

# Spiorad



# Signals

## Easter 2013

### Teachtaireacht ón bPríomh-Oide

Easter seems to have crept up on us with extraordinary speed this year and while Easter's arrival is, no doubt, welcomed by the greater part of the student body, it must fill the hearts of those preparing to sit the Junior and Leaving Certificate Examinations with a certain degree of trepidation! The up side is that the longer than usual last term gives the exam students plenty of opportunity to perfect their exam technique and ensure that they approach the final run in as well prepared as they can possibly be.

It has been another very busy term for the students and teachers of CSN. As well as the Pre exams, we have had transition year work experience, the second year ski trip, seachtain na Gaeilge and the usual hectic schedule of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. We've had successes in debating, basketball, football, hurling, soccer, chess, maths competitions, mini-company and school bank, and we must take special pride in the success of David Cussen who was recently honoured as the Irish Examiner/96FM Sportsman of the Month. Accounts of many of these activities are given elsewhere in these pages. Various groups of teachers have attended professional development courses in English, Project Maths and Special Needs while others continue to work on various initiatives in the school, the most important of which is probably the *Literacy and Numeracy Initiative* which forms part of the wider School Self-Evaluation (SSE) process.

We have placed a special emphasis on improving communications between school and parents this year. The *Spiorad Signals* team has worked with great enthusiasm to produce this latest edition while another group of teachers have regularly given up their lunchtimes to revamp the school's website which will be 'going live' in the coming weeks. Any parent who has visited the school in recent weeks will also have seen the new monitor in the reception area which carries all the latest news on what's going on in the school. Our librarian, Ms O'Sullivan, updates it every day and it is proving to be very popular with students and visitors alike. The text-a-parent service, meanwhile, acts as an immediate medium for the transmission of important messages on everything from pupils' absences to reminders about parent/teacher meetings.

A special word of thanks must go to our Parents' Association, chaired this year by Edel O'Brien, which organised the highly successful 'Night at the Dogs' at Curraheen Park recently. A little over €5000 was raised for the Library and School Landscaping Funds. The school is very grateful to all parents who supported this event either through buying tickets or making a donation in lieu. A great night of fun was had by all who attended. Over thirty students won lucky dip prizes while one very lucky teacher (whose identity is a closely guarded secret) went home with a very impressive spot prize.

So finally, as we approach the end of a momentous Lenten season that has seen the retirement of Pope Benedict and the election of his successor, Pope Francis, may I take this opportunity to express the wish that the spirit of hope that comes with the election of the new Pope may extend to all the families of Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh at what is, for many - in economic terms at least - a very difficult time. A very happy and hope-filled Easter to you all.

Michael Sexton

**Principal**

## **Seachtain Na Gaeilge**

Reachtáladh mórán imeachtaí difriula do Sheachtain na Gaeilge i mbliana. Thosnaigh an tseachtain le seisiún ceoil sa leabharlann. An lá dar gcionn, thug bainisteoir fhoireann iomána Luimní agus iar-bhainisteoir buacach Chorcaí, John Allen, cuairt orainn. D'eagraigh daltaí ón Idirbhliain Maidin Chaife don fhoireann go léir i lár na seachtaine. Bhí lear mór cistí, potaí tae agus caife cóirhrádála ar fáil. Bhí grúpa daltaí ag seinm ann freisin. Thug siad an-taispeántas ceoil ar an lá. Faoin Déardaoin, bhí Gael Linn tagtha chun na scoile chun clár raidió a thaifeadadh le dream ón Idirbhliain. Chomh maith leis sin, d'fhreastal a lán daltaí ar an Seomra Caidrimh a bhí ar siúl sa leabharlann. Chríochnaigh an tseachtain le seisiún ceoil eile ó cheoltóirí na scoile ag am lóin. I measc na n-imeachtaí eile a bhí ar siúl, bhí comórtas poc fada, tráth na gceist boird agus leagan Gaeilge den chluiche boird Scrabble. Tríd is tríd, bhí seachtain ghleoite againn.

*Mr. O'Connor.*

## **Cully & Sully Business Talk**

After studying a module on Enterprise in Business, my Business teacher Ms. O'Connor encouraged me to contact a local entrepreneur to come speak to the class about their personal experiences.

Cully and Sully was a case study we covered during this module. I decided to email Colum O'Sullivan and I was taken by surprise at how easy the process was.

Colum O' Sullivan (a.k.a. Sully) co-founder of the world famous ready-made dinner company "Cully & Sully" came to visit Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh in February. We are very grateful that he took some time out of his very busy schedule to give us a talk on his company and how it came to be such a success.

We were given some very good advice by 'Sully' on the day. After the talk was over Colum answered some of our questions. When asked would he do anything different, he simply answered "No because I am very happy with how everything turned out and changing something might change how everything turned out!"

It was very interesting to hear the success story of the Irish company first-hand and we had an extraordinary experience overall

Cully & Sully was sold last summer to the American food firm Artisan foods.

*Colm O' Neill.*

## **Chess News**

It has been a busy term for our Checkmate players. Six teams from CSN played various chess games in the Checkmate competition. The results have been given to the director of the competition at this stage. We will know in due course if any of our teams have qualified for the Irish finals, which will take place, in Limerick, after Easter! We have also entered a team for the "ChessZ" competition. Our chess players for the "ChessZ" competition are: Sufian Muhammed, Bakii Albayrak, Dean Newman and Jordan O Sullivan.

## Basketball

In the *first year league* to date Spioraid Naoimh has won two games - beating St. Fachtna's, Skibereen and Rochestown College... mind you, the game against Rochestown had to go to extra time! We were beaten in *one* game by a mere point, with Kinsale Community College getting the better of us on that occasion but... we hope to meet them again! As it stands we are through to the semi-finals and with a bit of luck (because we have the talent!) we *should* secure ourselves a place in the Cork Finals on the 21st of March. After that it would be on to the the Inter-Regionals Play-Offs but... all that is for another day!!

Similarly, the Second Year Team find themselves heading to the semi-finals. On that day their opposition will be Colaiste An Phiarsaigh. On their road to the semis, they have beaten three teams - St. Fachtna's, Kinsale and Rochestown but unfortunately they suffered a loss at the hands of Carrigaline... again... that's a slip-up they may get a chance to rectify over the coming weeks!!!

### First year leagues

We are now at the semi-final stage of the first year leagues and it has to be said the competition has been fierce! The games have been played with great commitment and enthusiasm and the remaining four teams all stand a very good chance of progressing to the final as all have some very good basketballers on board. The semi-finals will be played at lunch-time on Monday the 18th March. The first game will see Michael O' Sullivan's team in Naomh Proinsias play against Tom Buckley's team from Naomh Seosamh. The second semi-final is Ciaran Cullinane's team(Naomh Eoin) against Dara Costelloe's team (Naomh Seosamh).

Michael O'Sullivan	Dara Costelloe	Ciaran Cullinane	Tom Buckley
Liam Duff	Eoin Dorgan	Conor Fagan	Baki Albayrak
Michael Roche	Dan Barry-Murphy	Ciaran Hickey	Olan O' Leary
Jack Budden	Cian Murphy	Aaron Power	Hakimi Zunaidi
Gabriel Donohue	Ben Smith	Geordan O' Shea	Rory Byrne
		Jack Little	

## Maths Quiz

The first round of the 2013 IMTA Team Math competition for LC honours maths students took place on January 25th. Team members – Pádraig Daly, David Donovan, Dennis O'Sullivan and Cian Twohig, did very well on the night and qualified for the National Finals. This will take place in the University of Limerick on April 13th.

## Debating

**Seniors:** We had three students in the final of the UCC Philosoph competition this year. Mark and David Reidy competed as a team. Luke Delaney competed as an individual. After a lengthy adjudication Mark was awarded Runner-Up individual, and we wish him luck in the next round.

**Juniors:** We had four students in the Cork Schools junior Mace competition this year. So far two rounds have been held, one in Presentation Brothers College and one in Mount Mercy College. A third round is planned in Rochestown College for after Easter.

**Upcoming Competitions:** Sean Lyden Memorial Mace, Munster Mace, Third Round of CSJM

*Mark Reidy*

## **T.Y. Work Experience**

Kyle Neff: "For my Work Experience I went to Bishopstown Credit Union. I really enjoyed it as I was doing transactions, filing and organising documents I really enjoyed this experience and I would highly recommend it."

Conor O' Brien: "I went to the UCC for the T.Y. physics programme. It gave me an idea of what I would study after school. It was very interesting and it gave me an insight into the life of a student."

Graham Keeffe: "For my Work Experience, I was based in a solicitor's office. I attended court, sorted files, sat in on cases and got to run errands. My week was extremely busy and I was never short of work. It was really enjoyable."

Shane Kearney: "I went to a builders providers. It was really tough. My favourite part was that I got to move wood and I got to design a stand where I put the wood."

Stephen Burke: "I went to Colaiste Stiofan Naofa on Tramore road. I didn't really enjoy the first day as I had to model for two hours, but the rest of the work experience was great. I want to go there after sixth year. My highlight was sculpting."

Evan O' Mahony: "I went to Dunnes Stores for my second week of work experience. My highlight was getting great praise from the Dunnes Stores management. I would really recommend going to Dunnes for your work experience as I really enjoyed it."

Taidh Hennessy Burke; "I went to pro-musica. I thoroughly enjoyed it and would recommend it to anyone who has a musical interest."

Jack Magee: "I went to Glasheen B.N.S. My favourite part was understanding the role teachers have and getting the idea of a work place. I really enjoyed some of their classes, especially P.E."

Gerry Walsh: "For my work experience I went to Akari software in the Eastgate Business Park. My highlight of the week was getting advice on courses from college students who are doing their placements in Akari software. I would definitely recommend work experience in Akari because you are always working and get great advice and career guidance."

## **Bóthar**

When we began Social Justice we were given the task of researching a charity of our choice. I contacted Jeremy Meehan from Bóthar and he agreed to give a presentation to the class on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January.

He gave us a powerpoint presentation on the services Bóthar provide such as giving families animals, teaching them how to farm efficiently and how to care for the animals.

We began thinking of fundraising when Jeremy told us how the cost of transporting the animals was very high. Nathan and I organised a TY gig to raise money for Bóthar. We began to find performers in our year. Kyle Neff, Dominic O'Shea, Seán O'Leary, Nathan Volfango, Olan Rafferty and Taidh Hennessy Burke all agreed to perform.

On the day of the gig we had a brilliant turnout with over €150 raised from our year. We were given a surprise from Bóthar as Jeremy brought in two goats named Clodagh and Cuddles to our school. Over all, the whole experience was wonderful and I would encourage everyone to support this marvellous charity.

Thanks to all who participated and contributed.

*Eoin Horgan & Nathan Volfango.*

## **Trend Micro.**

Last October, Trend Micro invited our school to be involved in their internet safety programme. The aim of the programme is to educate young people on internet safety, responsibility and cyberbullying. A selection of Transition Year students were given a workshop on the programme and were taught how to teach and present the programme to others. They are in the middle of presenting the programme to Junior Cycle students. The Transition Years involved are David Lynch, Peter Walsh, Ciarán Coughlan, Darragh Corkery, Mark Reidy, Denis Vaughan, Brian Spillane, Talha Kayani, Oisín McHugh, Ólan Rafferty, Jack Roche, Ciarán Allen, Patrick Collins, Cillian Tyers, Daniel Brazil, John Cotter and Ross Ryan.

*David Lynch, 4th Year.*