



O'TOOLE FAMILY NAMED AS IRISH DAIRY FARMERS OF THE YEAR



Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Noel and Bernadette O'Toole, parents of John (5th yr), who on Tuesday of this week were announced overall winners of the inaugural Irish Dairy Board (IDB) Dairy Farmer of the Year awards. This is a major achievement not only for the O'Toole family but for the locality, the county and indeed the west of Ireland.



Speaking at the awards the IDB chief executive Kevin Lane said: *"The skillset and animal husbandry of Irish dairy farmers is vital in developing efficient dairy farms. The quality, purity and integrity of Irish milk are crucial, when it comes to marketing and developing routes to market for Irish dairy products."*

Noel is featured on the front page of this week's Farmer's Journal with the historic cup which is making its first ever trip across the Shannon in its 100 year history and there is a two page spread on the O'Toole family inside the paper. We heartily congratulate the entire family on this wonderful achievement.

3RD YEAR RETREAT

Yesterday (25th) the 3rd years travelled to two Retreat Centres, one in Castletown and the other Mt. St. Anne's in Portarlington.

Our group headed off for Castletown at 8.30am. The trip was nice and short and we arrived there just over an hour later. We were greeted by a monk called Mike and he brought us in for a cup of tea. We then went into a room where we were split into 3 smaller groups to work together. After this we had lunch. It was good to get a break. Finally we meditated for a while, which was relaxing, and we ended the day with a Prayer Service remembering our loved ones. We arrived back to the school at 4.15. We would like to thank Ms. Ryan and Ms. Hough for a lovely day out.

Eamonn Larkin, 3rd yr.

Our group travelled to St. Anne's in Portarlington, Co. Laoise. We left the school at 8.30 am and arrived at the Retreat Centre at 10. We were first brought into a room where we were told about the rules and what we would be doing during the day. We were then split into five groups and each group had a leader who took part in the activities with us. After meditating we went into the Art room and made some cards. Overall we had a great day and we would like to thank Mrs. O'Connor and Ms. Gohery who travelled with us on the day.

Michelle Fahy, 3rd yr.

CONSUMER RIGHTS

Are you studying Home Economics, Business Studies or C.S.P.E.? If yes, you could be in with a chance to win a Sony Vaio Notebook computer or an iPod Touch if you know your consumer rights.

At www.consumerconnect.ie in the media section there is a national competition running from 15th November to 10th December 2010. The shop smart game is primarily tailored for second level students and designed to raise awareness about your consumer rights. Pit your wits against students from around the country and you could be in with a chance to win this great prize.



D.A.T.S

This year the DATS (Differential Aptitude Tests) takes place on Tuesday, 30th Nov., (full day) for the Leaving Cert. 1 (5th yrs) and the Transition Year students.

Last year's TY students have already taken the above tests in May 2010 and therefore are advised to remain at home. The cost of these tests is €12 per student and a number of students have not paid yet and **must** do so on Monday. Students are reminded to bring with them: 2 pencils, a pencil sharpener and an eraser.

D. Lyons.

Note: There will be school as normal on 8th Dec.

WANT SOMETHING FOR NOTHING?

With all that has gone on with our economy in recent days it is nice to be offered something genuinely free! It is of the utmost importance to all computer users to keep your system free from viruses and spyware and thankfully

Microsoft are now providing a completely free solution to this problem. **Microsoft Security Essentials** can be downloaded free of charge and installed on your computer with the minimum of fuss. It will then automatically scan your system and get regular updates while you continue to use your computer. To download the free programme simply go to http://www.microsoft.com/security_essentials. With more and more students using memory sticks to transfer documents between home and school it is of particular interest to us in the school that viruses are not transmitted through memory sticks so perhaps you could check your system this weekend. Obviously if you have up to date anti-virus software on your computer then there is no need for this.



Have you lost a locker key recently?? Please come and **check in Anne's office** because there **still** is a number of locker keys that were handed in and **NO ONE** has come looking for them!!

ATHLETICS

Best of luck to Niall McIntyre who will be competing in the Athletics Ireland All Ireland Cross Country 3km in Co. Derry at the weekend.



L. O'Sullivan

'STYLE STEPPERS' FASHION

Sign Out Youth Cafe presents the 'Style Stepper' Fashion Show tonight, Friday, 26th November, at 8 pm in the Shannon Oaks Hotel. 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 – €8 for Adults and €5 for students. Hope to see you there.

Students please note:

There will be **no** Youth Cafe tonight due to the Fashion Show.

ONE GOOD IDEA



Don't forget there's a trolley in the Social Area available for all plastic bottles. Please collect any empty bottles from home over the weekend and bring them in next week.

A WORD OF THANKS

We would like to thank Ms. Martina Forde from the Na Calaí office for taking the time to come into our class to talk to us about Community Development.

Amanda Houlihan & Aoife Lyons, 2nd yrs.

OPEN DAYS :

27th : Dun Laoghaire Inst. of Art Design & Technology;

27th : Music Open Day - University College Cork.

30th : Shannon College of Hotel Management

1st Dec. : Trinity College Dublin.

2nd : National College of Art & Design

2nd : Pallaskerry Agricultural College.

4th : Dublin Institute of Technology.

For further info. Check www.qualifax.ie

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 .

A pair of glasses was found last week in a classroom and have been left into Anne's Office.

If you lost glasses please come and check.



December Assessments 2010

| Date | Time | FIRST YRS | SECOND YRS | THIRD YRS | FIFTH YRS | SIXTH YRS | LCA |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Wednesday 1 st Dec. | 9.25 – 10.50 | Gaeilge | English | Maths | | | |
| | 11.05 – 12.30 | B. 1 | B. 1 | B. 1 | | | |
| | 1.10 – 2.35 | English | Maths | Gaeilge | | | |
| | 2.35 – 4.00 | B. 2 | History | B. 2 | | Physics | |
| Thursday 2 nd Dec | 9.25 – 10.50 | Maths | Gaeilge | English | B. 1 | English | Maths |
| | 11.05 – 12.30 | History | B. 2 | - | Gaeilge | B. 1 | Gaeilge |
| | 1.10 – 2.35 | B. 3 | B. 3 | Religion | - | Maths | - |
| | 2.35 – 4.00 | C.S.P.E. | Religion | Geography | B. 2 | B. 2 | Soc. Educ. |
| Friday 3 rd Dec. | 9.25 – 10.50 | Science | C.S.P.E. | B. 3 | Maths | Gaeilge | I.T. |
| | 11.05 – 12.30 | Religion | - | C.S.P.E. | B. 3 | B. 3 | - |
| | 1.10 – 2.35 | B. 4 | Geography | History | English | L.C.V.P. | Engineering |
| | 2.35 – 4.00 | Geography | B. 4 | B. 4 | B. 4 | B. 4 | Eng. & Comm. |

Events Diary: (27th Nov. – 3rd Dec.)

- Tues. 30th : DATS Examination in Gym. 10 am – 4 pm.
- Wed. 1st – Fri. 3rd : Exams for all class groups except TY. (timetable above)



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.