



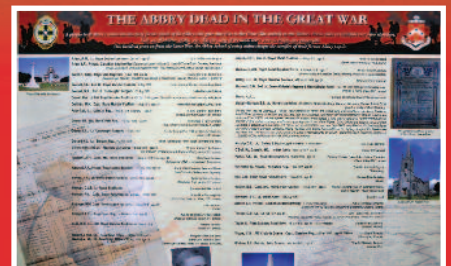
The Abbey School News

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INCLUDED IN THIS AUTUMN / WINTER ISSUE

- Changes in Staff
- World War 1 Memorial
- BT Young Scientist
- Munich Trip
- TY Manchester Trip
- TY Musical- High School Musical
- Nicholas Ryan Purcell
- Canon Hayes Awards
- Writer in Residence
- Dr. Harty Cup Campaign
- New PE Hall
- The WIT Business Award
- Corn Dhonncha Uí Nuanáin Senior Football
- TY Bursary Award
- Autumn/Winter Reflection





CHANGES IN STAFFING IN THE ABBEY SCHOOL

We welcome Mr. Darren Carew back to The Abbey School as our Religion, Enterprise and Computers teacher. Mr. Carew has also taken charge of the school bank and co-ordinates the highly successful A-Factor each year.

We also welcome back Ms. Julie King from Nenagh, who teaches Irish and Geography. Julie has extensive experience working in secondary schools within the ETB sector in North Tipperary and is also involved in youth work in her community.

This year, at The Abbey, we welcomed new staff. Firstly, Mr. Eoin Halligan, our new M.T.W/DCG/Construction/Technology teacher. Eoin previously taught in CBS Sexton Street and Wexford CBS in Wexford Town. We also welcome Mr. Seán Mullins, our new English and PE Teacher. Seán previously taught in FCJ Bunclody Secondary School and Carrigaline Community School. We would also like to welcome Mr. Michael Hanley on board as our new PE and Irish teacher and Mr. Conor Hayes who is our new Career Guidance and Counselling teacher. Conor will be with us on Thursdays and Fridays as Mr. McGrath is on secondment to the Guidance & Counselling Association in Dublin. Ms Fiona O'Connor is welcomed to The Abbey as the new Music teacher. We wish her every success in bringing music back to The Abbey.

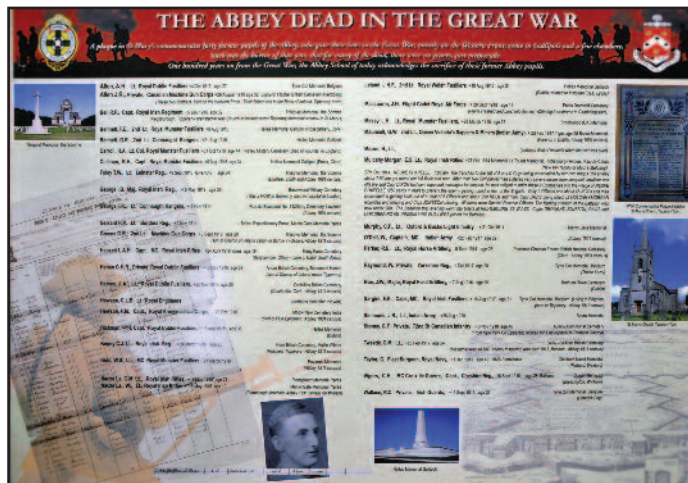
Ms. Laura Brosnan also came on board this year taking Ms. Joanne Flynn's classes. Laura has extensive experience in working on stage and was an exceptional help this year with our musical. We also extend a welcome to Mr. Evan O'Meara, Mr. John O'Brien and Mr. Jim Hayes who are substituting for teachers on leave.

RETIREMENTS

We thank Mr. JJ Kennedy and Mr. Michael Leahy for their many years of dedicated service to The Abbey and we wish them many long years of well-deserved retirement. We also wish Mr. Damian O'Brien well in his new position in Galway and thank Damian for his dedicated service inside and outside the classroom. We also send a sincere thank you to Nuala O'Sullivan and Michelle Buckley for all their work, providing food for the boys in the canteen. Our best wishes to Fr. Eddie Cleary in his new position in Herbertstown and to Ms. Therese Cummins, retired SNA.



THE ABBEY HONOURS PAST STUDENTS WHO DIED IN WORLD WAR 1



A commemoration event was held at The Abbey School to present a memorial to forty past pupils of the Erasmus Smith Old Grammar School who died in the Great War.

Pupils participated in a touching ceremony, performing music, poetry and readings from the time. Historian, Dr Des Marnane joined the pupils and informed guests of the sacrifices of the forty brave men. The memorial was presented by Andrew Forrest, Principal of the High School, Rathgar, an Erasmus Smith School, with a long shared history with The Abbey.

It was another milestone for The Abbey which has conducted many ceremonies to honour its past. Those events included the presentation of a plaque by President Mary McAleese to mark the site of the Old Abbey Erasmus Smith Grammar School, the presentation of a plaque in honour of John McCarthy, a past pupil of the Old Abbey who attended the meeting in Thurles when the GAA was founded, and in 2006 an arch-way to commemorate the Augustinians and their role on the site from around 1300 was officially opened. Dr. Marnane reminded all present of how proud they should be to be part of The Abbey School and its extraordinary historical background. "No student should leave The Abbey School without knowing its historical background." Thanks to all involved in organising this ceremony especially to our special guest speaker Dr. Des Marnane and Mr. Andrew Forrest who travelled from Rathgar in Dublin. It was truly a memorable day.

SCHOOL IPADS

The school has purchased ten iPads to be used by students in the Special Education Needs Department and by staff in various subject areas. They will be individually tailored for each student by an expert in the field it is envisioned that they will also help to integrate the SEN provision into the mainstream classroom. The staff will in turn be able to teach each other from their experiences and more will be purchased when finances allow.

COMHAIRLE NA NÓG

The Abbey was well represented at the Annual Comhairle na nÓg AGM which was held in Aherlow House Hotel on Thursday 13th October. Comhairle na nÓg is the National Youth Paliament. Robert Lewis, Brian O'Donovan, Ronan Finnan, Luke English, Andrew Richardson and Conor Buckley attended. Each student was awarded a Certificate of Attendance and Participation.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES 2016/17



Luke Kinane
Jack Moylan
Hamza Al Zine Boubaz
Jack Flannery
Ben Cosgrave
Ross McKenzie
Dominic Hayes
Ronan Finnane
Cian Martin
Niall Carew
Philip Crowe
Michael Fitzgerald
Ben Esmonde
Padraic Toomey
Tony Byrnes
Cormac Maher

Liaising Teachers

Mr. Dan Riall
Mr. Darren Carew

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Michael Martin- Chairperson
Michael Devlin- Parents Rep.
Michael Hogan- Trustee Rep.
Carina Kingston- Parents Rep.
Margaret Griffin- Trustee Rep.
Conor Reale- Teachers' Rep.
Nora Quinn- Teachers' Rep.
Peter Hayes- Trustee Rep.
John Kiely- Secretary

PARENTS' COUNCIL

The following persons are the officers of Parental Advisory Council for the coming year:

Chairperson- Marie Collison
Secretary- Catriona Hayes
Treasurer- Siobhán Hallissey

Many thanks to the outgoing Secretary Ms. Deirdre Brahan for her dedication and hard work over the past three years.



BT YOUNG SCIENTIST 2017

Congratulations to Transition Year students Tadhg Carew and Jack Quirke on qualifying to represent The Abbey at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition 2017. The boys will travel to the RDS in Dublin from the 11th to the 14th of January. Their project title is, 'Effects of Non-Selection for Physical Activities on Adolescents' Mental Health'. The aim of their project is to investigate whether or not being cut from a sports team or being chosen last in schoolyard or PE activities have the same effect on both male and female adolescents. In September, 2091 projects from all around Ireland were submitted to the competition and it is a fantastic achievement for the boys to be one of the 550 projects that have qualified and will compete in the RDS in January. Thanks to Ms. Marian Keating for her guidance and direction.

ART TRIP

On Thursday, 10th November, Fifth and Sixth Year Art Students visited the Brú na Bóinne Interpretive Centre, Donore, Co. Meath. They were accompanied by Ms. Carey and Ms. Leahy. The visitor's centre is located on the bend of the River Boyne and acts as a gateway to the Brú na Bóinne (Palace of the Boyne) Archaeological Park. Students were eager to go on a tour of the ancient passage grave at Newgrange, Co. Meath, having read about it during our art history classes. Students also stopped en-route to see the High Cross and Round Tower at Monasterboice, Co. Louth.



The Abbey Science Department



MUNICH TRIP

Last October Junior and Leaving Cert students were given an opportunity to take part in a four day trip to Munich, by their German teacher, Ms. Kay O'Dwyer. From the moment the students arrived they were immersed into the history and the culture of the city.

On the first day, the students participated in a walking tour of the city which was an excellent way to take in the culture and the beautiful sites around them. They visited Odenplatz, a large square in the

city centre and the scene of the 1923 Beer Hall Putsch, Hitler's failed attempt to seize power in Munich.

To contrast this, they students also visited the burial place of Rupert Meyes, one of Germany's most influential protestors of Nazism. They were taken to Frauenkirche, a massive cathedral built under Prince Sigismund in 1468 which dominates the Munich skyline. They learned how it was rebuilt after WW2 following allied bombings. Other locations include Marienplatz (city centre), White Rose Art Gallery and House De Kunst Nazi Art Gallery.

On the second day of our tour, the students travelled to Dachau Concentration Camp, north of Munich. There, they had a two hour guided tour of the concentration camp. Here they learned in great detail about the hardships endured by the prisoners on the camp during WW2. Shortly after, they left for Galaxy Erding Water Park where they spent three hours participating in fun filled activities.

On day three, the students visited the 1972 Olympic Park and were given a full tour of the museum, VIP areas, dressing rooms and the pitch itself. They were then taken to the Olympic tower from which they had a spectacular view of the city.

On the final day, the students walked to the U-Bahn station and headed to the Munich Deutsche Museum where there were over 28,000 exhibits from 50 different fields of Science and Technology. Afterwards, students were brought to the Hard Rock Café and were given a delicious meal as well as a view of the memorabilia from international celebrities.

We wish to thank Ms Kay O'Dwyer, who organised the trip for the students and also Mr. Darren Carew, Ms. Nora Quinn, Ms. Caroline O'Connor and Ms. Brenda O'Donnell who took time out of their busy schedules to ensure the boys had an unforgettable experience in Munich and we look forward to planning many trips similar to this in the future.





TRANSITION YEAR MANCHESTER TRIP

On 6th November, forty-five pupils from The Abbey School travelled to Manchester, along with three teachers, Mr Hickey, Mr Hanley and Mr Ryan. The bus left The Abbey at 4:45am and finally arrived at Dublin port at 8am. For many, it was their first experience on a ferry and for others, their first time abroad. There were multiple facilities on the ship such as arcade rooms, restaurants and shops.



Once the students had arrived in Manchester they headed to the Trafford Shopping Centre. They then had a competitive game of mini golf at Trafford's Paradise Adventure Mini Golf Centre. They also visited the gigantic food court, the group had a great time and went shopping afterwards. At 5am on the 7th of November, the students left for the Etihad Stadium where Manchester City played off against Celtic. Many bought Manchester City souvenirs in the stadium's main shop. This match was highly eventful, especially in the first half where two amazing goals were scored between each team. The atmosphere was intense; everyone was on the edge of their seat. The match resulted in a 1-1 draw.

That night they slept in Travel Lodge Hotel, all the students were very tired after the exciting day. At 9am the bus left the Travel Lodge Hotel and visited the Old Trafford Stadium. Students had a top class tour of the stadium and the Manchester United Museum. Later they departed for the Chill Factory where they were given suitable snow attire and participated in activities such as skiing and tobogganing in the arctic temperatures. Afterwards, the group had two hours to get lunch and visit shops.



Art Trip to Brú na Bóinne Interpretive Centre

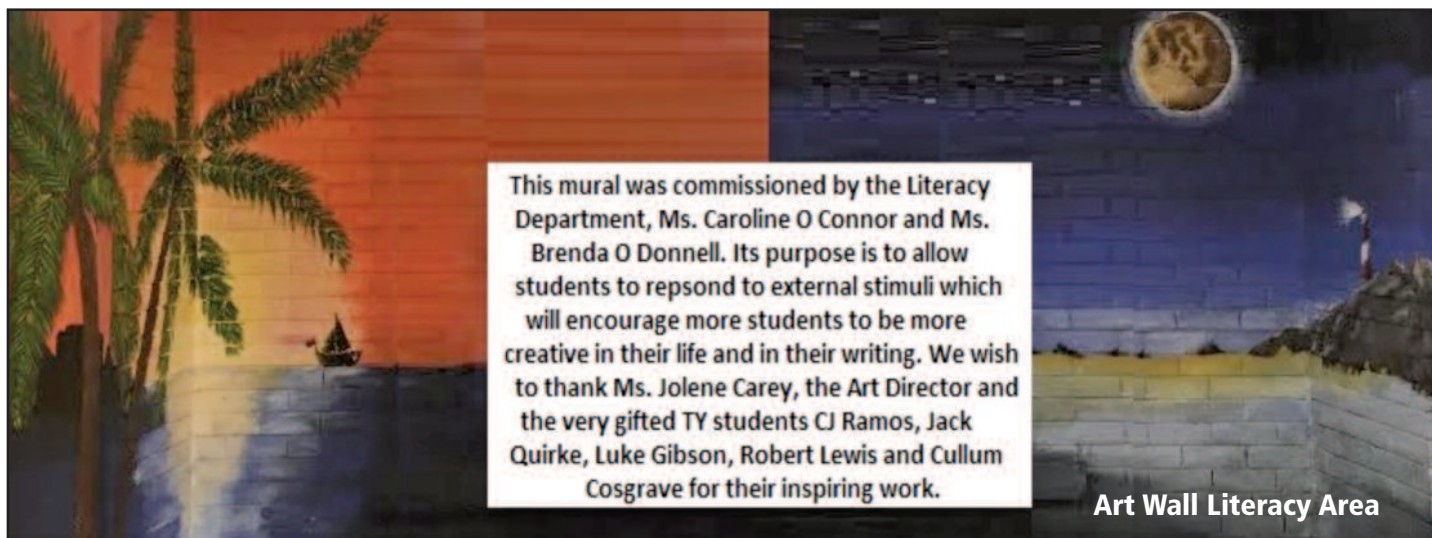
Finally, they left the busy city and headed for the ferry back to Dublin Port. The air was crisp and refreshing whilst at sea. Many went out to gaze at the magnificent waters, and to catch a breath of fresh air. The bus ride home was tiring for most, as the day's events caught up on everyone. The trip itself was truly entertaining and action-packed.

IN CELEBRATION OF MR. MICHAEL LEAHY AND HIS WORK AT THE ABBEY SCHOOL

To mark the occasion of Mr. Leahy's retirement from The Abbey School, the senior art students decided to collaborate and create a unique painting to present to Mr. Leahy at the end of the school year. Students decided to take inspiration from a piece of pottery made by Mr. Leahy himself, which he had chosen to inscribe with a Celtic motif. This fitted in nicely with our studies of Pre-Christian Ireland and the ancient site of Newgrange. Students wanted to create an artwork that would represent the natural passage of time from night



to day, summer to winter and symbolise life's progression and new beginnings. They did this by including the symbol of the sun and the moon, and by using a contrasting cold and warm colour scheme. For the Neolithic people who charted the movements of the sun, the moon and the stars the triple spiral represented life, death and rebirth and the natural progression of life's various stages.



This mural was commissioned by the Literacy Department, Ms. Caroline O Connor and Ms. Brenda O Donnell. Its purpose is to allow students to respond to external stimuli which will encourage more students to be more creative in their life and in their writing. We wish to thank Ms. Jolene Carey, the Art Director and the very gifted TY students CJ Ramos, Jack Quirke, Luke Gibson, Robert Lewis and Cullum Cosgrave for their inspiring work.

Art Wall Literacy Area



Mr. Leahy originally established Art & Design as a subject in The Abbey School when he started out his career as a teacher of Agricultural Science and Construction Studies. A man of many talents you might say! His vision led to our modern, fully equipped art room that is thriving today.

HOLY CROSS VISIT

On the 20th of September, Transition Year students along with many Fifth Year students travelled to Holy Cross where a special ceremony was held featuring guest speaker Fr. Peter McVerry. Fr. Aiden directed the ceremony. In total nine secondary schools around South Tipperary attended. Thanks to Jack Quirke and Robert Lewis for representing us, they brought up candles and read out prayers on the day.



Peter McVerry gave an incredibly intriguing and awe-inspiring eulogy on how homeless people changed his views and how he perceived God. He spoke about the terrible and frightening effects of drug-use, how people who are homeless should be treated and what drives the youth to drugs. Peter McVerry focused on both children and adolescents who are left wandering the streets at night and how these individuals could have experienced terrible things and in some cases being mistreated by their parents. I recall Peter McVerry saying that many children turn to drugs to drown their memories, and when they come off drugs, these horrific childhood memories come flooding back.

WRITER IN RESIDENCE

Our Writer in Residence Programme began this year with a school visit by the author Ré Ó Leighleis. This workshop was available to all junior cycle students. Ré explained the art of writing and shared his work and experiences with the boys. The students responded very positively to Ré's infectious, caring energetic approach. We would like to thank Ré O Loughléis for his professionalism and enthusiasm throughout the day. We also wish to thank Poetry Ireland for funding the programme and Ms. Brenda O'Donnell for organizing this wonderful event which is part of the school Literacy Improvement Plan.

On January 9th 2017, we look forward to having Mr. Seamus Cashman as our Writer in Residence.



IN CELEBRATION OF JJ KENNEDY'S TIME IN THE ABBEY SCHOOL



Mr. JJ Kennedy

In recognition of Mr. Kennedy's role as Transition Year Co-ordinator and to wish him luck on his retirement, transition year students made a presentation to Mr. Kennedy in May 2016. Student Council representatives Ben Esmonde and Michael Fitzgerald, together with the TY class of 2016 presented Mr Kennedy with a card signed by the TY group and an Abbey School jersey to remind him of his time in The Abbey School. Michael Fitzgerald thanked Mr Kennedy for his successful organisation and coordination of Transition Year, his guidance, direction and patience.

To mark his retirement, Mr. Kennedy's Fifth Year English class presented Mr. Kennedy with a cake and a card signed by the class. Eoin Kelly spoke on behalf of the class, thanking Mr. Kennedy for his time at The Abbey.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

- Trip to "The Merchant of Venice" in The Lime Tree Theatre, January 16th, 2017
- Trip to "Hamlet" in The Everyman Theatre, March 3rd, 2017
- World Book Day March 2nd 2017
- Cross Curriculum Quiz

VISIT OF SEAMUS HENNESSY

Seamus Hennessy is a past pupil of The Abbey school. He is from Dundrum but is now living in the US in California. Seamus kindly helped us install the Wi-Fi system across the entire school. During this visit he met with all fifth and sixth year students who are studying Accounting for the Leaving Cert. Seamus is now the Chief Financial Controller of a large multinational company "Rukus Wireless Communications". We really appreciate what Seamus has done for our school.

CAREERS INFORMATION

It has been a busy start to year in the Guidance Department with students engaged in a number of different activities. On September 20th all 5th and 6th year students attended the Mid-West Careers Exhibition which took place at the University of Limerick. There were over seventy exhibitors in attendance, predominantly comprising of Irish and UK Higher Education Institutes. It was a great opportunity for students to explore different career options; in addition to speaking to staff and students associated with courses of interest to pupils. October 20th involved another trip to Limerick for 6th year students. This time it was back to University of Limerick, Limerick Institute of Technology and Mary Immaculate College for their respective Open Day events. This was another useful outing for the students as it was now coming close to the time to start filling in course choices on their CAO forms. On October 19th there was a presentation to 6th Year parents in the school hosted by Mr. McGrath & Mr. Hayes. This explored the abundance of different routes to third level and further education post Leaving Certificate 2017. It was very well attended by parents and guardians. College Awareness week ran from November 21st – 25th 2016 nationally. There were a number of events ran in the school. Finally there will be a College and Careers Exhibition held in the school during the month of January.



4 STEPS TO HELP

On October 24th all the Senior Cycle students attended the Four Steps to Help Programme which is designed to increase awareness around mental health issues. It provides information on the support and resources available to anyone who is concerned about mental health issues or is concerned about a friend or family member. This programme emphasises: 1. The importance of awareness of sudden changes in behaviour of friends or family. 2. Understanding how to recognise suicide warning signs or other mental health issues. 3. Promoting active listening. 4. Emphasise the importance of seeking help from appropriate adult.

COLLEGE AND CAREERS FAIR AT THE ABBEY SCHOOL

The Guidance Department consisting of Mr. Eddie McGrath and Mr. Conor Hayes are hosting a College and Career Awareness Day on Friday 27th January, 2017 from 11am to 2pm. Over 35 colleges, employers, FÁS, SOLAS and SUSI Grant Agency have been invited to attend. Throughout the day, students will have the opportunity to visit the exhibitions and discuss possible future courses and careers.

SUCCESS OF BUSINESS AT THE ABBEY SCHOOL

Abbey students who scored an 'A Grade' In Junior Cert. Higher Business this year were invited to a special presentation ceremony in Waterford Institute of Technology. Those honoured were James Cunningham, Patrick Kelly, Brian O'Donovan, Kieran O'Dwyer, Tadgh Carew and Philip Crowe. They were accompanied by family members and business teacher Mr. Dan Riall.



EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY

European Languages Day is an annual event which celebrates languages throughout Europe. It took place on Monday the 26th September this year. The Abbey currently has students who speak 13 different European languages including of course our native tongues : English and Gaelige. The modern foreign languages on offer in the school: French and German as well as a plethora of other languages including Spanish, Russian, Polish, Slovakian, Lithuanian, Belarussian, Latvian, Romanian and Hungarian.



Mr. Eddie McGrath and Mr. Conor Hayes

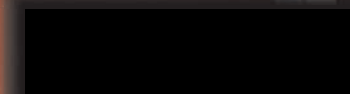
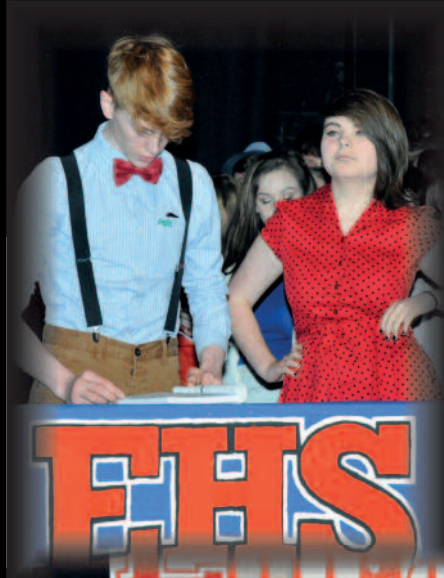


To celebrate the day our polylinguists gave us a taste of their native tongue. These were represented by Daniels Nicolajevs: Latvian, Pepe Léon: Spanish, Nikita Liasjuk: Belarussian, Liutauras Butkevicius: Lithuanian, Alexandriou Mare: Romanian, Wiktor Lewandowshi: Polish, Adam Marek: Slovakian, Denis Kliminov: Russian, Levente Csabai: Hungarian, CJ Ramos: French, Daniel Ryan: German, Shane Maher: Gaeilge.

ENTERPRISE ACTIVITIES

Under the guidance of Mr. Dan Riall and Mr. Darren Carew our Transition Year Students are involved in many enterprises. It's an opportunity for these students to come up with an idea, a product or service and sell it to people. Some of TY1's enterprises are: Guitar lessons, Event Managing, Epi Pen cases, Social Group (breaking the barrier between boys and girls), Horseshoe cards, Half socks, Gates and Helmet guards

TY2's enterprise's include: An interactive health and safety handbook, Tippopoly (Monopoly for Tipperary Town), personalized Bobble Hats, personalized long sleeve t-shirts, Selling blocks/timber, an Abbey undershirt, dog collars that light up and a security alarm that rings.







Winner of the JP McManus Scholarship Fedor Kliminov with Principal Mr. John Kiely and his parents.

DIGITAL MEDIA COMPETITION/ TY BURSARY AWARD

On Wednesday 29th Padraic Toomey, Adam Glasheen, Adam McGrath, Paudie Franklin and David O'Shea were awarded €500 for digital media equipment for The Abbey School by Tipperary Credit Union. The annual ceremony took place at Tipperary Credit Union head office. Two students teams 'MatPat' and 'Brudders' won €250 per team. Their video was exceptional and it was clear to all involved in the process that a lot of time and effort was put into the project.

Congratulations to James Hanly Cunningham who won the Transition Year Bursary. He too was presented with his award on the 29th of June. Congratulations also to Mr. Conor Buckley in 3rd Year who also won a Bursary for Transition Year 2017/18. It was a proud day for The Abbey School and special thanks to Tipperary Credit Union for this innovative idea and their sponsorship. It was a fabulous ceremony and no expenses were spared on the day with refreshments and food served afterwards.

TIPPERARY EXCEL YOUTH THEATRE

Last summer some of our students were involved in the production of "HAIRSPRAY" in the Excel in Tipperary. This Award-winning Musical is one of the most widely produced musicals today, not only because of its wit and charm, but also because of the beautiful message of acceptance and progress that it portrays. The bright, energetic story of Tracy Turnbald teaches us all to look past the colour of one's skin and fight for every human being's equal rights. The following Abbey students starred in the production: Eoghan Ryan, Tom Hogan, Cormac Maher, Tadhg O'Connor, Ben Esmonde, Zach O'Halloran and Shane O'Donovan. Well done lads! What a success!

High School Musical

The 24th consecutive Transition Year Musical, combining the talents of St. Anne's and The Abbey was a highly entertaining show which gave packed audiences a much-needed break from world events. The students worked hard during the previous two months to produce a show that lived up to all our expectations. It was obvious that the entire cast enjoyed performing and singing such well known numbers as "We're all in this together", "What I've been looking for", "Bop to the Top", "Stick to the Status Quo" and the catchy hit "Get your head in the game". This production emphasised many important teenage themes like the importance of supporting each other through challenging times.

The lead roles of Troy and Chad were played by Luke Gibson and Seán Smith and both were superb. Other excellent leads were Ryan

played by James Cussen, Zeke (James Cunningham), Jack Scott (Oisín Kelly) and Coach Bolton (Philip Crowe).

A show like this would not be possible without the leadership and mentoring given by our Producer, Michael O'Donoghue and Musical Director, Pat Marnane. Both have a wonderful rapport with the students and both schools really appreciate what both men do to make this annual event a boost for each student's self-esteem.

Thanks to the students and to the teachers for all their help and special appreciation to our overall musical coordinator Mr. Pat Donovan and the wonderful stage and set designers, Ms. Jolene Carey and Mr. Eoin Halligan who were also in-charge of making props for the show. A special thank you to Mr. Darren Carew and Mrs. Josephine

O'Heaney who managed the students behind the scenes during the practice shows. Thanks to Ms. Julie King who designed the advertising for the show and who also helped in developing the programme

for the show and to Ms. Laura Brosnan for her expertise and her help practicing with the boys and ensuring that they were well prepared for their performances.

NICHOLAS RYAN PURCELL - AGAINST THE ODDS

One of the past pupils of The Abbey has been chosen as the recipient of the March 2016 Hollywood International Independent Documentary award. His documentary entitled Against the Odds-Racing with 'Gordan Lord Byron' is a feature film detailing the life of this amazing horse. Nicholas has been interested in television production since the age of 14, his vision became a reality in October 2014 when he began producing the film. Nicholas originally from Emly Co. Tipperary now resides in Cloughjordan Co. Tipperary.





Pictured at the Tipperary Co-Op Annual Award to The Abbey Student achieving the highest marks in the 2016 Agricultural Science Leaving Cert were: L/R; John Kiely Principal; John Daly CEO Tipperary Co-Op; Michael O'Dwyer Ag. Science teacher; Paddy Donovan recipient; Pat Donovan Deputy Vice Principal (father) and Richard Donovan Chairman Tipperary Co-Op.

Since Nicholas left The Abbey in June 2006, he has trained in Television production in Ballyfermot, Dublin graduating in 2012. Nicholas was highly regarded by his fellow peers and teachers in The Abbey; he recalls positive messages from his teachers upon his departure, one even telling him they would be waiting to hear his name at the Oscars! You can visit the documentary on Social Media at <http://www.facebook.com/gibhorse/>

AG SCIENCE AWARD

On Friday, December 16th, Paddy Donovan received the Tipperary Co-op Agricultural Science Award and Scholarship for coming first in his class in Agricultural Science. Paddy is now studying Radiography in University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield in the UK. Paddy addressed 6th Year Agricultural Science students and advised them to pay particular attention to their Ag. Science project and to read back over the past papers over the last ten years. He thanked Tipperary Co-Op, especially Mr. John Daly, CEO and Mr. Dick Donovan, Chairman of Tipperary Co-Op for their generous donation. He also thanked all the teachers in The Abbey School who helped him along the way, especially his Ag Science teacher, Mr. O'Dwyer. Paddy's brother Jack was one of the first students in Ireland to study Agribusiness in UCD. On behalf of The Abbey School we would like to congratulate Paddy on his outstanding achievement and a special thanks to Mr. Michael O'Dwyer, his Ag. Science Teacher.

BEATIFICATION OF EDMUND RICE

It is now twenty years since the Beatification of Edmund Rice. Numerous celebrations were held to mark the Beatification of the founder of the Irish Christian Brothers on October 6th in Rome. The Abbey was represented at the ceremony in the Vatican by Brother Tom Horgan, Mr. Michael Ryan and Mr. Pat O'Halloran, who was the Chairman of the school's Board of Management at that time. They all reported



that it was a joyful and exciting occasion with over five thousand Irish pilgrims present.

The National Celebration was held in the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght on October 20th. The Abbey was represented by Mr. John Heffernan (Principal at the time), Ms. Annette Byrnes, Mr. Michael Ryan and Brother Horgan (Teaching Staff), Ms. Maureen Gleeson (Board of Management), Mr. Sean Moore (B.O.M. and Parent's Council), Father John Morris (School Chaplain), and Mr. Bobby Lewis. This was also a very enjoyable and meaningful event which emphasized the unity and common purpose of so many different schools and people in many countries, all working together as part of the Edmund Rice Family and in his tradition of service to those most in need. This was a very proud day for The Abbey School.

LIAM MCCARTHY CUP VISIT

It was a proud day for The Abbey School when Senior hurling panelist Conor O'Brien (Past pupil) and Cathal Barrett brought the Liam McCarthy Cup to our school as Minor Panellists; Shane Neville, Rian Doody and Kieran Breen (All 6th Year students) brought the Irish Press Cup. The trophies won earlier in the year, including the All Ireland SHC 'B' Cup, The Westcourt U14 Hurling Cup and the County U17 Football Cup, were displayed on a podium in front of the assembled students. Our guest speaker on the day was Mr. Joe Moloney, another past pupil who played full back on the All Ireland winning Minor Team in 1949.

Mr. Kiely, Principal of The Abbey School reminded all present of the hard work, dedication and sacrifices made by all concerned to gain All-Ireland success. He said that this ethic also applied an academic success.

Mr. Kiely spoke in glowing terms of The Abbey School's sport masters, past and present for their unwavering support in the promotion of the games in the school. He thanked all The Abbey Teachers for their support of sport in the school.

We wish to thank Kevin Hally, West Tipperary G.D.A. who organised the visit on behalf of the County Board, Conor O'Brien and Cathal Barrett who visited on behalf of the senior hurling panel and the three minor medallists Kieran Breen, Rian Doody and Shane Neville.



Liam McCarthy Cup Visit

We would also like to thank our special guest Tom Moloney for his presence on the day and the County Board for their presentation of €1,000 for our Gaelic Games Fund.

U15 B Munster Football Eamon O'Donoghue Cup

1st round Wednesday 28th of September Watergrasshill

Abbey 1-6
Clonakilty 5-21

The Abbey were put under serious pressure from the very start. It was a very one sided game. Clonakilty scored 2-5 without The Abbey scoring. It looked like The Abbey had no chance but then Killian Fitzgerald got the opening score for The Abbey and got them off the mark. Clonakilty proved to be too strong for The Abbey and ran away with the game after the second half. Killian Fitzgerald scored a total of 1-3 and Robbie Byron scored the other 0-3. The hard work in training wasn't enough as they met a bigger and more physical side. Clonakilty have continued in this fashion going on to qualify for the final of this competition. Their opponents will be Bandon in the final. Thanks to Mr. Noel Kilcoyne and Mr. John O'Dwyer for training the team.

U18.5 A Munster Senior Hurling Harty Cup

The Abbey were drawn in a group of two with Nenagh CBS in the new format Harty Cup. They prepared well for their first round match. They trained hard and played a number of challenge matches including Clonmel High School, Doon, Templemore, Ard Scoil Rís, CBC and our own u16.5 team. Thanks to Mr. Kieran Hickey, Mr. John Kiely and Mr. Jim Ryan for training the team.

1st round on Tuesday 25th of October Newport

Abbey 2-16
Nenagh 1-22

The Abbey started brilliantly with a goal in 58 seconds by Adam McGrath. Rian Doody followed up with a point from a free and one from play. Nenagh replied with a goal and two points. The Abbey then went two points ahead with a point from Shane Neville and a free by Rian Doody. Nenagh got a point back but The Abbey retained

their two point lead by a free by Rian Doody but after three minutes the match was level. Rian Doody scored a point from play and then Nenagh scored two points to put them in the lead. The Abbey was awarded a free in the last minute of the first half. Rian Doody stepped up and put it over the black spot to put the teams level going in at half time with the score being 1-7 to 1-7. Nenagh started the second half with two points without a reply but then Shane Neville stepped up and scored two points and Adam McGrath scoring a second goal and a point and Rian Doody scored a point from a free Nenagh replied with five points with no reply from The Abbey until the last three minutes with Rian Doody scored two points from frees but Nenagh replied with two frees to level it up at the final whistle with the score level at 2-13 to 1-16. The first half of extra time was very low scoring with only three points Rian Doody scored one and Nenagh scored the other two which put Nenagh up by a point with only the second half of extra time to be played. In the second half Nenagh scored three points and went four points in the lead with only three minutes left. Rian Doody got a point back by a free but straight after, Nenagh retained their four point lead. Rian Doody scored a point from play to make it a three point victory for Nenagh. The Abbey will face Thurles in last 16 knockout game of the competition.

U18.5 B Munster Football Denis Noonan Cup

Our senior team this year began their preparations for the Munster and County championship in the second week of September. The Abbey trained hard for the first round they also played two challenge matches against Hospital and Clonmel High School The Abbey beating them both convincingly. This gave us great confidence going into our first round match. Thanks to Mr. Seán Mullins and Mr. Eoin Halligan for training the team.

1st round on Tuesday 18th of October in Knocklong

Abbey 3-6
St. Colmans Fermoy 1-7

The Abbey faced Colmans of Fermoy on a cold Tuesday in the first round of the Denis Noonan cup. The pitch was in horrible condition with the wind blowing from right to left. The Abbey playing against the breeze in the first half. Colmans opened the scoring two minutes in. They doubled their lead. The Abbey were very unsettled and were struggling further up the field to hold the ball. However Ed O'Dwyer



Senior Rugby Team

tapped in a goal for The Abbey giving them an undeserving lead. Ten minutes later Colmans retook their lead with two unanswered points. Colmans putting The Abbey under huge pressure and scored another two points. Abbey were not playing well and were struggling. The Abbey scored two points from frees, one from Cormac Maher the other from the outstanding Shane Ryan. The final score of the game came from Colmans, a point from play leaving the score Abbey 1-2 Colmans 0-7. The wind died down in the second half and The Abbey knew they were in for a battle. The Abbey started the half with a point from Shane Ryan. They followed up with two pointed frees from Andrew Vance this put them up by two points. Disaster struck for The Abbey, they were reduced to 14 men and Colmans scored a goal in the space of two minutes. From here on The Abbey showed their true character, not letting Colmans score for the rest of the match. Adam McGrath added a goal and Ed O'Dwyer scored from the penalty spot after Adam McGrath was fouled. Final score Abbey 3-6 Colmans Fermoy 1-7. They will play Mitchelstown of Cork in the next round.

In the mean time we played Rockwell College in the McGabhann Semi Final in a game played in Sean Treacy Park.

Unfortunately, The Abbey bowed out of the McGabhann cup with a 4-12 to 2-10 loss after extra time against Rowell College in the semi-final. From the throw in Abbey C.B.S. were quick into their stride and got the opening score after 4 minutes through Shane Ryan. On one of Rockwell's breakaways Conor O'Brien scored a fortuitous goal. However, The Abbey controlled the remainder of the first half scoring a further 1-5. The Rockwell team were unable to stem the tide as wave after wave of attack saw mid field penetrated by our stalwarts, Nathan Crowe and Darren O'Dwyer.

From the throw in, at the commencement of the second half, the ball was sent in through a direct pass to Ryan Lambe, who struck it over for the opening point. Rockwell went on to dominate the next 20 minutes and clawed back the deficit. The sides were level after 20 minutes. The game was now on a knife edge with both sides exchanging points in the remaining 10 minutes to leave the match tied at 1-9 each.

The match now entered extra time. Two early Rockwell goals in this period were to prove The Abbey's undoing on the day and they were unable to overcome the deficit. Best for The Abbey were David Byron, Shane Ryan, Andrew Vance, Adam McGrath, Darren O'Dwyer.

Munster Quarter Final

Mitchelstown CBS 4-10
Abbey CBS 2-10

In what was a heart breaking defeat, the lads were superb from start to finish and represented the school with pride. The game was one which could easily have been won but on the day the breaks went against us.

In the first half we played well and went in level at 2-6 apiece. The performances of Cormac Maher and Jack Lowry were particularly eye catching. Unfortunately like in the Rockwell game second half goals against us would prove our undoing. The effort and determination of all the players could not be faulted in particular the performance of David Byron who drove the team forward at every opportunity in the second half.

The school would like to acknowledge all of the hard work and commitment that these players have put in during their time in the school and wish the lads leaving this year the best of luck in the future

U16.5 B Munster Hurling Seamus O'Donoghue Cup.

The Abbey prepared well for their first round match against Rochestown. They played the senior team, Clonmel High School, Doon, Hospital and our u15 team. Thanks to Mr. Dan Riall and Mr. Michael O'Dwyer for training the team.

1st round On Wednesday the 21st of September Watergrasshill

Abbey 2-12
Rochestown 2-7

Abbey starting the brightest, Tony Byron picking out a great pass to Conor O'Dwyer who was unfortunate to drop it when the defence was open. However two minutes later The Abbey were on the scoreboard from a free by Aidan Griffin. Abbeys hard work, commitment and physicality began to show on the scoreboard. Griffin added two more points (1f 1) and two very good points from the reliable Timmy Corcoran and the excellent Kevin Doyle. Rochestown still scoreless and struggling to get into the game. Then Griffin sent in a long ball a bit of confusion in Rochestown full back line let Aaron Ryan double the ball into the net. Two minutes later he scored his second catching super ball running at the defence and slotting home the goal. Tony Byron added two superb scores, a top performer on the day. Conor O'Dwyer added a score from play also. Rochestown only



CANON HAYES LOCAL AWARD

The All Ireland Post Primary Senior B Final team were honoured with the Canon Hayes Local Award.

scored two points from frees. Aidan Griffin added a monster free from his own half, then came the score of the match from Aaron Ryan from a very acute angle he sent the ball over the bar. Abbey very deserved lead at half time 2-8 to 0-3. Weather conditions in the second half got worse, wind got stronger and the rain started to fall. The Abbey were hitting against the breeze. Aidan Griffin adding another 2 frees however after this it was all Rochestown they ran at The Abbey defence who stood strong, but conceded two goals. However Abbey keeper Dean Morrissey was excellent and saved a lot of shots when Rochestown were on top. When the game was in the melting pot Griffin sent over an excellent point from a sideline cut. In the final stages Rochestown ran at The Abbey defence they stood strong and put in a lot of hits to run out winners.

2nd Round Wednesday 5th of October Shanballymore

Abbey 1-10

Colaiste Choilm Ballincollig 1-8

Aaron Ryan opened the scoring for The Abbey with a brilliant solo goal after two minutes. Aidan Griffin then added a point from a free. Kevin Doyle went on to add a great point from play. Ballincollig answered with a free and then a goal immediately after. It was a tough battle with two evenly matched teams. The score at halftime was 1-5 to 1-5. Griffin opened the scoring in the second half with a free. Tony Byron who was superb on the day scored a great point from play.

The Abbey held on to win and now progress to the quarter final.

Quarter Final Friday 11th November Venue: Cappawhite

Scoil Na Trionoide Naofa- 2-18

Abbey CBS- 1-15

The Abbey came in as underwhelming underdogs because only five weeks previous they lost to the same opposition in a challenge match. The Abbey started the brightest and opened a two point lead both scored by Aidan Griffin. Doon came back stronger and went a point up but again The Abbey scored to level. They were level twice more. The Abbey's defence were very impressive under constant pressure. The intensity throughout this match was mesmerising. However they fell asleep for a few minutes before half time and

Doon punished scoring 1-2 in a row leaving The Abbey down by 9 points at half time. Abbey 0-6 Doon-1-12. The second half was pulsating Abbey putting Doon under pressure scoring 4 points one from best player on the field Tony Byron. It was an excellent second half but The Abbey could never get closer than 3 points and had two goal chances. Disaster struck and The Abbey conceded the second goal. Abbey did score a goal but it was a little too late.

U15 Rugby Blitz the Emerging School Blitz.

Wednesday the 20th of October Kilfeacle

The u15 Rugby kicked off, they played a range of different teams. The first match was against St.Ailbes of Tipperary Town. Ailbes winning on a scoreline of 10-5. There next match was played against Nenagh where Nenagh ran out convincing winners 20-0. The Abbey then played Cahir, they won this match with 10 points to spare on a score-





line of 10-0. The last game was played against Cashel when fatigue was setting in. The Abbey dominated winning on a scoreline of 15-0. This is a sign of things to come on the rugby front for The Abbey u15s. There is another blitz coming up before Christmas and there will also be two after Christmas, top two from the group qualify to play in Thomond Park. If the boys keep improving like they did throughout the blitz they will have a long year. Thanks to Mr. John Rodgers, Ms. Hazel Fogarty and Ms. Laura Brosnan who accompanied the boys to the match.

JOHN KIELY

We wish all the best to our Principal Mr. John Kiely in succeeding in his new role as Limerick Senior Hurling Manager over the next three years. John has put an extensive amount of effort into Limerick Hurling and he will no doubt lead his team to success in the years ahead. Best of Luck.



HARTY CUP CAMPAIGN

You had to admire the bravery of an Abbey CBS team which led this bruising battle by a point (0-5 to 0-4) with 27 minutes played, but Thurles CBS upped their level of performance considerably thereafter, out-scored their opponents seven-one either side of the interval and led by a significant five (0-11 to 0-6) by the 37th minute. Abbey CBS tried valiantly to engineer a route back into this contest, but the Thurles lads had now established a significant buffer between the sides and were good value for a place in the last eight. Thurles CBS' Killian O'Dwyer did a superb marking job on Abbey CBS danger man, Shane Neville while James Ryan, Michael Purcell, Bryan O'Mara, Darragh Woods, Conor Bowe and Anthony McKelvey also caught the eye. For Abbey CBS Michael McCormack, Kieran Breen and Riain Doody were significant figures.

FIRST HALF

Riain Doody and Darragh Woods traded early placed balls before Nathan Murphy-Crowe cracked over a superb left-handed point following neat work by Kieran Breen to present Abbey CBS with the lead in the fifth minute. Darragh Woods responded with a brace (one free) for Thurles before Riain Doody brought seven scoreless minutes to a close when drilling over another placed ball in the 17th (0-3 apiece).

Some miscommunication in The Abbey CBS goalmouth in the 19th minute almost permitted Darragh Woods' lobbing sideline ball to find the net before Woods and Doody traded frees, once more. The searing effort of The Abbey CBS lads earned a significant dividend in the 27th minute when a bustling run from Kieran Breen created an opportunity for Adam McGrath to fire his side into a narrow lead. Thurles CBS, however, upped their performance a gear or three during the closing minutes of the half and led by two at the break (0-7 to 0-5) thanks to three efforts from Darragh Woods (two frees). Woods' point from play was a beauty while a magnificent catch in traffic from Thurles wing-back James Ryan adorned the opening period.

SECOND HALF

Early in the second half the Thurles CBS wide tally had climbed to ten before James Ryan picked out Anthony McKelvey with a neat delivery and the Moycarkey-Borris man fired his side into a three-point advantage. Riain Doody (free) responded for Abbey CBS, but a right-handed point from TJ Butler and a Woods free preceded a Woods cracker from play in the 37th minute (0-11 to 0-6).

Thurles CBS conceded 17 frees during this encounter and such indiscipline presented Riain Doody with an opportunity to drag his side back into contention. Indeed, two converted frees left a break of a ball between the sides (0-11 to 0-8) entering the final quarter.

Bryan O'Mara intercepted an Abbey CBS hand pass with 11 to play and cracked over a smashing long-range point and although Riain Doody responded with another placed ball to leave three in it, Thurles CBS saw out this contest in composed fashion. Indeed, a Darren Flood effort from play and a Darragh Woods free (converted from ten yards inside his own 65-yard line) settled it convincingly.

NEW PE HALL PLAN

Planning permission has now been granted and we are now going to tender. Work is expected to commence on the site in early 2017 and the hall will be operational for September 2017.

BEREAVEMENT CONDOLENCES

We wish to express our sincere sympathies to staff members Mr. John O'Dwyer on the passing of his mother, Winifred, to Mr. Conor Reale on the passing of his mother in law, Phyllis O'Doherty, to Ms Kay O'Dwyer on the passing of her sister in law, Catherine O'Dwyer and to Ms Josephine O'Heaney on the passing of her brother in law, Ted O'Heaney. We also extend sympathies to Ms. Jolene Carey on the passing of her grandfather, Mr. Darren Carew on the death of his mother Ena Carew and to Ms. Bernie O'Dwyer on the passing of her sister, Carmel Carlin. We also wish to extend our sympathy to all families in the local area who have lost loved ones this year. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a nanamacha dilis.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS FOR JANUARY

- Reflection day for First Years
- TY Health and Fitness Course
- TY Psychology Course
- TY First Aid Course
- TY Driving Instruction
- TY Work Placement (two students on work placement in RTE, three students on work placement in The Royal College of Surgeons in Waterford)
- BT Young Scientist

THANK YOU

We wish to thank Mr. Jerry Ring for the many photographs, all the staff and students at The Abbey School for their various reports and Ms. Julie King for her work in producing this newsletter.

We wish all the parents, students, teachers and the staff of The Abbey and all of you, our readers and friends, a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.





New England Style Autumn 2016

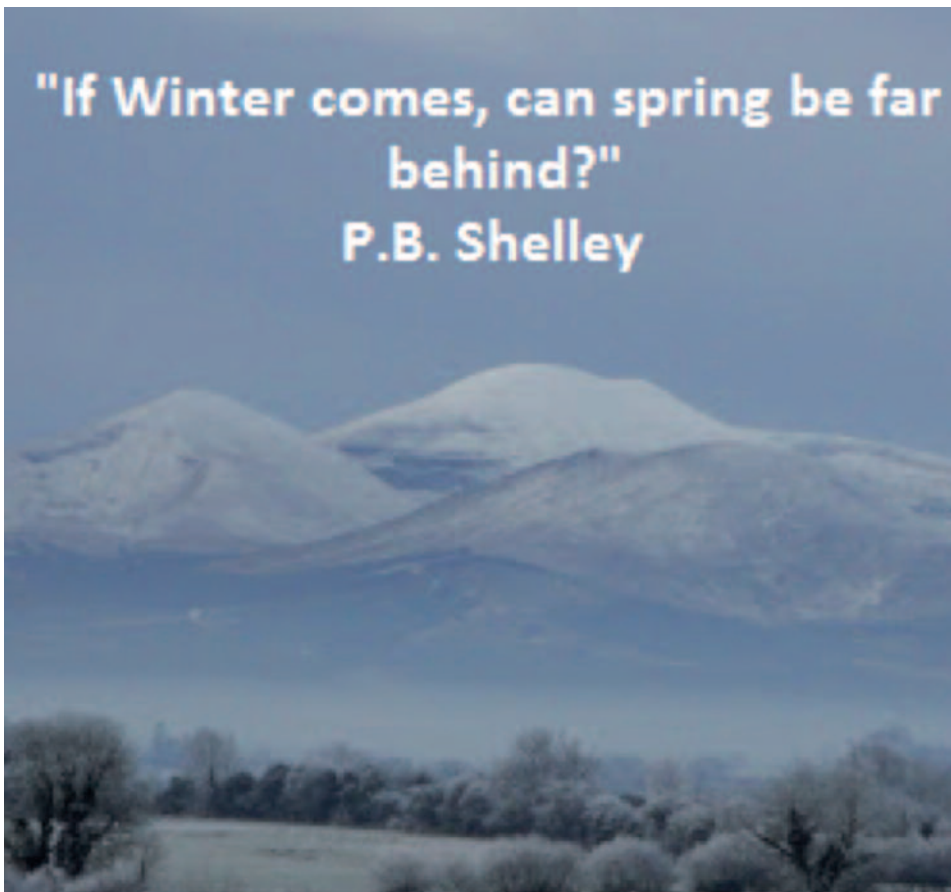
This Autumn has been one of the most beautiful in our living memories. A mild and dry October brought a stunning and spectacular display of Autumn colour to our forests, parks and gardens. Weather conditions combined to produce a New England Style display as leaves stayed on the trees for longer producing vibrant red, orange and browns.

Calmer winds and no frost meant the leaves stayed on the trees for longer, extending the colour show. It was an amazing month.

Even though heaven and earth are separate, this Autumn, they were very close together. People found it easier to be jolted out of the reality of politics and economics and could feel at peace with their surroundings and themselves. This Autumn was indeed about "being in places where things transcend the ordinary" (Weiner). The Autumn of 2016 was indeed extraordinary.

Winter so far, has also been mild and dry. Good ground conditions across the country have been very favourable for our farming community.

"If Winter comes, can spring be far behind?"
P.B. Shelley



Stop for a moment,
Dear friend as you walk.
Look up to the heavens,
And hear nature's talk.
The breeze rustles branches,
While tall trees do sway
And for you, my dear friend,
It has banished dismay.
The birds sing of love,
While you ramble along,
Dance to their music,
And sing your own song.
Be aware you are part,
Of all that I made,
Find peace and contentment,
In this green leafy glade.

Betty Lynch

