

# School Newsletter

February, 2011

## Meitheal

The Meitheal team hosted a movie night for the First Years before the Christmas holidays. Great fun! The girls were also busy with the organization of the First Year disco, in co-ordination with CBS. The disco was a success and enjoyed by all. Meitheal leaders are now preparing for further training in Castletown, Portlaoise. The team would like to thank the meitheal co-ordinator, Ms. Elliott, and also Ms. Egan, Ms. Nolan and Mr. Langton who helped out at the disco.



## Musical

Rehearsals are well under way for this year's TY musical, 'The Wizard of Oz' which runs from the 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> March, under the direction of Noel McDonagh with musical maestro, Mr. Lanigan, and choreography by Deirdre Browne.

With classics such as 'Some where Over the Rainbow', and 'Follow the Yellow Brick Road' and dances from our Munchkin chorus, the show really has something for everyone. Tickets will go on sale from 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, available at the school reception. Book early to avoid disappointment. Patrons Night is Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> March. To become a patron you need to send your name and your daughter's name, together with €50 to Ms. Sheehan by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. You will receive two tickets for the show and be

invited to a reception in the school prior to the musical. Your name will also be included in the programme.

## Student Council

Since the start of the year the council has organised several Friday 'Rag Days'. During December, we organised Christmas events and despite the adverse weather conditions they were very successful. Congratulations to the winners of our 'Decorate a Room' competition, 1 Cedar and 6 Eorna. Congratulations also to Alanna Dunleavy, winner of the chocolate hamper.

The 'Blind Date' event organised in conjunction with the CBS council, was very enjoyable and funds were raised for Guide Dogs for the blind. We would like to welcome our two newest members to the council, Sadhbh Clancy and Niamh Prendergast, from First Year.

## Junior Hockey



The junior hockey team has had a very successful term, securing a place in the semi final of the Leinster Schools League. Along the way the girls have had some exciting victories beating Alexandra College, Terenure College, Holy Child Killiney, St. Joseph's of Cluny, St. Raphael's Stillorgan, and most recently in the quarter final, Wesley College. We wish all the players good luck for their upcoming game. Goal scorers include:- Lorna Laide, Jane

Fitzsimons, Laura Kiely, Leah Hayden, Peggy McKeown, Laoise Dillon and Sarah Clancy.



## Gaelic Football

The Seniors made their exit from this year's Leinster Championship losing out to last year's All Ireland finalists, Trim.

Best for St. Mary's were Aoife and Niamh Hederman, Bríd Doolan, Ciara O'Connor, Aoife Caulfield, Grace Clifford, Béibhínn Jameson, and Naomi Curtis.

Congratulations to the talented Grace Clifford, who has made the Kildare senior panel, a tremendous achievement. The U14s are stepping up preparations for their first match in late February /early March.

## Awards Night



An Awards Night that pointed to the holistic nature of education in St. Mary's College, Naas was held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February. This is an annual event and tribute was paid to the award winners from Sixth Year, class of 2009/2010.

The overriding criterion for consideration for these awards was the girls' ability to use their many talents. While academic achievement was also taken into account, so also were artistic accomplishments, sporting prowess, courage in the face of adversity, personality and overall effort. At an enjoyable

ceremony held in the school staffroom, Board of Management Chairperson, Moling Ryan and Principal Marie O'Neill spoke of the honour these girls brought to themselves, to their families and to the school. They are to be heartily congratulated and are living proof of the school's ethos, which encourages both talent and effort.

The girls who received awards were Emma Aherne, Chloe Campbell, Jennifer Courtney, Orla Fitzpatrick, Roísín Flanagan, Ruth Healy, Caroline Hill, Orla Keenan, Sinéad Keohane, Clíodhna MacSweeney, Amy Nolan, Amy O'Kelly, Aoife Rafter, Aoife Rice and Aoife Sheehy.

This year, to mark their exceptional contributions to the school, special presentations were made to Sr. Anne Doyle and Phil Dunning.

Sr. Anne served as a teacher in St. Mary's in the 1970s, then spent years working as a missionary in her beloved Kenya. Fortunately for us she returned as a teacher in 1986 and was appointed principal in 1987. Extraordinarily hard working and inspirational as a principal, she truly led by example.

Phil Dunning worked in the school for 35 years, thirty one of those as vice-principal. With her kind, gentle and caring nature she was always there to support the school community. The Ceremony was attended by the recipients of awards and their guests, by members of the Board of Management, the Parent Council, the Past Pupils' Association and by the Student Council. Present staff and retired

staff were all well represented. The beautiful music throughout the evening was courtesy of harpists, Shauna and Naoise Gallagher.

### **Fashion Show Fundraiser**

This year our Parisian Style pre-Punchestown Fashion Show will be held in Killashee House Hotel on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April. Tickets will be on sale shortly for what promises to be an enjoyable and entertaining evening.