



Ms. Mc Cole, Nataniel, Tobi, Mark, Kevin, Ms Mc Monagle, Jamal, Aaran, Calvin, Martin, Sean, Enda, Calvin, Conor, Killian, Dean, Denzel, Caolan, Ryan, Jeremiah, Tom, Uzair & Lewis.



Front row left to right: Sam Grant, Shane Mc Monagle, Jude Patton, Caelan Brennan, Reelan Mc Hugh, Edwin Nwasu, Aman Abadi, Fintan O'Kane, Kyle Callan, Ivan Bibat, Aidan Arthur David Azoro, Vincent Kavanagh, Levente Erni, Paul Mc Fadden, Eddy Kepnang, Kevin Barnie, Daniel Otitwumasi & Brian Anthony with Ms. Gildea and Mrs Doherty S.N.A.



Back row left to right: Joseph Boateng, Peadar Mc Geehin, Kealan Dunleavy, Denzil Duncan, Oskar Iszakula, Kamil Wawizyniak and Ms. Reid.

Middle row left to right: Mark Coleman, Ben McFeeley, Muhammed Khan, Kane McGlynn, Omar Ismail, David Boakye, Jervin Baylon, Martin McDonagh, Daniel Burrows.

Front row left to right: Dean Stewart, Konrad Fajkowski, Amos Fakrogha, Jade Meehan, Patrick Donnell, Damien Whoriskey, Oran Tooms & Dillon Stokes.



Back row left to right: Cormac Logue, Stephen Lindsey-Duffy, Conor Duffy, Andrew Grant, Shujah Belman, Wekem Akeiwe, Matthew Mc Nutt, Kieran Mongan, Isaac Abankwah, Ms. Campbell.

Middle row left to right: Mrs Brid Harley S.N.A., Nathaniel Keeney, Joseph Nwaduke, Martin Mc Donagh, Conor Donnelly, Pearse Gallagher, Rushik Arockiam, Mark Peoples, Michael O'Donnell. **Front row left to right:** Adrians Kravalis, Charles Mc Donagh, Martin Duffy, Shane Mangan, Johns Jomon, Gavin Forde, Adam Orr, Jack Feely, James Meehan, Hobey Mauricio & Conor Whoriskey.



Front row left to right: Seamus Mc Laughlin, Jersey Garcia, Ciaran Doherty, Gerard Duffy, Toki Hassan, Raymond Duffy, Josh Quigley, Emmett Kerr.

Middle row left to right: Shaun White, CJ Castillo, Ryan Hamilton, David Scanlon, Anton Reva, Russell Forde, Richard O'Leary, Timi Akinyimika, Denzel Kwateng.

Back row left to right: Patrick Myers, Shane O'Donnell, Matthew Noonan, Kieran Harkin, Aidan Boyce, Tomasz Pyszka, Basel Tarig & Andrew Gillen with Ms. Anne O'Donnell S.N.A., and Ms Doherty.



Back row left to right: Brendan Horgan, Christopher Coleman, Ben Walsh, Clinton Ilupeju, Odhran Donnelly, Seamus O'Donnell, Bruno Marques, Edward Grant.

Middle row left to right: Ryan Gallagher, Michael Nwadike, Rhys Mullen, Shay Mitchell, Reece Quill, Andrew O'Connor, Adeolu Ogunleye, Shane Boyle, Aaron Calpin, Eoghan Mc Shane, Conor Mc Kinney.

Front row left to right: Kacper Klos, Gavin Johnston, Christopher Mc Donagh, Ahmed Soressa, Martin Soar, Deji Bashar, Gabriel Aduaka, Seamus Boyce, Brandon Mc Ginley & Sean Houston with Ms Duffy, Ms Curley and Ms Jean Ryan S.N.A.



Back row left to right: Sean Mc Crossan, Adam Doherty, Dan Boyle, Aaron Boakye, Ms. Roddy, Ryan Lawson, Moses Boakye, Ethan Carry, Adam Kardos, Dylan Owens, Cal Deveney, Corey Lavery, Philip Doabo, Conor O'Donnell.

Front row left to right: Luke Mc Cay, Anthony Mc Glynn, Mrs Margaret Toner S.N.A., Ryan Scanlon, Filip Blazejczek, Kyle Quigley, Kyle Quigley, Saul Miller, Mateusz Morys, PJ Dorrain, Michael Gallagher, Martin Eakin, Nicholas Mc Loughlin, & Leon Mc Ewen.



Back row left to right: Ms. Mc Clafferty, Tomas Misiukericius, Oisín O' Horce, Conor Kelly, Jordan Nelis, Andy Dong, Ronan Duffy, Gerry Stokes, Richard Ogujava, Sean Logue, Ms. Mc Laughlin S.N.A.

Front row left to right: Ryan Mc Geever, Jordan Donnell, Anthony Foy, Fintan Keeney, Montaser Ismail, Jakub Paulowski, Leyl Whoriskey and Filip Szabelski.



Back row left to right: Ms. Doherty, Juan Gabriel, Bradley Yeboah, Wiktor Furgal, Christopher Ward, Umar Adeyoola, Ian Bagasala, Christopher Gamble, Mrs Pasqueline Blake S.N.A.

Front row left to right: Tommy Dorrian, Aaron Mussing, Ermia Cirpaci, Jaime Gallagher, Oisín Purdy, Jonathan Martin, Lorcan Hughes, Morgan Patton, Anthony Quill, Finn Mc Hugh.



Back row left to right: Ms. Stewart, Joseph Dorrian, Michael Bell, Daniel Woycium, Michael Lagan, Jalen Raposo, Christopher Gallagher, Jerome Angel, Athuhene, Brandon Maneus, Ms. Justine Fisher S.N.A.

Front row left to right: Jack Kelly, Nigel Duncan, Ronan Downey, Jamie Doran, Dominic Dwyer, Rory Gallen, PJ Mc Laughlin, Liam Kenny, Jerry Obi.



Alex Kellerman, Patrick Mc Connigley, George Akpoibo, Mazen Elkashif, Dylan Mc Evilly Rush, Alex Good, James Mc Cay, Michael Soar, Odhran Curran, Cale O' Donnell, Ciaran Kelly, Abdul Rahman, Anthony Horgan, Ibraheem Zaid, Ben O' Connor, Arlen Noonan, Eamon Harkin, Connor Boyce, Niall O' Donell, Cory Lee Callan, Conor Duffy, Emilio Fognini, Wallacy Calderia, Kiki Hassan, James Tourish, Ian O' Donell, Brendan Mc Glynn with Ms. O'Connor and Mrs Kelly S.N.A.



Back row left to right: Mr. Ruari Kavanagh, Kacper Grudzinski, Jordan Gallagher, Jordan Mc Ginley, Fola Adeyoola, Lawrence Acquah, Dale Conaghan, Craig Peoples, Charlie Kelly, Sean Birrell, Miss Ana Wasilewska (SNA).

Middle row left to right: Krystian Szymajda, Bartek Dabkiewicz, Eoin O'Kane, Tommy Morris, Keelan Kildea, Jason Kane, Richard Mawhinney, Caolan Vaughan, Christopher Duddy, Brandon Gibbons, Webert Wagner.

Front row left to right: Nathan O'Leary, Sebastian Kieloch, Liam Nelis, Aaron O'Donell, Ashish Sajeev, Mogtuba Ismail, Cian Walsh, Shea O'Hara



Back row left to right: Brandon Shields, Steven Mc Cafferty, Brajari Kotulski, Pdraig Mc Ateer, Sean Donnelly, Paul O'Brien, Christopher Brogan, Conrad Neild, Kristen Doherty, Jay Lecky, Ashley Kavanagh, Mark Mc Geeves, Luke Fisher, Patrick Hamilton, Farhan Elahi, Przemek Gojski, Christopher Dear, Luke Nelis, Gary Mc Daid, Ciaran Coyle & Ronan Gallagher with Mr O'Donnell and Mrs Emery S.N.A.



Front row left to right: Paul O'Dowd, Rory O'Hara, Odhran Mc Grath, Ryan Catterson, Kamil Plewa, Gary Quigley, Seamus Hawkins, Damon Brogan, Kevin Yeung, Kealan O'Donnell, Thomas Mc Daid, Kevin Connors, Steven Stokes, Stephen Murren, Raymond Rodgers, Mrs Daly, Junata Da Costa Felix, Kristan Reich, Guilherme Marques, Dylan Whoriskey, Lochlan Purdy, Leon Uaughan, Aaron Mc Crossan, Kamil Kostrzewa, Marios Chlebowski, Mrs Moore S.N.A., Gabriel Boakye, Percy Otoo & Seamus Gibson.



Back row left to right: Gary Hamilton, Hubert Aronowski, Liam Mc Fadden, Erwin Ualego, Bartok Szewczyk, Neil Mc Geever, Tadhg Hickey, Cian Hickey, Christopher Quinn, Michael Miller, Ryan Rower, Conor Fitzgerald, Ciaran Hughes, Christopher Flanagan, Michael Kennedy, Caolan Meehan, Ryan Bonner, Gabriel Trake, Stefan Cullen, Joseph Friel, Shane Calpin, Jan Dubei, Dylan Sweeney, Dean Hamilton, Aaron O'Connell, Edward Curran, Gavin Elliott & Mateusz Sobecak with Mr Crossan.



Back row left to right: Shaun Kelly, Ryan Mc Ginty, Noah Sanni, Karl Graham, Davin Orr, Mr J P Gallagher, Faruk Amin, Anthony Porter, Conor Quill, Shay Doherty, Ryan Mc Crossan. **Middle row :** Rafal Morys, Cameron-Lee Downey, Conor Kelly, Rory Mc Crossan, David O' Donnell, Patrick Curran, Brian Elliot, Wojtek Szatko, Mateusz Wawrzywiak, Karol Bauer. **Front row left to right:** Jack Bien, Gavin Cox, Ryan Orr, Adrian Michalowski, Niall Mc Daid, Stephen Hamilton, Christopher Byrne, Adam Dowling.

Missing from these snapshots is the 6th class of Ms Alma Kavanagh.

HAPPY 125TH ANNIVERSARY CUMAN LUTHCHLEÁS GAEIL

On the 24th of April 2009, we had a GAA day to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Cumann Luthchleás Gael. It was held in our school, Scoil Cholmcille.

Everyone was allowed to wear their county colours and most people wore Donegal jerseys. Mr Kavanagh took the junior classes for some coaching in the morning. The hall had been decorated with GAA decorations. Photographs were taken in the hall on the GAA fun day.

From 1 o'clock to 3 o'clock the senior end got their turn to enjoy some of the coaching. We were soloing and kicking the ball to each other in turns. We also took shots at the goal, played football tennis, learned more about soloing, the pickup and doing a fist pass and played many more games. The coaches were Mark Crossan (former county captain), Eamon O'Boyle (St. Eunan's team manager), Paddy McGowan (St. Eunan's Senior Star), Gavin Graig (hurling coach/St. Eunan's player), Christy Toye, Eamonn McGee ((Donegal GAA stars) and Ms. Kavanagh and Mr. Kavanagh who organised the event.

When we got outside to play we had so much fun and we played so many games it was like a sports day, except it was a GAA celebration. We also took part in Gaelic, Hurling, Football Tennis and much more. The only thing that would have made the day absolutely superb is if it was the last day of school. It wouldn't have happened without the help of Mr Kavanagh and Ms Kavanagh. Thank you all for a brilliant day.

Christopher Duddy,
Jason Kane,
Sean Birrell,
Mogtaba Ismail



Athletics 2009

21 boys from 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th classes went to Ballybofey on Wednesday May 27th. They came back with a total of nine medals - six gold, two silver and one bronze. Many of the boys also received certificates of distinction in their events.



Mrs. O' Malley, Ms. O' Sullivan, Mr. Cannon. Mogtaba Ismail, Dylan Whoriskey, Webert Wagner, Jordan Mc Ginley, George Akpoyibo, Kristian Reich, Stephen Hamilton, Shay Doherty, Fintan Keeney, Shane O' Donnell, Oisín Purdy, Fola Adeyoola, Umar Adeyoola, Lochlainn Purdy, Sebastian Kieloch, Isaac Abankwah, Ciaran Kelly, Niall O' Donnell.



GOLD MEDAL WINNERS IN THE SENIOR RELAY RACE:
Niall O'Donnell, Fola Adeyola, Lochlainn Purdy, Ciaran Kelly.



ISAAC WON GOLD IN THE 60M AND SILVER IN THE 100M
Mrs O'Malley and Isaac Abankwah



WARMING UP BEFORE THE COMPETITION
Sebastian, Kristian, Fintan, Shay, Oisín, Jordan, Webert, Dylan and Mogtaba



SEBASTIAN WON BRONZE IN THE BALL THROW
Kristian Reich and Sebastian Kieloch.

GAELIC FOOTBALL 2009

Cumann na mBunscol Roinn a hAon(1) Schools Champions '09

Another fantastic year for the school gaelic team, being crowned Cumann na mBunscol Roinn 1 Champions '09 – for the second year in a row. This years format was different from others, as we were defending champions and it was a knockout competition from the beginning – so the 1st round saw us having to play a tricky away from home game V Scoil Croinin, Dungloe. It was a fantastic game end-to-end action, with Scoil Cholmcille emerging eventual winners on a score line of 6-12 to 4-9.

We then progressed to semi-finals stage, a very fancied Carndonagh Boys school, again played away from home, our school side stormed to victory, on a score line of 9-18 to 3-5.

The final was looming and the news reached the school that we would be playing Scoil Iosagain of Buncrana, whom we played in the final the previous year. It was played in Convooy on a sunny Saturday morning and we were not going to relinquish our title without a fight. Scoil Cholmcille played a powerful final and whilst the score line does not reflect the overall standard of the game, we were crowned Cumann na mBunscol Champions '09, for the second year in succession.

Captain Christopher Flanagan and Michael Miller raised the cup, to the delight of principal, teachers and parents present.

Final Score 5-14 to 2-3

Well Done Boys

Rounders.....A Historic First



2009 saw the coming together of forces to enter a mixed team into the Cumann na mBunscol Rounders competitions.

Scoil Cholmcille and Scoil Mhuire gan Smál, combined players to enter their first ever Rounders Team. They played St. Josephs Trentagh, in their first competitive game in O'Donnell Park, which they won and progressed to the county semi final stage in Donegal town. It was a great game against a very able and talented Donegal side, losing out narrowly by a few runs. The girls and boys should be very proud of their first year's progress and Ms Kavanagh would like to thank Mr Cannon, Mrs Ferry, Ms Nicholls and Séan Dunne for their assistance in this joint venture.

*Well Done Boys and Girls as bronze medallists,
you should be very proud of yourselves*

TAG RUGBY 2009

It was another exciting year in Scoil Cholmcille, with tournaments played in Omagh and Letterkenny Rugby Club. All boys played excellently and the 'Tag Rugby'

Tournaments were fun, well organised and enjoyable. Thank you also must go to Declan Bushell, school rugby coach who came into our school this year to coach our classes.



Fun Day



On Fun Day I came into school and I was late but I just made it in time. We went over to the main school to have Fun Day. We were so excited when we got there. We did the potato and spoon race and everyone was good at it but Ian was the best at it. I was second best at it. Then we did the sack race. I was really good. When it was done we did penalty shoot outs. I scored 3 goals. Then we did hockey. Our team won. After that we did the bouncy castle obstacle course.

Aran Ferguson 3rd Class

Fun Day was in June. It was very good. We went on a bouncy castle. Then we played basket ball and we had a potato race. After that we went to the penalty shoot out, and we played hockey. At the end we went to the bouncy castle again. It was an obstacle bouncy castle. We had a party in the class. Everyone had a great day.

Christopher Ward 3rd Class

On Fun Day we got to play lots of good games. My favourite game was the Obstacle Course and the Bouncy Castle. We also played the potato and spoon race, penalty shoot out, sack race, basket ball, hockey and all kinds of different races. I had an exciting day and I saw my younger brother. I had no home work so when I got home I played my Nintendo DS, but when I turned it on my mum reminded me that I had to clean the whole house. So it wasn't a very fun and exciting day after all !!

Ian Oliver 3rd Class

When it was fun day I was so excited. We had to bring in two bottles of water and put on suncream. My favourite thing was the penalty shoot out and the bouncy castle. I really liked it, it was so much fun. It was very hot outside, that is the reason we needed the water bottles and the suncream. We played the potato and spoon race, basket ball, the three legged race, bouncy castle, hockey, penalty shoot out and other fun games. After fun day we all had a party. We had juice, crisps and a lolly pop. It was only a wee party !!

Tommy Dorrian 3rd Class



Summer

Summer is good
Summer is sweet
Summer is like one wonderful treat
Summer is good
Summer is great
In Summer there's nothing to hate.

Lorcan Hughes 3rd Class



Mrs Kavanagh's Class on Fun Day





ALL STARS

CYCLIST

Jordan McGinley



My name is Jordan mc Ginley. I am 13 years old. I live in Churchill I am a talented cyclist. I am a member of the Northpole Cycling Club. I train almost every day. I cycle an average of 20 mph for 20 miles. I have a Cervelo bike. My trainer is Seán McFadden. He helps me to win races. Séan has won many races also. My heroes are Seán McFadden and Philip Deignan. Philip is an international and professional cyclist. He won a stage in the Vuelta a Espana recently. Seán and Philip are super cyclists. They are both past pupils of Scoil Cholmcille. I hope to cycle 73 miles in the summer in the Sligo to Letterkenny Cycle Event organised by Paddy Delap.



ALL STARS

HURLER

Steven McCafferty



My name is Steven Mc Cafferty. I am twelve years old. I play for Burt Hurling Team. We wear blue and yellow strips. There are fifteen players on the team We play with a hurley and a sliotar. Our manager is my uncle Martin. We train in Burt. I have learned a lot of skills. I am getting better every week. I really like playing for Burt.

We won many games. I hope to be able to play Hurling as well as D.J. Carey some day.



ALL STARS

JOCKEY

Jay Lecky



My name is Jay Lecky. I am 11 years old. I like to ride horses. My dad was a professional jockey. I have a little pony called Shakira. I ride her around the field. My big horse won champion horse title in Dingle, Co. Kerry. His name is Torres. My uncle was riding him and he is a champion jockey. My heroes are Ruby Walsh, Jason and Paul Lecky. They are very successful jockies.



ALL STARS

SOCCER PLAYER

Connor Neild



My name is Connor Neild. I am twelve years old. I am a very good soccer player. I play football every chance I get. I play for Kilmacrennan Celtic under 14 team. We wear a black and white strip .I also play for Scoil Cholmcilles soccer team. We wear a burgundy coloured strip. I play up front. I have scored many goals for my Teams. My favourite team is Manchester United . I saw Manchester United play 3 times. My favourite player is Messi. He is from Argentina. He plays for Barcelona in Spain. He plays left wing. I train every week and I play every Saturday. My dream is to play for Manchester United one day.



ALL STARS

GAELIC FOOTBALL

Jordan O'Dowd



My name is Jordan O' Dowd. I am 12 years old. I am a good Gaelic footballer. I play for St Eunans under 13 's and under 14's. We wear black and amber strips. I play corner forward. Our team managers are Paul Carr and Christie Gillespie. We train three times a week at O' Donnell Park. I also play on Scoil Cholmcille's Gaelic Football team. Mr Gallagher and Mr Kavanagh coach us. We won Cumann Na mBunscoil County Final two years in a row. My football heroes are Ciaran Whelan and Bernard Brogan. They play for Dublin. I would like to play for Dublin when I am older.



ALL STARS

CHAMPION BOXER

Christopher Stokes



Hi, my name is Christopher Stokes. My favourite sport is Boxing. I've had six fights already this year. I have won three out of six of the fights. I was disappointed on Monday 9th October when I lost. The score was 3-2. When I'm older I would like to fight internationally. My favourite boxer is Amir Khan. Amir Khan became professional in 2005. I spar Sean Boyle who is twelve and Patrick Ward who is thirteen. My trainers are called Owen, Kevin, Jack, Michael, Johnny, Jondy and Malige. Not all of them boxed when they were younger.



ALL STARS

ATHLETICS

Oisin Purdy



This year has been very good for my athletics. First in December the Cross Country for Donegal was on and I got a gold team medal. Then the Ulster for cross country was on in Jordanstown. The grass was really long but I still managed to get a gold medal. After 3 months, the Donegal's track and fields was on. I got a silver medal for the long jump. Then came the schools athletics day in Finn Valley. I came in fourth. Most recently I got 2 gold medals and a silver in the Ulster Championships. Now I'm through to the All Ireland's in Templemore in Tipperary.



ALL STARS

KARATE

Christopher Gamble



My favourite sport is Karate. It is really fun. Sometimes you can enter Karate competitions. In the competitions you can win trophies and medals. Some of the trophies are really big. When you pass the grading you get a certificate. I have got three certificates and five medals. I don't have any trophies yet. Sometimes the competition can be hard and sometimes they can be easy. Karate is great fun !!!



ALL STARS

CONSOLE KING

Gary Quigley



My name is Gary Quigley. I am 11 years old. I am very good at playing my X BOX. I can work out very hard programmes on it. I learned a lot of skills on how to survive in many situations. My favourite games are Halo 3, ODST, Left for Dead, Gears of War and Tom Clancy War. My Mum and Dad bought me my X BOX last Christmas. I would like to thank them very much for giving it to me.



ALL STARS

SWIMMING

Leon Vaughan



My name is Leon Vaughan. My favourite sport is swimming. I swim for Swilly Seals A.S.C. I swim six times a week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6.30 - 8.00 in the morning when everybody else is asleep. I also train on Sunday mornings from 7.30-9.00 and Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Aura leisure centre in Letterkenny. Caólan and Jonathan are also super swimmers.



ALL STARS

ATHLETICS

Lochlain Purdy



My name is Lochlain Purdy. I am 11 years old. I run for Letterkenny Athletic Club. I train on Tuesday and Thursday. Last year I competed in the Ulster Indoors. My relay team won the Ulster indoors and got third in the all Ireland indoors. After that I competed in the Ulster outdoors. I won the Ulster U12 80m sprint and finished 9th in the all Ireland outdoors. My relay team got third in the all Ireland outdoors and third in the Community Games all Irelands. Next year I would like to turn my Bronze medals into Gold medals.



ALL STARS

WRESTLER

Ian O'Donnell



My name is Ian O'Donnell. I am 10 years old. I am a good wrestler. I wrestle in the Park. I wrestle with Gareth, Jordan and Jay. I can lift them on my shoulders and slam them on the ground. My favourite wrestlers are the Undertaker. I also like Ray Mysterio, John Cena, The Rock and Hulk Hogan. I watch wrestling on television every day. There is exciting competition and I really like watching them. You have to be strong to be a wrestler. You have to be fast and know how to get your opponent down on the ground for 3 seconds. Good wrestlers do not hurt one another.



ALL STARS

GOLFER

Seán Donnelly



My name is Seán Donnelly. I am a good golfer. I am a member of Rosapena golf club and play there every week. Sometimes I play in Barnhill Letterkenny. I play with my cousin Jamie. He has a 10 handicap. To be a good golfer you have to be strong, fit, have good eyesight and excellent concentration. I am very strong and I can drive the ball 230 yards. My putting is also very good. However I have to work hard to improve on my chipping. I have a super set of golf clubs which my Dad and Granda bought for me. I really enjoy playing golf and hope to be a professional golfer one day. My heroes are Rory Mc Elroy and Ernie Els. I watch them carefully when I see them playing on TV and I try to learn from them.

Hello everybody from a Very Busy Language Support Unit at Scoil Cholmcille.



Mrs McGinley, Mrs McClafferty, Miss O'Sullivan, Miss Keys, Mr McArdle. The language support team.

We have all been very busy supporting our newcomer pupils to adjust to the Irish culture and customs. We offer congratulations to the boys who joined to school community and learned a new language, new games and made new friends. Well done to you all!

Ms Keys

"We may have different religions, different languages, different coloured skin, but we all belong to one human race."

Kofi Annan

Jhonata De Costa Felix

My name is Jhonata De Costa Felix. I come from Brazil. I came to Ireland in 2007. I lived in a big city called Goias, in Brazil. I came to Ireland with my mum, dad and sister Vanessa. I have a brother in Brazil, his name is Leo; I miss him very much. In Brazil it is always sunny, we play outside a lot. In Ireland the weather is very cold. I don't like the cold weather. In Brazil we cook a lot outside on barbecues, I really like it. When it is warm in Ireland we have barbecues too. My favourite foods in Brazil are rice, beans and beef. I also love mangoes. We pick them off the trees in Brazil; they are really tasty.

A lot of people play football in Brazil, I love football. We have a lot of famous Brazilian footballers like Ronaldo, Rivaldo, Pele, Kaka and Robinho. In Brazil the schools open their gates to everyone so that they can play football on the pitches. We also play football on the beach it is great fun. We have small nets on the sand and we try to score goals against our friends. There are lots of football schools in Brazil which train people to become excellent footballers. My favourite footballer is Ronaldinho. He is a great footballer; he has great ball skills. Ireland also has good footballers. My favourite Irish player is Robbie Keane, he is very talented. In Brazil there are lots of girls' football teams, there are professional girls' teams also. There aren't many girls' teams in Ireland.

I like living in Ireland because my family is with me and I have made lots of new friends. I like going to Scoil Cholmcille because I have a lot of friends here. I would like to go back to Brazil one day.

5th class – Mrs Daly
Language teacher – Miss Mc Monagle

Adam Sienkiwicz

Hello my name is Adam Sienkiwicz and I am seven years old. I am in senior infants in Scoil Cholmcille. My teacher is called Mrs. Mc Ginley. I really like this school because the teachers are very nice and I have made lots of new friends. I come from Warsaw in Poland. I came to Ireland in April 2007 with my family. I live with my mum, dad, sister Victoria and brother Bartek. The weather in Ireland is different from Poland because in the summer it gets as warm as 30 degrees and in the winter it gets as cold as -25 degrees. I miss home sometimes but when I get holidays from school I go back to Poland to visit my friends and family. We had an international food day in our school to show the different foods from Poland and Nigeria, it was great fun! My favourite foods from home are Kotlety Schabowe (pork chops), Kielbasa (sausages), Bigos (cabbage & meat) and pierogi (it is like a dumpling filled with potatoes, cheese, chicken or fruit).

Senior infants – Mrs Mc Ginley
Language teacher – Miss Mc Monagle

Basel Tarik

Hello my name is Basel Tarik. I am seven years old. I am in first class at Scoil Cholmcille. My teacher is called Ms Doherty. I come from Khartoum in Sudan. I came to Ireland in 2008. I live with my mum, dad, sister and brother. I like living in Ireland because we can buy lots of toys. In Sudan there is not a lot of toys. In Sudan I went to 'The future international school' and we learned lots of things. I like Scoil Cholmcille because I have made lots of friends. The weather in Sudan is always very hot, we used to go to the beach everyday. In Ireland it is cold, I miss the weather in Sudan. My favourite foods from home are Asida (made of wheat & boiled water), Tamia (made from corn, onion, carrots & flavouring) and Keesra (it is used instead of bread, it is like a thin sheet of paper).

1st class – Miss Doherty

Language teacher – Miss Mc Monagle

Ahmed Soressa

Hello my name is Ahmed Soressa and I am eight years old. I am in second class at Scoil Cholmcille. My teacher is called Ms Duffy. I come from Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. I came to Ireland in August 2008. I live with my mum, dad and brother Aman. In Ethiopia I went to 'The School of Tomorrow' I had lots of friends at that school and I miss them sometimes. I have made lots of new friends at Scoil Cholmcille and I love playing games with them. The weather in Ethiopia is hot; we have sunshine all year long. It is very cold in Ireland! My favourite foods from home are Kitfo (beef in butter & spices), Doro Wot (chicken curry), Injera (like tortillas) and Tibs (lamb chops). I really enjoyed the international food day in our school because I got to taste different foods from Poland and Nigeria.

2nd class – Miss Duffy

Language teacher – Miss Mc Monagle

Guilherme Marques

My name is Guilherme Marques. I am from Brazil. I am eleven years old. I was nine when I came to Ireland. I miss Brazil because my dad and half of my family are still in Brazil. I miss my dad, my grandmother, my grandfather, my aunts and uncles and the rest of my family. I wish I had a flying bike then I would go to Brazil every single day. I don't like Irish food and I don't like the weather because of the rain. The thing I do like about Ireland is the snow. I love the snow! In Brazil it never snows. However, snow fell recently in some cities in Brazil. In Brazil they go to the beach a lot because it is always hot and sunny. I used to play a lot at the beach; I used to go everyday. I miss going to the beach. I have only been to the beach twice in two years in Ireland.

Brazilian people barbecue a lot. I had wonderful barbecues on my grandfather's farm. Brazilian people love to be out-doors. They also love parties and carnivals. The biggest and most important carnival is the Mardi Gras. People dance the samba (an exciting dance) for days. The costumes are spectacular. In Ireland, we have special days also. I like the St. Patrick's Day parade. I like it when the wee boy drives the little cars. I like the big trucks too.

I am looking forward to going back to Brazil some day but first I must go to school in Ireland. I like Ireland because the people are very friendly.

5th class-Mrs. Daly

Language teacher Mrs. Mc Ginley

Rafal Mirek

My name is Rafal Mirek. I am twelve years old. I came to Ireland with my mum and dad. I'm in fifth class in Scoil Cholmcille, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. There are many differences between Poland and Ireland. The food from Poland is better than in Ireland. I like Polish sausages, bread and ham. I don't like Irish bread and ham. In Poland the summer is warmer and the winter is colder. Here in Ireland it is always raining. In Poland we can ski in winter. Sometimes in winter it gets as cold as -31 degrees, and in summer it gets as warm as +36 degrees. There are also differences between Polish schools and Irish schools. We have homework on Friday and the teachers shout more. I really like my new school because I have made lots of new friends and the teachers are really nice. We also get to go on nice tours in our school. I lived in a small village in Poland. We didn't have a cinema or many shops. In Poland we have a very long river, which is called Wista. It looks like the letter 'S'. In Poland there are a lot of people who ride their bicycles but in Ireland there is not a lot of people riding bicycles. There are nearly 40,000,000 people in Poland. The capital of Poland is Warsaw. I was born there. Most of the Polish people are Catholic. I like living in Ireland because I have lots of friends and the people are really nice.

5th class – Mr O' Donnell

Language teacher Mrs. Mc Ginley

Jan Dubec

My name is Jan Dubec. I am thirteen years old. I come from Slovakia. I'm going to tell you some things about my country. Slovakia is very green with lots of rivers. Bratislava is the capital city of Slovakia. It is a big busy city. I go to Scoil Cholmcille in Letterkenny. I start school at 9.20am and I finish at 3pm. In Slovakia we start school at 7am and finish at 1pm. I like school in Ireland. In Slovakia we do more sport than in Ireland. We do it three times a week; I really enjoy it. In Ireland we don't have weekend homework but in Slovakia we do get weekend homework. I learned English in the school in Slovakia.

In Ireland people are very friendly but I don't like the weather. It is often cold and wet. In Slovakia the winter is cold and the summer is hot. In winter people ski. In Ireland people go to the beach when it is hot. There are many nice beaches in Ireland. We don't have any beaches in Slovakia because different countries surround us. I came to Ireland in 2006. I live with my mum, dad and brother Ludek. I have family in Slovakia and I miss them very much. I like the food in Ireland because it is very similar to the food in Slovakia. My favourite food is scrambled eggs and toast. I am going to live in Ireland for a long because I really like it here. I like going to the beach in Ireland because we don't have any in Slovakia. I want to go to University in Ireland. I have made lots of new friends here in Letterkenny and I am very living here.

6th class – Mr. Crossan

Language teacher – Mrs Mc Ginley

Tomasz Peska

My name is Tomasz Peska. I am from Poland. I am in first class. My teacher is called Ms. Doherty. I have lived in Letterkenny for nearly four years now. I love it here. We buy a lot of Polish food from the Polish shop. We have many different types of food. I love pierogi. It is like a dumpling filled with anything you like! I like pierogi with chicken or cheese in them, but you can put fruit in them too. Polish sausages are yummy too. You can go buy some of your foods in the Polish shop. It is really delicious!

1st class – Miss Doherty

Language teacher – Ms Keys

Denzel Kwateng

My name is Denzel Kwateng. I am from Ghana. I am in first class. My teacher is called Ms. Doherty. Ghana is a country in Africa. I am seven years old. I live in Letterkenny. I was in Ghana on my holidays. I love Irish food and Ghanaian food. It is very sunny in Africa and we have lots of different vegetables and fruit growing there. My mum makes stew with a yellow vegetable called Plantain. I love it. We can buy it in the African shop. If we lived in Ghana we could pick it from the trees!

1st class – Miss Doherty

Language teacher - Ms. Keys

Toki Hassan

My name is Toki Hassan. I am from Nigeria. I am in first class. My teacher is called Ms. Doherty. Nigeria is a big country in Africa. I have not been to Nigeria yet. My mum is a brilliant cook. She came into our school and made lots of delicious African food for the teachers and all the boys to eat. Everyone loved the food. She makes us some beautiful African food. We eat stew with chicken and spices. We eat Plantain in our stew. In Nigeria the people love to eat sweet bread called puff-puff for breakfast. I love to eat oranges too and if I was in Nigeria I would pick them off the orange trees!

1st class – Miss Doherty

Language teacher – Ms Keys

Ian Oliver

Hello, my name is Ian. I came to Scoil Cholmcille just last year. I have one brother and no sisters. I am 8 years old. I come from Singapore, which is a very small country. My favourite food is spaghetti. In Singapore, my house was near a swimming pool. My school was not in the morning, it was in the afternoon. There were lots of trains there. Ireland is a good country too. The thing I hate about Singapore is that it rains a lot.

Ian Oliver 3rd Class

Aaron Musing

My name is Aaron Musing. I came to Scoil Cholmcille a couple of months ago. I am from London and I am in third class. I am nine years old. When I came I made lots of friends. Their names are Mikey, Tommy and Kyle and lots more. I really like this school.

Aaron Musing 3rd Class

Puzzle Page with Mrs Donaghy's Class

SPACE WORD SEARCH

Find these words:

ROCKET

PLANET

ASTRONAUT

MISSION

SKYLAB

TELESCOPE

GALAXY

GRAVITY

ECLIPSE

OXYGEN

Q K T E N A L P B E V U
Y T J U T E A G U S O S
X E Y E A V J W S P X K
T L S F G N D S K I S Y
M E M I S S O N W L M L
Q S C G I U Y R N C V A
Y C A Z R T U Q T E O B
X O Y E I E P W R S C P
A P S V N K J I V Y A X
L E A O M C T R D F M P
A R S W X O X Y G E N Z
G E L I V R T N C G M I



Sudoku for Kids!

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the numbers **1** through **9**.
Don't guess - use logic!

1.

9	6		8		1		7	4
3		4				2		8
	5						6	
	3			7			9	
8	9		4		6		3	2
	1			5			4	
	4						8	
6		1				3		7
5	8		1		7		2	9

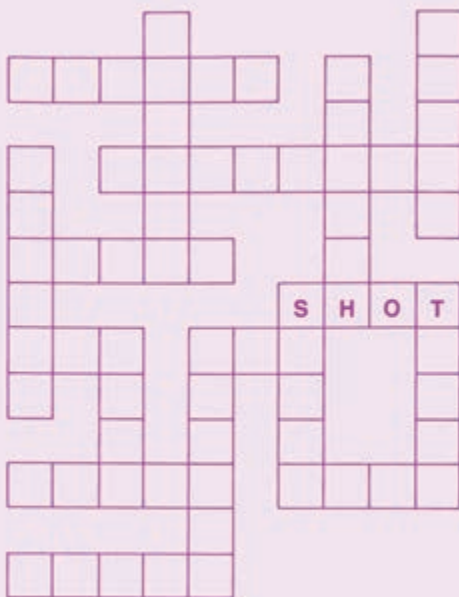
2.

4			6	8	1			7
5	9			7			6	4
				9				
3	4			2			9	1
	5	7				6	8	
8	2			6			7	3
				5				
2	6			3			1	5
9			4	1	2			6

3.

7	3						9	5
6			5	8	3			1
			7		9			
2	4			1			8	3
8			2		7			6
1	6			5			7	4
			6		4			
4			1	3	2			9
3	2						4	7

Word Fit

**3 Letters**PAL
RIM**4 Letters**HARE
LOAN
SHOT**5 Letters**CLIFF
HORSE
PANIC
SMASH
TRACE
SHORE**6 Letters**ESCAPE
POLICE
RESCUE
SLEUTH
TIP-OFF**8 Letters**

HOPELESS

1. What 2 small words make up the 8-letter word?
2. Which 6-letter word is a detective?
3. Which 4-letter word sounds the same as HAIR?
4. Which 5-letter word drops a letter to become a running competition?

BRAIN TEASERS

Please try to solve the problems below. Let your mind go and use your creative thinking skills! Good Luck!

- 1. Jimmy's mother had 4 children. She named the first Monday. Named the second Tuesday. The third is named Wednesday. What is the name of the fourth child?
- 2. In a year there are 12 months. 7 months have 31 days. How many months have 28 days?
- 3. Please add the following numbers in your head.
Start with 1000.
Add 40
Add 1000
Add 30
Add 1000
Add 20
Add 1000
Add 10
Write down your answer.
- 4. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
- 5. A plane crashes on the border of the U.S. and Canada. Where do they bury the survivors?
- 6. What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never speaks,has a head but never weeps, and has a bed but never sleeps?
- 7. You are a cyclist in a cross-country race. Just before the crossing finish line you overtake the person in second place! What place did you finish in?
- 8. What are the next 3 letters in the following sequence?
J, F, M, A, M, J, J, A, __, __, __
- 9. What is full of holes but can still hold water?

REARRANGE
THE LETTERS
TO GIVE
YOU
MAKE/MODEL
OF CAR

1. CEMREEDS	2. KODSA CAVITAB
3. SINSAN ALARME	4. RAAUSB AYCEGL
5. AGNEHD VIBCC	6. YODATT SSIEVAN
7. DOHAN CACROD	8. NNSSIA RRIEAMP
9. DPRO SCFOU	10. SOLVEAWANK FLOG
11. DAMZA	12. OTOYAT CARALLO
13. TANLUER NEGAME	14. EATS HOODTL
15. TEAS ZHAB	16. AKOSD AAIBF
17. THISSUMBH RANCEL	18. OFDR TESCOR
19. AAUVXLLH	20. YOTOTA SAYRI
21. ITAF UNTOP	22. BUSHIITIM TCLO
23. EORRV	24. GNWAEVSOLXLOOP
25. NTRCOEI RASAX	26. ASTE ROBDAC
27. ABAS	28. DROF OOENDM
29. UUISZK LOBNEA	30. TPGEELUO

ANSWERS

Brain Teasers

1. Jimmy. 2. Jimmy's Mother had 4 children. 3. They all do. 4. Mt. Everest. It was still the highest in the world - it just hadn't been discovered yet! 5. You don't bury the SURVIVORS! 6. A river. 7. Second Place. If you pass the person in second, you take second place, and they become third. 8. S, O, N. The sequence is first letter of the months of the year. September, October and November are the next in the sequence. 9. A sponge.

Make / Model of Cars

1. Mercedes. 2. Skoda Octavia. 3. Nissan Almera. 4. Subaru Legacy. 5. Honda Civic. 6. Toyota Accord. 7. Honda Accord. 8. Nissan Priemera. 9. Ford Focus. 10. Volkswagen Golf. 11. Mazda. 12. Toyota Corolla. 13. Renault Megane. 14. Seat Toledo. 15. Seat Ibiza. 16. Skoda Fabia. 17. Mitsubishi Lancer. 18. Ford Escort. 19. Vauxhall. 20. Toyota Yaris. 21. Fiat Punto. 22. Mitsubishi Colt. 23. Rover. 24. Volkswagen Polo. 25. Citroen Xsara. 26. Seat Cordoba. 27. Saab. 28. Ford Mondeo. 29. Suzuki Bolena. 30. Peugeot.

Some of Our 6th Class Pupils Remember

Michael Foy: On my school tour to Bundoran Adventure centre, absailing down the high tower, over coming my fear of heights and teacher and all my class mates being so proud of me!!!!

Martin Boyle: Junior Infants with Mrs O Malley, I sat beside Dylan Grant and 3rd class school tour to Waterworld and winning Cumann na mBunscol County Final.

Dean Crossan: My Confirmation Day, wasn't all that nervous, felt proud after singing on the Altar, the meal afterwards and going karting.

Ciarán Mc Namee: My First class play with Mrs Daly, had a part as a shepherd and was nervous.

Sameer Khan: My first day at school with Mrs O' Malley, teacher was giving out play dough and there was one tub left, a purple one, with Barney on it and teacher gave it to me!!

Dylan Grant: My first day at school, sitting beside Martin Boyle, and my first school tour to Bananas in Derry.

Aaron Mc Cormack: Going to Tag Rugby in Rugby club and my 3rd class and 4th class school tours to Waterworld and making t shirts.

Conor Harkin: Winning Cumann na mBunscol, county Gaelic Final and my first Holy Communion day with Miss Doherty and my Confirmation with Miss Kavanagh.

Shane Duffy: My first day at school with my new teacher Mrs O Malley and playing with play dough, cars and lego and cubes.

Jason O'Donnell: Going away for tag Rugby, to Omagh and scoring a try.

Ciarán Kenny: My Confirmation Day, being nervous and happy in the end and getting away to a tag Rugby game in the Letterkenny Rugby club.

Noah Mailey: Winning the FAI, Ribena cup in Ballyare and the tournament in Errigal College in soccer.

Shay Halligan: Our 6th class Christmas play, " Manger mania", with Miss Kavanagh. Playing the piano and being a wiseman.

Christopher Toye: Making friends with Dion Mc Daid on my first day at school and school guitar concert in 4th class.

Keelan Shiels: My school tour to Dunlewey and on the go-karts racing with my friends.

Fraser Mackey: My 4th class school tour, to Tullyarvan Mill, making t-shirts.

Matthew Curran: My First Communion Day, I remember feeling kinda nervous and my mum taking my photo afterwards.

Dylan Quill: Confirmation day, party afterwards, nervous in the morning.

Dion McDaid: On the way back from Pushkin celebration day in Lough Eske, singing on the bus.

Peter Doherty: Jumping off the cliffs on my 6th class school tour in Bundoran with Miss Kavanagh, being scared at start , but then just ran off board, took a big deep breath and just going for it. A great feeling!!!.

Christopher Mc Cauley: Meeting new friends in Junior infants and making pancakes with Miss Doherty's class.

Shane Rodgers: First day at school, with Mrs. O' Malley, meeting everyone and playing games and my 3rd class school tour to Waterworld.

Ryan Mc Laughlin: Coming to the school in 1st class and making friends with Dylan Quill, Dylan Grant and Gareth Baker.

I Remember...

I remember the big giraffe bouncy castle on sports day.

By Cian Hickey

My fondest memory is when Chad did the belly dance.

By Conor Fitzgerald

My funniest memory is when I was in choir and Master Breslin couldn't remember what anyone's name was and he asked me my name and I said Pat Stokes and he has called me Pat Stokes ever since.

By Michael Miller

My favourite memory is winning the county championship.

By Ryan Bonner

I remember going to Dunlewey for our 5th class school tour.

By Gavin Elliot

My favourite memory was when we were in dance class and Chad took off his top and started shaking his belly.

By Chris Flanagan

My favourite memory is the first day I started school.

By Shane Calpin

My favourite memory is playing in the school concert with Master Crossan.

By Gabriel Blake

My fondest memory is winning the county final twice.

By Aaron O'Connell

My fondest memory is wrestling in the old school shelter.

By Gary Hamilton

My favourite memory was the day I started school.

By Tadgh Hickey

I remember breaking my leg on school tour.

By Stefan Cullen

Catholic Schools Week 2009: Catholic Schools- A vision for Life



On Monday, the 26th January, Catholic Schools Week was launched both in Dublin and Belfast. The purpose of the week is to promote the contribution that Catholic Primary and Post-Primary schools make to our society and celebrate the important role that they play in providing a particular type of education for our young people. Catholic schools in Ireland are justly proud of their distinctive philosophy of education that is rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The theme "Catholic Schools- A Vision for Life" is based on the Bishops' Pastoral Letter Vision 08- A Vision for Catholic Education (May 2008). The wellbeing of the Church community, family life and the nation is linked to our schools. It is important, therefore, to reflect on the vision that gives life to the school.

Bishop Philip Boyce attended a Prayer Service in Scoil Cholmcille National School, Convent Road, Letterkenny, on Wednesday, to mark Catholic Schools Week in the diocese of Raphoe. He acknowledged the role that schools play in forming children in faith and hope, giving them a vision for life. He expressed gratitude for the dedication that generations of teachers have shown in schools throughout the diocese which continues to this present day.

"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."

Mark Twain



Brendan McGlynn

Sounds Around

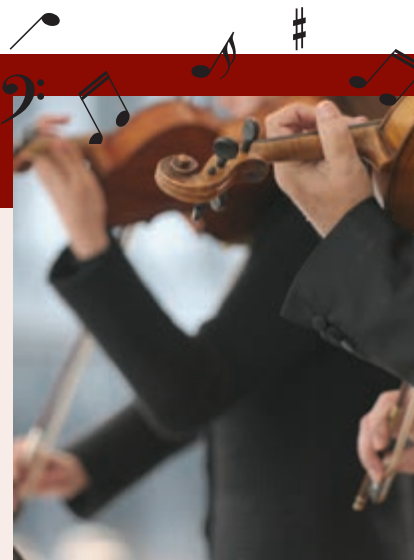
The R.T.E. National Symphony Orchestra under conductor Gavin Maloney visited the Letterkenny Institute of Technology on Friday the 24th of October. The concert programme included Rossini's vivid William Tell Overture and the famous Cavalry Charge Gallop, also known as the Lone Ranger theme. The orchestra was joined by the Donegal Youth Orchestra, under conductor James Cavanagh. The workshop was really enjoyable with students given the opportunity to interact with members of the orchestra. Rory o'Hara, Aaron McCrossan and Jonata Da Costa Felix from Mrs Daly's class were even interviewed by Eileen Magnier from R.T.E. – budding musicians of the future.

The Christmas Carol service took place in St. Eunan's Cathedral on the 18th of December. The format was very different this year with the theme being "Advent, waiting for the Lord". As each lighted candle was carried forward to be placed on the Advent wreath, pupils from various classes read the stories of John the Baptist, The Annunciation, The Nativity, The Shepherds and the visit of the Three Wise Men. The choir under the direction of Mrs

Daly led all the classes in singing the Christmas Carols and who could forget "Away in a Manger" whistled beautifully by Hugh Mc Closkey from Mr. Gallagher's 4th class. After Christmas, it was all systems go in preparation for Confirmation on March 7th. The 6th classes prepared for this special sacrament with a service of light led by Fr. Kemmy. When the big day finally arrived Mr. Breslin was there again this year to support Mrs Daly and Mrs Donaghy in conducting the wonderful choir. The harmonies were really beautiful and the soloists Michael Miller and Christopher Flanagan from 6th class sang with great reverence.

This year our Parish was honoured with a visit from the Relics of St. Therese. In preparation for this very special occasion, the choir led the singing at the Vigil Mass. We sang "Holy Mary Full of Grace" for the month of Our Lady. It was a great honour to be a part of this special event.

First Holy Communion took place on the 23rd of May. The Psalm "My Shepherd is the Lord" was magnificently sung by Seamus



Hawkins 5th class, who made his debut as a soloist. The boys from Miss Roddy and Miss Duffy's classes brought the ceremony to a close as they joined together on the altar singing "God is so Good".

We will be sorry to lose so many of our valued members of the choir who are moving on to Secondary School. I must say a particular word of thanks to Tadhg and Cian Hickey who have provided such wonderful music on their violins on many occasions in the school and they were always so willing and enthusiastic.

We will also really miss Gabriel Blake who has accompanied so many of us on the guitar and he has worked so hard over the years with the choir and in particular with Mr Crossan.

Mrs Donaghy



Seamus Gibson, Gabriel Blake, Tadhg Hickey, Cian Hickey.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2009

A Place Where Even the Birds Don't Sing.

Their stories graphically reflected the horror of the Holocaust as if they had been there. In some ways they are....For the searing silence that shrouds to this very day the site and surrounds that marked the death camps of Auschwitz echoes all too vividly in young minds.

To mark Holocaust Memorial Day on Monday, Polish born pupils from Scoil Cholmcille in Letterkenny offered a powerful and poignant narrative of life today and death then.

"It doesn't matter if it is summer or winter, this very place is always sad and grey. It is very quiet there, even the birds do not sing. The place is full of black crows that just sit and watch," the words of Rafal Morys summon up some heartfelt images. Rafal is from a small town called Oswiecim. "My town is famous all over the world because of its German name- Auschwitz," he points out. His own family home is located very near the camp that to many of us is a location in history but to him is something much more. "One of my neighbours was a prisoner in Auschwitz. She is an old woman now and told me that one



day the German soldiers took her and her friends to the camp. She was only 10 years old. She told me that she had to wear a special uniform, which had black and white stripes. It was dirty and not warm". She still, Rafal declares, remembers the smell of burning. "She has a book of photos of her time in the camp. She survived that terrible place." But many of her friends did not. "She always remembers them and prays to God for them." Another young pupil from Poland, Mario Cheleboski, tells his story. He comes from a small town called Brzezinka. "This

town had a different name during the war, it is known all over the world as Birkenau. This place was where one of the four Auschwitz death camps was located."

The camp, which is bigger than the town, was for all the sick people and the children. "It was a place of death. There was no way out of Birkenau. "I know that one person from my family was in Birkenau. They did not survive. I visited this horrible place with my mum. It was so quiet. There were no sounds. People light a candle to remember. I was scared when I was there, it was freezing cold although it was the middle of summer".

The people in Mario's hometown still remember all the poor, sick, people, children and babies who died at Birkenau. The words of Rafal and Mario ensure that the children of Scoil Cholmcille will not forget.

They light candles to remember the millions who died as a mark of hope- the flickering flames are also symbolic of life's tenuous hold and the burning hatred of regimes that allowed such horrors to happen.





We Planted Yellow Crocuses

"We planted yellow crocuses in memory of one and a half million Jewish children who died in the Holocaust. The yellow colour of the flowers reminds us of the yellow star the Jews had to wear under Nazi rule. The flowers remind us of all the children who perished.

Hundreds of thousands of children were murdered by the Nazis, but many survived. The children who survived are mostly grandparents today. They have passed on their stories to their children and grandchildren. Their stories must never be forgotten. We must tell them to our own children.

When the crocuses bloom at the beginning of spring, we remember the children who died. But the beautiful flowers also remind us that, even after the most terrible events, new life begins again and we can hope that things will get better than they were before. The flowers remind us that there is still beauty in the world and hope for our future. Planting the flowers is sad, but it is hopeful too."

Anne McGowan

Rewards

Rewarding the positive in our school is an integral part of our behaviour code. To that end we hold an "All Star Award Ceremony" each month. This has proved very successful and has become very popular with the boys.

Boys who achieve three clear months of good behaviour are presented with a certificate of achievement, a homework voucher and a treat. Those who achieve six clear months are presented with a gold medal featuring the school crest.

For the first time in June '09 at a very special award ceremony, boys who had gained nine gold stars for sustained good behaviour received a specially crafted trophy again featuring the school crest. This was a wonderful achievement and we are proud to have such 'stars' at Scoil Cholmcille.

Mrs Quigley



Staff of Scoil Cholmcille 2009

Teaching Staff

Paraig Cannon - Principal
 Anne McGowan - Deputy Principal
 Breda O'Malley
 Alice Quigley
 Margaret Sweeney - retired January
 Kay Kelly
 Assumpta Donaghy
 Carmel McMacken
 Martina Keys
 Mary McGinley
 Mary Grant
 Triona Daly
 Joe Crossan
 Jennifer Reid
 Trish Shields - Philip O'Donnell
 Noelle Mulrain
 Éilis McClafferty - Lisa McMonagle
 Rosemary Lagan
 Alma Kavanagh
 Ita O'Sullivan
 Orlaith Kavanagh - Áine Gildea
 Maureen O'Connor
 Colette Duffy
 Shauna Doherty
 Marie Cullen
 Anne-Marie Ferry
 Dervla Dunleavy - Maeliosa McCole
 Rory Kavanagh
 Elaine Doherty
 John Paul Gallagher
 Sarah-Ann McClafferty
 Declan McArdle
 Patricia Boyle
 Fiona Roddy
 Meganne Stewart

Special Needs Assistants

Margaret Toner
 Jean Ryan
 Treasa Kelly
 Connie O'Brien
 Norma Emery
 Sheila Moore
 Caroline McLaughlin
 Justine Fisher
 Bridgeen Doherty
 Anne O'Donnell
 Janice Daly
 Treasa McClafferty - Pasqueline Blake
 Anna Wasilewska

Ancillary Staff

Secretary: Mary McElwaine - Brigetta Brogan
 Caretaker: Peter Kelly
 Cleaner: Liz McConnell, Agnes
 Traffic Warden: Jean Ramsey

Credit Union Quiz: Winners 2009



Credit Union Quiz Team - 2nd Runners UP.
 Mrs O' Malley, Odhran Curran, Michael Soar,
 Mr Cannon (Principal), Patrick Curran,
 Emilio Fognini.

Congratulations to our U-11 team who came 3rd.

Team Members:
 Michael Soar,
 Patrick Curran,
 Emilio Fognini,
 Oran Curran.

1st: Kilmacrennan: 53 points
 2nd: Woodlands: 53 Points
 - Tie Break

3rd: Scoil Cholmcille: 51 Points

A total of 70 teams competed.
 Special thanks to Mrs Donaghy who helped prepare the boys for the competition.

Prizegiving

SCOIL CHOLMCILLE

PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY 2009



Mr Paraig Cannon welcomes Bishop Boyce to the Prizegiving Ceremony at Scoil Cholmcille.

There are many reasons as to why a Prizegiving ceremony in a school is one of the highlights of the year, not only for the students but also for the teachers and the wider community. One of these reasons is the opportunity it gives visiting local dignitaries to see for themselves the enormous efforts the non-voting members of our communities expend to be the best that they can be. It also affords children a glimpse of what can be expected, when you give something your best effort. This year the luminaries who presented the awards were welcomed by Principal



Left to Right: Mary Kavanagh Chandler, A.M.S., Matthew Curran, Suzanne Tinney Donegal County Council, Christopher Toye.

Paraig Cannon. Dr. Philip Boyce Bishop of Raphoe who was

accompanied by the school's chaplain Fr. Kemmy, Letterkenny Town Mayor Cllr Victor Fisher, Deputy Mayor Cllr Jean Crossan, Letterkenny Tidy Town's Chairman Mr Jim McCormick, Director of An Grianán Theatre, Letterkenny Ms. Patricia McBride, Waste

Awareness Officer of Donegal County Council Ms Suzanne Tinney, Mrs



Cllr Jean Crossan presents the SESE Project Award to Liam Kenny, Jerome Angel, Nazar Dorrian and Christopher Gallagher.



Ms Patricia McBride, Director of An Grianán Theatre, presenting the music and drama award to Monastir Ismail, Ryan McGeever, Neil Forde, Zach Gorman.



Letterkenny Tidy Towns Chairperson Mr Jim McCormick presents an Environmental award to Patrick McConigley, Conor Boyce, Evan Dunleavy and Eamonn Harkin.

Prizegiving



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Mary Kavanagh Chandler from the Adrian Mitchell Society, Mr Colm Anthony McFadden Donegal County Footballer, Mr Brian Gribben and Mrs Eileen McDaid members of the schools board of management. Mrs Anne McGowan Deputy Principal compered the event. Mr Jim McCormick presented Scoil Cholmcille's C.A.R.E Award, an award that represents the care, appreciation and respect for the environment to Séan Houston (2nd Class), Aaron Boakye (2nd Class), Kanil Plewa (5th Class), Sean Birrell (5th Class) and Padraig McAteer (5th Class). A further award in this area was presented to Mrs O'Connor's 4th Class for their Agri-aware project which centred on vegetable planting

Conor Boyce, Eamonn Harkin, Patrick McConnigley and Evan Dunleavy

accepted this award on behalf of their fellow green-fingered gardeners. We hear a lot about our carbon footprints on the media but little about projects promoting viable alternatives. The 3rd and 4th Class boys learned about sustainable travel under Mr. Gallagher's expert guidance, and completed a bicycle safety course to boot. Accepting the award on their classmates behalf were the beaming Juan Gabriel, Ryan Orr, Michael Lagan and Jordan Neillis.

A rather innovative use of the C.A.R.E Award was announced in the form of Mrs. Kavanagh's 6th Class Project 'The Tree Of Life' a creative writing exercise. This Puskin competition entry has been published into a book in conjunction with Scholastic Ireland. The class have also completed a

writing workshop with Joe Brennan. The class will attend the Pushkin Celebration Day at Solis Castle. Accepting the award were Matthew Curran, Shay Halligan and Conor Harkin.

Scoil Cholmcille has delivered a Green Schools programme for 12 years. Ms. Suzanne Tinney presented this Endeavour Award to Matthew Curran and Christopher Toye from Mrs. Kavanagh's 6th Class in recognition of this monumental achievement.

The Letterkenny Town Mayor presented the Senior and Junior quiz teams and noted academics with the Academic Achievement Award. These successful recipients were Christopher Toye, Ciaran Kenny, Tomás Barriscale,



Mr Paraig Cannon, Principal. Ms Patricia McBride Director of An Grianán Theatre, Bishop Philip Boyce, Mrs Eileen McDaid Board of Management.



Donegal County Football Star Colm McFadden presenting Cumann Na mBunscol Award to Christopher Flanagan and Michael Miller who accepted on behalf of the team.



Left to Right: Christopher Toye, Matthew Curran, Letterkenny Town Mayor Victor Fisher, Ciaran Kenny, Tomás Barriscale.

Prizegiving



Patrick Curran, Oran Curran, Emillo Fognini, Michael Soar with Cllr. Victor Fisher.



Kevin Connors and Cllr. Victor Fisher.



Ms. Patricia McBride Director of An Grianán Theatre.



Tadhg Hickey, Séamus Gibson, Cian Hickey.



Hugh McCloskey and Cllr. Victor Fisher.



Seán McCrossan, Brendan Horgan, Conor McKinney, Cormac O'Kane with Ms. Patricia McBride.

Matthew Curran, Emilio Fognini, Oran Curran, Michael Saor and Patrick Curran. Academia is not always about excellence in a subject. The successful academic is also one who applies him or herself with a commitment to trying to improve. In this spirit, two awards were presented to two students whose zeal and perseverance caused them to excel. This year the two academics who received the Achievement awards for dedication and commitment and for

particular success in the mathematical field were Neil McGeever and Kevin Connors.

Under the direction of Mrs. Daly and Mrs. Donaghy the choir continues to reach the high notes literally as well as metaphorically. The community at large looks forward to all their performances. This year the School Choir collected the musical Excellence Award. A beaming Damon Brogan, followed by Christopher Brogan, Fola

Adeyoola , Hugh McCloskey, Cale O'Donnell and Anthony Porter collected the award.

Séamus Gibbons and the Hickey Brothers (Tadhg and Cian) collected a Musical Excellence Award for their fiddle playing, as did Hugh McCloskey for his whistling of Silent Night at last Christmas' Carol Service.

Ciaran McNamee, Martin Boyle, Dean Crossan and Gerard Higgins



Brodie Kildea, Neil McGeever and Mr Paraig Cannon.



Cllr. Victor Fisher, Justine Fisher, Conor Boyce and Dominic Dwyer.



Mr Paraig Cannon, School Principal

Prizegiving

accepted the Scoil Cholmcille Innovation Award on behalf of the 6th Class boys for their organisation of this year's Book Fair in partnership with Mrs. Donaghy. 1200 Euro was raised.

The Director of An Grianán Theatre Ms. Patricia McBride presented the music and drama award to Ms. McClafferty's 3rd Class for their production of 'Titanic Ship Of Dreams' David McCrossan, Ryan McGeever, Montaser Ismail and Niall Forde accepted the award with suitable theatrical aplomb.

(4th Class), Gary Hamilton (6th Class), Caolan Vaughan (5th Class), David McCrossan (3rd Class), Liam McFadden (6th Class), all well deserving of the Art promotion Award with which they were presented.



Mrs Mary Kavanagh Chandler presented the A.M.S. cup to the infant classes.



Left to right: Ms. Patricia McBride, Brodie Kildea, Caolan Vaughan, Alex Good, Liam McFaden, David McCrossan, Gary Hamilton.



Left to right: Ciaran McNamee, Dean Crossan, Gerard Higgins with Cllr. Victor Fisher.



Ryan Rainey and Dylan Sweeney with Colm Anthony McFadden



Colm McFadden, Dylan Quill.

An in-school competition was held to design Christmas cards which would be printed and sold to raise funds for the school. Displayed on the back wall of the hall are the winning entries. These artists are Alex Good (4th Class), Ryan Gallagher (4th Class), Brodie Kildea (6th Class), E.J Geronimo (2nd Class), Wojtek Szatko

The award was shared by the two 2nd Classes whose creations have brightened the hall and our senses throughout the year. Accepting this award on their behalf were Cormac O'Kane, Sean McCrossan, Brendan Horgan and Conor Mc Kinney. Ms. Campbell's 1st class was also presented with this award for its

gargantuan efforts in the presentation of and participation in the Images Art Exhibition earlier this week. Accepting the award on behalf of this class were Kieran Mongan and Martin Duffy.

The Adrian Mitchell Cup is awarded annually to the person or group that best promotes the Spirit of Scoil Cholmcille. This year the award went to the Junior and Senior Infant classes in recognition of the kindness and support they have shown to each other in the yard during playtimes, and for their upkeep of The Golden Rules. Accepting this award on behalf of their classes were Mark Coleman, Marvin Boakye, Glen Boateng, Earl Castillo, Tyres Boateng and Mark Cannon. Mrs. Mary Kavanagh Chandler presented the award.

Mrs Jean Crossan presented this

Prizegiving

year's Integrated SESE Project Award to Mrs. Stewart's 3rd Class for what surely has to be one of the most interesting achievements of the proceedings.

This class successfully mummified a chicken and all eyes were riveted on the box it was brought in. Jerome Angel, Liam Kenny, Christopher Gallagher and Nazar Dorrian accepted this award on behalf of the other Egyptians.

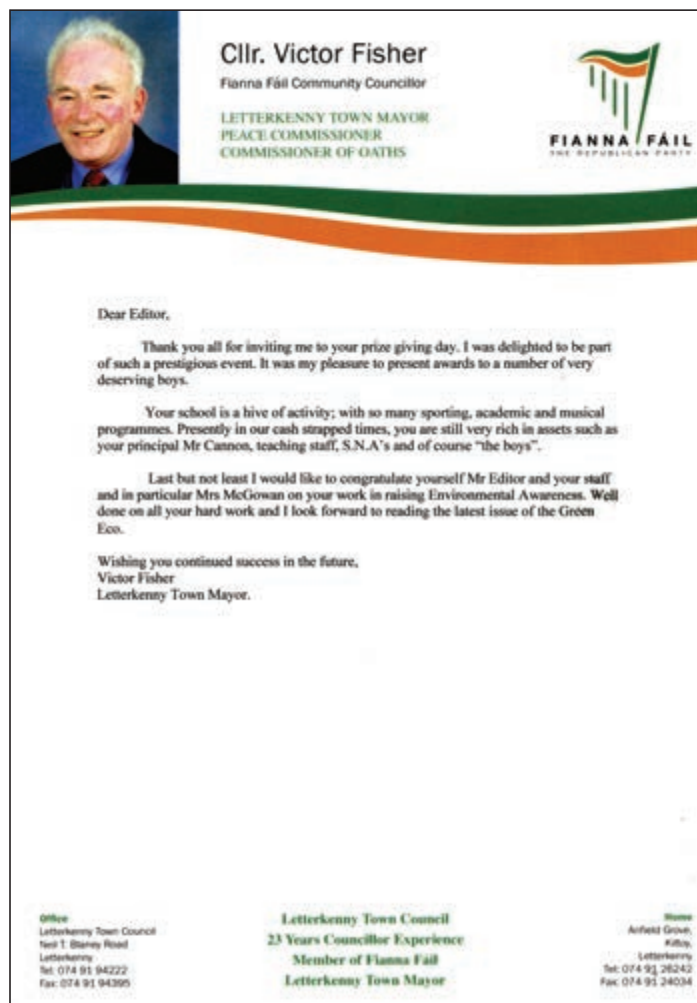
Colm McFadden, County Gaelic footballer presented the sports awards. They went to Captains Ryan Rainey and Dylan Sweeney for soccer and their teams success in winning 1st and 3rd places in the FAI Errigal College Soccer Competition. The hurling award went to Stephen McCafferty, Seamus Gibson and Gabriel Boakye for their valiant representation of the school at the Donegal v Armagh Hurling 7 Asides in O'Donnell Park.

Rounders is a new sport for the school, and to that end, it is to the Captain's Tadgh Hickey and Sinéad Dunne (Scoil Mhuire Gan Smal) that the first competition we entered was won.

Umar Adeyoola is the worthy winner of the Athletics award this year. Winning two gold medals in the last Finn Valley Competition, and coming first in the 60m and the 100m sprints we will not be surprised if we see him win the Olympics in the future.

Each lunchtime, Peter Kelly and Paddy Delap instruct fifth and sixth class boys in the arts of Table tennis. The Boys who have improved the most in their pings and pongs this year were Caolan Vaughan, Shea O'Hara and Nathan O'Leary. The generous Paddy Delap joined them as they received their award.

The Swimming Awards went to Jonathan Martin (3rd Class) and to



Leon Vaughan (5th Class) who has won eight medals in the Ulster Championships this year. Jonathan has won six gold, one silver and a bronze in a variety of strokes in various championships around the County this year.

The Gaelic Award was collected by team captains Michael Miller and Christopher Flanagan. The team was this year's County winners in the Cumann na mBunscoil Championship. Beating schools from Dungloe and Carndonagh, they went onto deny Scoil Iosagain the glory of lifting the shield in a 5-11 to 2-5.

Steven Stokes was the worthy recipient of the Boxing Award for his win in the Under 12 Ulster Championship earlier this year.

Mr Cannon closed the proceedings with an allegorical anecdote. The bamboo seed takes time to grow and bloom. It served as a reminder to those boys who didn't receive an award, that perseverance and patience could allow them to be in the winner's position next year. It also served as a congratulatory acknowledgement of the patience and perseverance this years winners have displayed.

Personality Parade



Dean Johnston



Zak Breen



Conor McMorrow



Christopher Coleman



Niall Forde



Gavin Johnston



Oran Donnelly



Rhys Mullen



Andrew O'Connor



Joseph Dorrian



Thomas McDaid



Juan



J. P. Curran



Leon McEwen



Michael Quigley



Charlie Kelly

A Big Welcome to the Junior Infant Classes of 2009-2010



Mrs McMackens Junior Infants. Back Left to Right: Jake Laughlin, Conor Tease, Leon Blake Boyce, Joshua Patton Cristia Cirpaci, Niall McCrossan, Adam Hadi, Michael Aidoo, Elvis Okoh, J.P. Curran, Jeremy Okornoe. Front Left to Right: John McDonagh, Karol Krol, Oisín Logue, Michael Quigley, Leon Martins de Lima, Dean Johnston, Anthony Stokes, Ronan Keeney, Idris Opoku, Christopher Murray, Ciaran Martin.



Ms Cullens Junior Infants. Back L-R: Ms. Cullen, Joel Sibi, Sean Kenny, Dylan McDevitt, Francie Stokes, Ali Alam Syed, Dylan Devenney, John McGinley, Kian Conaghan, Patryk Lukasik, Daniels Aleksandrovics. Front L-R: Connor Meehan, Omar Quainoo, Ryan Fagan, Callum Barry, Nathan Bamidele, Jack McFadden Dos Santos, Leroy Barnie, Declan Doherty, Athan Doherty.

Interviews

INTERVIEW WITH MISS STEWART

By Ryan McGeever



Miss Stewart pictured with Ryan McGeever after her interview. Ryan is currently working with The Irish Times!

What is your favourite colour?

My favourite colour has always been green.

Who is your favourite actor?

I don't really have a favourite actor, it usually depends on the film.

When you were small what was your favourite TV programme?

When I was really little I loved Bosco, I watched it everyday and even had a bosco puppet of my own which I still have in the attic at home.

What is your favourite bar of chocolate?

The bar I would usually pick would be a Milky Way crispy roll.

Where would you like to go on holidays?

I would love to explore Thailand.

Are you scared of anything?

Spiders! I used to be terrified of them as a child, I just have a strong dislike for them now.

What is your favourite type of takeaway?

My favourite take away is seafood pasta from Primavera.

What celebrity style do you like?

I love the clothes that Kourtney Kardashian wears. She always looks very stylish.

Do you like our school?

I really had a fabulous first year in the school. I really enjoy working here. The staff are lovely, and we have a great bunch of boys in the school. You couldn't ask for any better.

What's your favourite sport?

Gymnastics. I love gymnastics. I trained and competed for over 15 years and now I coach with the local club.

What's your favourite film?

I have always loved the Lion King, however Shawshank Redemption is a fabulous film.

INTERVIEW WITH MS. DOHERTY

By Andy Dong



Andy Dong after interviewing Miss Doherty. Andy is gone to China to do a news report this week!

Where did you go to school?

I went to school in Carndonagh

Apart from wanting to be a teacher what would you like to be?

I would like to be a Garda.

What is your favourite dinner?

Chicken curry is my favourite.

Do you have a hero?

No

Do you have a favourite singer?

Beyonce

Do you have a favourite film?

I always loved Top Gun.

What will you do when you win the lotto?

If I win I would buy a new car and a lovely house.

Do you have a favourite book?

Yes, The Glass Lake by Maeve Binchy

Do you have a favourite teacher in this school?

Everyone is nice.

Where have you been on holiday?

Spain, Australia and America. I love travelling.

Who would you like to be for a day?

A detective.

Do you have a favourite shop?

I like shopping in River Island

INTERVIEW WITH: MASTER GALLAGHER

By Niall Forde



What school did you go to?

Scoil Naomh Fionan in Falcarragh. Falcarragh is a great place boys!

What age did you start school?

I was four years and seven months.

What is your favourite book?

The Godfather by Mario Puzo.

What is your favourite film?

Braveheart or Casablanca. I'm a romantic at heart!

What is your ideal dinner?

Crabs toes. Sounds yummy!

What is your favourite sport?

Gaelic football.

What is your dream car?

I'm not really into cars.

What is your favourite TV show and why?

The Sopranos because there is a lot of action in it.

What is your dream holiday?

I would love to go to Corsica.

What would you do if you won the lotto?

I would give most of it to charity.

What was your favourite subject at school?

Drama and English.

Did you have a favourite teacher at school?

My favourite teacher was Ms Mary Mc Garvey.

What football team do you support?

Cloughaneely and Celtic.

Who is your hero?

Diego Maradona. He is far better than Messi or Ronaldo.

Interview

INTERVIEW WITH: MS. SWEENEY

By Jordan Donnell



What age were you when you started school?
I started school when I was 4 years old.

Where did you go to school?
I went to Primary school in Gweedore and Secondary school in Monaghan and Carysfort Training college.

How long did you teach in this school?
I was a teacher in this school for 29 years before that I taught in County Meath, Cavan and in Lifford, Co. Donegal

What was your favourite school?
My favourite school was Scoil Cholmcille of course. Look how long I stayed here and I still miss all you boys.

Are you enjoying your retirement?
I am enjoying my retirement very much. I can now go on great holidays, meet up with my friends, go for long walks and help my charities which is mainly the St. Vincent de Paul.

What was your best holiday ever?
My best holiday ever was in Australia and especially New Zealand. To me New Zealand has everything and I am just back from a great cruise in the Baltic

What are your Hobbies?
My hobbies are meeting my friends, reading and walking.

What would you do if you won the lotto?
I would build a beautiful house near the sea with all kinds of luxuries. I would also give money to some charities.

What is your favourite football team?
My favourite football teams are Gweedore, Donegal and Glasgow Celtic and in that order.

Summertime



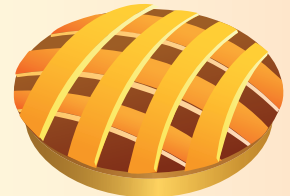
The months of Summer are May, June and July. We play outside in Summer. The trees are green. We see cherry blossom trees. We see daisies and sunflowers. We also see frogs in Summer. Birds come back from hot countries. We go to the beach and we go to camp. I go to the beach when it is warm and sunny. I love Summer!

By Hobey Mauricio (First Class)

Rhyme Time

Bouncing Bouncing
Gimme a pie,
Don't make me angry
Or I will cry!

By Adrians Kravalis
(First Class)



On My Journey To School

SOME POEMS BY MASTER GALLAGHER'S CLASS

BY JACK BIEN

On my journey to school I see cows mooing
and eating grass,
Birds singing in the trees,
Boys playing football on the football pitch.
On my journey to school I see restaurants
feeding people after work,
Shops selling clothes to people,
Nurses helping doctors and patients.
On my journey to school I see teachers
instructing boys and girls in schools,
Athletes running around the town,
People in the church praying.

BY CONOR KELLY

When I'm going to school I always see... birds
flying, cars driving, planes flying, choirs
singing, leaves drifting, people cycling and
dogs barking.
I go past... children waiting, cars speeding,
athletes running, cows mooing, sheep baaing,
horses neighing and stuff like that.
Before my school I always hear... people
talking, bells ringing, cars driving, teachers
shouting, feet walking, car doors shutting and
then I'm there.

BY GAVIN COX

I see something fowl but it's a sleeping owl,
I see something crawling then it starts
sprawling,
On my journey to school.
I see a barking dog then it chases a frog,
I see people in tents do they have any sense?
On my journey to school.
I see a big fat hog then I remember the dog,
Can't think of anything else so I think of myself,
On my journey to school.

BY CHRISTOPHER BYRNE

Waking up at nine o'clock,
Brushing my teeth and rushing down the stairs,
Finding clothes and putting them on.
Ready by a quarter past and off to school.

BY DAVID O'DONNELL

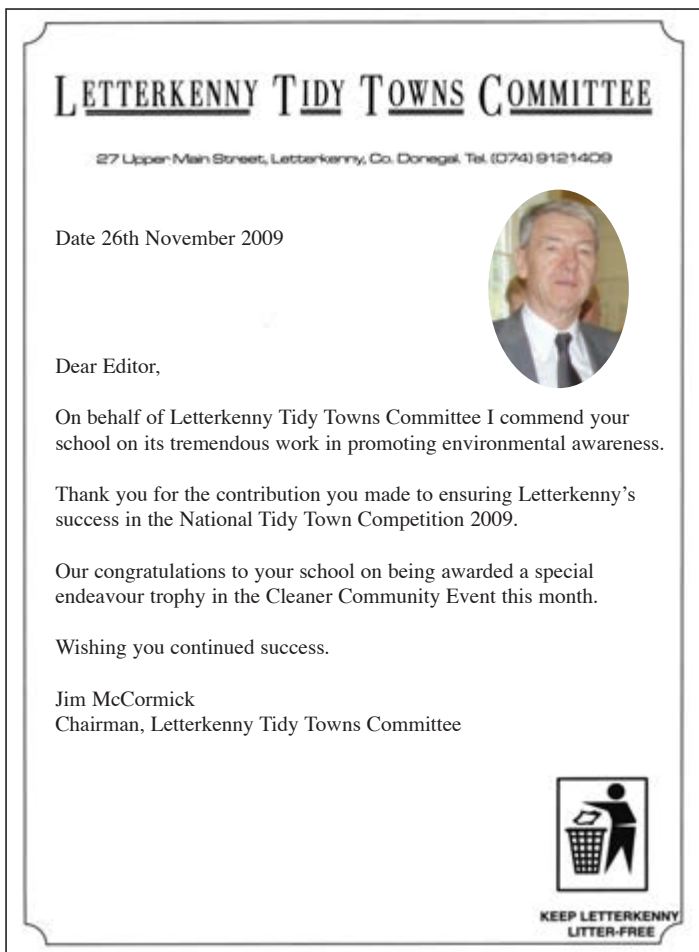
On my way to school I act the fool by saying
I'm cool,
On my way to school I hear birds singing and
church bells ringing,
On my way to school I see cars speeding and
mothers feeding their little children porridge.
On my way to school I see people yawning
and squirrels gnawing on their crunchy nuts,
On my way to school I see birds flying and
patients dying on hospital beds,
On my way to school I see people at work
while people give a smirk at their enemies,
On my way to school I read a book and take a
look at some funny people,
On my way to school I see cows lowing and
grass growing very, very tall,
On my way to school I see dogs barking and
spring lambs larking all around the fields,
On my way to school I see gardeners digging
and young children jiggling all along the road.



Summer 2009 at Scoil Cholmcille



Scoil Cholmcille hears from....



Parents Association



This was another very successful year in terms of fundraising for the Parents Association. Our Easter Draw was a huge success and a big thank you to all the students and parents in supporting this. The draw culminated in a very exciting finale, organised by our Principal, Mr. Paraig Cannon. The Parents Association would like to thank all the sponsors for their generous prizes and without whom this draw would not be possible.

The €30 voluntary contributions also helped us raise much needed funds. We would like to acknowledge the teachers' roles in both the Easter Draw and the voluntary contribution, in helping to keep track of incoming money, and also Bridgetta Brogan in the office for assisting with the many administration aspects of both fundraisers.

I would like to assure all parents that every cent raised goes back into benefitting your child's education. This year we were able to purchase more Maths materials, books, computer equipment and educational DVD's. Money was also contributed to subsidise treats for the First Communion boys, the annual Sports Day and the Green Schools Programme. In addition, this year we are able to offer funding to assist with the enhancement of the yard at the back of the school in order to make it more child-friendly. This will be completed at a later date in the year.

Finally, we always like to encourage parents to join our association. We meet about twice every term and would gratefully appreciate your input with any new ideas/suggestions.

Best Wishes
Siobhan McEwen,
Secretary Parents Association



Mrs McGowan welcomes Letterkenny Town Mayor Cllr Jim Lynch.

Editorial

In poem after poem in the Irish canon, the landscape from which our national identity was crafted figures. Whether scribbled on the margins of precious vellum by daydreaming monks, or on the pages of a collected works, our poets have all valued the land. Nowhere is the bog more celebrated than in Heaney's poem 'Bogland'. To quote:

We have no prairies.
To slice a big sun at evening
Everywhere the eye concedes to the
Encroaching horizon,

Is wooed into the Cyclops' eye
Of a tarn. Our unfenced country
Is bog that keeps crusting
Between the sights of the sun.

The 'unfenced country' is symbolic of a place that stretches out in reality and in imagination as far as the eye can see. Our bogland then gives us a sense of distance and of perspective that few other nations have. It allows us to take the long-term view, not only of the particular problems of today, but also of the land as a whole. It serves as a reminder that our time here is fleeting; all peat bogs take over 5000 years to form. It is the beacon by which this generation's environmentalists can be guided.

By saving the bogs and wetlands of Ireland, we save ourselves and by so doing improve all interrelationships everywhere.

Editorial Team

Editorial Team

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Snapshot of the Staff of Scoil Cholmcille 2009



Front Row left to right: Carmel McMacken, Peter Kelly (Caretaker), Philip O'Donnell, Joe Crossan, Anne McGowan, Paraig Cannon, Breda O'Malley, Mairéad Sweeney, Alice Quigley, Kay Kelly, Orlaith Kavanagh, Martina Keys.

2nd Row left to right: Shiela Moore S.N.A., Connie O'Brien S.N.A., Anne O'Donnell S.N.A., Bridgeen Doherty S.N.A., Sarah Ann McClafferty, Lisa McMonagle, Meganne Stewart, Teresa Kelly S.N.A., Elaine Doherty, Treasa McClafferty S.N.A., Jean Ryan S.N.A., Fiona Roddy.

3rd Row: Assumpta Donaghy, Noreen Masterson, Norma Emery S.N.A., Shauna Doherty, Mary Grant, Mary McGinley, Colleen Campbell, Margaret Toner S.N.A., Caroline McLaughlin S.N.A., Maureen O'Connor, Justine Fisher S.N.A., Brigitte Brogan - Secretary.

Back Row: Alma Kavanagh, Janice Daly S.N.A., Noelle Mulrain, Triona Daly, Collette Duffy, J.P. Gallagher, Ita O'Sullivan, Rory Kavanagh, Anna Wasilewska S.N.A., Patricia Boyle, Jenni Reid.

Paddy Delap Table Tennis Coach



Paddy Delap comes to our school every day during our lunch break. He teaches us how to play table tennis. He shows us how to hold the bat and how to bounce the ball on the table. He taught us the rules of the game. We can

play singles and doubles. We have competitions. Peter Kelly helps us too. We all really enjoy the table tennis and are getting very good at it.

Evan Dunleavy 10yrs.

Swimming

On Sunday 31st May I won a gold and a silver for the Front Crawl and a relay.

There were thirty people there. Now I am through to the Community Games Finals in Athlone. I hope I do well in the finals at Athlone. I think swimming is a very good sport and next year I hope to do as well as this year.

Jonathan Martin 3rd Class

Your Time Will Come..... You Will Rise High



One day I went to the woods to have a talk with God.

"God" I said. "Can you give me one good reason why I haven't accomplished anything? His answer surprised me.

"Look around", he said. "Do you see the fern and bamboo?"

"Yes" I replied.

"When I planted the fern and bamboo seeds, I took very good care of them. I gave them light. I gave them water. The fern quickly grew from the earth. Its brilliant green covered the floor. Yet nothing came from the bamboo seed. But I did not quit on the bamboo."

In the second year the fern grew more vibrant and plentiful. And again, nothing came from the bamboo seed. But I did not quit on the bamboo.

"In year three there was still nothing from the bamboo seed. But I would not quit. The same in year four.

"Then in the fifth year, a tiny sprout emerged from the earth. Compared to the fern, it was seemingly small and insignificant. But just six months later, the bamboo rose to over 100 feet tall. It had spent the five years growing roots. Those roots made it strong and gave it what it needed to survive. I would not give any of my creations a challenge it could not handle.

"Did you know, my child, that all this time you have been struggling, you have actually been growing roots? I would not quit on the bamboo..... I will never quit on you."

"Don't compare yourself to others" he said. "The bamboo had a different purpose than the fern. Yet they both make the forest beautiful".

"Your time will come", God said to me. "You will rise high".

"How high will I rise", I asked.

"How high will the bamboo rise?" he asked in return.

"As high as it can?" I questioned.

"Yes" he said, "Give me glory by rising as high as you can"

The end of the year is with us once more. It is a good time to step back and look at all the growth in Scoil Cholmcille's beautiful forest. Our ferns and bamboos (the pupils, teachers, SNAs, parents, coaches, guest speakers and others) have all helped to make Scoil Cholmcille a place to grow in our understanding of each other and the fascinating world we inhabit. No statement says all that could be said, the forest is not easily covered. Travel with us as we highlight some areas of growth and particular interest that reflects some of the year's beautiful work.

In October, our 5th and 6th class pupils were broadcast on national television as they handled and interacted with instruments and members of the famous RTE Symphony Orchestra. The Balor Community Arts Group helped our first and second class pupils to care for our environment while our third class attended the family Hoffman's Mystery Palace in the Town Park. Artists budded and imagination was framed in the very attractive Images Art exhibition held in May. Authors from 6th class had their creative writings included in the Pushkin 'Tree Of Life' publication.

Pupils learned rugby skills from Mr. Bushell in September, observed the skills of Anthony Gorman, soccer coach in June, were coached by Paddy Delap in table tennis skills all year round, and flexed their rhythm and Moon Walk movement

skills with the help of Ms Anita McGinley. We are Cumann na mBunscoil Gaelic Champions 2009 (second year running!), represented Donegal in the 5 A-side Ulster Finals in Monaghan, achieved bronze in rounders with Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál and returned 6 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze medal in the Finn Valley Primary School Athletics. Pupils worked with Donegal Sports Partnership, competed in the Mini-9's hurling competition in October, the 7 a-side hurling blitz and reached the final of the FAI Ribena Cup in May. One of the high points of the year was the afternoon of activities involving the participation of the whole school in celebrating 125 years of GAA. Donegal Sports bestowed the very prestigious award of best teacher in sports in the county on Ms. Alma Kavanagh, 6th class teacher to a packed audience on 30th January in the Mount Errigal Hotel. Congratulations to Alma.

Pupils learned from local artist, Mr. Jarla Duffy, designed and marketed their own Scoil Cholmcille Christmas Cards in December. They attended the Wainfest Children's Festival at the Regional Cultural Centre and the Derek Hill - Art of Desire Collection. I was delighted to learn that books to the value of €2,000 were bought at our Book Fair in December....money spent investing in reading is never a waste of money. Continue to support your child's interest in reading by buying him books.

The four rounds of applause in the Cathedral on 19th December, unprecedented in my experience, summed up the Christmas Carol service while the personal testimonies of our Holocaust Memorial service along with the haunting music and project displays renewed our shock and disbelief of the Holocaust and its legacy. We celebrated the richness of our faith in Catholic School's week in January. Our Confirmation and First Holy communion ceremonies were occasions to be so proud of! Great preparation, meticulous rehearsal planning, and a choir that hushed both congregations gave us two very memorable and meaningful mornings in the cathedral in March and May.

The Easter Draw brought great excitement as we applauded class endeavours and awaited the result of the Big Bike winner! The four week blitz was a great fund raising success. Children work for schools who work for them! Boys also raised €2,986 in the Readathon.

We introduced a new model of parent teacher meetings, extending the time for parents and teachers. I was struck by how many parents spoke so highly of their child's teacher. We progressed a new school code of behaviour and celebrated excellence in behaviour and attitude in a significant number of pupils who achieved the much sought after 3 Gold, 6 Gold and 9 Gold - All Star Awards. Their time has come...they have risen high.

You, the parents have spent the first five years growing their roots. Those roots make them strong and give them what they need to survive. We in Scoil Cholmcille receive them as tiny sprouts, 'seemingly small and insignificant', but within 8 years they leave 1000 feet tall! Each have their own strengths, purposes and styles but together create a school forest that is rich and varied, that is Scoil Cholmcille.

Your time will come... you will rise high!

Mr Paraig Cannon
Principal