

# LORETO ABBEY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2009



*Our Lady of Loreto*

## From the Principal:



As the term draws to a close, this publication provides you with an insight into life in Loreto Abbey since January. We marked the immense contribution of the Loreto Sisters to education since 1609 by gathering with all the schools in the network for Mass in Mullingar Cathedral on January 24th. In March, representatives from Dalkey attended a Conference on Mental Health in the Gresham Hotel and the Student Council members shared the insights gained during assemblies recently. Both events expressed the interconnectedness of all involved in the mission of education in Loreto schools, allowed students mingle socially, share ideas and celebrate our characteristic spirit.

Central to this spirit is the desire that students develop holistically and participate actively in school life. As you read through the various reports, you will see that such a tenet is lived out in reality in Loreto Abbey. I congratulate the many students who give so much of their time, energy and enthusiasm to make our school such a vibrant place to be. My thanks to the staff who allowed students mingle socially, share ideas and celebrate our characteristic spirit.

Mrs O'Neill and I take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and peaceful Easter.

Robert Dunne,  
Principal.



## Transition Year 2009 Paris Tour

Maybe it was the build up over the previous five and a half months or the idea of one hundred of us Dalkey girls flying off to Paris, but there truly was no way to prepare us for a trip such as this. The mayhem began when the slightly large group of us arrived at our school in Dalkey at 3am on February 11th. After we were counted about three thousand times we found ourselves at Dublin airport where the Ryanair girls prayed their bags weren't overweight and after everybody had a few large cups of coffee, we were soon on our way.

Each day we had a packed schedule that allowed us to get everything out of this trip that we could have asked for. The teachers morning phone call was our "personal alarm clock" but I don't think we had much of a problem heading down stairs to croissants and hot chocolate every morning. Most of us surprised ourselves by how much we enjoyed both the Musee d'Orsay and The Louvre, the quiz in the hotel and Montmartre but it was the day in Disneyland that was the icing on the cake.

Finally I think everyone of us went home with a new opinion of each of the teachers. Our adopted "mums" and "dad" (Mr. Dunne) made the trip that bit more memorable and we can only hope that we had the same effect on them... Overall our Transition Year trip to Paris reached the highest of expectations and beyond. Whether it was sight-seeing or shopping or eating, we couldn't have asked for more and because of that, we will never forget it.



Katherine Daly with President McAleese following her return from the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Boise Idaho. Katherine won a Bronze medal and two 4th Places for skiing."

# GUIDANCE & COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT

Transition Year students have returned to school having spent two weeks on work experience. We value the co-operation of parents in placing our students. The students benefited enormously from this experience of the adult working world and learned many new skills.

Members of the Science Faculty from UCD introduced Transition Year students to the value of studying Science subjects for the Leaving Certificate. An added bonus was a very interesting lecture on Astronomy.

In order to assist students make informed subject choices a booklet was produced by the staff giving details of courses for the Leaving Certificate. A copy of this booklet was given to each Transition Year student.

Twenty students attended a clinical one-day seminar in St. Vincent's Hospital and were introduced to medical and paramedical careers. We thank St. Vincent's Hospital for facilitating this worthwhile workshop. Some senior students attended week-long courses in UCD and TCD in the following areas - introduction to Engineering, Physics and Science. Other students attended Mini - Med school in the RCSI and introduction to hospital life in Our Lady's Hospital, Crumlin.

Presentations continued for 5th & 6th Year students on areas such as Healthy Eating, Further Education courses, Law, Hotel Management and a range of third-level courses.

A newsletter from the Guidance & Counselling Department is produced regularly and is given to each senior student. If you have not seen this publication please consult our website [www.loretoabbeydalkey.com](http://www.loretoabbeydalkey.com)



*Hannah Kenny Boyd & Keelin Timoney at Experience Engineering in UCD*

## CHAPLAINCY

What does chaplaincy involve? This is a question I'm very often asked and the answers are many and varied. However, there are two things I can say about chaplaincy – it's about people and it's about ethos.

I took on the role of School Chaplain in September 2008 feeling a mixture of enthusiasm and uncertainty. The role has evolved as the year has progressed so here are a few general reflections.

It was a privilege to play a part in the opening of our new school oratory – Suaimhneas. After choosing carpets, colours and cushions the official blessing of Suaimhneas in October was a special day for our school community. Suaimhneas provides a quiet space where students can pray, reflect or just “chill out” either with their class group or alone, something which is badly needed in our frantic, driven world.

Our annual retreats in Glendasan are important events in our school calendar. It was great to be part of the group as students cooked for each other, cleaned the kitchen, listened to each other with respect and prayed quietly for God's blessing on their lives. The holy air of Glendalough certainly had an effect! These retreats bring out the best in the girls, helping students to bond and adding to a sense of belonging to the school community in general. This year we are hoping to introduce a reflective evening for third year students ( a Twilight Retreat), to give them a chance to step back from exam pressure, to enjoy some time with their friends and to think and pray about things that are important to them.

Being part of the Student Support Team is also an important aspect of my job as Chaplain. Loreto Abbey Dalkey acknowledges that our school is a community and that students (and parents) need to be supported on the journey of life. The Student Support Team tries to find ways of supporting students who are in difficulty, making sure that no student “falls through the net”.

The Loreto 400 celebrations provided many opportunities and initiatives. I am happy to be part of the Ireland-Kenya Link Project where students and teachers from Ireland will visit our sister school in Nairobi and learn about life and culture there. A day on Teenage Mental Health, hosted by the Loreto Order, provided many interesting insights into the challenges faced by our young people. Meeting with the Melbourne choir gave an insight into Loreto abroad and I also experienced the generosity of parents who hosted the girls for four days.

Ethos is a very important element of life in Loreto Abbey Dalkey and I enjoy working closely with my colleagues in the Religion Department around the celebration of the liturgical seasons and special events in the life of the school. I am very fortunate to have the full support of Mr. Dunne, Mrs. O'Neill and the staff in general. I feel privileged to be Chaplain in a school where, for the most part, students are happy, parents are supportive and staff is committed to helping students on the rocky road that is adolescent life.

*Monica Delaney*

# CELEBRATING 400 YEARS OF LORETO

What a year! Belonging and Identity can be very vague concepts at times but when linked to celebrating 400 years of something tangible these concepts become very real and emotive. All the various activities – the workshops, the making of the quilt, the visit of the Australian choir all culminated in the big Loreto celebration on 24th January in Mullingar Cathedral.

The day was to be a day of pilgrimage as well as a day of celebration so, in true Loreto fashion, students and teachers set off by coach from Loreto Abbey Dalkey at 9.30 a.m. Our pilgrimage stop was Maynooth College which looked resplendent on this beautiful spring morning. The students were awe-struck as they admired the magnificent buildings and spire while the frost glistened on the grass and snowdrops peeped their heads. We visited the Chapel where the students were given a short history of the college and a chance to admire the beautiful architecture.



Our next stop was the Mullingar Park Hotel where students and teachers enjoyed a delicious lunch which befitted such a special occasion. The manager commented on the good manners and behaviour of our students saying they were one of the best behaved groups that had ever visited the hotel.



As we approached the Cathedral in Mullingar, it was a moving sight to see coaches arriving from the four corners of Ireland for this special liturgy. Inside the Cathedral, uniforms of every style and colour could be seen as students took their places in the choir and practised for the various processions. Many students, many different accents but one thing in common – the Loreto Crest!

For the following two hours we participated in a beautiful concelebrated liturgy, Cardinal Sean Brady being the chief celebrant. The Cardinal acknowledged the wonderful contribution Loreto has made to education in Ireland and to the empowerment of women. Fr. Liam Lawton had composed a special Mass for the occasion and the Loreto Choir certainly did justice to the beautiful musical arrangements. The congregation participated wholeheartedly in the liturgy and one could hear a pin drop when two students from our newest Loreto School in Rumbek, Sudan, came to the microphone to say a few words. Present also was the choir from Loreto Mandeville Hall, Melbourne. These students and their teachers had travelled half way across the world to be with us for this great occasion and their presence added a great international flavour to the day. There was a sense of belonging to the wider Loreto family and of being part of a good and honourable tradition.

Certainly January 24th was a day on which to look back – to celebrate 400 years of service, education and community building inspired by the prophetic woman, Mary Ward. But it was also a day to celebrate enduring values, values that are old and true, that are part of our Loreto identity and that will live on forever. As teachers and parents we could not but be proud of the wonderful young women who surrounded us – young women who are our hope for the future, young women who, with their youthful enthusiasm, will continue to foster the values of Mary Ward – Love, Joy, Faith and Loyalty in the Ireland of tomorrow and long after we are gone.

*Monica Delaney*

# DEBATING

The successes in Debating have continued with the students excelling in their debating skills yet again. Round two of the Soroptimist Public Speaking Competition took place in the Mansion House in Dublin. Ruth Keating braved the snowy conditions to compete in The Regional Final of this competition. Her efforts were well rewarded when after a tough competition she was announced as the overall winner and went forward to The National Final. This final took place in The Shamrock Lodge Hotel in Athlone. Friends, family and even members of The Soroptimist Club in Bray ventured out to offer their support.

Ruth put on a fantastic performance when she took to the floor and she had the audience in awe as she delivered both her prepared and her impromptu speech. Unfortunately she was narrowly defeated on the day. Ruth also competed in the quarter finals of the very prestigious Denny Leinster Schools' Debating Competition. This competition takes the format of Parliamentary style debating and we think a place has been reserved for Ruth in Dáil Éireann after she took to the floor in style delivering her speech and throwing questions at her opponents. Ruth's excellent performance ensured that she progressed into the semi-finals in U.C.D. Ruth, unfortunately, was narrowly defeated in this round but we are, nonetheless, very proud of her achievements.

Catie Riordan, Cara Ellard, Sorcha Dillane and Bebhinn Costello took part in Round 2 of The Forum on Europe Public Speaking Competition. The girls discussed all things European but were defeated by a narrow margin on the night. Eoin Ryan, M.E.P., visited the school and spoke to all the Transition Years as a result of their participation in this competition. This proved to be a very interesting talk and the girls posed some very challenging questions on the day. The second years participated in the Junior Loreto Debates and although they were defeated Dearbhla Fay was awarded best speaker on the day. Well done, Dearbhla!!

Yet again, Dalkey's successes continued with the Transition Years progressing through the League phase into Round 4 and into Round 5 in The Concern Debating Competition. The girls discussed issues relating to the developing world and gave excellent performances in each of the rounds.

They were narrowly defeated by a majority verdict in Round 5 but their determination in highlighting the plight of the Third World lives on!!

Kate Purcell, Ruth Keating, Rebecca Keating and Emily Jones have submitted entries for the legal debates in Griffith College and we wish them luck in this competition.

# Basketball



## Senior A:

Lost to Cluny in extra time after a fantastic 10 point comeback in the final quarter of the SDL Final. Beat St. Stephen's Green 42-38 in Loreto Final after trailing by as many as 13 points in the 3rd quarter. Ann Donnelly (14 points) selected as game's Most Valuable Player.

With recent wins over Foxrock, St. Stephen's Green and Cluny, the team is lying in first place in both the Loreto League and SDL League.

## Senior B:

Defeated Loreto Beaufort 39-30 in the Loreto Final. Aideen Colclough is chosen as the game's Most Valuable Player.

## Senior C:

Defeated Loreto Beaufort 45-4 in the Loreto Final. Team dominates from the start of the game as whole team contributes to the win.

## Cadette A:

Defeated Cluny 44-22 in South Dublin League Final. Alva Crowley in 2nd Year is selected the Most Valuable Player in the Final.

Cadette A completed the double, beating Loreto Beaufort 48-44 in the Loreto Final. Captain Niamh Kelly leads all scorers with 17 points.

## Cadette B:

Lost 38-37 in Loreto Final to Loreto Beaufort. In what proved to be a fantastic final, the Cadette Bs lost when Beaufort scored a basket with 10 seconds left.

## Cadette C:

Rebecca Caulfield and Maria Murphy led the comeback as Dalkey won the Loreto Final 21-17 having trailed throughout the game. Dalkey took the lead for the first time with just 3 minutes remaining.

## Junior A:

Defeated Loreto Beaufort in Leinster Semi-Final by a score of 49-32. Having trailed by as many as 11 points in the first half and 20-16 at the break, the team then controlled the second half led by Aoife Cawley's 17 points.

## Junior B:

Playing Loreto Balbriggan in Loreto Semi-Final next week.

## Minor A:

Qualify for Leinster Semi-Final with 56-12 win over Loreto Swords led by Aoife Whelan's 18 points.

## Minor B:

Playing St. Stephen's Green in Loreto Semi-Final this coming week.

# Sports News

The cold winter spell seems to finally be breaking and the summer sports are just around the corner. Hockey is steadily coming to an end. With just one more competition left Loreto silverware is still within our grasp. The senior As and the Minor As were in the semi finals of the Leinster Plate competition - both teams losing by just one goal. The Junior As got to the quarter finals of the plate competition and were beaten by penalty flicks in the end.

The Senior 22 students have just come back from a tremendous hockey trip to Barcelona. They were fortunate to be coached by some of the professional hockey players in Spain. A great trip was had by all.



Cross country running this year is going tremendously well. With upcoming talent like Katie Caraher and sustaining talent such as Niamh Kearney, Ciara McKenna, Ellie Hartnett, Aisling Mc Gee and Fiona McKenna, the sport is looking its best ever for Loreto Dalkey. We qualified for the All Ireland Cross Country competition up in Belfast and from this Fiona McKenna has made the National cross country team and will compete in Scotland at the end of the month.

Congratulations to Niamh Kearney who is on the National Soccer team, Kate Lloyd who is on the National hockey team and Orla Patton who is on the National hockey development squad.

Summer sports are now beginning. Loreto Dalkey is entering its first sailing team captained by Holly Stockwell Quinn. We have our first Golf team also due to the keen interest of Ruth Dillon. We are also embarking on mountain running this year.

The 4th and 5th years are preparing for the annual hockey camp organised during the 1st week of Easter. Best of luck to all involved.

Sports on offer during the summer term include Ultimate Frisbee, Tag Rugby, Athletics, Cricket, Tennis and training for the Women's Mini Marathon. We encourage all to participate.

# MY TRIP TO CUBA



On 11th January 2009 I went to Havana, Cuba, to go to school and stay with my uncle. When I arrived the first thing I noticed was the heat. I then noticed how different it was in comparison to Ireland or even any other country I had ever been to. This is partly why I liked it so much because it was such a change.

I stayed with my uncle who is Irish and his wife who is Cuban in an apartment which was right in the middle of Havana. I went to the International School in Havana. This was a really good experience because I was in a class where everyone was a different nationality. It was really interesting hearing about the different countries that my friends had lived in. This was because their parents were diplomats and had lived all over the world. I also got a chance to help with some children from the local hospital who were very sick by helping to run painting days on the weekends with a few friends from school. That was really worthwhile and I was glad to have taken part. It was really handy that it was an English speaking school but I still picked up a fair bit of Spanish from some of my Cuban friends. I was there for a month in total and I tried to make the most of it.

I have learned a lot about the Cuban culture. I learned how although the people have very little in comparison to us here in Ireland they still have enough to get by and live happily. It was obvious that they were generally very laid back, friendly and happy people. They all help each other out as much as possible because they are all in the same boat and they are all equal which was my favourite thing about the country. There were no extremes of poverty or wealth. This was a result of the revolution which happened in 1959. Because it was the 50th anniversary this year and the Cubans are so proud of this there were big celebrations all around Cuba.

Over the month I met a lot of really interesting people. I made a lot of friends from Cuba and from all over the world. At times I got a bit homesick because I was so far away but it was wonderful to see a whole different culture. It was a really amazing experience in general and I learned a lot from it. I definitely hope to go back and visit Cuba in the future.

*Anna Hickey – 4th Year*

# Justice and Peace

Our school Justice and Peace Group continues to work hard to raise awareness in relation to justice issues in our world today. Here are some of their reflections:

As part of Justice and Peace Week, a group of us decided to focus on the issue of homelessness in Ireland. We made a replica of a homeless person and displayed posters around the school to raise awareness about the many homeless families in Dublin.



There are 5,581 homeless people in Ireland – 2,105 of whom are in Dublin. When we think of the homeless we think of just a few unfortunate people but in reality it is many more than that. There are 463 children homeless in Dublin. We felt that as part of our school's Justice and Peace Week to highlight the issue so close to home was extremely important. Everyone in the group worked really well together and we all feel that we have achieved our goal of raising awareness in our school of the homeless.

*Sophia Casey – 5th Year*

Many different things contributed to our choosing to highlight the issue of violence against women. Karla, a member of the JPIC Group, said her aunt was involved in women's charities and this sparked an interest among the group. At the time an advert was on a billboard in Dalkey concerning domestic abuse and so the issue was topical and relevant.

During the week we covered the school in posters featuring Mr. Men characters, "The Real Desperate Housewives" and facts and figures concerning violence against women. We also had an information desk outside the Sports Office where we answered questions and gave out leaflets.

*Laura O'Doherty – 5th Year*

On Thursday 19th March we went to see "Slumdog Millionaire" in the IMC in Dun Laoghaire. We had heard many reports about the film and thought that the subject matter would give us food for thought. We wanted to learn more about the Indian culture and their way of life. We thought that we could gain a lot of information from this film. We felt that it would be interesting to look into and gain more knowledge on a subject that is very topical. The film was very moving and thought provoking. The dreadful hardship and terrible poverty that was evident in the film made an interesting parallel with the current economic crisis. We are concerned about a possible drop in our standard of living but the families in these slums in Mumbai don't have a standard of living to begin with. Their sole priority is survival. This puts our concerns into perspective.

We take too much for granted and need to stop and think about those who don't have anything and struggle to survive from one day to the next. We all agreed that we wanted to learn more on this topic so we are arranging for a speaker to come in and talk to us about the slums in India. We want to see what we can do in the coming weeks to raise awareness on this issue.

*Aoife Lynch – 5th Year*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO

Oisine Hemeryck (née Hannan)  
Class of 1982 on her appointment as  
President of Loreto Past Pupils' Union

## School Concert

on Thursday April 23rd  
at 7.45 p.m.  
in School Concert Hall  
Tickets available shortly



## GREEN SCHOOLS

The Green Schools' Committee has been meeting regularly. An extensive survey was carried out among the students and teachers. The main finding of this survey was that bins and recycling bins were a big issue and the availability and misuse of bins were a major concern. The Committee will be conducting a review of cost to the school to dispose of the school's refuse with a view to reducing these costs. After the Easter break the Committee will be holding an awareness week. The purpose of this week will be to make staff and students more aware of the work of the Committee and make people more aware of the amount of rubbish we create and how we dispose of it. We would appreciate everyone's help with our efforts to gain the Green Flag for Loreto Abbey Dalkey.

**BE GREEN – KEEP IT CLEAN!**

*Pamela Jordan – Green Schools' Co-ordinator*



Students designed posters to encourage the school community to look after the school environment.

## Parents' Association

The Parents' Association meets monthly and is actively involved in the life of the school. This year the members were consulted on the formulation of the policy on School Tours and on the review of the Substance Use policy. The Constitution of the Association is currently being evaluated.

Representatives of the Association attended the Loreto Mental Health Conference recently. The Association organised a very informative evening on Parenting Teenagers and the speaker at the AGM in October on a similar topic was very well received by the large number of parents in attendance. The representatives of each year are listed on the website and may be contacted c/o the office.

## Student Council

The Student Council is a representative structure through which the students can become involved in the day to day running of the school, working in partnership with school management, staff and parents for the benefit of the school community. Our Council has 29 members and has met five times to date. We conducted a survey on the food service and had an input into the formulation of the anti-bullying charter. Our representatives attended a seminar on Student Councils in Loreto schools in November and met with our peers from other councils. We supported the "Song-a-long" for Mental Health Day and organised the "Dalkey's Got Talent" show at Christmas. The Council is supportive of the "Green Schools" Project and has encouraged students to be involved on the Committee. Three students were appointed to the Substance Use policy review group and two students are participating in a group to audit the Code of Behaviour. Four representatives attended the Loreto Mental Health Conference on Saturday 21st March and heard inputs from President McAleese, Dr. Tony Bates and a range of others in the area of teenage mental health. Those who attended will present a report to assemblies at Easter. The Council is currently working on organising a school Sports Day/Fun Day in May and we hope that students will participate.

*Emma Tarbett – 5th Year*



Student Welfare Notice Board has names and phone numbers of agencies which support people in difficulty

## Dates For Your Diary

April 23rd:	School Concert at 7.45 p.m.
April 24th:	Open afternoon for incoming 1st Years 2011 beginning at 13.10
May 7th:	Staff Meeting – Classes begin at 10.15
May 8th – 10th:	Gaisce Adventure weekend for 4th Years
May 11th:	6th Year Celebration of Achievements at 7.45 p.m.
May 15th:	School Sports Day
May 19th:	6th Year Graduation Mass at 7.45 p.m.
May 25th:	TY Graduation at 7.45 p.m.

## PROVISIONAL CALENDAR 2009/2010

<b>Wed. 26th August:</b>	Staff Meeting
<b>Thur. 27th August:</b>	08.55-10.55 5th Years 11.10-12.30 6th Years 13.10-15.50 1st Years
<b>Fri. 28th August:</b>	08.55-13.10 1st Years 08.55-15.10 4th Years 08.55-10.55 3rd Years 13.10-15.10 2nd Years
<b>Mon. 31st August:</b>	Staff Seminar
<b>Tues. 1st September:</b>	Class resumes for all years
<b>Mon. 5th October:</b>	Staff meeting – 14.30-15.50
<b>Thurs. 15th October:</b>	6th Year Parent Teacher meeting 16.15-18.45
<b>Mon. 26th October</b> <b>– Fri. 30th October:</b>	Mid-term break
<b>Wed. 4th November – Wed. 11th November:</b>	Exams for 3rd, 5th and 6th Years
<b>Tues. 17th November:</b>	3rd Year Parent Teacher meeting 16.15-18.45
<b>Thurs. 26th November:</b>	Staff meeting – 08.55-10.15
<b>Mon. 7th December</b> <b>&amp; Tues. 8th December:</b>	Free days
<b>Wed. 16th December:</b>	5th Year Parent Teacher meeting 13.10-15.10
<b>Wed. 23rd December – Wed. 6th January 2010:</b>	Christmas Holidays
<b>Fri. 15th January:</b>	2nd Year Parent Teacher meeting 13.10-15.10
<b>Tues. 26th January:</b>	1st Year Parent Teacher meeting 16.15-18.45
<b>Mon. 8th February:</b>	Staff meeting 13.50-15.10
<b>Mon. 15th February – Friday 19th February:</b>	Mid-term break
<b>Thurs. 25th February:</b>	TY Parent Teacher meeting 13.50-15.50
<b>Wed. 17th March:</b>	Public Holiday
<b>Wed. 24th March:</b>	Staff meeting 08.15-09.35
<b>Mon. 29th March – Sun. 11th April:</b>	Easter Holidays
<b>Fri. 30th April:</b>	Free Day
<b>Mon. 3rd May:</b>	Public Holiday
<b>Wed. 5th May:</b>	Staff meeting 14.30-15.50
<b>Fri. 4th June:</b>	End of School Year
<b>Wed. 9th June:</b>	State Examinations begin

## ROLL OF HONOUR

### Congratulations to the following:

**Sorcha Dillane, Roisin Donohoe, Cara Ellard & Catie Riordan** – excellence performance in Round 5 of the Concern Debate.

**Mary Kelly, Sarah Grace, Ciara Hackett & Caoimhe McDonnell** – superb performances in the Irish Debate Finals.

**Ruth Keating** – on reaching the National Finals of the Soroptimists' International Public Speaking Competition.

**Aideen Colclough** – on her Most Valuable Player Award in the Senior B Final of the Loreto Basketball League.

**Cadette C, Senior B & Senior C Basketball teams** – on their victories in the Loreto Basketball Leagues and to the **Cadette B** team on their performance in the Final.

**Niamh Kearney** – selected to play soccer with the Irish Women's Under 17 team in Portugal.

**Ruth Keating** – on winning the Regional Final of the Soroptimists' Debates.

**Roisin Donohoe** – on the publication of her article in "The Irish Times".

**Cadette A Basketball Team** – winners of the South Dublin League and **Alva Crowley** awarded the Most Valuable Player.

**Sarah Dunne** – who was awarded First Prize and **Gabriela Duffy Morales** who was awarded Second Prize in the Access Science Poster Competition.

**To all our representatives at the Loreto 400 Celebrations in Mullingar in January.**

**Rhona Boyle, Sophia Casey, Susie Clarke & Sinead Cunningham** – on their success in their German debate against Wesley College – now through to the quarter finals of the German National Debating Competition.

**Katie Caraher and the Minor Cross-Country Team** – 2nd in DCU Invitational Race.

**Ruth Keating** – 1st Place in Round 2 of the Denny Leinster Schools' Debates – now through to quarter finals.

**Gabriella Dowling Kastriti & Sally O'Sullivan** – highly commended in the BT Young Scientist Exhibition.

**Rebecca Keating, Ruth Keating & Aoife McGowan** – 2nd place in the Social & Behavioural Science Category of the BT Young Scientist Exhibition.

**Orla Patton & Kate Lloyd** – Leinster Hockey caps

**Erica Coburn, Aoife Lyons & Shannon O'Rourke** – for winning the Intermediate Section of the School Final of the YES Awards.

**Laura Kirwan** – for winning the Junior Section of the School Final of the YES Awards

**Clíodhna Ní Mheadhra** – for being Runner-Up in the Junior Section of the School Final of the YES Awards

**All participants and organisers of the Talent Show** – €4331 was raised for Loreto Secondary School in Rumbek, Sudan.