

# Saint Joseph's Community College



## Newsletter - Summer 2018

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Dear School Community,

As the newsletter shows, a busy and productive year is coming to a close. It also highlights the huge amount of valuable learning experiences that students are exposed to outside the classroom. I wish to express my gratitude to the staff, who give generously of their time, to facilitate these activities.

We have had some school enhancement work during the school year and I hope to continue this over the summer and in to next year.

We are grateful as a school for the cooperation and support from you the parents and guardians and we look forward to building on this next year.

I wish all our students an enjoyable, safe and happy summer break.

Finally, the very best of luck to our exam students.

John Killeen.

Principal



Our Leaving Certificate Class of 2018 had their graduation on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. It was a joyous occasion starting off with Mass by Fr. Johnston and Fr. Doherty and followed by various speeches before tea and cake for the well-attended event. Go éirí libh sna scrúdaithe!

Vivienne Beirne-taking Art out of the Art room and onto the corridors.....



### Important Dates:

**Leaving & Junior Certificate Summer Exams** begin on Wed.6<sup>th</sup> June

(All students are advised to familiarize themselves with the dates of the various subjects which are available for download from [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie). Print a copy and stick it on your fridge door!)

**BOOK SALE** - Friday, 22nd June (date and time TBC by Parent's Association.

**Return to school:** during last week in August

**Further important notices & dates will be forwarded to you and displayed on our website, Facebook, and Twitter**



Have a safe and enjoyable summer break!





Our first **Funday** took place on a glorious Thursday in May. Great preparation beforehand by some Transition Year students along with the **Parents Association** made for a very special and enjoyable time for the whole school community. To cap it all off the Parents Association cooked a delicious barbecue for students, parents, and all school staff. While everyone was a winner on the day, team honours went to Elaine O'Donnell's group. All teams consisted of a student from each year from First to Leaving Certificate. Mr. Killen is seen presenting the Perpetual Trophy to a proud Captain Elaine.



**Dressing up in Turlough House!** TY Students visited Turlough House and saw how their ancestors lived in an Ireland of another era.

**Cleaner Environment Campaign**

**The First Year CSPE** class under the guidance of Mrs. McDermott are presently undertaking a waste analysis survey on the over usage of paper cups with the hope of rolling out a waste awareness initiative in the next school year.

**Leaving Certs.** on an English play outing to Hawk's Well Theatre in Sligo. (below)



Ms. Walshe took her CSPE Class of Junior Certs. to DÁIL ÉIREANN where local TD Dara Calleary explained to them how the political system and Government works. They were ably assisted by Mr. Garvey.



**Transition Year News** Ty 2017/18 enjoyed a busy and inspiring 12 month. Highlights of the year included many workshops inside and outside school, an age action programme with the local over 55s, Spikeball and French classes in local primary schools, a fashion show and capped off with trips to Dublin and Lake Garda. It was a year to remember and enjoy.



On the 3rd of May the 2nd Year **Home Economics** class went on a lovely trip down to the Crafters Basket in Clifney to purchase supplies for their Junior Cert Craft Project. They also visited **St Angela's College** where they got a tour of the Campus. Pictured here at **Yeats** grave, the students had a very enjoyable day. Thanks to Ms. Farrell for a very educational and interesting outing.

**Gaeilge**

**Foireann Díospóireachta:** well done to our senior debating team: Ruth Duffy, Alex Fleming and captain Aideen Mahon who put a great effort into their díospóireacht only to lose out to eventual All-Ireland winners, St Gerald's.

**Gaeltacht Scholarship:** comhghairdeas le Ruth Duffy agus Laura Dooney a bheidh ag freastal ar Choláiste Mhaigh Eo an samhradh seo buíochas le MSLETB



**Graffiti Artists!** Tys brightened up a dull wall and have a project to be remembered for in the future!



**Leaving Cert Graduation Evening**

saw a great turn out of parents and past pupils. Among the visitors were Mrs. Gallagher and Mrs. Flatley.



Mrs. O'Donnell and Mrs. McCann enjoyed the evening as did the three Sloyan sisters who came back to offer younger sister Anna some support. Ms. McLoughlin, a past pupil herself enjoyed meeting some old friends.

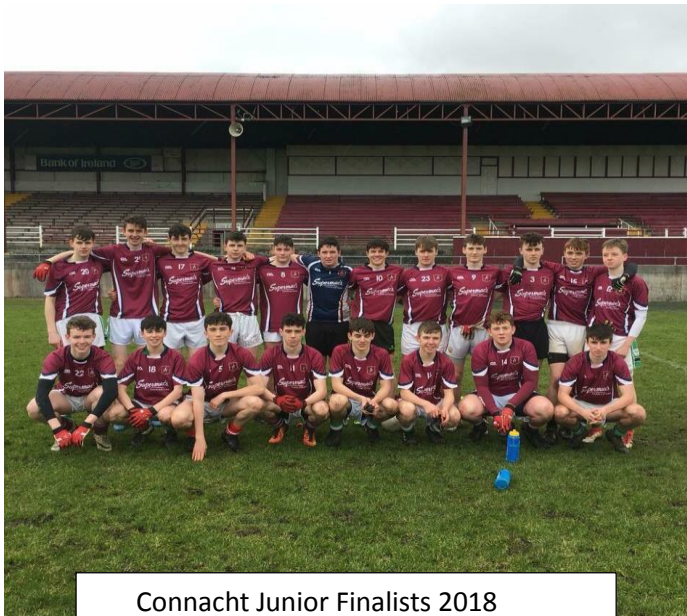




## 2003 Connacht Cup Soccer Winners U.14



**Where are they now?** How many of the 2003 Connacht Cup team do you recognise. A bit of a Spring Clean up recently thrown up this gem of a photo. Some of the lads are still very much to the fore on the sporting field. A few of the boys have started on their own teams for the future! They tell me young Jamie Maye has an even better left foot than his father! We wish them all well for the future. Congrats to Brian on his recent marriage. A misty day in Sligo saw this bunch of lads overcome a very good Manorhamilton side on a 2-1 score line after extra time with a Colm Maye penalty after Tommy Meehan was brought down while latching onto Alan Joyce's cross. **We wish our old captain Tom Parsons a speedy recovery from his recent injury.**



Connacht Junior Finalists 2018

**Well Done!** To Leaving Cert. Student Jack Pilcher and his sister Millie who continue with the sport of **swimming**, a sport that's takes up a great deal of time and persistence.

## Sport, sport and then more sport at SJCC!

There was a very full programme of sports in St. Joseph's this Spring including Boys GAA, Ladies GAA, Soccer, Spikeball and Basketball, etc. Early in Spring the U.19 All Ireland Ladies **basketball** double champions team of 2017 picked up the Western People basketball award and followed that up with the Connaught Telegraph Best young female team award while the younger school girls back in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year were out on the basketball court starting their own journey for fame and topped their groups in Mayo before bowing out to St. Mary's and Gortnor Abbey respectively later on. The school is a leader in **Spike ball** and this Spring was no exception with both first and 2<sup>nd</sup> Years reaching the All-Ireland Finals which were held in UCD this year. They put up a very decent show and the First years were so unlucky just losing out in the 3<sup>rd</sup> set in a titanic final battle for the ultimate crown. The **Ladies Gaelic** team were rejuvenated this year and while still very young, as a senior team, they just missed out by way of scoring averages from progressing to the knockout stages of competition.

The inclement weather did affect the outdoor games and it was very difficult to get fixtures played on time and to get pitches to play on. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> years played a few Gaelic blitzes and performed admirably for what was a new team. The most recent was in Began a few weeks ago. The Junior **Boys Gaelic Football** (see picture over) team went on a great run culminating in reaching the Connaught Final where they lost agonisingly by a solitary point to St. Cuan's of Co. Galway in an entertaining Final. The **Soccer** teams had mixed fortunes. The u.15s played their matches by way of a blitz due to weather and fixture backlog and while they gelled well as a team they did not progress from their group. The U.19 team did progress from their group but came up short at the quarter final stage away to a very good St. Paul's of Oughterard. The u.17 will be disappointed with their lot. progressing from their group they came up second best in a snowstorm in Mervue where Kinvara prevented them from a semi-final appearance. Better news on the soccer front was the success of Amy Mahon, as goalkeeper, on the Connaught team that won the u15 Interprovincial for the first time ever. Amy went on to play in an Ireland representative team following her heroics at Inter Pro level.

Expect **Handball** to get off the ground in the school again. Historically there has always been a few very good handballers around Charlestown and they are keen to put it on the calendar for next year!