

# HILL TOP NEWS



30th Edition  
JUNE 2011

A Newsletter from St John's Business & Enterprise College

## TIDY N.IRELAND POSTER COMPETITION



Two pupils from St John's College, Dromore, Ronan Slevin and Stephen McBride took first and second prize in the Post-primary section of the TIDY N.Ireland Poster Competition. The competition was part of the BIG Spring Clean campaign to promote the anti-littering message. The boys won their school £250 and Easons vouchers. Nicola Murray, the Community Support Officer with TIDY N. Ireland presented the boys with their prizes.

TIDY N. Ireland is an environmental charity dedicated to making Northern Ireland a cleaner and more pleasant place in which to live. It runs the 'Keep Northern Ireland Tidy Campaign' and manages a number of local environmental quality programmes such as Blue Flag, TIDY Business and Eco-Schools. The BIG Spring Clean Campaign discourages people from dropping cigarette ends, discarding sweet wrappers, throwing fast food cartons out the car window. It asks people to work together to help make even a small difference.

### SCHOOL DETAILS

#### PRINCIPAL:

Ms C Doherty

#### SCHOOL ADDRESS:

37 Omagh Road

Dromore

Co Tyrone

BT 78 3AL

Telephone: 02882 898284

### SCHOOL CLOSINGS

School finishes

Wednesday 29th June

## 5 \* AWARD FOR SCHOOL CANTEEN

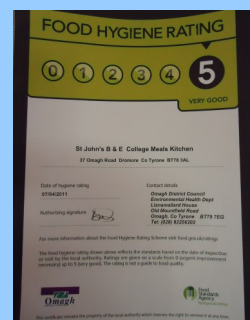
Congratulations to the canteen Staff of St. John's for achieving the highest possible rating for Food Hygiene. They achieved a 5 Star which reflected the standards of food hygiene found on the date of inspection or visit by the local authority.

The food safety officer inspecting the canteen checked how well the canteen is at meeting the law by looking at:

- how hygienically the food is handled – how it is prepared, cooked, re-heated, cooled and stored
- the condition of the structure of the buildings – the cleanliness, layout, lighting, ventilation and other facilities
- how the business manages and records what it does to make sure food is safe



Pictured Left to Right  
Dympna Cleary (Cook)  
Kathleen McGale (Catering Asst)  
Vonnie Teague (Catering Asst)  
Nuala Knox  
(Senior Unit Catering Supervisor)  
Charlotte Gilmore (Catering Asst)



# YEAR 10 VISIT THE MARBLE ARCH CAVES

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of May, the Year 10 Geography class went on a fieldtrip to the Marble Arch Caves in Co. Fermanagh



The gang enjoying a well deserved rest after walking up 150 steps from the cave floor



Declan, Edward, Damien, Gerald, Tiernan, Cillian and Conor studying with glee the inhabitants of the caves in times past.



Kieran, Gabrielle, Emily and Alanna preparing for the heavy rain which luckily began to fall just as we were leaving.



Shannon, Niamh, Dean and Kirby in front of a model display of the caves we toured



Niamh, Ciara, Shannon, Cathal, Edward and Chelsea-Leigh looking at a model of the surface features of a limestone area.



The girls on the way down into the caves

## Most memorable quote of the day:

Take note - We were 50 metres underground in a limestone cave  
"Can you see through the water at daytime?"

Guess who said this???

(clue: THE car wash kid)

## 1st Place Winner in Feis Fhearmannach

Congratulations to Kirby Mullan who gained first prize in the History section of Fermanagh Feis. The task was to write a letter to an historical person. Kirby chose to write to Florence Nightingale and did her own research. Below is a copy of Kirby's winning letter.

Comhghairdeas!

Meadow Brook

Fintona

Co. Tyrone

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011

Dear Florence,

I am writing to you because I am inspired by all the work you did in the field of nursing. I wish to do well in the nursing world in the future.

Lately I have researched some information about you, and I am impressed! You were a smart woman and it takes a lot of courage to actually go to war, especially for a woman.

I have noticed when I was researching you that you weren't interested in marriage. I think that is an odd point that you made because at that time women were expected to get married, stay at home and have a family.

The Crimean war broke out in 1820 and I believe from what I read that times were hard. I wonder how many untrained nurses could you have gathered up when you did actually get your group together? Was it hard to persuade them?

Your information is very detailed. A lot of the things that you described were the smelly, dirty conditions. There were rats running around spreading disease. It must have been awful! Not only the vermin but the dying and the injured! One of your quotes was "the British high command had succeeded in creating the nearest thing to hell on earth." I'm sure this comment didn't go down too well! No doubt all the soldiers and their families were grateful for all of the nurses' help and effort. You helped them recover before they were sent back home and they were able to look to the future.

By the time you returned home to England you received quite a lot of praise and you actually were called a national hero and you were given quite a few awards, even one from Queen Victoria. You deserved all the credit.

After the Crimean War nearly everyone noticed that you weren't very interested in fame but continued to help the sick. You tried to improve hospital conditions at home. In the middle of the century you focused on the midwives to improve the conditions for pregnant women and their babies. You wrote to important people to highlight the conditions in hospitals. You founded a training centre for nurses and you trained them in your own way. You're an inspiration to girls like me, Florence. You really changed history! All I have to say now is thank you Florence for giving me the hope to maybe become a great nurse like you once were.

Yours sincerely

Kirby Mullan

## SPORTS DAY 2011

A very successful Sports Day was held last Wednesday and it was great that the weather held up so that all events were able to take place. In the afternoon Mrs Gavin presented the winning students with their medals and below are some sporting pictures.



## EXTENDED SCHOOLS

With the help of the extended schools fund St John's was able to hold a six week basic food hygiene course. The outcomes were very successful and we hope to run it again in the new term. Skills learnt were how to prepare and cook all different types of foods in a safe and hygienic way for consumers consumption.



Successful candidates receiving their awards

### SPECIALIST SCHOOL PROGRAMME - HOME ECONOMICS DEPT

The end of the school year has finished in Home Economics with Dromore Controlled Primary School and St Lawrence's Primary School, Fintona.



All pupils established some very good cookery skills throughout their time with us, which will be of great use to them in the future. Well done!!

### 1ST HURLING BLITZ

Year 8 students recently attended a Hurling Blitz in Killyclogher. Competitors from other schools in the area also took part. Below is a photograph of the team. Well done to all the students who took part on the day.



**1st Row Left to Right:** Mr B McCarron (Coach), Jack Woulfe, Stephen McBride, Conal McCann, Des McLaughlin, Darragh Campbell, Henrich Alder, Padraig Quinn, Shane Pratt  
**2nd Row Left to Right:** David Nowack, Ronan Slevin, Stephen Maguire, Ross Hunter, Brandon Gallagher, Blake Palmer

# Tyrone Fleadh Hits Dromore!

This year's Tyrone Fleadh took place in Dromore. A great week of music and competitions took place in the town. On Saturday 19th June the Tyrone Fleadh parade took place.

This year's theme was Irish Myths and Legends. St John's students had been working hard over the weeks making costumes and props. On the day the sun shone and the streets were packed with onlookers.

Congratulations to all the students who took part and a big thanks to everyone who helped out and made it a great day. Below are some photographs taken on the day.



## SHARING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Over the past three years the Sharing Education programme has been delivered to nine local primary schools. The programme worth over £250,000 was coordinated by Mr McCarron and in that time over 1000 pupils have benefited from joint classes in Music, Drama, Art and PE.

The initial aims were that through the Sharing Education Programme we would

- Break down religious and cultural barriers
- Make pupils more tolerant of others and learn to respect the traditions of other communities.
- Enhance the learning experiences of pupils.
- Build pupil self esteem.
- Raise levels of achievement.
- Share resources more effectively
- Involve parents in cross community contact.

Three years later and these aims have undoubtedly been achieved with flying colours.

What difference has the programme made?

- The programme has helped to build community relations in the form of joint usage of school and local sports facilities, helped to encourage cross community activities such as the Fun Run and joint fund raising events.
- It has meant that small rural schools can deliver a high quality educational experience.
- It has helped to utilize surplus teaching capacity and resources in a small rural secondary school.

Though the programme is now at an end it is hoped that relationships established through the programme will continue to flourish as this joint contact can only be good for community relations in years to come.

# A Feast for the Eyes' at St John's College

Students, parents and the local community had the opportunity to view the GCSE Art and Design exhibited at St John's College in Dromore. There was a huge variety of work on display from a sunflower felt bag and handmade paper dress to a memory patch work quilt and a mask inspired by tropical birds. Parents were very impressed by the art work and indeed very proud of their talented children.



## SHARING EDUCATION FUN DAY AT ST JOHN'S

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June over 200 children from local primary schools enjoyed an activity session at St John's College organised as part of the Sharing Education Programme. This was delivered by a company called Ardclinis who specialize in providing activities for schools and the community. The following schools took part - Langfield and St Joseph's , St Macartan's and Drumlish ,Denamona and St Dymna's, Dromore PS and Tummy.

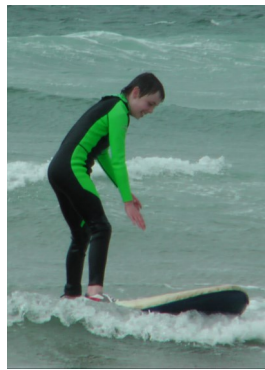


## YOUTH SPORT WEST WATER ACTIVITY DAYS

On Wednesday 1st June a water sports trip to the Share Centre Lisnaskea was organised for all Year 10 pupils. Activities included Canadian canoeing and banana boating. Below are some of the photographs taken on the day.



And on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March a cross border trip was organised for Year 9 students to Bundoran Adventure Centre



# Sloughan Glen Fieldtrip 2011

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June, the Year 9 Geography class went on a field trip to Sloughan Glen via Moffetts Quarry and the Drumquin Lime Kiln. They found it interesting watching the waterfall and seeing the gorge. Year 9 really enjoyed going to the shop for lollies to cool them down on such a hot day. However they can't wait to go with their families to the glens so that they can run around freely.



St John's very first Hurling Team in 2001.  
Do you recognise anyone in this photo??

## St. John's Hurling Team 2001

