



DEO JUGITER INTENTUS

Sharing Excellence



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St Louise's Comprehensive College
A Specialist Arts College

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"In partnership with parents, guardians, staff, governors and pupils, St Louise's promotes effective teaching and learning within a Catholic, Vincentian, Comprehensive ethos"

Senior Irish Music Group Hit High Note!



The Senior Irish Music Group, Show off their talents in Birmingham

The Senior Irish Music Group had a very successful and enjoyable visit to Birmingham on 13 July.

The girls - Ciara O'Neill, Suin McCallan, Niamh Taggart and Laura Williamson (Year 14) had taken part in the regional round of the National Festival of Music for Youth in Methodist College in March, and were selected to represent Northern Ireland in the National Finals in Birmingham.

The group was awarded a Certificate of High Commendation and Ciara O'Neill received an award for a new composition.

The girls have also been invited to perform at the Royal Albert Hall in 2008, as part of a major young people's fundraising concert in aid of Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres.

Well done and congratulations to the girls and to the staff involved - Mrs Friel, who did the preparations and organisation of the trip and Miss O'Neill and Mrs McCallan, who escorted the girls.

Senior Irish Music Group Success	1
Prize Givings	2
New Faces	2
Dates For Your Diary	2
Film Censorship	3
How Powerful Is Media	3
Year 13 Journalism	3
Suzanne Kane Makes Headlines	4
Queen's Film Theatre	4
Year 8 Media Literacy Project	4
National Film Week	5
Media Websites	5
What's New in Media	5
Bombardier/Calvert	6
Bosnian Visitors	6
Anti-Litter	7
La Salle Boys Dancing	7
Lights, Camera Action	7
Partnership with St Bernadette's	8
Junior Library Writing Competition	8
Poetry Competition	8
Poetry in Motion	9
Recycling	9
Road Safety Competition	9
Brighter Belfast	9-10
Sport	10-11
Year 12 Success	11-12
Auschwitz	12
Marillac Party	12
Aim Higher Roadshow	12
Safety	12

ENJOY THE READ!

Celebrating Achievements at Prize Givings

St Louise's proudly celebrated the achievements of its students in three Prize Giving Ceremonies in September and October 2006.

At Senior Prize Night on 28 September 2006, the Guest Speaker was Mrs Margaret Martin, recently retired Principal of St Catherine's College, Armagh.



On 19 October 2006 we held the Middle School Prize Day. The Guest Speaker was Mrs Sheila Fleming, Head of Human Resources in Liberty International.

The Junior School Prize Day was held on 14 September 2006 and the Guest Speaker was past pupil Emma Jordan, Creative Director of Prime Cut Productions.

Welcome To Our New Staff

Miss Green - I knew it was a school of innovative staff and students striving to always become the best that they could be. Walking through the doors on my first day I could see that this was true.



Miss Kerr - The decision to come to St Louise's was an easy one. From the first time I entered the school, I could tell it was somewhere that both pupils and staff had a good relationship and that each wanted the other to achieve their true potential. The experience of working here has proved me right.



Mr Short - I wanted to come to work in St Louise's because of its all-ability ethos and the opportunity it gives me to get involved in its many Clubs and Societies.



Miss Begley - I chose to apply for the post of Dance teacher at St Louise's because St Louise's is renowned for its outstanding achievements in Performing Arts and I wanted to be part of a very successful school community.



Miss O'Connor - As a Past pupil of St Louise's I was well aware of the excellent standard of education in the College and of the caring and nurturing ethos of the school. When I started teaching here, I was thrilled to find that the outstanding standards of the school have not only remained the same but have actually been enhanced.



Miss O'Boyle - I applied for a post in St Louise's after hearing excellent comments about the school from both past pupils and staff. I was also very excited at the prospect of working in a Specialist College. I have settled in well and everyone has been extremely helpful and friendly. I look forward to many happy years in St Louise's.



Dates For Your Diary 2007

January

Tuesday 30 - Year 9 Parents' Meeting

February

Tuesday 6 - Year 11 Parents' Meeting

Wednesday 21 - Year 8 Parents' Meeting

March

Tuesday 6 - Year 10 Options Night

Thursday 15 - Feast of St Louise

Wednesday 21 - Year 12 Options Meeting

Film Censorship What to Watch, What Not and How to Know!



The media is constantly blamed for all the wrongs in society but is this fair? We believe that the public need to become more informed users of the media. Most media is self regulatory providing the public with choice.

An example of which is the BBFC. The BBFC, British Board of Film Classification has classified films since 1912 and videos since 1984.

Its role is to set standards which apply to all films.

These are now well established & include:

U: Suitable for audiences of 4 & over.

PG: (Parental Guidance): refers to general viewing and should not disturb a child aged 8 or over. There should be no violence, sexual content, racism or abuse, no glamorisation of weapons, no frightening scenes, or use of drugs, language should be mild.

12A: Suitable for 12 years & over. Mature themes are acceptable, use of strong language must be infrequent; violence must not dwell on detail; no glamorisation of drugs.

15: 15 and over. Most themes are allowed, language & violence may be strong.

18: Adult themes & material.

Check out these websites:

www.cbbfc.co.uk and www.sbbfc.co.uk

How Powerful Is The Media? AFL



Media students take their studies seriously which is evident in the monthly debates held as part of assessment for learning (AFL). Is the media responsible for shaping life or does it simply reflect life?

This was the focus of a hotly contested debate presented by Year 13 AS students during Inspection week. Students agreed that the media plays a powerful role in shaping culture, in particular a feminine culture. Aine, Year 13, argued that:

Magazines shape a woman's world; they advise women, provide entertainment, fantasy, escapism, a sense of self, what to eat, how to look and organise our personal lives.

The magazine symbolises a lifestyle which readers emulate as they desire to belong and look like their role models.

Rachel, Year 13, contested that whilst the media, especially magazines, have a role to play in shaping women's lives and aspirations yet we all have the choice of what to read, watch & what decisions to make! DON'T BE A VICTIM.

Let us know what you think.

Year 13 Enriched by Journalism

The new enrichment GCSE in Journalism for Sixth form pupils began as a bit of a 'step into the unknown' for Mr Short and the media team as it has not been offered before in the school.

However the Year 13 students are proving that 'step' to be a worthy one. The girls have researched and reported on a number of local and international interest issues which have been at the forefront of news coverage since September.

They are currently working on stories for possible publication.

Watch this space!!

Suzanne Kane Makes The Irish News Headlines



There's no stopping **Suzanne Kane** from Year 12 Media Studies. Her dynamic contribution to last year's Cinemagic Summer Music Festival secured her a place at the Sally Lindsey master class held in Castlereagh College, BIFHE.

Suzanne is still reeling from the experience. Yet again she was the youngest member chosen for the workshop where ages ranged from 16 - 25.

Sally Lindsey is better known for her role as Shelley in Coronation Street. Valuable tips were shared about how to get into the industry.

For more information on Cinemagic events check out www.cinemagic.org.uk

Queen's Film Theatre



Year 14 students at QUB Film Theatre

Pupils talk about their experiences on a recent visit to Queen's University Belfast and find out how a film is made with particular reference to *THE MIGHTY CELT*

My Life/My Experiences: Year 8: Media Literacy Project



One of our targets in specialism is to make pupils more aware of the influence of the media in their lives.

8B are involved in the Media Literacy Pilot and are using a thematic approach to their studies in English and the topic of '*Self*'.

Pupils are integrating *media language* and *skills*, print, video & multimedia, in the recording of their Experiences. They are working with their form teachers to video their class prayer.

Time is precious

Time is precious, use it well, be patient and tolerant

Ask your guardian angel for guidance, wisdom and courage today

You will see it is the true source of success.

Just for today

Just for today I will let go of worry;
just for today I will let go of anger.

Today I will count my blessings; today I will do my best work

Today I will do my work honestly; today I will show respect for all

National Film Week

NFW is the celebration of film across the UK and is sponsored by the film industry affording free screenings for students who get the chance to explore a range of films relevant to their age groups and curriculum.

Years 13 and 14 'A' Level Media Studies students attended the screening of *The Wind That Shakes the Barley*



THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY at the Strand Cinema, Belfast. Loach's film tackles the years leading up to the Irish Civil War of 1922, and the fledgling state's struggle for independence from Britain. Loach and Laverty merge the political and the personal to highlight the dilemmas ordinary people face when they take up arms.

The Wind that Shakes the Barley shows the human cost of violent revolution and the film highlights the schisms within the Irish republican movement after the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty in 1921. *The one big issue that runs through the film is the question that all these guys are asking themselves continuously: "What are we fighting for, and is it worth the cost?" They have killed, and risked their own lives, for this ideal, & you have to illustrate in their words what it means to them.* **The Wind that Shakes the Barley** is controversial. 'It will raise passions, that's for sure,' says Laverty.

Important Media Websites

www.filmeducation.org.uk

www.cinemagic.org.uk

www.channel4.com/breakingthenews

www.bbfc.org.uk

What's New in Media?

BLACK & WHITE IS BEST

Year 11 attended a screening of *REBECCA* by Daphne du Maurier at Queen's Film Theatre. The black and white screening initially was a surprise but the girls were quickly absorbed in the story, a hybrid of crime and romance. Their day included a luncheon in the Great Hall followed by a recital by the band *CHERISH*. Our girls were really impressed to learn that one of the band members is a past pupil of St Louise's; this made the day doubly special. The band were accompanied by dancers, one of whom has danced with Michael Flatley in *LORD OF THE DANCE*.

BTEC

FIRST CERTIFICATE IN MEDIA STUDIES

Over 20 girls are enrolled in the BTEC Certificate in Media Studies. This is a practical exploration of the media. Students enjoyed a day out at the QFT for a screening of *KIDULTHOOD* (15). Not for everyone but definitely a film with food for thought.

3 MIN PROMOTIONAL VIDEO

This was followed by a production workshop in Botanic Gardens. Girls had to produce a *three min promotional video* of the Botanic Gardens situated in the Queen's Quarter of Belfast as part of their Project Work.

PUBLIC AWARENESS ADVERTISING

BTEC have compiled a variety of power point presentations on public & social awareness issues. Subjects include: *CHILD ABUSE, HOMELESSNESS, TROCAIRE*. We hope to place these on our school's website.

You're Fired!



Year 12's 2007 Media Calendar is on sale around the school. Order your copy first. It is priced at £3.00 as production costs are high.

Careers Seminars



Mr Tony Monaghan from Bombardier and Mr Robbie Calvert from Calvert Technologies both presented excellent seminars to students on 17 October and 20 October respectively.

Tony Monaghan delivered his seminar to a group of very eager Year 11 pupils at an especially extended assembly. The theme of the excellent session delivered through DVD and Power-Point with the use of very atmospheric music was aimed at raising awareness about career opportunities.

Mr Monaghan showed the girls what life was like working for the aircraft company Bombardier and he encouraged the girls to think "out of the box" and look at aeronautic engineering as a real career choice.

He talked about Marie Therese Burns, a past pupil who successfully rose to this challenge as a result of collaborative work with Bombardier and Miss Mackey in the technology department. He offered the Year 11 girls the opportunity to come on board and invited all of them who were interested to an informative fun day at W5. This is the first of many planned collaborations.

Robbie Calvert delivered a very practical seminar to an enthusiastic year 13 careers class. He talked to them about how to create a CV and present an application form giving them opportunities to try out interview techniques.

The class had good fun but they also got some very practical ideas from the presentation. One piece of advice really made sense " if you find a job you enjoy you will not work another day in your life".

The girls found out about what ideas the employer wants to hear and Robbie gave them opportunities to experience this. The girls were very grateful. Robbie will be back again in November to deliver ideas on how to develop entrepreneurial skills.

So look out all those in the business world, St Louise's girls are on their way!!

Best Practice for St Louise's



ST LOUISE'S SPECIALIST COLLEGE DISPLAYS BEST PRACTICE IN EDUCATION

Article written by Roisin McManus - Andersonstown News (13 November 2006)

St Louise's Specialist College played host to a special delegation from Bosnia and Herzegovina recently.

Eight members of the Coordination Board for the Implementation of the Interim Agreement on Accommodation of Needs and Rights of Internee Children, together with representatives of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe's (OSCE) Education Department were on a four-day trip to the North.

The trip was facilitated by the University of Ulster and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) which supports research and initiatives on the issues of education and pluralism, human rights and democracy.

The main purpose of the visit was to observe best practices in the development of integrated learning communities and to identify potential applications for Bosnia and Herzegovina's educational system.

Making a 'Clean Sweep'



On Wednesday 13 September, Seana Green and Treasach Gatt from Year 10J went to the Sound House Studio, Holywood Road, to do a photo shoot to launch the new Belfast City Council Anti-Litter Campaign. The girls were joined by two pupils from Methodist College, the Lord Mayor and one of the Belfast Giants. Their pictures will be used in the Anti-Litter brochure and for selected newspapers.

Dancing? Are You Asking!



Yes, who would have thought it possible that the boys from La Salle would have considered doing dance as part of their GCSE drama classes.

It is true, as part of our specialist partnerships, our dance teacher Miss Begley has been working hard every Wednesday afternoon to help the boys devise an effective piece of creative movement. Their own drama teacher Mr Mc Laughlin has also joined in on the hard work and together they have presented an original and dynamic unit of work. What a team!

We wish the boys and their teacher good luck with their GCSE drama exam and we look forward to future partnerships.

Lights, Camera, Action!



A group of 21 Year 8 students had their first opportunity to taste a little fame when they were filmed on the 17 October by a professional crew of two camera men, a director and sound recordist. The crew were commissioned by the exam council CEA to create a film about good drama lessons in schools.

Year 8D and 8G came up with the goods and provided the crew with a very creative example of how to perform a dance drama. The girls were great and worked all day to present a dance drama based on the famous story of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.

During the filming they performed like true professionals, as though they had been in front of the camera all their lives. Like all truly creative ventures it was hard work and by 3.30pm they were exhausted and glad to hear the director say "It's a wrap". The film will be released for all teachers and pupils of Drama in March and the girls from 8D/G say they will make themselves available for autographs!!

Children In Need



We are proud to announce that St Louise's Comprehensive College raised £720.00 for the BBC Child in Need Appeal 2006.

Our Partnership with St Bernadette's



Under the Hawthorne Tree has been a favourite novel with Primary 7 classes for a long time and on 29 November, our partner school St Bernadette's got to see the pages of the book come to life.

Our Year 14 'A' level class were commissioned by our primary partner's team to create an original piece of drama which explored the issues of the Irish Famine.

The drama came alive in the Senior Hall as the Year 14 girls created the houses of the different classes and the ticket office and quayside of the emigration boats.

The girls of St Bernadette's watched in awe as the sad tale unfolded and at the end had a chance to talk and sing with the 'A' level girls.

Congratulations to the drama students and their teachers, Mrs Coleman and Mrs Mc Kee on this spellbinding performance which will act as the springboard for our primary partnership.

Congratulations to the girls of St Bernadette's on the performance of their school show "Joseph" in December.

What a Scary Story!

The Junior Library ran a **Scary Story/Poem writing competition** for Year 8 and Year 9 just before Halloween.

The idea of the competition was to encourage the children away from TV and computer games and put their energies into a more creative and rewarding use.

The standard of writing was superb which made the choosing of a winner very difficult.

So much so that we ended up with a Winner and runner up in each category.



The winner for the scary story competition was Danielle Clarke Year 9C and the runner up was Kathleen Yu Year 9G



The winner in the poetry competition was Sinead Bradley Johnston Year 8D and the runner up was Sophie Webb Year 8A.

Poetry Competition



On Tuesday 5 September Helen Wright from Blackstaff gave a talk to a group of Year 12 pupils regarding entering the world of publishing. Alisha McFadden, Amy Tate and Orla Murray were delighted to have this wonderful opportunity as part of their prize for a poetry competition earlier in the year.

The pupils featured in the Andersonstown News on Monday 18 September.

Poetry In Motion Anthology

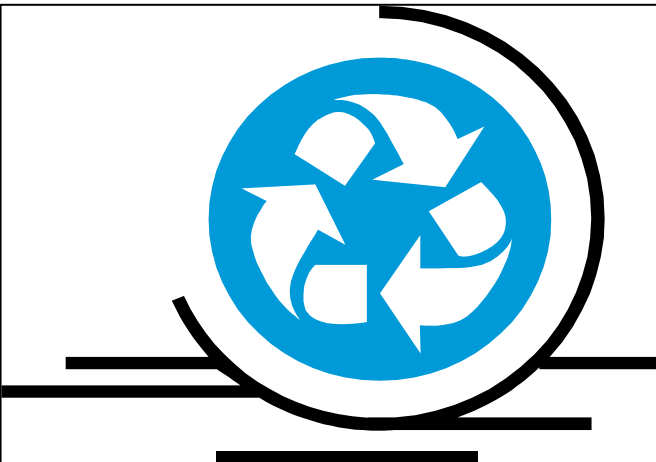


Thirteen girls from Year 9 and four girls from Year 8 were invited to The City Hall in December to participate in the launch of The Poetry in Motion Anthology.

All of the girls had poems published and some had more than one poem published. Shauna Hamill of Year 9A was asked to read her poem 'Wishing on a Belfast Tree' at the launch.

The girls, each of whom was presented with a copy of the "Poetry in Motion" anthology, thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the City Hall. Congratulations, girls, and well done!

Recycling Appeal



All the pupils and staff at St Louise's are trying to be as environmentally friendly as possible. We would ask you to please send in any old mobile phones, used stamps or used Christmas cards.

The phones will be recycled and in doing so will raise money for charity. Putting a phone in the bin means it goes to land-fill where the battery can cause water and land pollution. So sending it to us helps St Louise's, charity and the environment!

The Bryson House Charity receives money for used stamps which is used for local charities.

The old/used Christmas cards will be used to make Christmas postcards for Christmas 2007.

Christmas postcards are more environmentally friendly than traditional Christmas cards as they use less card and no envelope.

Speaking of Road Safety ...

On Tuesday 28 November, two Year 10 pupils, Mary Louise Kelly and Danielle Tierney, took part in the **Annual Belfast City Council Road Safety Committee Public Speaking Competition held at R.B.A.I. Belfast.**

We were the only secondary school which took part. The girls spoke on the issues - "The speed limit of 70 mph is not too low for our motorways" and "Road Safety is an investment, not a cost".

The standard was extremely high and the pupils were also in the most heavily subscribed age group of 14-16 year olds.

This did not deter our girls who delivered their speeches to the other competitors and an audience of adults. They were articulate, confident and more impressive than many of the other participants.

They were congratulated on their delivery by other teachers who were there. They were both a credit to the school and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Brighter Belfast

Brighter Belfast Schools Environmental Award - St Louise's Clean Up Again!

The Brighter Belfast Schools Award, awarded to schools who create and enhance environmental awareness, reduce litter and improve the school grounds, was awarded to St Louise's. We picked up 1st prize at the Prize-Giving Ceremony and Gala Dinner at Belfast City Hall on Wednesday 15 November 2006. The Prizes were presented to Mrs Mullan, Mrs Keenan and Dr Boyle by the Deputy Lord Mayoress and included a framed certificate, crystal trophy and £500 for the school.

How did we do it?

The application form included all the activities (too numerous to list!) that the school is involved in. After we were shortlisted for a prize Donna Bates from Belfast City Council came up to school to take photographs for a display at the City Hall.

The photographs for our display included the magnificent artwork undertaken by the pupils and Mr Baker (our Art teacher).

Mr Baker and the girls had used recycled materials to make fashion items such as dresses; mosaics of old broken tiles and shreds of old newspapers for papier mache to make a display on 'God's Creation' were also photographed as were the plant containers at the school's entrances with the pupils attending to them; bird tables made by Mr Simpson, the Design and Technology teacher and our own colourful Anti-Litter Pledges, signed by the pupils, and displayed on the school's noticeboards.

Photographs were taken of the seats we were able to buy for the junior school's courtyard with the £1,000 prize money we had won in the Belfast Community Challenge Competition and more photographs were displayed of the pupils doing the 'Community Clean-Up' - for which we won that prize.

Our new Memorial Garden in the school grounds was also included on the display.



On the night, Nuala McKeever narrated a Power-Point display which praised the school in a glowing tribute to our commitment to raising environmental awareness and several of the photographs taken were shown to the audience.

Congratulations and well done to the staff and pupils involved. Keep up the good work!

I've Got Rhythm

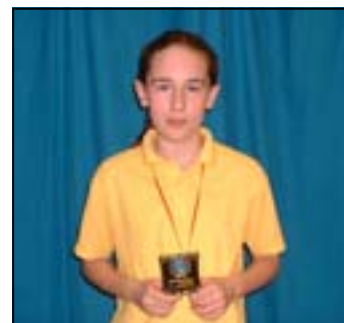


We are delighted to have Sandra Pawluk from Poland, who has recently joined St Louise's. She is displaying her Rhythmic Gymnastics expertise in the picture. Sandra was on the Polish Olympic squad, in training for the next Olympics. We hope that she will be able to continue to train in Northern Ireland for her Rhythmic Gymnastics sport.

In The Net– Year 8 Winners



Year 8D, winners of the Year 8 Intra School Netball tournament



Nicole Kane Year 8D. Awarded 'Player of the Tournament' at the Year 8 Intra School Netball Tournament

Taekwando



This is Seaneen Topping Year 13H. She competes in the sport of Taekwando, training at the Holy Trinity Club in Turf Lodge. Seaneen has won every Irish Open Taekwando competition that she has competed in since she began the sport nine years ago.

She is the current Irish Ladies Open Champion in her competing weight class of under 63kg and has been awarded Best Female Fighter, in this competition, in the last two years. Seaneen recently participated in the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, Australia in October. She reached the Junior Ladies quarter finals and received a Commonwealth Bronze medal in the Senior Ladies competition. She also won the European Junior Ladies Taekwando championships in 2005 and will compete in Rome in October 2007 to try to retain her European title.

With the aid of an Elite Performers grant and training support from Sports Council Seaneen is currently preparing for her next major fight in May 2007 in Beijing, China in order to qualify for the Olympic Games in China in 2008!

Key to Success



Key Programmer Danielle Shields from Year 12M talks about her winning trip to Canada

I was the lucky person from the Key Programme to win a trip to Canada. The experience started at 7am on the 19 of August 2006. Once I got to the airport I had my photo taken by the local newspaper. We had 2 plane journeys to get to know each other.

We arrived at Carlton University at 6.30pm, and each of us was put into different houses, each floor of the university was a different colour. I was in the blue house. There were 12 nations and over 280 young activists. I shared a split dorm room with a girl from Waterloo and 2 girls from the Bahamas!

We had at least one conference a day when people from the business world came in and told us how they got into the business they represented. It was not all fun and games, there was lots of work involved but I enjoyed every minute of it. It lasted 8 days and I wish it lasted longer.

On the last night we had a formal and I was asked to give a speech on behalf of everyone to say thank you. After that, there was a dance and then at 5am in the morning people were leaving. I learnt many things in Canada but one thing I will never forget is "live your life as you want to grow", "fulfil your vision"! Be the best you can be.

Marie-Clare Manson 12E

Winner of 'Black Belt in Ju Jitsu, awarded to her at a grading in Lisburn Leisure Plex on Saturday 9 December.

Congratulations!

Laura Whinnery from Year 12E talks about her experience as a volunteer at the Special Olympics.

My experience with Special Olympics Ireland was short but very sweet. It was something that I could not possibly forget, nor would I want to.

The adventure began when I saw adverts in a newspaper for help. 'Special Olympics Ireland' were looking for around 5,000 volunteers and I was one of the lucky applicants chosen to be a transport assistant in the Danny Blanchflower stadium in East Belfast. It was here where men's eleven-a-side football took place.

My job, along with the others, was to guide in the buses and make sure the athletes were brought to their destinations safely. Also, throughout the day, I had to make sure there were plenty of parking spaces left and that all the spectators cars were parked safely and comfortably.

For the four days of the Special Olympics I had such an enjoyable time. I met so many new people including volunteers and athletes, and I was able to enjoy some of the action on the field. There were a lot of skills on show and I was impressed by the amount of talent on display. Most importantly, we volunteers got to show the athletes some of our skills too!

Just being able to be a part of those athletes lives meant a lot to me. Behind all the fun and games, there was a lot of emotion. I'll never forget my time with the Special Olympics.

If the opportunity arises again, my name will be first on the list. The experience has even motivated me to consider working with 'Special Olympics Ireland' as a career. I will always hold dear my memories of the Special Olympics.

I'd like to thank all those who made it possible for me to have such a special time.

Auschwitz



For the second year running two 6th Form students joined a Study Tour to Auschwitz. In July 2006 Paula Boyle and Bronagh McKenna spent almost a week with other young people visiting Auschwitz and Birkenau - the World War II concentration camps in Poland. Both girls are 'A' Level History students and on return to school last term they presented a very impressive Assembly to Year 13 and Year 14 on their visit and the lessons they learned.

Well done to Bronagh and Paula!

Marillac Party

The Marillac Society hosted a Christmas Party for 80 older people on 29 November 2006.

Entertainment was provided by students and by the popular group Easy Listening.

Pictured are Marillacs Niamh McCartney and Laura McCann welcoming some of the guests.



Aim Higher Roadshow

The Aim Higher Road Show also visited St Louise's on 17 and 18 November 2006. This time it was Year 10 who benefited from the presentations which showed the benefits of going to University.

A Career in Crag Rats !

The Crag Rats Theatre Company visited St Louise's on 17 November 2006 and staged an impressive presentation for Year 12 on options at Post-16. The Show was informative, useful and funny. So Year 12 make sure you are following up some of the ideas put forward!

Safety Is Our Business!

A group of Year 13 students attended the Road Safety Road Show in the Waterfront Hall on 30 November 2006. A hard-hitting show brought home the dangers of speed, inattention, and drink-driving. Year 13 described the show as "brilliant".