



MOATE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Newslink

CHRISTMAS 2014

MCS CHOIR WINS ALL-ISLAND SCHOOL CHOIR COMPETITION



Jubliant secens as MCS choir celebrate their victory



John O'Dowd, Anne Cassin, Lorna Duignan, Jan O'Sullivan and the winning choir

MCS are basking in the glory of winning the All Island School Choir Competition 2014, including winning a monetary prize of €4,000. This achievement was given extra significance by the fact the Moate was the first community school to reach the finals of this competition now in its sixth year.

The grand final of the Competition saw four schools compete in front of an invited audience at the Titanic Centre in Belfast. This audience included the Minister of Education for Northern Ireland Mr John O'Dowd, and Minister of Education and Skills in the Republic of Ireland Ms Jan O'Sullivan TD who presented the trophy.

Organised by Co-Operation Ireland, in association

with RTE, the All Ireland School Choir Competition presented by Anne Cassin, forms a five-part television series celebrating and encouraging the tradition of choral music in second level schools throughout Ireland. The competition saw entries from schools all over Ireland with 20 schools chosen to perform at regional finals. Four choirs made it through to the final in Belfast: Moate Community School, Sullivan Upper School, Hollywood Co. Down, Wesley College, Dublin and Regina Mundi College, Douglas Cork.

The members of the choir were crowned champions after a flawless performance of a Russian hymn and a dramatic reworking of the gospel blues song "John the Revelator". Adjudicator Mark Duley announced

the winning choir on the night summing up MCS's performance by saying "We have come to a decision, for a performance that really energised the room – it was absolutely gripping and I think we felt that right to the back of this hall- the first prize goes to Moate Community School"

Sincere congratulations to all 38 members of the school choir, Ms Lorna Duignan the choir director said of them "The students have worked tirelessly and it is their talent, commitment and enthusiasm that make it so enjoyable and worthwhile. We are very proud of them." Congratulations also to Ms Lorna Duignan choir director, Giselle Foley, Annemarie Farrell and Ciaran Brady who all worked tirelessly and with great enthusiasm with this choir.

From the Principal...

On behalf of the staff and myself, I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year. It has been another very busy term and I hope that this particular edition continues to give you some impression of the wide variety of activities in which we are involved and the opportunity available to every student.

In November, we succeeded in making history by becoming the first Community School to reach and win the All Island School Choir competition which is a fantastic achievement. Our entire school community can be justifiably proud of the talent and dedication of these students and staff, we salute you one and all.

As we approach the end of another great year for our school, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the progress and development of each student in our care. I look forward to meeting you in the New Year and to continue working with you to ensure the best possible education for your children.

Nollaig Shona agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

Tom Lowry, Principal.

Shoe Box Appeal

MCS students took part in the annual Team Hope Christmas shoe box appeal. The shoe boxes are delivered to children in poverty stricken areas across Africa and Eastern Europe.



Moate CS students prepare gifts for Team Hopes annual Christmas Shoebox appeal.

MCS TY STUDENTS PROGRESS IN BATTLE OF WITS QUIZ

The Library Association of Ireland recently hosted a 'Battle of Wits' quiz for TY students. TY students Sean McCabe, Jordan Nugent, Kevin Stone and Daryl O'Brien formed a team to represent MCS in Mullingar Library on Thursday evening 20th November. Well done to the lads who were successful on the night.



*Sean McCabe, Jordan Nugent,
Kevin Stone, Daryl O'Brien. Battle of Wits Quiz*

COLLEGE AWARENESS WEEK 2014 AT MCS

College Awareness Week took place on the week of November 24-28. The goals of College Awareness Week are as follows:

- Celebrates the importance of going to college.
- Creates a college-going culture in our school and local community.
- Helps students to be college ready.
- Supports an increase in the number of students who progress to college.
- Showcases local role models who have gone on to college.

Students from TY classes worked very hard on their research in to college courses and helped to identify career paths from an array of different third level qualifications offered via CAO and PLC routes. Some college talks were organised during the week; sixth year students met the Student Liaison Officer from Dublin City University (DCU). Fifth year students were introduced to the Post Leaving

Certificate Course route into third level education thanks to Aileen Martin, one of the tutors at Moate Business College (MBC). Aileen spoke of the new links that have been forged in recent times between MBC and Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT). She presented the courses on offer at MBC via the QQI system formerly known as FETAC. She also enlightened students with regard to the progression routes from PLC into the Central Admissions Office (CAO) and UCAS systems upon completion of level 5 and 6 awards from QQI as well as giving them valuable information on the Leonardo Project which offers students at MBC an opportunity to visit European cities and enhance their learning in their chosen area of study. Last year MBC students travelled to Spain, Portugal and Italy as part of this programme. Students from the TY classes in recent weeks have had talks presented by specialists in the areas of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths).

Moate CS students participate in Irish Table Quiz

On Wednesday 8th of October, three teams from MCS attended an Irish table quiz competition in Tullamore College. The quiz was organised by Feachtas – an organisation which strives to promote the Irish language.

Each team consisted of two junior students and two senior students and they were presented with 6 rounds of various topics from sport and music to current affairs and general knowledge. While the questions were difficult enough, the students were delighted with how well they got on, with one team placing fifth and another team winning a spot prize.

The teams were:

1. Eoin Cowen, Seán Woods, Ciarán Lynam, Michael Hunter.
2. Jessica McCormack, Hannah McCormack, Carmel Carroll, Kirsty Coyne.
3. Seán McCabe, Kevin O' Flaherty, Catherine Shimmons, Della Clarke.

MCS 5th Year LCVP visit to Caffrey's Chocolate factory

On 3rd and 4th November, one hundred 5th year LCVP students from MCS had the opportunity to visit Caffrey's Chocolate Factory in Dublin. The students were given a talk by a member of staff on the history of the factory, the journey of the cocoa beans to the factory, production, marketing and all the aspects of running this successful business.

Following this the students were brought on a short tour and then given a demonstration on how the chocolates are made.



*Moate CS 5th year LCVP students visit Caffrey's
Chocolate Factory in Dublin*

MCS STUDENTS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2014 IRISH BEAVER COMPUTING CONTEST

The Irish branch of 'Bebras International' an online international computational thinking challenge for students in both primary and second level schools invited two TY students from MCS to participate in this year's contest. Sean McCabe and Slavomir Vano were identified by the State Examinations Commission as very high achievers in the 2014 JC Exam.

The aim of the competition is to raise Computer Science awareness in a fun and rewarding way. The contest engages students in solving problems using their computational and thinking skills. The contest took place during the week of 10th-14th November 2014.



Slavomir Vano and Sean McCabe

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY

All language students united this year at MCS to provide what was truly a wonderful celebration of cultures.

Students of Spanish, French, and Irish worked hard to provide a rich tapestry of culture in the form of posters, banners, flags and music. Language, art, history geography and festivals, were just a few of the many cultural aspects promoted in this celebration. Students prepared traditional cuisine for all to sample.



1st year students Therese Robins, Ciara Egan and Hannah O'Connor enjoy their first "European Language Day" at Moate Community School

GAEILGE 24 I BPOBALSCOIL MHÓTA

Bhí lá mór don Ghaeilge ar siúl, Dé Máirt an 11ú Samhain, ar fud na tíre. Dár ndóigh, is í Gaeilge 24 atá faoi chaibidil. Bhí 20,000 dalta cláraithe don dúshlán seo a d'eagraigh Conradh na Gaeilge. Dár le CnaG, is í aidhm an dúshláin seo ná daoine óga a spreagadh chun labhairt as Gaeilge amháin do 24 uair a' chloig: sa bhaile, ar scoil, le siopaí agus gnóilachtaí, timpeall an bhaile, le cairde, sa chlub spóirt nó óige agus eile!

Bhí 300 dalta cláraithe i bPobalscoil Mhóta i gContae na hIarmhí agus bhí lucht na hIdirbhliana gnóthach ag eagrú an ócáid seo trí bheith i dteagmháil leis na meáin chumarsáide. Bhí Midlands 103 sa scoil agus rinne siad agallamh linn.



FELICITY HEAVIN AWARDED ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP TO NUI MAYNOOTH

Felicity Heavin from Mount Temple, received an Entrance Scholarship at an awards ceremony in the NUI Maynooth on Tuesday 4th November. Felicity, a former student of MCS was awarded the scholarship in recognition of her high academic achievement in the LC examination last summer. A former leader of the school orchestra in Moate, she is continuing her studies of Music with Maths in NUI Maynooth. Congratulations to Felicity on receiving the award and we wish her every success in her future endeavours.



Felicity Heavin, Ms Carmel McCormack and Ms Lorna Duignan at the Scholarship Awards Ceremony in NUI Maynooth

First Years in MCS visit Coláiste Acla

On the 7th of November 65 first year students went to Coláiste Acla in the Mayo Galtacht for the weekend. This was a three day two night adventure package all conducted as Gaeilge. On arrival students were split into two groups. One group went Bog Snorkelling while the other participated in Gorge Walking which involved obstacles in a river. Students were then brought to the Bean an Tí house and later participated in Ranganna Gaeilge and an céilí. The next day students went surfing and kayaking and later participated in more Ranganna Gaeilge before the last céilí. This was a wonderful experience for all involved.



Moate CS 1st year students who travelled to the Gaeltacht recently

SCIENCE WEEK AT MCS



Science Demonstration

From posters to quizzes to fun demos, it was all about the Science at MCS for Science week, Nov 9th to 14th.

Science Demos... TY students prepared and presented some fun Science to demonstrate how physics and chemistry work. Using candles, balloons, washing up liquid, the students explained some concepts in science to First Year students.

Science Posters... Students created posters to reflect the many areas of Science, famous scientists, scientific facts, and science careers were all on the walls.

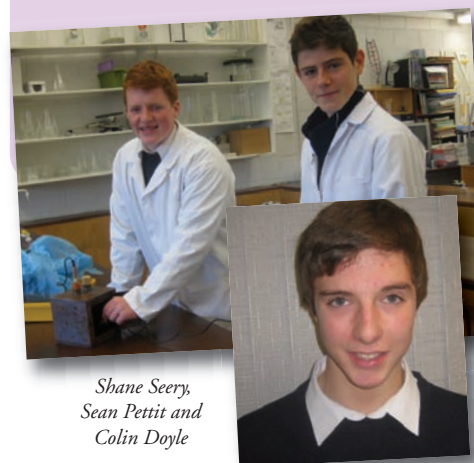
Science Quizzes... Second Year Science students took part in Table Quizzes during their class time. Two teams of Sixth Year students took part in the Regional Final of the ISTA Quiz at the Athlone Institute of Technology, an all girls team of Sadhbh

Two Projects from MCS to present at the BT Young Scientists Exhibition

MCS would like to congratulate the TY students, Shane Seery, Sean Pettit and Colin Doyle on being selected by the screening judges to compete in the finals of the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition. The students' projects are two of the 550 projects short listed from a list of 2077 projects nationally.

Shane Seery and Sean Pettit are investigating Spent Mushroom Compost as a fuel alternative in their project 'Not 'mush-room' for turf anymore'. Spent Mushroom Compost is a huge bi-product of the mushroom producers which must be disposed. In their project, the students are measuring the calorific value of the compost, and comparing it to other forms of fuel, for example turf. They are also investigating compressing the compost and making it into pellet form.

Colin Doyle's project 'Hoof Wall Separation Disease in Connemara Ponies' investigates whether the key ancestral lines can carry the gene for this disease. By taking hair samples from various ponies, he will test if the disease is more likely to be passed on through the maternal side of the family than the paternal side.



Shane Seery, Sean Pettit and Colin Doyle

Mandal, Hannah Nugent and Shauna Norris as well as an all boys team of Kevin Booth, Ruari Cunningham and Gavin Murray.

Science Visits.... Dr Andy Fogarty Ecology lecturer from the Athlone Institute of Technology visited the Transition Year students to talk to them about his career experiences. Transition Year Students visited the AIT for the SMART Futures Career Talks. There were three speakers all dealing with a different area of STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). MCS was represented by Margaret Mandal at 'Seeing is Believing' at Ericsson. This was a great opportunity for schools to get an on-site insight into the work of Ericssons in the midlands and worldwide and the future opportunities available to our students.

MOATE CS U-14'S BOYS FOOTBALL

On Monday 30th of November Moate took on the Marist in the semi-final stages of the North Leinster championship in Kiltoom. It was not to be Moate's day however with Marist College winning 2-9 to 1-3.

Moate team: Owen McCabe, Nicky Hamm,

Dean Moran, Ben O'Brien, Tommy Berry, Ian Daly, Aaron Kane, Neil Clinton, Colin Murphy (c), Adam Donaghue, Shane Cleary, Aaron Nugent, Matthew Farrell, Liam Doyle, Daniel Ennis; Dylan Egan, Barry Collins, Darcy Lawless, Adam Turley, Fintan McCormack, Diego, Juan, Aldolfo, Jack Slevin, Dylan Ross



Moate CS U14 Football



Moate CS Junior Rugby Panel

MOATE CS SENIOR BOYS FOOTBALL

On Monday November 17th, Moate CS senior boys footballers took on the Marist in the league in Moate. Moate won this incredible display of football on a score line of 2-18 to 4-7 placing them in the league semi-final. The team were unfortunately defeated by St Pats of Navan in their next outing.

MCS senior team

1. Alex Ryan
2. Dermot Doolan
3. Damien Carroll
4. Conor Claffey
5. Andrew Gorman
6. Darragh Healy
7. David Falsey
8. Gavin Murray (0-1)
9. Cathal Daly (0-2)

10. Eoin Heavin
11. David Fox (1-6)
12. Billy Berry (0-1)
13. Keith Malynn (0-6)
14. Joe Lowry (1-1)
15. Plunkett Maxwell (0-1)

Subs: David Stone, Mark Fallon, Kevin Kelly, Thomas Maguire, Ruairi Cunningham, Cormac Palmer, Ross Young, Kevin Cuffe, Ruairi Aspell, Daniel Heavin, David Fleming, Alan Daly, Boidu Sayeh.

Well done to our senior boys who defeated Maynooth Schools in the first round of the championship on Friday the 12th of December in Moate, on a scoreline of 1-15 to 2-4. We look forward to a successful campaign in 2015.



Moate CS Senior Boys Football Team

MCS u16 Gaelic Football Match

On Monday 17th of November MCS u16 Boys Gaelic footballers travelled to Rochfortbridge to compete in the first round of the championship. Moate knew they had to perform well and get a win out of this match to put them in a good position for the upcoming matches. A quick and impressive game culminated in a win of 5-15 to 1-8 for MCS.

Team:

1. Jordan Nugent
2. Sean Clinton
3. Ruairi Aspell
4. Charlie Parker
5. Jack Bradbury Hughes
6. Kieran Hartnett
7. Paul Gorman
8. Daniel Heavin (0-3)
9. Jack Fannin
10. Lorcan Daly (1-1)
11. David Fleming (1-4)
12. Harry Cornally
13. Sean Petit (0-1)
14. Robert Forde (2-3)
15. Sean Farrell (0-1)

Substitutes made: Ronan McLoughlin, Ben Cox (1-1), Gordon Kelly, Daryl O'Brien and Kevin Stone.

Moate CS Junior Rugby

On Tuesday the 25th of November, the Moate junior squad faced Mullingar Community School in rugby. It was a brilliant display by MCS that led to victory with the scoreline 60-0.

Team

1. Jack McCarthy
2. Darren Browne
3. Laurence Claffey
4. Daryl O'Brien
5. Vincent Fox
6. Padraig Nestor
7. Aaron Fallon
8. Adam Buckley
9. Jordan Dunning
10. Ruairi Aspell
11. Gordon Kelly
12. Ciaran Fox
13. David Fleming
14. Sean Clinton
15. Lorcan Daly

Under 16 Ladies Football

On Wednesday the 22nd of October the MCS U16 Ladies football team travelled to Longford to play Scoil Mhuire Secondary school in their final championship game. Moate showed great determination and strength and came out with a victory of 5-14 to 5-3.

Panel: 1. Jenny Fox 2. Aoife King 3. Aine Guinan 4. Nicola McCormack 5. Amy Hughes 6. Anne-Marie Moran 7. Niamh Palmer 8. Mary Harkin 9. Rachel Keane 10. Rachel Duffy 11. Tara Hughes 12. Maria O'Donoghue 13. Niamh Gorry 14. Chloe Butler 15. Emma Collins

Subs: Aine Healy, Clodagh Sheridan, Niamh O'Connor, Dearbhla O'Reilly, Claire Sheerin, Allannah Carey, Amy Gavin, Claire King