

St. Aloysius' Secondary School

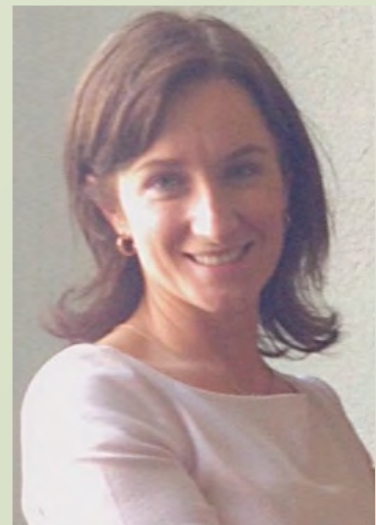
Sharman Crawford St, Cork



WELCOME NOTE FROM PRINCIPAL, MS. RICHEL LONG

Our newsletter for 2015 outlines the academic and non-academic activities of our students over the past year. Students from St. Aloysius have embraced curricular and co-curricular life to the full.

The academic performance of our Junior and Leaving Certificate students was as impressive as ever. Aoibhne Warner achieved a Quercus Scholarship to UCC for her outstanding results. Our Leaving Certificate class had a 92% progression rate to NUI colleges; the students have gone on to pursue a variety of third level degrees in Trinity College, UCD, University of Limerick, UCC and CIT.



Over the past year we have continued to improve and enhance the facilities available to our students. New whiteboards have been erected in each room, allowing separate projection and writing space. The Department of Education and Skills generously provided a grant to replace student desks and we look forward to continuing these improvements.

Our primary aim is to maintain and improve all aspects of our school but especially the quality of education our students enjoy. As part of this process a survey of parents was conducted. The feedback was extremely positive and will assist us in our efforts to improve.

I want to thank all our students, parents and guardians for their continued support of our school. It is a true partnership where students and parents are an integral part of daily school life. It is my privilege to be Principal of such a dynamic and progressive school and it is an honour to work hand in hand with Ms. Kelleher and the dedicated, professional teachers of St Aloysius. We look forward to bright future for students, parents and guardians of St. Aloysius.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Richel Long

STUDENT COUNCIL 2014 - 2015

From the very first meeting of the year, our Student Council has been highly productive in its efforts to improve our school community. In September 2014, our members had the great honour of welcoming Lord Mayor, Councillor Mary Shields, to St. Als. On this special occasion, Shauna Williams, our Head Girl and Council Chairperson, ably delivered an introductory speech on behalf of the Council. Next on the agenda was the planning of Open Night 2014. Our members undertook meet & greet duties for the occasion, guiding our visitors around the school and providing an insight into the history and tradition of St. Als. We were delighted to hear that the Principal received several letters of thanks and praise from visiting parents with whom we liaised on the night. The first term ended on a high note with singer Ms. Fiona O' Reilly formally launching our annual St. Vincent de Paul "Giving Tree" campaign. On the 1st of December, the operatic singer entertained us, while Christmas gifts and food hampers poured in for disadvantaged children and families of Cork City.

This year we were delighted to have organised a number of non-uniform days which have helped raise much needed school funds. From the proceeds of our non-uniform days, the school has purchased a state of the art camera, funded a presentation by Dr. Maureen Griffin on internet safety and donated the proceeds of April's non uniform day to the Nepalese earthquake. School Self Evaluation: Homework questionnaires were distributed to students and analysed by the Council members. As a result of this a whole school homework policy is being formulated. Our Head Girl Shauna Williams and our two deputy Head Girls, Maria Cordero and Clíona O' Brien addressed the Board of management in May, outlining our year's work and our hopes for the coming year. At the Board meeting the students presented their Student Council Constitution for ratification. The Chairperson Dr. Steele commended the girls on their outstanding presentation and their work on behalf of their fellow students.

STUDENT COUNCIL 2014 - 2015



HALLOWEEN IN ST. ALS!



FUNDRAISING FOR NEPAL





MEITHEAL

Meitheal is a youth leadership programme run by the Redemptorist community, providing young students with a unique opportunity to develop life skills in the areas of communication, teamwork, respect of others and honesty. In St Aloysius the Meitheal team compromise of fifth year students who have been selected through interview from members of the Redemptorist community. By applying the skills and talents developed through the training programme of Meitheal, our first year students from various primary schools benefit enormously, helping create a first year group who are happier, integrated and respecting of each other.

This year our Meitheal members have been busy working very hard endeavouring to welcome our new school members, by organising lunchtime activities, cinema trip and the pizza party. Such hard work reflects the Meitheal team's great commitment despite their very hectic timetable. Through their work, the Meitheal team reflect the words of the prophet Micah: Justice, Compassion and Humility.

FIRST YEARS 2014-2015



MEITHEAL TEAM 2014 - 2015



VARIETY SHOW

ALL MUSIC STUDENTS PARTOOK IN THIS YEARS ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW IN NOVEMBER. FIRST YEAR MUSIC STUDENTS SANG AND PERFORMED SONGS FROM "ANNIE", WHILE SECOND AND THIRD YEARS ENTERTAINED THE AUDIENCES WITH SONGS INCLUDING "DEFYING GRAVITY", "POPULAR" AND "SHE'S NOT THAT GIRL".



T.Y. STUDENTS TOOK TO THE STAGE TO PERFORM SONGS FROM THE HIT MUSICAL "HAIRSPRAY". 5TH YEARS SANG SONGS FROM THE POPULAR "FROZEN", WITH THE AID OF TWO VERY YOUNG SPECIAL GUESTS, WHILE LEAVING CERTS CHOREOGRAPHED A DANCE TO MEGHAN TRAINORS "ALL ABOUT THAT BASS".



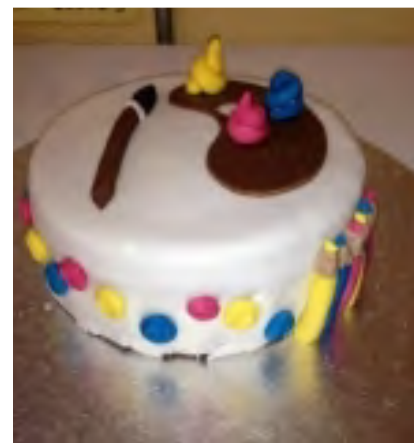
OTHER ACTS ON THE NIGHT INCLUDED IRISH DANCING, INDIAN DANCING, MODERN DANCING, SOLO SINGERS, AND SOLO PERFORMERS. A GREAT NIGHT WAS HAD BY ALL!



D'éirigh thar barr le seachtain na Gaeilge arís i mbliana. Bhain gach éinne spraoi as an gcéilí mór tráthnóna Dé Luain, 16 Márta. Tá caighdeán an rince ag dul i bhfeabhas ó bhliain go bliain, gan trácht ar an amhránaíocht! Bhí na hiontrálacha don chomórtas postaeir a reachtaíodh le linn na seachtaine sin ar ardchaighdeán chomh maith. Chuaigh lucht idirbhliana siar go Corca Dhuibhne ar an 14 Bealtaine. Stop siad sa Daingean chun féachaint ar Fungi, agus chun cuairt a thabhairt ar an uisceadán, Saol Fo Thoinn. Ar na suíomhanna eile ar thug siad cuairt orthu bhí Séipéilín Galarus agus Ionad an Bhlascaoid. Bhí gach éinne an-sásta leis an lá.



Second year students Roisin Fahy and Benu Tripathi exhibited their project "Do Fandoms Affect Teenagers" at the BT Young Scientist Exhibition January 2015 at the RDS. It was a great achievement for Roisin and Benu to have their project accepted as the standard was so high. Roisin and Benu received excellent feedback from the judges on their presentation and how well they were able to articulate their project with confidence and enthusiasm. The purpose of their project was to determine if 'fandoms' and 'fangirling' had an impact on teenagers' education, attitudes, emotions, social life and health. The students found both positive and negative aspects of 'fandoms'. Roisin and Benu also exhibited their project at the CIT Scifest in April. They represented the school so well and were great ambassadors for St. Aloysius School.



DRAMATICALS

OUR FIRST YEAR DRAMA CLUB MET EVERY WEEK WHERE STUDENTS PARTICIPATED FOR THE DRAMA FESTIVAL HELD IN DEERPARK. THE GIRLS WERE SUCCESSFUL AT THE FESTIVAL BY WINNING THE "BEST ORIGINAL SCRIPT" AWARD.



Aoibhne Warner

Congratulations to Aoibhne Warner who was awarded a Quercus Entrance Scholarship for UCC for the 2014/2015 academic year on the basis of her outstanding Leaving Certificate results. The UCC Entrance Scholarship Awards Ceremony was held on Thursday 4th December in Devere Hall, UCC where Aoibhne was presented with her scholarship. Aoibhne was one of 60 recipients from all over Ireland, who are in the first year of their undergraduate degree. Aoibhne is studying Applied Psychology and thoroughly enjoying college life.



The subject Art, Craft and Design offers students an opportunity to break away from a highly structured environment to one where they may take greater responsibility for their own creative process and learning. The year focuses upon cultivating and evolving their identity-encouraging the students to engage and take inspiration from their experience of the world around them-formulating a foothold by which students can discover a little more about themselves while thinking in a different, insightful manner.

Upon entering the classroom, students will engage in an exciting approach of actively learning with creativity, imagination, curiosity. It is a process of collecting, analysing, making observations, experimenting and problem solving. This is a highly beneficial strategy of hands on learning, utilising all the senses. Rather than providing all the answers, students will participate in a journey of discovery and developing in the process.

Junior Certificate Results

We, in St Aloysius, are duly proud of the excellent results achieved by all of our Junior Certificate students in their examination in 2014, in particular we recognise Nicole Lake achieving 10 A grades and Patricia de Jesus who received 9 A grades. We wish to congratulate all students on their excellent results.



Aoife O Regan, Clodagh Hartnett and Lauren O Donovan on the morning of their Junior Cert results, with Principal Ms. Richel Long and Vice Principal Ms. Eileen Kelleher

Photo Gallery



SCIENCE WEEK



HEART DISSECTIONS



TY FORENSICS



GEORGE BOOLE TOUR, UCC



JIMMY CROWLEY ENTERTAINING STAFF AND STUDENTS



ALL IRELAND LINGUISTIC OLYMPIAD UCD



SCHOOL CEILI



JUNIOR FOOTBALL TEAM



FIRST YEAR BASKETBALL TEAM