

*Coláiste
November and*



*Iognáid S.J.
December 2017*

Jes Dinner Dance – Ardilaun Hotel, 18th November 2017.

Members of Ms. Carney's Jes ukulele Club who entertained the guests at the Dinner Dance and Eoin Donnellan who played auctioneer for the evening.



On Saturday, November 18th, about 130 ardent Jes supporters gathered for the Annual Dinner Dance in the Ardilaun Hotel. After a drinks reception and music from the school's Ukulele Band, the seated guests were treated to a historical and entertaining keynote speech from Tom Kenny. Tom mentioned many of the main figures, especially among lay and Jesuit staff in the massive growth and development of Coláiste Iognáid from the 1960s to the present day. A beautiful meal followed, and then all sat back to be entertained by a very lively Eoin Donnellan who conducted the annual auction. Many excellent bargains were struck during the next half hour. Lots of raffle prizes were then distributed before the dancing until the early hours began. A great

community spirit was enhanced during the evening which we will build upon at the next Dance on October 5th, 2018. Great praise is due to Jacinta O'Gorman and Gina Mannion who carried most of the organisation. We look forward to seeing lots of new faces in the Salthill Hotel next October.

Mock Trial Team compete in Prestigious World-renowned International Empire World Championship in New York



This November Coláiste Iognáid Mock Trial team represented Ireland in the Empire World Mock Trial. The Empire Mock Trial is a simulated court experience in which the competitors must argue both sides of the case using legal knowledge and speaking skills. Having qualified from the Irish Stage of this competition, they earned the right to represent Ireland at this competition in a once in a lifetime experience. In New York, the team performed admirably winning two trials and narrowly losing its 2 others despite having both a logistic and an experience disadvantage compared to the competitors from other countries. Competing against over 35 schools from the US, Canada, Great Britain, China, South Korea and Australia the team certainly left their mark on the competition. Not only was it an amazing experience to participate in such a prestigious competition but it was also a chance to interact with those of diverse cultures and make friends from all over the world. Thanks, must go to the School to r. Daly, Ms. Hickey and the teachers especially, Mr. Kilraine, Ms. Lohan and Mr. Reilly who either accompanied us or were instrumental in our planning for the competition or both. Special thanks to Mr. Kilraine who put in countless hours to ensure not only would the team have the requisite fundraising to participate but also so that we could make our school and country proud in this World- renowned competition. Finally, we would like to give a quick thanks to our benefactors, including but not limited to: RDJ (especially David and Shauna), the Board of Management, Arthur Cox, Gwen Ryan and all our parents who were with us during the bad and the good.

Tim Keogh, 5th Year

‘Christian faith tells us that our full and lasting happiness is to make of our lives a constant service to the Author of all that is good. This we do by using our talents for the benefit of others. Whether the days



allotted to us are long or short, if we spend them using our gifts, our competence, compassion, and conscience to help create a more liveable world, to bring hope and joy to others then we too can be confident that Jesus' words, 'Come you whom my father has blessed' will be heard by our loved ones who have gone before us.'

- Fr. Daly, Homily at Mass for Deceased Students, Staff, and Benefactors of the College, Saint Ignatius Church, Sunday 19th November 2017.

Jes students' Success at British Karate Open.



Odhran Daly (3 Collins) competed successfully in the British Kyokushin Karate Open in London. Odhran competed in Higher Grade 150 cm category and his efforts saw him secure a third place medal. This complements his earlier success in the Pilatus Cup in Switzerland where he secured a silver medal. Well done to all involved.

Hockey Success for Senior Girls Team



On Tuesday the 28th of November, the Jes senior team played in the final of the Ward Cup. The team travelled to Athlone to play Sligo Grammar. It was a tough match but a goal scored by Jenny Roe put the Jes in the lead early on. Both sides showed superb skill but Sligo could not break through to score a goal. An outstanding performance by Aoife McGovern in goal for only her second time made sure of this. The match ended 1-0 with the Jes winning. It was

not as eventful as the semi-final which went to extra time and then penalties. Captained by Shauna Spillane, coached by Richie Malone and managed by Caroline Codyre, the team did the College proud.

Laura O'Neill, 5th Year

Congratulations from the Jes Community to Zara O'Toole who has been selected for the u.16s Irish Hockey Team.

Staff Formation in Uganda



During the November break I was lucky enough to spend ten days Uganda with six other teachers from different Jesuit schools around the country, including Eoin Durkin from Scoil Iognáid. The trip was coordinated by the Jesuit Refugee Service in Ireland as part of their formation programme. We spent several days at Ocer Campion School, in Gulu, northern Uganda collaborating with teachers and pupils and sharing our experiences of Jesuit teaching methods. The school was established to educate children who had been affected by conflict in the country, caused by a violent civil war between the military and rebel group, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). It is a coeducational school, with more than 800 pupils, and runs a scholarship programme to give an opportunity to children whose families would not otherwise be able to afford education. Uganda is home to more than one million refugees from South Sudan. Having the opportunity to visit the resettlement camp in Adjumani, near the border was a highlight for me. Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) support people who are fleeing violence with food and education programmes. We also spent some time in the capital, Kampala, to see first-hand the work that JRS is doing in the urban refugee community in the city, with refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as well as other countries in the region. It was a very rewarding experience to see the incredible work being carried out by the men and women of JRS. My trip to Uganda has heightened my awareness of the role we as teachers play in making our students more aware of issues relating to social justice. I feel we could make greater efforts to raise these issues with our students and make social justice an integral part of our education program in Coláiste Iognáid.



Ms. Rian Carney

Music Department News



Members of the Music Department busking outside Brown Thomas in aid of the Simon Community



Congratulations to Robbie Monaghan (3rd year) who performed on the *Late Late Toy Show* at the beginning of December and Eimear O Thuathail (6th year) who was chosen to perform for Ellen De Generis in LA on the *Ellen* show in October

Basketball



It has been a busy term for boys' basketball in the school with two First Year teams playing in the West Region blitz, the Under-15 team travelling to Tralee for their cup competition (winning one game and losing one game) and



also the big success of the Senior Boys qualifying for the A All-Ireland Playoffs in Cork on 21st January. This is the first time the Senior Boys have made it this far at the top grade for 15 years!

Being Men and Women for Others: 6th Year Sleep-out and TY fundraiser

The 6th Years along with Mr. Sheehan and other teachers will sleep-out on the night of Friday 22nd to raise awareness of homelessness and support the work of COPE. This is account from David Cunningham (Class of 2017) of his experience. Last Year's efforts raised almost €3,700. We wish this year's volunteers well.



Honestly the weather was miserable. There is no sugar coating the fact that it rained non-stop for, what seemed to most of us, at least two days. “Surely it couldn’t only have been twelve hours”, we thought quietly to ourselves. The night was a shared experience. In a way, my suffering was

blunted slightly by the wonderful company in the form of my fellow students, friends and hardy but devoted teachers. This company was most appreciated but at the same time made me realise what made homelessness such a difficult situation to be in. Simply put, the homeless don’t have this support. Living and sleeping rough is incredibly solitary; it’s lonely. I don’t believe one can ever truly appreciate that fact until one doesn’t have the assurance of returning home to warm beds, welcoming arms and the comfort that we were temporarily deprived of. We were blessed to be given the chance to peer into the very real and scary struggles that these individuals suffer through every night. The sleep out was an education. The fact that it was cold, miserable at times and uncomfortable made very real the daily and nightly ordeal of those we pass every day on the street and in shop doorways. “Small deeds done are always better than great deeds planned”. What the COPE Sleep out offered me was a sense of scale, to put somethings into perspective. It offered me a sense of what people experiencing homelessness in my community and city go through on a regular basis, at least in a tiny part. I feel I’ve gained a more honest feeling of empathy, sympathy and, perhaps more personally a greater grasp of my own blessings which may have been taken for granted. I believe it is only through coming together as a community that we can help those that have fallen on hard times. No one can ever know when they might find themselves in a similar position. Someone much wiser than me once said “I always wondered why somebody didn’t do something; then I realise: I was somebody.

Ms. Scahill’s TY maths class also organised a fundraiser in aid of COPE services. The students designed their promotional posters, raffle cards and sourced prizes for 1st 2nd 3rd and 4th Year class groups. A separate raffle was organised for staff. Prizes were distributed by a troupe of 4 Santas accompanied by drummers and a large entourage to each year group. The troupe also delivered sweets to the Fr. Bob unit and prizes to staff members. The €158 raised from the raffle was given to Mr. Gerry Sheehan to be donated to COPE Galway following the Sleep-out. Well done to all students who worked so hard to make this a success.

Dates for Diary

Thursday 08th February 2018: Table Quiz, venue TBC

Thursday 08th March 2018: TY Fundraiser 'Golden Phrase' in Ardilaun Hotel

Saturday 15th September 2018: Jes BBQ at the School

Friday 05th October 2018: Jes Annual Dinner Dance, Salthill Hotel



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