

# **St. Colman's College Claremorris - Parents'/Guardians' Newsletter**

## **October 2013**

### **Building and Grounds:**

The school building and grounds are in excellent condition again this year, much landscaping and maintenance work having been carried out. Much of the interior of the building has been painted, some floor covering replaced, and much of the exterior has been power-washed. During the summer months we carried out the following works: replacement of chairs in many of the classrooms; general landscaping; ploughing and reseeded of the "Juvenile Pitch" area; installation of a campus wi-fi infrastructure; replacement of fencing of 2<sup>nd</sup> year play area; full renovation of the Woodwork room; updating of the CCTV and Alarm systems; installed four new benches in lunchroom; cleaning of carpets; updated lighting in certain areas of the school; senior pitch maintenance and much more. We encourage and want you to encourage your sons to respect the school property and environment, particularly by not damaging school property and by not dropping litter and more proactively by picking up litter when they see it.

### **Voluntary Contribution:**

Despite the deepening recession and the bad publicity given to schools by the media the response to the **School's Voluntary Contributions and Personal Insurance** has been excellent again this year and we thank those of you who have sent in your contributions. We would urge those of you who have not done so thus far to forward your contributions as soon as possible. If you feel that you can't afford to pay some of it please contact the school office so that an arrangement can be made. Please also rest assured that your contributions will be efficiently used to benefit all the students of the school. Please note that the Department of Education Funding to school has been cut by 11% over the last three years. The funding given does not cover the cost of the full maintenance of the building and grounds, nor does it provide for the provision of all of the services that we as a school provide for our students, particularly extra-curricular activities. It is therefore vital that parents make every effort to pay all the contributions requested.

### **New Staff Members:**

We welcome: **Mr. Kevin Gallagher and Ms. Olivia Tierney** onto the teaching staff and wish them well in their time with us. Our Science Lab assistant **James McNamara** is back with us again this year and we have recruited an **ICT Support Worker, Ms. Dorothy Cassidy**, an **Assistant Caretaker, Mr. Kevin Foy, a Coaching Support Worker, Mr. Andrew Carroll and a second Special Needs Assistant, Ms. Louise Holland**. These staff members will enhance the services provided by the school to the community.

### **Retirements and Resignations:**

During the summer Ms. Anne Feeley retired after long years of sterling service to St. Colman's. She was an outstanding teacher, colleague and friend and will be greatly missed. We wish her good health to enjoy a long and happy retirement. Mr. Dara Conneely, our teacher of Irish and History, who was on secondment to the State Examinations Commission last year, has decided to take up a Senior full time position there. He has therefore resigned from the teaching staff. Mr. Daniel Hyland, teacher of Accounting, Business Studies and Link Modules, has been appointed Principal of St. Gerald's College, Castlebar and has therefore resigned from the teaching staff. We wish them all well in the future.

### **Enrolment:**

We have an enrolment of 90 first year students this year which is the biggest number in the history of the school. Total enrolment is 395 students. We are delighted with this increase in demand from the community and will work to ensure that all students achieve their potentials.

### **Industrial Dispute between the Government and the ASTI**

As you all know there is an ongoing dispute between the Secondary Teachers' Union (ASTI) and the government. We hope that both sides will take steps to resolve the dispute as soon as possible so that your children will not be detrimentally affected. In the meantime the Board of Management will prioritise the maximisation of tuition time. However decisions may have to be made to take Parent-Teacher Meetings inside the school day, particularly 6<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year meetings. You will be notified of such changes to the school calendar as early as possible.

### **Students' Journals:**

All students from first year to 6<sup>th</sup> year inclusive must have a diary and must bring it to school each day. The diary is the first and best means of regular communication between parents and the school. It also holds the text of the Code of Behaviour, School Rules and other rules and policies. Parents and students must sign these Rules, Code and Policies at the relevant places on return to school. Junior students **MUST** have the diary signed each night and **MUST** enter their homework in it each night. Senior students must enter their homework each night but it is not mandatory for them to have it signed unless requested by staff or management. The journal must also be used for "Absentee Notes", "Permission to Leave Notes" and other communications between staff/management and parents. Notes tendered other than on the Journal will not be accepted. Students who are found to be without their Journals in schools may be put on an detention.

### **Leaving School Without Prior Approval:**

Where students **leave the school without PRIOR approval**, that is without providing the school with a note or phone call from the parents or guardians before leaving, we are unable to account for them. They are therefore a threat to the Health and Safety of themselves and to others and are a negative influence on other students and the learning environment. In such incidences, initially, students will be suspended for one day and will be subject to other sanctions such as Weekday and/or Saturday Detention. Whilst we realise that suspending a student for missing school time only compounds the problem for the individual student and penalises the parents who have to provide for supervision of their son at home, we have a greater responsibility to the majority of compliant students.

### **Mobile Phones and Other Technologies:**

Unlike many other schools throughout the country we have a **liberal policy on mobile phones**. Because we understand that parents may like to keep in contact with their sons during the school day, students are allowed to have their mobile phones (and other audio equipment: mp3s, ipods, etc) with them in school. However they must have them **turned off during and between classes**. They may use them during the "Big Lunch" but only discretely. Where a student uses the phone/audio equipment inappropriately the School Policy will be enforced and the equipment will be confiscated for a limited period. Where a student continues to break the rule the privilege will be withdrawn and more serious sanctions will be imposed.

### **Smoking:**

Under Health and Safety Legislation it is the legal duty of school management to ensure that the College building is a **smoke free zone**. If we fail to do so we are liable to significant fines (€3,000 for each incidence) that would have to be paid from your contributions and your school's funds. In addition we regard it as our duty to protect young and impressionable boys, particularly first years, from the dangerous and insidious example set by students who smoke on the school grounds. Under the school anti-smoking policy, ratified by the Board of Management, students caught smoking either within the school grounds, out of bounds or outside at the front gate will be fined €10 and those caught in their company will be similarly fined. This fine must be paid immediately or the alternative, under the policy, will be one day's suspension. The money collected in these fines will be used to provide additional resources for the benefit of all the students.

### **Uniforms:**

The uniform remains the same this year. We expect all students to abide by the uniform policy throughout the school year. Please remember that white t-shirts/undershirts are mandatory. We have also requested that first years have their names embroidered onto the right hand breast pocket of their jackets to reduce the possibility of theft. We continue the **voluntary code for the wearing of black shoes/runners**.

### **First Year Transition:**

We hope that **first years students** (and parents!) are settling in to the transition from primary school. We understand that it is a difficult time in the lives of these young men and there will be difficulties in the journey. If you have any concerns please contact either myself, Mr. Hession, Ms. Egan (Year Head) or any of the first year tutors.

### **Special Needs:**

We have prioritised meeting parents of first year students with Special Needs. However, we would now welcome parents of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students to contact the school office to make an appointment to meet, either the Special Needs coordinator Ms. Michelle Howley or myself.

### **Special Arrangements for the Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate Examinations in 2014.**

We are at the moment making application for Special Arrangements for the State Examinations. These Special Arrangements include: access to a reader, scribe, tape recorder, word processor; a waiver from the spelling and grammar components for language subjects. We have contacted the parents of Leaving Certificate students already and will be contacting parents of Junior Certificate students in the next few weeks. If you have any concerns in this regard please contact either myself or Ms. Michelle Howley.

### **Prefects 2013-14:**

William Freeley, Daniel Merrick, Stephen Coen, Sean Morrissey, Eamon Monaghan, John Matthew Merrick, Stephen Brennan, Matthew Trench, Lucasz Streciwilk & Stephen McGowan received their Prefect badges this year. They have been busy operating the 'Buddy' system, each mentoring their own group of 1<sup>st</sup> year 'buddies'. They greeted the 1<sup>st</sup> years on their first day and showed them around the school. They organised a table-quiz 'bonding' afternoon in September. In October, they facilitated Anti-Bullying/Inclusion workshops for the 1<sup>st</sup> year students. They also serve as monitors in the school shop and fulfil a very worthwhile leadership function in the school. We thank them for their hard work and dedication which is appreciated by the school community especially the 1<sup>st</sup> year students. Mr. Rory Hynes is the Prefect liaison teacher.

### **Third and Sixth Year Students:**

This is a very important year in the lives of our **sixth and third year students**. We wish them well and ensure that the resources of the school will be provided for their benefit. We encourage them to plan for their course of study during the year to come, to ensure that they prepare their projects early and that they liaise closely with the Guidance Counsellor and the teachers regarding course choices and subject levels. Even though part-time jobs are not as readily available as during the "Celtic Tiger" some students are still working. I would urge them and yourselves to understand that their primary "job" is studying for the Junior and Leaving Certificate Examinations and that how they perform academically this year will have enormous implications for their futures. To assist them we will be providing Study Skills Classes during the year. We would also emphasise that academic pursuits are not the be all and end all of school life and that exercise and extra-curricular activities should not be excluded from their plans. It is our experience that the students who perform best academically are individuals who take care of all aspects of their development.

### **Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate Results:**

Our Leaving Cert and Junior Cert results were excellent again this year. The vast majority of our leaving cert students achieved the points and the courses they desired and we wish them well in the future. Their results were above the National Averages in most subjects and indeed well above in some. Their success only highlights the importance of hard work, motivation and ambition. I also congratulate our teachers for guiding their students so successfully throughout the last academic year.

### **After-School and Saturday Study:**

Teachers are providing **After-School and Saturday Study** again this year. Sixth years and third years are prioritised. Please contact Ms. Egan. This is a very beneficial programme for students but we would emphasise to students, particularly third years and sixth years that their study should not end there. Saturday and Sunday are ideal times to provide for revision, note taking and preparation for the following week. We also hope to provide for study during the February Mid-Term break and during the Easter Break as it was very well attended last year.

### **Formal Tests for Halloween/Christmas:**

This year we are breaking from tradition where we held informal tests at Halloween and Christmas and issued reports to parents. This year we will **hold formal** tests for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years from 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> November. We will be sending out reports to parents once these tests have been corrected.

### **Canteen:**

The school is providing a **Canteen service** again this year through the company "Get Fresh". We would ask you to urge your sons to respect the service and the staff and to clean off their tables after them.

### **Bullying:**

Bullying can be a problem in all schools and indeed in all environments where people congregate. We would urge you to be vigilant to any incidents involving your son or indeed other students as it is difficult to resolve any problems if we do not have the necessary information. We have a comprehensive Anti-Bullying programme. Whilst we will do our best to be sympathetic to and provide assistance to the perpetrator of bullying our primary concern must be to protect the victim, particularly in light of the enormous consequences that bullying can have on that victim. Therefore we regard bullying as a grave disciplinary matter which will attract the most serious disciplinary sanctions. However at first instance we hope to resolve all bullying incidents by discussion and by appealing to the humanity and manliness of the perpetrator. Parents/Guardians will be consulted in most cases. Most importantly we urge students to **TELL** a teacher, parent, Principal, Deputy Principal, Guidance Counsellor, Anti-Bullying Coordinator etc. if either they or another student is being subjected to any type of bullying behaviour. Ms. Clare Varley is the Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator this year.

### **New Anti-Bullying Procedures**

The Department of Education has launched new Anti-Bullying Procedures for schools. We hope to be putting these into practice in St. Colman's to enhance our present Anti-Bullying Programme. We would encourage parents to attend one of the many seminars being provided by the Department to explain the new procedures. Parents can book by going online to the National Parents' Council Post Primary website. When we have updated our policy in line with the new Procedures we will also be holding seminars for parents.

### **Seminar on Cyber-bullying, Internet Safety and Social Media**

Over 50 parents attended a seminar on Cyber-bullying, Internet Safety and Social Media recently. This seminar was organised by Mr. Hession (Deputy Principal) and delivered by Paul Hickey of eSafety. In conjunction with this we ran a similar seminar for all of our 2<sup>nd</sup> years. We hope to follow this up with classes for all junior students in the school and if possible the senior students. We would urge parents to be vigilant for any indications of online or "ordinary" bullying and to contact the school as soon as possible. Please note we have included a "Report Bullying" facility on the Home page of our updated website. Any parent or students who has access to an @students or @parents school gmail can report bullying through this link. In addition parents and students are encourage to report any incidents of bullying to any staff member.

### **iPad Initiative:**

This year we have continued the iPad initiative, for first year students. We now have over 150 students in school with iPad technology. We advise students to take care of their devices by storing them safely in their lockers or in their bags on the bag racks in the cloakrooms when not in use. We also advise students not to have their iPads out during breaks (small and big lunch) or on the corridors.

### **Care when dropping off or collecting your sons:**

Parents dropping off or collecting students should take care to ensure the safety of their children and the children of others. When dropping off your sons I ask that you follow the pattern of traffic around from left to right and that you drop your sons off along the "Science lab" walls. This means that students will not have to cross through traffic to access the school. **Do not in any circumstances turn your car across in front of other cars and drop off students in the middle of the passage way.** This is both insensitive to others and is dangerous for students. In addition parents are urged not to park their cars in the area reserved for staff as this area is quite congested at the moment and further traffic only increases the possibility of an accident.

When collecting your sons in the afternoon please again follow the usual pattern of traffic from left to right. If you park in the area in front of the Science labs please urge your sons to come as quickly as possible from class and the school so that your car will not be an obstacle to others for a long period of time.

### **"Free Classes"**

Our mission is to provide for the personal, spiritual, social, cultural, physical, intellectual and academic development of your sons. As part of this mission we provide a broad and varied curriculum despite the limitations of resources provided by the Department of Education. Sport and Extra-Curricular activities are provided by school staff, largely on a voluntary basis, for the benefit of your sons. Some of these activities and sports, of necessity, take place during school class time. However, we endeavour to maximise class contact time and to minimise the loss of class time when we plan for and arrange these activities. Where

teachers are away on these activities with some of our students, their classes will be covered either voluntarily by other teachers or through the Department Substitution and Supervision Scheme. Teachers who are away from their classes for these activities are requested to leave exercises for their students and supervising teachers ensure that they complete these exercises. Sometimes, of necessity, students may be allowed to do their homework. If your son comes home and says that he had “FREE CLASSES” and had an opportunity to do his written homework that does not mean that he still does not have reading, revision work, note taking etc to do at home. Despite what your sons may tell you when they go home they do not have “FREE CLASSES”, they have “**STUDY CLASSES**”. All schools in our locality and indeed nationally that provide Transition Year, Leaving Certificate Applied, Sport and other extra-curricular activities, tours and outings will have some “**STUDY**” classes. We are no different. One day your son may benefit from being involved in such activities while as a consequence others may be in a “**STUDY**” class. Another day others may benefit while your son is in a “**STUDY**” class. We are proud of the all-round education we provide and will continue to do so as long we have the voluntary and professional commitment of staff and as long as it is the wish of the Patron, the Parents and the Board of Management of the School.

### **Annual “Beginning of Year” School Mass:**

There was an outstanding attendance at our Annual "Beginning of Year" School Mass which was held in the College Gymnasium on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at 7.30 p.m. Over three hundred students, parents and staff were in attendance. The mass was celebrated by Fr. Peter Gannon, with Fr. Martin Newell, Fr. Austin Fergus and Msgr. John O' Boyle concelebrating. Ms. Trish O' Brien, Diocesan Youth Director was the keynote speaker. We remembered the deceased students and staff of St. Colman's especially James O' Toole, Cian Coleman, T.J. Farragher and Michael McDonnell.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities:**

This year, again, our teachers are facilitating a myriad of extra, cross and co-curricular activities for the benefit of students. Much of this work is done by teachers on a voluntary basis. I thank them for their dedication and commitment.

### **Gaelic Football:**

We have entered teams again in the “A” Division of all grades. The following are the trainers:

- 1st yr: Mr. Hession, Mr. Timoney, Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Ciaran Charlton
- Juvenile: Mr. Brandon, Mr. Coggins and Mr. Breathnach
- Junior: Mr. Walsh, Mr. Duggan, Mr. Donal Finn
- Senior: Mr. Walsh and Mr. Carroll

We thank them all for their generous voluntary contributions.

We congratulate the Juvenile team on winning the O' Haire cup by defeating St. Muredach's College in the final recently. The first years lost the Mayo Cup by a heart-breaking one point in an outstanding match. To make up for this and to set themselves up for the league and championship two of our first year teams defeated two St. Gerald's teams three weeks ago. The Juniors were defeated by Rice College in the Colleran Cup Final.

### **Handball**

St Colmans has had great success in Handball in recent years winning several Connaught titles in a range of age groups .We are particularly strong in the 40 x 20 m competitions and this year we are spreading our wings and embarking on the larger court and new initiative by the G.A.A., the One Wall competition .The local Handball Club and particularly Ger Prendergast is a great support to the College and for this we are very grateful. Handball competitions 60 x 30 m Court have taken place this year. To date one of our students Patrick Murphy (2<sup>nd</sup> Year) reached the Connaught Semi-Finals while Niall Joyce won the Connaught Intermediate title but was defeated at the National Semi finals recently in Roscommon. Niall is currently a Silver Medalist in this event at Junior level.

### **Badminton**

The Badminton club has started strongly with 72 1st year students involved in the club. Training is at lunchtime on Mondays and Tuesdays from 1-1.45p.m for all students interested. Forty six second

and third year students are actively involved in the Club on a Tuesday and Wednesday. These students will make up the College's teams when they compete in the Connaught Colleges Badminton Championships in the competition season which is after Christmas. A sincere thank you to the senior Sports Captains: William Freely, Mark Killeen, Jonathan Fahey, Conor Lavery, Ethan Clarke, Luke Gibbons and Stephen McGowan for giving so freely of their time to help in the running of Club. Thanks to the organiser Ms. Cruise.

### **BasketBall**

The basketball club is up and running with an Under 16 and First year teams which train on Thursdays and Fridays at lunch hour. The U-16s were beaten by just one point in their first match of the season against Ballymote, Co Sligo. Training is well established now and the students are showing great interest. Some students have just taken up the sport for the first time which is wonderful to see. We wish them well for the season ahead. Thanks to the organiser, Mr. Conerney.

### **Golf Report:**

The St Colman's Golf teams had their first outing of the year in Ballinrobe in September. The lads tied for 2nd out of 28 teams in the schools U16 (three man) team competition. The team members were: Sean McGuinness, Brian McGuinness and Niall Maxwell. The lads returned to the golf course in early October where they were joined by Kieran Canavan and Conor McGuinness in an U19 (five man) competition in Tuam. Despite the five members being no older than 16 years they came fourth in the under 19 competition. Brian McGuinness scored a fantastic round of 68. We are expecting great things from this team over the next three years. The golf team is coached this year by Mr. Peter Geraghty

### **Community Projects**

Students are actively involved in the local men's shed through their Transition year programme. Some TYs are visiting the Family Resource Centre. Some are visiting Marion House (Western Alzheimers) and helping with the residents in stimulation and socializing exercises. The transition year students' Community Faith projects have started with three visitation days to Claremount and two day trips to Horkans' Garden Centre accompanying 28 residents from the Claremount Nursing home. This participation has been beneficial to the students and most enjoyable for the residents. They will conduct a memorial service with the residents in November after the residents teach them how to play the old card games such as 25. They will conduct Art classes and decorate the home for Christmas and prepare and perform a carol service for them. The Transition Years will also be involved in a "Peer-4-Peer" Programme with sixth class students of local national schools. Trish O' Brien, Diocesan Youth Director, will be facilitating this. Thanks to Ms. McLoughney, Ms. Cruise and Mr. Hession for their involvement. Busy but enjoyable times ahead for all!

### **Creative Engagement Project**

On Saturday 5th October, the second exhibition of Creative Engagement/NAPD took place in Collins' Barracks, Dublin. The LCA class of 2012/13 proudly displayed their wonderful piece of art, a Giant Guitar, which they created under the watchful eyes of Art teacher Ms. Monaghan and Artist Tommy Casby. The guitar was inspired by the Land of Giants at Clare lake and will take up residence there along with other awe-inspiring creations from the College Art department. The students got high praise indeed from Minister Jimmy Deenihan, TD and NAPD President Kay O'Brien who were on hand to inspect the various exhibits from all over Ireland. Well done to all concerned.

### **Personal Property:**

While every reasonable precaution will be taken, school Management accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to a pupil's property. School insurance does not cover loss or damage to jackets, bicycles, mobile phones, tablet computers or other personal items. Parents/Guardians are advised to ensure that each item of student's property is properly and conspicuously labelled.

## **News:**

### **Installation of Campus Wi-fi Infrastructure:**

Thanks to the enormous fundraising effort of our joint staff/parents' association **Thousandaire Committee** last year we have completed the installation of a **Campus wide Wi-Fi infrastructure** in the school. This will complement our 100 megabyte High Speed Broadband connection, our iPad initiative and the development of e-learning within the school.

### **Additional Accommodation:**

We are also delighted to announce that the Department of Education has sanctioned funding for **additional classrooms** for the school. We hope to have those in use for the next academic year.

### **John Paul II Awards**

A number of our senior student will be attending the John Paul II Awards in St. Jarlath's Cathedral in Tuam on Tuesday 5th November. Eighteen students will be receiving John Paul II Gold Awards and fourteen will be receiving the Papal Cross, the highest award granted under the project. Parents and/or guardians of the students receiving these awards are cordially invited to attend. The school's participation in the project is facilitated by Ms. Egan, Ms. McLoughney, Ms. Cruise, Mr. Hession and Mr. Conroy.

### **European Youth Parliament (EYP):**

St. Colman's College is delighted to continue its association with the EYP programme again this year. Over the years many students have represented the College in Regional, National and International events considering all kinds of issues to do with European affairs. The EYP is a non-partisan, independent educational project which is tailored specifically to the needs of the young European citizen. The key aim of the EYP is to encourage independent thinking and socio-political initiative in young people and it facilitates discussion on issues affecting them.

Luke Gibbons (5<sup>th</sup> year) proudly represented our college in Istanbul last year and Thomas Monaghan (5<sup>th</sup> year) will take up the opportunity to do so in November next, at the Hague.

The regional event will take place in NUI Galway at the end of November where we will have five students participating. We wish them well and trust they will have a great experience. Mr. Roy Hession and Ms. Bronagh McLoughney are coordinating this programme.

### **Leaving Certificate Applied**

Padraig Stevens of, Saw Doctors and Folk Footballers fame, facilitated a workshop this week with the Leaving Certificate Applied class. The workshop was on *Rhythm, Music and Lyrics* and linked in with their Social Education and English/Communications modules. Percussion instruments from around the world were presented after which the class embarked on a very promising song-writing project. Organised by Ms. Majella Kelly.

### **College Website:**

Mr. Anthony Timoney and the ICT team have been updating the College Website over the last two months. It has now gone "live" and is full of information and photos relating to the school. You will find it on [www.stcolmans.ie](http://www.stcolmans.ie) You can also access information and photos of school activities and events on our facebook page.

### **ASK.FM.**

The staff has been made aware of the website ASK.FM. This is a social networking site where teens can send and receive anonymous questions and comments. Teens can connect to this website through their Facebook accounts. The website allows for online conversations and does not require that teens reveal their identities. We have learned that some of our students have innocently set up ask.fm accounts hoping to hear positive affirmations from their peers. However, the temptation to use this site for cyber-bullying and harassing other teens is prevalent.

The school urges parents to find out if their children were using ask.fm and to warn them against possible bullying on the site. We are asking parents to check their child's Facebook pages to see if they were registered for ask.fm.

### **All-Ireland Involvement:**

A highlight for us this year is that eight of our pupils and past pupils were members of the **minor and senior panels** which contested the All-Ireland Finals. We congratulate the Minor team led by Captain and St. Colman's student, Stephen Coen on bringing the Tom Markham Cup to Mayo. Sadly we were unable to bring "Sam" home this year but we live in hope! We are proud of the contributions of our pupils and past pupils to both the minor and senior teams: Colm Boyle, Michael Conroy, Darren Coen, Enda Varley, Stephen Coen, Ronan Finn, Kevin Jordan and Stephen Brennan.

#### **Higher Options:**

Leaving Certificate students attended the Higher Options Event in the RDS in Dublin recently. They were accompanied by Ms. Aine McGrath and Mr. Rory Hynes.

#### **Transition Year Outdoor Pursuits to Liliput:**

Ms. Carmel Cruise and Mr. Steve Tighe accompanied Transition Year students on their first bonding trip to Liliput.

#### **Maths Week**

As part of Maths week Mr. Roy Hession took a number his fifth year Maths class to Dublin recently to participate in the Rowan Hamilton Maths walk. Ms. Therese Moran ran the Prism Maths test.

#### **Athletics:**

Ms. Carmel Cruise took 14 athletes to Athlone recently for the Combined Athletics events. The team results have not been made known yet.

**Board of Management Members 2013-14:** Rev. Msgnr. John O' Boyle (Chairperson), Chris Boyle, Norma Kean, Helena Brady, Billy Freeley, Sandra Hynes, John Coggins, Seamus Commons.

**Parents' Council 2013-14:** Louise Murphy, William O' Connor, Teresa McGreal, Karl Keaney, Georgina Joyce, Joe Gilmore, Franscesca Gibbons, Tony Lavery, Mary Freeley, Martin Merrick. Election process for parents' reps for first years is underway.

**Prefects 2013-14:** William Freeley, Daniel Merrick, Stephen Coen, Sean Morrissey, Eamon Monaghan, John Matthew Merrick, Stephen Brennan, Matthew Trench, Lucaz Streciwilk, Stephen McGowan

**Year Heads:** Ms. Mary Egan (First Year), Ms. Majella Kelly (Second Year), Ms. Carmel Cruise (Third Year), Ms. Bronagh McLoughney (Transition Year), Mr. John Coggins (Fifth Year), Mr. Roy Hession (Sixth Year)

#### **Class Tutors:**

1A - Ms. Carmel Cruise; 1B - Ms. Therese Moran; 1C - Ms. Clare Varley;  
2A - Ms. Mary Egan; 2B - Mr. Dave Kilkenny; 2C - Ms. Bronagh McLoughney  
3A - Mr. Rory Hynes; 3B - Mr. Steve Tighe; 3C - Mr. Gareth Duggan

Thank you again for entrusting your sons to our care.

Jimmy Finn,  
Principal