

# Clonkeen Chronicle

## Autumn 2005

### School Development.

This summer has, once again been a busy one in the school. The rewiring of the school and the extension of broadband to all the classrooms was (just barely) progressed sufficiently in the time available to allow us to re-open in September. This means we now have a brighter, safer school for everyone.

All of the PCs in the computer room have been replaced and we are preparing to transfer to a new broadband service provider, as part of the Department of Education and Science's nationwide roll-out of the service to all schools. While there will be central content filtering for all participating schools, we will retain our present system as a second line to allow us to provide more targeted filtering when required. This will ensure a safer environment for any student accessing the internet. Please note that all

students are required to sign the school's Internet Safety Policy before they are allowed to access the Web. The teacher in question will see that the form is sent home when required.

We had hoped to have new prefab classrooms for Transition Year in September but planning and other bureaucratic requirements intervened. We are delighted that they will be ready for use after the mid-term break. This will relieve pressure on space in the main school and mean that we have finally finished with the situation where we did not have enough rooms for all the classes in the school.

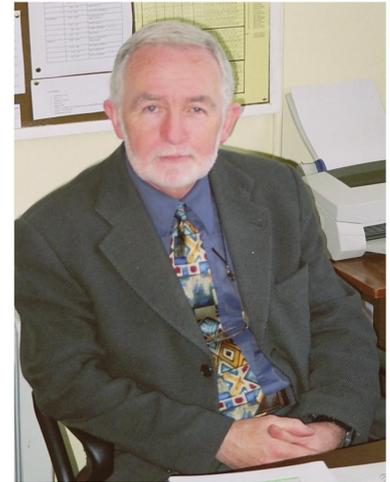
### Examinations.

Once again this year we celebrate the success of our Junior and Leaving Certificate students. The Junior Certificate students, buoyed by their success, are bringing their new found, pressure-free enthusiasm to the

Transition Year while the Leaving Certificate graduates have left for the great wide world.

**Special congratulations** are due to **Conor Rochford and Kevin Reid** who were awarded Entrance Scholars Awards in U.C.D. on the basis of their results. The awards will be presented on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> in Belfield.

**The Debs** took place on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> and the, apparently effortless, annual transformation from gauche student to dashing confident young man, with suitably gorgeous young lady, on arm warmed the hearts of Mums, Dads and (non-rivalling) siblings at the pre-Debs reception hosted by the parents Social Committee.



### Principal's Foreword, November 2005.

Once again it is time for the first newsletter of the school year and I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all, in particular to our new first years and their families. In general our newest students seem to have settled in well and I hear good reports from all their teachers. "Tús maith, leath na hoibre" and I hope you have all begun as you mean to go on!

The "Chronicle" is a great means of keeping everyone informed of what is happening in the school and the credit must go, in large part, to Mr Daly who is the "engine" behind the enterprise. On my own behalf and that of the Board of Management I wish to extend our appreciation of the input of so many members of the school community, teachers, parents and students whose commitment to the school, enthusiasm and sheer hard work are evident in the contents of this newsletter

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### Parents' Council

The PC is back in action with a full agenda in the interests of parents and pupils alike. Many thanks to all those who attended our AGM in October. We successfully recruited five new members who are very welcome. It's always encouraging to see new faces with fresh ideas. I would like to thank Josephine Hickey, Rita O'Sullivan, Eileen Mongey, Joan Curran and Joe Boyle who have retired this year. They have given many dedicated years to the parents of the school. Joan has progressed to the Board of Management as our female representative and I would like to wish Joan our very best wishes. The Drugs Information Night for parents was held in early No-

vember. This event was requested by parents and I hope our guest speaker Maeve Shanley from HSE gave the information parents were looking for. The Students Council have us on our toes (as usual) and we are in negotiation with them in relation to their SC annual project this year. These guys are a great bunch and the PC will support them all the way (watch this space!). The careers night organised by PC, the school and the Past Pupils Union will be held on Nov 21<sup>st</sup>. We have in excess of 35 presenters this year which is exceptional. This evening is geared towards TY, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year pupils. The PC re-introduced this evening 2 years ago and was a phenomenal success. Many thanks to

Adrienne Comiskey (PC), Damian O'Hora (teacher) and the PPU for their exceptional expertise in making this evening a success. A gentle reminder to any parent who may have overlooked our annual subscription. €10 is requested from each family in the school to fund the various events, Please send to the office marked 'parent council sub'. Finally, for their cooperation in every way, my co-workers on the PC, Mr. O'Toole, Sandra and Theresa in office, the Social Committee and Sean our caretaker your help goes without saying. At the end of the day the PC are only parents trying to do our best for all students in the school.

Paula McCarthy  
Chairperson

***Eoghan Carrick recently represented Ireland in the World Karate Championships. After much persuasion and in the interest of promoting the sport he finally agreed to write a few lines.***

#### **Martial Arts**

The recent midterm felt more like a week long cramming session than a week of rest for the Irish team. With the eliminations well behind the Irish competitors set their sights on Canada. Canada was the host country for this years karate and kickboxing world Championship. The Irish team consisted of about 40 people with a mix of competitors and coaches. Arriving at the competition the excitement and anticipation could be felt in the air. The blood sweat and weeks of training had all been leading up to these few days. With some highs and lows the Irish team finished in true Irish fashion, collecting 3 gold and numerous silver and bronze medals. And if representing your country and making a mark on the international

scene wasn't enough, the trip finished up with a few days of "rest" in Canada. (Eoghan Carrick.)

Well done to those Clonkeen Boys who participated in this major international event, Eoghan Carrick (Eoghan reached the quarter final in points sparring), Padraic Lamb (Padraic won a bronze in continuous sparring), and to Philip Shakespeare (Philip is a past pupil of the college). *Well done lads you did us proud. -D. Ed*

#### **Bike**

This year started great for Daniel Wolfe with him winning the winter series and then winning each round of the National Points Competition. He also became the Irish Champion (under 18's) and therefore gets to wear the Champions Jersey while representing Ireland.

He joined the Irish team just this year and has raced abroad in Italy three times. He competed in the European Championships where he came 11<sup>th</sup>

and in the World Championships where he came 30<sup>th</sup> (despite 2 crashes). He also took part in 2 world Cup races and finished 9<sup>th</sup> in the British NPS league. He is lying 6<sup>th</sup> in the world going into next year. He hopes to make it into the top three in the European Championships and make it into the top 5 worldwide ranking. We wish him all the best.

*(You may have noticed Daniel in the Evening Herald recently where he featured in a full page spread on his achievements D. Ed.)*

A passion for bikes seems to run in the family; Daniel's cousin Niall is also a fanatic of two wheels, but his preference of late is pedal power.

During the summer he rode BMX mostly, he was over in England competing. He won a competition in Leeds the "Etnies Backyard Jam" in pro U-18

Back in Ireland he won the All Ireland final in Belfast. Overall it was a good summer. Well done Niall

#### **U16 Hurlers Heroic in Defeat**

UCD was the venue for a most memorable and exciting Under-16 Hurling final. Having already met in the opening round of the competition and with that match ending in a draw, the two teams, Clonkeen College and St Colmcille's Community School had points to prove.

Both teams started well, displaying excellent skill and determination with Clonkeen leading 4 points to 2 after 15 minutes. David Green, David Treacy and Conor Gough scored great points from play for Clonkeen, while Robert Walshe (captain), Kevin O'Shea and John Murphy were outstanding in defence. An impressive goal from St Colmcille's meant that the teams were separated by a two point difference at half-time, the score showing 1-5 to 0-6.

The second half opened with good points from Saran Green, O'Dowd and Butler scoring for Clonkeen. Then a goal for Colmcilles came after it seemed corner back Rory Cole was pushed to the ground and the Ballyboden side seemed to have the upper hand again. When Colmcilles blasted a 21 yard free to the net, it really put Clonkeen under pressure.

However Clonkeen responded heroically, never panicking and picking off some excellent scores, with Treacy winning some great balls, and Spillane getting on the score sheet also.

A goal from Conor Gough meant that the teams were level but some controversial decisions from the referee

meant that Colmcille's were able to pick off points from close-range frees. Clonkeen never gave up though and continued to respond to these scores. The Clonkeen defence, Rory Cole, Maire Cambell, John Murphy, Kevin O'Shea, Eoin Dalton and Robert Walshe played excellently right up to the final whistle, dealing superbly with the pressure from Colmcille's pressure men. In spite of such determination, the final score of 3-7 to 1-12 meant victory for the Ballyboden side.

This was a very memorable final with both sides displaying excellent skill and passion as well as some very impressive performances from individual players from both teams.

Clonkeen will be bitterly disappointed, especially as some key decisions went against them.

However, St Colmcille's emerged victorious and the calibre of hurling from both teams is surly what should remain in the memory of all present.

Indeed it was a historic occasion for Clonkeen College hurling. It was the first time we ever competed in the B grade and the panel really did themselves and the school proud, such was the skill and character they showed in every game. They are the makings of an excellent U18 hurling teams at Clonkeen College over the next couple of years. The future's bright, the future's hurling!!

Well done again to all involved.

*M. Ryan, F Hayes C Collins, (managers)*

#### **Clonkeen Plugged/unplugged.**

The response to the music project has been very encouraging. This project will involve the writing, rehearsing, recording and production of a CD of original songs and music by students of Clonkeen College. Students will also be encouraged to design sleeves for the CD itself. It is hoped that this project will eventually result in a performance of the songs written. Listen to announcements for further details.

*J Clarke*

#### **Third world fundraising.**

As usual the Third World Support group has been busy. In June Mr Daly and a group of students raised over €2,000 through participating in the "women's" mini-marathon. This is indeed a remarkable achievement and when 20 boys are willing to run in drag among 30,000 women it shows the level of commitment they have towards fundraising for the third world. Well done to all who took part. A number of activities are planned for this term. These include sponsored Christmas fast. collections on Grafton St. Dublin and on Georges St Dun Laoire as well as a supermarket bag packing.

A warm welcome to all the new members of the group including Mr Daly. A big thank you to all the parents for your generosity and kindness during 2005: you have made a big difference to the lives of so many poor people.

*C McGauley*

## Autumn 2005

### Golf

The first term is usually a busy one for school golf. This year was no exception three matches for team events were played (see reports from Ross Whelan – senior, and Conor McCarthy – junior)

One of the senior competitions, the Inter Schools League Match Play is played on a home and away format. Consequently Clonkeen College has to offer a home venue. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Woodbrook Golf Club for providing its facilities for the two home matches. Over the years they have been very supportive of the college.

Again this year I have been impressed with the manner in which the students David Green, Ross Whelan, Eoin Kelly, Brian McCarthy, Marcos Keaney, Conor McCarthy, Colm Condon and Shane Martin have conducted themselves on and off the course. This has not gone unnoticed, as one club official said to me in passing “proper gentlemen, they are proud to represent their school”. Well done lads.

The next competition on the golf calendar will be the Junior and Senior Matchplay (internal) competition after Christmas. Details of this competition will be available to the boys nearer the date.

*B Noonan (team manager)*

### Match reports

#### Junior

Leinster Junior Schools. Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> of November was the Junior Golf Team's first outing of the year. It was played on a wonderfully presented Beech Park Golf Club. The team comprised, Colm Condon (R6), Shane Martin (R5) and Conor McCarthy (R4). I would like to thank Mr Noonan for arranging for us to play in this event. This was an enjoyable day for all involved.

*Conor McCarthy (capt.)*

#### Senior.

This year's golf team competed in two competitions. In the Inter Schools League Match Play Competition we had three matches to play. We won two and lost one match. We finished second in the group but unfortunately only one team went through to the second round. The Schools (Matchplay) Competition was held in Elm Park and our team had a good score but didn't finish in the top three. Well done to Ross Whelan, Marcos Keaney, Eoin Kelly, David Green and Brian McCarthy. Thanks to Mr Noonan who is the team manager.

*Ross Whelan*

### TY News

Transition year has just completed its first term. The mid-term break was followed by two weeks of work experience. The tourism programme had visits to St Patrick's cathedral, Christchurch and Dublinia, and Glendalough. When students come back from work experience they will move into the new three-classroom transition year block.

*J Byrne (TY Co-ordinator)*

### School Tour to Greece

Almost thirty transition year students will travel to Greece for a week at Easter. Three nights will be spent at Glyfacla near Athens, one at Delphi on the Gulf of Corinth and two nights in the Peloponnese at Tolon. Besides Athens and Delphi, sites to be visited include Olympia, Mycenae, Corinth and Epidaurous.

*J. Byrne (Tour Co-ordinator)*

### Ardeche 2006

Once again, at Easter, a group of students will make their way to the sunnier climes of the Ardeche region in the south of France. There they will experience the great outdoors as never before. The programme is for a week of action packed activities including climbing, abseiling, caving, canoeing hill walking, mountain biking and an assault course. All activities take place through French an ideal way of combining the mental and the physical. One to look forward to.

*O Daly (Tour Organiser)*

### Autumn Art Leaves

The first year students have embraced the Art, Craft, Design course with enthusiasm. Their pottery work was outstanding. Shane Errity (S2) might be the new Nicholas Mosse. Second year pupils are working on the craft of puppet making. Jack Cannon's might indicate a future career choice in the world of animation such as the “Wallace and Gromit” productions.

Themes for the Junior Certificate have arrived and the third years are busy researching and developing ideas for their 2D, 3D and Craft Options.

A number of 5<sup>th</sup> year students are collating graphic design ideas for the forthcoming musical CD cover. You must see Conor Lumsden's macabre 3D piece on display in the art room. Suffice to say Conor is a fan of Tim Burton's “Corpse Bride”. Good luck to those students entering the Texaco art competition

*K O'Donoghue.*

### QUIZZES

*The First Years had their Table Quiz in September, intended to team together those from different National Schools to enable students to get to know each other better. S1 were the overall class winners with a weekend free from homework as their prize! The winning table also came from this class, with Luke Hedderman, Donal Magee, Adam Hudson and Robert Lyons taking the honours. Conor Hearn, Seán McDonagh, Conor Eustace and Dara Mooney from S2 and Vincent Brown, Paul McDermott, Conor Scanlan and Ross Waters from S3 taking joint 2<sup>nd</sup> place.*

*The Irish Examiner All-Ireland Quiz 2005/06 got under way in the Montrose Hotel on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We selected our squad after a well-attended trial. Best of the Seniors in a closely-fought test were David Fitzgerald (6<sup>th</sup> Yr), Mark Lavelle, Barry Cooney and Adam Lawlor (5<sup>th</sup> Yr).*

At Junior Cert Level Zach Martin (R.6), Mairc Brennan (R.5), Paul Bennett and Conor McCarthy (both R.4) were the best of the bunch. On the night David (who was captain), Mark and Zach and Mairc were available to take us to 2<sup>nd</sup> place in our 1<sup>st</sup> round heat. This leaves us in the qualifying round in January. So as there is still all to play for, get reading the Irish Examiner over Christmas!!

*Jim Lynch*

### New kids on the block

The start of each school year is also the occasion to welcome new faces to the staff as well as to the student body and this year is no exception. Some of you will have noticed some new friendly faces coming into and out of the staff room. As students you will need no introduction but here in Clonkeen we like to think that parents share an interest in what is happening and so some introductions are in order.

**Ms Duffy** joins the science/maths team.

With her experience in the antipodes and background in paleontology she is a great asset and broadens the knowledge basis in the department.

It is a great pleasure to welcome **Mr Sheehy** to the staff. He brings a wealth of experience to the PE dept. A renowned Gaelic footballer with an All Ireland medal to his name, the highlight of his 7 years with the Dublin County Team. With his level of commitment and enthusiasm the future of Gaelic football in Clonkeen College is in safe hands.

Passing through the foyer one cannot fail to notice a new welcoming face. **Ms McGovern** has taken up residence in the office, replacing Ms Lynch who has moved on to a better life in foreign parts. Ms McGovern has settled in well as part of the team and students and parents will testify to her helpful and welcoming manner.

### Under 18 hurling

A very young and promising Under 18 team put up a brave and impressive performance against Benildus and St Colmcilles. A sure sign of good things to come *M Ryan*

### Cross country

The first event of the year is the CBS All Ireland cross country to be held at the ALSAA facility, near Dublin Airport on Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Nov.

This is followed by the East Leinster after Christmas. *Br Kelly (coach)*

### Athletics

European Youth Olympics, Lignano, Italy July 2005

Eoin Healy (5<sup>th</sup> year) was selected as part of a small Irish team to compete in the European Youth Olympics.

He competed in the 1500m steeplechase. He ran a great race to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> and win a bronze medal. Congratulations to Eoin on his achievement. Previous to that he had won the gold at the All Ireland schools championship at Tullamore. Again his event was the Senior Boys Steeplechase *Br. Kelly*

## U-14 GAELIC FOOTBALL

Our excellent campaign came to a courageous end in Belfield (where we don't seem to get much luck!) on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. A stoppage –time goal gave us a 1-point advantage against St.Fintan's...but there was still enough time on the referee's watch (I'd like that magic timepiece for Christmas) for the Sutton school to poach their 7<sup>th</sup> goal of a very exciting match. With 13 scores each the result could have gone either way, with both sides displaying great commitment, skill and a never-say-die attitude.

The other highlight of our campaign was a 3-goal win over a strong St.MacDara's team, played out in atrocious conditions, which again was a testament to our character and determination. A big win against Coláiste Éanna sealed the top spot in the group. This allowed us the luxury of giving our newer panellists a run-out in our final game. Two challenges against St.Benildus completed our season, which saw all of our squad get a run out and the chance pull on the jersey. "Tada gan iarracht" it says on it and this year again it was proved.

Dublin "B" results:

Clonkeen College, 4-8; St.MacDara's,1-8.;  
Clonkeen College, 9-13;Coláiste Éanna,5-11;  
St.Colmcille's C.S., 2-7;Clonkeen College,1-6.  
St.Fintan's H.S., 7-6; Clonkeen College, 6-7.

**TOP TRAINERS:** *Greg Clarke and James Lee (both S2) didn't miss any of their 16 sessions. Other Top trainers were: Oran Colhoun, Adam Hudson, Olan Coyle, Darragh McGrath (S1); Conor Hearn, Dylan Johnston, Daragh Mooney (S2); Michael Curtin, Michael Whelan (S3); Cillian Casey, Des Cryan, Robert Doyle, Adam Finnerty (R.1); Cillian McGuirk (R.3); Craig Cullen (R.4). WELL DONE LADS!*

*The rest of the panel was Colin Brock, Thomas Carrigg, Luke Hedderman (S1); Brian Lavelle, Shane Errity (S2); Andrew Ennis-McLoughlin (S3); Hugh O'Connor, Seán O'Sullivan, Conor Quinn (R.1); Adam Curtis, Stephen Dunne, Oisín McGovern (R.2); Karl Kohlmann, Alan Merriman, David Nolan, Philip Nolan, Conor O'Brien, Kevin Walsh (R.3); Simon Grehan (R.5).*

*Next up will be the First Years. Details of training will be announced in school.*

*P Murray and J Lynch (managers)*

## Under 16 Gaelic football

The opening game against bitter rivals Colaiste Eana was set to be a cracker. Last years beaten finalists Clonkeen looking for sweet revenge, as the game went on the Clonkeen half forward line (D Tracey, D Lyons and F Ryan began to cause real trouble for Eanna backs. High balls the full-forward J Williams began to reap dividends.

At half time Clonkeen were trailing. The restart was lively, Clonkeen looking to get an early ball into the forwards, but Eanna were not going to sit and watch with both teams matching score for score in the opening minutes. Clonkeen fought on to the end with inspiring play from the defence and goalie, Eanna however kept it up and when the final whistle blew Eanna took the points.

Match number 2 was an away game against MacDaras. This was an all or nothing game a win allowing hopes of qualifying. And win they did, despite the freezing conditions and the long wait for the match to start. The final score being 0-2 to 7-14, a decisive victory

*M Brennan E Sheehy (managers)(The combination of new blood, Mr Sheehy, and experience, Mr Brennan is paying off and Clonkeen are a force to be reckoned with.- D. Ed.)*

Sometimes teachers do get lucky. Mr O'Hora recently won a DVD player simply by logging on to the DIT web site *eng.zone*. this is only one way of encouraging teachers and students to log on and find out about engineering at DIT. Students however can **only** win an I-pod!! (*check it out D. Ed.*)

## Soccer

### Under -13

The under 13 soccer team is up and running again. The team has played one game against Colaiste Ris from Dundalk. After a very tight first half, the game opened up in the second half. A goal in the last few minutes by Daragh Mooney-gave Clonkeen a hard-earned victory.

We are currently awaiting the draw for the second round and will be hoping to repeat the successes of last year's Under-13 soccer team. The lads' attitude is brilliant in training and will be a great addition to Clonkeen sport.

Squad: Graham Butler, Aaron Byrne, Oran Colhoun, Olan Coyle, Sean Geraghty, Luke Hedderman and Luke Hudson (S1); Jamie Farrell, Dylan Johnston, Roger Kelly, James Lee and Daragh Mooney (S2); Adam Butler, Dylan Delaney, Aaron Leonard, Eric Redmond, Jack Nicholls, Jack McGovern and Andrew Lynch (S3).

*Mr McBride (Manager)*

### Under 14

The Under 14 soccer team have won the league section of their competition and are now involved in the play-offs. They are also through to the next round of the U-14 cup

*D O'Hora (manager)*

### Under 16

The under 16 soccer team enjoyed a fantastic win in their first match away to a very strong Templeogue team. Templeogue took the lead but Jordan Williams was quick to put in the equaliser. In the second half a fantastic run from Eoin Gallagher put Clonkeen 2-1 ahead and Alex Baker topped off a fantastic victory with a great finish to end the match 3-1. the second game saw Tallaght Community School visit us at home. Tallaght took the lead early on but Clonkeen's efforts managed to get us three goals but that wasn't good enough and we lost the game 6-3 in the end.

Our last game was a home win against Synge Street. The game finished 6-1 with Jordan Williams taking two of the goals. Substitute Marc Brennan got the sixth with the quickest goal from a substitute ever. With these results we should be through to the knockout stages in the league. We are also through to the second round of the cup after a well fought home win against St McDaras. The second round match is due to be played on the 30/11 away against Portmarnock. (*M Brennan, J Keogh managers*)

### Under 18

The u-18 school football team started the season with a friendly game away to ST Declan's Cabra. The St Declan's side provided a good test for our lads as it was the first game together as a team. The game finished 3-3 after a good display by Clonkeen, especially in the second half. Clonkeen goals on the day were scored by Conor Foley, Kevin Nolan, and Stephen Flynn.

Our first competitive game saw us beat Cholaiste Ciaran of Leilslip 3-2. after a good first half which ended 2-0 with goals from Craig Wallace and Conor Foley we made life difficult in the second half. We could have finished the game off after Conor Foley (*again! -D Ed.*) gave us a 2-1 lead but they came back and we held on for the win in the end.

Our latest match against Synge Street we won at a canter. The final score was 7-0 and could have been more had chances not been missed by a number of players. Conor Foley (yet again –D. Ed.) bagged a hat trick and goals were scored by Craig Cullen, Craig Wallace, Graham Brack and an OG

*Dean Zambra (captain)*