



PARKING



We ask all Parents who drop off or collect students to take note of the following:

The area in **front of the school must be kept free** for the school buses to park.

The **school gateways must be kept clear at all times** so please do not park near them as this obstructs the view of staff leaving the car park and cars **should not park on footpaths**.

We have been asked to inform parents that the **roadway into Acorn to Oak should not** be used for parking as this is private property and is causing obstruction to its users.

ART TRIP TO DUBLIN

On Thursday the 5th and 6th year Art classes went on an art trip to Dublin. Our first stop was Dublin Castle where we were given an excellent guided tour which started on the Battleaxe Landing where the personal Coats of Arms of the Presidents of Ireland are displayed. Here we learned that Ireland has had the longest reign of female presidents and next year we will have had 21 years of female presidencies.

The art work of the building, especially of the ceilings, was meticulous. A special mention to the State Corridor, designed by Joseph Jarrat 1759, which included Waterford crystal chandeliers, marble topped tables and gold decorated ceiling.

We then went to the Ballroom, where hopeful debutants made their appearance before royalty, followed by the St. Patrick Hall. This is the important ceremonial room of Ireland where all past presidents have been inaugurated. Another room, the Chapel Royal, has been used in the filming of 'The Tudors'.

From Dublin Castle we went to the renowned Chester Beatty Library where we saw priceless scripture from different world religions some dating back to 250 B.C.

After a quick lunch break (no time for shopping unfortunately) we visited the National Museum of Ireland. Here we got to see priceless artefacts from the Bronze and Iron Ages, for example, the brilliantly crafted Ardagh Chalice and Tara Brooch from the High Christian Period. From the Museum our friendly bus driver brought us to the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, which has been remodelled as an Art Gallery. There were a lot of modern art pieces and we could see examples of Irish cubism. We left Dublin at 4.30pm after a memorable day which was enjoyed by all. The Art classes would like to thank Mr. Connaire and Ms. Cunningham for accompanying us on this informative trip.

6th Yr. students



ONE GOOD IDEA

As part of the 'One Good Idea' campaign a group of Transition Year students have decided to highlight the issue of our 'Carbon Footprint' by building a person entirely out of plastic bottles.

So please support this campaign by bringing in your empty plastic bottles (without labels) on Monday and putting them in the special bin that will be provided in the Social Area. Thank you in advance.

CHALLENGES FOR STUDENTS:

SUPERMAC'S BRIGHT SPARK AWARDS 2011 *entrepreneurial competition is a bid to find some of the best budding business minds and ideas in our schools. Taking place throughout second level schools in the Connacht Province, the competition is open to all Senior Cycle Students including TY, 5th and 6th year Students. The competition requires an overview of a new business idea a student / group of students (maximum number per group is four) have researched. The headings under which students are required to work for the competition are especially relevant to the current LCVP curriculum but you don't need to be an LCVP student to enter.*

As part of the competition each entry will be judged individually within their own county. Three winners from each county will then be decided upon who will be requested to attend the Supermac's Bright Spark Awards 2011 Event in March. Here an overall winner in the Connacht Province will be decided upon. Closing date for receipt by post of the Entry Form is Friday, 26th November, 2010. Available from Mrs. Cahalan. For further information on requirements please log on to www.supermacs.ie

AGRI AWARE'S GREEN DRAGON

INNOVATION – *an individual or team-based challenge open to all second level students under three categories: i) Food, ii) Agriculture, iii) Environment.*

Students must develop a business plan for a new product or service in these areas and then they convince a panel of business gurus that their idea can make it to the big time.

More information and Entry forms are available from Mrs. Cahalan.

ANY OLD EYEGLASSES? Your Used Eyeglasses Can Help Someone See Better.

If you have an old pair or two, please drop them into the collection box in the Social Area next week. They will be sent to the Third World, having been refurbished and graded by experts. Thank you.



Have you **lost** a locker key?? **Ten locker keys found** - still **unclaimed** in Anne's Office!!
*Students, please be more careful with your possessions – do **not** leave your books on bag racks or chairs – put them in your bag or locker!! And **write your name** on your books and copies!!*



ATHLETICS

Cross Country training is **changed** to **Tuesday** after school for next week.

STEP AEROBICS & HIP HOP DANCE

classes have started where a wide range of interesting activities take place for all students - come along and get fit. Wednesday from 4.05 to 4.45 pm. Everyone welcome!

L. O'Sullivan



'STYLE STEPPERS' FASHION SHOW

Sign Out Youth Cafe presents the 'Style Stepper' Fashion Show on Friday, 26th November, at 8 pm in the Shannon Oaks Hotel.

This fashion show is for guys, girls, teens, twenties, thirties and trendies!

It will be a fun-filled night as there will be lots of entertainment and great prizes to be won.

Tickets available at the door on the night or now from Geraldine Gormally and Ethna McDonagh – €8 for Adults and €5 for students.

Hope to see you there.



SENIOR CAMOGIE TRAINING

will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays after school at the school pitch from 4pm to 5pm.

P. Kelly



Reminder that the TY Mini Enterprise **CHOCALICIOUS** will have a variety of chocolates on sale every Tuesday and Friday in the Social Area.

Rhona Geraghty & Emma Lyons.



"If we did all the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astound ourselves".

Events Diary: (13th – 19th Nov.)

- Tues. 16th : Junior Camogie Vs Ard Scoil Mhuire Ballinasloe. Bus leaving @ 10.10am.
- Thurs. 18th : Senior Hurling Vs Gort in Gort.
- Thurs. 18th : Concern Debate Vs Castletroy Community School @ 8pm here in the school.



Don't forget if you have any relevant material for our newsletter please send it to Anne in the school office by lunchtime on Thursday each week. We are particularly interested in hearing about our student's achievements outside of school.



PHOTO COMPETITION



Reminder to all First Years to have their Photo entries in by Thursday, 18th November, at the latest. The winner will be announced on Friday.

Science Dept.



OPEN DAYS IN NOVEMBER:

12th : Athlone I.T., Carlow I.T., Tralee I.T. and Letterkenny I.T.

13th : St. Patrick's College Thurles & Tipperary Institute

17th : Galway-Mayo I.T. – Galway.

18th : Carlow College, IBAT College Swords and Tallaght I.T.

19th : CIT Crawford College of Art and Design, Dublin City University and Galway-Mayo IT Letterfrack.



VISITOR

On Monday (15th) Ms. Lyons' 2nd year Civics class will be welcoming Ms. Martina Forde from Na Calai.

She is coming to talk to us about local community development. It will be held in Room V at 2.45 pm.

Amanda Houlihan & Aoife Lyons



The Christmas Events Committee are busy with preparations to put up the lights around town and getting Portumna Castle ready for Santa's upcoming visit on Saturday, 4th December. This year tickets must be bought in advance through the Post Office.



SANTA'S HELPERS ?



* **Senior students** : If any of you would be interested in **helping** out on the day or leading up to the event just let me know next week.

Anne Donohue



RYAN CUP RESULT JUST IN

Portumna C.S. 6-17 St. Brigid's V.S. 2-10
 Portumna Community School Senior Hurlers recorded a very convincing first win in the Ryan Cup earlier this afternoon.



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