Holy Rosary College, Mountbellew

SPRING 2014

Tel: 090 96 79222 www.hrc.ie

Student Council

Emma Lawler (LC2), Stephen Doran (1st Yr), Patrick Kelly (1st Yr), Brian Hansberry (1st Yr), Niall Shaughnessy (1st Yr), Patrick Mc Walter (3rd Yr), Colm Hansberry (2nd Yr), Róisín Mannion (LC1) Aideen Kelly (LC1), Niall Moran (LC1), Anthony Reddin (LC2), James Fleming(LC1), Emma Crehan (Head Girl) (LC2), Rachel Fitzpatrick (LC2), Daniel Crehan (3rd Yr) and Caoimhe Newell (3rd Yr) with their Mentor Mrs Gilmore

Rotary Youth Leadership

Zara Conway, Emma Fitzpatrick, Sarah Flattery and Eoin Corcoran took part in the Rotary Youth Leadership competition. They were all highly commended by interviewer, Patrick Towers, former rector of St Nicholas' Collegiate Church. Eoin Corcoran went on to represent the school and was outright winner in the region.

Best in Ireland

Eoin Corcoran scored the highest marks (299 out of a possible 300) in Materials Technology Wood Higher Level in the Junior Cert. 2013 exams. He is pictured above with his teacher, Mr Geraghty.

Construction to Start on Extension / Refurbishment

Construction work on our new extension and the refurbishment of the existing building is expected to commence in the next few weeks. The extension will include a Sports Hall, a range of Specialist Classrooms, a new General Purpose area and a Library. We expect that the project will be completed by September 2015.

Library Fund

Mike Russell (Chairperson) and Pauline Kilcommins of the Parents' Association present Ms Teresa Newell with a cheque for €10,500 for the School Library

Academic Success

Congratulations to the talented and hard-working Leaving Cert class of 2013 on their excellent results. Most have gone on to 3rd level colleges and we wish them the very best. Among the Leaving Certs who were awarded Scholarships were Maria Regan, Academic Scholarship to NUIG, Brian Carthy and Ann Mulry, JP McManus Scholarships.

Brian Carthy (610 points) and Ann Mulry (595 points), both studying Medicine in NUIG, have been awarded JP McManus scholarships worth over €40,000 each. They were presented with their awards by Minister for Finance, Michael Noonan and are pictured also with Mr JP McManus.

School Musical: *Grease*

One of the highlights of the year for TY students is our school musical. This year, *Grease* was performed on three nights to full houses. The matinee attracted over 500 primary school pupils who really enjoyed the production. The 1st Year choir greatly added to the production as did the creative lighting and many special effects.

Jennifer points the way to Strasbourg

Well done to Jennifer Connolly TY, who travels to the European Parliament in Strasbourg on 11th April for a four day trip. Jennifer won this fabulous prize having entered an online quiz on European political and current affairs at www.graduate.ie./youthquiz, last December.

Experience of a Lifetime

Transition Year student, Eoin Corcoran was awarded a scholarship by Galway Education Centre to the National Flight Academy, Florida in July. He, along with 11 other Irish students, spent 10 days aboard the simulated aircraft carrier, *USS Ambition* where they lived the life of military pilots planning and flying daily missions. An experience of a lifetime!

Fiftieth Anniversary

HRC will celebrate 50 years as a co-ed school in 2015. Already, work is underway on a school history and other celebrations are planned. Past pupils are invited to send their contact details to info@hrc.ie and they will be kept informed of events.

Staff Retirements

Gerry Nihill (Chemistry and Science) and Teresa Newell (English and Maths) retired from the teaching staff in August 2013. They gave a total of 76 years of dedicated service to the students of Holy Rosary College. Staff, students and parents wish them a very happy retirement.

Business Enterprise ChocoHo Ltd

Mrs Larkin's senior Business class set up a mini company, ChocHo, selling handmade chocolates. All products were assembled, wrapped and delivered to eagerly awaiting customers, just in time for Christmas.

HRC: Health Promoting School

Our school has embarked on the journey to become a HSE recognised Health Promoting school. A core group of students and staff have begun the process which aims to foster the physical, emotional, mental, spiritual, and social development of the whole school community. We are very proud to be invited to be part of this exciting new HSE initiative.

Committee Members: Kevin McCormack, Niamh Mannion, Nadine Connolly, Dean Connell, Ciara McWalter, James Fleming, Niall Connolly and Caoimhe Roche with teachers Ms Conroy and Mrs Gibbons. Absent from photo Ms Jackson.

Peer for Peer

Peer 4 Peer is an initiative of the Irish Bishops' Conference to "encourage active involvement and development of young people through information-sharing, debate and Interaction". Seventeen HRC Transition Year students have trained as Peer 4 Peer facilitators and will deliver the healthy choices programme to Confirmation classes in local primary schools. They will receive certificates from Archbishop Michael Neary at local Confirmation ceremonies in February.

Facilitators. Front (L-R): Sarah Flattery, Catherine Finnerty, Róisín Kenny, Emma Ryan, Muirne Kilcommins. Middle: Mrs Evelyn Clarke (P4P trainer), John Daly, Paul Lally, Áine Murray, Rónán Carr, Mrs Rose Devaney (P4P trainer). Back: Matthew Ruane, Gerard Warde , Conor McHugh, Sarah Keaveney, Celine Kelly. Missing from photo: Kelly Forde and Rhianne Kelly

John Paul 11 Awards

Sinéad Shaughnessy, Linda Mannion, Caoimhe Flahive and Róisín Mannion were presented with Gold Medals by Archbishop, Michael Neary, to acknowledge their voluntary work in their respective parishes. Co-ordinators, Mrs Anna Geraghty and Sr Assumpta accompanied the students to the award ceremony in Tuam Cathedral.

On the field

First Year Football

The 1st year boys' football team has begun the year in great style and have qualified for the league semi-final. They defeated Presentation College Athenry, Garbally College, Ballinasloe and Presentation College, Headford.

Senior Boys Football

The senior football team, under the direction of Mr Donnellan and Coach, Jonathan Ryan, have trained diligently since the beginning of September. Having lost out on a league semi-final place on score average, the team has focused on a good championship run. The effort of all the players is to be commended, especially training in bad weather over the Christmas holidays.

Rugby

The U-18 rugby team have played four league games beating Coláiste Éinde, Scoil Chuimsitheach Chiaráin, Carraroe. and Presentation College Athenry. The U-19 Senior Cup team, featuring many of the U-18s and a number of Connacht players, started their Cup campaign by defeating Gallen Community School, Ferbane, 31-22. They then went on to defeat CBS Roscommon 29-3.

The Merry Mile

Sarah Gavin, Lukas Pozerauskas, Evan Costello and Caoimhe Flahive in the festive spirit for Merry Mile.

Over two hundred students took part in a fun run in December entitled *The Merry Mile*. As well as being a fun aerobic event, funds were raised for local charities. Many students donned festive beards and Santa hats to celebrate the holiday season.

Design: David Cunniffe. Print: KPW, Ballinasloe

All-Star for Teacher

Congratulations to Ms Niamh Kilkenny, past pupil and now a teacher in HRC, who had the distinction of being named a camogie All-Star for a fourth successive year. She was HRC sports' personality and student of the year in 2007. Niamh, along with her sister Orla, were key members of Galway's remarkable All-Ireland winning team 2013.

Orla and Niamh visited HRC with the O'Duffy Cup and were welcomed enthusiastically, (L-R) Niamh, Fiona O'Brien, Junior Camogie Captain, Lorna Kelly, Senior Captain and Orla.

Ladies Football

A very talented U-14 team have qualified for the Connacht Championship knock-out stages. They had convincing wins over Sacred Heart Westport, PC Athenry and defeated Glenamaddy and are now in the Connacht Semi-Final 'A' Competition.

First Year Camogie

The first year championship commences in February. To date, the girls have played in a blitz where they defeated all their opponents.

Senior Camogie

The senior camogie team were crowned Connacht Champions, having defeated Woodford. They now advance to play Maryfield College, Dublin in the All-Ireland Quarter-Final on Saturday, 1st February.

First Year Hurling

A coaching programme for 1st and 2nd years is currently in full swing, on Tuesday evenings. Attendance has been very encouraging.

1st YEAR CAMOGIE

1st YEAR FOOTBALL

Aviva Fitness Challenge

HRC is one of the schools taking part in the Challenge this spring. It involves testing the fitness levels of 1st and 2nd year students using the "bleep" test. After a number of weeks of training, the test is repeated and results collated. The programme is co-ordinated by DCU and prizes are awarded to the fittest school and the most improved schools. Michael Duncan Harris, Liam Lally, Éanna Murray and Jordan Walsh are taking the Aviva Fitness Challenge very seriously indeed!