



# K' Mon!

Presentation Monastery Boys' School.

School Newsletter

March 2011



## Dates for Your Diary

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> April: School closing at 12.30pm for Easter Holidays.

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> May: School reopens.



Dear Parents,

Apologies for not sending home a newsletter for last term. We hope that this one finds everyone well and enjoying the school year as it races by.

As ye all know, Mrs Catherine Barry retired after Christmas after 37 years teaching in the school and I'm sure everyone joins me in congratulating her and wishing her all the best for her retirement. We know that she will miss the school, but we are sure she will enjoy her retirement to the full and make the most of it with her family.

Following on from her retirement, Mrs Mary Brosnan has been appointed the new Deputy Principal for the school. We also wish her all the best in her new role in the school and I'm sure she will receive everyone's' full support with her many new tasks!

Work has been ongoing here in the school and since Christmas, all the classrooms and hall have been newly painted and every place looks clean and fresh.

Over Easter, the prefab in the top yard will be removed and works will begin on improving the playground facilities outside. All fundraising efforts this year have been targeted at this and many thanks to the Parents' Association for organising the recent Table Quiz which was a great success.

We have started the process of removing the trees from behind the school as they pose a health and safety risk overhanging the playground. Work will continue on this and already we can see a huge improvement in terms of room and light etc.

As the swimming classes have finished for this year, we have to settle with the Aquila Club so can anybody yet to pay for swimming or other costs, please send in the money as soon as possible.

The tracksuits have arrived and are available for purchase straight away. Anybody who has already paid probably has received theirs or will soon do so. We apologise for the long delay in receiving these and once again I would like to thank Mr Thomas McCloskey for all his help and assistance in sourcing /ordering/delivering these.

Congratulations to sixth class who made their Confirmation recently and also to second class who made their First Confession. We are all now looking forward to their Holy Communion which is on May 7th.

As you can see from all the pupil reports on the newsletter, things are very busy in the school and well done to all the boys for all their hard work and enthusiasm.

Colm Ó Súilleabháin

## Farewell to Mrs Barry

This year brought the end of Mrs Barry's teaching career in the Mon. After 37 years, Mrs Barry has retired. She taught a lot of subjects and classes during her time in The Mon. She taught in 2<sup>nd</sup> Class for a long time. She then taught English and Maths for extra help classes. At the end of 2010, we held a retirement mass for her in the school hall. The Presentation brothers also attended the mass. The whole school and visitors wished her a happy retirement. All of the boys contributed some money to get her a leaving present of a beautiful watch. We hope she liked it. Good Luck Mrs Barry!

By Ben Egan & Danut Cirpaci (Rang VI)

## Credit Union Quiz

On 1<sup>st</sup> February, the Credit Union Quiz was on. We entered four teams from The Mon- two junior and two senior teams. We had a fun day in The Malton Hotel. The bad thing was that none of us won but we still enjoyed the day. Thank you Mrs Leacy for preparing us for the quiz and looking after us for the day.

By Barry Slattery (Rang V)



[creditunion.ie](http://creditunion.ie)

## Christmas Plays



Second, Third and Fourth class performed a Christmas Play for their parents and for the school. Everyone enjoyed them.

### Second Class

For our Christmas Play, we did the story of Meanie, M onie and Morie. These were three greedy children who got more than they bargained for when they sent a demanding letter to Santa. We really enjoyed it. By Peter O' Shea (Rang II)

### Third Class

Our Christmas play was called Hosanna Rocks. It told the story of the birth of Jesus. We all had a part and wore costumes. It had lots of singing and it was great fun. By Aaron Leahy (Rang III)

### Fourth Class

We did a play called Nativity Nightmares. It was about some teachers trying to do a play with their pupils. There were a lot of songs such as King Herod's Blues & Oh No Its Christmas. Mr Garnett was great at doing the actions! We were lucky to have Mrs Brosnan helping us. By Jason Reen (Rang IV)

## Guitar Lessons

Tom Deane comes in to the school every Thursday and gives guitar lessons to boys from fourth, fifth and sixth class. He has been teaching guitar in the school for two years. We started out with easy chords and notes and then he taught us songs such as The Streets of London.

Now we are learning how to improvise. The songs we are improvising are from the blues songs. Tom is an inspiration to us. Maybe we might be the next famous rock stars! We are lucky because our teacher, Mr O' Súilleabháin, also plays the guitar. For Seachtain na Gaeilge, we sang Gile Mar and Cailín na Gaillimhe and our teacher played both of them.

By Mark Stack and Luke Coffey (Rang VI)



## INCREDIBLE EDIBLES™

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 6<sup>th</sup> Class received a raised bed from Incredible Edibles to make our own school garden. Along with that, we received lettuce, turnip seeds, carrot seeds, potatoes and strawberry seeds. For planting some of these we got some biodegradable pots.

We all got our own pot and filled them with compost. We put lettuce seeds in some pots, turnip seeds in others and we put two potatoes in the last one. We are still taking care of the seeds by watering them. It has been a fun and enjoyable experience so far and hopefully our seeds will grow healthily.

By David Casey and Cian Kelliher (Rang VI)

## Cumann Na mBunscoil

We started football training for the Cumann na mBunscoil when we came back after the summer holidays. Our first game was against Killorglin at Dr. Croke's pitch. We won by a couple of points. Our next game was against Ballycasheen and we beat them well. We had to win our last game to get into the final. We were playing Kenmare. We started off well but Kenmare got back into it. With

two minutes to go we were down by five points but we managed to score two brilliant goals and we won by a point!

We made it into the final against Killorglin. It was played in Austin Stack Park in Tralee. We didn't start this match well and Killorglin went ahead. We missed a couple of chances and they pulled away. We lost but it was good fun. Hopefully we will have more luck in the other competitions.

We would like to thank our trainers Mr Garnett, Mr O' Riordan and Mr O' Súilleabháin.

By Peter McCarthy and Mark Harnett (Rang VI)

## Rugby Blitz

A few weeks ago, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils went to the Community College field to play in a tag rugby blitz. We had two teams- a Blue team and a Black team. The Blue team won their first game, however the black team lost theirs. It was great fun to be able to play in the blitz. Ray Gadsden, our rugby coach, organised the event and everyone enjoyed the day.

By Filip Bruzgiewicz & Dean Cronin (Rang VI)



### Hurling with Mr Griffin

John Griffin, the South Kerry Hurling Development Officer, comes into our school on Tuesdays and does hurling with Second and Third Class. He plays hurling with the Kerry team. He teaches us lots of hurling skills such as how to hand pass, pick up and strike the ball. He showed us how to hold the hurley properly and how to catch a sliotar. Some day we would like to be as good as him and play on the Kerry hurling team!

By Michael Lenihan (3<sup>rd</sup>) & Tom Doyle (2<sup>nd</sup>)



### Our Trip to Milanos

Every class got to go to Milano's to make pizzas. Second Class went to Milano's restaurant on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March. It was great. We got to make our own pizza. We learned how a restaurant works. We got to see the kitchen and some of us got locked in the freezer! It was fantastic fun and our pizzas tasted great. Thanks again to all the staff in Milano's!

By Evan O' Callaghan & Daniel Okwute (Rang II)



### Swimming

This year, every class was lucky enough to go for swimming lessons in The Gleneagle. Loads of people can swim now. There were very nice instructors and we went there for six weeks. At the end, Mr Garnett came into the pool and we had a water slide. Alan O' Shea beat Mr Garnett in a race! We really enjoyed it.

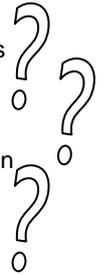
By Luke Moynihan (Rang IV)



### The Mon Table Quiz

The Mon Table Quiz was on the 11<sup>th</sup> February. It was organised by the Parents' Association and it raised a lot of money for the school. It was held in The Killarney Oaks. There was lovely food served. The Winning Junior Team won vouchers for the cinema. In the middle of the quiz, there was a raffle with hampers and lots of great prizes. The winning team was called 'Too School for Cool'.

By Conor Quirke (Rang V)



### The Gathering

This March, The Gathering group of musicians and American dancers came to our school to perform. They come every year. Some of the boys performed with them in front of the school. Some played the tin whistle and some played the guitar. It was very enjoyable.

By Adam O' Sullivan (Rang V)



### Book Week 2011

Last week we celebrated Book Week. Every class did lots of different activities with books. On Monday we went down to 2<sup>nd</sup> Class for shared reading. We read a book to them. It was lots of fun.

The Book Fair came on Wednesday and we got to buy books, posters and stationery. The school will be able to buy books for the classrooms with some of the money raised.

Each class also held a contest and the prize was to pick a free book. We wrote a poem but some classes wrote mini books, wrote stories and designed book covers. It was lots of fun. I love Book Week!

By Andrew Brosnan (Rang V)

### Máirt na bPancóg



For Pancake Tuesday, we all got to make pancakes at school. Each group in my class got to make their own Pancake batter using flour, milk, eggs and a pinch of salt. We cooked our pancakes and got to choose our own toppings such as chocolate syrup, golden syrup, caster sugar and lemon juice. They were delicious!

By Ian Prendergast (Rang III)

### Music in the Classroom

At the start of February our entire school went to INEC for a concert called Music in the Classroom. For a few days before we attended, from the CDs that we obtained, we had learned songs that we would sing and interact with. At the concert itself every song had a part, beginning from clapping in the rhythm to additional "sound effects". It was great fun. The conductor had helped us with our lyrics and actions, joking from time to time. When the concert ended we left the INEC and returned to school. It was a really enjoyable experience.

By Nelu O Doherty and Simon Kita (Rang VI)



### Croí na Teanga - It's You! Seachtain na Gaeilge

I dtús Mí Márta bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge againn sa scoil. Bhi tráth na gceist ag gach rang sa scoil. Bhaineamar a lán taitneamh as angcomortas agus bhí orainn 30 ceist a fhreagairt. Bhi seans ag gach rang dul go dtí an oifig chun amhrain, dán no scéal a dhéanamh ar an idir chum. I rang a sé, rinneamar an dán 'Tithe' le an tSr Colmcille agus canamar an amhráin 'Óró Sé Do Bheatha Bhaile' Bhaineamar sult agus spraoi as an seachtain. Is breá linn Gaeilge!  
(Rang III)

### Staff Profiles!

A new feature of our K'Mon newsletter is our staff profile! We will give you an insight into the daily lives, likes & dislikes and some interesting facts about a different member of The Mon staff each term. If you've any questions you'd like answered in future additions let us know. We hope you enjoy it!



### Basketball Blitz

In February, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class took part in a basketball blitz. There were many schools involved such as Fossa, the Mercy, Ballycasheen and Firies. It was good fun and the Mon won two games and lost two games. There were two All-Star awards given to each school. Michael Lenihan and Darragh Lyne were chosen from The Mon. We were lucky to be taken by Mrs Leacy and Mr Buckley.

By Padraig o' Flynn (Rang IV)

### Sponsored Walks

In October, the whole school did a sponsored walk to raise money for our school. Fourth class went to walk around Ross Castle and Second & Third class walked around the demesne.

Fifth and sixth class went on a walk to Tomies Mountain. We started on Sween's corner. It was a cold day and a bit damp. Everybody was dressed in warm clothes. The walk took us two and a half hours. We took a break for ten minutes. After our break, we walked down to see a waterfall and a lake. We tried to collect five different types of leaves on our way home to the bus. Everyone enjoyed the walk.

By Christopher Sweetman, Kuba Labecki & Fazle Elahi Ripon (Rang VI)

## Up close & personal with...



# Mr Riordan!



**Name:** Michael O' Riordan

**Age:** Just 27

**School attended:** Barradubh N.S & Scoil Phobail Sliabh Luchra UCC and Mary Immaculate College.

**Family:** One brother, one sister and my beautiful wife, Yvonne.

**Favourite Sport:** Gaelic Football

**Favourite Band:** Green Day

**Favourite Dinner:** Anything my mother cooks!

**Favourite Food:** Milano's

**Favourite Team:** Irish Cricket Team

**Favourite Sports Person:** Tom O' Sullivan & Aidan O' Mahony

**Hero:** Colm O' Súilleabháin

**Favourite Holiday Destination:** Las Vegas

**Favourite Pastime:** Winning the teachers race every year in The Mon Sport's Day!

**Favourite Place in Ireland:** Rathmore, where else!

**If I won the lotto, I would...** buy a new car (but not a black Ford Focus though because I wouldn't go near one of those!)

**Best memory from Primary School:** Beating all the Glenflesk boys in the football games at lunch.

**My advice for The Mon Boys is...** to always listen to your teachers!



### Confirmation

On 4<sup>th</sup> March, 6<sup>th</sup> Class received the sacrament of confirmation in St. Mary's Cathedral along with four other schools: Holy Cross Mercy, Lorreto Lissivigeen and Loughguitane. The actual confirmation was quite small but altogether it was a bit long. It was made up of the laying on of hands, the anointing with oil and a lot of singing. It was on in the morning from 11 o'clock till 1 o'clock. There was 90 children confirmed in the morning and in the whole weekend there was about 250 children confirmed. The ceremony was held by Bishop Bill Murphy.



By David Kenny & Jake Grunfeld (Rang VI)