



The Abbey School News

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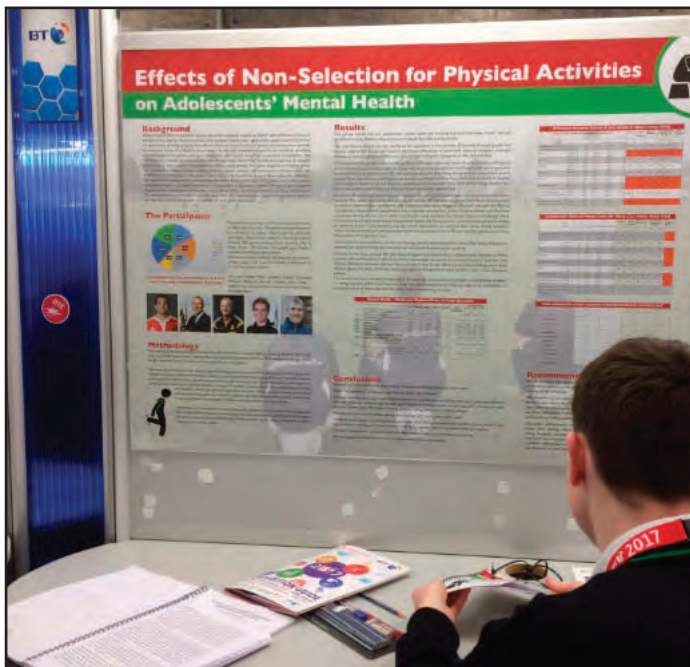
FOCUS ON STEM SUBJECTS

National statistics show that 81% of students who attended a same sex school in Ireland between 2009 and 2016 have gone to third level compared to 71% in co-educational school. The number of boys taking on higher level STEM subjects nationally, is also increasing especially in the Technology field (Construction, Technology and DCG) and Maths. Here in The Abbey, STEM subjects are rising in popularity especially at higher level showing the level of commitment the teaching staff have, to developing the students' skills in these areas, our most recent success being our BT Young Scientist Award received by Tadhg Carew and Jack Quirke.

Happiness is paramount to students fulfilling their potential and maintaining this active and stimulating learning environment is what really matter so that students can thrive. Engaging students in every aspect of their learning encourages them to become committed to their education and the value it holds for their future. Students have the freedom and the opportunity to grow spiritually and creatively here at The Abbey and that is a tradition we hope will live on at our school, long into the future.



Tadhg Carew, Ms. Keating and Jack Quirke



B.T. Young Scientist Award

THIRD YEAR TRIP TO THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

On the 16th of January 2017, we attended a production of "The Merchant of Venice" by William Shakespeare at the Lime Tree Theatre in Limerick. Despite having a cast of only four people, the play was easy to follow and the actors performed a variety of roles while also ensuring to include some light-hearted moments.

In difficult scenes of the play, the cast used modern English to enable the audience, to understand the plot and the characters more fully.

Students were thoroughly engaged throughout the performance which also included pauses for discussion between the cast and the audience.

I am certainly looking forward to seeing their interpretation of my Leaving Cert. Shakespearian Play.

By Ronan Finnan, 3A2

WRITER IN RESIDENCE - SÉAMUS CASHMAN

Our Writer in Residence programme continued in early 2017 with a school visit by the author and poet Séamus Cashman. He conducted a series of poetry workshops over a 6 week period with our 1A3 English students. Séamus explained the art of writing poetry and shared his work and experiences with the boys. The students responded very positively to Séamus' infectious, caring, energetic approach. We would like to thank Séamus Cashman for his professionalism and enthusiasm throughout his series of workshops. We also wish to thank Poetry Ireland for funding the programme and Ms. Caroline O Connor for organising this wonderful event which is part of the school Literacy Improvement Plan.



Séamus Cashman with 1st Year Students

TRANSITION YEAR EXPERIENCE - PHILIP CROWE

It's been nine months since TY started and I think the only thing everyone in the year would agree with is that it was a whole lot better than the Junior Cert. Everyone has a different favourite part of TY. From the musical to Cappanalee, The Abbey has an event in TY for just about everyone to enjoy at some point throughout the year. But that is the point of Transition Year really. Learning to develop your own opinion and not just say you liked something just because everyone else liked it.

One of the first things we did in TY this year was a trip to Germany. This was the first time this trip has been done, at least since we've been in the school and it was amazing experience. During this trip we did a lot of things, considering we were only there for such a short period. Activities ranged from visiting Dachau to going to Therme Erding Waterpark.

My personal favourite part of TY was the musical we did with St. Anne's Secondary School, which most of you will probably remember was "High School Musical". I don't think any of us will forget Jonny's 'worm' or singing "The Fields of Athenry" in the dressing rooms. And like every single TY has said since the school started doing musicals, I think it was one of the best musicals in recent years.

Another highlight of the year was our trip to Cappanalee. There we learned that jumping off cliffs is completely safe, Apache will deliver anywhere if you're ordering over 500 euros worth of pizza and that long hikes are just no fun at all. But we did learn lots of useful skills



Mr. John Kiely addressing parents and students at Transition Year Graduation

there. We learned how to abseil, light fires, pitch tents and orienteer. You might say you wouldn't need these skills realistically in your life, but they are also skills that if you do need them, you really need them.

Throughout this year we've all developed skills we'll use throughout our lives, like ECDL and First Aid. These are things you wouldn't learn in any other year in school, its worth forgetting just about everything we learned in the three years before this. But even if it would have meant I'd be finished school sooner, doing TY was one of the best experiences of my life and it's not something I'll ever regret.

TY ACTIVITIES 2016/17



CELEBRATING WORLD BOOK DAY

Students at The Abbey celebrated World Book Day by participating in workshops and designing a Six Word Story Noticeboard in the school. Winners of the 2017 Ernest Hemmingway Six Word Story Competition were: "The smallest coffins are the heaviest" (Jack O' Neill. 1A1), "Scores goal. Tries backflip. Breaks ankle." (Caleb Molloy Hickey, 1A2) and "A long road. A short journey." (Patrick Delaney. 1A3)



Winners of the Six Word Story Competition
L-R: Jack O'Neill, Caleb Molloy Hickey and Patrick Delaney

EDMUND RICE FEAST DAY- MAY 5TH

On Friday, May 5th our school celebrated the Feast Day of Blessed Edmund Rice, founder of the Irish Christian Brothers by reciting a special Edmund Rice prayer and raising the Edmund Rice 25th Jubilee Flag in front of the school. The brothers made a significant contribution to education in Tipperary over many years.

CHAPLAIN

We welcome on board, our new school Chaplain, Fr. Tomás Lannigan-Ryan. We look forward to working with him in the future as he helps to support our school community here in The Abbey.





to apply for the Garda Traineeship Programme. This proved very insightful for the few students who are aspiring to become Gardaí in the future. Students are currently writing up the first draft of a report on the visit to the college. The final report is 60% of the Junior Certificate Examination for CSPE



Dominic Hayes, Killian Fitzgerald and Callum McCarthy



2nd Year C.S.P.E. trip to Templemore Garda College

CAREER GUIDANCE

5th Year Students Attend Careers Event at Tipperary Co-op

5th Year students attended Tipperary Co-op on Friday March 31st 2017 for a presentation on Careers in the Industry. They were accompanied by Mr. Conor Hayes (Career Guidance Teacher) and Mr. Michael O'Dwyer (Agricultural Science Teacher). This is the first time an event of this type has taken place and proved very successful for the lads, who got a great insight into the plethora of careers in the Food Business and Dairy Science sectors. Many thanks to John Daly (CEO, Tipp Co-op) and John Lewis for facilitating the presentation.



5th Year Students visit Tipperary CO-OP

2A2 Class Trip to Templemore Garda College

On Friday May 12th 2017, the 2A2 class along with their CSPE Teacher, Mr. Hayes visited Templemore Garda Training College. The purpose of the trip was to carry out an investigation on an aspect of the Irish Legal System. The students gathered a lot of information especially about the history of the college and entry requirements

ABBAY REPRESENTED AT POLISH UNIVERSITIES INVESTIGATION

On April 2nd Conor Hayes was one of four guidance counsellors who departed Ireland to carry out a study of Polish Universities. The expedition was organised by Medical Poland and the Polish National Tourist Office. The objective of the trip was to give a representative sample of Irish Guidance Practitioners a flavour of the facilities at two Polish Universities which have recently opened their doors to Irish students wishing to study Medicine and Veterinary Medicine through English. They were accompanied by Éanna Ó Caollaí from the Irish Times and Adam Krawczyk from Medical Poland.

Medical Poland has assisted many Irish and British students embark on their respective medical journeys in the cities of Bydgoszcz, Wrocław and Poznań. The group visited two of their partner Universities, **Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences** which specialises in Veterinary Medicine and **Collegium Medicum**, part of the Nicholas Copernicus University in Bydgoszcz which offers Medicine. All the degrees are taught and assessed fully in English, in parallel with their Polish degrees. The Medicine degrees are fully recognised by the Medical Council of Ireland and the General Medical Council in the UK, while the Veterinary Medicine degree is recognised by the Veterinary Council of Ireland and the



Royal College of Veterinary Science in the UK. In addition, Medical Poland represents Polish Medical Universities offering the option to study Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy and Nursing, all taught through English.

The Guidance Counsellors observed the exceptional personalised service offered to students by Medical Poland, as they met up with three Irish Leaving Certificate applicants who were over for interviews accompanied by their parents. They spoke highly of how Medical Poland guided them through the decision making and application process, and prepared them for the interviews. Even little details like collecting students and their parents from the airport and securing discounted hotel rates when they arrive for interviews is carried out by Medical Poland. Throughout the trip, all three Irish students received the news that they had successfully completed their interviews and are offered places on courses commencing in September 2017.

Veterinary Medicine

Monday April 3rd was spent in **Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences** in southwest Poland, where impressive facilities in the veterinary faculty were showcased. These included multiple CT and MRI scanners and ultrasound facilities. Irish and international students who may not have the three sciences in the Leaving Certificate are given an intensive two week preparation course in Wroclaw before official classes commence in September to give them a solid foundation for their degree studies. All international students also get basic conversational Polish lessons throughout their studies to enable them to participate fully in the day to day and social life of the university and city. Fees for Veterinary Medicine are €8,000 per academic year. High quality self catering student accommodation in a single room is available on campus for €180 per month including all bills and wifi. The academic year is slightly longer than in Ireland, with students on campus until the end of June. It was advantageous to meet two Irish students who are both studying Veterinary Medicine, to get an authentic insight into the life of a student in Wroclaw. Both students have settled in extremely well and are delighted with the decision to study in Poland. They asserted that one of main advantages is the small class sizes of 24 students, where the lecturers know each student by name. The students are also pleased with the cost of living in the city. For less than €50 per week, they can eat well, including in restaurants, and have a full social life, while their Polish student card gives access to half price travel throughout all of Poland. When you do the maths, this means that taking into account the cost of fees, accommodation, food, a busy social life and a number of Ryanair return flights, you should still have change out of €13,000, which compares very favourably with the cost for a veterinary student residing on campus in UCD. SUSI maintenance grants have also been awarded to several students this year and last. Wroclaw itself is a big bustling cosmopolitan city, with

160,000 of its 650,000 residents being students. Everyone under 50 speaks excellent English. It was European Capital of Culture in 2016, and offers a huge array of artistic and cultural offerings, including an art-house cinema and a highly-ranked opera house. It has impressive sporting facilities and hosts the World Games in June 2017, which is second only to the Olympics in terms of the number of competitors.

Medicine

Tuesday April 4th was spent visiting the **Collegium Medicum** faculty of medicine in **Nicholas Copernicus University**. Bydgoszcz is a smaller, quieter city of around 350,000, in the northwest of the country approximately 5 hours by train from Wroclaw, with a lively, friendly and safe city centre. In Bydgoszcz the group met a number of other Irish students who are studying medicine. All applied through Medical Poland and were very pleased with the personalised service received by the company especially with the interview preparation given. The after service the students receive even while enrolled on their courses seems a great benefit and security to them. Class size was also seen as one of the big advantages in Collegium Medicum. 24 students is the max in any class with 12 in tutorials and 6 in practical dissections. All students reiterated that they do have to work hard but are pleased to do so. Fees for medicine in Nicholas Copernicus University, in Bydgoszcz are €10,000 per year with brand new single room ensuite accommodation costing in the region of €200 per month.

Although it was just a whistle stop tour in Poland, each Guidance Counsellor who participated was blown away by the academic excellence and modern facilities for practical experiments and laboratory work available to students. All would have no hesitation in recommending any of the Universities visited or Medical Poland to their respective students interested in these career options.

In the near future, a trip for senior cycle students interested in these areas will be organised so they can ascertain if it is a potential future study option for them. Each city has its own modern airport, and is served with regular Ryanair flights from Cork, Dublin and Shannon.

The next open day and interviews for September 2017 entry will be held in Dublin on August 30th 2017 although it is advised to make enquires well in advance of this date. For more info please contact Medical Poland at study@medicalpoland.ie or www.medicalpoland.ie

CAREERS EXHIBITION

In January, Mr. Conor Hayes and Mr. Eddie McGrath held a Careers Exhibition in the school where colleges in the region had information stands. Students from St. Anne's were also welcome to attend and students overall had a great experience.





MERIT AWARDS

This year our Merit Awards took place on Thursday 18th May. This is a very special occasion in the school calendar. The Extra Curricular Award, the Courage and Resilience in Adversity and The Edmund Rice Awards are nominated by students and teachers, the Academic Excellence Awards are based on best results in each year group. It is always a pleasure to celebrate the contribution students make personally, socially and academically to the life of the school.

Ré O'Laighléis, novelist and short-story writer, presented the awards. In his address to those gathered, Ré commended students for using their gifts and talents, he quoted Marianne Williamson's words, "We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You're playing small doesn't serve the world. There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do.....As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same." We hope to carry this message forward as we continue to celebrate the immense talents that all students bring to the school community. A special thanks to Marie Collison & the Parents Council for their support of the Merit Awards.

MERIT AWARDS 2017

Extra-Curricular Achievements

Tony Byrnes, 6th year

Courage and Resilience in Adversity

Patrick O' Donnell

Academic Excellence in Junior Certificate, Class of 2016

Jack Quirke, Tadhg Carew

Academic Excellence in Leaving Certificate, Class of 2016

Fedor Klimonov

The Edmund Rice Awards

First Year

Second Year

Third Year

Transition Year

Fifth Year

Sixth Year

Taylor Allen Flynn

Eamon Quirke

Niall Sharpe

Kevin Quirke, Finn McCall

Gavin Downey

Hugh Ryan

2017 Academic Excellence Awards

First Year

Second Year

Third Year

Fifth Year

Sixth Year

John Hogan

Dominic Hayes, Bartosz Sztyber

Andrew Richardson

Sean Landers

Ben Bartlett

BIOLOGY TRIP

5th Years recently went on their annual Biology trip, this time to Fota Wildlife Park in Cork where they explored various aspects of Ecology for their Leaving Certificate. Students were accompanied by their teachers Ms. Marian Keating and Ms. Marilyn O Connell.



The Abbey School Merit Awards 2017



THE A-FACTOR 2017

I think everyone would agree that the A Factor was a really enjoyable experience for everyone involved. It was a great way to showcase the level of talent that can be found in the local area. I've only been playing guitar for a little over a year and I never thought I would be capable of actually winning this competition. It is one of my highlights during my time in The Abbey. I would definitely recommend that everyone who feels the urge to participate should take their courage in their hands and go for it.. It was a really special moment for me to be able to achieve this in front of family and friends. I honestly never thought I would. Especially when you consider the very talented acts taking part coming from this school and also St. Anne's and St. Ailbe's.



A-Factor winner Robert Bradshaw with representatives from Tipperary Credit Union, Pride of Tipperary and Tipperary Musical Society

I'm still very new to playing music but this experience has given me the motivation and encouragement to continue to improve and progress. It's funny because I almost didn't take part. It just goes to show you that you'll never know what you're capable of if you don't try and take every opportunity that comes in front of you. I would like to thank everyone involved in organising this competition, in particular Mr. Carew for his reassurance and encouragement and for making it a very enjoyable experience.

By Robert Bradshaw.

HUNGER

I am worse than death
I make animals turn on each other and fight
I make you greedy
You are lucky you have not experienced me
Some people have no meals because of me
I am hunger

By Jake Bartlett

IRISH TRIP TO THE GAELTACHT



Mr. Hanley took his 6th Year Class to Dingle just before their Oral Exam in March. The boys spent two days in classes and participated in a variety of very enjoyable activities.



GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO THE BURREN

Fifth Year boys recently completed their Leaving Certificate Geography Field Study in the Burren. 45 boys accompanied by their teachers; Ms. Julie King and Mr. Conor Reale left school at 7:30am and arrived in The Burren Outdoor Education Centre where they were guided through the process of the work involved in the field study. The boys went to Liscannor where they measured cliff erosion and stopped off in Lahinch to visit the beach and get some lunch. They continued on to Claugshan Beach where they looked at examples of erosion and deposition. The boys thoroughly enjoyed their field trip and the weather was fantastic for it. The field study is worth 20% of their Leaving Cert. Exam, making Geography a very popular subject for Leaving Cert. students.



5th Year research trip to the Burren

TRANSITION YEAR - YOUNG SOCIAL INNOVATOR

On March 30th, two Transition Year groups attended a 'Speak out' event in Limerick, representing their school in this year's Young Social Innovator competition. The first group took to the stage to highlight the importance of positive mental health in young people. In order to create awareness about positive mental health in school the students held a 'Fun Friday' where they held games, played music and showed videos of some funny comedians to spread the feel good factor.

As part of their project students also held a bake sale and a car wash for the staff of the school to raise money for the Samaritans. Over 400 euro was raised for the organisation and a cheque was presented to members of the Samaritans when they visited the school during Social Awareness Week.

The second group 'PRYSM' explored the effects of non-selection on sports teams among teenagers. The students highlighted the negative effect this can have on young people by taking to the stage and presenting their findings on the issue. As part of their research, the students carried out over 400 surveys to compile their data, they also interviewed well known sports stars including; Alan Quinlan,



Kieran Donaghy and Valarie Mulcahy Both groups succeeded in carrying out excellent projects and represented their school to the highest standard.

THE AMBER FLAG

The Transition Year YSI Group, with the guidance of their teacher, Ms. Jennifer Whitford helped The Abbey to secure The Amber Flag - a flag which promotes positive mental health in schools. The boys fundraised throughout the year by hosting bake sales and a staff car wash. Their consistent efforts, along with the Abbey's Social Awareness week were highly commended by the Amber Flag Committee and the boys made a trip to Cork on Thursday 25th May and were presented with their flag by Alan Quinlan, a past student of The Abbey.



Ms. Jennifer Whitford and Mr. Eddie McGrath presented with The Amber Flag by Mr. Alan Quinlan

SHAVE OR DYE

Following last year's very successful fundraiser for Cancer Research under the banner of 'Shave or Dye', current 5th Year students and some TY students, led by Cian Tobin undertook a similar venture this year. Once they collected a minimum of €50 per student, they were allowed dye their hair or shave their heads. Thanks and appreciation to everyone who supported this worthy cause. This year over €3000 was raised.

LYONS CLUB

Well done to Denis Maloney from Knockballymaloo, Kilross who won the annual Lyons Club Award for community involvement. Denis was presented with a cheque for 200euro which he donated to Our Lady's Children's Hospital Dublin, as it is a place that is close to his heart.

AWARE: LIFE SKILLS

The Aware Life Skills for Schools programme is a free educational programme available for Transition Year students. The programme contains six modules; each module takes 75 minutes, and is delivered one module a week over six weeks. The reason the programme takes place over six weeks is to give students time to reflect on the key learning point from each module and time to experiment with the 'new ways of thinking' presented. The weekly schedule also allows time for students to raise any questions they might have with their programme instructor.

The programme is based on Aware's Life Skills programme for adults, which receives very positive feedback from participants in relation to the helpful impact it had on both their life and their mood. The schools programme teaches students the ability to understand the relationship between thoughts, feelings and actions; to understand the impact of external events; to look at challenges differently; to develop inner confidence, and to understand how they can improve their own wellbeing.

The Life Skills programme is not counselling: It is an educational

programme designed to help young people learn new ways to deal with concerns and challenges in life. It uses an approach based on cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) which focuses on thinking and behaviour.

CBT focuses on thinking and behaviour and has been shown to be an effective intervention for mild to moderate depression and/or anxiety. When a person is dealing with very stressful issues or beginning to develop symptoms of depression they are more vulnerable to filtering out positive experiences and focusing on unhelpful thoughts.

A huge thanks to Una Hogan for presenting the workshop to the boys.

THE ABBEY SOCIAL AWARENESS WEEK 2017 MONDAY 20TH- FRIDAY 24TH MARCH

Our Social Awareness Week this year began with a visit to **The Three Drives Resource Centre** and ended with a visit from members of the AWARE group on the Friday afternoon.

We had many interesting speakers throughout the week. Mr. Jerry Ring gave an inspiring talk on his time in Africa and the importance of volunteering. Mr. Tom White made the students aware of the work **Muintir na Tíre** and the importance of community awareness. Mr. John McCarthy spoke about the spirit of true enquiry, he gave an inspiring and thought-provoking presentation on the importance of asking questions and the role that philosophy should play in every student's education.

Mr. David Quirke spoke about all the charitable works that are taking place in Tipperary Town and his own involvement in a lot of different clubs and societies in town. Mr. Michael Ryan presented the TY students with the question "What is Poverty?" and he spoke about poverty on the streets in Kolkata in India. Michael has been to India on numerous occasions and in actual fact had only just returned before giving his presentation. He gave a few important facts about poverty:

- Poverty is never far away
- Lifestyle is vital
- Good work ethic is necessary
- Self-Acceptance
- Generosity is silent.

One of the highlights of the week was a presentation by Mr. Tom O' Donoghue. He spoke about **Circle of Friends** and the work that they do in Tipperary Town. He spoke openly to the boys about the importance of self-awareness, wellbeing and early diagnosis and intervention in cancer care. Mr. Dan Hogan spoke about the 'Hidden Ireland' and about the beauty of nature and our surroundings. Fr. Tom Lannigan Ryan, our school chaplain, spoke to our Transition Year students about the importance of spirituality in their lives.

Mr. David King, a Paramedic from Nenagh, spoke to the boys about the issues he faces with teenagers today in his line of work. He spoke to them about drug and alcohol abuse and the effects it can have on families as well as the effects of teenage suicide and teenage pregnancy. He also went through basic First Aid skills with some of the boys and showed them what to do should they ever come across people in need of help. He also spoke to them about joining the ambulance service and his work in general as a paramedic. The boys thoroughly enjoyed this presentation and gained a lot of useful information from it.

The boys also had the experience of talking to a personal trainer who talked to the boys about strength and conditioning and the benefits of exercise for improving mental health.



FIRST YEAR SCHOOL TRIP

On Friday 19th May, 57 first years accompanied by Ms. Annmarie Hally, Ms. Maria Power and Ms. Jennifer Whitford went to Ballyhass Lakes in Mallow, Co. Cork. While there students participated in kayaking, rock climbing and abseiling. An enjoyable day was had by all. A special thanks to Ms. Annmarie Hally who organised the event.



1st Year students relaxing after a great day at Ballyhass Lakes



TIPPERARY CO-OP ANNUAL AWARD TO THE ABBEY STUDENT ACHIEVING THE HIGHEST MARKS IN LEAVING CERTIFICATE AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE



Patrick Donovan presented with the Tipperary Co-op Award for Agricultural Science

E.C.D.L. ACHIEVEMENTS



Mr. John O'Dwyer and Mr. Darren Carew presenting the E.C.D.L. Awards to 5th Year students

OUR NEW PRESIDENT: INSTITUTE OF GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS (IGC) – MR. EDDIE MCGRATH

Congratulations to the newly appointed President Mr. Eddie McGrath. Eddie was elected president of the Institute of Guidance Counsellors (IGC) at the Institutes national conference in Cork. As president, Eddie has been seconded by the Department of Education to promote Guidance services in Ireland. His duties include liaison and advocacy with government departments, management and trade union organisations, national parent bodies, higher and further education institutions and employment and training agencies.



RETIREMENTS

We thank Mr. Noel Kilcoyne and Mr. Eddie McGrath for their many years of dedicated service to the Abbey. We also thank Ms. Kathleen O'Dwyer, school secretary, for her commitment and dedication to staff, students and the wider community. May they be blessed with a long, healthy and active retirement.

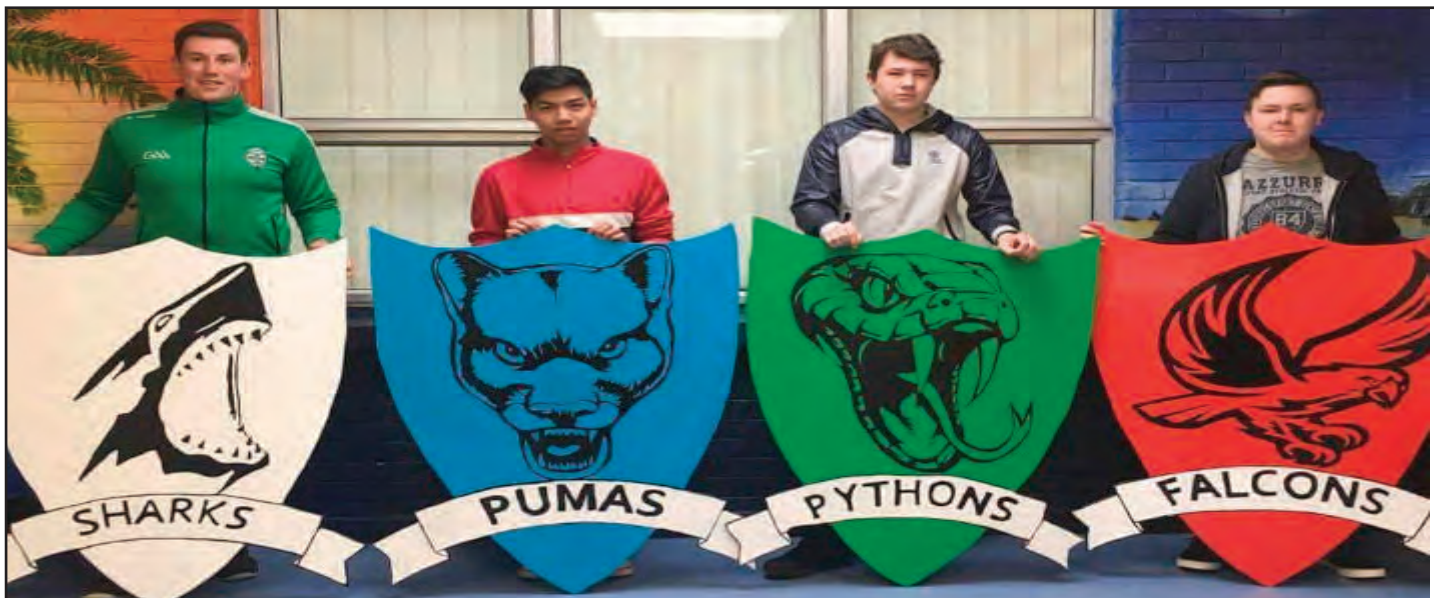
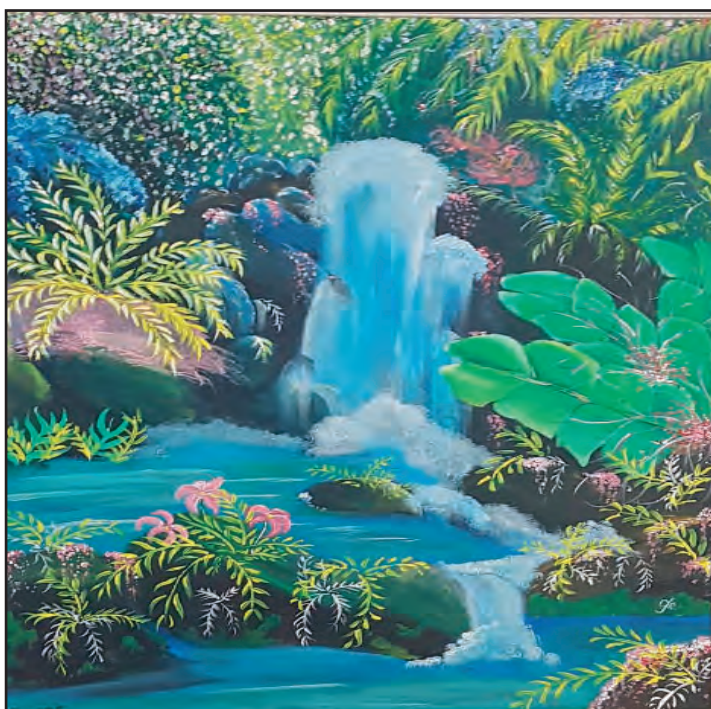


Kathleen O'Dwyer School Secretary is retiring after twenty four years service in the Abbey and receives a presentation from Pdraig Toomey on behalf of the Student body, also in the picture is Principal John Kiely.





ART GALLERY- PAINTINGS BY CJ RAMOS, T.Y.





L.C.V.P.

LCVP was reintroduced to the Leaving Cert curriculum last September. It's a two year course which includes portfolio work and traditional course work. As part of the portfolio work students have to carry out an Action Plan on a class activity, a Summary Report on a classroom visit, a week's work experience, a Career Investigation and prepare an up to date CV.

The LCVP students in 5th Year have completed all of the above and have organised and run a First Year Soccer Blitz, in the Cannon Hayes Complex. The proceeds of the blitz were donated to the Irish Wheelchair Association. The class organised a classroom visit of a local business person. The students found this very beneficial as a local accountant; Mr. John Carew talked to them about his experience of running his own business.

The group also had a very beneficial and useful week's work experience in various businesses in the locality. We wish to extend our thanks to the local businesses that provide such valuable work experience to our students.



5th Year L.C.V.P. students presenting a cheque to
The Tipperary Branch of the Irish Wheelchair Association

CHANGE

My young self is disappearing
I wish I could go back in time and do some things again
But I don't want to age
Because I don't want to age
But I also don't want to stay young forever
Because I don't want to see my loved ones die
By Adam Marek

SPORT IN THE ABBEY SCHOOL

The Abbey won the Munster Schools Junior Rugby U15 Cleary Cup.

The first half was dominated by The Abbey with Jack Heffernan scoring a spectacular try seven minutes into the game followed by a successful conversion by Darren Heuston, this gave The Abbey a good head start in the game. Villiers fought hard against The Abbey boys who managed to keep them back in the first half. Shortly after, Donagh Hickey took control of the ball and ran from outside the ten metre line through Villiers' defence to score a try for The Abbey which was then successfully converted again by the brilliant Darren Heuston. The Abbey boys fought an amazing first half, securing a lead and were in flying form once the half-time whistle was blown. Throughout the first match strong tackles were made by Paraic Russell, Ben Hickey, James McCormack and Darragh Kennedy who played consistently well taking down the Villiers boys. Villiers were strong winning the line outs but The Abbey was able to turn over the ball quicker and win the scrums more easily.

Playing in our local grounds, Clanwilliam, coupled with the fantastic local supporters contributed to success for The Abbey in the second half. Villiers started the second half strong, with their first centre scoring a fantastic try, pushing straight through The Abbey boys for

a try in the tenth minute. This was converted perfectly by Villiers' winger. Fifteen minutes into the second half, the replacement hooker from Villiers was sin binned for a foul which resulted in a penalty for The Abbey taken by Darren Heuston who stayed true to his reputation and put The Abbey further in the lead. The opposition came back strong, but were unable to keep The Abbey boys from the try line as Evan Ryan soared across it to secure another try for The Abbey. With the wind blowing against him, Darren missed converting this try but it didn't matter, The Abbey had secured the score and victory was in sight.

We are incredibly proud of the boys who have trained hard over the past few months. The Cleary Cup is back home in The Abbey and will sit proudly beside the O' Brien Cup which was won by the Senior Rugby team earlier this year.

Abbey Team: Michael O'Brien, Paudie Russell, Adam Dunne, Darragh Kennedy, Robbie Byron, Paudie Bradshaw, Evan Ryan, Eoin Murray, Kian Farrell, Aidan O'Connor, Jack O' Halloran, Ben Hickey, Eamon Ryan, Niall Sharpe, Oisín McCall, Fionn Kelly, Dan O'Dwyer, Tony O'Neill, Darren Heuston, Andrew Richardson, Jack Heffernan (Capt.), Thomas Ashmore, Evan Breen, James McCormack, Kieran O'Sullivan, Aaron Buckley, James Kennedy, Paddy Crowe, Conor O'Grady and Donagh Hickey.

Management: Mr. John Rogers and Ms. Laura Brosnan



Jack Heffernan, U-15 Cleary Cup Captain



John Kiely, Julie King, Nathan Murphy Crowe, U-19 O'Brien Cup Captain, Kieran Hickey



ABBEY MAKE HOME ADVANTAGE COUNT TO SECURE MUNSTER TITLE

The drawn game was an intense battle that was played in Waterpark and finished 7-7.

Three tries in the first half of the replay set the platform for The Abbey victory. Waterpark did mount a comeback early in the second half with two quick penalties. This comeback was halted midway through the second half when, 'man of the match' for the Abbey boys, David Byron broke through the Waterpark defence in the middle of the field. He was tackled just short of the line, but Michael McCormack was on hand to finish off the move to secure the win.

Home advantage and the massive support on the day, proved crucial for The Abbey who started much stronger than their opponents. The Waterford's defence was breached on the fifteen minute mark, when captain Nathan Murphy- Crowe crashed over for the first try.

The conversion was missed, but it wasn't long before The Abbey found themselves deep inside the opposition's twenty two. Waterpark College found it difficult to clear their lines as The Abbey won a number of scrums against the head, thanks to a strong front row of Arnold O' Dwyer, Adam Glasheen and Jack Quinlan. With all the possession and pressure it was only a matter of time before The Abbey scored again. So in the twenty seventh minute Conor Leahy scored The Abbey's second try, again the conversion was missed.

From the resulting kick off, Waterpark enjoyed some good possession. Patrick Browne on the wing and Padraig Gannon were a threat all day with ball in hand. David Byron broke the hearts of the Waterford men on the stroke of half time, with a brilliant individual try after Rian Doody won a line out against the throw. Ed Bourke scored the conversion to make the score 17-0 at half time.

Waterpark started the second half much stronger. For much of the opening fifteen minutes of the second half, they were camped deep inside The Abbey half. The Tipperary mens' defence was tested time and time again with strong runs from Noah Mellons and Sean Gannon. This sustained pressure saw the Waterford men come away with two penalties through the boot of Ben Cummins, leaving the score at 17-6. This was as good as it got for Waterpark as The Abbey took over again when David Byron's break was finished by Michael McCormack, the game was all but over. Ed Bourke kicked the resulting conversion. A resilient Waterpark did have a few chances to score a try late on but The Abbey defence held strong to clench the victory.

It is the sixth O'Brien Cup Final, The Abbey have contested in as many years. After losing the last three, it is good to see The Abbey bounce back to winning ways.

GOLF CLASSIC

The inaugural Abbey School Golf Classic took place on May 25th-26th 2017 in Tipperary Golf Club, with the aim of raising much needed funds to equip the new PE Hall in the school. According to John Kiely, Principal, "the existing facilities are well past their prime and

our students deserve facilities that are appropriate to today's needs".

The Golf Classic, which organisers hope will be an annual event, should bring in much needed resources to help equip and furnish the new PE Hall.

The Abbey is an Edmund Rice Trust School renowned for educational and sporting excellence. The school draws on students from West Tipperary and East Limerick. It is one of the few schools in Ireland to have won All-Ireland Colleges Senior titles in both hurling and football - (1992 - H), 1998 - F, 2002 - H and 2016 - H). Successful captains included well-known inter-county players - Brian Lacey, Peter Leonard, Andrew Morrissey, Damien O'Brien and Tommy Lowry. Paddy O'Kelly, former Limerick inter-county player, Arravale Rovers' Tom O'Donoghue and present P.E. teacher, Kieran Hickey, have been notable successful team mentors.

The Abbey competes in all Munster and Tipperary Post-Primary Schools' football and hurling competitions, winning Munster Senior B football titles on seven occasions and leading the roll of honour (1997, '98, 2005, '07, '08, '11 & '15). The school reached the All - Ireland final in 2015, losing to Carlow CBS in the final. The Abbey has won the Munster and All-Ireland PPS Senior B Hurling competition on three occasions (1992, 2002, 2016). The School also has a very competitive rugby programme, which was started by Billy Cronin, former Munster rugby player, competing in a range of competitions including First Year, U15, U16, and Senior. The School has won the Munster Senior Schools O'Brien Cup on four occasions (2005, 2013, 2014, 2017.)



Golf Classic Winners 2017

The Abbey has many past-pupils who have made their mark in the sporting world. Ciaran McDonald (Tipperary Footballer & International Rules player), Nicky English (All-Ireland winning Tipperary Hurler & Manager), Barry Grogan, Andrew Morrissey, Seamus Grogan, Robbie Kiely, Ger Mulhair, Donough and Shane Leahy (Tipperary Senior Footballers), Conor O'Brien and John O'Donoghue (Former Tipperary Senior Hurlers), John Delaney (Chief Executive FAI), Alan Quinlan (former Munster and Irish International rugby player), Seamus McCarthy (Tipperary S. Football Manager and International Rules Selector),

John Kiely (current Abbey Principal & current Limerick Senior Hurling Manager), Denis Lynch (International Showjumper), John Lacey (IRFU International Referee)

With recent renovations that include the new 'Mary Rice' Centre for special educational needs and learning support, the School has an impressive track record in improving and developing facilities. The current number of pupils stands at over 415.





Golf Classic Committee 2017

FIRST YEAR SOCCER BLITZ

Abbey Soccer Blitz

A First Year Soccer Blitz was held in Cashel Community School and Cashel Town FC soccer pitches on the 11th of May. The Abbey played 3 matches in the group stages and after drawing two and winning one qualified for the final against Cashel with whom they had drawn with in the group stage. The Abbey went through to the Jimmy Walsh Memorial Trophy final. Abbey started well with a well worked Josh Flannery goal. Half Time score was Abbey 1-0 Cashel. The second half was very one sided. Abbey were very strong in midfield with Evan Hawkins at centre midfield and Taylor Allen Flynn at centre back. Two forwards Caleb Hickey Molloy and Josh Flannery were clinical in front of goals and both of them got goals in the second half, bringing Josh's tally to 2 goals in the final. After the match medals were presented by James Walsh (St.Micheal's and Ireland Junior International). Evan Hawkins accepted the trophy for The Abbey.

Scores: 0-0 v Cahir 1-1 v Cashel 4-0 v Thurles
Final: Abbey School 3-0 v Cashel

Panel: Moss O'Brien, Ailbe Ryan, Shane Maher, Conor Farrell, Daniel Kelly, Jack Ryan, Sean Gubbins, Josh Flannery, Caleb Molloy-Hickey, Micheál Lowry, Simon Crehan, Taylor Allen- Flynn, Evan Hawkins, Brian Marnane, Eoin Halpin, Jack Moylan, Diarmuid O'Carroll, Jack Ryan, Aurelio Lineras, Ciaran Beston, Hamza Boubaz, Pauric Willis-Duddy



Joint Soccer Managers John O'Dwyer and Noel Kilcoyne with Captain Evan Hawkins after winning the inaugural Jimmy Walsh Tournament.



The Abbey School winners of the inaugural Jimmy Walsh Memorial Trophy for First Year students in Tipperary second level schools with soccer managers Mr. John O'Dwyer and Mr. Noel Kilcoyne



SUMMER TOURNAMENT WINNERS



STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COURSE

During the month of January we had a TY Strength and Conditioning Course. We were split into two groups. When we met on the Tuesday morning the instructors spoke to us about nutrition and how much carbohydrates, vitamins and protein to take in, over the course of an active day. They then taught us how to do proper squats, press ups and reviewed our balance. They gave us suggestions on how to make our bodies stronger without having to go to the gym. Afternoon activities were outdoors, the focus in these activities was on building speed and resilience. At the end of the day, we reflected on all we learned and discussed how the skills would benefit us as players.



TY GAA COMPETITION

Huge congratulations to Transition Year students: Johnny Ryan, Jack Quinlan, Aidan Griffin and Paul Devlin on winning the Tipperary Coaching and Games Development TY GAA Competition.

The groups' project was based on Player Dropout from the GAA in teenage years.

This recognition was just reward for the group's hard work.



The boys were presented their prize of a signed Tipperary hurling jersey at half time of the Tipperary vs Kilkenny NHL game and were also interviewed live on air on Tipp FM's Monday night sport-show 'Extra Time'.



Abbey Students Jack Quinlan, Aidan Griffin, Jonathan Ryan and Paul Devlin

U16 FOOTBALL MATCH REPORT

The Abbey School 2-9

Colaiste Íde agus Iosef 6:11

Our U16½ Footballers bowed out of this year's Munster Championship following a 6-11 to 2-09 defeat to Colaiste Íde agus Iosef in Ballyagran.

The Abbeyfeale side were the better team throughout the first half. The Abbey struggled against the breeze and with the forward movement of their opponents. The west Limerick men most importantly made it count on the score board to lead by 10 points at half-time. The Abbey to their credit came out in the second half and came right back at Colaiste Íde but try as they might, the lead was too much for our boys on the day. In a second half full of heart skill and endeavour the team showed that with work there is potential for the years to come.

Despite the score-line, many players really stood up and took the fight to the west limerick side. In defence, there were good performances from Ciaran Bourke, while Jonathan Ryan gave a lionhearted display from wing back. In the middle of the field Killian Fitzgerald performed well, while up front Aaron Ryan, Kevin Doyle and Tadhg Carew all chipped in with scores.

Team: Dean Morrissey (Arravale Rovers), David Harold-Barry (Galtee Rovers), Ciaran Bourke (Oola), Shane Carew (Lattin-Cullen), Sean Dowdall (Galtee Rovers), Timmy Corcoran (Lattin-Cullen), Jonathan Ryan (Arravale Rovers), Tony Byron (Galtee Rovers), Killian Fitzgerald (Galtee Rovers), Tadhg Carew (Aherlow), Aidan Griffin (Eire Óg), Eoin Marnane (Golden- Kilfeacle), Kevin Doyle (Cappamore), Aaron Ryan (Solohead), Eoin Gallagher (Galtee Rovers)

Subs Used: Conor O'Dwyer (Lattin-Cullen), Seamus Burns (Sologhead), James Cussen (Arravale Rovers), Jack Quinlan (Arravale Rovers)

SENIOR FOOTBALL

Seniors

Our senior team, this year began their preparations for the Munster and County Championship in the second week of September.

The year began with good wins against Clonmel High School and John the Baptist, Hospital which left the lads in good shape heading into our Munster First round game against Coleman's of Fermoy.

1st ROUND

Abbey CBS 3-8

St. Coleman's Fermoy 1-6

The Abbey opened their Munster Senior Football campaign with a hard fought win against a dogged St Coleman's side in a game played in Knocklong. The Abbey boys made a sluggish start and found themselves behind at the break. Indeed only for the heroic defending of our full back line of: Stephen O'Brien, Niall Heffernan and Matthew Moroney, the deficit may have been even greater.

In the second half, the whole team upped the ante considerably, and came roaring back into the game. Scoring by Adam McGrath and Ed O'Dwyer made a considerable difference.

This was an excellent win, which set the boys up for a tilt at Mitchelstown CBS in the Munster Quarter Final.

In the mean time we played Rockwell 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 Rockwell 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 their stalwarts, Nathan Murphy- 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, unfortunately they were unable to overcome the deficit.

Best for the Abbey were David Barron, Shane Ryan, Andrew Vance, Adam Mc.Grath, 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 similar to 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.

COUNTY U17/ MINOR REPRESENTATIVES

The school would like to congratulate all those who represented the school in the Munster Football Championship at U17 and Minor Level this year.

U17- Adam McGrath (Galtee Rovers), Paul Devlin (Eire Óg)

Minor Football- Shane Ryan (Galtee Rovers), Ed O'Dwyer (Galtee Rovers), Adam McGrath (Galtee Rovers), Paul Devlin (Eire Óg)



ROCKWELL BLITZ

The U14 Football Rockwell Blitz brought the Abbeys' GAA season to a close on Wednesday 17th May with 4 Abbey teams making the trip, playing against other schools from around the county. This was a great opportunity for the First and Second Years to showcase their talent and represent the school in the process.

Team A

Our A team performed extremely well in an extremely competitive A competition. Three teams entered the competition (The Abbey, Rockwell College and High School, Clonmel) and during the group stages, there were some very close and exciting games.

In our first game we were pitted against the hosts Rockwell. In the opening minutes The Abbey struggled with the strength of their opponents but with Shane Maher, Micheál Lowry and Darragh O'Brien to the fore, The Abbey thundered back into contention to trail by two at half time. After the break the Abbey's dominance continued and goals from Caleb Molloy Hickey and Diarmuid Looby drove The Abbey to an encouraging 3-06 to 3-04 victory.

In the second round game we faced the High School Clonmel. Despite domination in the first half The Abbey boys found themselves behind at the break on a scoreline of 1-01 to 0-02. In this half, the use of the ball was excellent with Evan Hawkins running proceedings around the middle third and Simon Crehan and Callum McCarthy running their markers ragged in the forward line. The second half continued like the first, a hard fought and close run affair. Aidan Duggan was immense at the back and drove forward to score a point of his own. Despite the teams best efforts, the concession of two late goals was to be the downfall of the team. Final Score The Abbey 0-05 High School 4-04.

Unfortunately, this result ended out involvement as we were eliminated on score difference. This was a disappointing way for the team to be eliminated but throughout the day the boys played with skill, pride and determination and there is much more to come from this young group in the future.

Team B

Our B team faced two excellent sides in Scoil Ruain Killenale 'A' and Rockwell college in the B competition. In the first game they face Scoil Ruain and a disappointing first half display gave the Abbey too much to do. The second half saw a huge improvement and players like Ciaran Beston, Aidan Roche and Jack O'Neill in particular catching the eye. Final Score The Abbey 1-04 Scoil Ruain 8-02

In their second game against Rockwell, the team performed very well in what was one of the most exciting games of the entire tournament. The game ebbed and flowed with Moss O'Brien, Patrick O'Donnell and Thomas O'Dwyer doing well for The Abbey. Defeat was their lot however, as the team fell to a 4-00 to 4-01 defeat.

Team C and D

These teams took part in the 'B' and 'C' competitions. Overall, they took part in four football matches and all were tight affairs with the players rotating through different positions on the team. Standout performances on the day came from Eoin Halpin, Eoin Reardon and Nathan Duggan.

HARTY CUP

Wednesday 14th of December, in Dundrum, was not an afternoon for aesthetics, as greasy conditions made this a real battle for both teams, to qualify for the last eight of the competition.

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.

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, The searing effort of The Abbey 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 The Abbey, 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, 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, although Riain Doody responded with another placed ball to leave three in it, Thurles CBS saw out this contest in composed fashion.

The Abbey played very well in this game with some brave performances from the full back line in particular, with David and Tony Byron to the fore. Stephen O'Brien played a captain's role and



The Abbey School Harty Cup Team 2017

even overcame a broken hand to lineout mid-field and put in a super shift. The Abbey team trained hard, on and off the field from June right up until this game. They were handed a difficult draw from the outset, with Nenagh CBS in the first round and Thurles CBS in the last 16, two stalwarts of the competition. A more favourable draw may have seen The Abbey men qualify. It was a great experience for all involved in the team and they did the school proud.

THE ABBEY 5TH YEAR 7S HURLING TOURNAMENT 2017

The now annual blitz took place on Friday May the 5th in The Abbey. Seven teams took part including Doon A and B, Castletroy A and B, Abbey A and B and Clonmel. The format remained unchanged from other years, with all the teams playing each other in the group stages. The A, B and C finals determined where teams finished after six matches. After a very competitive and enjoyable morning of hurling, the final pairings came out as follows. A final: Doon A v Clonmel High School, B Final: Abbey A v Castletroy A, and the C Final: Abbey B v Castletroy B. John Ryan from Cashel, refereed the C final where the Abbey B team came out comprehensive winners. Jimmy Barry Murphy from Ballylanders, refereed the B final where The Abbey A team proved too strong for Castletroy A, they came out 6 point winners in the end. In the hotly contested A final, refereed by John McCormack, Doon A got the better of Clonmel by 2-9 to 0-13. Doon has taken part in the competition every year and it is their first win. The trophy was presented to the Doon captain by Mr. John Kiely. The blitz will take place again next year on Friday May 4th 2018.

U15 FOOTBALL

Munster B Football - Eamon O'Donoghue Cup

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 Clonakilty side.

County U15A- Football

The Abbey will rue their missed chances in this game against a very strong Thurles CBS side who had just won the White Cup U15 A Hurling. The Abbey started the stronger in this game and roared into a five point lead mid-way through the first half. However the tide turned when The Abbey missed a penalty and two other glorious goal chances before the break. Thurles played better in the second half and converted all the chances that came their way. The old cliché is true for this game, "goals win matches".

U18. 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 Ris, CBC and our own u16.5 team.

The Abbey started brilliantly with a goal in 58 seconds by Adam McGrath. Riain 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 Riain Doody. Nenagh got a point back, but The Abbey retained their two point lead with a free by Riain Doody, but after three minutes the match was level. Riain 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. Riain 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. Adam McGrath scored a second goal and a point and Riain Doody scored a point from a free, Nenagh replied with five points, with no reply from The Abbey until the last three minutes, with Riain Doody scoring 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. Riain 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. Riain Doody got a point back by a free but straight after Nenagh retained their four point lead. Riain Doody scored a point from play, to make it a three point victory for Nenagh.

U18.5 B MUNSTER FOOTBALL DENIS NOONAN CUP

The Abbey trained hard for the first round, they also played two challenge matches against Hospital and Clonmel High School, The Abbey beat them both convincingly. This gave us great confidence going into our first round match.

The Abbey faced Colman's 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. Abbey played against the breeze in the first half. Colman's 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 tapped in a goal for The Abbey giving them an undeserving lead. Ten minutes later, Colman's retook their lead with two unanswered points. Colman's 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 Colman's a point from play leaving the score Abbey 1-2 Colman's 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 Colman's scored a goal in the space of two minutes. From here on, The Abbey showed their true character, not letting Colman's 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 Colman's Fermoy 1-7.

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.

Abbey starting the brightest with 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. The Abbey's hard work, commitment and physicality began to show on the scoreboard, Griffin adding two more points, and two very good points, from the reliable Timmy Corcoran and the excellent Kevin Doyle. Rochestown were 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. Abbey were well on top. Tony Byron adding two superb scores, a top performer on the day. Conor O'Dwyer adding a score from play also. Rochestown only scoring two points from frees. Aidan Griffin adding 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 had a 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. The 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, The Abbey stood strong and put in a lot of hits to run out winners.

The Abbey came in underwhelming underdogs, only five weeks previously they lost convincingly to the same opposition in a challenge match. Abbey starting the brightest, and opened a two point lead, both scored from Aidan Griffin. Then Doon came back stronger and went a point up but again The Abbey scored to level. They were level twice more. The Abbey 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 them, 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, The 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 skim the post. 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.Ailbe's of Tipperary Town. Ailbe's 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 scoreline 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.

U15 HURLING

This teams preparations starting back in October as the team was entered in two competitions. The first competition was the County Championship and was played before Christmas. The Abbey were drawn against a strong Cashel team in the semi-final, which was played in Dunderum on a wet, windy, cold afternoon. The Abbey battled very well against a physically stronger Cashel team and worked their way back into contention in the second half, after played against the elements in the opening half. In the end the Abbey were unlucky to lose out by the narrowest of margins, but the battling qualities, spirit, determination and skill was a very pleasing factor at the end of a disappointing result. Full time score Abbey 0-7 Cashel 1-5.

The Munster championship commenced in January and The Abbey's first round game was against Clonakilty played in Dungarvan. The Abbey appeared to be physically lighter than our opponents, but some great work in the first half, put us in a commanding position on the scoreboard at half time. Despite a period of dominance from Clonakilty, The Abbey boys stood strong and ran out comfortable enough winners on a scoreline of 0-12 to 1-4.

This win put us through to a Quarter-Final game against our local rivals Clonmel. The game was played in Golden where we dominated the game from start to finish. We played really well, all the way through, from defence to a very free scoring accurate attack, finishing up very comfortable winners on a scoreline of 1-19 to 1-4.

The semi- final was played in Rhebogue in Limerick City. Our opponents were Tulla. On the day we were very unlucky to lose out by a couple of points. After starting well, we left ourselves a lot to do, going into the second half. To the great credit of the panel, all players put a great effort in the 2nd half and with a bit of luck we could have got over the line. Final score Tulla 1-11, The Abbey 0-11.

During the year the panel put in serious effort for trainings, the team also played some very useful challenge games against Thurles, the West U14 squad during mid-term break in February, Templemore twice, once in The Abbey and a return game in Templemore.



1ST YEAR HURLING

County Blitz Tuesday 18th of October in Dr. Morris Park Thurles

The Abbey First Year Hurlers got their campaign off and running in the Corn Uí Catháin Blitz held in Dr. Morris Park. In their first game, The Abbey gave a great display against a strong Our Lady's Templemore side. In what was a keenly contested and close game, The Abbey were unlucky to lose out by a single point on a score line of 3-3 to 0-10. In the second game The Abbey took on Clonmel High School. Similar to the first game this was a very close and even game. A late point by Micheál Lowry salvaged a draw for The Abbey to leave it 1-9 to 2-6 at full time. In their final game of the day, Nenagh CBS were the opposition. The opening two games took its toll on The Abbey team who lost out to the eventual winners of the blitz, 3-6 to 1-4. Over the three games The Abbey lads gave some great performances in what was their first game for The Abbey.

RICE CUP BLITZ

Friday 24th of March in James Stephens' Kilkenny

The Abbey U14 hurlers travelled to Kilkenny where they were pitted in a group with Our Lady's Templemore, Wexford CBS, Clonmel High School and CBS Kilkenny. In the first game the Abbey were slow to start, playing with the breeze Templemore built up a strong lead at half-time, 2-7 to 0-0. However, a dominant second half display by The Abbey resulted in Templemore being held scoreless. Thanks to some excellent long range free taking from Ailbe Ryan, it left the score 2-7 to 0-6 in the end. The Abbey were determined to make amends for the loss in the first game and put the defeat behind them to beat Wexford CBS 5-5 to 2-3, with some great goals scored by Caleb Molloy Hickey and Conor Farrell. Clonmel High School, were the opposition in the third game, unfortunately we were unlucky to lose out on a score line of 3-6 to 1-6, with goals proving to be the deciding factor. In the last game, The Abbey faced a very strong CBS Kilkenny team and tiredness from the three games beforehand proved to be an issue for The Abbey lads who were well beaten in the end, 6-6 to 2-3. Having come fourth in the group The Abbey qualified for the Westcourt Cup which was played after the Easter break.

WESTCOURT CUP BLITZ

Wednesday 26th of April in Charleville

The Abbey, having come fourth in their group in the Rice Cup Blitz, entered the Westcourt Cup Blitz where they faced Rice College Ennis, CBC Cork and Charleville CBS. The Abbey's first game was a tight affair against Rice College where there was very little between the sides. The Abbey missed a number of chances in the first half, this proved to be costly. The Abbey having played the better hurling, found themselves three points down with five minutes to go. However, with the last puck of the game Aidan Duggan found the back of the net, to leave the sides drawn on a score of 2-6 to 2-6. Having drawn the first game, The Abbey responded well in the second game and were the much stronger side, defeating CBC Cork. With a draw and a win from two games, The Abbey knew that a win, in their final game against Charleville CBS would mean a semi-final spot. The Abbey got off to a great start against Charleville and proved to be the better side, in a very tough and physical game. The Abbey ran out winners and qualified for the semi-final of the Westcourt Cup. Rice College topped the group on group difference with The Abbey coming second.

Westcourt Cup

Semi Final Wednesday 3rd of May 2017 in Kilworth

Having won the Westcourt Cup the previous year, The Abbey were determined to reach the final for the second year in a row. However, they knew it wouldn't be easy against a strong Youghal side. This game was hugely entertaining, with end to end action and high quality scores from both teams. Youghal got off to a better start, with a goal and two points in the opening minutes. However The Abbey replied, with a goal of their own and came racing back into the game. Further goals from both sides, left the score 3-4 to 3-3, in favour of Youghal at half time. The second half continued like the first, with the scores at both ends and plenty of goal mouth action. However Youghal gained a grip of the game and began to get on top, thanks to two goals. The Abbey were eight points down with minutes remaining but continued to fight and apply pressure to the Youghal goal. Aidan Duggan picked up the ball on the 21 and crashed the ball to the back of the net, to leave a deficit of five points with two minutes remaining. The Abbey however couldn't get past a resilient Youghal defence who ran out winners of a high scoring and hard fought game, 5-11 to 4-9. In what was a disappointing loss, The Abbey lads can take great courage from excellent display against a formidable Youghal side.



Rice Cup Panel 2017



RICE CUP SHIELD

Blitz Thursday 4th of May 2017 in The Abbey School

The Abbey hosted the Rice Cup Shield, for the first time, which was an 11 a-side tournament designed for schools' 'B' teams. Twelve teams entered the tournament- The Abbey, Roscrea, Callan CBS, Carrick On Suir CBS, Nenagh CBS, and Our Lady's Templemore. Thurles CBS, Middleton CBS and CBS Kilkenny all entered two teams. Teams were placed in groups of three, resulting in lots of games for players who mightn't have seen much game time during the year. At the end of the group stages all teams qualified for Division 1, 2 and 3 semi-finals. In Division 3 semi-finals, The Abbey defeated Our Lady's Templemore and Nenagh CBS defeated Thurles CBS. In the Division 3 final, The Abbey gave a great display to beat Nenagh. In the Division 2 final, Thurles CBS proved to be too strong for Roscrea and ran out winners.

The Division 1 final, saw two Kilkenny teams, Callan CBS and CBS Kilkenny come up against one another. This final proved to be tightly contested with little between the sides. The quality of goals scored and overhead catching, were a feature of the final, with the game going to extra-time. CBS Kilkenny got the vital goals in the second half of extra-time to run out winners, by a point, 5-4 to 1-15.

SPORTS AWARDS 2017

Senior Hurler of the Year	Stephen O'Brien
Senior Footballer of the Year	Shane Ryan
Senior Rugby Player of the Year	David Byron
Junior Hurler of the Year	Tony Byron
Junior Footballer of the Year	Johnathan Ryan
Junior Rugby Player of the Year	Kelan O'Connor
Under 15 Hurler of the Year	David Harold-Barry
Under 15 Footballer of the Year	Eoin Marnane
Under 15 Rugby Player of the Year	Donagh Hickey
Under 14 Hurler of the Year	Raymond Kelly
Under 14 Footballer of the Year	Callum McCarthy
1 st Year Soccer Player of the Year	Jack Ryan 1A1

THE CLASSROOM

Silence in a classroom
The sweet yet sad sound of silence
You can't concentrate
You just look around
Just like at night, in bed, no sound
The quiet voices of the class next door
Listening to your father gently snore
Are the only sounds in silence
Instead of a teacher or classmates talking
You are carefree, your mind walking
Around everything in the room

John Hogan

JOBS FOR TIPP

In response to the local initiative 'Jobs for Tipp' our class 2A2, with our English teacher Brenda O'Donnell, spent a very enjoyable week researching and discussing our town, past and present. We spoke to our parents and grandparents, many of whom had worked and owned businesses in Tipperary in the past. We wrote articles, poems and stories offering our solutions to our current crisis. We submitted our work to the 'Jobs for Tipp' Forum, which took place in The Excel on February 7th. To our delight we won a Lap-top for our class, we wish to thank the 'Jobs for Tipp' committee for this prize.

We look forward to seeing the fruits of this initiative, some of which are already apparent, as we see renovations begun and new businesses opening. We are grateful, as young people, to be involved in ensuring a successful future for our home town. Here are two examples of our work:

Time to Shout Stop

Tipp Town it's clear we are falling apart
There will be nothing left, imagine no mart
Pubs, pharmacies and bookies galore
Closed shops everywhere and therefore
Paint peeling off dirty closed shops
If it continues there won't be a town anymore
Nobody wants to start a business here
If they do they constantly live in fear
That all their efforts will go to waste
Unless we act with great haste

By Dominic Hayes

Time to Stop

It's a long way to Tipperary
Tipperary has gone a long way
There used to be lots of shops back in the day
Tipperary used to be vibrant and bright
Now it's almost empty and a right fright
Tipperary had jobs and a future
Now it has neither
It's time to shout STOP

By Dominic O'Dwyer

EARLY SUMMER SUN, LONG IT MAY CONTINUE

"I hope this isn't the summer" was a common refrain from all over the country last week as the unexpected arrival of constant sunshine brought the nation to a feel good halt. Acting like tourists in our towns and villages, we took to walking at daybreak and barbecuing for supper as the glory of warm sunsets made Mediterranean maestros of us all. "Everything good, everything magical happens between the months of June and August"

"Summer was on the way; Jem and I awaited it with impatience. Summer was our best season: it was sleeping on the back screened porch in cots, or trying to sleep in the tree house; summer was everything good to eat; it was a thousand colors in a parched landscape; but most of all, summer was Dill." (To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee)

SYMPATHIES

The staff and students wish to send their condolences to the families of the following: Kieran Hickey on the death of his mother Kathleen Hickey and Marilyn O Connell on the death of her mother Kathleen O'Connell. May they rest in Peace.

EXAMINATIONS

Best of luck to all our students doing the Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate Examinations. May you be guided, enlightened and protected throughout these challenging times.

We take this opportunity to wish all the students, their parents and families a happy and safe summer holiday.



Laura Brosnaah makes a presentation to John Rogers for his work with the Rugby teams in the Abbey.



Front Row L/R: Nathan Murphy Crowe with O'Brien Cup, Matt Browne Munster Schools Coach and Jack Heffernan with Cleary Cup. Back L/R: Rugby mentors Kieran Hickey, Julie King, John Rogers, Laura Brosnan and Principal John Kiely.



The Abbey A Football team which participated in the semi final of the Rockwell Blitz.



Byron brothers, Robbie, Tony and Davy with Trophies and awards.



The Abbey B team in the Rockwell Blitz.



Niall Sharpe receives his merit award from Poet and Author Ré Ó Laighléis.



The Abbey C and D Football teams that also took part in the Rockwell Blitz.



Front L/R: Nathan Murphy Crowe-O'Brien Cup Rugby Team Captain, Jack Ryan-Jimmy Walsh Trophy (1st Year Player) and Jack Heffernan Cleary Cup Rugby Team Captain. Back L/R: Team managers and P.E teachers, Kieran Hickey, Michael Hanley, Sean Mullins and Dan Reale.



Sports Awards: Front L/R; Eoin Marnane, Donagh Hickey Michael Hanley Mentor, John Kiely Principal, Sean Mullins Mentor, Tony Byron, David Harold Baarry. Back L/R; Kieran Hickey Sports master, David Byron, Raymond Kelly, Shane Ryan, Jack Ryan, Jonathan Ryan, Callum McCarthy, Kelan O'Connor, Dan Reale Mentor.



Sports D



The Abbey Leaving Certificate Class 2016-2017



Back Row: Kaleb O'Dwyer, Gavin McCormack, Nathan Murphy Crowe, Arnold O'Dwyer, Brian Hally, Coral Donovan, Eoin Nagle, Liam Quirke, Ben Bartlett, Philip Moore, Conor McGrath, Zachary O'Halloran, Cormac Maher, Shane Neville, Jimmy Ryan, Luke Bourke, Lochlann O'Donnell, Adam Long, Jack Fogarty

3rd Row: Eoin O'Connell, Luke O'Dwyer, Stephen O'Brien, John O'Rourke, Niall Grogan, Conor Bradshaw, Edmond Bourke, Cathal McNamara, Maciej Stroyk, Peter Bourke, Liam Hennessy, Cormac Roche, Conor Slater, Brendan McGrath, Darren O'Dwyer, Jack Hogan

2nd Row: Joseph Bradshaw, John Hickey, Patrick O'Donoghue, Padraic Toomey, Leon O'Halloran, Andrew Vance, William O'Mahoney, Mark O'Dwyer, David O'Brien, Tony Byrnes, Michael Jenkins, Donal Ryan, Luke Quinn, Hugh Ryan, Michael McCormack, Shane Ryan, Jason Murphy, Fearghus McCall

Front Row: Fergus Halligan, Cormac O'Halloran, Ben Hogan, Eoin Kelly, Aaron O'Halloran, Kieran Breen Mr. John Kiely, Principal Mr. Pat Donovan Deputy Principal, Ben Kingston, David Byron, Oisín Nugent Daniel Kelly, Alan Lewis, Sean Barlow, Conor O'Dwyer (missing from Photograph: Rian Doody, Tomasz Foremniak)