

Presentation Wexford Newsletter

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Our Best, Always

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Summer 2019 Newsletter

Class of 2019 depart as academic year comes to a close



May madness has been in full swing at Presentation Secondary School as the 2018/19 academic year comes to a close. With in-house exams coming to a close as we go to print, the state examinations are just around the corner as we prepare to say goodbye to the class of 2019. From their Johnstown Castle excursion, their 'muck-up' day and their graduation, there have been some happy moments and sad farewells to our Leaving Certificate group over the past days and weeks. We wish all students sitting the State Examinations the very best of luck and wish our departing Leaving Certificate students all the best in the next chapter of their lives post Presentation.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Principal's Address..... | 2 |
| Leinster Champions | 3 |
| French Exchange | 4 |
| TY Graduation | 5 |
| TECH Week..... | 6 |
| Sports..... | 7 |
| Parents Council..... | 8 |
| New Head Girl Team..... | 9 |

Summer Edition

Welcome to the final edition of the Presentation Newsletter for the 2018/19 academic year. We would like to wish all students sitting the State exams the very best of luck as we say goodbye to the class of 2019.



Our 6th Year Group all set for their Future Wish Ceremony



Enjoying Johnstown Castle in the sun



Our departing Head Girl team of Shauna Murphy, Alannah Davis & Katelyn Maher

Principal's

Address



Where does the time go to? It only seems like yesterday that we were returning to school last August. What a year it has been for many reasons!

Camogie, Basketball, Gaelic Football, Athletics, Equestrian, Soccer, Literacy week, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Happy Week, Active Week, Careers Night, Ski Trip, Iceland Trip French Exchange, Subject Fair, TY Pantomime, Mama Mia Hits, College trips, Drama Trips, History Trips, Art Trips, Geography & Biology Field studies, Exams, Homework, Study, friendships. The list goes on. The preceding page of table of contents gives you the reader a flavour of the wide variety of activities that happened here during the year. It has been a very busy school year! As a school community, we have learned so much and shared experiences that will long remain with us in the years to come. This community and wholehearted passion help to make our school a wonderful place of learning for all our student. It has been a year of celebration when we marked 200 years of providing education to the people of Wexford.

The week of celebrations last October, took 2 years of planning to mark what had been in the making for 200 years. It would not have been possible without a very hard working, dedicated Bicentenary committee of 20 staff members and sisters from the convent. When we look back over the week, there were many highlights and events to think about. Choir at our annual CEIST conference, The Book Launch, Open school for past pupils, the lantern walk, student tours of the convent and its gardens, our bicentenary mass and Gala concert.

One of my own personal highlights was the student visits to the convent. The excitement and chat from our students when they returned from the convent was electric. It is a memory that will stick with me and I am sure with our students for many years to come. One thing that struck me throughout the week and which indeed was commented on by the many people that helped us mark the bicentenary is the Presentation Ethos, as one person described it to me, the ethos is alive and well in the people in Presentation Wexford. It is alive through our students, our staff, in the past pupils, past staff that have been involved in this journey of celebration this year. In 1818, Sr Devereux and Sr Frayne established our school here in Wexford during very difficult times just after the 1798 rebellion. They established the first home of education in Wexford, something we are very proud of. They had a mission to educate the young people of Wexford and to leave a legacy. We should all be thankful for those who have gone before us, for what they believed and what they set up, we should be thankful for the teachers who have taught us all, the knowledge and life skills they have given us, we should be thankful to our families who taught us about life first, and we should be thankful to the friends that sit around us, all of these people are crucial in life's journey.

On a sadder note we as a school community experienced sadness during the school year when we lost incoming first year Tara Bishop in August and then 6th Year student Hannah Kelly in December. To lose a student at any time is a tough time for the whole school community but to lose two students is extremely hard to fathom. We will as a community remember to keep both Tara & Hannah in our thoughts & prayers. In April our school community experienced further loss in the shape of our wonderful caretaker Mr. Eamonn Rossiter. Eamonn had worked in Presentation, Wexford for over 20 years. His passing has been felt by the whole school community, Eamonn was very dedicated to the school and we will miss him greatly, Presentation, Wexford was a 2nd home to Eamonn, and the staff and many students over the year were like a 2nd family to him. I often said to him that he was the real boss in Presentation, Wexford. May Tara, Hannah & Eamonn rest in peace.

As the school year 2018/2019 ends, we as a school look back with great pride at the collaborative efforts of our students, staff, parents and local community to provide a holistic education here at Presentation Secondary School Wexford. I wish to thank all of you most sincerely for your dedication, positivity, diligence, hard work and generosity which make our school such a wonderful place to be each day. It is great to see that our students continue to maintain extremely high academic standards while at the same time actively participating in various extra-curricular activities. This balance is so important in everyone's life.

Presentation Secondary School is getting better all the time. Take whatever measure you wish, our school is right up there with the best. We are justifiably proud of our school community and its dedication to the education of our students. Our students are a credit to themselves, their families in the way they conduct themselves, the way they apply themselves, engage with our staff and visitors, and for the spirit they bring to our school. We urge our students to continue to make the most of their talents, to always do their best and to realise their full potential. What we sow now, we will harvest later.

Once again, sport played an exhilarating part in our life with great success in Soccer, Camogie, Basketball, Equestrian. Our congratulations and thanks go to the girls, their managers, their clubs and supporters who bring honour to our school throughout the school year. Our, Best Always. Outside of sports I am always amazed at the dedication that both our staff and students commit to in terms of extra-curricular activities, it has been a busy year for our Choir, Librarians, Green schools committee, Deep Green to name but a few. Massive well done also to our students in TY who made the national final of Junkkouture with their wonderful creation. We have a proud tradition of academic excellence; in addition, students participate in a wide variety of extracurricular activities provided by a generous and committed staff who give up their time on a voluntary basis. As Principal here in Presentation Secondary School, my door is always open to staff, parents and students and I am looking forward to working with all members of our school community in a challenging and positive environment, always upholding the values on which we were founded.

I would like to thank our Board of Management, our Parents' Council and our Students' Council who have worked extremely hard throughout the year to promote and enhance our school.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to wish our students who will be sitting their State Exams in a few short weeks the very best. I would particularly like to extend my best wishes to our Leaving Certificate students who will be starting their own life journeys next year. We wish them health and happiness in whatever path they ultimately find themselves on and hope the values they acquired here sustain them in whatever challenges they may face in the years ahead.

I look forward to seeing you all in August. To those of you who are leaving us for new places we wish you all the best and you will continue to be in our prayers.

Le cúnamh Dé.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'W' and 'R'.

All Ireland Heartbreak for Soccer Stars

Presentation Wexford 2

Carndonagh CS 3

(A.E.T.)

Oriel Park

Our 1st year soccer stars suffered extra-time heartbreak at the hands of Carndonagh CS in the FAI Schools 'A' All-Ireland final this term. Twice our girls came from behind to level the match with goals from Katie Law as they battled hard to try and land the All Ireland crown. However it wasn't to be for our girls as an extra time winner saw the Ulster side claim victory.

It was the final game in an incredible season for the girls having landed the Leinster 'A' title earlier in the year to go along with their Futsal crown.



Leinster Glory for u15 Soccer Team

Congratulations to our u15 soccer team who landed the Leinster League trophy this term after a 4-1 win over St Marys Baldoyle. A Katie Law hat-trick after a Rebecca Fanning opener was enough to land the title!



New Jackets for Equestrian Crew

A big thank you to Graphedia and Promotex for producing these fabulous new jackets for our Equestrian team for the new season next year.



Final Defeat for Minor Camogie

Our Minor Camogie team suffered defeat in the Leinster Final this term to a very strong Castlecomer side by a score line of 2-15 to 2-4. After another excellent campaign, our girls faced familiar competition but ultimately couldn't take the final step to clinch the trophy. No doubt they will come back even stronger next year. Congratulations on another fantastic camogie campaign.



2nd Year French Exchange

Some snapshots of our 2nd year French Exchange trip to Parthenay this term. Our students and staff were met with the warmest of welcomes and shown the sights of the area whilst getting the chance first hand to improve their linguistic skills. Well done to all students for once again representing the school so well on your travels. Keep an eye on our social media pages for a day-by-day account of their travels.



TYs Graduate after another Memorable Year

Our Transition Year students graduated from their programme on Tuesday May 28th as the curtain fell on another memorable year for the 4th years. From Glendalough to Carlingford and the 3 Arena to Curracloe, memories and friendships have been made that will last a lifetime. A big thank you to Ms Hartnett and the TY Tutors for facilitating another successful term.



Awards Night 2019

Pictured are a selection of the winners from our Awards night 2019. Many thanks to Mr Brophy for organising the evening to celebrate the success of the students in their sporting and academic endeavours, as well as their contribution to school life and positive modelling of behaviour. Full albums on our social media pages.



Women in Tech



Congratulations to Eve Doyle (1st year) overall winner who received a Samsung Galaxy Tablet for her poster design as part of Tech Week at Presentation Secondary School. Katie Cunningham (5th year) and Katelyn Redmond (1st year) both received One for All vouchers as runners up. Thank you to Aimee Boyle and Abby Beale who helped with the organisation and running of the competition along with Ms O'Brien.

Studio Tours for TY Journalists



Our TY journalism students got a special tour of the Off The Ball, Newstalk & Today FM studios this term as their module came to a close. Our podcast team, Prescast, also recorded their own show in the OTBAM studios with thanks to host Will O'Callaghan, pictured left, alongside the group.



Parents Council End of Year News

Hi there,

It's been a busy year, and we think you will agree it flew by.

In November, if you recall we hosted a Race Night to raise funds for the Science Lab that had recently been damaged by fire. With the generous help of local businesses and you the parents we managed to raise €6,000, which will go towards restocking the lab with equipment. We had great fun on the night and thank you to everyone who came and supported the evening in any way.

In February, in collaboration with the Careers Dept we had the bi-annual Careers night for TY, 5th and 6th year students with approx. 60 presenters giving up their time to come and talk to the girls, giving them advice and an insight into the daily working lives. Many thanks to Ms. Kavanagh and Mr. Nugent for their help in organizing such a fantastic event.

The Easter raffle was a great success, with lots of prizes and Easter eggs for best sellers etc. We raised €1,600 which was fantastic and again thanks for all the support. This will go towards the study skills program and we will also donate to the *Jackson Ball* which is been held on June 22nd in Whites Hotel in aid of Pieta House and Marine Watch.

We bid farewell to one of long standing (7 years!) committee members this year, Diane Bennett, who recruited most of us left on the Committee and has showed us the ropes to continue on!!! Thanks, Diane, for all your wisdom and we hope you enjoy retirement!!

Finally, many thanks to Miss Dooley and Miss Ryan for coming to all our meetings, you both are always so helpful and obliging.

Best of luck to all the students doing Junior and Leaving Cert and wishing all the school community a fabulous summer.

Your Parents Council Committee.



Elite German Scholarship for Pres Pupil



A massive congratulations to Emma Dempsey who has won a very prestigious scholarship to Germany in the International Award Programme 2019. This scholarship is awarded by the German Government based on her excellent Junior Certificate result in German and an outstanding performance at the German language interviews.

Emma is one of an elite group of only 5 students from Ireland and will be part of an international group of students who will spend 4 weeks in Germany this summer. The scholarship comprises 2 weeks with a host family, attendance at school during that period and then a further 2 weeks travelling all around Germany visiting several German cities with other students from around the world. During this time they will visit youth and sports events, museums, other cultural institutions and sights, theatres, universities etc to get an overview of life in Germany.

We wish Emma a very successful, fulfilling and fun-filled experience!

2nd Year Sponsored Walk in Aid of Pieta House





Congratulations to 1st Year Student Katelyn Redmond who designed the cover of our school annual 2018/19



Head Girl Team 2019/20: Deputies Aine Fitzgerald and Clara Bell Browne flank new head girl Aoisé Davis.



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Darkness Into Light



Well done to our 6th Year group who took part in the Darkness into Light walk to raise funds for Pieta House this term.



Well done to our award winners at our 6th year graduation mass. Shauna Whelan Buckley Student of the Year. Rachel Grace Principal's Award and Laura Healy: CEIST award. Well done to all those nominated as well.

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