



# TULLAMORE COLLEGE

our **autumn** edition VOL. 12 NO. 1

## NEWSLETTER OCT. 2013

### LC2 Science Trip, London



Above: Students outside the Natural History Museum

Arriving at the school at 2am isn't everybody's idea of fun but for 24 students on the 3rd of October, it meant a packed trip to London. With an early start, we arrived in London at 9.30am. Making our way to a Forensics workshop in the L'Oreal Young Scientist Centre at the Royal Institute where we experienced real world crime scene analysis using DNA.

That evening, with Mr Caslin as our tour guide we went on a night walking tour of London. Words cannot describe the vastness and the difference between Dublin and London, it is an extraordinary city.

Day Two started at the centre of the cell in the Blizzard building. Here, we learned about what happens in the cell through interactive games.

The trip also included the main tourist attractions; the London Eye, the Natural History Museum and the science museum as well as a cruise of the river Thames and finally some last minute shopping on Oxford Street. We also visited Mr Caslin's art exhibition in Somerset House with the esteemed artist himself and we got a group picture with the famous French artist JR who was Mr Caslin's mentor.

We arrived home at 12am exhausted but sad to be gone from London after three amazing days. It was an immensely enjoyable trip, thoroughly enjoyed by all. On behalf of everybody, I want to thank Ms Howlin, Ms Flynn and Mr Caslin for everything they did and especially Ms Howlin who thankfully hasn't been scared of organising another science trip!

Alana Baker, LC2

Below: Students in the L'Oreal Young Scientist Centre



### Fighting Words

I was given the amazing opportunity to go to Fighting Words, a creative writing centre in Dublin, to meet Michael D. Higgins, the President of Ireland. I had entered a short story into a competition run by Fighting Words and the Irish Times, and even though I didn't like the story in the slightest, I must have done something right because Roddy Royle (Founder of Fighting Words and famous Irish author) chose my piece along with other stories and poems to be published in The Irish Times supplement, launched by the president.

During the summer I got to revisit Fighting Words a few times for different workshops and courses and I loved them all!

Annie Brown, 2OU

Below: Annie Brown pictured with Roddy Royle



### Rugby Scholarship to NUI Maynooth

Past pupil Karl Dunne continues to shine both on and off the field. Karl is captain of Tullamore Senior Rugby team who won the Leinster Senior Shield last season. Having attained an excellent Leaving Certificate last year, he was awarded a rugby scholarship in NUI Maynooth. We wish him well, both in his academic and sporting endeavours in the future.

Mr. Magner



## German Department News

### Viel Spab beim Lernen!!

The recent addition of the new video conferencing programme has been a great success. It is a pleasure working with our partner school, Agricola Gymnasium, Chemnitz, in Germany. Our weekly sessions have been very beneficial, as we receive the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the language and improve our spoken German. Various topics are discussed each week, the most recent being poetry. This unique method of learning is both interesting and enjoyable as we interact with a class of students thousands of miles away. New friendships have developed and we are pleased to announce that eight students will travel to Chemnitz this October to meet these German students.

Niamh Jones

## Green Schools News

The new Green School Committee has been put together for the coming year with representatives from all years. The committee, Ms Browne and Ms Murphy have been working hard to help TC go green – putting new recycling bins in all classrooms and a new compost unit for the garden. The committee have several initiatives planned for the coming months such as a competition between the classes to collect and recycle batteries which will also help raise funds for the LauraLynn Hospice and a lunch box litter campaign to encourage students to bring in less packaging in their lunchbox, helping to reduce litter and waste from cling film/foil.



Above: Gavin Murphy and Liam Lynch

## Collecting for Charity

The 2nd Year students are currently participating in a fundraiser for Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind. All students have been busy collecting sponsorship. They will be taking part in a blindfolded walk on the school grounds. This fundraising project is for their Junior Certificate CSPE action project. A guest speaker from IGDB is due to visit the school this month to talk to the students about the IGDB and the work they do. Here the students will present them with their donation.

Teachers:

Ms Underwood, Ms Coyne, Mr Quirke, Mr Moran

## Fitness and Fun at Aspire

On Tuesday the 10th of September, we all set off on an intrepid trip to Clara, with a spring in our step and air in our tyres!! We were off on a cycle trip to Clara to do a team building day in ASPIRE.

On arrival we were introduced to Joe Quinn, who was with us for the rest of the day. As a warm up, we were split into two groups and had to make towers out of footwear, but this was just the beginning.

Throughout the day we were treated to a series of team building exercises, from a blindfolded walk to passing a ball through some piping. We had to work as a team for every challenge and we had great fun doing the activities as well.

The day in Clara culminated in what was far and away the highlight. We were split into two teams again to build two rafts, and once they were built we had enormous fun splashing around on the river.

After that there was just enough time for a shower and a cycle home! We would like to thank Mr. Joe Quinn, Mr. Begley, Ms Brady and Mr Meehan as we all really enjoyed our trip to Clara and came out of it a far more cohesive group at the end of the finish line!

Finian Carton, TY Class



## J.C.S.P.

First term has got off to a busy start with our new JCSP classes. Well done to the Transition Year students who are involved in the **paired reading** programme with 1KD. It is a great example of cooperative learning and special thanks to Ms. Sheerin, Mr. Moran, Mr. Begley and Ms. Coyne for their help with this programme.

Particular focus has been placed on our KEYWORDS initiative and this is working well. Preparations are being made for our "Make a Book" project with 2MJB. All JCSP students are being issued with folders containing subject statements. We look forward to continued hard work over the coming months.

M. O'Connor, JCSP Co-ordinator



## Junior Certificate Students honoured for Academic Achievements



Congratulations to the following students on their outstanding results in the Junior Certificate Exam. Pictured: From left to right: Stephen O'Connor, Finian Carton, Jennifer Coyne and Cian Fogarty. We wish them well in their continued studies.

## Home School Community Liaison

Classes for parents will commence after the October break under the stewardship of Mr Begley (HSCL co-ordinator). These may take the form of yoga / fitness classes, cookery classes, English for non-national parents, colour me beautiful (make-up) and or self defence. Classes will be run free of charge on either morning or evening, based on demand. Expressions of interest in such classes may be made to Mr Keith Begley at 0863537456.

## Leaving Certificate History Trip

The 6th Year History students took a recent trip to Dublin to enhance their knowledge of Irish history. There, they visited Kilmainham Gaol and went on a guided tour of the 'Soldiers and Chiefs Exhibition' at the national Museum of Ireland, Collins Barracks. Both tours proved thoroughly enjoyable and informative. Students now have a greater understanding of Irish history which will aid their study of the topic. A must trip for all history students.

Ms Orlaith Underwood, History Department



Above: A group of 6th year History students at Kilmainham Gaol

## Our Nations Sons

Congratulations to our **Art teacher Mr. Caslin** on his most recent success. Mr. Caslin coveted the overall Arts award in the Arthur Guinness project for his work entitled "Our Nations Sons". The project aims to highlight and empower young men. Mr. Caslin employed the help of past pupil Jordan Conroy who became the face of his latest project in Achill Henge. His work is currently being exhibited at the major Arts and Cultural Centre in Somerset House in London, for the month of October. On behalf of Tullamore College school community we would like to commend Mr. Caslin for his work and are very proud of his achievements to date.



## First Impressions

Starting secondary school was a change,  
Eating in the canteen was a little strange,  
Couldn't find my way around for a while,  
On the first day I would have ran a mile!  
Not that I was scared, it was so  
Different,  
And the five minutes early was very important,  
Running and racing from class to class,  
Yeah! I didn't want to be last.



Above: A group of first years at the Outdoor Education Centre in Birr

## Home Economics Department

Following the great success of a second year Home Economics trip to the Baking Academy last year, the fifth and sixth year Home Economics students will be heading to the Baking Academy this term. The Baking Academy is a wonderful experience for students to expand both their culinary knowledge and skills and is great fun!

6th Year LCA Childcare students are currently working on their task, creating wonderful toys for children of different age groups, which aid the child's development. These projects will be completed this term. Good luck sixth years!

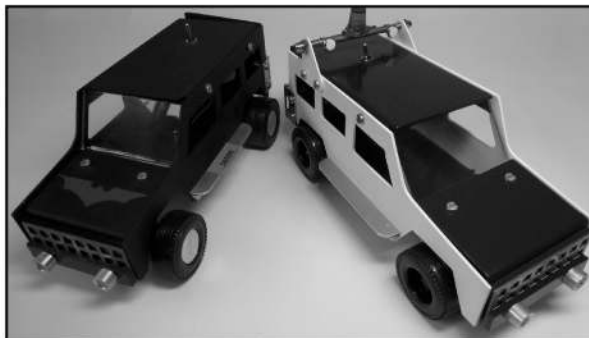
Reminder! All third year textile and childcare projects are due before the deadline of Friday 25th October.



## Religion Department

Well done to all Leaving Certificate students who took part in a Coffee Morning in aid of Offaly Hospice. This was a great opportunity for students to raise both funds and awareness of the amazing work of Offaly Hospice. Well done to all involved!

Below: LC1A Students presenting a cheque to Offaly Hospice



## Metalwork & Engineering

Congratulations to **Gavin Mooney and Cian Fogarty** for placing 1st and 3rd respectfully in the Mid-Leinster Region for their Junior Certificate Metalwork Projects. Also, best of luck in the National Final to John Neale after winning the Mid-Leinster Region for his Leaving Certificate Engineering Project.

Mr. JP Meehan, Engineering Department

## Sports News

### Fr Manning Cup

The Offaly U16 footballers had a magnificent victory recently in the Fr Manning Cup final for the first time in the county's history. With 8 teams involved, this competition is considered the most prestigious inter-county competition for U16 football in the country. Offaly topped their group of Kildare, Leitrim and Roscommon to reach the final. They were faced with Westmeath who had topped their group by beating Cavan, Sligo and Longford.

With the first game ending in a replay, the second game started with ferocious intensity. Offaly raced into a lead but were pegged back with goals to leave it level at half time. Offaly raced into a lead again in the second half and couldn't be caught as they went on to a famous victory. Tullamore College had a large representation with Shane Tierney scoring seven points and winning the man of the match award. Kevin Kinahan played in goal while Clint Horan and Brian Ryan played in the backs. Dylan Hyland and Conor Dunne also scored points in the forwards while Keelan Galvin was an unused substitute. The management also had a strong Tullamore College representation with teachers Keith Begley and Michael Doolan involved. Well done to all concerned.

Below L-R: Mr. Doolan, Brian Ryan, Keelan Galvin, Dylan Hyland, Kevin Kinahan, Conor Dunne, Shane Tierney, Mr. Begley.



## Anyone for Tennis?

Tullamore's newest extra-curricular activity is tennis! With a play for fun emphasis placed on the sport Ms Browne and Ms Geoghegan have been encouraging students to take part and try something new. Tennis will give way to badminton after the Midterm and will resume in the Summer term.

## Tullamore College captures Intermediate Glory in County Sports Competition

Tullamore College competed in the annual County Sports Athletic competition on Thursday the 26th of September. The dreary weather conditions did not dampen the spirits as all sixty five competitors got off to a flying start. Gold medals went to **Christina Sapola** (100m), **James Dineen** (100m), **Rachel Jordan** (Long Jump), **Cara Todd** (800m), **David Brosnan** (High Jump), **Miguel Martino** (shot) and **Lauren Gorry** (100m, 200m). Many others brought home silver and bronze medals. Competitors who came fourth contributed to the overall success of winning the intermediate title. Well done to all involved.

## Under 16 Girls Football

Tullamore College 5-4

Oaklands 0-2

Tullamore College Junior girls are off to flying start in their league. It was a huge team effort with Emma Kirwan and Caoimhe Griffen dominating every movement of the ball at midfield. They linked up well and showed great teamwork with the forwards, leading to Eabha Joyce scoring two fantastic goals and Clare Daly to score two well taken points. Emma Kirwan was rewarded for her hard work with two goals and Caoimhe similarly with one goal and two points. Rebecca Mc Donagh on the day had an excellent game in the backs along with Laura Cuskelly. As a prospering team we hope to continue our winning streak when we meet our opponents from Portarlinton next week.

Ms. Coyne