Clonkeen College

Spring Newsletter2004

Principal's Foreword.

March 2004.



This is the first Newsletter of the New Year and I'd like to wish all the members of the school community health and happiness for the year ahead. Our exam students are sitting their mock exams at present. It is of course a stressful time for them but I hope the overall experience will prove positive and encouraging for them.

The newsletter always shows the great deal of activity going on in the school on an extracurricular level. The time and effort on the part of the staff is enormous and we all owe a great deal to their energy and enthusiasm. Congratulations in

particular to the Senior Soccer team, trained by Mr Keogh and Mr Toomey, who won the FAIS Leinster Senior Cup (soccer) semi-final against Templogue College on Wednesday, March 3rd.

The school pantomime, Mother Goose, was, once again, a great success with full houses for most shows. Congratulations to the cast and a huge thank you to the teachers, parents, students and producers for the time, energy and commitment which makes the whole show possible. Some of the funds raised have been used to provide blinds for the S-Block and plans are afoot for the remainder of the monies.

The outgoing Student Council ended their term in December and I thank them on all our behalves for their thoroughness and dedication throughout their term of office. Thanks also to Mr Daly for his years as Student Council liaison teacher. He has done tremendous work with several councils and now hands over to Mr Noonan. He and the incoming Student Council have got off to a great start with lots of positive ideas and initiatives. Congratulations to the boys on their election to the Council and I wish them and Mr Noonan every success in their undertakings.

The school has received a very generous offer from the ABB Company, through the good offices of Mr Eddie Gough, a member of the Board of Management, of a bursary of €1,500 per annum for students from Clonkeen College who go on to study engineering at university. It will be payable to any student of engineering who opts to specialise in the field of Electrical Power Engineering. Part of the award is paid work placement for the student every summer with the company, either in Ireland or abroad. The bursary could be paid to a past pupil currently studying engineering if they opt for Electrical Power Engineering. I'm sure some of our students will benefit in the future and I'd like to thank ABB for their very generous offer.

School tours

There are two educational tours abroad at Easter this year, all tastes are catered for with a cultural tour of Germany and an outdoor pursuits programme on offer in the Ardeche region of the south of France. Please note that those travelling should ensure that they have a valid passport and an EIII form.

Prefect Council

The new year began with the election of a new student council in the school. 18 students were elected from 23 nominees from 5th year students, to represent the students for the forthcoming year. These were:

J. Masterson, R. Butler, C. Casey (representing 1st year), J. O'Shea, B Hand, C O'Sullivan (2nd), C Rochford, D Potts, J Heffernan, (3rd), G Fry, E. Boyle, R Murphy (4th), F O'Farrell, S Curtis, M Lernihan (5th), D McNeill, K Reid, and B McGovern (6th)

The newly elected Prefects

participated in a day's training in the Blackrock Education Centre on 22nd January with Mr. Daly as facilitator for the day. This year sees Mr Noonan taking the reins as the Council's Liaison Teacher, so on the day, it was as much a change of scenery for him as for the students.

The day proved to be a great success and elections took place for positions on the council., Kevin Reid was elected as Chairman, Vice-chair Conor Rochford, Secretary; Fergus O'Farrell and Vice-Secretary; Chris O'Sullivan

The Council is already working hard with meetings taking place every tuesday lunchtime, it is

hoped that greater links will be made with the students making the role of class representative more important.

The current reps are;

Ist year; C Carrick, T. McGovern, R Holland, Phillip Knight and David Lush, 2nd year: B O'Shaughnessy and N Dunne (R1), P Metcalf and David Fitzgerald (R2), G D'Arcy and E Shanky (R3), 3rd Year; C Garton and Glen Polly (R4), P Martin and M Payne (R5) B McCarthy and J Cullen (R6)

We wish them luck!

K Reid



Parents council

We thought you might appreciate a short update of the Parents Council affairs. Maura Kennedy (former Secretary) and David Doody have moved upwards to the Board of Management, Eileen Mongey has stepped down as Chairperson. All three have served the council with dedication and enthusiasm. We would like to send them our good wishes for the future.

The Panto was once again a tremendous success and our "front of House" task needed the involvement of many volunteers. Thanks to all for their hard work. The school and the boys benefit greatly from the funds raised. Here's to next year!!

We were delighted to see the huge attendance of the senior boys at the recent Careers Night held in the school, organised jointly by Mr. O'Hora and the Parent's Council (Joe Boyle, Adrienne Commiskey, Joan Curran). We hope a revival of this night will benefit our boys in the future.

We are happy once again to be able to help Mr McGauley's fund raising efforts for the Ethiopia Fund by organising a Table Quiz at Seapoint Rugby Club. Many thanks to everyone for their continued support.

Last but not least, may we take this opportunity to thank Siobhan O'Toole (Social Committee) and her tireless crew who provide much needed refreshments at all our school functions.

Paula McCarthy

Chair person

German

As part of the German module in TYO the German class went to see the very successful German Film "Goodbye Lenin" in the IFI Eustace St. on a torrential October day. Congrats to all those who attended

M O'Keeffe

Clonkeen College

Careers

The Careers night took place on Thursday 12^{th} .February (7:30-9:30). It was arranged for our 4^{th} , 5^{th} and 6^{th} year students. The careers varied from the likes of Architecture, Art, Law to the Engineering, the Sciences, Computers, the Businesses. Failte Ireland and the Civil Service also sent people to the exhibition.

Many of the stands were manned by past pupils of Clonkeen. It was great meeting old faces: they seemed happier now. We thank them for coming and hope that they enjoyed the night. The night was well attended, and the students were thankful for the whole experience.

The driving force behind the night was the Parents' Council. And while others helped in getting speakers etc the enthusiasm of the parents for the event and their availability has to be applauded.

The UCD open day will take place on Thursday the I1th of March. All 5th year students will make their way into UCD on that day for 10 o'clock.

While there they will visit the different faculties. This is an important day for them to help them make their life choices.

DO'Hora

Prefects of 2003

Early January 2004, saw the election of the new student council, it was also the occasion for the outgoing prefect council members to get together one last time. This time it was in the more relaxed surroundings of Pappagallos Restaurant in Stillorgan. A relaxing meal was followed by the more tense and competitive business of the evening, the game of bowling.

Despite the students having youth, vigour and most likely more experience at this game, Mr O'Toole showed what he is made of and took the high score of the evening with a round of 149 (printed records are available). In this he followed on last years success where again he took the highest score of the evening Highest student score of the evening was 140 Mark J O'Connor. Special awards should go to those students who achieved three strikes in a row. But there are no such awards!

D. Ed

Fundraising

In early April John Purdue, a sixth year student in the college will be travelling with Mr. McGauley to Eritrea. They are part of a larger group of people travelling with Self Help Development International

During their time in Eritrea they will visit farming and irrigation projects. They will also see what developments have occurred in the area of health and education.

Ethiopia has always been very special to the students in Clonkeen College, Ms Agnes Daly took early retirement some years ago to go and work in Ethiopia and has maintained strong links with the college ever since with regular reports and photographs of the work being done there with the funds raised by the college.

Since the last newsletter in October thirty hampers were collected for the St Vincent de Paul over the Christmas period. This is an all time record. Many thanks to all those families who contributed to

the collection.

The hamper collection was not the only fundraising endeavour over the Christmas. The Christmas fast in Dublin raised €2,200.00 for Self Help Development International, the November collection for the St. Vincent de Paul raised over €2000.00.

A successful Quiz night was organised by the Parents association, and yet to come is the annual raffle and of course the minimarathon.

C. McGauley

Golf

The junior and senior match play competitions (1st) round have now been compleated. Thanks to all who played their matches on time (Feb 23) and handed up their score cards. The second round draw will take place this week – see notice board for details.

Paddy Boyle (6th), Stephen Coughlin (5th) and Mark Hedderman (5th) represented the school in the Irish Schools (Stroke play) Championship 2004. They were matched against Old Bawn CBS. Unfortunately they didn't get through to the 2nd round, however they enjoyed their day out at Milltown Golf Club.

The next events, to be played during the Easter holidays, will be the Golfworks Interschool Match play and the Leinster Schools Junior event

B. Noonan

Guitar

Mr. Clarke's guitar lessons are continuing to prove very popular with students. A new term of lessons has just started and 24 students have enrolled. There are a few places still available –see Mr. Clarke if still interested but do hurry as this course of lessons is already a week old.

| Clarke

IT

The school has entered a new era with the advent of broadband, until now reserved for the computer room and admin, broadband is now available to the students. The school has invested heavily in a separate area for students access, there are now 6 PCs available for student use after school and at lunchtimes, under the supervision of the prefects and Mr. Daly. The students can use the facilities for word processing, for reference, for internet access and for website development so the Clonkeen college website (www.clonkeencollege.ie) will get a new lease of life.

One difficulty we have had is in publishing past pupil details, we cannot publish personal or contact details without the express permission of the people concerned, so if you are a past pupil please send your details to:

webmaster@clonkeencollege.ie and hopefully a comprehensive list of past pupils can be made available O Daly

Art Awards

On the afternoon of Friday 27th Feb. the students of SI had a visit from Mr Twomey. Lollypops were distributed in recognition of their

outstanding work at making puppets.

High praise was given to the fifth year art students who worked on signs for St Anne's pantomime in Shankill. It is great to see Clonkeen students involved in the local community. Mr Cotter the principal of St. Anne's was greatly impressed by the high standard of art work.

K O'Donoghue

Coast to coast

Train A and train B are crossing the country, from coast to coast, over 3,000 of railroad track. Train A is going from east to west at 80mph and train B is going from west to east at 90mph. Which train will be closer to the west coast when they meet?

(Hint you don't have to do any math to get the answer, just use your head!)

The Puzzle-master.

Transition Year

Transition Year students have just returned from their second period of work experience. They will soon visit Leinster House at the invitation of government chief whip Mary Hanafin TD

Courses in GAA coaching and self defence are ongoing. Term 3 is

going to be a packed and busy one.

J Byrne

Easter trip to Munich

A party of 37 students and teachers will be in Munich between 03 -07 April. Sites to be visited include the city of Munich, Salzburg in Austria, the saltmines at Berchtesgaden, the Zugspitze Mountain, Ludwig Il's fairy-tale castle at Neuchvanstein and Dachau Concentration Camp. Let's hope for good weather!

J Byrne

Tennis

The AGM of the school tennis club took place on the 4th of March. The school will be entering teams at minor, junior and senior level.

Meadowvale Tennis Club will be supplying the school with courts for practice and matches.

Membership of Meadowvale is open at the moment for Junior and Family memberships (€40 and €135 respectively), anyone interested in joining can collect application forms at the clubhouse or here in the school from Mr Keogh.



We are not always aware of the boy's achievements outside the school, but yes they do have lives outside Clonkeen College and when their achievements come to our attention we like to give them credit where credit is due.

In the recent past some of our students have had successes which we feel are worth noting. Stuart Edmonds 3rd year was involved in the Super cross Championship in the Point Depot on January the 9th and 10th. Stuart qualified for both days events and came 5th and 3rd but fell off in his 3rd race. Upcoming events for Stuart include the KWS International Championship and the Point Depot in January 2005.

Stuart has great ambitions and some day could be British Champion or even World Champion. Who knows?

Eoghan Brennan did us proud

recently when he was part of the Leinster Water Polo Team, he has also a medal on the U-!9 Leinster team to his credit

Eoghan Carrick took part in, and successfully completed the annual Art O'Neill Walk which commemorates the escape of Art O'Neill, Hugh O'Neill and Red Hugh O'Donnell on the 6th of January 1592. The walk started at midnight finishing 33 miles and 14 hours later. Well done Eoghan!

A chance encounter with Daniel Polly (LC 2001) yielded the gem of information that another of our past pupil is to appear on the silver screen. Daniel who had a minor role in the Lord of the Rings while in New Zealand, joins the elite group of Clonkeen students which includes the actors Aidan Quinn and Glen Quinn who both attended the college.

Conor Dunne (S2) was 3rd in

the Dublin league in his chosen discipline of martial arts.

Mark Malone (S3) is into archery and shoots at intermediate level -watch this space.

Christopher Day (S3) is in the Curragh sub aqua club in Sandycove and is training to do search and rescue and dive medic

If you are aware of students who have excelled in any area of life please let us know as many are too modest about their own achievements

Ardeche 2004 Once again a group will be travelling south at Easter to partake of the great outdoors, climbing, caving, canoeing, abseiling etc.

An information night for the parents of boys travelling will be held in the school on Tues the 9th March 8pm. -O Daly

Table Quiz

Many thanks to the Parents Council for a great night out on Weds last. The occasion was the annual Table Quiz night in aid of the Ethiopia Fund. The venue was the Seapoint Rugby Club, it proved to be most suitable clean comfortable and spacious. Those who feared a repeat of last years overcrowding were proved wrong indeed another few tables could have been squeezed in so come on parents get involved, support these occasions organised by your Council for your school.

The winning table was organised by Mr. Cooney from Shankill, Best student table by John O, Shea, and best teacher table comprised Br. Kelly, J Byrne and J Lynch. Mind you whether knowing so much about the characters of the soaps across a range of channels is cause for praise or embarrassment is open to debate. There were plenty of prizes in the raffles which proved a great success with some patrons taking home multiple prizes. The MC for the evening was Maura Kennedy, parent nominee to the B.O.M. and the questions were set by Mr. David Doody. Thanks again everyone.

D Ed.

Retreats

Hurling

Team: Kevin O'Shea, Rory Cole, Paul Butler, Sean Lehane, Shane O'Rourke, Edmund Ryan, Craig Cullen, Simon Grehan, Roghan McSweeny and Adam

There was an excellent turnout from vast numbers of Ist years at training sessions in Cuala prior to the event and many thanks must go to the parents who assisted with transporta-

commenced with an excellent turnout so far Matches will be taking place within the next 2 weeks, and the team will strive to retain the title. Expectations are high.

The first/second year lunchtime league will be taking place within the few weeks, again great interest is expected.

M. Ryan, C Collins, F Hayes

The I^{st} year one day indoor hurling league took place in Drimnagh Castle in January. The team played Colaiste Eoin, Drimnagh Castle and Colaiste Chiaran. They were narrowly beaten by Colaiste Chiaran in the quarter finals after previous high scoring draws in their other matches.

The U-14 hurling league has

The Fifth Year retreats in February took place in Whites Cross with Gerry Keegan., and in the Clonlost Retreat Centre. Both were a great success and enjoyed by all. All fourth year retreats have taken place prior to Christmas as has the 6th year retreat. We will organise the first, second and third year retreats in March and April.

It is great to see a renewed enthusiasm for retreats among the students of the college who see it as the ideal time for reflecting on their lives and what is important to them.

C Mc Gauley

Internet and PC access

The prefects will soon post details of times when students will be able to avail ofthe PCs in the student access area. Initially there will be 2 sessions a week, one at lunch time and one after school.

O Daly

Match report of Leinster Schools Cup Senior Soccer '91

CLON SO KEEN

Patricians lucky to only concede in Quarter final. (Clonkeen College....4 Patrician college1)

Patrician College were lucky to concede only 4 in Clonkeen's impressive victory, in the Leinster Schools Cup quarter-final at Dean's Grange, yesterday. The Finglas school who started as favourites will be grateful that the home side missed some elementary chances which would have made the result resemble a cricket score.

It was Clonkeen's outstanding player, Robert Daly, who constantly turned the Patrician defence inside out with his penetrating runs through the middle.

It was Daly who put Clonkeen ahead after 11 minutes after a mix-up in the Finglas defence. Clonkeen should have had another three before Finglas equalised when Noel Whelan sent in a cross which should have been cleared before David Kennedy rifled home to level the scores.

Just before half time Daly outpaced and outmanoeuvred the Patrician defender before his shot cum cross was finished off from four yards by Joe Lynch whose brother is captain of UCD.

After ten minutes of the second half the Lynch and Daly combination worked again as Daly chased the through ball and then flicked it inside for Lynch who drove the shot home from twelve vards.

Four minutes later the scoreline was complete as Walsh slotted home from the edge of the box just after missing an earlier chance a moment earlier.

Extracts from the match report of the quarter final in 1991.

(The Star, Thursday November 28, 1991)

The team of '91/'92: Graham Magher, Derek O'Rourke, Alan Duffy, Robert Downer, Kieran Gilmartin, Nigel Lynch, Graham Walshe, Colin Redmond, Robert Daly (Capt), Joseph Lynch, Keith Cunningham, Sub: Michael O'Keeffe for N Lynch.

The team lost in the final to St Josephs Fairview, final score 2-0

Connemeara

40 pupils from 1^{st} and 2^{nd} year will enjoy 2 days of outdoor education at the Galway outdoor Centre March 10th - 13th. This is the 25th trip from the school to this venue - we must be doing something right!

Clonkeen Reach Leinster Final!!

This year could be their year. With dreams of winning the Leinster Schools Cup still alive and well. Following wins against Leixlip (5-4), St. Kevin's Finglas (2-1) and Ard Scoil de la Salle Raheny (2-0) the stage was set for a quarter final showdown with St. Benildus. A big crowd turned out to witness this epic encounter. Clonkeen took the lead after half an hour, courtesy of a Ross Zambra penalty. Benildus replied quickly with a penalty of their own and the first half ended I-I. With the words of J Keogh and D Toomey ringing in their ears Clonkeen started the second half well. The St. Benildus goalkeeper thwarted Daragh Robinson with a string of top class saves but was eventually beaten when Darragh Agnew rose highest in a crowded penalty area to head the ball home.

With the home crowd cheering the team on Clonkeen pushed to finish the game. Peter McGee charged down the right wing, passed inside to the "green Lantern" (Kevin Daly) who found the

net from 10 yards. The scoring didn't end there, Alan Judge, who was a constant threat all through the match was taken down for another penalty. Ross Zambra stepped up again and made it 4-1 they were through to the semi-finals.

St Josephs (Sallynoggin) was the venue for the U-18 Leinster Schools Cup Semi-final between Clonkeen and Templeogue. At half-time with the scores tied at I-I Dom Twomey produced one of his famous half-time team talks. We took the lead through a Ross Zambra free kick but Templeogue soon equalised. Clonkeen then stepped up their game again. Two quick goals from Alan Judge and Kevin Daly made it 4-2. Templeogue came back again to make it 4-3 but up popped Kevin Daly to make the game safe..... or so we thought! With three minutes to go Templeogue scored again to set up a grandstand finale. Thankfully it never came and Clonkeen are through to their first senior final in 13 years.

Ross Zambra.

The whole school is now fired up and behind the lads. The final (date and venue unknown as we go to press) is against Salesian College Celbridge. The team have done each other, their managers (J. Keogh and D. Twomey) and their school proud. They have come so far and there's no stopping them now the're going the whole way

A special word of thanks must go to Bobby Smith of Bray wanderers for his invaluable coaching help.

D Ed

The panel:

Eoin Banahan; David Potts; Stephen Coghlan; John Lavelle; Darragh Agnew; Peter McGee; Ross Zambra; Barry Flynn; Jason Mulvaney; Darragh Robinson; Alan Judge; Kevin Daly; Patrick Boyle; John Heffernan; Mark Cullen; David Dromey; David Kelly; Mark Hedderman; Mark O'Connor; Mark Kavanagh;

Andrew Barr.

FIRST YEAR GAELIC FOOTBALL

There has been a great turnout so far for our training sessions in February. Our first two matches in the Dublin "A" First Year Competition - away to Coláiste Eoin and at home to St. MacDara's - ended in defeat. However there was a great competitive spirit shown at all times and over the two hours of football there's been a definite improvement, evident in our scoring of 6-5. Drimnagh Castle are up next, also at home, in our final must-win group game. All support welcome.

This year there is a Leinster "B" competition. The backbone of our panel will be the First Years. As Easter approaches we'll run off our annual Class League. Medals and certificates will be given out at the end-of-year awards' ceremonies. (Pauline Murray and Jim Lynch)

Pastoral Care

There is a year head and class tutor for each class in the school. Parents may contact their son's Tutor or Year Head at the following times;

6th Mr D Twomey; Mon 9.00-9.45

5th Mr T Dunne; by appointment

4th Mr J Byrne; by appointment

R4 Ms O Brougham; Mon 9.45-10.30

R5 Mr F Hayes; Mon 11.25-12.05

R6 Mr B Noonan; Mon 1.45-2.30 R1 Mr J Lynch; Tues 2.30-3.10

R2 Mr B Cathcart; Mon 10.45-11.25

R3 Ms M Somers; Wed 11.25-12.05

SI Ms M O'Keeffe; Wed 10.45-11.25S2

S2Ms M Ryan; Mon 9.00-9.45 S3 Ms E Gibson; Tues 9.45-10.30

U - 16 Soccer

S Butler,D Millar, C Wallace, G Kinsella, G Byrne, S Shakespear, D Zambra, S Flynn, E Healy, A Judge, C Foley, J Mahony, G Dunne, B Flynn, A Lawlor, C Cullen and S Mooney – the under 16 soccer team managed by two superb teachers, J Keogh and M Brennan.

The first match that was played was against tough opposition: St Benildus. Thankfully the team played out of their skin to win 4-1, with a hat trick for the pacy striker Conor Foley, the other scored by Alan Judge.

The next wasn't so lucky. They were beaten 4-2 by Colaiste Choilm Swords, who have progressed through to the finals. Clonkeen was by far the better team, hard luck lads, better luck next year.

Adam Lawlor (R4)

Cross Country

Coolmine Invitation in January . Highlight was Eoin Healy's win in the U-17 race.

Alan Judge ran well to finish 6th.

East Leinster in February

The U- 14 team ran well to finish 4th, just outside the qualifying positions. Team was Abdul Marrar, Frank Ryan, Simon Grehan, Rory O'Driscoll, Eoin Carrigg, David Costello, Aaron O'Toole. Oisin Tyrell was unavoidably absent. (all 1st year)

Neil Kelly (2nd Y) and Chris Day (1st Y) and Stephen Byrne (1st Y) ran in the U-15 race .Neil finished 12 th and qualified for the

In the U- 17 race Eoin Healy (3rd Y) was 2nd to the All-Ireland champion and Richard Nestor (4th Y) 7th and Alan Judge (3rd Y) 18th. Stephen Flynn (4th Y) had to pull out due to severe leg cramp

The team had been running in 2nd place until then.

Leinster finals at DCU.

Eoin Healy finished an excellent 4th in a highly competitive U-17 race and qualified for the All-Ireland finals at Ballyclare ,Co.Antrim on March 13th. Richard Nestor ran very well to finish 25th

Neil Kelly ran very well U-15, a case of a sprinter enjoying himself at long distance.

AAA Indoor Junior Championship at Birmingham.

Eoin Healy finished 3rd in 1500m

Well done to all.

Coming soon

Time for Track and Field. Time for Clonkeen relay teams. !

Rice Games Santry April 23rd. East Leinster Santry May 4 th Leinster Finals Santry 19^{th} / 22^{nd} May.

Can you run ,throw or jump?
Will the 1st years have a good relay team. Time to find out!

Br. Kelly

ALL-IREIAND QUIZ

The Thomas Crosbie Holdings' All-Ireland History Quiz has reached the second round. Our team of Eoghan Fitzpatrick and John Lavelle (Leaving Certificate) and Niall Swan and Eoin Healy (Junior Certificate) are in action on Monday, 8th March in the Montrose Hotel. Best of luck, men – and remember, no victory, you can sit your exams somewhere else. No pressure, so

(Jim Byrne and Jim Lynch)