara McLaughlin (Year 9), Lauren Thom (Year 9) and Tolu Jide-Ojo (Year 10). All six gave excellent performances on the day.

Niamh McGarry took first place in the Year 8 800 metres, while Cara McLaughlin was first in the Year 9 800 metres event. In the same Year 9 race, Lauren Thom ran a personal best time, winning bronze and only just missing out on the dip for the silver. Tolu Jide-Ojo was second in the Year 10 100 metres and third in the Year 10 Long Jump. Zofia Czajka had a great run in the Year 8 800 metres and Peter McCool was fourth in the Year 8 Long Jump, missing out on a medal by just 3cm.

All six promising young athletes were congratulated on these excellent results by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



Success

FOR LORETO ATHLETES AT DISTRICT EVENT

Five talented athletes from Loreto College had a successful day at the District Athletics event held at the Antrim Forum on Wednesday 10th May.

Niamh McGarry (Year 8) was first in the 800 metres event, while Cara McLaughlin (Year 9) was second in the 800 metres in her age group. Tolu Jide-Ojo (Year 10) was placed third in the 200 metres and fifth in the Long Jump in her age group, while Niamh Carr (Year 12) was first in the 3000 metres and second in the 1500 metres. Christopher Doherty (Year 14) was second in the 100 metres.

All five would now proceed to the Ulster Finals, held in late May in Antrim. These talented athletes were congratulated on their success by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



MEDALS FOR LORETO ATHLETES AT ULSTER ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Athletes from Loreto College Coleraine had an extremely successful day at the Ulster Schools Track and Field Championships on Saturday 20th May.

Niamh Carr (Year 12) won Gold in the Intermediate Girls 1500 metres event. Niamh is primarily a long

distance runner, and had already taken Bronze in the 3000 metres event on the previous day. Despite competing in the middle of her very taxing GCSE examinations, Niamh ran a well-judged race in the 1500 metres, passing the leading girl (who had beaten her in the District Finals) and taking the lead in the

finishing straight. Niamh now had to decide which race to run in the Irish Championships on 3rd June.

Christopher Doherty (Year 14) won Silver in the Senior Boys 200 metres event and there was another Silver medal for Loreto College, won by Niamh McGarry (Year 8) in the 800 metres event. Both Christopher and Niamh qualified for the Irish Championships in June.

Loreto College was also represented at the Ulster Finals by Tolu Jide-Ojo (Year 10) and Cara McLaughlin (Year 9). Tolu took fourth place in the 200 metres and Cara was placed fifth in the 800 metres.

Niamh, Christopher and Niamh were congratulated on their medal-winning performances by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College. Mr James also paid tribute to coaches Allister Braton and Philip Tweedie as well as to the Loreto PE Department.



Niamh Carr of Loreto College, who won Gold and Bronze medals at the Ulster Schools Athletics Championships.



Niamh McGarry of Loreto College, who won a Silver medal at the Ulster Schools Athletics Championships.



Christopher Doherty of Loreto College, who won a Silver medal at the Ulster Schools Athletics Championships.

Loreto College students Tolu Jide-Ojo, Cara McLaughlin and Niamh McGarry who performed to a high standard at the Ulster Schools Athletics Championships.

IRISH SCHOOLS ATHLETICS FINALS MEDAL FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT



Loreto College Coleraine was well represented at the Irish Life Health All Ireland Schools Track and Field Championships, held in Tullamore in the first weekend of June.

Niamh Carr (Year 12) took Bronze in the Intermediate Girls 1500 metres, and was in close contention for Silver after a brilliant race.

Christopher Doherty (Year 14) had a great run in the Senior Boys 100 metres, while Niamh McGarry (Year 8) performed well in the 800 metres in her age group.

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, paid tribute to all three students and in particular to Niamh Carr on her Bronze medal at All Ireland level - a superb achievement.



LORETO COLLEGE ATHLETE SELECTED FOR ULSTER

A student from Loreto College Coleraine was selected to represent Ulster in the Intermediate 1500 metres event, in the Interprovincials at Santry Stadium, Dublin on Saturday 24th June.

Niamh Carr, a Year 12 student at Loreto College, had taken Gold in the Intermediate Girls 1500 metres event Ulster Schools Track and Field Championships in late May, having taken Silver in the Intermediate 1500 metres at the District Championships.

Niamh is primarily a long distance

runner, having won Gold in the Intermediate 3000 metres at the District Championships and Bronze in the same event at the Ulster Championships.

She qualified to compete at both distances in the Irish Life Health All Ireland Schools Track and Field Championships, held in Tullamore in the first weekend of June. Faced with a choice between the two events, Niamh picked the 1500 metres and took Bronze, having been in close contention for Silver after a brilliant race.

This is the latest in a series of superb achievements in middle and long-distance running for Niamh, and she was congratulated on her Ulster selection by Loreto College Principal Mr Michael James, who wished her well for the Inter-Provincial Championships on behalf of all the staff and students of Loreto College.

LATE NEWS: Well done to Niamh who finished fourth in a tightly contested race in at Interprovincial level.

BISHOPS ATHLETICS

A group of Year 8 students represented Loreto at the annual inter-schools' Athletics competition sponsored by Bishops Footwear and hosted at Coleraine Grammar School, on Monday 19th June.

Niamh McGarry won the Girls' 800 metres, Patrick Kelly was second in the Boys' 800 metres and Zofia Czajka was third in the Girls' 100 metres. Our Girls' Relay team took fifth place - the team members were Zofia Czajka, Niamh McGarry, Colleen Heaney and Aoife Ferguson. The Boys' Relay team took seventh place - team members were Tochi Jide-Ojo, Patrick Kelly, Peter McCool and Lorcan Calvert.

We were also represented on the day by Maia Casson, Molly-Ann Gilmore, Amy Darragh, Lukasz Mischczynski, and Calum Dixon.



SPORTS DAY

The annual Sports Day took place on Tuesday 20th June in glorious sunshine. With a range of competitive activities in the morning (both track and field), an afternoon of fun activities culminated in the very well-supported class relays.

The winners in the competitive events were:

			BOYS	GIRLS
YEAR 8 100 Metres	1st		Jamie Martin	Zofia Czajka
	2nd		Patrick Kelly	Molly-Ann Gilmore
	3rd		Conor Lundy	Colleen Heaney
200 Metres	1st		Patrick McGill	Eilis Mullan
	2nd		Peter McCool	Orna Taylor
	3rd		Pearse McNally	Lucie McVicker
800 Metres	1st			Niamh McGarry
	2nd			
	3rd			
Relays	1st		8C	8C
	2nd		8D	8B
	3rd		8A	8A
Shot Putt	1st		Peter Passmore	Niamh McGarry
	2nd		Joshua Starrett	Amy Darragh
	3rd		Cameron Sinclair	Alicia Doherty
Long Jump	1st		Conor Lundy	Zofia Czajka
	2nd		Patrick Kelly	Aoife Ferguson
	3rd		Peter Passmore	Niamh McGarry
Athletes of the Year			Patrick Kelly	Niamh McGarry

YEAR 9 100 Metres	1st		Jack Dihmis	Caitlin Rose Cassidy
	2nd		Oliver Burns	Erin Ferguson
	3rd		Conrad O'Coisneachain	Cara McLaughlin
200 Metres	1st		Jack Dihmis	Alana Burns
	2nd		David Farren	Cara McLaughlin
	3rd			Lucy O'Kane
800 Metres	1st			Cara McDonald
	2nd			Lucy O'Kane
	3rd			
Relays	1st		9E	9C
	2nd		9C	9E
	3rd		9B	9A
Shot Putt	1st		Conrad O'Coisneachain	Erin Ferguson
	2nd		David Farren	Jodie Canning
	3rd		Euan Simpson	Orla Quinn
Discus	1st		Cathair Coyle	Jodie Canning
	2nd		Ronan Close	Erin Ferguson
	3rd		Conrad O'Coisneachain	Orla Quinn
Long Jump	1st		John Quinn	Sophie Moore
	2nd		Oliver Burns	Katie Mulholland
	3rd		Conrad O'Coisneachain	Lucy O'Kane
Athletes of the Year			Conrad O'Coisneachain	Erin Ferguson

			BOYS	GIRLS
YEAR 10 100 Metres	1st		Aaron Wallace	Tolu Jide-Ojo
	2nd		Charlie McKnight	Cliona McIntyre
	3rd		Emmett Morrison	Caitlin Campbell
200 Metres	1st		Aaron Wallace	Tolu Jide-Ojo
	2nd		Thomas Mailey	Nikola Felinska
	3rd		Padraig McColgan	Cheyenne Corbett
800 Metres	1st			Tolu Jide-Ojo
	2nd			
	3rd			
Relays	1st		10D	10B
	2nd		10E	10D
	3rd		10C	10C
Shot Putt	1st		Jakub Nowak	Amie Cassidy
	2nd		Connor McGillan	Katie Heaney
	3rd		Charlie McKnight	Hannah Taylor
Discus	1st		Charlie McKnight	
	2nd		Sean McAlister	
	3rd		Nicolas Moore	
Javelin	1st		JD Dillon	Cheyenne Corbett
	2nd		Matthew Byrne	Aoife Turner
	3rd		Charlie McKnight	Aine Apperley
Long Jump	1st		Liam Roddy	Tolu Jide-Ojo
	2nd		Charlie McKnight	Aine Apperley
	3rd		Corey Cassidy	Orla McEwan
Athletes of the Year			Charlie McKnight	Tolu Jide-Ojo

YEAR 11 Relays	1st		11A	11A
	2nd		11B	11D
	3rd		11D	11B
Shot Putt	1st			Chloe Donaghy
	2nd			Jane McHenry
	3rd			Savannah Corbett
Discus	1st			Chloe Donaghy
	2nd			Shantel Dillon
	3rd			Savannah Corbett
Javelin	1st		Kristian O'Hale	
Long Jump	1st			Chloe Donaghy
	2nd			Anna O'Kane
Athlete of the Year				Chloe Donaghy

A highlight of the day for many was the very exciting Year 11 Girls versus Staff relay race: we believe the staff won... Overall, Loreto College Sports Day 2017 will be remembered as a day of sunshine, some excellent competitive performances and lots of laughter at the fun events. Mr Michael James, College Principal, paid tribute to the members of the PE Department and their helpers from Year 13, who organised an excellent and very memorable day.



SWIMMING

A number of our students have taken part in a huge variety of swimming galas and meets this year. Here are just some of their success stories.

SWIMMING MEDAL FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A Loreto College student scored an All Ireland medal in swimming during the Irish Age Group Championships held during the Summer break.

Eoin Mullan, who is in Year 10 at Loreto College, won Bronze in 100 metres Butterfly event in the Under 13 age group.

Eoin entered a whole range of events, and was the top placed Ulster swimmer in the finals of the

100m Freestyle, 200m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly and 200m Individual Medley events. He also competed in the 400m Freestyle, 400m Individual Medley and 200m Breaststroke events.

Eoin was congratulated on this tremendous achievement by Mrs Maureen McCullough, Head of PE at Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



Eoin Mullan of Loreto College, Bronze medallist in the 100 metres Butterfly U13 event at the Irish Age Groups Swimming Championships.

GOOD DAY FOR LORETO COLLEGE AT SWIM ULSTER SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

There was some success for five swimmers representing Loreto College at the annual Swim Ulster Schools championships, held in the Aurora Aquatic Centre, Bangor on 15th and 16th October.

Year 8 student Niamh McGarry won Silver in her age group in the 50 Metres Freestyle event, and reached the 50M Butterfly event. She went on to compete in the 14&U 100M Breast Stroke and 100M Freestyle. Eilís Mullan reached the final of the 50M Back Crawl and swam in the 14&U 100M Back Crawl and 100M Freestyle on Sunday as well. Both girls went on to represent the school in the Irish Minor School



Championships in Dublin in February 2017 at the National Aquatic Centre in Dublin. Orla Quinn set impressive times in both the 14&U 100M Back Crawl and 100M Breast Stroke and Shannon Baird reached finals in both the 14&U 100M Breast Stroke and 100M Freestyle. All four girls were part of the 200M Medley relay (10th overall) and 200M Freestyle relay (8th) teams - remarkable results given they were one of the youngest teams in these events. Eoin Mullan won silver in both the 100M Butterfly and 200M Individual Medley events. He qualified to represent Ulster in the Interprovincial Schools competition in Dublin in 2017. Eoin was also included in the Swim Ulster Academy Squad.

Mrs Maureen McCullough, Head of PE at Loreto College, paid tribute to all these talented young swimmers as well as thanking Mrs Amanda McGarry who officiated for Loreto College on the day, and Mr Paul Byrne who coordinated Loreto's entries for the event.

SWIMMING SUCCESS FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

Niamh McGarry and Eilís Mullan, Year 8 students from Loreto College Coleraine, had a great day at the Irish Minor Schools' Swimming Championships in Dublin's National Aquatic Centre. This was the fourth year the girls had qualified to represent their school at this level.

The girls swam personal bests at the Championships, representing Loreto College with great distinction. Niamh McGarry was 9th in the Freestyle and first Ulster swimmer home in a time of 31.94, as well as taking 11th place in the Butterfly in 36.36. Eilís Mullan, meanwhile, was 25th in the Backstroke in 40.37. With over 70 swimmers in each event, this was a wonderful achievement for both girls.

Niamh and Eilís were congratulated on these wonderful performances by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



Niamh McGarry and Eilís Mullan (Year 8), who represented Loreto College at the Irish Minor Schools' Swimming Championships in Dublin.



LORETO SWIMMER THROUGH TO IRISH CHAMPIONSHIPS



A talented young swimmer from Loreto College Coleraine qualified to represent his school and Ulster at the Irish Schools Interprovincial Championships, held in the National Aquatic Centre, Dublin on 29th April.

Eoin Mullan, a Year 10 student at Loreto College, won Silver in both the 100m Butterfly and 200m Individual Medley events at the Swim Ulster Schools Championships in October. Also in the Autumn Term, Eoin was included in the Swim Ulster Academy squad.

Eoin was congratulated on qualifying for the Irish Championships, and wished well for this prestigious event, by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College.

SUCCESS FOR SHANNON AT ULSTER SCHOOLS' GALA

The 2017 Ulster Schools Swimming Secondary Schools Championships were held on Saturday 18th March in Ballymena Leisure Centre Swimming Pool. Shannon Baird, a Year 9 pupil at Loreto College entered in two individual events in the 11-14 year age group, 100m Breaststroke and 100m Freestyle. It was an extremely well attended gala, with in excess of 600 entries in the Junior and Open sections from 60 plus Secondary Schools; Loreto College was also represented at the event by Niamh McGarry (Year 8), Anna McGinley (Year 9) and Orla Quinn (Year 9), who took part in the relays, with the team 4th in both freestyle and individual medley relays.

Shannon Baird got through to the finals and was well placed in both her events. In the 100m Breaststroke final Shannon finished

in third place and in the 100m Freestyle finished in fourth place, having gained a new personal best time in both swims.

Shannon's successful swims in these two events resulted in her being offered a place and the opportunity to represent her school at the Ulster Schools Swimming Tenerife Tour in October 2017. Having won this selection from all the entries across Ulster Secondary Schools, this indeed is a great honour for Shannon. This is a week of intensive training in a 50m open pool in Tenerife, with excellent coaching support provided by Ulster Schools Swimming. It is a tremendous opportunity for Shannon to train in excellent warm weather conditions along with other like-minded talented young swimmers. Shannon is looking forward to it very much.

Shannon was congratulated on her performance and her selection for the Tenerife Tour by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



ULSTER AGE GROUPS MEDALS FOR LORETO COLLEGE SWIMMERS

Four talented young swimmers from Loreto College Coleraine won medals at the Ulster Age Group Championships held in Bangor during the first weekend of the Summer Term. This was a very competitive event, with swimmers coming from all over Ulster.

Eoin Mullan, who is a Year 10 student at Loreto College, won a wonderful total of six Gold medals at the event, taking first place in the 400m Individual medley, 200m freestyle, 100m freestyle, 100m butterfly, 400 m freestyle, and 200m individual medley events. Eoin is a member of the Ulster Development Squad went on to compete in the Irish Age Groups championships in July.

Shannon Baird (Year 9) also participated in the Championships,

winning two Bronze medals in the 100m Freestyle and the 100m Breaststroke events. Shannon also recorded a Personal Best time in the 100m Freestyle. These swims gave Shannon qualifying times for the Irish Age Group Championships in July at the National Aquatic Centre in Dublin. A member of Ballymena Swimming Club, Shannon enjoys regular training with Swim Ulster Talent Development Squad in Magherafelt.

Orla Quinn (Year 9) reached three Finals: 100m Breaststroke, 200m Breaststroke and 100m Backstroke, taking second place in the 100m Backstroke event. Meanwhile Finn McEwan (Year 12) reached the 100m Breaststroke Final in his age group. Placed seventh, he also qualified for the Irish Age Groups championships.

All four talented young swimmers were congratulated on this successful day's competition by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of Loreto College.



SWIMMING SUCCESS FOR LORETO STUDENTS

Several Loreto College students participated in the Swim Ulster Summer Qualifying Gala held in the Aurora Complex in Bangor over the late May Bank Holiday weekend, with great success.

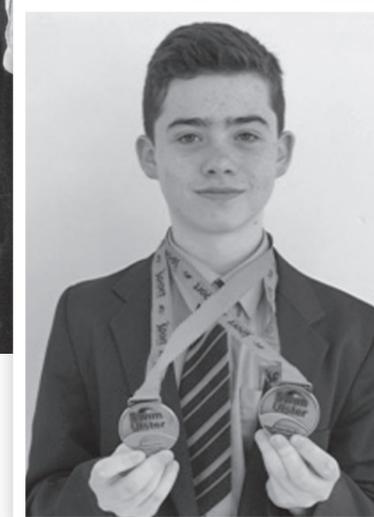
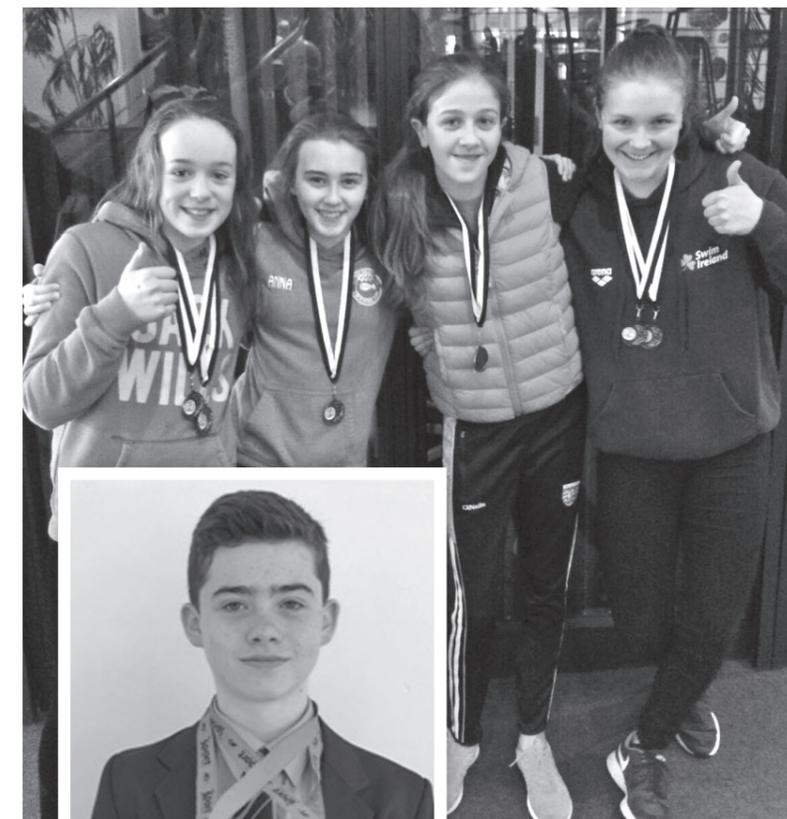
Eoin Mullan (Year 10) won Gold in 100M Breast Stroke, 100M Back Crawl, 100M and 200M Butterfly, and 100M and 200M Freestyle. Eoin was also part of the successful Ulster Schools Interprovincial team that won the Interprovincial Series at the National Aquatic Centre in Dublin during May.

Ellis Mullan (Year 8) took Bronze in the 50M Back Crawl in her age group.

Shannon Baird (Year 9) won Gold in 100M Breast Stroke and 100 Freestyle, and Bronze in the 200M Breast Stroke.

Orla Quinn (Year 9) also took part, achieving further qualifying times in her events.

Congratulations to all four talented swimmers on these wonderful successes.



SWIMMING SUCCESS



Congratulations to Ellis Mullan (Year 8) who won two Silver medals in the Swim Ulster Summer Festival in Newry in mid-June.

YEAR 8 SWIMMING GALA

The annual Year 8 Swimming Gala took place at Coleraine Leisure Centre on Wednesday 14th June, with great participation from our Year 8 students.

The following results were recorded in the competitive events:

Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
Group C Front		Group A Butterfly	
1. Molly Reid	1. Luke McCrudden	1. Niamh McGarry	1. Oisín McNicholl
2. Ellie McLaughlin	2. Ruairi Martin	2. Ellis Mullan	2. Peter McCool
3. Anita Silakowska	3.	3. Cora McEwan	3. Peter Passmore
Group C Back		Group A Front Crawl	
1. Molly Reid	1.	1. Niamh McGarry	1. Oisín McNicholl
2. Sophie Crawford	2.	2. Ellis Mullan	2. Conor Lundy
3. Paulina Olender	3.	3. Leah Scullion	3. Emmett McMorrough
Group A Backstroke		Group B Front Crawl	
1. Niamh McGarry	1. Oisín McNicholl	1. Oliwia Bednarz	1. Noah Grove
2. Ellis Mullan	2. Jack McNeill	2. Aoife Ferguson	2. Adam Parke
3. Sorcha Doherty	3. Peter McCool	3. Meghan McKenna	3. Jamie Martin
Group B Backstroke		Group C Front Crawl (floats)	
1. Hannah Murphy	1. Barry McCloskey	1. Orna Taylor	1.
2. Aoife Ferguson	2. Jack O'Kane	2. Ellie McKinney	2.
3. Colleen McColgan	3. Noah Grove	3. Lucie McVicker	3.
Group C Backstroke		Relay	
1. Molly Reid	1.	1. 8D	1. 8C
2. Sophie Crawford	2.	2. 8C	2. 8A
3. Paulina Olender	3.	3. 8B	3. 8E
Group A Breaststroke		Class Medley	
1. Niamh McGarry	1. Oisín McNicholl	1. 8C	
2. Ellis Mullan	2. Emmett McMorrough	2. 8E	
3. Cora McEwan	3. Peter McCool	3. 8D	
Group B Breaststroke		SWIMMER OF THE YEAR	
1. Amy Darragh	1. Caleb Woods	Niamh McGarry	
2. Hannah Murphy	2. Odhran Doherty	Oisín McNicholl	
3. Aoife McCarry	3. Conan McClements		
Group C Breaststroke		A big thank you to those who helped out and acted as timekeepers on the day.	
1. Aoife Ilvar	1.		
2. Ellie McKinney	2.		
3. Orna Taylor	3.		



PARALYMPIAN STAR INSPIRES LORETO COLLEGE STUDENTS

Paralympic quadruple Gold winner Michael McKillop visited Loreto College on 26th January 2017 as part of the Youth Sport Trust Sky Sports Living for Sport Programme.

Sky Sports Living for Sport uses sport stars and sport skills to improve young people's lives. This initiative is designed to inspire and support every participant in areas relevant to them, whether it's improving confidence, attainment at school or leading a healthier lifestyle.

On his very welcome return to Loreto College, Michael McKillop spoke to all Year 8 students and some AS Level Physical Education students about his own personal challenges and achievements. Reinforcing the message that 'if you believe, you can achieve', this inspiring world champion and Paralympic quadruple Gold winner (2008, 2012 and 2016) spoke openly and frankly about his own personal challenges and how he had harnessed his extreme determination to turn challenges into opportunities, surmounting a succession of obstacles to achieve his goals.

Michael McKillop also talked inspiringly about the support of his family, friends, coaches and supporting team, paying tribute to those who had helped him throughout his career, as well as describing some of the rewards, whether personal or more tangible, for his determination and success.



SKY SPORTS LIVING FOR SPORT PROGRAMME

A group of Year 8 students enjoyed an inspirational talk by Paralympic quadruple Gold winner Michael McKillop on Thursday 15th June.

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and achievements. Reinforcing the message that 'if you believe, you can achieve', this inspiring world champion and Paralympic quadruple Gold winner (2008, 2012 and 2016) spoke openly and frankly about his own personal challenges and how he had harnessed his extreme determination to turn challenges into opportunities, surmounting a succession of obstacles to achieve his goals.

Michael McKillop also talked inspiringly about the support of his family, friends, coaches and supporting team, paying tribute to those who had helped him throughout his career, as well as

describing some of the rewards, whether personal or more tangible, for his determination and success. He then led the Year 8 students in some sports activities designed to help them see how simple steps could help them work towards their goals - the students enjoyed this very much!

Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College thanked Michael McKillop for this inspirational speech, which helped to motivate and encourage students through the application of the skills and discipline involved in sport to life as a whole.



WOODHALL OUTDOOR EDUCATION TRIP

As part of their Sports Studies A2 (Event Management), the Year 14 class organised a trip to Woodhall on Friday 3rd February. 24 Year 10s and 26 Year 9s went. The activities covered included canoeing, human jenga, high ropes course, archery and other team building activities.

On the day the pupils were

challenged, out of their comfort zone, and introduced to new activities. They were all involved in working with others, supporting others and putting others first, as well as working outdoors, baking on an open fire and so much more. Most even had a swim in the canal - and Mrs McCullough, who accompanied the group, reports

that 'it was freeeeeeezing!'

The trip was very successful, thanks to the thorough planning carried out by the Year 14 students in advance. Well done to the Year 14 organisers and to all the Year 9 and Year 10 students who took part with such enthusiasm.



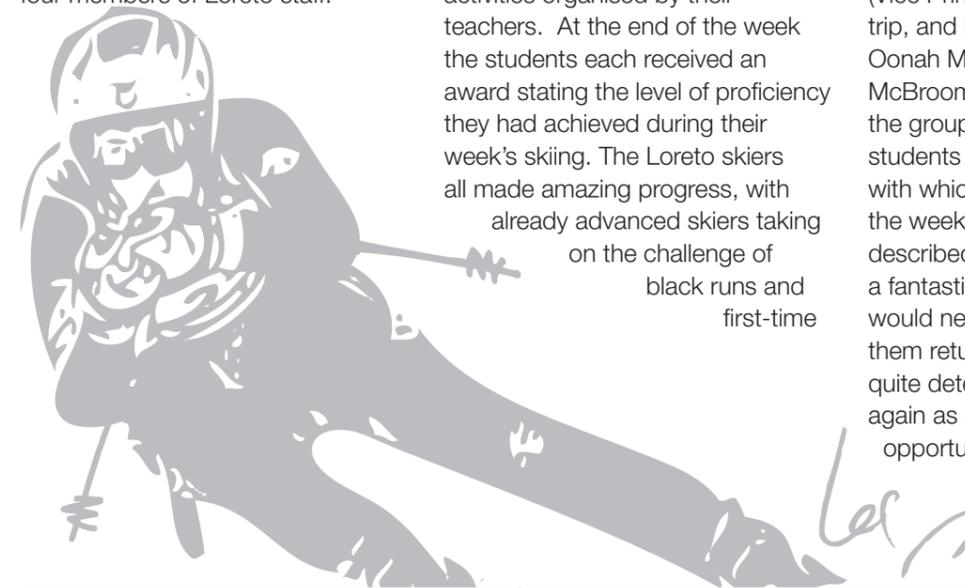
LORETO STUDENTS ENJOY SKI TRIP ADVENTURES

As January ended and February began, group of Year 9 and Year 10 students from Loreto College Coleraine spent a week in Bulgaria learning to ski, accompanied by four members of Loreto staff.

The group stayed in the Pamporovo resort, Bulgaria. During the week, the students enjoyed full days on the ski slopes followed by a programme of enjoyable evening activities organised by their teachers. At the end of the week the students each received an award stating the level of proficiency they had achieved during their week's skiing. The Loreto skiers all made amazing progress, with already advanced skiers taking on the challenge of black runs and first-time

skiers taking on blue runs and moving further up the mountain as the week went on.

Teachers Mr Stephen Gallagher (Vice Principal), who organised the trip, and Mr Paul Cuning, Mrs Oonah McEwan and Mrs Sheila McBroom, who also 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 Bulgaria 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!



LORETO COLLEGE CRICKET CLUB

2016/17 has seen another “first” for cricket at Loreto College. Year 8 pupils have been receiving cricket coaching as part of their PE lessons and had an opportunity to try out their skills against other schools in the Coleraine and Ballymoney area in a tournament organised by the North West Cricket Union for schools that are also in the development phase of the game. Coaching staff from Cricket Ireland and Coleraine Cricket Club have assisted with this venture.

Towards the end of June there was a significant breakthrough for the national team with Ireland being admitted to the highest tier of international cricket with the awarding of “Test Match” status. The Cricket World Cups of 2007, 2011 and 2015 saw Ireland gain victories over established cricketing nations (Pakistan, England and the West Indies) and this has highlighted the increasing popularity and skill levels in the game.

These two occurrences are interrelated as it is Cricket Ireland’s aspiration to make cricket accessible to as many school pupils

as possible with a view to nurturing talent amongst boys and girls of all ages who may then move on to play at club, inter-provincial and even international level.

Our Year 9/10 team has played in a three way tournament against Oakgrove Integrated College and St. Columb’s College in Derry, winning one game against Oakgrove but losing to St. Columb’s. The matches were organised on a limited overs and maximum participation format which allows each player to participate in each of the three skill sets of the game: batting, fielding and bowling. Three pupils made their debuts at this competition, Cathal Christopher, Cameron Sinclair and Noah Grove. We wish them and the other squad members future success in the game during their time at Loreto.

The team members were: Theo Wall (Year 11), Cathal Christopher, Hirek Cichy, Luke Denton, Matthew McGowan, Christian Quigley Oisin McCrudden and Michael McConnell (all Year 10), Cormac Carr (Year 9), Cameron Sinclair and Noah Grove (Year 8). Team coach Mr J

Kildea reports that there were two standout moments (or champagne moments as the commentators on Test Match Special would refer to them!) when Cathal and Cameron took difficult catches to dismiss an opponent when we were fielding. This was followed by a game at Limavady Grammar School against possibly the best school side in the North West Cricket Union area. The result was a win for the home side and for our team an example of the standards that we need to achieve.

As a club we can provide all of the essential cricketing equipment for all pupils who wish to take part in our coaching sessions and matches. These have been purchased by our own fund raising and grants from the council sports council.

Cricket is a game of numerous skills and abilities and our key aim is participation for all who wish to do so. In addition there are also the friendships and camaraderie that develop from being part of a team squad. These are the opportunities which we offer and the invitation is open to all pupils at the college to take part.

Mr J Kildea



YEAR 8 CRICKET BLITZ SUCCESS

The Year 8 cricket team won their “Cricket Blitz” held at Coleraine Cricket Club on Friday 16th June, with three wins from three matches.

At 12.30 on Friday 16th Loreto defeated Ballymoney High School by two runs in a very closely contested match. This followed on from victories over North Coast Integrated College and Coleraine College.

Congratulations to the team members: Noah Grove, Cathair McFerran, Jack O’Kane, Adam Parke, Peter Passmore, Frankie Pollington, Cameron Sinclair, Patrick Wallace, Peter Wells and Caleb Woods, and of course to Mr J Kildea.

This year, cricket has been included on the Year 8 curriculum for the first time. We are grateful for the support from Colin Manson, Active Clubs Coordinator, North West Cricket Union and also from members of Coleraine Cricket Club.

The cricket blitz is a participative arrangement whereby all players have an opportunity to bat, bowl and field and thereby acquire all of the elements of the game of cricket.

We look forward to our taking part in further competitions in the future.



ARCHERY AWARD FOR LORETO COLLEGE STUDENT

A student from Loreto College Coleraine has won an award in the Northern Ireland Archery Championships, held in Ballyclare during the first weekend in April.

Finn Lestas, who is a Year 13 student at Loreto College, was representing the Causeway Archers Club, Ballymoney, at the event. He took second place in the Under 18 Boys Freestyle class.

Finn thoroughly enjoys Archery: as well as having chosen the sport as his Physical Education option for sixth form, he is a member of the Causeway Archers Club, where he is coached by Chris MacFadyen. There is a strong link between this Archery club and Loreto College, with Chris MacFadyen coaching the Archery section of the GCSE PE course every year and Loreto's own PE teachers Mrs Maureen McCullough and Ms Julie Wilson coaching the sixth form Archery option.

Finn was congratulated on this superb success by Mr Michael James, Principal of Loreto College, on behalf of all the staff and students of the College.



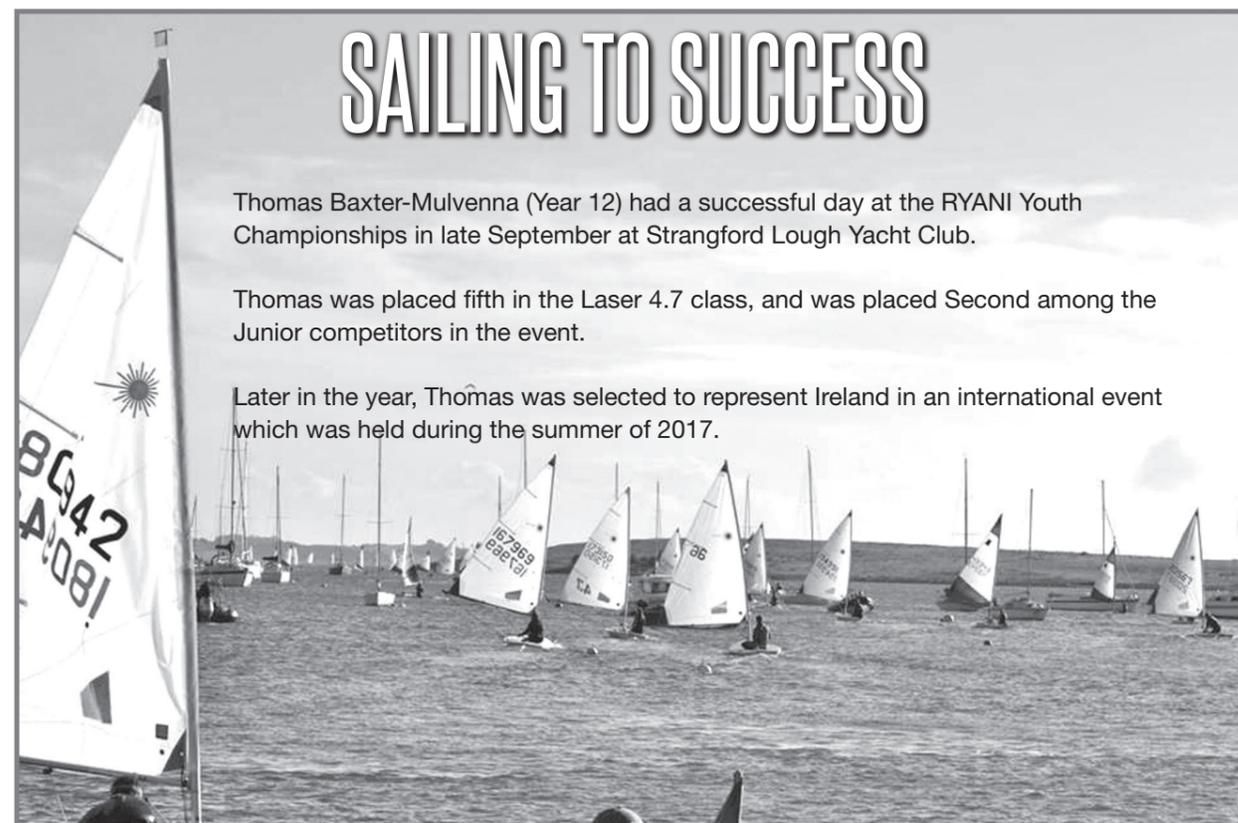
Loreto College Year 13 pupil Aaron Christie was placed 9th in the National Schools Regatta in Dorney Lake, Windsor early in June. Racing for Bann Rowing Club against the best British rowers, Aaron was pipped on the line for a place in the A final. He went on to win the B final, a great achievement considering he still has another two years to race at this event. He will again represent Ireland this summer, with details of which boat he'll row in to be finalised at the Cork Regatta.

SAILING TO SUCCESS

Thomas Baxter-Mulvenna (Year 12) had a successful day at the RYANI Youth Championships in late September at Strangford Lough Yacht Club.

Thomas was placed fifth in the Laser 4.7 class, and was placed Second among the Junior competitors in the event.

Later in the year, Thomas was selected to represent Ireland in an international event which was held during the summer of 2017.



JUDO GOLD FOR SOPHIE

Congratulations to Sophie Price (Year 10) who won Gold at the All Ireland Judo Championships on Saturday 11th March.

Sophie was competing in the Pre-Cadet class, representing Coleraine Judo Club. She is pictured here with Lisa Kearney of Coleraine Judo Club.

On the way to this success, Sophie won medals in two very different disciplines in February.

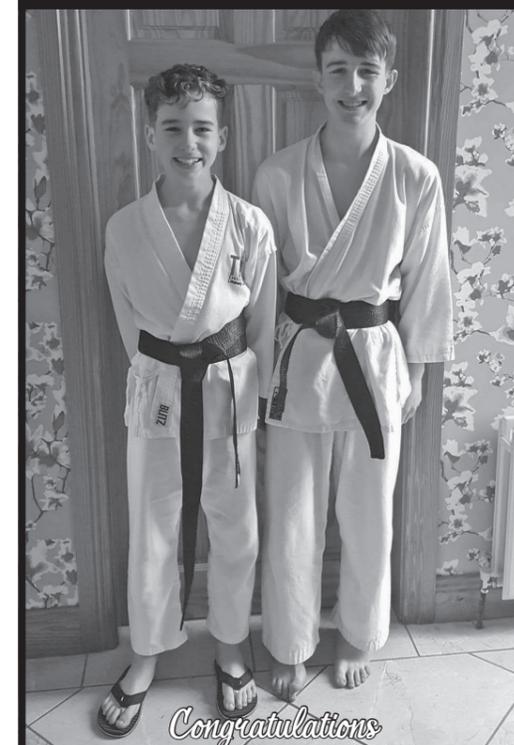
Just before the February Mid Term break, Sophie won all Preliminary classes at the Ballymena Festival in Irish Dancing, representing the Dominic Graham School. Sophie took first place in the Reel, Slip Jig, Treble Jig and Set Dance classes.

Showing just how diverse her talents are, Sophie finished February with a Gold medal in her class in the NI Closed Judo Championships,



representing Coleraine Judo Club. After Easter, Sophie added a Bronze medal in the Northern Ireland Open Championships, again representing Coleraine Judo Club.

BLACK BELT AWARDS



Congratulations
to brothers Oran and Aidan Somers, who received their **Karate Black Belts** at a grading just before the Halloween break.

BOXERS REACH ULSTER FINALS

Two promising young boxers from Loreto College reached the Ulster Finals in their age and weight categories as Christmas approaches.

Michael Dallat (Year 14) and Corey McLaughlin (Year 11) contested their title fights on Saturday 17th December.

Earlier in the term, both were delighted to visit the iconic Rocky Steps in Philadelphia during the Loreto USA trip. They are pictured gaining some inspiration on this occasion.



WEIGHTLIFTING SUCCESS STORY



Congratulations to Travis Brown (Year 10), who competed in the Ulster Open Weightlifting competition in late October. Although Travis had to compete in the men's age group, he managed to outdo all his personal bests, lifting heavier weights than he ever had before. He ended up top of the U13 age group, winning Gold - *a wonderful achievement.*



CROSSFIT TRIUMPH FOR NICOLAS

Nicolas Moore 10E competed in the Celtic Crossfit Games in Cavan in late October. This Crossfit competition attracts athletes from all over Europe and Nicolas, who trains with Crossfit Limavady, managed to top the podium in the 14/15 teenage boy scaled category.

This is an amazing achievement given the intensity of the workouts he had to complete and he competed a year young. Furthermore, in light of his continued development in Crossfit, he secured a sponsorship deal with a strength and conditioning clothing and equipment supplier called VODI.



ABSENT FRIENDS

All those who left Loreto in 2016

Year 8

Niamh Burke	St Louis' Grammar School Ballymena
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Year 10

Niamh Duncan	Ballycastle High School
Courtney Harkin	Our Lady of Lourdes High School, Ballymoney

Year 12

Callum Biggart	
Erica Cartmell	Northern Regional College Coleraine, Applied Sciences
Alija Cichy	Coleraine Grammar School
Lukas Condren	Northern Regional College, Sports Science
Piers Curran	Northern Regional College Ballymoney, Animation
Flynn Faith-Crothers	Dalriada School
Cahir Hasson	North West Regional College Limavady, Engineering
Cara Henry	
Kristian Hoy	Dominican College Portstewart
Oran Kneeland	
Fianna Lynn	
Tyrone Lynn	
Reece Mackay	
Joshua McErlean	North West Regional College Limavady, Engineering
Sean McKeever	
Leon McMullan	
James McReynolds	Lumen Christi College Derry
Caitlin Meenan	Coleraine Grammar School
Kevin O'Kane	Northern Regional College Coleraine, Construction
Aoibhinn Scott	
Lorcan Toner	North West Regional College Limavady, Engineering

Year 13

Harry Butcher	North West Regional College Limavady, Engineering
Caitlin Harron	North West Regional College, Health & Social Care
Anna McGuigan	St Louis' Grammar School Ballymena
James McKeown	
Eamon McLaughlin	Northern Regional College
Callan McPeake	Northern Regional College, Computing with Gaming
Dervla Molloy	St Patrick's College Maghera
Erin Mullan	St Mary's Grammar School Magherafelt
Shaun Wallace	

Year 14

Taylor Archer	Nottingham Trent University reading Broadcast Journalism
Jack Ball	University of Westminster reading Film and Television Production
Oran Barton	Gap Year
Rhiannon Bell	Anglia Ruskin University reading Criminology
Antonia Boorman	Minerva University, California reading English & Maths
Simone Boorman	Heriot Watt University reading Psychology
Connor Boyle	University of Liverpool reading Medicine
Elaine Boyle	University of Ulster reading Computer Science
Emmett Boyle	Queen's University Belfast reading Maths & Physics
James Breslin	Heriot Watt University reading Mathematical, Statistical & Actuary Science
Odhran Bryson	Belfast Metropolitan College reading Music
Tara Canning	Queen's University Belfast reading Food & Nutrition
Daniel Catterson	Queen's University Belfast reading History
Meadbh Clarke	Heriot Watt University reading International Business Management & Languages
Niamh Connolly	Queen's University Belfast reading Chemical Engineering
Nicole Cosgrove	St Mary's University College Belfast reading Primary Teaching
Michael Coyle	University of Huddersfield reading Sports Science
Jack Craig	Queen's University Belfast reading Science
Rachael Crawford	Queen's University Belfast reading Economics & Finance
Danielle Dempsey	Gap Year
Danielle Devaney	Liverpool John Moores University reading Criminology & Psychology
Nadine Dickson	Belfast Metropolitan College reading Computer Science
Amy Doherty	University of Ulster reading Irish Language & Literature
Cara Doherty	Queen's University Belfast reading Business Management
Connor Doherty	Queen's University Belfast reading Law
Gareth Doherty	Queen's University Belfast reading Environment & Development
Shea Doherty	Queen's University reading Politics
Shannon Donaghy	Queen's University reading Pharmacy
Sean Doran	University of Kent reading Astrophysics
Megan Downey	Queen's University Belfast reading Economics
Connor Dudley-Fergus	Gaiety School of Drama Dublin
Abbey Fleming	University of Manchester reading Adult Nursing
Ryan Florida-James	University of Liverpool reading Dentistry
Rhianna Gardiner	Glasgow Caledonian University reading Biomedical Science
Siofra Gillan	University of Ulster reading Radiotherapy & Oncology
James Gillen	Queen's University Belfast reading Economics
Leon Govan	University of Ulster reading Marketing
Niall Hunter	University of Strathclyde reading Mechanical Engineering
Dylan Johnston	Gap Year
Carla Kane	NWRC, BTEC Level 3 Health Sciences
Ryan Kane	University of Glasgow reading Medicine
Dylan Kelly	BMC, Accountancy
Rachel Kelly	St Mary's University College Belfast reading Primary Teaching
Tiarnach Kelly	University of Strathclyde reading Primary Education
Cormac Kerr	Queen's University Belfast reading Computer Science
Saachi Khullar	Gap Year
Christy Laverty	University of Sunderland reading Fashion Journalism
Thomas Magee	University of Ulster reading Biomedical Engineering
Sinead McAtamney	University of Ulster reading Radiotherapy & Oncology
Susan McBride	University of Ulster reading Occupational Therapy
Eimear McCann	Gap Year

Clare McCloskey	St Mary's University College Belfast reading Liberal Arts
Paul McCrystal	Queen's University Belfast reading Law
Jordan McCullough	Gap Year
Odhran McElhinney	University of Ulster reading Computer Science
Carla McErlean	University of Ulster reading Communication, Advertising & Marketing
Mary-Ann McErlean	University of Ulster reading Language & Linguistics
Conor McFeely	Queen's University Belfast reading Engineering
Brendan McFerran	Gap Year
Sarah McGinnis	University of Ulster reading Language & Linguistics
Medbh McLivenny	St Mary's University College Belfast reading Primary Teaching
Eimear McKeown	London School of Economics reading Accounting & Finance
Sarah McKeown	Manchester Metropolitan reading Fashion Buying & Merchandising
Mark McKillen	Queen's University Belfast reading History & Politics
Callum McKinney	University of Ulster reading Economics & Marketing
Shay McLaughlin	Queen's University Belfast reading Chemical Engineering
Sinead McLaughlin	NWRC, BTEC Level 3 Health Sciences
Stephen McLaughlin	Queen's University Belfast reading Environment & Development
Elizabeth McManus	Queen's University Belfast reading Geography
Christine McNally	University College London reading Medicine
Aine McNamee	University of Ulster reading Environmental Health
Ciaran McNicholl	Queen's University Belfast reading Engineering
Lauren McNicholl	University of Liverpool reading Medicine
Shannon McWilliams	Queen's University Belfast reading Law
Una Mellon	University of Ulster reading Occupational Therapy
Laura Millar	University of Ulster reading Architecture
Therese Mullaghan	Gap Year
John Mullan	University of Ulster reading Quantity Surveying
Sean Mullan	University of Edinburgh reading Computer Science
Jessica O'Brien	University of Ulster reading Radiography
Conor O'Callaghan	Belfast Metropolitan College reading Computer Science
Jack O'Doherty	University of Exeter reading Medicine
Alana O'Donovan	University of Ulster reading Biomedical Science
Aine O'Kane	University of Ulster reading International Hospitality Management
Conor O'Kane	Queen's University Belfast reading Law
Ola Owolabi	Queen's University Belfast reading Pharmacy
Gianni Papachristopoulos	University of Ulster reading Sociology
Yasmin Parahoo	Queen's University Belfast reading Philosophy & Economics
Conor Pauling	Commercial Pilot Training
Seanann Quinn	Birmingham City University reading Midwifery
Bronagh Rafferty	University of Salford reading Broadcast Journalism
Conor Rafferty	University of Ulster reading Business Economics with Marketing
Orla Rafferty	University of Ulster reading Communication, Advertising & Marketing
Janosch Railton	Gap Year
Daniel Roantree	Heriot Watt University reading Actuarial Science
Peter Rogan	Queen's University reading Medicine
Caitie Skelly	University of Bangor reading Sports Science
Chloe Stewart	Queen's University Belfast reading Business with Mandarin
Ellen Tracey	University of East Anglia reading Medicine
Niamh Wallace	Queen's University Belfast reading English & Social Anthropology
Daniel White	University of Birmingham reading Physics
Rachel Wilkinson	Queen's University Belfast reading Medicine
Stuart Young	Gap Year

SCHOOL REUNION - Class of 1986

Saturday 8th October saw a gathering of a group of people with one thing in common - to celebrate the 30 year reunion of classmates who all attended Loreto College in Coleraine from September 1979 until June 1986.

The group all met at Coleraine Rugby Club to renew old friendships from over 3 decades ago.

Many had travelled from throughout Ireland, North and South, as well as England.

If anyone out there was a part of the Class of '86 and missed out on a notification to attend, send an email to marinamailey@yahoo.com putting "Loreto" in the subject heading and you will get a notification for the 35 year school reunion.



Back Row: Declan Carey, Anthony Doherty, James Osborne, Paul Wallace.

Standing: Roslyn McErlean, Margaret Tohill, Deirdre McBride, Grainne McMacken, Ann O'Neill, Eilish McAuley, Michelle Hunter, Maggie Mullan, Paul Cunning, Paula McColgan, Shirley Archibald, Marina McCorrison, Stephanie Quigley, Brona Turley, Louise McNamara, Stephen McKillop.

Seated: Liz Braniff, Seana O'Reilly, Fiona Mort, Nicola Knox, Catherine McCloskey, Christina Colangelo, Alison O'Neill all holding Sinead McDonnell. Also in attendance, but missed photo, Kathleen Doherty.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JAMES HISLOP





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