



St. Aidan's C.B.S., Whitehall, Dublin

Scoil Aodháin, Fionnbhrú, Baile Átha Cliath

News Update

Spring 2017

Catholic Schools Week

29th January - 4th February

The year's theme was, "Learning with Pope Francis to Care for Our Common Home".

There were a variety of activities that took place to celebrate C.S.W in St. Aidan's. Our day started with a special prayer for that week in tutor class. All 1st and 2nd years attended a special mass with their class tutors. On return to the school after the mass they participated in activities organised by the Ember Team in the hall.

We also held a whole school competition for the best Catholic Schools Week poster. The title for the poster was "Care for the Earth, Our Common Home." The prize was €30 and the standard was very high, making it a tough decision for the judges. The overall winner was Cian Newman from TY. Well done to the Religion Department and all the students involved for making the week such a success.



Lent

Ms. AM Dunne led a special Lenten ceremony recalling the history and tradition of Ash Wednesday and the wearing of ashes.

Students received ashes which were distributed by the Religion department and music was provided by Kevin and Luke, sixth year music students.

Every Wednesday during Lent students can enjoy mass held in the Brothers Oratory.

Easter Sports Camp

As part of our fundraiser for Tanzania, the students and teachers involved are running an Easter sports camp in the school from Tuesday 18th - Friday 21st of April. All money raised will be going directly to the Tanzania Immersion Fund.

If you or any one you know may be interested in the camp, please let us know.

Positive Mental Health Week 16th - 20th January 2017

There were lots of great things planned throughout the week for both students and teachers. Mr. O'Neill gave a motivational talk to 6th years and inspired them in many ways, There was a 1K run with Ms. Mc Donnell, Mr. Hanratty and Ms. O'Dell and a talk from Johnny Cooper. Teachers at lunchtime supervised some in-house lunchtime activities such as the games room (board games, twister, chess) karaoke/music room, sports, chill out room, arts and crafts and comedy room. The care team put a huge amount of effort into organising all the events. The success of the week also relied on everyone's co-operation and input, especially tutors as the students had extended tutor time in the mornings tutor time with mindfulness meditation and colouring page to help relax the students at the start of each day that week. They also had some tea/coffee/hot chocolate and biscuits one of the mornings to start off their day. There was also a poster competition with the theme 'It's OK Not To Be OK'. The senior winner was Matt Moran in 5th year and the junior winner was Evan Foster in 2nd year. They each received a prize of €50. A highlight of the week was the sumo suits which probably generated the most fun amongst the students and some of the teachers. The Care Team would like to say a big thanks to everyone involved in making Mental Health Week such a big success.



Immersion Update

The Immersion team have been very busy with their fundraising from carol singing to bag packing and their recent 'Take Me Out' event was a great success. The fantastic contestants courageously put themselves out of their comfort zone for the entertainment of others while trying to impress the girls! There were some hilarious videos and skills on show to help keep those lights turned on. The contestants were Oisín Logan, Luke MacArthur, Brendan Daly, Enda O'Donnell, Donal Ryan, Luke McCarthy, Eoin O'Flaherty, Lee Gannon and Greg Hossenny. They raised over €4,500 from the event, a big thanks to all involved.

A non uniform day in aid of Tanzania was held on Thursday 16th March and students were encouraged to wear green for St Patrick's Day.

Upcoming events, Friday March 31st there will be a night of musical entertainment upstairs in the Comet bar. There will be some acts from within the student body and the main act will be the group Whistle. Mr. Carl Lombard who is a parent of two students in the school is one of their members. They are a band with a wealth of gigging experience - you can check them out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Whistle.The.Band/> We'd love to see you there and any friends you can rope into coming along. Things kick off at 8pm and entry is €8.

The Easter camp is running from April 18th to April 21st. If you or anyone you know has children who might be interested please let us know. Details can be found on the school website on homepage under latest news.

Thanks to everyone who has donated clothes to our clothes collection. We are still accepting bags. They can be dropped in to school to one of the Immersion team.

Thanks again for all the support. We very much appreciate it.
The Tanzania team.



Jewish Museum

In preparation for doing our Journal Work, myself and the rest of Ms. Kennedy's 2 East religion class went on a class trip to the Irish Jewish Museum in Dublin. On arrival we met our guide Yvonne who accompanied us during the tour, as well as learning many new things from her too. We all had sheets with questions to ask Yvonne about Passover, which is the festival we are studying for our Journal Work. We got to ask these questions in the little synagogue that was upstairs in the museum. Yvonne answered all of our questions about Passover which helped us very much. Afterwards, we got to look around at the various Jewish items, which included a mezuzah, a shofar (ram's horn), a menorah and a kippah. We also learned some Jewish history from Yvonne, who showed us all an old Jewish scroll that was recovered from a burning Synagogue in World War 2. We all then went downstairs where we learnt even more, especially about important Jewish people or figures. One of them was a president of Israel, who was even in the exact same building that we were in before since he grew up in Dublin. Before leaving we all got quizzed on one thing we learned from the museum, but with the various new things we learned, it was no surprise that we all got through it with ease. I am positive that the things we saw and learnt that day is surely going to help us with continuing on with our Journal Work.

Adam Maher 2 East



Robert Kiely French Trip



During the mid-term break, fifty six 3rd Year students and 8 teachers went to Paris, France for a cultural trip. The trip lasted for four days in total. The trip began at the early time of 3.25 am on Monday, February 20th in Dublin airport. Our flight left at 6.30 am and upon arrival in Paris we received a guided tour of the city from our bus driver Johann. After the bus tour we arrived at the Louvre art museum, where we saw the Mona Lisa and more. Later in the evening, we went to the Sacré Coeur where we had an amazing view of Paris. The next day we went to Napoleon's tomb and the National War Museum. Then we went

on a boat trip on the River Seine before having dinner and some time for shopping on the most famous avenue in Paris – the Champs-Élysées. On day three, we visited Disneyland Paris for a full day. We spent the day on rides, eating in Planet Hollywood and we even stayed to watch the amazing lights and fireworks show that night. On the final day we received a guided tour of the Stade de France and Montparnasse Tower. We arrived back in Dublin that night at the late time of 12.30 am. All in all, the trip was a massive success and I'd like to say thank you to all the teachers, Ms. Nash, Ms. Donnelly, Ms. Ní. Bhraonáin, Frances, Ms. O'Flanagan, Mr. Gill and Mr. Humphreys for making it all possible.

Robert Kiely (3 South)



Blood upon the Rose

Debbie, a producer from Near FM, contacted the school looking to collaborate on a programme exploring literature and art of 1916. The radio programme featured the graphic novel, "Blood Upon the Rose" by Gerard Murphy. A group of ten students from the senior art class had to look at and review the book, which is very short. Then the students had to produce one scene from the story of the Rising in graphic novel style. Gerard, the writer and artist behind 'Blood Upon the Rose' is a really interesting man and great storyteller. He visited the school for a workshop with the boys. The Near FM Outside Broadcast unit were there to record the visit. The boys were interviewed after the workshop and enjoyed their first radio experience. The schools rising programme was broadcast on the 30st March and can be podcast <http://nearfm.ie/schools-rising/> The boys really enjoyed the process and the parents particularly loved listening to the programme when it broadcast.



Dublin City Student Enterprise Awards

St. Aidan's were well represented at the Dublin City Student Enterprise Awards on March 8th in Croke Park. Over the course of the year all TY students were involved in running a mini company.

Two groups 'DC Dragons' and 'PopOuts' were put forwards to represent St. Aidan's at the city final. DC Dragons stole the show and came first in the senior category. They will now represent Dublin and compete at the National Final on May 3rd.



Always great to see Sam

Sam Maguire came to visit us here in St. Aidan's before Christmas. Cormac Costello from the Dublin team held Sam up as he walked through the crowded hall so that everyone could get a closer look at Sam. They were all delighted to see Sam again.



Jump Zone

1 West had a great day out in Jump Zone for their "tutor trip". Their class tutor Mr. Hanratty had a great time too, young at heart!



Trip to the European Parliament

At the end of last year St. Aidan's CBS won a Schools Competition run by EUROSCOLA whereby our school was asked to design a poster themed around European cities in 1916. The winning entry was from Rodrigo Soberon Pena in 5th Year.

EUROSCALA is a European Parliament programme that gives young people the opportunity to discuss their expectations and ideas on the progress of European integration and to share this day with young people from other European Union countries.

The prize is a subsidised trip to Strasbourg to represent Ireland at Euroscola on Thursday 30th of March.

In the summer newsletter there will be a full update on the trip. The 24 students, along with staffmembers Mr. O'Neill, Ms. Mc Quaid and Ms. K. Morris will spend 2 days and 3 nights taking in the sights of Strasbourg as well as attending the European Parliament for a full day of events along with schools from 21 other European Union countries. All are very excited about the trip!





First Time Ever Two in a Row

The semi-finals of Dublin saw the lads up against a young Moyle Park side. After a hard defeat against Ard Scoil Rís last year they came out in full swing and killed the game off quick and early. They enjoyed a twenty point margin as they eased through to face St. Fintans Sutton in the Dublin Final.

The Dublin final in the Oblate Hall was the first truly tough test the lads faced as they started on the back foot and faced an early ten point deficit. Some static and uncharacteristic play saw the lads down at half time. A third quarter comeback was led by Brian Ashton who began to show his class. Some excellent play down the stretch from Matt Treacy and Stephen Canning helped the school to its first ever senior Dublin A Basketball Title. Next up on the calendar was a trip down to Cork to face Mercy Mounthawk in the All-Ireland Cup Semi-Final. Nerves were high as both teams struggled to settle into the game early but some prolific scoring from Cameron McCormack gave St. Aidan's the lead after the first quarter. Stephen Canning proved to be a cut above the rest carrying his team the rest of the way finishing as the games top scorer.

Next up was All-Ireland Final day in the National Basketball Arena, Tallaght. It was a repeat of last year's final as the lads took on Coláiste Choilm Ballincollig in what was the most anticipated game of the year. Ballincollig were keen to get their own back after last year's gut wrenching defeat. It was Ballincollig who started off better with quick scores and impressive outside shooting that saw them hold a fourteen point lead at half time, a deficit that would have been much more if it wasn't for the outstanding individual play of Matt Treacy. Everyone gave the lads no chance except the players themselves who found in them to come out into the second half with a fighting attitude. Brian Ashton, named the game's Most Valuable Player, led the comeback, along with some strong scoring off the bench from Emmet Lawless to gain back the lead. The lads never stopped the pressure and sealed the game with important free throws from Cameron McCormack and Emmet Lawless. St. Aidan's secured back-to-back All-Ireland A Cup Titles for the first time in school history. They have become only the second team in the history of school basketball to win two All-Ireland A Cup Titles in a row. Their phenomenal achievements will be remembered for years to come as they have carved a path to success for all future teams and players.





School Golf

The St. Aidan's CBS school social golf challenge took place on Saturday 11th March with a fantastic turnout of 21 golfers. A mix of students, past students, parents and staff battled against one another in teams of 3 on a beautiful tropical spring day in Elm Green Golf Club. In the end 2 teams returned the same score and could only be split on their best last six holes. Congratulations and well played to Dean Duffy, Alex Tyrrell and Dean Russell who emerged victorious. Hard luck to runners-up Luke McCarthy, Sean Kellett and Robert McCarthy. Another winner on the day was Carl Smith who won a nice prize for his nearest the pin shot on the 11th par 3. All in all it was a fantastic day in great company and well done to all who played.

The next event on the St. Aidan's CBS golf calendar is the school championship which takes place on Friday 28th April in Clontarf Golf Club at 8am, where Sean Kellett sets out to defend his title. Any student with an official GUI handicap is more than welcome to play, please contact Mr. Lowry if interested.

U19b Badminton

On December 20th the U19 badminton team played in the Dublin quarter-final. This was the first time our U19s reached the semi finals. The match finished in a 3-3 draw, count back on points put us ahead 159-157!

Congratulations to Matthew Ryan, Kritish Gopi, Jason Doyle and Adam Sheridan

TY Boxing

Ryan Byrne, Reece Poutch, Jamie Farrell all represented St Aidan's by taking part in a boxing show case in the National Boxing Stadium organised by Michael Carruth and Oisín Fagan. Well done to the boys!

