



# St. Patrick's Secondary School Coláiste an Oileáin

## NEWSLETTER



### A message from the Principal.

**Denis O'Donovan**

It is always a great pleasure to introduce our annual Christmas newsletter because this publication chronicles the achievements and the great work being done by all those associated with St. Patrick's Secondary School. A new school year always brings a fresh focus and an opportunity to set and reach new goals for the year ahead. We have a very dedicated and enthusiastic teaching team whose daily focus is on looking after each student so that they can grow and develop and reach their full potential as individuals and academically. Each student is unique, has different talents and qualities and we encourage them to be the best they can be. We place a very strong emphasis on the rights and welfare of others and foster a culture of respect which enables all students to thrive and be happy in a wonderful school environment.

Many of our students have a diverse range of interests outside of school and it is always important to encourage them, to acknowledge their successes and give them an opportunity to contribute to this publication. We are delighted to see how well our first years have managed the transition from primary school and their vibrant personalities are a wonderful addition to the school. The 2015/2016 school year saw a major breakthrough for the school in our quest for rugby glory winning the U15 South Munster emerging school competition and our senior rugby team winning the inaugural Donal Walsh memorial tournament. Well done to all involved.

I wish to thank our dedicated staff who work tirelessly and give so generously of their time to provide the many educational opportunities that are a very important part of our school life. I wish to take this opportunity to wish you and your family every blessing this Christmas and the very best for 2017. Gach ráth oraibh go léir.

## 2016 – U15 South Munster Rugby Champions.



Front L to R: Garry O'Sullivan, Brian Culloty, Adam Jensen, Jason Brosnan, Eric McCarthy, Eoghan Leahy, Darragh Brosnan.  
Middle L to R: Michael O'Connell, Ethan Reidy, Egan Brosnan, Darren O'Donovan Capt, Jonathan Healy, Diarmuid Mitchell, Tadhg O'Shea. Back L to R: John O'Sullivan(Teacher), Brian O'Sullivan, Aaron Fleming, Charlie Conway, Shane McEnery, Oisín Collins, David Dillon, Eoin Culloty, Redmond Horan, Jack Brosnan Reidy, Tim Long (Teacher).

# Wearing the Green & Gold of Kerry



Our school has a very distinguished list of past students who have played in the Green and Gold jersey of Kerry at many grades and levels. That list is a project for another day. Thankfully the list continues to grow and the summer of 2016 was a busy one for some of our students who spent some time representing their club and school in the Green and Gold of Kerry.

The Kerry North U16 team which was trained and coached by our PE teacher Patrick McCarthy and on which we had four students playing, namely Shay Walsh, Eddie Horan, Sean Horan and David Shanahan, won a Munster title in July. The last time Kerry North won this title back in 2002 we had two students on that team, John Buckley and Padraig Reidy. During the campaign David played at wing back, Sean at midfield, Eddie at centre forward and Shay at corner forward. They defeated Cork B in the quarter final, Cork A in the Semi-final and Kerry South in the final on a score line of 3-11 to 2-9.

On the other side of the county playing with the Kerry South U14 squad was Cian Ring from the Furies club. Cian played in goals for the Kerry South team that captured the Munster U14 title when they defeated Cork West in the semi- final and Cork East in the final and which was played at the Fraher GAA grounds in Dungarvan last July.

Our other students that were involved with the Kerry North squads were Daniel Kelly, Tadhg O'Shea, and Donal Geaney. All of our students were exceptional on many levels throughout their involvement with the Kerry squads and are a credit to their families, their clubs and their school. Well done boys.

**Photographs: Above, members of the Kerry U16 Munster winning team, L to R: Eddie Horan, Shay Walsh, Patrick McCarthy Trainer/Coach, David Shanahan and Sean Horan. Left: Cian Ring displaying his U14 Munster winners medal.**



## Gone Golfing ! .....by Luke Walsh (3<sup>rd</sup> Year)

**What other people may find in poetry, I find in the flight of a good drive.....Arnold Palmer**



I began playing golf when I was eight years old. I got my first golf lessons from the golf professional at Killarney Golf Club and the following year I became a member of Killarney Golf club with a playing handicap of 28. I began playing junior competitions with my club and as part of the Kerry Junior League and my golf game gradually began to improve and after a while my impressive scores grabbed the attention of the county coaches and a call-up to the Kerry U13 golf team followed. I played intercounty competitions around Munster for the following five years and in my last year we won the Munster U13 provincial title and I had the honour of having the best individual score in the competition.

After I moved on from the U13 grade I began to train with the Munster U14 squad and my goal was to work hard at my game and make the team. In early 2015 I received a letter from GUI Munster telling me I had been selected to play for my province Munster in the Interprovincial competition. That was one of my biggest achievements up to then. I set a personal target for 2016 and that was to win the U15 Munster boys amateur close championship which would be played in Carrick an Suir in July. I prepared well for that competition and played the course with a local

member the week before which was a massive help on a challenging course. I won the competition with a score of 3 over par and a single stroke to spare over a friend of mine from Mallow Golf Club.

I now have a playing handicap of 5 and my goals for 2017 are to continue playing club competitions and bring my playing handicap down to 2, play with Killarney's Fred Daly Junior team in the 2017 All Ireland competition, make the Munster U16 team, to win the Munster U17 boys amateur close championship and to do very well in my Junior Cert !!!

I put my success down to hours of practice and hard work and to the support of my parents and coach. Tiger Woods says "no matter how good you get you can always get better and that the exciting part". Golf is a great way to learn discipline, responsibility, honesty and sportsmanship and I enjoy playing the game.

**Photograph: Luke with his Munster U15 boys Amateur Close Championship Cup.**





# Young Fine Gael & Me.....by Art O'Mahony (6<sup>th</sup> Year)



In 2014, I joined Young Fine Gael (YFG) following years of interest in Irish politics. After researching all the parties, I decided that Fine Gael was the one for me. I felt that prudence and stability were far more important than populism and promises. Traditionally, I come from a Fianna Fáil background, but I quickly shelved that idea when I saw them lead our great nation into the worst recession since the foundation of the state.

By comparison, I thought that the Coalition Government who rescued our junk-labelled economy from the abyss, securing 150,000 extra jobs for our people and leading us out of an IMF bailout prematurely received more than its fair share of criticism. Of course, people have the right to be angry in the face of austerity, but the alternatives I felt would have buried our state for decades.

So at a cost of €2, I joined the organisation, not entirely sure what it did. Two questions that I am normally asked when I say I am involved are;

**What is Young Fine Gael?** In 1977, Dr. Garret FitzGerald established YFG as the autonomous youth-wing of Fine Gael, with the power to form its own policy, run its own campaigns and elects its own executive. Whether you wish to pursue a career in politics, journalism, law or anything else, it gives people a wonderful opportunity to be a part of effective change. Notable former members include Leo Varadkar, Simon Coveney and Ivan Yates.

**What Do We Do?** Fine Gael currently has 12 Cabinet seats, more so than ever before. This gives YFG unique and unprecedented access to Government officials that no other youth organisation has. Every October, we deliver a Pre-Budget Submission to the Minister for Finance and our other subcommittees deliver policy to their respective Departments.

Last November, Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Tánaiste Frances Fitzgerald and our next President of the European Parliament Mairead McGuinness addressed our National Conference. Other highlights on the calendar include our annual trip to Béal na Bláth in August to commemorate Ireland's founder, General Michael Collins and our social, team-building Garret FitzGerald Weekend. I should emphasise, YFG is not as boring as it sounds, you'll make friends for life and have serious craic while you're at it! If it sounds like something you'd like to get involved in, check out [yfg.ie](http://yfg.ie)

## The Role of the Resource Teacher.....Because every student matters



We are for difference,  
for respecting  
difference,  
for valuing difference,  
until difference  
no longer makes a  
difference.



In our school the Resource Department provides assistance to meet the needs of students assessed as having special educational needs, learning difficulties or disabilities. The Resource Teacher provides additional support to students who have entered main stream schools and liaises with other teachers and parents in relation to the child's interests and needs. Support is offered in alternative ways. Worksheets and creative activities suited to the students' ability are provided. This allows the resource teacher to focus on specific areas that need addressing. Computers are also used, there are numerous online resources that help improve and examine a student's level of knowledge. It is also important to include a fun element in learning, this helps to keep the students' interested. Whether it is group work or poster

making on a specific topic, these methods allow the lessons to be lively and student centred.

There are numerous learning difficulties and disabilities such as ADHD (Attention Deficit Disorder), ODD (Oppositional Defiant Disorder), SEBD (Social Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties), Autism, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia and Hearing Impairment. Some of these disabilities will fall under the General Learning Disabilities category.

The role of the Resource Teacher is assessing and recording a student's needs and progress. Keeping records helps in the processing and communicating the students' understanding of the curriculum. It is important to set realistic targets over specific time periods. The process of setting goals allows students to choose where they want to go in school and what they want to achieve. By knowing what they want to achieve, they know what they have to concentrate on and improve. Goal setting gives students long-term vision and short-term motivation. Students are taught in a separate area. This allows them to be in a safe and comfortable environment which supports their needs. It provides a space where students can learn at a pace suitable to them. The role of the Resource Teacher is an important element within our school environment providing extra support and guidance to students during their time in our school.



# My Show.....by Bryan Daly (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)

My name is Bryan Daly and I'm from Scartaglen. I started off showing calves when I was 11 years old. I initially got the interest in showing them from my neighbour Jack Walsh. Then I joined Kerry Young Members Association, this is an association which teaches and guides young people to halter train, clip and handle calves. I attended my first show in Tralee at the county fair and I really enjoyed the atmosphere. I then went to my first national show, showing two calves and won the junior novice class! From then I have grown and become a more confident handler and I am now in the intermediate class. I have many shows on my calendar now such as my local show The County Fair, Charleville, Clonakilty, National Calf Show, Tullamore and Millstreet. Something that started as a dream has helped me gain many close friends throughout the country.



***My Jersey cow which won first place at the County Fair in Tralee this year and Prizes which I won at the National Calf Show in Kilkenny last year.***

## Geography Class

Our Geography Department have been actively promoting the use of our local environment to enhance student's learning experience and develop student's geographical skill set. We have found that one of the main benefits of utilizing the natural environment for field studies is that it provides students with the perfect opportunity to put the theory they have learned in the classroom environment into practice. In recent weeks both our First and Transition year cohorts have made the short visit to Crag Caves in accordance with their studies of weathering, erosion and karst landscapes. During their visit students



learned about the formation and discovery of Crag Caves and experienced an informative guided tour of the cave which gave students first-hand experience of the various features that are created in an underground cave system. In recent weeks in accordance with their studies on river processes our first year students made the short journey down to the local river walk and observed the various processes and physical features of the River Maine and were able to identify features of erosion and deposition along the course of the river. Our Transition year students are currently studying OS maps and Aerial photographs. As part of this study students will undertake a traffic management survey within Castleisland in the hope of identifying potential areas of traffic congestion. Following completion of the survey students will then identify reasons for this problem and draw up a potential solution to the issue.



Field study is now a compulsory aspect of the Leaving certificate curriculum. This year our sixth year group will travel to Killarney national park to undertake an investigation on the effects of river transportation and deposition. This is an excellent method of study as not only does it provide students with essential marks prior to the examination but students will learn first-hand of the effects of river transportation and deposition in the natural environment.

Our Geography department strongly advocate expanding student's geographical skill-set and knowledge outside of the classroom and into the natural environment where possible as it provides students with a first-hand experience of the specific topic of study and assists students in achieving their learning objectives. As the school year progresses into the spring and summer months we hope to maximise the potential of our local environment for the good of our students.

***Photographs: TY visiting Crag Cave and First years on the local river walk.***



# A Winning Team

*We are very grateful to Thomas O'Connor and his family of O'Connor Coaches Castleisland who have been tremendous supporters of our school teams over the last number of years by providing very generous sponsorship which enables us to make sure that all our teams look their best when representing the school on the playing fields and basketball courts around the country and it allows us to look after all the students that give so much to the school in terms of time, commitment and training. Thomas and his staff provide us with an excellent service ensuring that all staff and students are very well and safely looked after while travelling to various events during the school year.*



## Our First Years 2016/2017





# STUDENT COUNCIL 2016/2017



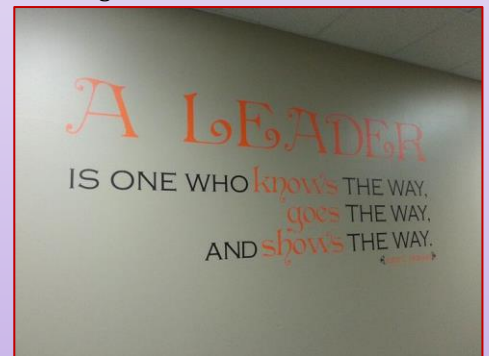
## Student Council Members 2016/2017.

**Chairman David O'Connor 5<sup>th</sup> yr., Secretary Moss O'Callaghan TY, Asst. Secretary Aaron Fleming 3<sup>rd</sup> yr., Aidan Ward 3<sup>rd</sup> yr., Paddy Flynn 6<sup>th</sup> yr., Art O'Mahony 6<sup>th</sup> yr., John Bell 2<sup>nd</sup> yr., Eoghan Kenny 2<sup>nd</sup> yr., Bryan Roche 1<sup>st</sup> yr., and Shane Óg McGaley 1<sup>st</sup> yr. Teacher Co-ordinator Mr. Owen Hayes.**

Our Students Council has been running for a number of years now and it has proven to be an extremely valuable resource to the school. At the start of the school year, it was put to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Ty, 5th and 6th years to select a student to represent their class on the council for 2016/17. The student's council plays a very important role in the school as it gives a voice to all students. The

members of the student council act as an official link between students and staff as we work in partnership with school management so as to ensure that all of the student body enquiries, opinions and suggestions are discussed thoroughly. It also promotes public speaking and as a result helps to build the confidence of students.

Throughout the year the council hopes to hold a number of key events in the school. For instance in the next few weeks we aim to have a first and second year quiz in order to raise money for Castleisland Day Care Centre. We are also examining the possibility of creating study guides for exam classes to help with learning strategies and time management which are of vital importance.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

WORK FOR A  
CAUSE, NOT  
FOR APPLAUSE.  
LIVE LIFE TO  
EXPRESS  
NOT TO IMPRESS.  
DON'T STRIVE  
TO MAKE YOUR  
PRESENCE  
NOTICED JUST  
MAKE YOUR  
ABSENCE FELT

As another school year starts to fly by with everyone busy about the school, our sixth year boys decided to take the approach of starting the year with a positive mind-set and taking some time out for reflection and bonding. They did this by taking an amazing trip in September to Skellig Michael, where they took time to reflect over their past five years in St. Patrick's, also gathering together their thoughts and plans for their hectic exam year ahead. In their Religion classes they had learnt a lot about Skellig Michael being a place of pilgrimage and had seen images of its beauty, but nothing compared to seeing it all in reality and enjoying the peace and tranquillity while on the Eco tour. The school year continued with all year groups in the school being involved in the beginning of school year mass, November Prayer Services and the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Students are currently busy creating their Jesse tree symbols, along with making their Advent promises. Mindful colouring and meditation has been introduced into Religion classes in St. Patrick's, which allows students to take time to reflect and relax. This is fantastic for their mental wellbeing and something that they really enjoy. Yet again this year, 5<sup>th</sup> year students are taking part in Ceilúradh na nÓg, this

year's group have chosen to focus on pilgrimage for their project and are already busy researching about the topic. The students are actively participating in this faith based programme of exploration, action, reflection and presentation. They hope in the New Year as part of their project work to pay a visit to a place of pilgrimage and they are eagerly looking forward to this. Therefore it

looks like the Religion department will continue to be a busy one for the coming year.



## L.C.V.P. .... Supporting our local community



The sixth year LCVP students' continue their work and the strong tradition in the school of supporting locally based charities and services by donating the proceeds of their annual 'all school' sports day to Glebe Lodge Castleisland and Castleisland Day Care Centre. The total amount donated this year was €1222.00. Glebe Lodge is a purpose built facility in Castleisland for persons with high dependency and eldercare needs, with respite care also available. Glebe Lodge is part of The Kerry Parents and Friends Association. Castleisland Day Care Centre supports the older person in the community providing a social outlet and providing activities and services that improves the lives of older people.

The sports day which is held at the start of the school year is fully organised and run by the sixth year students as part of their LCVP programme providing them with real life experiences and opportunities to develop their organisational

skills and have a sense of responsibility. It also creates an awareness of the work that is being done in their community in helping others and the need to support this work. The sports day provides an opportunity for the new first year class to integrate into the school and a chance for staff and students to enjoy a day outside the classroom. A huge thank you to the parents, students, staff and local community who help make this venture a huge success.

## Music in Our School



We are very fortunate to have wonderfully gifted musicians and singers among our student cohort and it is equally satisfying to be able to provide them with opportunities to use their talents at various times during the school year both at local community events and at school events such as our school mass and prayer services, talent shows and concerts.

Music is one of the most enjoyable human experiences and music is a very important part of our school's culture because it serves as a bridge to bring students from all year groups together to share and experience their common

interest. Music brings people together and there is a unique and positive connection between people that make music together and interact together through music which fits very well with the ethos and culture which we cultivate and promote in our school, a culture of togetherness, co-operation and enjoyment and unity. Music shapes culture and unites people from different generations and within generations.



**Photographs:** Above, Our music group entertaining the crowd at the Castleisland Christmas street party on December 2<sup>nd</sup> last. L to R: Shay Walsh, Yuga Yonekura, Jack Walsh, Art O, Mahony and Danny Browne.

Right: Shay Walsh, Art O' Mahony and Jack Walsh providing the entertainment and the Bank of Ireland enterprise town event on November 5<sup>th</sup> last.

Other student that perform at various school events are Oisin Crowley, Ciaran Crowley, Tadhg Broderick, Bryan Daly, Donncha Daly and Jack Daly.



# TRANSITION YEAR 2016/2017

**Tim Long.**

**Transition Year Coordinator.**



T.Y 2016-17 has been a very busy year so far. As always, we design a programme where students are given the opportunity to add to their academic studies but also experience a wide variety of other challenges. The year started with a very enjoyable teambuilding day in Cappanalea Outdoor Education centre and has continued apace ever since. Students have organised athletics events, learned how to surf, entered into competitions such as Formula 1 in schools, Student Enterprise, Young Social Innovators, Press Pass, Apprentice Chef and much more besides. All students have completed two weeks of work experience so far in various work placements throughout the county and beyond. This provides them with a valuable insight into the world of work and

informs their future career choices. Creating a sense of caring about your local community is a fundamental part of our T.Y. programme. So far this year, students have given freely outside of class time to help out with local events. Some examples include: Castleisland Business Expo, Castleisland Indoor Market to raise money for Kerry Parents and Friends, Killarney mini marathon. They also took part in an Intergenerational Dance course in association with Castleisland Day Care Centre. Gaisce, the President's award is a personal development programme to challenge and encourage young people to reach their full potential. All twenty eight Transition Year students are currently in the process of attempting to attain a bronze Gaisce award. For this, they must all learn and develop new personal skills, partake in more voluntary work, challenge themselves with physical recreation and also complete an adventure journey later in the year.

## **My TY Experience of 2015/2016.....by Paul Walsh**



TY is a year of maturing and experiencing new things. When I compare the Paul that walked in the door on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2015 to the Paul that walked out the door at the end of May 2016, I see a dramatic change; thankfully, it was a good change. I did a lot of growing up in TY and feel more than ready to tackle the next two years ahead. The year is jam-packed with amazing trips and activities for everyone to enjoy! From day one we were planning and packing for days away, whether it was a trip to Cappanalea, one I'm sure everyone enjoyed, to probably one of the best experiences I'll ever have, the great Gaisce walk! I created memories that I'll cherish forever, in the class, on a bus or even at break, there was always great fun to be had!

With all the fun and games, I still had time to build on my subjects, while also experiencing new subjects such as Chinese, Home Economics and Engineering. Now that I'm fifth year, I often notice that we covered a vast amount of topics that are new to the students coming straight into fifth

year. TY has given me a head-start that is already proving invaluable.

Mixed in with these subjects were great opportunities to experience a wide variety of projects to do, from F1 in schools to YSI, we were spoilt for choice. Our YSI project was extremely successful, as we made it all the way to the national finals in the City West Hotel with our project on 'Down Syndrome Awareness'. Projects such as these gave us all a great sense of responsibility, something that has and will be invaluable to us. Of course, we always had the continuous support of our teachers to guide us in these projects, and with all other aspects to TY.

For many of us, TY gave us a clearer understanding of what we want to do once we leave the education system, and work experience in TY gave all of us the opportunity to gain an insight into what these careers were like. Along with having a clearer vision for your future, there is also a benefit straight away, with many, like me, gaining a part time job as a result of our work placements. The most outstanding part about TY for me is the experiences I shared with my friends, both new and old. Mixing with the girl's school was a new and welcome change for us all, and we all hit it off extremely well. At the end of the year, we can all look back and say that we all shared an amazing experience together.

Overall, TY is a magnificent year and I believe anyone should jump at the chance to experience it for themselves. The benefits are endless, as is the fun! Having made it out the other side, I can safely say, that doing TY has been one of the greatest decisions I have ever made!

## **Our Trip to Crag Cave .....by Cathal O'Donoghue**



On Friday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of October, we went on a Geography trip to Crag Caves. We reached Crag Cave at 1:20 pm, where we were greeted by our guide for the day, Ben. First he brought us into a room, where he gave us a power point presentation on caves, the different examples of local caves and also information about the caves. After an hour of learning about the caves, we made our way in to the special landmark. He went through all the history of each part of the caves and how they were formed the way they are today. After walking all the way through the cave, we had to walk all the 3.8 kilometres of the surveyed passage back. At 3:00 pm, we were finished, and after thanking Ben and our teachers, we made our way back to school.



## ***Volunteering at Castleisland's Indoor Market.....by Mary Healy***



The Indoor Market is an annual event that takes place in Castleisland Community Centre around October, this year was no different. The whole community donated a tremendous amount of books, glassware, electronics, gift sets, bags, ornaments, food and other items that were in need of a new home. On Thursday night our whole TY class met at the centre at 7 and began setting up for the following busy night. We set up tables, brought in boxes and divided all the goods into different sections – cosmetics, valuable goods, gifts, books, soft toys, toys, DVDs and other smaller stalls. There were two food stalls with delicious cakes, scones, buns and cookies. I stood at the teas and coffees stand for the night attending to all the children, adults and workers who volunteered there. Throughout the night there were also raffles and live auctions. All proceeds made on the night went to the Kerry Parents and Friends Association, which helps fund Glebe Lodge. The crowds flooded in from eight o'clock and the auctioneer continued until about 10 o'clock when everything was sold. Our cookies, brownies and buns all sold out before the night was over and we were taken aback by the generosity of all the people who bought food. It was really pleasing to see the selflessness of the entire community that night from both young and old, we raised a huge amount for the charity and we were all more than happy to donate our time.

## ***Water Activities in Castlegregory.....by Heather Jones***



On Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of September, we went surfing in Castlegregory. When we arrived we walked up a small sandy path and onto the beach where the Jamie Knox surfing school cabin was. We were instructed to put our bags in the cabin and then walk back out to our instructors to be fitted for wetsuits. When we finally squeezed ourselves (with much difficulty) into the wetsuits, we got out of the cabin and got fitted for our surfing shoes. All of us found our wetsuits and shoes very tight but they certainly did their job at keeping us warm in the water.

The pink group got to go on the water trampoline first while the white group got to go on the paddle boats, so we were told to swim from the shore out to the trampoline that was out around 30m into the water. Once we had struggled out to the water trampoline, with all the strength we could gather we climbed the ladder

to get on top of the trampoline. There were 7 of us on it at a time and it was very slippery. There was a slide off the side and we could flip off the trampoline as much as we wanted. It was so much fun and we were allowed on it for 45 minutes, but to be honest in that 45 minutes we all had swallowed enough saltwater to last us a lifetime!

Then it was now our turn to go on the paddle boats, but as it was a very wet and windy day we couldn't control the boat so we ended up getting tied to a water buoy! We were all very hungry after the morning's activities so we were very thankful for when lunch came around. We all gobbled our food and had a lovely conversation about our morning. After lunch we headed across a field to the other side of the beach for our surfing lesson. It was very windy and wet and the waves were big so it was a little bit intimidating for a first time surfer like me! We all lined up on the beach with our surfboards on the ground and the instructor came over and told us how we should attempt to surf. We had to lie down flat on the board and let our feet hang out the bottom. When a wave came we had to start paddling and eventually when we are moving on the water we were told to stand up with our feet horizontal, knees bent and in a wide stance. This was a lot to take in in one go but we got onto the water as soon as possible. The waves were huge and the wind was wild but we all enjoyed surfing (or more our attempts at surfing) so much. It was a new experience for many of us and I for one really enjoyed it.

At the end of the day, we were all shivering cold and our hair was all saltwater but we all enjoyed our day. To top it all off the bus even stopped in a shop on the way home, and it had a hot drinks machine! It was a really enjoyable day and a great opportunity to try something new.



***Enjoying our time at the Castleisland Day Care Centre and showing off our Art Skills.***



# Come the Day, Come the Hour.....by Jack Daly



I started playing rugby at the age of 14 with Castleisland Rugby Club and with our school. I then got the opportunity to play on the U15 West Munster team from which I got great training and experience. I continued to train and play with my club and school and was delighted to get a call for the Munster under 18 squad in 2015 and really enjoyed playing against the other provinces beating Ulster and Connacht.

Last Easter I was very fortunate and delighted to be selected for the Irish U18 Tri-nations squad. We would play against France and England over the two weeks. We stayed in King's Hospital for the duration of the camp. We had two preparation days before playing France in Ashbourne Rugby Club but unfortunately lost to a physically bigger French team. The final score was 24-11.

After a week of preparation, including pitch, gym and analysis sessions we played England counties on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April. It was a close game and in the last play of the game we trailed 16-17. We snatched victory in the last moments of the game due to a mistake by the English scrum half who

knocked the ball behind their own try line and our blindside flanker jumped on the ball to claim the try. The final score was 21-17, an unforgettable win, especially against England. This was a wonderful experience for me and one I will never forget.

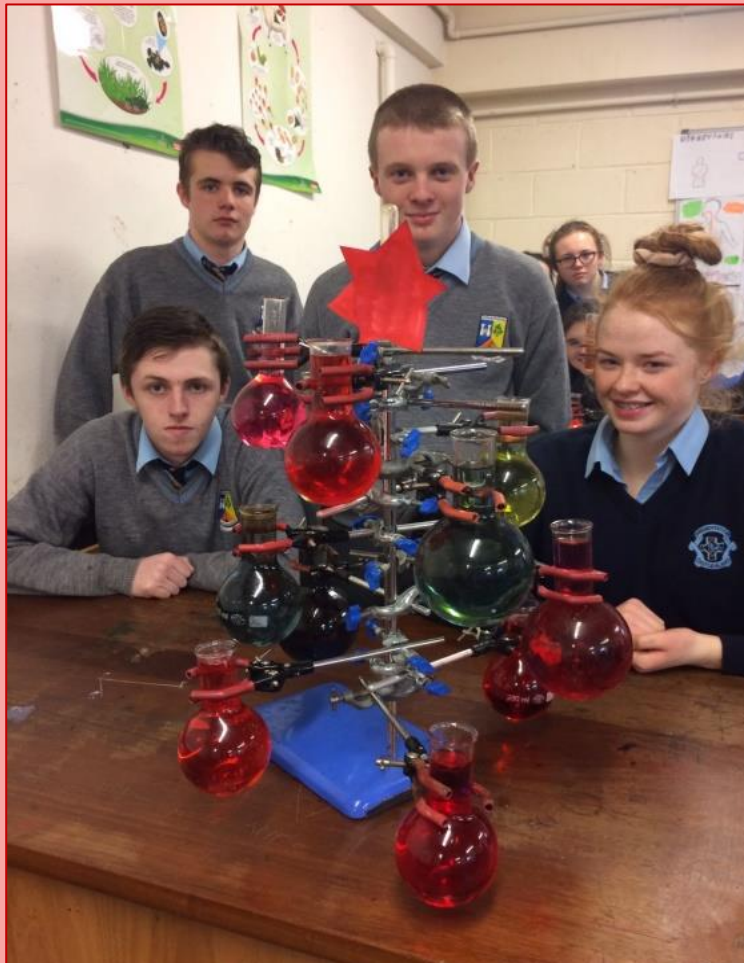
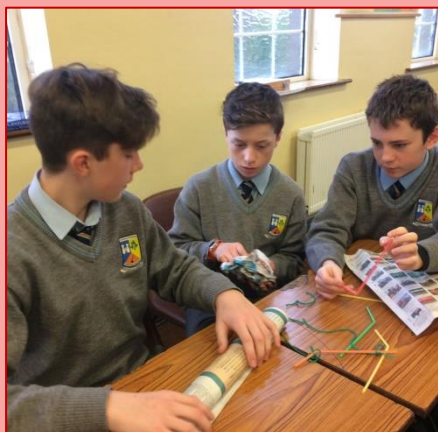
I am currently training with the Munster squad hoping to make the U20's team next season. With this in mind I will be involved in a training camp next summer and currently have an ongoing personal training program which I do every week at An Ríocht Health and Leisure club under the supervision of Fergal O'Callaghan the Munster Strength and conditioning coach. In terms of the Irish scene I will be hoping for trials for the Irish U19 team next year. I must thank my family, my club and my school for continuing to support me and making it all possible.



## Science Week 2016



*Above; 2<sup>nd</sup> years enjoying a poster competition, Right, TY's creating a 'Chemisty Tree' and First years preparing for the 'Egg Drop' Challenge.*





# A Snap Shot of School Life



***Our senior rugby team that won the inaugural Donal Walsh memorial competition in April. Our student council attending the schools celebration of the 1916 rising in Croke Park.***



***Kerry Footballer Darren O'Sullivan with Tadhg Broderick 2<sup>nd</sup> year and with our second year class that took part in the Sky Sports for living programme during which Darren O' Sullivan was their Mentor.***



***The awarding of the Amber Flag last May for the work being done in the school for the promotion of positive Mental Health and as part of our Positive Mental Health campaign over 40 students took part in the Darkness into Light walk.***

***Coming soon..... Thursday January 26<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 7:30pm  
St. Patrick's Secondary School & Presentation Secondary School  
Presents***

***Our Annual Talent Show***

***ALL WELCOME***

***Free Admission for all Primary school pupils.***







**6<sup>th</sup> yrs. with Liam Sheedy the Tipperary All Ireland winning Manager following a motivational talk to the students. Sixth Years at a live production of 'An Triail' at the Belltable Arts Centre Limerick as part of their Leaving Cert Irish course**



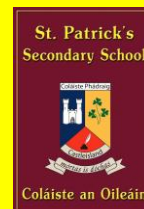
**Our U5 Munster and County football team and on the right our U15 South Munster rugby winners receiving their medals from Doug Howlett.**



**Award winners at the 2016 Graduation: From left, Student of the year Shane McGaley, Principal's Award Art O'Mahony, The Jim Lyons Award Ciaran Lane, and student of the year award winners from 1<sup>st</sup> year to 5<sup>th</sup> year.**



**Above; raising the Tri Colour on Proclamation Day 2016  
Right; Second year students with members of the Gardaí Drug Squad following a very informative talk.  
L to R. Nathan O'Callaghan, Sean O'Connor, David Enright, Tony Horgan & Gardaí Michael Dowling and Mick Dalton.**



**Enrolment for  
September  
2017 & 2018  
is now open.**

**Contact the school  
for further details.  
066 7141963**