

HILL TOP NEWS



4th Edition
April 2007

A Newsletter from St John's Business & Enterprise College

St John's win the Vocational B Schools Final

The schools Vocational B final took place on 28th February 2007 at Youth Sport, Omagh. St John's opponents were St Joseph's, Plumbridge. After a hard fought encounter St John's ran out winners on a score line of 2-7 to 1-4. St John's held a slender lead at half time of 1-4 to 1-3 with Paul McAloon scoring the goal for St John's. In the second half St John's upped the tempo with scores from Paul McAloon, Stephen McMahon and Gerard McGinn to run eventual winners. Captain: Shane McNabb was presented with the trophy by Stephen McNamee to the delight of all the Dromore players.

Scores: Paul McAloon 2-1; Stephen McMahon 0-4; Michael O'Neill 0-1; Gerard McGinn 0-1.

SCHOOL DETAILS

ACTING PRINCIPAL:

Ms C Doherty

SCHOOL ADDRESS:

37 Omagh Road

Dromore

Co Tyrone

BT 78 3AL

Telephone: 02882 898284

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Easter Holidays

Friday 6th April '07 -

Friday 13th April '07

(inclusive)

Inset Training Day

Monday 16th April '07

May Day

Friday 4th May '07 -

Monday 7th May '07

(inclusive)



CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

On Friday 23rd March, writer Catherine McGrotty took 8A2 for a creative writing workshop, sponsored by the National Deaf Children's Society. 8A2 did themselves proud with a series of original and imaginative poetry.



AIM HIGHER ROAD SHOW

The Aim Higher Road Show visited St John's on the 7th March 2007. The roadshow trailer is a state of the art mobile exhibition centre with cantilevered body and its own power supply. The trailer was well fitted out with a range of audio visual equipment and comfortable seating was provided in the form of beanbags for the visitors. Our Year 10 students were the guests of the roadshow and were informed of the vast range of opportunities that further and higher education can provide them. They were instructed on matters such as grants, student loans and qualifications. This visit proved to be a very worthwhile experience for a very attentive Year 10 audience.



Year 10 students inside the Aim Higher Roadshow

WE ARE WHAT WE EAT DAY OMAGH COLLEGE - 12TH MARCH 2007

Thirteen Year 10 students accompanied by Ms Ormsby (Home Economics teacher) travelled to Omagh College for a healthy eating day. The students took part in 5 activities which were;

1. Healthy eating talk in the lecture theatre and they also tried out a machine which detects germs on the hands and this illustrated that they need to wash their hands thoroughly before handling food.
2. Juice bar - The students learned about healthy fruits and how to make their own smoothies.
3. A cooking demonstration by Palace Foods who prepared 2 dishes, one made with cous cous and fish and the other made with chicken, vegetable and noodles. These were quick and easy to make and the children enjoyed tasting them.
4. Coffee making - a coffee company gave a talk about where coffee comes from and the different types of coffee that can be grown. They also made different types of coffee and asked the children to taste them - this was an interesting activity.
5. Bread making - students made their own bread rolls and made them into different shapes such as knots, plaits and simply round rolls. This was very hands on and they also took part in the competition.

At the end of the demonstrations students were treated to a healthy lunch - cod fish and chips, but the chips were oven baked. The day ended with all the students receiving a goodie bag from Tesco's with lots of healthy food. The students had a great day and they had the opportunity to interact with students from other local schools.



Shane, Paul and Catherine have a go at making their own smoothies



Shane has a taste!!



Catherine gives it a go at bread making.



Tasting the coffee!



Goodie bags galore!

TECHNOLOGY CLASSES FOR LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The classes in Technology & Design are now well established within St John's. Every Wednesday and Friday St John's collects students from the Primary schools and brings them to the College. During their sessions the students are involved with a practical project in the form of a bird house made from pine. These primary students are also learning Health & Safety, using machinery and hand tools, workshop routines, technology vocabulary and graphic techniques. They enjoy their sessions and put in 100% effort. At present the visiting students come from St Lawrence's Primary School, Fintona and St Scire's Primary School, Trillick. Previous groups included St Macartan's Primary School, Dullaghan, Magheralough Primary School, Trillick and Knocknagor Primary School, Trillick. The block of sessions lasts for six weeks.

WORK EXPERIENCE

From 19th - 23rd of February our Year 12 students were on their work experience in the local community. They found it an invaluable insight into their working futures. They learnt many new skills like working with others and problem solving. It was a great opportunity to get a feel of the work in their chosen career.

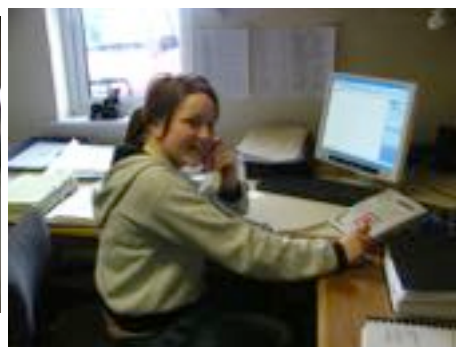
We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the employers who helped our students in their placement.



Leah McCaffrey



Shane Teague



Stacey Donnelly



Barry Teague



Niall Holland



Aaron Curran



Dessie McCusker



Pierce McGirr

TROCAIRE

Congratulations to all our students who have collected and raised money for Trocaire. So far we have a total of £2,911.65 raised with more money still coming in.

LET PROGRAMME (Learning & Educating Together)

A group of Year 9 students attended the third and final residential at Kilcroghan House in Tobermore. The student who took part were; Niamh McConnell, Megan Campbell, Shauna McNabb, Roisin McGrade, Lynsey Hamilton, Rory McCusker, Michael McGrath and James McDonagh. The students were accompanied on this residential by Jimmy McCloughan and Mrs Fiona Corry.

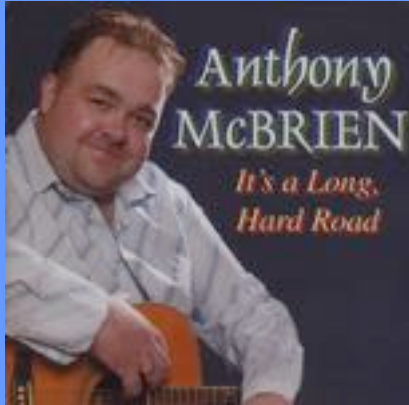
During this residential the students took part in a number of outdoor pursuits and successfully completed a business project where the students worked hard in partnership with Hazelwood Integrated College, Belfast and Buncrana Secondary School.

There was a special gala dinner on the Thursday night to celebrate the achievements of the students and a prize giving ceremony on the final morning to recognise the success and hard work of the students during the LET programme. We would like to congratulate all eight students on their excellent work and contribution to the LET programme.





On the 13th March our Year 12 students visited Omagh College for their Open Day. We got a tour of their excellent state of the art facilities. Many thanks to Claire McKenna for a very informative tour.



Anthony McBrien, Francie Smyth & Guests in concert

On Friday the 30th March appearing at St John's Business & Enterprise College will be Anthony McBrien, Francie Smyth and guests for a fundraiser in Memory of the Spirit of Paul McGirr. A number of Dromore people are heading out to Lusaka in Zambia to work with the local community using their building skills. Our best wishes and safe return to all involved.

Mahon's Hotel, Irvinstown Occupational Studies Catering Group

As part of the Occupational Studies a group of Year 11 & 12 boys went on a visit to Mahon's Hotel. This visit was organised to stimulate interest in the Hospitality industry as there are many career opportunities in the industry. Joe Mahon was our host for the day showing us around the hotel and giving a detailed history of how Mahon's has developed over the years. The boys enjoyed an array of activities from using the computer system to sending orders to the kitchen, to making cocktails and watching a cooking demonstration by the German Chef. They also enjoyed a tasty meal provided by the kitchen staff at the end of the visit. A great learning experience for all and our thanks to Joe Mahon for allowing us to view his wonderful facilities.



Joe showing the students the computer system

ST PATRICK'S PRAYER SERVICE AND CEILI

On Wednesday 14th March the Year 9 students organised a beautiful assembly to celebrate St Patrick's Day. All Year 9's took part assisted by Mrs Corry and Miss Kennedy. A group of students played the tin whistle, Shaun Quinn 9A2 performed a beautiful solo of "St Patrick's Day". The tin whistlers were accompanied by Michael O'Neill on the side drum and Claire McGrath on the tanner drum. Afterwards the junior school got the chance to show off their Irish dancing skills during a Ceili dance organised by Miss Rice. From the photographs below you can see a great afternoon was had by all.

