

SOLAS MAGAZINE

ST. AIDAN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN HILL, CORK
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All-Ireland Victory

for Aidan's U16 Boys' Basketball Team

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There is a long and proud tradition of basketball in St. Aidan's but 2016 has been a most memorable year with three teams earning county titles and the U16 Boys' team and the U19 Girls' team making it through to the All-Ireland finals.

Our U16 Boys' team returned victorious from the National Arena, beating DLS Waterford 45-41, with superb individual and team performances.

Our teams received a warm welcome from the students at our neighbouring primary school, Scoil Oilibheir, where the stars of the future are now setting

their eyes on All-Ireland glory. Team members are proudly pictured here with their younger siblings.

Congratulations to all who made this such an amazing year for basketball and well done to the boys' coach Ms J Furlong and the girls' coaches Ms M Scanlon and Ms H Mc Carthy.



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Primary School Links

AMAZING ART

Scoil Oilibheir 6th class students enjoy working with our 4th year students on various art and craft work in the school's Art Room under the guidance of *Ms Lee and Ms Tierney*.



Science Made Simple: Aidan's Science Show Extravaganza

In February, as part of Engineers Week, and thanks to DPS sponsorship, St. Aidan's hosted UK Science expert David Price who delivered a Science Show Extravaganza which showed how engineering can make our lives safer and push the boundaries of science. Almost two hundred students, including students from Scoil Oilibheir, got to enjoy the show.

Dear St. Aidan's 4th year class,

We really appreciate you inviting us to visit your school and helping us learn more about 1916. We loved the Slideshow presentation by Owen. He spoke really clearly and gave us lots of information about the week of the 1916 Rising.

We really enjoyed The Rising display in your library. The art work and the historical facts were fascinating. Jamie O' Brien's poem was magnificent. We enjoyed Andrew's narrative story so much that we brought a copy back to school and finished it in class. Thank you to all the students who organised and assisted us with the quiz, flags, news articles (which we used in our 1916 rap video) and most importantly the yummy, delectable sweets! We loved the opportunity to see your school. We liked your big wide open school, the stage and all your cool artwork. Special thanks to Ms. Crean for setting up this link between our school and yours. We hope to see you soon.

*St. Aidan's, We Salute You!!!! Go raibh míle maith
agaibh, Rang 5, Scoil Phádraig Naofa*

THANK YOU!

Aspiring Aidan's ARTISTS



Glen Rovers Commission St. Aidan's young artists for Centenary Celebrations

In January, transition year Art students at St. Aidan's were honoured and delighted to be commissioned by the Glen Rovers to make an artwork commemorating the centenary celebrations of the club. The first painting is of Christy Ring during the early years of the club while the second piece of Jack Lynch depicts the changing landscape of Blackpool with development of the Glen. The last piece is of a modern Blackpool with Stephen Mc Donnell, a past pupil of St. Aidan's Community College who played with The Glen Rovers and is now the Captain of the Cork team.

1st place in National Project Articulation Public Speaking Competition for Ava Hayes!

The ARTiculation Prize is a nationally acclaimed annual event designed to promote the appreciation and discussion of art. Participating students are invited to deliver a ten minute presentation about a work of art, an artefact or architecture of their choice. Adjudicators look at content, delivery and the speaker's original approach and unique potential.

Following the Cork heats Ava successfully won her place in the national final that was held in Lismore Castle on April 12th. Ava delivered a 10 minute presentation on the controversial artist Damien Hirst. In preparation for this piece she obtained a sheep's head and with the help of Science, Metalwork, Woodwork, Art and English departments, suspended the head in a tank of formaldehyde!



My Education, My Future

'My Education, My Future' is an annual exhibition held at the James Barry exhibition centre at C.I.T. Once again our students at St. Aidan's scooped the top awards for excellence. Rebecca Galway was awarded 1st prize for her piece documenting her career path as she hopes to study medicine. Chloe Dalton received the Peoples' Choice Award while Daniel Mulcahy and Chelsea Velasco were recommended for their high standard of work.

Well done to 2nd year Art students on their outstanding contribution to the exhibition.



Boole to School

Transition Year students Sean Boyle, Andrew Grieve, Luke Higginson and Aoife Mulryan are pictured here applying their mathematical prowess to some maths puzzles. They are watched over by George Boole from a project on Boolean Algebra undertaken by Class Deirdre to celebrate his Bicentenary.
Ms M Heneghan-O'Sullivan



Transition Year Digital Team

Last September four students were selected to become part of a digital team under the guidance of Mr Buckley.

Kyle Mc Mullan, Evan Dunbar, James Hegarty and Quintain Noonan were involved in a number of different I.T. projects working on hardware maintenance and assisting in reloading software on more than 150 computers.

Their new skills also enabled them to reload operating systems, update anti-virus software and

internet access across the entire school network. The digital team also assisted in Scratch programming lessons presented by Mr Buckley to pupils from Scoil Oilibhéir. 5th class pupils were taught how to create interactive stories, games, and animations using Scratch and thoroughly enjoyed the lessons.

Mr J Buckley



Stage 1 Junior Cycle English Reform

2nd Year students recently completed the first part of their Junior Cycle English classroom based assessment as part of the reform to English at Junior Cycle.

Communication Task students explored a topic or issue that was of interest to them. The development of basic research skills were central here such as searching for information, reading and note-making, using key questions to give shape to ideas, developing a point of view, preparing a presentation and using props. This task provided

useful opportunities for practice of a range of oral presentation styles and collaboration with classmates in gathering materials.

Students from Class Ambrose are pictured here carrying out research under the guidance of English teacher Ms Mc Donnell.

Ms N Mc Donnell



Geography Field Study

Geography continues to be a popular option subject in St. Aidan's for Leaving Certificate with fieldwork remaining one of the most enjoyable aspects of the coursework. It has been a very busy year with coastal, river and urban fieldworks carried out. There are plans to increase the amount of fieldwork activity in Junior Cycle next year in preparation for the new Junior Cycle syllabus. Students from Class Aonghus are seen here enjoying their river study fieldwork.

Ms M O'Connor





Religion Department 2015-6

The Religion Department had an active and successful year. We welcomed guest speakers from Trocaire, Beat the Blues and The Marie Keating Foundation.

Our Tree of Remembrance in November and our Shoe Box Appeal in December kept us busy through the winter months. Our Trocaire Lenten appeal was also a great success.

Our Meitheal Team visited Scoil Oilibheir to give talks on mental health and general wellbeing. We also had a ceremony for the late

Graham O Connell. Graham was remembered by his classmates who placed a plaque by the tree which was planted in his memory. May he rest in peace.

Transition year students are seen here packing boxes for The Shoebox Appeal.
Mr G Healy



The Sound of Music

Our 1st year music students have been a pleasure to work with this year and enjoyed singing, playing recorder, bodhran and ukulele. While our exam classes have been busy preparing for their exams the sound of "The Big Bang Theory" and "Ode to Joy" have echoed through the corridors. The 5th years gave an impressive performance at our recent Solas Awards night and are in demand at many music venues around the city.

Ms H Williamson

Stylish Stitch

Well done to Joyce Ren and Menjie Liu, 3rd year Class Ronan, on completing their Home Economics practical to the highest standard. Their skill and attention to detail has been outstanding.



Aidan's at the cutting edge

In April, 4th and 5th year Science and Engineering students visited Blackrock Castle to participate in workshops on the cutting edge technology which is used in real-world electronic applications. They were guided through the process of designing virtual circuits online and then testing

them using wires and breadboards. Local tech company representatives from Qualcomm and VCE discussed career options and the exciting possibilities for Science and Engineering students in the future.

Mr P Harrington



LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2016



CLASS AOIFE



CLASS CIARAN



CLASS DEAGLAN



CLASS ODHRAN

A Word from the Principal

In St. Aidan's we have a strong emphasis on students achieving to the best of their academic ability. The school year began with our Leaving Certificate students receiving excellent results. Many have progressed to 3rd level and we wish them every success.

St Aidan's students have benefitted greatly this year from continued links with UCC and CIT. We are also delighted to be one of only 4 schools in the country involved with DPS Engineering and the Student Support Programme.

In February we hosted a STEM show during Engineers week, our TY students won the UCC Engineers without Borders competition and our fantastic basketball teams did us proud bringing home an All-Ireland title.

The Art department scooped the top prizes in the CIT 'My Education My Future' competition, Project Articulate and soon TY art students will present commissioned portraits to the Glen Rovers GAA club to mark their centenary celebrations.

I would like to thank the parents for their support, the students who have worked so hard and the diligent and dedicated staff of St Aidan's.

Best wishes to our Junior and Leaving Certificate students in their exams in June. I'm sure the dedication of these students will be reflected in their results.

I would like to wish everyone a peaceful break for the summer holidays. Looking forward to another productive year in 2016/17

Sheila Curley, Principal

Congratulations to our Solas Award Winners 2016

Exceptional Co-Curricular: U16 Basketball

Best Class: Class Barra

Junior Pupil Endeavour: Rachel Galgey

Senior Pupil Endeavour: Kyle Murphy

Exceptional Pastoral Achievement: Lee Donovan

Edward Pope Memorial: Sean Fogarty

French: Rebecca Kennedy

English: Danielle Newing

Business: Megan O'Connor

Home Economics: Ciara Hurley

Technological: Malkeet Kang

Maths: EJ Albino

Irish: Kelly Meany

History: Alison Power

Geography: Leah Madden

Music: Rebecca O'Donnell

Science: Neil Nietes

Art: Grace O'Shea

Student of the Year

1st year: Katie Mc Carthy

2nd year: Rebecca Galway

3rd year: Jessica Ricken

4th year: Rebecca Lynch

5th year: Morgan Mc Carthy

6th year: Stephen Punch

Junior Academic: Robyn Andrews

Senior Academic: Megan Scollard

Best JC 2015: Owen Forde

Best LC 2015: Katie O'Callaghan

Best LCA 2015: Callum Miloudi

JCSP: Nathan Gleeson

LCA: Sophie Cairns-O'Donovan

Sport Junior: Shauna Lane and Jake Collins

Sport Senior: Kelly Murphy and Ryan Towler

Principal's Award: Donna O'Neill

Community Award: Family of the late Declan Guckian



SOLAS

Awards 2016





Daffodil Day 2016

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped raise €1,435 for the Irish Cancer Society and €641 for the CUH Children's Unit during our annual Daffodil Day and CUH fundraiser.

Mrs M Flavin Murphy

Darkness into Light

TY students are pictured here with Mrs L Haynes prior to their participation in the annual Pieta House Darkness into Light 5k Walk/Run on the morning of May 7th 2016. *Mr K Murphy*



TY students aid research by UCD's Youth Mental Health Lab

Students from St Aidan's participated in research with Clodhna O'Connor from the Youth Mental Health Lab in UCD. Clodhna and her team are developing a computer-based programme which could support teenagers in battling anxiety. Clodhna has won an award from the International Stress and Anxiety Research Society for her advancements in targeting anxiety in young people and she is incredibly grateful for the participation and enthusiasm from the students in St. Aidan's.

Clodhna is pictured here with Transition Year students Oralith O'Leary and Kaithlyn O'Neill and the school chaplain, *Mr Murphy*.



St.Aidan's Scholarships 2016

This year saw the introduction of two scholarships for academic achievement. The Junior Merit Scholarship is awarded to the student who stands out in academic testing in first year while the Senior Merit Scholarship is awarded to the student who excels in performance in the Junior Certificate examinations. Congratulations to the awardees of the inaugural scholarships for 2015-16, Aaron O'Mahony and Owen Forde. Owen and Aaron are pictured here with teacher and Head of Resource, *Mr C Manley*.



Supporting Syrian Refugees

Congratulations to Class Ambrose in 2nd year and their teacher, Mr J Dollard who raised €360 for NASC, The Irish Immigrant Support Centre, Pope's Quay, Cork. This will go towards helping Syrian refugees in Ireland. NASC is a non-governmental organisation that works towards achieving a just, inclusive and equal society. *Mr J Dollard*



SCHOOL TOURS 2016



Turas 6ú Bliain go Ceantra

Chuaigh an 6ú Bliain thiar go Ceantrá ar chúrsa athstaidéir agus bhaineamar an-shúip as go deo. D'fhoghlamaíomar nithe don Scrúdú Béil agus chuamar ag cnocadóireacht leis i dteannta a chéile. Bhí ár gcúpla lá i gcuideachtaí a chéile thar moladh beirte i gcomhlúadar dea-Ghaelainneach. An Ghaoluinn abú go deo!

Mr Rosbaire and Mr Duggan



Turas Ranga Naomh Fiacre 2016

Chuaigh Rang Fiachra ar thuras go dtí Guagán Barra, áit ina n-árdaíonn an Laoi draíochta. D'aithníomar na crainn éagsúla, na bláthanna éagsúla, na dathanna éagsúla agus thosnaíomar ag cumadh "Scribhneoireacht Dúlra" Is dúil an nós é dúinn nasc a dhéanamh lenár gcumadóireacht agus ár n-oideachas dúchasach. Tá feith na filíochta ag borradh i bhfeitheanna ár mic-leinn.

Mr Rosbaire



TY Tour 2016: Paris

42 TY students were lucky to travel to Belle Paris in February visiting many historical land marks such as the Opera House, the Champs Elysees, Notre Dame Cathedral and the Louvre Gallery. A trip to the magnificent area of Montmartre was followed by a boat trip on the Seine with views of the stunning Eifel Tower. The highlight of the trip however was going to Disneyland where we relived our childhood in this amazing park.

Quintain Noonan



CAREERS



Role model Rosemary inspires young Aidan's students

As part of the St. Aidan's STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) Careers programme, past pupil Rosemary Lynch, now VCE Project Manager, visited the school to deliver a presentation on the broad array of excellent careers in this area.



DPS: A Formula for Success

The St. Aidan's DPS Student Support Programme has proved to be of tremendous benefit. Whilst the focus is mainly on 5th year students, hundreds of students across all year groups benefitted from initiatives which have included trips to UCC and CIT, mentoring sessions in DPS head office, leadership training for students through a youth advisory panel, work experience placements, provision of student bursaries, career talks by visiting guest speakers/past pupils and Gaeltacht scholarships and trips. DPS Co-ordinator Janice Mc Garry is pictured here with students from the target group Class Aonghus.



UCC PLUS+ Student Achievement Awards

In March, 8 students along with their parents were invited to the prestigious Student Achievement Awards Ceremony in UCC which acknowledged the potential and effort of 2nd year students. In providing a broad range of educational supports, the UCC Plus programme aims to help students excel in school and progress to third level. Award winners Sidney Uzik, Craig Horgan, Jessica Brook-Stout, Kelly Matthews, Aurimas Paulauskis, James Matthews, Luke Hill, Kaitlin O'Regan are pictured with Ms. Curley, Mr. Forde and Ms. S. Mc Govern, UCC Plus.

Janssen School Business Partnership

Through the Schools Business Partnership St. Aidan's is linked with pharmaceutical giant Janssen Biologics. The benefits of this partnership include site visits to the Janssen facility in Ringaskiddy, workshops on CV preparation and practice interviews with Janssen HR personnel. Many thanks to Liam O'Donnell and his colleagues for coordinating this year's programme. St. Aidan's students are pictured here with Liam O'Donnell and SBP Coordinator Diane Beckingham.





iBank: Making Banking Easier for Students

Transition Year students Quintain Noonan, Michael Mc Elhinney, Eimear Crowley, Rebecca Lynch, Lauren Smith, Aoife Mulryan and Lydia Conway were selected to run the school bank this year. Following interviews organised by AIB Student Officer Damien Power, AIB South Mall, the students were appointed to positions of branch manager, sales and marketing manager, digital officer, auditor and cashier.

The Build a Bank programme provides a practical preparation for learning about running a business. Students were involved in all aspects of banking such as sourcing new customers, encouraging regular savings, customer service and keeping accurate financial records. The TY team branded their bank iBank and ran regular promotions such as iDart, iMovie, and iCandy encouraged students to open bank accounts. The students received a silver award for their participation in the AIB Build A Bank Challenge Regional Finals in March and did themselves and St. Aidan's proud.



Leaving Certificate Applied 2016

The Leaving Certificate Applied classes worked diligently this year in completing their tasks, key assignments and interviews. It has been an exciting journey for the LCA 1 classes who have shown considerable enthusiasm for their coursework.

Rang Barra and Máistir Rossaí went on a fabulous day trip to Mount Mellera's Holy Well, the famous Abbey and the beautiful Vee in the Cnoc Maoldomhnaigh mountains. Another trip took them on a walking tour of Cork City. Class Aine and Barra visited the Cork City Gaol earlier in the year with their English and Communications teachers. Both classes opened and operated very successful cafes as part of their Enterprise and Vocational Preparation modules. *Schoolbucks* and *The Cosy Corner Cafe* were very popular with staff and students alike.

Our budding entrepreneurs welcomed many guest speakers including Ms Trudi Hickey of the Aquaspa in Bishopstown. Ms Hickey is seen here following a talk on opening and running a successful business. Mr Warren is seen here enjoying a wonderful lunch, cooked and served by classes Aine and Barra, under the expert guidance of Ms Kingston.





Proclamation Day, March 15th 2016

Members of the Student Council proudly raised the Irish flag on Proclamation Day with Principal Ms Curley and Deputy Principal, Ms Quane. It was a moving and memorable day which saw Ava Hayes reading the original Proclamation to the school, traditional music performed by Mr Harrington, Mr Doyle and Ms Williamson, song led by Mr Rosbaire and Irish dancing led by Ms Scanlon. We commemorated the past, celebrated the present and imagined the future.



LEAC CHOMORTHA PHOBALCHOLÁISTE AODÁIN 1916-2016

This commemorative stone was put in place to remember the ultimate sacrifice of those who gave their lives to secure Irish freedom in 1916. Our 6ú Bliain students gathered to take the last few photos of their time in St. Aidan's in Christy's Garden. Our motto asks you to let your light shine. The light is not inside you - YOU are the light. You are free. We hope we have done our best to help you along your path. Now, it is your journey to continue from here. Go neiri go geal libh go leir.

Mr Rosbaire



Christy's Garden

We wish Christy Kelleher, our wonderful, kind, obliging and hard-working caretaker, a very happy retirement. Christy is loved by the staff and students in St. Aidan's for his good humour and his welcoming smile. Christy is seen here with our Principal Ms Curley, Mr Rosbaire and 6th year students at the unveiling of a plaque in the garden that Christy lovingly tended to over the years....

Christy's Garden.

An Bosca Ama

The "Bosca Ama", our time capsule, was buried in Christy's garden in Pobalcholáiste Aodáin on the 100th commemoration of the 1916 Rising. Items from our daily lives and a new proclamation written by our students were put inside the capsule. Students are pictured here with Mr Rosbaire and Deputy Principal, Ms Quane, on this historic day.

