St. Vincent De Paul Party “a roaring success!”

The annual St. Vincent De Paul / Joey’s party which took place in January this year has been described as “a roaring success” by all involved, and marks another great year for the school’s involvement in charitable organisations in the local community.

Every year pupils and staff at Joeys organise a Christmas party for the local elderly people.

Contd. Page 2

Good Luck!

We would like to say best of luck to all our Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate pupils who will begin their exams in just a few short weeks. Keep up the good work, lads!

Have a great Summer!
At the party, food, drinks and entertainment are provided and there is a Christmas raffle where every person goes home with a prize. Prizes this year were obtained by Transition Year students who appealed to local shops and services for donations.

This year, the party took place at the end of January in the primary school hall. Students and school staff alike gave up their time to help set up the tables and chairs, arrange a bar and serve food and drinks.

The party started at 2pm with each person being served a drink of their choice, while classics from the 60s and 70s played in the background. The partygoers were served snacks, followed by a hearty meal, thoroughly enjoyed by all if the empty plates were anything to go by!

After dinner, there was entertainment provided by some of the guests who wanted to sing, as well as a group of Joey’s pupils - Jamie Gannon, Jamie Taaffe, Richard Kelly and Dillon McDonagh - who sang and played traditional Irish songs, accompanied by Mr. Flattery on guitar.

Before the evening finished, a raffle took place in which every guest at the party was given a small gift to take home – everyone was a winner!

The party was a great success this year, and both guests and volunteers had a great night. It was really fun helping out at the party, and I will definitely do it again next year.

By Deeshan Camiah

St. Vincent De Paul Party “a roaring success!”

(continued from front page)

Winners of the interschool table quiz - Dannan O’Loingsigh, Jack McGuirk, Tom Gaskin and Lee Font - with the author of the novel, Marita Conlon McKenna

One Book One Community 2015

On a wintery day in February, all the first year pupils, accompanied by Mr. Stack and Ms. Dowdall, took the short stroll from Joeys to O’Connells for the opening ceremony of One Book One Community. Sheltering from the snow in the hall in O’Connells we learned that this years chosen novel was The Blue Horse by Irish author Marita Conlon McKenna. Each pupil received their copy of the novel and a bookmark. Jake Barrett was the winner of the bookmark competition for Joeys, well done Jake!

Over the following weeks the novel was read in English class and was greatly enjoyed by all the first year pupils. In preparation for the closing ceremony, pupils wrote book reviews, which were entered into competitions, and a group of pupils were selected to take part in an inter-schools quiz about the novel. Well done to the boys who represented Joeys and won the quiz!

On a much warmer day in April we all returned to the hall for the closing ceremony. We were all delighted when Joseph Curran was chosen as the winner of the book review competition for our school. After the ceremony there was a special treat for everyone involved when the Garda Equine unit arrived on horseback and paraded around the schoolyard. Pupils were to ask the Gardai questions about the horses and were even allowed pet them and feed them some nibbles.

One Book One Community is always an exciting and rewarding part of the year for first year pupils at Joeys and we look forward to being a part of it for many years to come. Thanks to Mary Collins and all the One Book One Community team for making it such a fun experience!

By Deeshan Camiah
Catholic Schools Week ran from January 26th to February 1st this year and Joeys excelled in their involvement in the annual celebration. The Religion department were certainly kept busy, with events organised for every day of the week including Saturday.

On Monday, January 26th, transition year pupils went on a guided tour of All Hallows College, given by Father Eugene Curran, himself a past pupil of Joeys. There was also a guided tour of Mater Dei Institute given by our own teachers, and college alumni, Mr. Quinlan and Mr. Flattery on Wednesday the 28th. The fifth year pupils received a talk by Sister Joan and visited the Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin (Fairview Church) on Thursday the 29th. Friar James Mary McInerney (recently ordained) gave a talk to them about Blessed Maximilian Kolbe.

Guest speakers during the week included a representative from the Dublin Simon Community who spoke to the boys about homelessness in Ireland, and Sr. Joan Margaret Kelly who gave a talk on her experience in Liberia during the civil war.

Rounding off the week was the annual St. Vincent de Paul Senior Citizens’ Party which took place in the primary school hall (see page 2).

Catholic Schools Week is an important event in the school calendar because it celebrates faith in an open and embracing manner, while also promoting the school's Edmund Rice ethos of creating a caring school environment and promoting partnership within the wider local community.

TY Visit to Mater Dei Institute

On January 28th this year, Ms. Dowdall’s Media Studies group were treated to a guided walking tour of the Mater Dei college building and grounds by religion teachers, and Mater Dei alumni, Mr. Quinlan and Mr. Flattery. This trip was organised by the Religion department as part of a series of events celebrating Catholic Schools Week 2015 which ran from January 25th to February 1st.

Blessed with a crisp, sunny day, the pupils and their teachers walked to the college on Clonliffe Road. Upon arriving at the college, the group were greeted by the chaplain of the college, Barrie McEntee, who gave the boys a short talk which included an introduction to the college, a brief history of the institute and the importance of the college to the local area.

Following this, Mr. Quinlan spoke candidly and very fondly of his time spent studying and training to be a teacher in the college.

The group were then taken on a guided walking tour of the grounds where they were shown the cloisters which date back to the 19th century, the chapel, art work on the main corridors and the original classrooms and lecture theatres, most of which are still in use today.

The group finished their trip with a guided meditation followed by some quiet reflection time in the beautiful oratory.

The trip was a great success, and one which emphasised the significance of the college in historic, cultural and social terms. The outing was definitely one of the highlights of Catholic Schools Week for Joeys this year.
My Transition Year by Danny De Vaal

After finishing the Junior Cycle, many students go into Transition Year before going on to senior cycle to begin studying for the Leaving Cert. Transition Year is often criticised for its lack of structure and many question whether the year serves any importance at all or if it should just be eradicated. However, in my opinion, transition year is what you make it – and in Joeys, we certainly made the most of it!

Transition Year gave me the opportunity to do things I wouldn’t ever have had the chance to do if I had opted to go straight into fifth year. I was able to do a week-long work experience placement in both The Sunday Times and The Irish Sun which allowed me to make contacts and which gave me great insight into a profession I would like to enter.

I loved Transition Year because it gave me an opportunity to try a number of different things such as Kick Boxing, Forensic Science, Media Studies and Cooking. These classes were divided into six-week modules, so we were constantly changing and learning a lot of new things in a short period of time, and we were definitely never bored!

The year also gives you the opportunity and the time to develop hobbies or pursue something you’ve had an interest in, such as learning to play a musical instrument or learning to speak a foreign language.

With the right attitude and if you take the right approach Transition Year is a really beneficial and fun year. Personally, I had an amazing year, made some great friends, have some brilliant memories and am ready to tackle fifth year and beyond!

A Day of Culture

Our day of culture started when we went to the IFI to see a movie called Populaire. Populaire is a French movie set in the 1960’s about a young woman who was a secretary in an office. She enters typing competitions throughout France because her boss wants her to be the best typist in France and wants her to win. I don’t want to give away the plot but this movie is a good example of French culture and how young women were treated in those days.

We were really lucky with the weather as it was beautiful that day. We had lunch and then strolled to the Hugh Lane Gallery on Parnell Square. We had a guided tour around the gallery and it was very interesting to see the various paintings and learn about their artists.

While we were there we saw Francis Bacon’s studio and living quarters. It is an exact replica of his London studio and the objects were brought to Dublin to recreate the room. You cannot touch anything in the room; you can only look at it through a glass window. I thought it was a mess! I don’t know how anyone could work like that but that’s artists for you, what would I know?!

It was a very enjoyable day, I especially enjoyed the gallery, but I think most students enjoyed the movie more. I would like to go back to the Hugh Lane Gallery when I have more time to explore the different works of art.

By Scott Walton

TY Events since Christmas

Since our last publication just before Christmas, the Joey’s Transition Years have been very busy. Take a look at some of the great activities they’ve participated in:

- 6th January - Visit from Garda Siochana on road safety
- 27th January - Trip to Neulgrange
- 3rd February - Guest speaker from ALONE
- 5th February - Enterprise Day
- 10th February - Emmaus Retreat, Swords
- 24th February - Trip to IMMA
- 26th February - Trip to IFI to see ‘The Imitation Game’
- 10th March - Guest speaker from AWARE
- 12th March - Trip to Kilmainham
- 26th March - DCU Engineering Lecture
- 16th April - Wish Band Day (Make a Wish Foundation)
- 7th May - Mock Interviews at Oracle in Eastpoint
- 12th May - Tour of the Aviva Stadium

Transition Years will graduate on Friday the 15th of May and we wish them the best of luck next year when they will become senior cycle pupils of the school and begin preparations for their Leaving Cert. in 2017.
Mini-Company Success!

Each year transition year pupils take part in a mini-company module where they use their business and enterprise skills and creative know-how to come up with a saleable product or service, which is made available to pupils and staff in the school, and sometimes even the local community. The mini-companies are always a great success and the hard work of the pupils is plain to see in their organisation and dedication to their company.

Some of the mini-companies are entered into various student awards and Joeys have a great success rate at these ceremonies.

On Thursday the 12th of March two mini-company groups took part in the student enterprise awards at Dublin Castle; Sub-Inc. (who came up with the fantastic idea of a USB wristband) and Lyric-Key (the app that has all the lyrics of songs in the one place). The students from these groups were Ryan White, Ciaran Kelly, Tariq Rowe and Danny da Vaal of Sub-Inc and Jamie Curry, Adrian Winter and Deeshan Camiah of Lyric-key. The awards began at 10:30 with thirty minutes beforehand to prepare the stands for the judging. The judges interviewed the teams about what they had done to create their businesses and examined and tested the products or services on offer.

Unfortunately, neither group were awarded for their efforts but both they, and their teachers – Mr. O’Meara and Ms. Bowles - were extremely satisfied with the experience at the competition. As well as this, the two groups also competed in the Get Up & Go regional trade exhibition where the LyricKey team won 3rd place for Sustainability at the awards, a great achievement for the group, who proudly took home their trophy.

Each year the transition year groups exceed expectations with their creativity and entrepreneurial skills during the mini-company module and the achievements of this year’s groups are no exception. Well done to all involved!

By Deeshan Camiah and Ryan White

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Seachtain na Gaeilge agus Jack McCaffrey

Bhaineamar ar fad an-taitneamh as Seachtain na Gaeilge. Tharla go leor imeachtaí éagsúla sa scoil i mbliana. I dtús báire d’éagraigh an Máisitr De Poire ‘The Cube’ do bhliain a haon agus do bhliain a dó. Bhí ar na daltaí cluichí éagsúla a imirt agus bhuaign go leor daltaí duaiséanna. Ansin d’éagraigh Ms Glennon agus Mr Glynn tráth na gceist ollmhóir. Bhí tráchnóí den scoth againn an lá sin. Ansin tháinig Jack McCaffery ar cuairt. Is imireoir peile é Jack le foireann sinsir Baile Átha Cliath. Labhair Jack le bhliain a haon agus bhliain a dó. Bhi deis ag na daltaí ceisteanna a chur ar Jack. Labhair Jack linn faoin mbaireaclár a bhíonn aige fad is a bhíonn sé ag imírt le Baile Átha Cliath, an méid traenála a bhíonn a dhéanamh aige i rith na seachtaine, agus faoi na deiseanna agus na deacrachtaí a bhíonn ann fad is a bhíonn duine ag imírt le Baile Átha Cliath. Chuir Jack béim ollmhóir ar an scoil freisin agus luaigh sé an nasc idir spórt agus torthaí maithe. Ar an iomlán seachtain den scoth a bhí ann agus tá gach duine ag súil go mór leis an mbliain seo chugainn. Go mbeirimid beo ag an am seo arís.

By Máisitr De Poire

Máisitr De Poire, Jack McCaffrey agus na daltaí
Book Review: Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief
By Rick Riordan

Percy Jackson is a 12 year old boy who has dyslexia and ADHD. He has been kicked out of a lot of boarding schools so he is trying not to let the same thing happen at his new school. However, while he’s on his school trip to the Museum of Art things start to change. When he’s at the museum his maths teacher asks to speak to him in a separate room away from the rest of the group. There, he gets attacked by his teacher who is really a monster (a Fury; a monster from the underworld). After the attack Percy starts to think that he’s hallucinating so he and his best friend Grover go back to Percy mother’s apartment to tell his mother that Percy is not safe anymore. Percy’s mother brings them to Long Island to go to a mysterious camp called Camp Half Blood but while they are heading there they get attacked by a Menator and Percy’s mother gets taken by the monster before Percy kills it. Later he finds out things about himself and his family that he could never have imagined, and armed with this new information, decides to set out on a quest to save his mother.

Personally I think that it is a very good book and that it is well worth reading. I would very much recommend it to young people between the ages of 12 and 16, especially those who enjoy fantasy fiction.

Rating: *****
By Bobby Dolan

Hozier takes it to stardom

Twenty Four year old Andrew Byrne has strummed, plucked and sung his way into our hearts following the release of his EP and self-titled album in 2014/2015. A Wicklow man, raised on murky blues, followed in his father’s footsteps, studying music at Trinity College. His time at Trinity saw him living a double life of sorts, performing in choral group Anúna by day and rocking obscure pubs by night with his ‘Rock’n Soul’ music.

It seemed Hozier was heading for bigger and better things when he dropped out of Trinity College to record his EP Take me to Church which lead to the phenomenal success he has enjoyed in the past 12 months. This global fame was cemented when he was asked to perform at the Grammys earlier this year with music legend, Annie Lennox. An even greater surprise being that they were to sing one of his songs, rather than hers!

Hozier’s music has soul and summer, Hozier has firmly established himself as an Irish musical talent not to be ignored, and at such a young age, one that will around for a long time.

With a string of headline slots at festivals this By Jamie Gannon
Within a puck of success!

In last year’s Gazette, this team was earmarked as ‘the one to watch’. Since their season threw in back in January, they have set about justifying the tag, taking Joeys back into the business end of GAA competition.

They progressed through the round-robin group winning all three matches, and amassing an extra-ordinary score difference that secured a bye straight through to the semi-final. This earned them a date with another Joeys school for the spot in the silverware match: St. Joseph’s of Drogheda. In the open expanse of the stunning Termonfeckin GAA grounds, the two schools in blue faced off in a fantastic hour of hurling. With the game still in the balance at the half, the hope was tangible that there may be something there for the Fairview boys. First years such as Reece Lowry, Matthew Boland and Lee Cadwell were impressive and will certainly be worthy of a jersey again in their future. Older players such as Daniel McCabe and Adam Duff were doing their best to keep the ship afloat in the backs, while tireless midfielder Alan Fitzpatrick ensured that there would be no advancing menace from deep.

Unfortunately, the ticket to the final was not to be. Impressive strength from the Drogheda contingent began to swing the balance their way, and two goals midway through the second settled the contest.

It is no mean feat on their part to reach the final considering the standard our boys had set in the group, and we wish them the very best of luck in the final. When the Drogheda manager came into our changing rooms after the match, he made sure to single out the man who was surely player of the match: Cian O’Brien. A fantastic display at full back made sure that our boys held on as long as possible. Congratulations to our lads on what will certainly be considered a successful year.

By Mr. Stack

The Juvenile Hurling team 2015

TEAM LIST:

Daniel Mc Cabe    Dillion Mc Carthy
Cian O’Brien      Sean Kelly
Patrick Ryan      Matthew Boland
Josh Lewis        Cian Maloney
Dillion Couch     Lee Cadwell
Christian O’Brien Gavin Dooner
Reece Lowry      Eoin McNeil
Dylan Hyland     Niall Sheehy
Daniel O’Connor  Adam Duff
Francis Brady    Alan Fitzpatrick

Basketball Bouncing Back at Joeys

Basketball has made a remarkable comeback in Joeys this year thanks to Ms. O’Donnell, Ms. Dowdall and a dedicated team of players from first to transition year. Training takes place every Thursday after school and is held in the primary school hall, or on the outdoor courts, weather permitting, of course! Training involves ball control, various set pieces and plays, teamwork, general fitness and of course practice matches.

This year the team played several matches against local rivals Coláiste Eoin in Finglas, with an outstanding win for the team in the first match. Unfortunately the next two games were to be a closer call and we narrowly missed out on a win each time. However, with the team showing great skill, determination and dedication we have high hopes for the future.

Next year it is hoped that more players would attend training, and that teams could be entered into national school leagues.

Basketball is a great sport to play and it’s a great way to socialise with pupils from other years in our school, as well as with pupils from other schools. I’ve really enjoyed playing basketball this year with the Joeys team and I definitely want to continue next year.

By Conor O’Brien
SPECIAL FEATURE:

INTERVIEW WITH CHRISTIAN O’ BRIEN, ALL-IRELAND BOXING CHAMPION AND PROUD JOEYS STUDENT

By Conor O’ Reilly

Christian is a second year student in St. Joseph’s and is also an All-Ireland Champion in Boxing. When the school learnt of this, we felt Christian deserved recognition for his achievements.

I interviewed Christian about his victory, his gruelling training routine and his life outside of boxing.
When and why did you first become interested in boxing?

I was interested since I was very young. I watched it on the television. I felt that it was one way to escape from reality. I started boxing when I was nine years old. I am a member of the Corinthians Boxing Club.

What does your training programme entail?

I train for four days a week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. I start off with a warm-up for ten minutes, followed by skipping for ten minutes. For half an hour, I punch punching bags and then box pads (the mittens worn on the hands of the instructor). After that I spar against an opponent for half an hour to an hour. I then do a strength/conditioning session.

Gosh, that sounds like it takes a lot of hard work and dedication!

Definitely, it’s not a sport that you can play without having commitment or dedication. It also clashes with school work, particularly the Summer Exams. However, I think it’s a great sport and would recommend playing it as it gives you discipline. You also make lots of friends.

Part of the discipline is sticking to a consistent diet plan. I can’t really eat whatever I like. Instead, I eat more or less healthy protein. When starting off, it can be difficult to stick to the diet, but it gets easier as it goes on. It’s crucial to have a good diet, though. You need to be fit to be able to last two hours training.

What have been your boxing achievements?

I won two League Titles, two Dublin Championship Titles, one Leinster Title and, greatest of all, an All-Ireland Title.

Where would you like to go in the future?

The next step would be to go to the Europeans. In order to qualify for the Europeans, you have to go through the Cadets. They’re similar to another All-Ireland but are harder. You have to box against people a year older than you. After the Europeans is the World Championship. It is my dream that I would one day go to the Olympics. I have dreamed of the Olympics since I first set foot in the club.

We would all here at Joeys would like to wish Christian every success in his boxing future.
Chasing Glory in Athletics

After a short hiatus from inter-school athletics, Joeys returned to competition this year, beginning with the Cross-Country event. Held in the beautiful expanse of Avondale House in Wicklow, a small team of students packed up early and made the journey. For what was a new experience for all of our competitors, the team quickly found their bearings and immersed themselves in the atmosphere. In particular, Calvin Gilchrist did well for the Juniors, coming in fourth place and only narrowly missing out on a medal. Not to be shown up by the youngsters, Daniel Yeats led the way for the senior team. In a fantastically paced run, Daniel met the qualifying standard to progress to the provincial competition.

The experience of being in such a large competition, surrounded by numerous schools would be of huge benefit in late April as we were invited to take part in the Inter-schools Track and Field competition held in Santry Stadium. Held over two days, the saying ‘April Showers’ held true and competition proceeded in between spells of gorgeous sunshine and torrential rain. The Joeys cohort were in the mix at all grades, and the blue singlets were rarely left behind.

While all students represented excellently, special credit must go to Sean Higgins of 1st year and Uyi Ogie of 6th year. Sean ran a masterful race in the Minor 800m and, although being in the lead with 100m to go, was unfortunate not to leave with a medal. Uyi competed in the Senior 100m sprint: the showpiece of any athletic meet. Having qualified through the heats, Uyi earned a spot in the 100m final. Fate may have conspired against him however. Relying on god-given talent, Uyi lacked the benefits of spiked shoes of starting blocks. Add in the downpour that made the track slick and it surely cost at least a crucial second. Despite this, he still came in 7th in a field containing some international runners.

A good first year in which we gained great experience and knowledge that we can take as we stride toward success.

SPORTS DAY 2015

On Friday the 8th May, St Joseph’s held its annual Sports Day, which was a resounding success as usual. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by the whole school community, staff and pupils alike.

Many thanks are due to all those involved in organising this annual event, especially Mr Mick Kelly, head of the Sports Department.

By Mr. Quinlan

This newsletter was written and made by Transition Year students as part of their Media Studies module with Ms. Dowdall. The writers and contributors are as follows:

Jamie Boland       Andesar Kurti       James Sloan
Bobby Dolan        Neil Mc Sweeney     Scott Walton
Kean Doran         Craig Morrison      Ryan Walton
Pierce Gavin       Conor O’ Brien      Svyatoslav
Darren Kearney     Leon O’ Toole      Rabskyy

Special thanks to Conor O’ Reilly in fifth year for all his hard work and time spent formatting the newspaper.

Thanks also to Mr. Stack for his help on The Sideline View.

We hope you enjoyed our newspaper!

See you in September!