

Welcome All,

In this section of the website, I will keep you updated on recent developments here in the school.

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, Happy week, Careers Night, Ski Trip, Iceland Trip French Exchange, Subject Fair, TY Pantomime, Mama Mia Hits, 5th Year Subject Fair, College trips, Drama Trips, History Trips, Art Trips, Geography & Biology Field studies, Presentation Bake off, Exams, Homework Study, friendships. The list goes on. 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 students. 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,
- 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.

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 years were like a 2nd family to him. 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 look forward to continuing 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.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish our students who are sitting their State Exams currently 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.

William Ryan

June 2019