

Saint Joseph's Community College



Newsletter - Christmas 2017

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Welcome

Dear Parent(s)/ Guardian(s)

It's been a busy term at St. Joseph's, from sport to curricular activities such as "Science Week". I want to express my gratitude to the staff, members of the Parents Association and the students for making it a successful first term. The school is also undergoing some enhancement works, upgrading classrooms and improving the general environment of the school grounds. We hope to continue this enhancement into the future in order to provide the best environment for all of our school community.

I wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy 2018.

John Killeen
Principal

Mr. John Killeen, Principal, Councillor Gerry Murray, Mr. John Bones, Deputy Principal, and Monsignor Tommy Johnston at the CBD Calendar launch in Charlestown recently.



A unique first for St. Joseph's and perhaps a first in Ladies Gaelic Football at school's level, where the Senior Ladies team sheet back row read: McHale, McHale & McHale! Holly, (centre), is joined by twin sisters Anna, (left) and Leasha

Important Dates:

CAO: online application 20th Jan 2018

Open Evening: 25th Jan.2018

Mock Examinations for Junior & Leaving Certificate Students begin on Feb.1stth 2018

12th Feb.2018 Midterm

19th March 2018 for St. Patrick's Day

26th March 2018 Easter Holidays

Other dates will be notified as they arise



Science Week was an extremely busy one this year with lots of activities for students in all classes.



Karla, Chloe, Wiktor and Dawid were the victorious 1st year Science team and show their delight in winning.

Where are they now?

Literally thousands have passed through St. Joseph's since the 1950s and it's always nice when students get in touch with their "old" school. One recent graduate (how time flies? it's as if she was only in First Year last year) is Rebekah O'Donohue, who left us in 2014 and studied for a B. COMM in NUIG. She is continuing to study for a Masters and is employed by DNG Galway.



PAST PUPILS:

Please feel free to let us know what you are up to these days by sending us pics or just a line or two of news about your whereabouts and what you are doing with your life!

Putting Scientific theory into practice.....



3rd Years had an egg drop challenge! Tomás, Wiktor and Darragh's team were the winners.

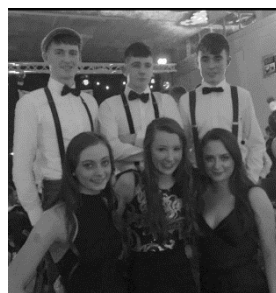


Digging the Spuds! Miss McHugh's Ag. Science class were happy with their harvest...and the chips were delicious too!



Transition Year News

Transition Year 2017-18 had a very busy start to the year. This year's students organised a very successful fashion show on December 7th with great help from the Parents' Association. Many groups have excelled with their mini-companies, with lots of their good work on sale around the community. They've enjoyed a day out at Westport Adventure Centre as well as a hugely successful Cultural Tour to Dublin. They've done great work and we all hope it continues into the new year.



St. Joseph's Gaelic Football (Boys)

Our **Senior** team started the year in good style. We competed in the Flanagan Cup blitz day and topped our group, putting us against Coláiste Mhuire, Tuar Mhic Éadaigh in the final. After a great contest, we won the Flanagan Cup final 2-15 to 2-14 after extra time. (Picture on next page.) Our Connacht league campaign started in early October. We drew two games vs St. Tiernan's and Scoil Muire & Padraig, Swinford. We needed to beat Davitt College in our last league match to qualify from the group but lost out in a titanic struggle.

Our **Junior** team started off their league campaign with a comprehensive win over Colaiste Iascaigh. A draw with Grange PP and further wins over Colasite Mhuire, Ballymote and Enniscrone was enough for our Junior team to progress from the group. The quarter finals will be played in the new year.

Our **1st & 2nd Year** team have played in blitz days arranged by Mayo Colleges GAA and Connacht Colleges GAA. Further blitzes will take place in the new year.

We would like to thank Charlestown GAA for the use of their fantastic facilities. We are truly blessed to have such a high-quality facility on our doorstep. Finally, we would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Kilmovee Shamrocks on their historic county final win last October – well done to all involved.

Careers: Visits to NUIG & GMIT were highlights.....



Spiritual Guidance: The leaving Cert. Students had a very enjoyable trip to the Fr. Peyton Centre in Attymass for a retreat organised by Ms. Farrell.

The whole school community attended Beginning of term Mass at the start of the year and were also in church on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on 8th December. Thanks to Monsignors Johnston and Doherty for their spiritual guidance.

The Art Dept. assisted in making a huge banner in support of the Mayo Ladies for the All-Ireland.



Upgrading and enhancement work is ongoing both inside the school and around the grounds, making for a safer and happier environment for all.



Top Pic.shows some TY girls who are participating in a coaching course. Dwayne and Michael from Volleyball Ireland are the facilitators.

Next Pic; First and Second Yr. Girls are through to the All-Ireland Spikeball Semi Finals which will take place after Christmas.

Below are some of the double All Ireland senior Basketball team who launched the CBD calendar last month



Well Done! To Chelsea and Elisha who have continued their Basketball success of last year into third level with recent success at National level again.



Flanagan Cup Winners, Senior Boys



Amy Mahon had a wonderful tournament as the Connacht u15 Soccer team won the Interprovincial Competition for the first time ever. Amy starred in goal for the Western Province

SOCCER: The senior side qualified from their group by finishing second, a good win over Ballinode but a defeat by Glenamaddy has set up a Quarter Final versus St. Paul's of Oughterard.

The under 17s (pic. below) have had just one game so far, a 2-0 defeat at the hands of St. Cuan's of Galway while the u15 started with a win over Glenamaddy thanks to a James Conway goal. He also netted two more in the following matches. Unfortunately, this was followed by losses to Enniscrone and Swinford.

