

Supervised Study over Christmas

There will be supervised study on Saturday 20, Monday 22, Tuesday 23, Monday 29, Tuesday 30th and Saturday 3rd January 2015. €5 per day or €20 for the 6 days from 9.30 am to 2 pm.

Parent/Teacher meetings:

All meetings are scheduled from 04:15pm to 06:45pm. School will finish 15mins earlier than usual on these days. The school will let you know if these meetings are to be cancelled or changed

Second & Fifth Year students Thursday 5th February 2015

First Year students Wednesday 25th February 2015

Transition Year students Thursday 12th March 2015

Cliffs of Moher Christmas Postcard overall Winner

Daniel Costello, age 12, from Ballyvaughan and a First Year Student at Mary Immaculate School, is the overall winner of the Cliffs of Moher Christmas Postcard Competition.

Daniel created a beautiful winter wonderland composition of the Cliffs of Moher using chalk pastels. The judges felt that this picture really depicts a 'Silent Night' at the Cliffs of Moher. This postcard will be available to purchase in the Cliffs of Moher souvenir shop.



Runners up prizes were also awarded to Chloe Geraghty, 1st Year. Well done Daniel and Chloe.

Doodle for Google

Art Students are preparing their entries for Doodle for Google Competition.

"My Perfect Day" is this year's theme.

CEIST Award First and Second year Art Students are currently designing a Student CEIST Award. The winning design will be forwarded to the National Final. The prize will be that the design will be manufactured and one given to every CEIST School around the country. They in turn will present this award to the student they feel exemplifies the CEIST values and mission in the daily school lives.

Shoe Box Appeal

Thanks to all students and their parents who contributed to this worthy cause.

Focus Ireland Sleepover

The First Year sleepover was a great success, Thanks to all those who supported the fundraiser and the students, volunteers and staff, past and present who gave of their time on the night. €1112 was raised.

St. Vincent de Paul Toy Collection

Toys will be distributed in the North Clare area. Mr Slattery and students co-ordinated the collection. Thanks to all for their generous support.

St. Vincent de Paul volunteer John Cullinan was invited in to speak with class groups on the work of the charity and he was delighted to announce the re-establishment of the S.V.P Conference in Ennistymon which is going from strength to strength.

A selection of student from Transition Year and Fifth Year accompanied by Ms. O'Doherty provided entertainment for the Ennistymon Day Care Centre and for the patients in Ennistymon Hospital. It was a very rewarding and enjoyable experience for these students.

BT Young Scientists and Technology exhibition

This year 9 projects had been accepted for the 2015 BT Young Scientists competition which will be held in January. This was a great feat as there were 2077 entries for 550 places at the exhibition in Dublin. This is the 51st Young Scientist competition to be held since its foundation. This will be the 26th year Lisdoonvarna teacher John Sims has mentored students from Mary Immaculate Secondary School for the competition. We wish all students taking part in the exhibition every success. Our First Year students are visiting the RDS on Friday 9th January 2015 to whet their appetite for future participation.

Literacy News

We are pleased with the steady progress in our literacy drive. Students from the 1st and 2nd year and 3rd years are currently creating their own class reading tree which instantly illustrates the books that the students have read, highlighting the name, genre and star rating of each book. Christmas is a good time to enjoy reading and the exchange of books as gifts.

Literacy Workshop

Short Story workshops facilitated by local author Ré O Laighleis will be held on the 8th & 9th of January, for both Junior and Leaving Certificate students. Students have found them extremely beneficial and educational.

Drama Trip to Ennis

An outing to see a drama production by Armed Eye Film & Theatre Company was organised for the Transition Year students in November. This was a one man comedy geared towards the minds of teenagers and dealt with themes and issues of the modern day teenager. The show was enjoyed by all. The students were accompanied by Ms Eimear Griffey and Ms Theresa Leahy.

Poetry Aloud

Congratulations to Scion Flanagan on his All-Ireland Intermediate Poetry Aloud win. Scion was part of a 27 strong original school entry. Out of the 4 students who went through to the semi-finals, Scion went onto victory.

Cake decorating Demonstration

2nd Years and Transition Years were given a 2 hour demonstration from Melzi O'Loughlin on cake decorating and the art of Sugarcraft. It is hoped that this tuition will be invaluable to students wishing to compete in the upcoming cake decorating competition organised by Ceist in February.

Debating

Well done to our transition year debating team who have been competing in the Concern National Debate Competition. To date they have participated in 4 debates and have acquitted themselves well. In January they will take on St, Caimans Shannon. The team members are Keith Dowling, Denis McMahan, Scion Flanagan and Ben Kenneally. Mary Immaculate wishes them success in their ventures. Coaches, Ms Bradshaw & Ms. Griffey feel that the students have benefited enormously from their experiences to date. It has proved an invaluable exercise in terms of self-esteem, confidence building and oratory skills.

Flower Arranging/Advent Wreath & Candle Logs

Transition years were given a half day workshop from Dermot Dooley and Cathal Malone on the techniques used to produce a variety of festive arrangements.

Transition Year Production

The Transition Year students have stayed with their tradition of staging musicals and have produced "Back to the Eighties" musical under the direction of Theresa Leahy and assistant producer Mark Mulqueeney. There were four performances in total, two matinees and two evening performances. A most enjoyable and entertaining production generating some cherished memories and magical moments. Well done to all. Many thanks to the Art teacher Miss Hynes, and the art students in helping to prepare the sets for the Transition Year show.

Girls Football

Mary Immaculate Girls Football team progressed onto the Munster Senior D quarter final where they met Cashel Community School. The girls met a stronger side on the day and their Munster campaign has now come to an end.

Boys Football

Mary Immaculate Boys U18&1/2 played Gaelcolaiste Kerry in the first round of the Munster C Schools. The first game ended in a draw after extra time. The game was replayed in Rathkeale with the final score 2g 15pts to 1g 16pts in favour of the opposition.

Cross Country Running

Thirteen students from Mary Immaculate took part in the Schools Cross Country running competition in Lees Road, Ennis on the 27th of November. They were accompanied by Ms. Arthur. Patrick O'Rourke, a third year student, came 2nd in the Intermediate boys U17 and Jo Keane, a 2nd year student came 5th in the Junior Girls U14. Well done to all those who participated.

Carol Service

On Friday the 19th of December the students will attend a carol service in the church organised by Lisa O Doherty and Shane Slattery. A large number of junior and senior students will perform a variety of Christmas hymns and seasonal carols accompanied by a group of musicians. Thanks to the students and their teachers for organising this event.

Following this service the students will then attend a variety show in the school hall. School will finish at 12.25 pm. Buses will run at this time.

Reminders for the next term

Mid Term Break Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2015

Bank Holiday Tuesday 17th March, St Patrick's Day

Easter Holidays Monday 30th March to Friday 11th April 2015

Mock Examinations

Junior and Leaving cert Mock exams will commence on 2nd February approx. and finish on Friday 13th February. We are requesting €100 per family towards the cost of Mock Examinations. This needs to be paid by Monday 12th January 2015 so that papers, etc. may be ordered. The school receives no support towards the cost of the mock examinations.

Work Experience:

Fifth LCVP Work Experience: This will take place the week beginning Monday 27th April 2015.

Leaving Cert Graduation

The Leaving Cert Graduation will take place on Friday 8th May 2015 at 1.30 pm.

LOTTO

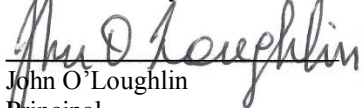
Please consider supporting our school Lotto. It is the only means of fund raising that the school is involved in.

STRICTLY COME DANCING FUND RAISER

St. Breckan's GAA and Mary Immaculate are combining their efforts to help fundraise by organising a Strictly Come Dancing event. This is scheduled to take place in The Falls Hotel Ennistymon on Sunday 3rd May 2015. To represent Mary Immaculate we are looking for past pupils, parents or supporters of Mary Immaculate who will volunteer to dance on the night. **LET ME KNOW IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE OR IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART.**

Thank you for your continued support.

I wish you and your family a happy and peaceful Christmas and every blessing for the New Year from all at Mary Immaculate.



John O'Loughlin
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