

Twenty six students of Scoil Ruáin recently returned from a trip to Paris . The group of last year's second year students, accompanied by their teachers, enjoyed five wonderful nights in the City of Light . During their trip they visited such places of interest as the Eiffel Tower , the Louvre Museum , and The Chateau de Versailles. The group also spent a fun filled day at Euro Disney where they enjoyed many of the attractions on offer.

News for week ending Friday September 28th 2007

### **Agricultural Science Trip**

On Wednesday last, September 26th, sixteen fifth and sixth year Agricultural Science students attended the National Ploughing Championships in, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. The purpose of the trip was to allow students gain a practical insight into the many aspects of the Senior Cycle Curriculum.

### **Senior Football**

On Wednesday, our Senior Football team met a side from Rathkeale, Co. Limerick in the first round of the Munster Senior Football Championship. Scoil Ruáin did not play with its full complement of players as many students had travelled with their parents to the National Ploughing Championships. As a result, the sides were unevenly matched and Scoil Ruáin was beaten with the final score of 4-8 to 2-7. The Scoil Ruáin panel was as follows: James Kavanagh, Mark Fitzgerald, Steven Gleeson, Adrian Maher, Taylor Duffy, Enda McCarthy, Ben Walsh, Killian Duggan, Kevin Walzer, Marcus O'Halloran, T.J. Lannigan, Aaron Conran, Keith Mullally, Stuart Hanrahan, Shane Brett, Darragh Prendergast, Ciarán Maher, Michael Rafter, James Shaw, Michael Ivors, Tomás Nolan, Kieran Tobin, Alan Bourke, Joe O'Dwyer, William Power, Brian Kelly and Kieran Tobin.

### Biology Field Trip

On Thursday, nineteen Leaving Certificate Biology students embarked on an excursion to Tramore, Co. Waterford to view the rock pools. The ecology trip, which is a requirement of the Senior Biology Syllabus, allowed the students perform a profile of the organisms growing on the strand.

### First Year Hurling

On Thursday, the first year boys had their first experience of playing for the school hurling team when they encountered Johnstown Vocational School in a challenge game. The boys had a very comfortable win with the final score of 4-6 to 2-6. The panel was as follows: John Cashin, Conor Holohan, Killian Shorka, David Walzer, Conor Vaughan, Luke Mullally, Daniel O'Riordan, Jack Shelly, Noel Williams, Ciarán O'Meara, Kevin Slattery, Robbie Dooley, Ross Warner, Jack McCarthy, Daniel Rafter, Richard Walsh, William Morgan, Robert Reilly, Paul Gayson, Sean Walzer, David Slattery and Conor Maher.

### Schools Heritage Project

On Friday, a presentation was made to the third year students by Julia Walsh, Outreach Officer, of South Tipperary County Museum . The students were the overall winners in the Junior Certificate category of the 2006/2007 Schools Heritage Project, which was sponsored by South Tipperary County Council. The aim of the project is to increase awareness of heritage amongst school children. Schools in South Tipperary were invited to submit projects on any aspect of cultural, natural, or built heritage with the focus on the river Suir. The project submitted by Scoil Ruáin focussed on Holy Cross and the river Suir and showed a great amount of cross-disciplinary work. Students combined their knowledge gained in subjects like History, Geography, Art, Irish and English to come up with an entry that impressed the judges and set a high standard for the future of the competition. Well done to the students and teachers involved.

News for week ending Friday October 5th 2007

### Sixth Year trip to Careers Exhibition

On Tuesday October 2nd , our sixth year students attended a Careers Exhibition in Limerick . As the Leaving Certificate students consider their future career options, they availed of the opportunity to meet with representatives of various third level institutes and providers of further education and training. It proved to be a very worthwhile trip for the students and they returned to school with a more informed focus for their studies.

### First Year Hurling Championship

Our first years had a comprehensive win over a team from St. Ailbe's Vocational School, Tipperary in the second round of The Tipperary Post Primary Schools First Year Hurling Championship. The Scoil Ruáin panel was as follows: Richard Walsh, Conor Vaughan, Killian Shorka, David Walzer, Daniel O'Riordan, Luke Mullally, William Morgan, Jack Shelly, Noel Williams, Ciarán O'Meara, Kevin Slattery, Robbie Dooley, David Slattery, Conor Maher, Daniel Rafter, John Cashin, Robert Reilly, Ross Warner, Paul Gayson, Sean Walzer, Jack McCarthy, Evan Crotty, Conor Holohan and Matthew Holohan.

### Senior Hurling

On Wednesday, our senior hurling team played Nenagh Vocational School in Thurles. Despite playing well, the team was beaten and the final score was 3-17 to 3-13. The team's aim now is to play their way out of the loser's group and advance to the semi-final stage. The panel was as follows: James Kavanagh, Mark Fitzgerald, Adrian Maher, Enda McCarthy, Ben Walsh, Matthew Butler, Kevin Walzer, Chris Delaney, T.J. Lannigan, Keith Mullally, Jonathan Ivors, Darragh Prendergast, John O'Dwyer, Kieran Tobin, William Power, Brian Kelly, Aaron Conran, Ciarán Maher, Michael Rafter, Michael Ivors, Joe O'Dwyer, Dan Croke, Alan Bourke, James Shaw, Tomás Nolan and Aidan Leahy.

### Writers in Schools Residencies

This week the school was delighted to see the commencement of the Writers in Schools Residencies which is a scheme under which established writers work with schools over the course of a number of weeks. Scoil Ruáin is privileged that Mark Roper will be working for the next eight weeks in a workshop setting with students who have a flair for creative writing, with the prospect of having some of their poems published. This initiative will give the students involved scope to develop their potential as writers under the guidance and tutelage of Mr. Roper. The scheme is jointly funded by Poetry Ireland and Scoil Ruáin.

### U-16 and Senior Basketball

On Friday, success eluded both our U-16 and Senior basketball players when they took on Presentation Convent, Ballingarry at the Moyle Rovers Sports Hall in Monroe . The panels were as follows: *Under 16* : Áine Gleeson, Rebecca O'Gorman, Ciara Shaw, Sinead Tobin, Aileen Hanley, Chloe Holohan, Fiona Lahart, Gráinne Prendergast, Aisling Slattery and Alison Gaynor. *Seniors* : Chloe Crotty, Trisha Holohan, Yvonne Slattery, Shauna Hayes, Rebecca Maher, Aimee Moloney, Erin Slattery and Elaine Ryan.

### News for week ending Friday October 12th 2007

#### First Year Hurling

On Tuesday, our first year hurling team had a comprehensive win over Colaíste Chluain Meala in The South Tipperary Post Primary Schools Sciath Uí Chatháin. The panel was as follows: John Cashin, Conor Holohan, Killian Shorka, David Walzer, Conor Vaughan, Luke Mullally, Daniel O'Riordan, Jack Shelly, Noel Williams, Ciarán O'Meara, Kevin Slattery, Robbie Dooley, Ross Warner, Jack McCarthy, Daniel Rafter, Richard Walsh,

William Morgan, Robert Reilly, Paul Gayson, Sean Walzer, David Slattery and Conor Maher.

### Senior Girls' Soccer

Our senior girls' soccer team was beaten 2-1 when they met a team from Kilmacthomas on Tuesday in the South East League. The panel was as follows: Sharon Hanley, Yvonne Slattery, Trish Holohan, Áine O'Donovan, Niamh Horan, Michelle Meagher, Aimee Moloney, Alice Meagher, Erin Slattery, Shauna Hayes, Aileen Hanley, Alison Gaynor and Amy Hannigan.

### Senior Boys' Football

On Wednesday the school's senior football team was unfortunate to be narrowly defeated by a team from St. Ailbe's of Tipperary Town in the Munster Vocational Schools' Senior Football Championship. The final score was 1-10 to 1-11. This clash was a repeat of last year's Munster Final between the two teams which also resulted in a one point victory for St. Ailbe's. As this was our second defeat in this competition, we have now exited the championship for this year. The Scoil Ruáin panel was as follows: James Kavanagh, Mark Fitzgerald, Stephen Gleeson, Adrian Maher, Taylor Duffy, Enda McCarthy, Ben Walsh, Killian Duggan, Kevin Walzer, Marcus O'Halloran, T.J. Lannigan, Arran Conron, Keith Mullally, Stuart Hanrahan, Shane Brett, Darragh Prendergast, Ciarán Maher, Michael Rafter, James Shaw, Michael Ivors, Tomás Nolan, Kieran Tobin, Alan Bourke, Joe O'Dwyer, William Power, Brian Kelly and John O'Dwyer.

### Drugs Information Evening

On Wednesday night, parents of all students were invited to attend a Drugs Information Evening which was facilitated by Stuart Maloney, a project team worker with the Mid Tipperary Drugs Initiative. The purpose of the talk was to inform parents of the range of drugs presently on the market as well as to advise them of the signs of drug use. Parents and staff members present were given the opportunity to see first hand samples of many of the narcotic substances available in Ireland today. The briefing was followed by a questions and answers session where parents' queries were addressed. It was generally agreed that it was a most worthwhile and informative evening.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Shane Prout, a fifth year student who recently finished seventh in the All-Ireland Schools' Combined Event Competition. Having progressed through the Munster stages of the competition, Shane performed very well on the day, particularly in the Long Jump element of the contest.

News for week ending Friday October 19th 2007

#### Soccer

Our first and second year boys' soccer teams each played a challenge game against Cashel Community School recently. The first years were successful winning their game 3-0. The second year team did not perform as well and were beaten 4-0.

First year panel: Killian Skorka, James Hindley, Ciaran O'Meara, Daniel O'Riordan, Luke Mullally, Conor Holohan, Kevin Slattery, David Slattery, Daniel Rafter, Evan Crotty, Séan Walzer, Jack Shelly, William Morgan, Josh Griffin, David Walzer, Robert Reilly, Conor Vaughan, Martin Corcoran, Michael Reilly, Kieran Walsh, Conor Maher, Thomas Mackey and Paul Gayson.

Second year panel: Declan Fanning, William Slattery, Daniel Guinan, Thomas Slattery, Denis Connolly, Aodhan Maher, Conor Maguire, Tom Butler, James Murphy, Martin Cashin, Joseph Morgan, Darren Hearne, Jack Murphy, John Hickey, Stephen O'Riordan, James O'Meara, James Carroll, Shane Power and Darren Teehan.

## Road Safety

On Monday, Martin Heffernan, Road Safety Promotions Officer of the Road Safety Authority visited the school to speak to sixth year Leaving Certificate Applied students. The presentation highlighted the need for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to be more aware of their responsibilities when using Irish roads.

## Scoil Ruáin maintain winning streak

Scoil Ruáin's First Year Hurling team took a major step towards a county final decider when defeating St. Joseph's College, Borrisoleigh in a highly entertaining and sporting game played in Borrisoleigh on Tuesday last. Both teams had been undefeated so far in their group of the Sciath Uí Chatháin competition.

Scoil Ruáin started brightly with a point from Sean Walzer and three from Kevin Slattery to a single point from Borrisoleigh's No. 10 in the first ten minutes. The St. Joseph 's boys then had their best period of the game, scoring 2-02 in a five minute blitz which rocked the Killenaule youngsters. Scoil Ruáin rallied with a point from Conor Maher and 1-01 from Kevin Slattery before Borrisoleigh again found the net in the 24 th minute. Kevin Slattery pointed a free to leave Borris two points to the good at the interval, 3-03 to 1-07.

A goal from Sean Walzer in the second minute of the second half was the tonic needed by Scoil Ruáin to take matters into control. Further points followed from Kevin Slattery (4), David Slattery (2) and Paul Webster (1) to put Scoil Ruáin in the driving seat. Another defensive lapse in the 23 rd minute yielded another goal to St. Joseph 's. Fittingly, Kevin Slattery had the final say with a pointed free to leave the final score 2-15 to 4-04 to Scoil Ruáin.

Scoil Ruáin scorers: Kevin Slattery 1-10 (0-5 frees); Séan Walzer 1-01; David Slattery 0-02; Conor Maher and Paul Webster 0-01 each.

Scoil Ruáin team and subs: Richard Walsh (Mullinahone); Robert Reilly (do); Killian Skorka (do); David Walzer (do); Conor Vaughan (do); Noel Williams (St. Mary's); Ciaran O'Meara (Fethard); Jack Shelly (Mullinahone); Paul Webster (Killenaule); David

Slattery (Gortnahoe-G); Kevin Slattery (do); Robbie Dooley (do); Sean Walzer (Mullinahone); Conor Maher (Gortnahoe-G); Jack McCarthy (Mullinahone); Ross Warner (Clonmel Óg); Paul Gayson (Mullinahone); Matthew Holohan (Gortnahoe-G); Daniel O'Riordan (do); William Morgan (Fethard); Evan Crotty (Killenaule).

### Sixth Year trip to Limerick colleges

On Tuesday, sixth year students travelled to Limerick to visit the University of Limerick, Limerick Institute of Technology and Mary Immaculate College . The students had the opportunity to meet representatives and undergraduates from all three colleges which allowed them to gain information on the various courses available.

### Transition Year

On Wednesday, twenty seven Transition Year students and their teachers made the trip to the Gaiety Theatre in Dublin to see the West End Production of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'. Taking on the lead role was 25 year-old Craig Chalmers, the finalist in the recent hit BBC series ' Any Dream Will Do '. A great day was enjoyed by all.

Over the past number of weeks, students from Transition Year have been completing a certificate programme in C.P.R. (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) which has been made possible by the excellent facilitators at the Resuscitation Unit at South Tipperary General Hospital in Clonmel. The programme has allowed the students and the teachers that accompanied them the opportunity to learn how to use a defibrillator, rescue an individual when choking as well as gain some basic knowledge of C.P.R.

On Monday October 22 nd, Transition Year students will commence a week of work experience at Kickham Barracks in Clonmel. This will allow the students to learn more about weaponry and the defence forces. The week also serves as an opportunity to investigate a possible career in this area.

### Third Year trip to the University of Limerick

Third year students of Scoil Ruáin have, in the last few weeks benefited under the 'Access' programme offered by The University of Limerick. The 'Access' Programme gives second level students the chance to visit the college and view at first hand the excellent facilities on offer. The students visited the Engineering Department, The Aeronautics Department and the Robotics Department. The group also enjoyed lunch on campus and ended the day by playing basketball and soccer in the Sports Hall before returning to Killenaule.

### News for week ending Friday October 26th 2007

#### Senior Girls' Basketball

On Monday, our senior girls had a win over St. Ailbe's Vocational School, Tipperary Town beating them 39-20. The Scoil Ruáin panel was as follows: Chloe Crotty, Trisha Holohan, Theresa Burke, Shauna Hayes, Rebecca Maher, Amy Moloney, Erin Slattery, Áine Gleeson, Elaine Ryan, and Ciara Shaw.

#### U-18 Boys' Soccer

On Wednesday, the senior soccer panel met Cashel Community School in a challenge game. The panel was as follows: Joey Kelly, James Morrissey, Anthony Dempsey, T.J. Lannigan, Nigel O'Connell, Adam Norton, Gareth Stapleton, Kevin Walzer, Stuart Hanrahan, Cillian Duggan, Mathew Butler, Ben Walsh, Shane Prout, David Spratt and William Power.



News for week ending November 9th 2007

### First Year swimming

The first year students had their first in a series of six weekly sessions at Clonmel Swimming Pool this week as part of the Physical Education Curriculum. Depending on their level of ability in the pool, the students will receive instruction in this essential life skill.

### Senior Football

The senior football panel travelled to Borrisoleigh on Wednesday where they encountered a team from St. Joseph 's College in the first round of the McGowan Shield Senior Football Championship. The Scoil Ruáin team played well and were victorious with a final score of 3-13 to 2-5.

The Scoil Ruáin panel was as follows: James Kavanagh, Mark Fitzgerald, Stephen Gleeson, Adrian Maher, Taylor Duffy, Enda McCarthy, Ben Walsh, Kevin Walzer, Marcus O'Halloran, T.J. Lannigan, Keith Mullally, Stuart Hanrahan, Darragh Prendergast, James Shaw, Michael Ivors, Michael Rafter, Kieran Tobin, Alan Bourke, Joe O'Dwyer, William Power, Brian Kelly and David Spratt.

### LCA Trip to Waterford

On Thursday, both the fifth and sixth year Leaving Certificate Applied students made the trip to Waterford Institute of Technology for the purposes of visiting the Tourism and

Culinary Skills Department. Displays of cookery were on show and students were allowed participate in many of the activities organised. After a light lunch, the group had the opportunity to meet with staff members as well as both present and former students. The Scoil Ruáin students were also provided with an overview of the courses on offer in the area of Tourism and Culinary Skills at W.I.T.

### Senior Girls' Soccer

On Thursday, our senior girls met a team from Dungarvan in the third game of the South East League. The girls were beaten 2-1, the Scoil Ruáin score being delivered by Shauna Hayes.

The panel was as follows: Sharon Hanley, Yvonne Slattery, Tricia Holohan, Áine O'Donovan, Niamh Horan, Michelle Meagher, Aimee Moloney, Alice Meagher, Erin Slattery, Shauna Hayes, Aileen Hanley, Alison Gaynor and Amy Hannigan.

### U-18 Boys' Soccer

On Friday our senior boys had a great game against Dungarvan Vocational School in Dungarvan United Park . The final score was 2-1; scorers for Killenaule were Shane Prout and Kevin Walzer.

The Scoil Ruáin team was as follows: Ben Walsh, Alan Burke, Adrian Maher, Stuart Hanrahan, J.J.Webster, Kevin Walzer, James Morrissey, James Carroll, Killian Duggan, Michael Rafter and Shane Prout.

November 2007

## Rena Brett – An Appreciation

It was with a deep sense of sadness that news reached us on the morning of Friday November 16<sup>th</sup>, of the untimely death of our dear colleague and friend Rena (Catherine) Brett. Rena Brett (née Morris), from nearby Glengoole, arrived in Scoil Ruáin in 1972 as a young, newly qualified Home Economics teacher. In more recent times, she was also a tutor on the school's Childcare Adult Education Course.

Rena was a lady in every sense of the word. She was gentle, patient, and always thought the best of people. As a colleague she was supportive, always willing to help and above all, a friend. To any visitors to the staffroom and school, she was always on hand to extend a warm welcome. As a teacher, she strove at all times to bring out the best in her students and encouraged them to reach their potential. Rena loved her work and took great pleasure in meeting former pupils and finding out what career paths they had followed. She was particularly proud of the many past pupils who had progressed into the catering industry.

She was a true Tipperary woman even though she had moved to Kilkenny where she met her husband, Martin. She was thrilled that so many of her students played on the Tipperary Minor and Senior Hurling teams. One of her most treasured photographs was of herself, John Leahy and Liam Cahill hoisting the Liam McCarthy cup on a visit to the school in 2001. She took great pleasure in wearing the Tipperary jersey, especially in Kilkenny. She attended all the matches and these outings became a family occasion. One of her wishes was that Tipperary would win more All-Irelands.

She was articulate and passionate about many aspects of life which affected her students. Many of us can recall her impassioned speech during a public meeting held in Scoil Ruáin, the purpose of which was to highlight the need for a sports hall at the school. Nobody was happier than Rena when the Minister for Education and Science visited Scoil Ruáin some time later to announce that significant progress had been made in relation to the sports facility.

In addition to her teaching duties, she was a member of the school's board of management for many years, pioneered the school's book-rental scheme and was a Year Head in her capacity as an Assistant Principal.

Rena made the daily trip from Kilkenny to Killenaule for school, never considering seeking a teaching position closer to her home in Kilkenny. She had a great love for Tipperary , Scoil Ruáin, and its students. In more recent times, Rena's sister Carmel , (Sr. Kate) joined our staff and made the journey to school with Rena every day.

As a staff, we will miss her smile, her cheerfulness and her constant words of encouragement. It is difficult to believe that she is gone from our lives.

To her husband, Martin, her children Paul and Maria, her mother, sisters and brothers, we extend our deepest sympathies. Rena was not to know the joys of retirement and the opportunities it could present. It will be lonely around the Hills of Killenaule and in Scoil Ruáin without her. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam dílis.

News for week ending Friday January 18th 2008

#### Junior Hurling

Our Junior Hurling enjoyed their first game and win of the New Year when they met a team from Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny. The final score was 4-6 to 3-6, which was impressive, considering that both sides played with much depleted teams.

#### U-14 Soccer

Our U-14 soccer team was successful when they played Coláiste Chluain Meala on our astro-turf facility. Scoil Ruáin was victorious, the score being 7-4.

A number of school sporting events have had to be rescheduled yet again due to the adverse weather conditions.

#### Trip to Young Scientist Exhibition

On Friday January 11th, a group of first, second and third year students made the trip to the R.D.S. to visit the Young Scientist Exhibition. An enjoyable day was had by all as the students visited the various stands and observed the entries on display.

#### Transition Year

On Wednesday January 16th, Sue Ann O'Donnell, Enterprise Officer with South Tipperary Enterprise Board visited the Transition Year students to discuss their entry for the County final of the Enterprise Awards which will take place in March. The students received guidance and advice on the preparation of their business report.

This week also, a representative from Fáilte Ireland visited Scoil Ruáin to talk to the Transition Year group about the career opportunities that exist in the catering and hospitality industry.

#### Second Year trip to the Gaiety Theatre

On Thursday January 17th our second year students had a very early start to the school day as they embarked on the road to Dublin to attend a special schools' performance of 'Beauty and the Beast'. The interactive production proved to be most enjoyable and a wonderful time was enjoyed by both staff and students alike.

#### Senior Cycle Information Evening

On the evening of Thursday January 17th, an information session for parents of third year students was held in Scoil Ruáin. The purpose of the event was to make parents more aware of the options available to their sons and daughters as they begin senior cycle in September. Details of the Transition Year, Leaving Certificate Applied and Leaving Certificate Vocational programmes were made available as well as information on the

traditional Leaving Certificate. In addition, individual subject teachers were on hand and spoke about the content and career opportunities pertaining to each subject. The feedback received from parents suggests that it was a most informative evening and will serve to assist parents and students in this important decision.

News for week ending Friday February 1st 2008

#### Senior Art Trip

On Wednesday January 30<sup>th</sup>, a group of fifth and sixth year Art students visited the Hunt Museum at Limerick's Custom House. Art Appreciation is a fundamental element of the Art curriculum at senior cycle and while at the museum, the students were given the opportunity to participate in two workshops: *Exhibition layout and design* and *Portrait*. It was a very worthwhile trip and proved to be of great benefit to the students involved.

#### L.C.A. Assessment

The past week has proven to be a busy period for both our fifth and sixth year Leaving Certificate Applied students who have been assessed by means of interview for the tasks that they have undertaken since September.

#### L.C.V.P. Work Placement

Twenty six fifth year students taking the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme will benefit from one week's Work Placement during the coming week. The work experience, which the students have secured with local employers, will provide them with an insight into the world of work and assist them in deciding on their future career paths.

## Junior Soccer

On Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, our first year soccer team enjoyed success when they encountered a team from Coláiste Phobail, Roscrea. The score was 3-0, the Scoil Ruáin scorers being Jack Shelly (2) and Kieran O'Meara (1).

## News for week ending Friday February 8th 2008

Tuesday February 5<sup>th</sup> was a day of success all around for Scoil Ruáin on the playing fields with wins in three games played in soccer and football.

## U-18 Boys' Soccer

Congratulations to our senior boys' soccer team who had a fantastic win over Sancta Maria College of Louisburgh, Co. Mayo and are now through to the All-Ireland 'B' final of under 18 boys' soccer. Scoil Ruáin will now play Finglas in the All-Ireland final on a date to be decided.

## Junior Girls' Gaelic Football

Our Junior girls' football team had a comprehensive win over Comeragh College, Carrick-on-Suir when they visited Scoil Ruáin.

## U-14 Soccer

Our junior boys' soccer team had an impressive 5-2 win over Cashel Community School in a challenge game played at Scoil Ruáin. The goal scorers for Scoil Ruáin were David Slattery and Dean Mulcahy.

### French Quiz

On Wednesday sixteen students from Transition and Fifth Year travelled to Coláiste Dún Iascaigh, Cahir to participate in a French quiz at the school. The quiz, which was organised by the school's French department and involved schools within South Tipperary V.E.C., tested students on their knowledge of all things French – history, geography, grammar, vocabulary, food and drink, sport and culture. Congratulations to Eamonn Clancy, Sade Coady, Pádraig Mullally and Hannah Frister, from Transition Year who took second place in the quiz.

News for week ending Friday February 22nd 2008

### Pre-Examinations

Our third and sixth year students have just completed a trial run of the Junior and Leaving Certificate examinations this week. The “mocks” have given the students involved an insight into what is involved in the forthcoming examinations, providing them with feedback on their performance so that they can become more prepared for the June exams.

### Schools' Heritage Project

Congratulations to our second year students who took the overall winners prize in the Junior category of the South Tipperary Schools' Heritage Project. This is the second year running that Scoil Ruáin has claimed first place in the competition which is organised by South Tipperary County Council and funded by Tipperary LEADER group. The project aims to make students more aware of their heritage and the area in which they live. The theme for this year's project was Medieval Tipperary 400-1600 A.D. and the school entry was a collaborative approach by various subject departments within the school. The second years submitted poetry, essays on folklore, a typical medieval menu as well as reconstructions of artefacts and buildings from the period. The winners were announced on Wednesday last at a reception held in the County Museum in Clonmel where the projects are currently on display. Congratulations and well done to all the students and staff involved.

#### Pramerica Spirit of Community Award

Congratulations to Darren Hehir, third year who has been selected as one of twenty finalists countrywide in the annual Pramerica Spirit of Community Awards programme. The awards honour young people in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland for exemplary acts of volunteerism. The programme is organised by Pramerica Systems Ireland Limited in partnership with the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals and the General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland. Darren was nominated by Scoil Ruáin and will receive a Certificate of Achievement from Pramerica in the coming weeks. He will also attend a gala awards dinner to be held in Belfast where two student volunteers will be named All-Ireland Youth Volunteers of the Year. Darren is involved in a wide range of activities both within and outside school.

#### Transition Year trip to Waterford

The Transition Year group travelled to Oceanic Manoeuvres Adventure Centre in Tramore on Thursday last where they engaged in a cryptic challenge, which involved the students working together in pairs as they attempted to solve the tasks assigned to them. Afterwards, they paid a visit to Waterford Institute of Technology where they enjoyed lunch followed by a tour of the college.

## Fashion Show

A fashion show organised by Scoil Ruáin in conjunction with Slieveardagh Sports Committee will be held in the school on Thursday March 13th at 8 pm. Funds raised will go towards the Astro-turf facility at the school. The fashion show will feature models from the Celia Holman-Lee Model Agency as well as a number of celebrity G.A.A. models. A cheese and wine reception will also be served. Tickets costing €30 are available from any member of the Slieveardagh Sports Committee or Scoil Ruáin on 052-56332.

News for week ending Friday February 29th 2008

## Junior Girls' Football

On Tuesday last, our junior girls' football team was comprehensively beaten when they played a challenge game against a team from Presentation Secondary School , Clonmel. Commiserations to the girls who made a great effort in the second half to reduce the gap between the sides.

## Bank of Ireland Student Awards

On Wednesday February 27 th , Janice O'Meara and Liam Nelligan, representing Bank of Ireland visited our school to present the Bank of Ireland Student Awards to ten students of Scoil Ruáin. Awards were made at both junior and senior level in each of five categories. The categories and respective recipients were as follows:

*Academic* Senior Eoin O'Reilly

Junior Wini Hannigan

*Sport* : Senior Kevin Walzer

Junior Tomás Nolan

*Art Senior Stacy Rafter*

Junior Amy Tobin

*Entrepreneurial Spirit Senior Eamonn Clancy*

Junior Darren Hehir

*Community Spirit Senior Hannah Frister*

Junior James Carroll

Ms. O'Meara and Mr. Nelligan were pleased to announce that James Carroll who had been presented with the junior award for Community Spirit has been selected to progress to the regional round of the competition which will be held in Kilkenny on March 12th. James works as a volunteer with P.A.W.S., the annual rescue organisation, where his positive attitude and caring spirit is evident to all those who work with him. We wish James well on March 12 th and congratulate all award winners for their attitude, commitment and dedication.

#### Girls' Basketball

On Thursday, our first and second year girls' basketball team played well but were ultimately defeated in a league game held in Rockwell College .

#### Soccer Final

Our U-18 boys' soccer team continue with their preparations in advance of their All-Ireland encounter with a team from Finglas, Dublin. The game which is scheduled to be played in Tullamore on Monday next, March 10 th promises to be an exciting contest and we wish our team every success.

## **News for week ending Friday March 14th 2008**

### **FAS Opportunities**

On Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup> , a group of Fifth and Sixth Year students travelled to Croke Park to attend the FAS Opportunities exhibition. While at the exhibition, the students had the opportunity to explore the various career possibilities that exist through the variety of FAS training schemes on offer.

### **Junior Football**

Our U-15 football team recently played a team from Ennistymon, Co. Clare in the quarter final of the Cusack Shield. Scoil Ruáin won comfortably with a final score of 1-14 to 0-7. We now look forward to the semi-final when we will play Coláiste Dún Iascaigh, Cahir.

### **Green Schools**

Scoil Ruáin has been awarded its third green flag and on Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> , representatives of our Green Schools committee travelled to Cork where they were presented with the green flag for our efforts in relation to water conservation. This is a wonderful achievement for the school and great credit is due to the hard-working committee of staff and students who work so tirelessly to improve the environmental quality of the school and community.

### **Humourfit Drama Group**

On Thursday March 6<sup>th</sup> , Humourfit Drama group visited the school and performed a drama on bullying which was attended by all students. The drama coincided with the theme of bullying which was the focus of Religion classes taught at both junior and senior cycle in the school throughout the week.

## Student Enterprise Awards

A number of First and Transition Year students competed in the South Tipperary Enterprise competition which took place in Hotel Minella, Clonmel recently. Congratulations to our first year team of Elaine Browne, Chloe Butler, Antoinette Carroll, Bridget Doyle and Jill Ireland who were highly commended for the most innovative idea in their category.

## All-Ireland soccer

Monday last, March 10<sup>th</sup> saw a strong contingent of Scoil Ruáin supporters depart for Tullamore for the school's All-Ireland clash with Patrician College, Finglas, Dublin in the U-18 boys' soccer final. Despite the wind and the bitterly cold weather conditions, the Scoil Ruáin supporters came bedecked in Tipperary jerseys and with faces painted ready to offer encouragement and support to their side. It was a very exciting game in which both sides played to their best with Patrician College taking the lead early in the first half. Scoil Ruáin kept up the play and Michael Rafter was awarded a penalty which he converted resulting in a score of 1-1 at half time. In the early stages of the second half, Scoil Ruáin was dominant and again Michael Rafter managed to score. A reply came shortly afterwards from Finglas and so the game ended with a score of two all. In extra time, Patrician College managed to score and ultimately went on to take the All-Ireland title. The Scoil Ruáin boys played exceptionally well and were unlucky to be beaten. Both staff and students of Scoil Ruáin are very proud of the team's great achievement in getting to the All-Ireland final. We have enjoyed the many entertaining games they have provided us with en route to the final. Great credit is due to the team management, in particular Mr. Paul White, for the commitment and dedication he has shown in preparing the team.

The Scoil Ruáin panel was as follows: Ben Walsh; Alan Bourke; Stuart Hanrahan (captain); Adrian Meagher; J.J. Webster; Killian Duggan; John O'Dwyer; James Carroll; Kevin Walzer; James Morrissey; Michael Rafter; Darragh Prendergast; Shane Prout; Kieran Tobin; William Power; Joseph Kelly; Gareth Stapleton; Adam Lyons; Anthony Dempsey; Nigel O'Connell; David Spratt and T.J. Lannigan.

## Cross Country Competition

On Wednesday March 12<sup>th</sup>, a number of students took part in the Cidona Post Primary Schools Cross Competition which was held at Clonmel Óg G.A.A. grounds. Our athletes

enjoyed success at both individual and team level; in particular, Sharon Grace who came second in the first year girls' 1200 metres and Michelle Meagher who came second in the fifth year girls' 2000 metres.

### Battle of the Bands

*Deadbeat*, a pop-rock band of Transition Year students participated in the Battle of the Bands “Blastbeat”, in Davis College, Mallow on Thursday March 13<sup>th</sup>. *Deadbeat* have been together as a band since September of '07 and have achieved great local success since then. They have recorded a CD to raise funds for cancer research and have performed in The Abbey Mill in Fethard recently, also for cancer research. The band members gave a wonderful performance in the competition on Thursday and came a very close second to the ultimate winners, *Overplay* from Mallow. We are very proud of the success of Eamonn Clancy, Pádraig Mullally, Ciarán Maher and Elaine Ryan thus far and wish them every success in the future.

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### Soccer Coaching

Over half of the Transition Year class has begun a F.E.T.A.C. Level 4 Football Association of Ireland Soccer Coaching course this term with mentor David Leenane from the F.A.I. The course combines theoretical instruction with the development of practical and team building skills. This is a certificate course with end of course assessment and on completion, students will be able to assist in soccer camps and summer camps using the qualification gained.

The remaining Transition Year students will complete a swimming course in Clonmel Swimming Pool for a number of weeks running up to the summer break.

## Junior Girls' Football

On Thursday April 3rd , our junior girls headed for Tipperary in good spirits and sunshine for their challenge game against St. Ailbe's. Unfortunately, Scoil Ruáin did not have an ideal start and we found ourselves two goals down within the first ten minutes with a further ten minutes lapsing before we opened our score line with a point from Grace Fanning. Our slow start was due to a combination of quality saves by St. Ailbe's full backs and goalkeeper. The score line remained unchanged for the remainder of the first half with both sides making a number of switches at the break. Early in the second half we were lucky to get a penalty when Amy Hannigan was fouled inside the box. Alison Gaynor stepped up to the spot and her execution was perfect. The Scoil Ruáin girls were now back in the game. St. Ailbe's quickly responded with a point but we were not to be outdone and it was at this point that we began to play some great football with lots of support play which we capitalised on by scoring three points in a row from Alison Gaynor (2) and Rebecca Coady (1). The score line was now level at 1-4 to 2-1. St. Ailbe's scored another goal when we fumbled the ball in the middle of the field but we worked the ball up well from defence and this ended in a shot by Amy Hannigan which came off the post but was followed through by Laura Dunne who sent the ball to the back of the net. The sides were level once again and both teams scored another point a piece to leave the full time score at 2-5 to 3-2. It was a wonderful, clean game of football from both sides and we look forward to St. Ailbe's return game in Killenaule. We wish to express our thanks to Séan Treacy Park for the wonderful facilities and to Séan Toomey for refereeing the game.

The Scoil Ruáin panel was as follows: Amy Hannigan; Grace Fanning; Deirdre O'Donovan; Mary Jane Kearney; Hannah Daly; Chloe Burke; Alison Gaynor; Niamh Brett; Louise O'Donnell; Niamh Fitzgerald; Eileen Croke; Leanne Sheehan; Roisín Prendergast; Katie Curran; Siobhán Dunne; Sharon Grace; Rebecca Coady; Caroline Corbett; Teresa Dunne; Laura Doyle; Amy Pollard; Shannon O'Brien and Bridget Doyle.

## Fitzgerald Shield

Also on Thursday last, our under 17 hurling team played Thurles C.B.S. in what proved to be a very close contest. Thurles C.B.S. were ultimately victorious and the score finished Scoil Ruáin 1-10, Thurles C.B.S. 1-14.

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### Oral Examinations

Our Leaving Certificate students last week completed their oral Irish examinations and this week will be tested in their ability to converse in French. The oral test forms a significant element of the assessment for both languages at Leaving Certificate.

### First Year Hurling

Our first year hurlers were well beaten when they played Abbey C.B.S., Tipperary in a challenge game. The final score was 4-11 to 5-7.

### Junior Football

Our junior football team were unsuccessful when they played Coláiste Dún Iascaigh, Cahir on Wednesday last, April 9th . The Scoil Ruáin team lined out without their full complement of players and so struggled from the outset to make their mark on the game.

On Friday last, our under-15 football team played Thurles Vocational School in the Munster Junior Football Cusack Shield. We had a comprehensive win with a full time score of 6-2 to 0-2.

### L.C.V.P. Mock Interviews

Our sixth year Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme students benefited from the opportunity to engage in a mock interview thanks to the Human Resources Department at Bord na Mona. A little over a year ago, Scoil Ruáin was linked with the local business through its involvement in the Schools Business Partnership. The twenty three students involved were given feedback on their performance at the interview which will no doubt prove to be of immense help to them in the future as they prepare for real interview situations.

### Parent-to-Parent 3 Day course

A three day parent to parent course to empower parents and guardians to deal with issues relating to drug and substance misuse will be presented by Stuart Moloney of the Mid-Tipperary Drugs Initiative. The course will be run in the Community House, Ballynonty on Tuesday April 29th , Tuesday May 6th and Tuesday May 13th from 10 a.m. to 12 noon each day. Anyone wishing to participate in the course should contact Ms. Margaret O'Neill, Home-School Community Liaison Co-ordinator at 052-56332 as soon as possible. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis