RECOLLECTIONS

Looking back over the eight years that I have been Principal in St. Joseph’s Secondary School, one of my earliest recollections is of setting off the alarm unintentionally! It happened on my very first visit to the School. I was on a reconnaissance mission, armed with a mighty bunch of keys and was so determined to survey the plant before the action began. Enthusiasm is an admirable quality to possess and particularly when a person is embarking on a new mission, but I have since learned to temper it with prudence and a little caution, especially when confronted by the strong arm of the law. A young Garda appeared on the doorstep and proceeded to question me on who I was and what I was doing. I informed him with not little embarrassment that I was the new Principal and that I was just looking around. He departed almost as suddenly as he had appeared, smiling to himself. I am sure he thought the poor guy had made an ‘alarming start’ in his new job.

Games have always been an integral part of the school day in St. Joseph’s. I have enjoyed watching the students play and it did me a power of good to get out of the office from time to time to referee some of the matches. The annual match between the students and the teachers was something else. I was usually “volunteered” to be the referee and much to my astonishment I was sometimes accused of being somewhat biased in a certain direction!

The activity that takes place in the classroom is the sine qua non in any school worthy of the name. In my visits to the classes I was happy to observe the excellent quality and direction of the various activities and the scope that is in the curriculum for student participation and expression. I hope the students will avail fully of these opportunities and take on more responsibility for their own self-development and growth to maturity.

I have enjoyed working with the staff, the students and the parents and I have found a great spirit of cooperation and hard work to ensure the job, whatever it is, is well done. The establishment of the Board of Management will further enhance the work — there is so much to be done.

Guim beannacht ó Dhia ar an scoil agus ar an mbainistíocht nua agus go n-éirí go geal leis na blianta ata romhainn.

AN. BR. S. M. O’FATHAIGH

Mr. A. Killeen, Chairman of the Parent’s Advisory Council, at the Presentation to Brother Fahy in Scoil Mhuire, May 10th, 1986.
SÚIL SIAR

Tháinig mé go Meán Scoil Iosaif Naofa sa bhliain 1958. Thosnaigh mé mo shaol mar bhunmhúinteoir i Scoil Mhuire, Márino cuig blianta roimh sin. Uíme sin nior mheas mé go raibh aon ródhúshlán ann domsa dul le máineamhúinteoirí an scoil seo mar bhí aithne agam ar roinnt mhairthe des na mícéin cheanna féin — bhídhí ag freastal ar Scoil Mhuire. Dá bhf iad ba mise an t-aon tuathannach ar ba bhfearróin a bheith oláf mar mhúinteoiri bunscoile.

Maidir leis an bhfoireann teagaisc, nil ach beirt den leithrinn a bhí ann i 1959 sa scoil fós — An Br. N. T. O'Cadhla agus mé féin. Ó am go cheile mothaímid mar 'Oisín ar an creagál!' Ídir amanna do bhí an t-aithne ba mhó dar lámh sa dramaisc personae ná, mná a theacht ar an bhfoireann. Do dhúnain mar mise a chaith mo shaol á theagasc ag Bráithre Cristiol, agus ag teagasc leó, ionta don n-íonta ba ea an bhuainmhúinteoir a theicheadh i Scoil Iosaif. Acht thárla sé, agus anois bhí sé fí-máthúrtha go fiúil a bheith ina an t-ás.


Ina dhiaidh tháinig an Príomhoide bá le dá raibh againn ariamh — an Br. Ó Brádaigh. Ilscoinne a bhí é. Ní bhí sé beag i gcóir, bhí sé mí im mean agus i gcroí. Bhain sé státhadh as a bhí an chreidteachtaidh a chuid a thugadh go raibh sé inni — chuairt sé do cheann an mbord ar an lá a raibh mar a d'fhéadfadh sé a chuid dom. Aimeoín go raibh an bhiord ar a chuid cheann aige. Lean an nós ó shin i leith, Rothar a bhí mar chónas taistil aige agus bhí sé ábalta dul ó thaoibh go raibh a cheann go scíochfeadha na barraí a bhíonn i ntróiléamh. Chuair sé leach iad le chapaillín i gcumhmhach domh. Fear an-thuiscceanach ba ea é — bhronn sé chog orm nuair a bhíom ag dul a pháisidh!! Thug an Br. O’Ruaire RIP an "Busy Bee".

Ansan bhí Séamus Mac Caidrach againn, rinne sé an-obair leis na h-Arda Ranganna go h-airtíte in i gcúrsaithe cheol. Thug sé tuiscint doine i gceol clasiceach a gceol Gaileach. Móir scoile a bhí é go h-airtíte i Matamatic an lèi inni. Chuair an n-foirne a insint bhí sé ábalta gach abhar a lámhseal.


Tagaimid anois go dí an Br. Ó Fatadh. Cailt sé roimh mhairt agaird ar an bhfoirgnmeacht féin agus ar throscán scoile. Sproingeodh mé a chuidí agus an choláiste a insribhíte chun a bheith ullamh i gcoinne d’aon athraithe a thoicfadh ar an gcóras. Tá sé le h-imeacht ag déideadh na scoil blianta. Leis sin beidh sé in a chreideadh ré, mar táthar chun tuath-oidhe a cheapadh mar phríomhoide. Ré saibh, torthúil, fliontaibh ab ea é. Bhí a bhunanna fein ag gach Príomhoide agus ina shli féin d’fhág chuile dhuine dhiobh a raibh fós sa scoil nuair a bhí againn.

Tagaimid anois go dí an Br. Ó Fatadh. Cailt sé roimh mhairt agaird ar an bhfoirgnmeacht féin agus ar throscán scoile. Sproingeodh mé a chuidí agus an choláiste a insribhíte chun a bheith ullamh i gcoinne d’aon athraithe a thoicfadh ar an gcóras. Tá sé le h-imeacht ag déideadh na scoil bhlianta. Leis sin beidh sé in a chreideadh ré, mar táthar chun tuath-oidhe a cheapadh mar phríomhoide. Ré saibh, torthúil, fliontaibh ab ea é. Bhí a bhunanna fein ag gach Príomhoide agus ina shli féin d’fhág chuile dhuine dhiobh a raibh fós sa scoil nuair a bhí againn.

Beirtean seanfhionduí na scoile a thug an-chabhair dom tríd na mblianta — Brid Newman agus Joe Blaney. Is féidir a rá go bhfuil inimhir iomad agus bhfuil leis phríomhoide. Tá Bríd císte is na cásair a bhainean leachtáil na scoile agus mar bháirí ar sin, tá sí glinn chomh maith. Tá si in ainm a bheith ina Rúnait sa scoil aghaidh is ceart do mháthair a bheith. Tá máthair a bheith. Tá sé le h-imeacht a dheideadh na scoil bhlianta. Leis sin beidh sé in a chreideadh ré, mar táthar chun tuath-oidhe a cheapadh mar phríomhoide. Ré saibh, torthúil, fliontaibh ab ea é. Bhí a bhunanna fein ag gach Príomhoide agus ina shli féin d’fhág chuile dhuine dhiobh a raibh fós sa scoil nuair a bhí againn.

Chuir sé d’iachall ar na daltaí an scoil a chheanglán agus chloisea é ar an boromh-bhóthar ag iarraidh ar na mic léinn a mbrógá a ghlanadh ar an gcóitín — "now lads, shoes, backwards and forwards". Tá Roger Hogue ceapaithe ina áit. Tá trua agam do Roger toisc é a theacht i ndiaidh Joe, ach tá a shírí go h-an mhairt leis.

Athrú an-mhór éile ba ea bunú an Chomhairle Tuiscmiteoirí. Roimhe sin, bhídhí an mna cormhaír gan aghaidh sa scoil nuair ba ghá. Tá an iomairt sin le rá faoi na mna sin agus an Chomhairle go gcaithfear é a chur ar athló go dtí an eigin eile, fe mar a d'hein in Paorach.
A SIXTH YEAR REFLECTION

“Although it's hard to believe, it has now been thirteen years since I first parade into St. Joseph's CBS, full of pride and determination, and not a little apprehensive as to what lay in store for me. Many changes have come about in the Irish educational system since then .... too many to adequately talk about. But I do recollect the introduction of notes for being absent, the "passing" of corporal punishment, the discontinuing of parent-teacher meetings, and being given a firm foundation on which to build my very limited knowledge of the Irish language.

Now in my final year, I see a bleak future in the outside world ... a world full of bureaucracy and surrounded by red tape. Ex-students are enralled in the familiar vicious circle which is based on the simple rules which say .... “You can’t get a job without experience, and you can’t get experience without a job”, and: “It’s not what you know, but who you know that counts.”

DAVID MAINE
SCHOOL NEWS

I don't know if you know it or not, but one of the members of staff used to be in ZZ Top. I'm not giving anything away, but he teaches Science, and it's not Mr. "Patch" Carolan, or Mr. "Control-your-emotions" Sheahan. He tried to keep it a secret, but he let it slip when he showed me his key-ring-which-turns-into-an-eliminator-car .... "A strong leader makes an organisation", they say. However, Democracy helps a bit. This is not the case with the Video Club. It's good to see a successful organisation, more especially after last year's abysmal effort (no names mentioned) ... but come back Eric, all is forgiven.

Leon obviously feels in control. Control isn't the word. If perchance, one of the members is absent, he has to give Leon a note!! Actually, I sneaked into one of their meetings, disguised in one of Leon's Hitler wigs and Shock! Horror! It's actually the meeting of The Bring-back-Hitler party. Leon, as is his flair, sits around making all the decisions, while th'others sit around bleating ... "We want to vote on it." ....

Shay is here, Shay is there, Shay is bloody everywhere ... If so, why did he get out of the shop? Could it be that Leon's competition is too much?

Picture the scene ... A spaghetti Western setting, Leon and Shay dressed in panchos and boots facing one another on the deserted street. Leon guns Shay down, but naturally, three days later ....

Ah!! Divine inspiration. That's what the Video Club needs. That's what the Gap has. So has the V. de P. They've just recently found out that Mr McGann is their spiritual advisor. Well, it's not every school that has God as a teacher.

The teachers are obviously shaking in their boots at the prospect of a new principal. Instead of cars, they'll have to come in on roller-skates. Maybe Mr. Teeling will buy a Lolo ball and lose some weight. Mr Lynch will probably use his combine-harvester cum vehicle, which uses 01 mpg and sounds like a jack hammer on overdrive. And, of course Mr O'Callahan will use his Communist-issue tank.

The walk-outs were fun! 300 girls outside screaming "Joey's Out" and nobody took a blind bit of notice. And there was what turned out to be a radio interviewer outside who wanted to know why we didn't go out .... Weird!

This year, there was a big crackdown on graffiti on desks, and then the teachers do it themselves. Have you seen the numbers of the desks? Some of them seem to be reminded what comes after 2... But they don't need to write on the desks. We're a kind lot. We'd tell them, wouldn't we? .... No.

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"THE GAP"

The last Disco, run by the Parent’s Council, was making a loss, so Mr. McGann and the Parent’s Council had several meetings, before it was decided to shut it down, on condition that a better Disco could have been organised. In September 1984, a core committee was set up and a few meetings began to organise this new northside Disco. The name: Gap, came from the students of the school. Barry Reynolds, the first chairman, had a very big task ahead of him to get a good reputation, which the last Disco had ruined. A selected number of Girls and Boys schools were canvassed for members and for promotion of the Gap. After the core committee was formed, they set about forming a general committee, ie, the workers on the night. In all, there were six on the core committee, and twenty-six on the general committee. Each core committee member is in charge of different areas under which the general committee works. The Chairman is advised by Mr. McGann (The Director), and the Parent’s Council. The Gap could not be successful without the help of the Parents (making tea and supervising on the night). On April 28th, 1985, the first Gap was a great success, and has had some memorable nights since... Halloween, and more recently, the anniversary night, when a video was made. Looking to the future, the Gap committee is hoping to purchase its own equipment, video screen, and to make it an all-members dance.

PAUL NOONAN

DEBATING

A lot of people have a misconception about debating. From what I see, they appear to think that is a very long and boring activity, with people shouting big words etc. This view however, is completely wrong. Debating can be good fun, especially if there are two witty teams involved. This was the case on Monday 28th April when Joey’s 5th year team, comprising of Daragh Bohan, David Smith and Noel Murphy debated with Mercy College, Beaumont. It was a very good debate, both sides had a good argument, were very witty, and although Joey’s lost, a good time was had by all.


Ba thuig nach raibh tacaíocht níos fearr, agus lucht leanaí níos nó ón Scoil, ag an bhfoireann, ach d’ár ndóigh ba dheacair é an taisteal a bheadh le déanamh dul chuig na h-Ionaic éagsúla.

DARAGH BOHAN

Chomhghairdeas ag D Bohan, d’éirigh leis bheith mar an cainteoir ab féarr ag 3 cinn de na bhabhfaí luaithe thuas.

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SPORTS SCENE ’85 - ’86

SENIOR HURLING

The hurling season began on a rather high note with an impressive win over O'Connell's in early September. The competition proper began later that month. The feeling I recall from those early days of training was one of hope and determination ... to redeem ourselves after two unsuccessful semi-finals at Under-14 and Under-16 level. Our first game, one we expected to win, was played with many of the players in a different world. The Intermediate results were finally released that day, and after a poor display, we lost by the considerable margin of 6 points, which led to a re-arrangement of the team for the next match, against Benildus.

The new plans were short-lived, however, as their full-forward notched up two goals and a point within a few minutes of the start. Another re-arrangement of the team produced a successful counter-attack and at the final whistle, we were ahead by two points.

That great display was followed by a catastrophe. We met St. Aidan's and from the start we were jinxed ... a great goal being disallowed early on and three successive frees towards the end going marginally wide. We lost by a point.

Morale plummeted, but by the time of our last match, against Ard Scoil Ris, the earlier hope and determination had reasserted itself and, although we lost that match, the thirteen players who will still be eligible next year are sure that they are capable of winning the first hurling title for Joey's in the last number of years.

PADDY BRADY

UNDER 14 GAEILIC FOOTBALL

The U-14 team was a mixture of First and Second Years and we commenced training in September under Mr Leahy and Mr O'Conan. The final league match was played against Ard Scoil Ris in their grounds. It was a tough prospect facing our closest rivals so early in the season. However, we went to Griffith Ave. In a determined mood, concentrating on one thing only .... winning, and we did.

Our second game was against St. David's, but we failed to take full advantage of the opportunities that came our way, and they ran out easy winners.

Our third game, against Gormanston, was a cracker, and by sheer persistence, we notched up a nine-point victory.

Beneavin, Finglas, dashed our hopes of league success in the next match. We lost our captain before the game, and by a combination of our own over-confidence and bad luck, we lost a game that we should have won.

The fifth match, against St. Aidan's, was a great match with several good scores. The pace of the play was fast and furious, and playing with a strong wind in the first half, we led by three points at half time. St. Aidan's quickly drew level, but then, good team work lead to a great goal from Pet Comiskey, and, having resisted strong pressure from St. Aidan's, we eventually won by two points.

Victory in the final league match, against St Fintan's, was vital as it would earn us a place in the play-off for the semi-final. At one stage, Fintan's led by seven points, but good goals from Derek Gill and Alan O'Connor proved decisive, and so we pulled through to meet St. Aidan's for the second time.

This match proved to be a great disappointment as we gave away bad scores and failed to take our own chances. St. Aidan's gained revenge on us in no uncertain terms.

Nonetheless, it was a very enjoyable season and not without its good moments.

M. ELLIOT
D. Mcgloin
R. MILLS
SENIOR FOOTBALL

The Senior footballers, led by Mr O'Dwyer and Mr O'Brien, and captained by Aidan McGloin, began their campaign in November. From the start, it was made clear to the team that there was no pressure to do well. They had nothing to lose and everything to gain. Their performances at Under 14 and Under 16 levels had earned them this luxury. During those campaigns, they had won an unprecedented three games out of sixteen.

For the first game, Joeys took on the old enemy, Ard Scoil Ris in a friendly, in Fairview Park. The defence was tight and safe... at midfield, Ger. Teeling began to make his mark on the game and on the shins of the opposition, arriving five minutes late with his sliding tackles. The forwards were surprisingly sharp despite the celebration of Hallowe'en and the Gap the previous night. We won by two points, and were then told that Ard Scoil weren't at full strength... nonetheless it was a good morale booster.

Drinnagh Castle came to Fairview Park with the death of Paul Mulhare fresh in their minds. They went away surprised and two points better off, which was also the difference on the scoreboard. Joeys did have a legitimate goal disallowed by a referee who arrived at half time, but it was a Joeys team which had fumbled and wasted chance after chance in the first half.

The next game took us to Sutton, where, after five minutes, it was clear that Fintan's were a formidable side. However, we maximised our chances, and with only a few minutes remaining, the sides were level. Mr O'Dwyer was eating his fingernails, Mr O'Brien his cigarettes.

Once again, it was the lethal boots of Curtis Fleming which stole those two vital points in the dying moments of the game.

The venue for the next game was Ballygall Road. Tommy Kelly had an eventful game. In the first half, he scored a goal and a point. In the second half, he headed against the butt of the post and followed this up by missing three golden opportunities in quick succession. Colm Branagan wrapped it up for Joeys with a fine goal. In an exciting play-off match against Drinnagh Castle, we won by a mere point, and consequently earned ourselves a place in the semi-final.

In the meantime, there was a Leinster match against Carlow CBS to keep us busy. The conditions in Allenwood were perfect for football. Despite the lion’s share of the play, it took a breathtaking forty-yard run and point by Mark Brady to equalise and force the replay. There followed the teacher-who-went-home-with-the-keys-of-the-minibus-in-his-pocket episode. the local mechanic was called in, but it wasn’t his speciality.

Carlow got the better of the conditions of the pitch, and weather and us, in the replay in Blessington on the following Thursday.

Back in Dublin, St. David’s provided the opposition for our semi-final. Try as we might to whittle back their half-time lead, they managed to hold on to their slender three point lead, and they went on to win the final.

We emerged from the campaign dignified and shameless, and we have great expectations for next year.

BRIAN HOGAN

Joey’s has always have a great tradition on the sporting fields, and in recent years unfortunately we have been living on that tradition. Our results have not been good since our last win in 1980 when we won a Senior Hurling Final.

However, enthusiasm among staff and students have never waned and the Senior Gaelic Football team has been in two Semi-Finals this year and last.

On the hurling ground also things are looking up: we got to semi-finals in under 16 and under 14, and there are great hopes for next year’s senior team.

It was the senior soccer team that brought us a moment of glory recently by winning the Plate Cup Final. In Tolka Park and a balmy May day they showed skill and commitment when they defeated Patrician College, Ballyvin by two goals to one in a thrilling final.

It was an eagerly-awaited win and it gave both staff and students and great satisfaction to see a Joey’s player holding a cup aloft once again.

Because of lack of facilities it is difficult for the school to take part in a variety of sports, but golf, under the able tutelage of Mr Teeling, is flourishing.

Joeys will be one hundred years old in 1988 and it would be fitting to celebrate that momentous occasion with a significant victory on the sports field. With a big effort by all, there is no doubt that this can be achieved.
"BE YOUR OWN BOSS"

BY JOHN TEELING

Probably the most significant step which I ever took was the first step out of the ESB Office in Fitzwilliam Street two and a half hours into my first day in my first job. I never went back.

In the early 1960's it was common for Sixth Years to apply for "the Banks", the "Junior Ex" and the ESB. I followed the trend and because I had good results in the Leaving I was called quickly by the ESB. The first morning filled me with dread. I was going to be a Grade 18 clerk which meant that the route to Grade 1 was long, there were rules, regulations, exams, etc. but worst of all I was signed up for a pension plan. I was 17 years old and they were telling me about pension entitlements at 65!!!

Undoubtedly if my father had been alive he would have thumped me and sent me back but I got around the mother. Instead of a permanent pensionable career I have chosen a lifestyle filled with risk, problems, worry, interest, excitement, and, thank God, profit. I don't work 40 hours a week. I don't know how many hours I work because most of what I do is great fun and not work.

There is throughout Ireland today a strong bias against careers in industry, commerce and even more so against being self-employed. The future economic success of this country does not lie with the State, the civil service, the banks or the multinationals. It lies with Irishmen and women generating jobs and wealth in private enterprises.

I was extremely lucky in school. Because I was helping to run a small family business, Br. Murphy ("Jeff" behind his back) suggested after my Inter that I take Commerce instead of History. I was the only A class student doing so. Martin Mulcahy ("Shakespeare") then taught Commerce. I took it like a duck to water. A well-taught course in Business can inspire.

A major problem in schools today is that Business Studies has a low priority getting the weakest students and often being taught by untrained teachers. Not so in Joeys of course where my brother is one of the Business Studies teachers. An example of what can go on was shown in a large Northside girls' school where pressure was exerted on the head run to offer Business Studies at Honours Leaving Level. She reluctantly did so but brought in a 67-year-old retired nun who had taught Irish. Her logic was that Business Studies was easy. You only have to look at the Leaving Results to learn the fallacy of that.

I spend time visiting schools promoting Enterprise and Business as careers worthy of consideration. There is still widespread bias against such careers. I have talked about this to school principals who feel that parents object to the schools direction their children into careers in industry and business. It is changing but unfortunately two or three parents in schools and universities and too few parents consider a career in business to be a "quality" career.

What is often overlooked in a review of Joeys is the list of entrepreneurs and businessmen who are past pupils. No complete list has ever been compiled but people like Paul Power of Novum, Michael Wymes of Bula and Rory Scanlon of Creative Management are well-known entrepreneurs and past pupils. It would be a worthwhile exercise to identify those prominent businessmen who did attend the school.

If Ireland is to have a prosperous future providing jobs for her young people then Irish men and women will have to provide the entrepreneurial spirit to create the businesses. There is no future in an Ireland of civil servants, bankers or other professionals. Someone has to generate the wealth to keep these people. Change is coming. Career guidance, mock interviews and careers talk are steps in the right direction. But I quail when I see the list of career choices. Everything under the sun but industry and business.

There is scope for schools to run "Setting Up Your Own Business" schemes. Likewise entering teams in the Irish Independent and Business and Finance Stock Exchange competitions can be useful. Certain schools run a series of talks by prominent business people for all 5th and 6th Years not just Business Studies pupils. All in all it is possible to point students towards what can be a very worthwhile life.

I owe a great deal to the thorough grounding received in Joeys. The teaching in the school has been the foundation for famous careers in sport, religion, politics and academics. The challenge of the 90's is to employ our people. It is the graduates of the next decade who will have to provide the opportunities. The school, the teachers and the parents all have a role to play. They have never failed before and won't this time.

JOHN TEELING

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SOME PUPILS' OBSERVATIONS ....

DAVID McLOUGHLIN:
"The school itself is quite old... at least it is not falling down around our ears..."

CORMAC CONNOLLY:
"I arrived in Joeys on Aug. 28th 1985 and little did I know that I would spend five hours and thirty five minutes of drudgery there each day (not including endless hours of homework)...
   In Primary School, it was unusual to get homework on a Friday... and now it is miraculous if we don't...
   However, it is better to have twelve different teachers than to be stuck with the same one all day....."

TURLOUGH BYRNE:
"Next year will see my first Public Exams and I really think I'd rather do Third Year again... I also got a new form teacher who really is a different story... All things considered (even the little ones) Third Years wasn't that bad..."

COLM HANLON:
"First Year - a doss; Second Year - a doss; Third Year - the Crunch.

RICHARD FLOOD:
"I feel that the Third Year students deserve more attention..."

M. O'DRISCOLL: "The frustrating thing is that you end up taking down notes the teacher gives you on books which usually have these notes already."

DARREN HAND:
"Life in Fourth Year has its ups and downs. Teachers babble on at you about how lazy and ignorant you are. They don't see when you are trying your best, and you get classed as one of 'them'. The 'them' people get talked about..."

JOE LUMSDEN:
"Declan McCaffery is trying to hide his exam worry with a George Michael type beard. Paul Fox is following in hot pursuit. The biggest worry at the moment is that Liam Whelan's caterpillar has died and will never sprout wings."

TOMMY REDMOND:
"It's been the most relaxed, hardworking and important year of the past four."

CONOR PHILLIPS:
"The month all fourth years dread is June. The Teachers are aware of this fear. We get 'you'd want to pull up your socks' (whatever pulling up socks will achieve!)."

ENDA STAFFORD:
"It seems to me that most Fifth Years have taken an interest in the after-school activities available in the school, and are making the best use of the careers information which is abundantly available to them.
Students have taken on a lot of responsibilities, but I think that they should be given more of a say in certain things that affect them. Senior Students should be regarded as mature enough to negotiate on their own behalf, say, in regard to smoking.
Schools are supposed to develop student's talents, but there aren't many facilities for non-academic talents to be developed in Joeys, and facilities might be provided for indoor activities during games periods."
V.P.T.P.

Last September the school began its first V.P.T.P. Course. The general aim of such a course is that of bridging the gap between the values and experiences normally part of traditional education and those current in the adult world of work. It was divided into three main areas — General and Social Studies, Technical Knowledge and Work Experience.

The General & Social Studies element played an important part in the course. Young people need not only technical skills and some knowledge and experience of the world of work but also practical skills in communication and in numeracy. They also need an understanding of the adult world they are shortly to embark upon. The General & Social Studies course tried to cater for these needs by providing courses in communications, Education for Living, Maths, Religion, Computer Studies, Irish and Recreational Activities.

Work experience is an attempt to provide each student with formal experience of the world of work. This was done by placing each student in a work situation for one day each week. They also received instruction in job application and interview techniques.

The Vocational Studies section provides courses in particular work related areas. Our courses were in Electronics, Commerce and Woodwork.

Was the course a success? As there was no specific exam to work towards teachers were able to try ideas which would not have been tried otherwise. For one there was time. There was time to talk to students, there was time for students to think of their futures, there was time for study and there was even time for snooker, sailing and bowling.

Seven people managed to find work or a course which might lead to work and of the type of job the students founds. There, more are hopeful.

So, despite some problems, some misunderstandings, having to wear "all the uniform", having to attend work experience "even during the holidays", despite all that it seems to have been quite a success.

S. GREENE

"The course was very helpful for those who did not want to go on to do the Inter. or Leaving Certs. The main thing was the valuable work experience every Thursday, Woodwork and Electronics were great fun... Probably the most enjoyable part of the course was the recreational period on Tuesday afternoons, where we did a whole variety of different things, canoeing, sailing, bowling, go-kart racing, basketball, tennis, snooker, etc......"

MARK DOYLE

"Another great part of the course was the money... We also did our own projects in Electronics, learned how to use our grammar properly in Communications, talked about the troubles of the world in Education for living, learned how to do programme in Computers... I would highly recommend the course to anybody...."

ROBERT CUMMINS

The Kirwan Funeral Home

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PHONE: 33 44 44
31st ANNUAL DINNER:
The 31st Annual Dinner was held in the Hollybrook Hotel, Clontarf, on Friday 21st February, 1986, at 8.00 pm. The first Dinner was held in the Old Moira Hotel in 1955 and has been a well attended annual event since.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the School on Wednesday, 25th February, 1986. As usual only a small number attended.

CAREER GUIDANCE:
We were probably the first school in Dublin to give career guidance talks and Col. Eamonn Doyle, Rathmhuire, Tower Road, Clondalkin, once again organised career guidance talks on all careers requested. In most cases Pat Pupils were available and willing to give these talks.

ANNUAL MASS:
The Annual Mass for deceased past pupils is held in the School as usual on the first Sunday in May this year.

GOLFCING SOCIETY:
The winner of the Jimmy McKeown Cup in 1985 was Fintan O’Connor and the winner of the C.J. Haughey Cup in 1985 was Noel Fox. Larry Walsh won the Captain’s Prize. The Captain for 1986 is John Drumgoole. The Hon. Secretary is P.J. Clonan.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP FUND:
We are pleased to report that a Fund was launched this year under the title “St Joseph Education Foundation” and on 11th November, 1985, at an assembly of the present Fifth and Sixth Year Students in the School, Paddy Walsh, Chairman of the Trustees, presented cheques for £500.00 each to Aidan Cahill, who is studying Medicine at UCC and Aidan Ferrick, who is studying Teaching at St. Patrick’s Training College. Aidan Ferrick has since taken up a Civil Service position and the Trustees have transferred his grant to Paul Kilby, who is studying at Maynooth.

The Trustees of the Foundation are:
Paddy Walsh, 15 Seapark, Malahide, Co. Dublin.
John Teeling, 76 Seafield Road, Dublin 3.
Anntra O Beolain, Cuil na dTonn, Carrickbarr Road, Sutton, Dublin 13.
Vincent Flood, 33 Woodcliffe Village, Howth, Co. Dublin.
Vinny McClean, 9 Mayo Road Crescent, Dublin 5.

To date, thirty-nine past pupils have completed covenants for five years and with some funds collected at last year’s Dinner we were in a position to make these two small awards. We now call on all past pupils to join in this very worthy tribute to our old School. As a matter of interest, the School Authorities produced a list of fifteen candidates suitable to receive a grant from the Foundation, so you can see that a much larger Fund would be very welcome. If you wish to contribute please contact one of the Trustees as soon as possible.

COMPUTER FUND:
The Past Pupils Union was happy to be associated with the drive to establish Computer Training in the School and to date £2,400 approximately has been donated. It is indeed pleased to be associated with the Parents and the Teachers in this venture.

The Union also scribed £1,500 towards the cost of Shrofters installed in the School in 1978.

CHESS CLUB:
A Past Pupils Chess Club meets in the School each Monday at 7.15 pm. Michael Germaine (726532) is the organiser. He’d love to hear from all our chess enthusiasts.

- Bro. Fahy and Mr. Paddy Walsh (PPU) congratulate Aidan Cahill and Aidan Ferrick on their winning of the Past Pupils Scholarship.

The story began, one faithful day last September, when a group of pupils attended a meeting called by Eric Dillon, who ran the club in its maiden year. At this meeting it was found that Eric was looking for others to run the new Video Club and after hastily holding elections the present committee was formed.

So the big question now was what to be the first Video? The choice... Rambo which proved to break all box office records previously known in the Video Club. So already we were a success with over 80 members to our name and a box of Hit under our belt. A constitution was not put into effect ironing out some internal difficulties were suffering in the club. This was followed by Eric’s departus to intensify his studies. The Club was now in a stronger position both internally and externally. Rambo was followed with more quality Videos such as Terminator, Police Academy 1 and 11 and many more.

Things were going great and we decided to expand our field of operations the introducing an idea formulated by our 3rd year committee members i.e., to open a new shop to operate during the showing of our Videos. By now Christmas was uponus and attendance was up 250% on the previous year. After the Christmas break we decided to expand the Video Club Shop into the New School Shop. Br. Fahy was extremely helpful in this transitional period and although flak was launched from a third party we emerged unscathed from this incident. So now the school had a new shop which went beyond our greatest expectations and the club was an overall success which I myself attribute to The Club’s Democratic Constitution, efficiency, forthright manner concerning business, free of movement within the committee and the great support we have received from both pupils and staff alike.

LEON QUINN (Chairman)
COMPUTERS

A few years ago computers were not to be found in St. Josephs C.B.S. but now we have eight computers, three Apples, one BBC micro and four Commodore 64 models.

Computers are used in most jobs nowadays and it is necessary to get a basic grounding in how they work and in programming them.

This is provided by Computer classes in the school given by Mr. Greene on his own time. Unfortunately the classes are held outside school time. I am sure at this time many people would like to see computer studies added to the curriculum. The major years that avail of computer studies are fifth and sixth years. The sixth years use the commodore 64's which are programmed with the language logo which helps the eye create graphics. It is a simple and easy language to learn and creates good effects. The fifth years use a more advanced language, like Basic called COMAL. This language is used on the 3 Apples and the BBC micro. It does not concentrate on graphics but its main uses are practical, such as problem solving programmes and creating files. Though not used at the moment, these files could store exam results, names and addresses and could constrict other computers and relay information via the telephone. This would do away with filing all index systems which takes up space. There are countless numbers of educational software which could be incorporated in the desired subject. The school has the facilities, all it has to do is to move with the times. With the help of students and teachers alike, St. Josephs CBS can enter the computer age.

LIAM PRESTON

VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The St. Vincent de Paul society is a long running tradition in the School passed on to the fifth years every January. This year there are ten pupils directly involved with helping the socially deprived and one teacher (Mr. Buffini) who overlooks the running of the group.

This year the seven students in Mr. Buffini's music class were volunteered and this group in turn persuaded three other fifth years to join. The group look after five people, one man and four women. The man is aged 41 and lives in what could be best described as a garden shed. The women are aged between 78 and 103 and live in primitive conditions with little financial aid from the State.

The group helps them by giving them a little financial help, by arranging Christmas hampers and parties and by giving them what they need most of all, a little company. This year the society is able to offer a holiday in the country and it is the little things like these that stop these people from giving up hope.

PARK STORES

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The Whizz Kids who collected the money to make this issue feasible .... Brendan Clarke (Coordinator); Peter McDonnell; Martin Bryan; Killian Flanagan; and, Gerry Leonard.
THE PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Parents Advisory Council is, we like to feel, an important link between parents, teachers and students.
Our main role is that of support to the students in the many activities in which they are involved outside their
day to day ‘studies’.
To enable us to give this support we must obviously have the necessary funds and in this area we
successfully launched the ‘Scientific Fund’ a couple of years ago with the objective of raising £40,000 to cover
the cost of building renovations carried out in the school. Thanks to the great response of the parents we are
well on target to clear this amount within the next couple of years.
Other revenue is gained from a generous percentage received from ‘The Gap’ Disco run by the boys
themselves. We have also been running Poker Classics on Friday nights.
The Council are very conscious of the great spirit that is part of the tradition of ‘Joey’ and to promote this
and give parents an opportunity of meeting each other, Parent Socials are organised regularly.
No social function is complete without the refreshments and on all of these occasions the ladies of the
Council rally round and do us proud.
We are also in the happy position of being able to give financial assistance to teachers who may require funds
for specific activities such as the Award Scheme, school equipment and special projects.
Most members of the Council which number 26 this year, will admit to finding themselves on the Council as
a result of attending an Annual General Meeting and being nominated by a ‘friend’ but once elected, it is very
difficult to resign and on average, members serve three to four years at least.

MARIE SHEAHAN (MRS)
Hon. Secretary

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DRÁMA GHAEILGE - Praghas an Leighis

Le mí nó dhó roimh Féile Drámaíochta Ógra Éireann bhi muid ag cleachtadh go dian. Bhi gach duine sa rang
páirtíochta sa dráma agus bhaineamar an-taitneamh as. Scéal Piobaire Hamelin atá ann ach go bhuíl t-
ionáithí tréana (joy-riders) in aitheanta dhó aon ocrach.
Cé go raibh páirtí ag gach duine sa dráma, bhi níos mó le deánadh ag na daoine seo leasach:
An Piobaire: Deiric Mac an Ghóill
Comhairleoir 2: Gearóid Ó Coirc. Páiste Bacach: Micheál Ó Néill.

P. Ó Griotá/D Mac an Ghóill

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We wish to thank all those who contributed
material for this issue, whether published
or not.
Thanks to Mr. Leahy, Mr. McGann and Mr.
Barry for “putting it together”.

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