

2014 - 2015



Scoil Uí Mhuirí

Post Primary School

ANNUAL
REPORT



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Introduction from CEO

I am pleased to have the opportunity to introduce Scoil Uí Mhuirí Annual Report for 2015. It is indeed a great tribute to Principal Fiona Kindlon and Deputy Ray Donagh and their dedicated team of teachers that the school is now held in the highest esteem in the community. A major extension of general and specialist rooms and a Special Needs Unit will soon be added followed by a professional standard running track. This will complete the growing phase and transform this school to become one of the best equipped and most modern in Louth and Meath.

During the past year Scoil Uí Mhuirí has again excelled in so many ways. School activities, academic, cultural, musical and sporting involvement has become the hallmark of an energetic and inclusive school in its community.

Over the past few days I met with a former staff member who recall not so long ago a school of 180 students and buses leaving Dunleer for Dundalk and Drogheda. All that has changed and now Scoil Uí Mhuirí is the choice of school not only for its own community but is sought after by parents from far and wide.

I want to thank parents for placing your trust and confidence in our school. I thank the teachers who daily care for, mature and grow your most cherished possessions and our country's greatest resource, our children. I want to compliment teachers, support staff and especially the leaders Fiona and Ray for the exceptional investment which you make in teaching and learning, student care and extra-curricular activities.

Go n-éirí an t-adh libh

Peter Kierans
Chief Executive



Introduction from Chairperson of Board of Management

As Chairperson of the Board of Management of Scoil Uí Mhuirí, I am delighted to welcome the annual report for 2014/2015. This reports marks another productive and progressive year for our school. The annual report outlines a selection of the main activities, developments and achievements that have occurred within Scoil Uí Mhuirí during the 2014/2015 academic year. It also outlines developments in relation to policies, planning, whole school initiatives and buildings works.

It is heartening to reflect on the continual developments within our school and it is important to acknowledge that our achievements and successes are the results of a team committed to excellence.

I take this opportunity to compliment and congratulate the Board of Management, management, staff, students and parents of Scoil Uí Mhuirí on another excellent year for the school. A word of thanks also to the many local businesses who support the school in various activities throughout the year. Your support and involvement is much appreciated and enhances the learning experience for all our students.

Over the years many students have benefitted from the excellent and progressive educational philosophy which permeates Scoil Uí Mhuirí and we look forward to many more years of success, achievement and growth at Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

Cllr Liam Reilly
Chairperson, Board of Management



Introduction from Principal

I am delighted to present the Scoil Ui Mhuiri Annual Report 2014/2015. This report marks another year of exceptional progress and success for all the Scoil Ui Mhuiri school community.

We in Scoil Ui Mhuiri can take great pride in our achievements both academic and non-academic during the 2014/2015 academic year. As we reflect on the school year, we also have fond memories of successes in state examinations, enterprise competitions, musicals, debating, science competitions, sports including soccer, gaelic, basketball, rugby, athletics, to name but a few.

This Annual Report contains an outline of the main activities, developments and initiatives that took place in Scoil Ui Mhuiri during the 2014/2015 academic year. It provides a flavour of the main curricular, co-curricular and extra – curricular activities that members of the school community have engaged in over the course of the year.

The Annual report provides you with a snapshot of a school year, therefore, we invite you to visit the school website, www.scoiluimhuiri.ie, and our school twitter page @ScoilUiMhuiri on a regular basis to gain an insight into current highlights and developments at the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge and thank the staff, both teaching and non-teaching at Scoil Ui Mhuiri. Our staff team are extremely committed to our students, their welfare and their learning. They have worked so hard throughout the year to ensure that our students achieve their full potential, whatever that may be and they have also given of their free time regularly to ensure that our students have opportunities to excel and avail of and participate in a variety of extra – curricular activities.

A word of thanks to our parents/guardians, the Board of Management and Louth Meath Education and Training Board (LMETB) for their continued support and co-operation throughout the school year.

We in Scoil Ui Mhuiri are very proud of our students' achievements both in school and outside during the 2014/2015 academic year. Our students' exemplary performance and achievements have brought great joy and huge sense of pride to the school, their families and the local community. We look forward to continued success in the 2015/2016 school year.

Kind Regards
Fiona Kindlon, Principal

Introduction to and Overview of Scoil Uí Mhuirí

Scoil Uí Mhuirí is a vibrant, dynamic Post Primary School situated in the heart of the growing community of Dunleer, Co. Louth. The school opened its doors for the first time in 1954 with a student population of 55 pupils. Since then the school has grown rapidly with a current student cohort of over 640 students and a teaching staff of over 40.

Scoil Uí Mhuirí Post Primary School is owned by the Department of Education and Skills and is administered as a Learning Centre by Louth Meath Education and Training Board (LMETB). It is the policy of LMETB through the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Peter Kierans, to devolve responsibility for the day to day running of the school to the Board of Management and the Principal, Ms. Fiona Kindlon and the Deputy Principal, Mr. Ray Donagh.

The school provides all of the Department of Education and Skills Programmes and proudly serves the areas of Annagassan, Clogherhead, Togher, Fieldstown, Walshestown, Tenure, Philipstown, Dromin, Kilsaran the growing area of Dunleer itself.

In Scoil Uí Mhuirí we are a learning community committed to the development of the whole person within a context which values each of its members. In Scoil Uí Mhuirí we have a vision that all of our students will develop a love of learning and a keen sense of social responsibility through a positive and happy school experience.

Our mission in Scoil Uí Mhuirí, in line with our Mission Statement, is to foster academic, social, moral, personal, positive mental health and physical development in students so that they can take their place in society as well developed, well educated, responsible citizens with pride in their community. The development of the whole person is based on personal

responsibility, inter-dependence, respect for people, respect for community and respect for property. Our school seeks to instil good manners, honesty and integrity. It also seeks to teach our students to value discipline and to strive for excellence in both academic and non-academic areas.

We do this in partnership with parents/guardians whose role in supporting the school in their children's education is fully acknowledged. We place a strong emphasis on partnership with parents/guardians to ensure the best possible progress through education for each student. Education is viewed as a joint effort between students, staff, parents and school. Great emphasis is placed on mutual cooperation. Our caring and dedicated staff is committed to helping each student achieve his/her potential.

Scoil Uí Mhuirí Management and Staff also continue to maintain and develop strong links with local education providers, community groups and local enterprise to enhance the learning experience for all students in our school.

We in Scoil Uí Mhuirí are very proud of our students' achievements both in school and outside of school. Our students' exemplary performance and achievements in curricular, co-curricular and extra curricular activities have brought great joy and a huge sense of pride to the school, their families and the local community. We look forward to continued success in the coming years.



Our School Name

Our school, Scoil Uí Mhuirí is named after the late Fr. Larry Murray who was Parish Priest in Dunleer from 1937 – 1941.

Our School Uniform

Our school uniform consists of a white shirt, navy trousers/skirt, a navy jumper with the school name and crest, navy/black shoes and a navy blue school rain jacket. Our students also designed our PE uniform which consists of a polo shirt, navy blue tracksuit bottoms and a navy blue tracksuit hoody and all the PE uniform items must have the school PE crest.

Our School Logo

Our school logo evolved from a joint 'artist in residence' project which was co-ordinated by County Louth VEC and funded by the Arts council. At the time an artist specialising in sculpture design was appointed to work with students in our school and a design theme was of 'Newgrange' was agreed for the Scoil Uí Mhuirí students. The winner of the project was former student Mr. Cathal Kierans. Our logo is based on the Newgrange solstice. If you walk around our sculpture you will eventually see through from one side to the other, if you see the light! Local company, Darby Engineering were selected to manufacture the final product. It was produced in sections and finally welded

in place – not where it is today but in front of the old original school building. It was moved to its current location when the school was being extended in 2006.

Student Enrolment

Enrolment at the school continues to rise and the current student numbers stand at 640. The ratio of boys to girls at the school remains at approximately 60% boys and 40% girls.

Promoting Positive Behaviour at Scoil Uí Mhuirí

All members of the Scoil Uí Mhuirí community are expected to treat one another with respect, good manners and courtesy at all times. We expect and promote high standards of behaviour centred on respect including:

- Respect for self
- Respect for other students
- Respect for staff
- Respect for visitors to the school
- Respect for property

Our expectations are outlined in our Code of Behaviour which can be viewed on www.scoiluihmuri.ie

Our Results and Progression to Third Level

Our students have opportunities to take a range of subjects at all levels across the school. Our Junior Certificate students currently take ten subjects for examination purposes and our Leaving Certificate students currently take eight examinable subjects. The school continues to celebrate successes regarding student results with many students achieving over 500 points at Leaving Certificate level. A high percentage of our students progress to Third Level education. Staff at the school review all results annually.,

Our Staff

Our highly qualified and experienced staff team comprises Principal, Deputy Principal, teaching staff, SNAs, administration and ancillary staff. Our staff are a highly qualified, experienced and dynamic group who inspire our students to succeed.

Teaching and Learning at Scoil Uí Mhuirí

Our highly qualified and experienced staff team promote high expectations for all students and work hard individually and collectively in subject and programme teams to ensure that high quality teaching and learning is the norm for all subjects and programmes on offer in the school.

Homework

Homework at all times is designed to support and reinforce class learning, to promote thinking and problem solving and to develop research skills. Students are facilitated in recording their homework in their school journals.

Assessment at Scoil Uí Mhuirí

All members of the teaching staff recognise the importance of both formative and summative assessment approaches within their classrooms. Teaching staff appreciate and understand the inextricable link between the intensive use of formative assessment techniques within the classroom and the results which students achieve after engaging in summative assessments.

Formal tests are held twice yearly and the results are communicated to students and parents through written reports. Every effort is made by teachers within the school to give students an opportunity to review test results and identify where they have done well and areas where they need to improve.

If a teacher has a concern about a particular student's progress within a subject, a conversation takes place with the student and if necessary arrangements will be made to contact home and/or organise a meeting with the student and his/her parents/guardians.

ICT in Teaching and Learning at Scoil Uí Mhuirí

Teachers and students at Scoil Uí Mhuirí experience the benefits of an up to date IT system with Wifi access now in all classrooms, IT facilities including data projector and computer in each classroom and the use of additional interactive whiteboards throughout the school.



Our State of the Art Buildings and Facilities

Our state of the art facilities include:

- General Classrooms fully equipped and resourced with ICT Facilities
- Home Economics Room
- Two Science Labs and One Demonstration Room
- Design Communication and Graphics Drawing Rooms
- Construction and Woodwork Room
- Engineering Room
- Art Room
- Music Room
- Gym Hall & Fitness Suite
- Computer Suite
- Guidance Offices
- Pastoral Offices
- Special Education Needs Suite
- Parents Room
- Playing fields
- Tennis & Basketball Courts
- Canteen with catering kitchen

The School Day

Our classes are from 8.50am to 15.35pm each day except on Fridays when classes finish at 3.15pm.

Book Rental Scheme

In Scoil Uí Mhuirí we operate a book rental scheme for class textbooks and student lockers. Each student is allocated a locker and supplied with the relevant textbooks for the school year upon payment of the book rental fee. Parents have responded very well to this scheme as it ensures back to school costs are kept to a minimum. Included in the cost of the book rental fee is a school journal for each student.

The School Journal

Each of our students has a school journal which is an official document which they use to record homework and use as a method of communication between home and school. The student's journal must be available for inspection by staff and parents at all times. In recent years, we have changed the design of our

student journal to include photos of a selection of student successes during the year on the cover. This give students ownership of their journal and displays to parents and students the range of opportunities available to students at Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

Lunchtime Arrangements and Student Canteen

Junior students remain on the school grounds for lunch. Senior students (TY, 5th and 6th Year students) may go up the village for lunch from Mondays – Thursdays only. All students have a choice of bringing in their own food or using the canteen service which is operated at present by Rumbles catering. A wide selection of foods are on offer at very reasonable rates. The menu is developed in consultation with the school community including students, staff and parents and at all times aims to promote healthy eating. Food is provided before school, at breaktime and at lunchtime.

Promoting the Scoil Uí Mhuirí Community

Our school website, facebook and twitter pages provide the most accurate and up to date information on the extensive range of subjects and programmes on offer at the school. They also provide a flavour of the main co-curricular and extra curricular activities that members of the Scoil Uí Mhuirí community engage in on a daily basis. These communication tools are updated regularly and we invite you to peruse same through our main website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie

School Contact Details

Our school address is Barn Road, Dunleer, Co. Louth and a google map link to our school is available on our school website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie.

You can also contact us on

t 041 6851344 and/or

e ScoilUiMhuiri@lmetb.ie

LMETB

Scoil Uí Mhuirí is one of the many post primary schools under LMETB. LMETB Offices are currently located at Chapel Street, Dundalk and Abbey Road, Navan. Contact with the Dundalk Office can be made on **042 9334047** and with the Navan Office on **046 9068200**. You can also find out more about LMETB by logging on to the LMETB website on louthmeath.etb.



Department of Education and Skills Programmes 2014/2015

Scoil Uí Mhuirí offers an extensive curriculum that provides a diverse range of subjects at all levels.

1. The Junior Certificate

At present students in Scoil Uí Mhuirí take ten subjects for examination. Core examination subjects in the 2014/2015 academic year were Irish, English, Maths, French/German, Religion and CSPE. Students also take SPHE and PE. Students then took four further options from the following list:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| • Home Economics | • Technical Graphics | • Metalwork |
| • Business Studies | • Materials Technology (Wood) | • Geography |
| • Technology | • Environmental and Social Studies | • Science |
| • Art, Craft and Design | • History | • Music |

The new Junior Cycle began in September 2014 with the introduction of a new subject specification for English only. The new framework will be introduced across all schools on a phased basis from 2014.

All students will cover the twenty four statements of learning as well as developing key skills which will enable them to participate in 21st century learning. Further information on the new Junior Cycle can be accessed on www.ncca.ie and www.jct.ie.

2. The Junior Certificate Schools Programme (JCSP)

The Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP) is a national programme of the Department of Education and Skills. It aims to provide a curriculum framework that assists schools and teachers in making the Junior Certificate more accessible to those young people who may leave school without formal qualifications. It attempts to help young people experience success and develop a positive self-image by providing a curriculum and assessment framework suitable to their needs. On completion of the programme students receive a profile which is an official record of their achievements from the Department of Education and Skills. Following the Junior Certificate, pupils may opt for Transition Year or go straight into 5th Year to follow one of the Leaving Certificate Programmes.

3. Transition Year

The Transition Year (TY) offers pupils a broad educational experience with a view to the attainment of increased maturity, before proceeding to further study. It provides a bridge to help pupils make the transition from a highly-structured environment to one where they take greater responsibility for their own learning and decision making. Pupils participate in learning strategies which are active and experiential and which help them to develop a range of transferable critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills. Transition Year should also provide an opportunity for pupils to reflect on and develop an awareness of the value of education and training in preparing them for the ever-changing demands of the adult world of work and relationships.

Transition Year Subjects/Programmes on offer in Scoil Uí Mhuirí 2014/2015

- English
- Mathematics
- Irish
- Home Economics
- Biology & Physics
- Business & Enterprise
- Music & Drama
- Religious Education
- History
- Physical Education
- French/German
- Information Technology & E-Learning
- Geography
- Paired Reading
- Technology
- Personal Development
- Art
- Agricultural Science

During the 2014/15 academic year 24 students participated in the TY Programme.



4. The Leaving Certificate

There are currently three Leaving Certificate Programmes on offer at Scoil Uí Mhuiri:

The Leaving Certificate Established

In general students taking this option study eight examinable subjects:

Compulsory subjects

Irish, English, Maths, RE, PE, Modern Foreign Language, Career Guidance and PE

Options

Students choose three subjects from the following: Design and Communication Graphics, Art, History, Home Economics, Link Modules, Business, Biology, Physics, Technology, Engineering, Construction Studies, Geography, Music and Agricultural Science*

*Agriculture Science was introduced to the curriculum 2014.

The Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA)

The LCA is a very popular route for students who may have more of a vocational orientation. It is an ideal progression route to PLC Courses and is highly regarded in the world of employment. The Leaving Certificate Applied was introduced to recognise the talents of all students and provide opportunities for development in terms of responsibility, self-esteem and self-knowledge. It is an innovative programme in the way students learn, in what they learn and in the way their achievements are assessed. The advantage of Leaving Certificate Applied is that it focuses on the talents of each individual student and helps students apply what they learn in the real world. The two-year programme consists of four half-year blocks called 'Sessions' and achievements are credited in each of these sessions. Student engaging in the LCA are also rewarded for their attendance as part of the programme

The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)

The LCVP is an enhanced Leaving Certificate programme. Students who have specified subject combinations of subjects (VSG's) qualify to engage with the two LCVP Link Modules, Enterprise Education and Preparation for the World of Work. The LCVP therefore combines the established Leaving Certificate with the Link Modules. Active Learning Methodologies are the key to the success of this programme. There are many benefits of taking the LCVP for students whether they intend going to college, taking up employment or indeed setting up their own business.





Personnel 2014/15

Current Board of Management Members

Liam Reilly, Chairperson	LMETB Nominee
Ciaran O' Donnell	LMETB Nominee
Oliver Tully	LMETB Nominee
Frances Kirwan	Parents Representative
Neil Cooney	Parents Representative
Jackie Matthews	Staff Representative
Aiden Matthews	Staff Representative
Benny Devlin	Community Representative
Fiona Kindlon	Principal/Secretary to the Board

Staff Representatives Board of Management September 2014 - April 2015

Miriam Howard	Staff Representative
John Mc Gahon	Staff Representative

Staff Representatives Board of Management from May 2015

Jacqueline Matthews	Staff Representative
Aiden Matthews	Staff Representative

Board of Management Members Pre May 2015

Liam Reilly, Chairperson	LMETB Nominee
Tomas Sharkey	LMETB Nominee
Benny Devlin	LMETB Nominee
Colm Markey	LMETB Nominee
Terri Keane	Parents Representative
Peter Keane	Parents Representative
Miriam Howard	Staff Representative
John Mc Gahon	Staff Representative
Derek Devlin	Community Representative
Kevin Matthews	Community Representative
Fiona Kindlon	Principal/Secretary to the Board

Full Staff Member listing 2014/2015

Teaching Staff Member	Department(s)
Elizabeth Barbour	Irish
Susan Byrne	PE
Martin Cassidy	Technology
Aileen Carey	Maths & Science
Declan Clarke	Home School Community Liaison Officer
Melissa Clarke	English, History and Resource
Therese Clinton	Maths & Religion
Maire Conneely	Science & Maths
Mary Cox	Science & Maths
Gillian Curran	English & SEN/Resource
Peter Devin	English & History
Ray Donagh	Deputy Principal
Fiona Duggan	PE & Geography
Lorraine Duffy	English & History
Jackie Matthews	Irish & Modern Foreign Languages
Geraldine Friel	Home Economics & Religion
Martina Farrell	Business & Maths
Lorna Finnegan	PE & Geography
Aine Gorman	Maths & SEN/Resource
Michael Gurn	Maths
Deirdre Harrington	Art
Colin Heaphey	Technology
Miriam Howard	Irish & Modern Foreign Languages
Niamh Hughes	English & Religion
Alan Hurley	Technology & Maths
Niamh Keenan	Modern Foreign Languages & History
Niamh Kelly	Modern Foreign Languages
Fiona Kindlon	Principal
Anne Marie Kirk	Science & Maths
Frances Lynch	Maths
Noeleen Lyons	Modern Foreign Languages
Gordon Magennis	Technology & Religion
Brian Mathews	Technology
Aiden Matthews	Guidance
Anna Mc Cready	Business
John Mc Gahon	Technology
Rachel Mc Garrigle	Guidance
Stephen Mc Kee	Spanish
Ciara Morrison Reilly	Religion & Music
Pamela Mulroy	Irish & English
Caroline Murphy	Irish & Religion

Gemma Murphy	Home Economics
Fiona Ni Chonaill	Irish & English
Nicola Reilly	Maths, Business & Resource
Amy Savage	Business & Maths
Kathryn Shannon	English
Fiona Shields	English & Music
Sarah Victory	Irish & History

Non Teaching Staff

Non Teaching Staff	Responsibilities
Audrey Dorian	Secretary
George Reynolds	Caretaker
Agnes Reynolds	Cleaning
Brendan Beakey	Cleaning
Debbie Faye	Special Needs Assistant
Claire Gaynor	Special Needs Assistant
Paula Mc Cabe	School Completion Project Worker

Jobbridge Internship

Jobbridge Internship	Responsibilities
Clare Mc Kenny	Administration Assistant Student Support Services

School Canteen Staff Services 2014/2015

Contract Caterer	Contractor Staff Details
Rumbles Catering	Peter Grimes, Director
Rumbles Catering	Peter Garvey, Director
Canteen Staff	Tracey Gough, on site catering manager
Canteen Staff	Yvonne Carolan, canteen staff
Canteen Staff	Anne Quigley, canteen staff
Canteen Staff	Sinead Marry, canteen staff

Student Support Services 2014/2015

Home School	Declan Clarke
Community Liaison Officer	
Guidance Counsellors	Aiden Matthews Rachel Mc Garrigle
SEN Co-ordinator	Gillian Curran
SPHE Co-ordinator	Melissa Clarke
SCP Project Worker	Paula Mc Cabe
JCSP Co-ordinator	Lorraine Duffy
TY & LCVP Co-ordinator	Miriam Howard
LCA Co-ordinator	Alan Hurley
School NEPS Psychologist	Pol Bond
Educational Welfare Officer (EWO), Tusla	Marion Horan
Special Education Needs Organiser (SENO)	Miriam Hilliard

Posts of Responsibility 2014/2015 following review of posts November 2015

Post	Staff Member	Duties
Assistant Principal	Declan Clarke	Year Head 1st Year 2014/2015
Assistant Principal	Kathryn Shannon	Year Head 2nd Year 2014/2015
Assistant Principal	Maire Conneely	Year Head 3rd Year 2014/2015
Assistant Principal	Martin Cassidy	Year Head 5th Year 2014/2015
Assistant Principal	Fiona Ni Chonaill	Year Head 6th Year 2014/2015
Programme Co-ordinator	Miriam Howard	Co-ordinator of Transition Year (TY) & the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP)
Special Duties Post	Lorraine Duffy	Assistant Year Head 2nd Year Co-ordinator of 1st Year Assessment Test Literacy and Numeracy Co-ordinator
Special Duties Post	Geraldine Friel	Assistant Year Head 3rd Year 2014/2015 Co-ordinator of Intercultural Activities Student and Staff Induction Support
Special Duties Post	Jacqueline Matthews	Co-ordinator of Anti Bullying Activities Scoil Uí Mhuirí Webmaster
Special Duties Post	Mary Cox	Assistant Year Head 5th Year Scheduling of In House Examinations Co-ordinator (Timetabling, Supervision and Rooming Allocation Mock Examinations and Summer Examinations)
Special Duties Post	John Mc Gahon	1st Year Taster Programme Co-ordinator Stocktaking Co-ordinator Health and Safety Co-ordinator
Special Duties Post	Caroline Murphy	Assistant Year Head 1st Year Student Council Liaison Student of the Month Awards Co-ordinator
Special Duties Post	Alan Hurley	LCA Co-ordinator ICT Co-ordinator School Self Evaluation (SSE) Co-ordinator
Special Duties Post (Acting)	Martina Farrell	Assistant Year Head 6th Year Co – ordinator of Annual Student Awards Ceremony

The duties as outlined above have been ratified by the Board of Management of Scoil Uí Mhuirí. These duties may be varied from time to time by agreement to cater for the changing needs of the school.

Class Tutors 2014/2015

Year Group	Class	Tutor
1st Year	1 Boyne	Gordon Magennis
	1 Fane	Nicola Reilly
	1 Glyde	Frances Lynch
	1 Liffey	Colin Heaphey
	1 White	Aine Gorman
2nd Year	2 Corcra	Anna Mc Cready
	2 Gorm	Peter Devin
	2 Glas	Aileen Carey
	2 Fionn	Fiona Shields
	2 Rua	Pamela Mulroy
3rd Year	3 Ash	Amy Savage
	3 Beech	Niamh Hughes
	3 Cedar	Niamh Keenan
	3 Oak	Pamela Mulroy
	3 Rowan	Melissa Clarke
TY	Miriam Howard	
5th Year	5 Callan	Therese Clinton
	5 Kelvin	Fiona Duggan
	5 Tyndall	Rachel Mc Garrigle
	5 Walton	Susan Byrne
	5 Sloane	Gemma Murphy
6th Year	6 Mink	Alan Hurley
	6 Seal	Lorna Finnegan
	6 Fox	Niamh Hughes
	6 Hare	Ciara Morrison Reilly
	6 Deer	Martina Farrell

Parents Association Officers 2014/2015

Ms. Antoinette Rourke	Chairperson
Ms. Pauline Butterly	Vice Chairperson
Mr. Neil Cooney	Secretary
Mr. John Mc Conville	Treasurer
Ms. Mairead Elmaadi	PRO

Parents Representatives on the Board of Management

From May 2015

Mr. Neil Cooney	Parents Representative
Ms. Frances Kirwan	Parents Representative

From September 2014 - April 2015

Ms. Terri Callan	Parents Representative
Mr. Peter Keane	Parents Representative

Student Council 2014/2015

Junior Members

Temi Achiyoa, Katie Mc Ginn, Finbarr Lynch, Tunji iFaturoti, Roisin Mc Auley

Senior Members

Shane Bowhan, Kayleigh Mc Hugh, Liam Fussey, Una Carroll, Nicole Connor, Nikita Kelly, Kyle Murphy





Scoil Ui Mhuiri students and staff gather to honour George

On the 19th May 2015, the Scoil Ui Mhuiri community comprising over 700 students and staff gathered in the school gym to mark the occasion of the retirement of our caretaker, George Reynolds who would retire at the end of August. We were delighted to welcome George's wife Mary and his son Ciaran for the surprise celebrations along with CEO, Mr. Peter Kierans.

George is well respected among present and past management, staff, students and parents and everyone that meets George speaks highly of a man who is caring, courteous, co-operative, reliable and demonstrates great attention to detail. George took great pride in his work and enjoyed excellent relations with all he came in contact with during his time in Scoil Ui Mhuiri.





During our ceremony, tributes were paid to George by the CEO, Mr. Peter Kierans, Principal, Ms. Fiona Kindlon and Chairperson of the Student Council, Liam Fussey. 5th Year students, Jack Rogers recited a poem which he had written for George on behalf of all students past and present at Scoil Uí Mhuiri. The recorder orchestra and the choir also impressed with their version of Kirsty McColl's 'Thank you for the days'.

Liam Fussey made a presentation to George on behalf of all SuM students and from that evening our school facebook pages was busy with many students, parents and staff, past and present posting their best wishes to George on his retirement.

Thank you to everyone for making this a very memorable event for George.

Congrats George - you're a legend.
We'll miss you.

Student Supports

Supports for Students

Students attending Scoil Uí Mhuirí have a diverse range of supports available including:

- Class Tutor and Year Head System
- Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE) Co-ordinator
- Guidance Counsellors
- School Completion Programme Project Worker
- Learning Support and Resource Teaching for students with Special Educational Needs
- Home School Community Liaison Officer
- Mentoring Programme
- Multicultural Provision

Pastoral Care Team

Scoil Uí Mhuirí's Student Pastoral Care Team meets once a week to consider how the school community is responding to student needs and in particular those students dealing with particular challenges. The Pastoral Care Team comprises the Principal, Deputy Principal, Year Head Representative, SPHE Co-ordinator, Tutors, Guidance Counsellors, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator and School Completion Project Worker.

Class Tutor

The Class Tutor is assigned to a particular tutor class and has a special role in the life of that class for the entire year. He/she aims to create a well motivated, happy class group where each member is valued and where high standards in all aspects of the student's life are encouraged. In the relationship of trust and respect that develops between the Class Tutor and the tutor class, there are opportunities to discuss and deal with concerns of a general or an individual nature. The role of the Class Tutor is primarily pastoral in nature. He/she will:

- Develop a good relationship with his/her Form Class
- Work with Form Class to raise standards in terms of academic achievement and general behaviour
- Monitor, encourage, advise, guide and set targets to encourage success.
- Support Class Teacher if requested
- Give instruction on the correct use of the School Journal
- Monitor the School Journal on a monthly basis or more often if necessary
- Sign off on the examination reports home for their class groups



Year Head

The Year Head has a vital function of leading, co-ordinating and inspiring the students of a particular year group and liaising with the class teachers involved as well as with the Principal and Deputy Principal. The responsibilities of the Year Head include the following:

- Encourage all students to achieve their potential
- Acknowledge improvement and success within the Year Group
- Monitor attendance, punctuality, school uniform and general progress
- Take morning assemblies and registration
- Follow up on students not making progress
- Deal with more serious or persistent breaches of discipline
- Support Class Tutors in relation to raising standards



SPHE

Students engage in a module of SPHE over the course of their three years at Junior Cycle. The aim of the SPHE programme is to promote self-esteem and self-confidence and to enable students to develop a framework for responsible decision making. Students have opportunities to examine physical, mental and emotional health and well being. SPHE classes also provide opportunities for reflection, discussion and debate.

Guidance and Counselling

Our Guidance Department engages in a range of activities over the school year including:

Counselling

Helping student to explore their thoughts and feelings and the choices open to them: giving care and support to students learning to cope with the many aspects of growing up

Assessment

Helping students to obtain self understanding through the use of psychometric tests and other inventories

Information

Providing students with objective and factual data in education and training opportunities, occupations, labour market information, entitlements etc

Educational Development Programmes

Facilitating the transfer of knowledge and skills relating to studying, examination performance, choice of subjects and levels

Personal and Social Development Programmes

Facilitating the transfer of knowledge and skills relating to a student's personal and social development, self awareness, decision making and planning



School Completion Programme

In Scoil Uí Mhuirí, SCP work focuses on targeting and providing supports to young people identified to be most at risk of early school leaving and includes:

- Identifying and supporting children at risk of not reaching their potential in the educational system because of poor attendance, participation and retention via initiatives such as breakfast clubs; homework clubs; after school supports; mentoring programmes; and therapeutic interventions
- Ensuring that schools have in place the appropriate procedures to monitor, identify and respond to attendance, participation and retention issues
- Implementing transfer programmes to support young people transitioning from primary to post-primary school



Home School Community Liaison (HSCL)

The Home School Community Liaison Scheme (HSCL) is a Department of Education and Skills (DES) initiative that was set up to combat educational disadvantage in accordance with the DEIS initiative (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools). The scheme works by developing partnerships between parents, teachers and the community to improve pupils' learning opportunities and assist their retention and participation in the educational system. The involvement of parents is key to the HSCL's service vision. Parents are provided with an opportunity to be involved in their child's education through community initiatives designed to support literacy, numeracy and positive engagement.



SEN Department

The SEN department at the school provides a range of support for students with Special Education needs at the school. This includes the following:

- Identification and application for support hours for students requiring additional support as identified by the Special Education Needs Organiser (SENO)
- Identification of students in need of additional learning support and resource teaching subject to the availability of resources
- Profiling of students' needs and liaison with subject teachers regarding differentiation of curriculum and discussion around learning goals and targets for individual students
- Literacy, Numeracy and Social Skills development for individual and small groups of students subject to the availability of resources
- Liaison with parents of students with Special Education Needs
- Links with Primary Schools
- Liaison with school support personnel including the SENO, the school's NEPS Psychologist, visiting teacher for the Deaf and the Education Welfare Services of Tusla
- Identification of and participation in CPD to strive towards best practice in allocation and implementation of SEN resources at the school
- Liaison with Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) at the school

Mentoring Programme

As part of the transfer and transition programme from primary to post primary school for 1st Year students, we assign senior students (former TY students) as mentors for our 1st Year students.

Each mentor completes a training programme and during the year they played an active part in the lives of our 1st Years as they were available at break and lunch times to offer support, guidance and friendship during that crucial transition period from primary to post-primary education. Our mentors also play a very important role in ensuring that Scoil Uí Mhuirí's Anti Bullying policy is applied right across the school.

School Policies

Child Protection Policy

The Board of Management of Scoil Uí Mhuirí has adopted fully and without modification the Department of Education and Skills Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary schools as part of the school's overall Child Protection Policy.

The Board of Management of the school has appointed Ms. Fiona Kindlon, Principal, as the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Mr. Ray Donagh, Deputy Principal as the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLDP). The DLP will continue to act as a liaison with outside agencies and as a resource person to any staff member or volunteer who has child protection concerns.

The Principal in her role as Secretary to the Board of Management, as requested by the Department of Education and Skills reported at each meeting of the school's Board of Management on the number of cases in which advice was sought and the number of referrals made to Tusla, the Child and Family Agency.

Child Protection Information notices have been placed at various points through the school and information has been provided to parents and all staff on the school's Child Protection Policy.

During the 2014/2015 academic year, the secretary to the Board of Management reported at each meeting of the Board on the number of cases where advice was sought from TUSLA and the number of cases where reports were made to TUSLA.

Admissions Policy

Our Admissions Policy is available to download from the school's website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie and is also available on request from the main office at the school. It is intended that our Admissions Policy should provide clarity for parents/guardians on all issues related to the enrolment of pupils in the school and to facilitate the enrolment process. Our Admissions Policy also outlines the process for parents/guardians who are applying for a transfer place for their son/daughter from another school to Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

During the 2014/2015 academic year, the Admissions Policy was revised to include applications for An Chrannóg, the school's Autism Class which would open in September 2015.

Attendance Policy

Our Attendance Policy is available to download from the school's website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie and is also available on request from the main office at the school. The rationale for our Attendance Policy includes ensuring that students benefit fully from the range of opportunities available to them in Scoil Uí Mhuirí and ensuring that all students, their parents/guardians and staff are aware of their responsibilities to ensure high levels of attendance. We also wish to encourage and promote best practice regards regular and punctual attendance by all students and to create an awareness among the student body that a good school attendance record enhances opportunities in the area of training and employment



Code of Behaviour

Our Code of Behaviour is available to download from the school's website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie and is also available on request from the main office at the school. The Code of Behaviour of Scoil Uí Mhuirí has been devised to encourage positive behaviour and to create the best environment conducive to teaching, learning and personal development. There are three strands to the Code of Behaviour: The School Charter, the Parent/ School Contract and the Discipline Procedures.

Anti Bullying Policy

The Board of Management of Scoil Uí Mhuirí has adopted fully and without modification the Department of Education and Skills Anti Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post Primary schools as part of the school's overall Anti Bullying Policy.

Every student in Scoil Uí Mhuirí has the right to enjoy school without fear of intimidation or harassment. Every staff member has the right to a work life free from intimidation or harassment. Every parent has the right to feel that their children are safe from bullying

while at school. The whole school community, staff, students and parents has a responsibility to ensure that all members feel safe and happy at school. In particular people who witness bullying behaviour or who know that it is happening have a responsibility to report it so that it can be stopped. Our Anti Bullying policy is available to download from the school's website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie and is also available on request from the main office at the school.

Homework Policy

In Scoil Uí Mhuirí we believe that homework is an integral part of every student's learning. We believe that homework has a major role to play in consolidating work done in school and in allowing students develop as independent learners. Our Homework Policy aims to ensure consistent approaches to the setting and reviewing of homework and to ensure an equitable distribution of homework and to reduce pressure on students from homework overload.

Our Homework Policy is available to download from the school's website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie and is also available on request from the main office at the school.



Computer and Internet/Email Acceptable Use Policy

Our Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is available to download from the school's website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie and is also available on request from the main office at the school. The aim of our AUP is to ensure that pupils attending Scoil Uí Mhuirí will benefit from learning opportunities offered by the school's computer resources in a safe and effective manner. Students are expected to follow the rules of our AUP and all legal requirements in the use of the school's computer system.

CCTV Policy

Our CCTV Policy is available to download from the school's website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie and is also available on request from the main office at the school.

CCTV systems are installed both internally and externally in premises for the purpose of enhancing security of the building and its associated equipment as well as creating a mindfulness among the occupants, at any one time, that a surveillance security system is in operation within and/or in the external environs of the premises during both the daylight and night hours each day.

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the use of Closed Circuit Television and its associated technology in the monitoring of both the internal and external environs of the school premises.

Critical Incident Management Plan

In keeping with our School Mission Statement, the Board of Management is committed to the care of staff and students in our school. Our Critical Incident Management Plan (CIMP) refers to the response taken by this school should a Critical Incident occur. As each Critical Incident will require the school to respond in a manner appropriate to that particular incident at that time, this CIMP is intended to serve as a general outline of procedures to be followed in the event of a Critical Incident occur.

Educational Tours Policy

Scoil Uí Mhuirí accepts that the objective of an educational tour should be that it should provide a significant benefit in the educational, intellectual, cultural and social developments of the students. In line with our Mission Statement we recognise that engagement in a variety of experiences and cultures is part of a holistic education.

Our Educational Tours Policy is applicable to all members of staff who organise such trips and to the students and parents/guardians who are participating in these activities.

Our Educational Tours Policy is available to download from the school's website www.scoiluimhuiri.ie and is also available on request from the main office at the school.

Health and Safety Statement

Scoil Uí Mhuirí is committed to achieving and maintaining high standards of health and safety for all staff, pupils, visitors and others. There are a range of policies and procedures which underpin our safety management system. Our Safety Statement is not intended to be final or exhaustive but addresses the fundamental aspects of maintaining a safe environment and systems of work.

Pastoral Care Policy

Scoil Uí Mhuirí realises its core aims and goals through a variety of means, including our Pastoral Care Policy. We understand pastoral care as an approach to education which endeavours to value and develop each member of the school community. It promotes learning at every level of the student. Each member of the school community has access to the relevant pastoral care structures and procedures, each is invited to play their part in contributing to the pastoral ethos of the school community. More than anything else we seek to nurture positive relationships as the core resource in developing a pastoral approach. Our Pastoral Care Policy endeavours to put in place the framework necessary to underpin and support this approach.

Special Educational Needs Policy

We the staff in Scoil Uí Mhuirí value each individual and educate towards an inclusive society both in our school and in the local community. Our mission statement is based upon a commitment to inclusion which is expressed through the idea that all students are valued, supported and their strengths are recognised; there should be open communication based on mutual respect and trust; we should actively seek to bring about the best possible outcomes for all of our students; and supporting individual achievements is an integral part of improving school effectiveness.

Scoil Uí Mhuirí's Special Educational Needs Policy has been developed from a number of documents to ensure that students with Special Educational Needs are given the opportunity to achieve their full potential in school.

Work Experience Policy

Work Experience allows for students to experience the world of work, learn new skills, become motivated in their attitude to school work and be more informed about career choices.

Our Work Experience Policy applies to all programmes with a Work Experience element in particular LCA, LCVP and TY. Our Work Experience Policy is designed to meet the official requirements of these Senior Cycle Programmes as specified by the Department of Education and Skills.

DEIS Plan

Scoil Uí Mhuirí is a DEIS School and as part of our DEIS status we continually plan to meet targets in eight areas which include:

- Attendance
- Retention
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Attainment
- Progression
- Partnership with parents
- Partnership with others

Various initiatives and strategies are put in place to enable us work towards our targets and regular review and evaluation takes place to monitor progress. During the 2014/2015 academic year we continued to implement our 2013 – 2016 DEIS Plan. A comprehensive report on outcomes will be published in early 2017.





Teaching and Learning

Subject Departments

In Scoil Uí Mhuirí subject specialists place a great emphasis on collaborative planning and review by working closely together in subject departments. Each subject department appoints a Subject Convenor who is responsible for co-ordinating the department for an academic year. Generally this role of subject convenor is rotated among department members from year to year. Formal and informal subject department planning meetings take place on a regular basis and subject departments are encouraged to use these opportunities to discuss a range of items including subject syllabi, resources for teaching and learning, CPD, research on best practice in the subject area, differentiated strategies, assessment approaches including formative and summative assessment, inclusion of students with Special Educational Needs, subject department approaches to literacy and numeracy and integration of ICT into teaching and learning.

Membership of Teacher Professional Networks

Subject teachers at Scoil Uí Mhuirí are encouraged to become members of their Subject and Programme Specific Teacher Professional Networks and/or Subject Associations. Department members find these networks and associations extremely beneficial for keeping them up to date with the latest developments, changes, resources and assessment techniques. These meetings and national conferences also provide an opportunity for networking with teachers from other schools.

Teacher Based Classrooms

Teacher-based classrooms are the norm at Scoil Uí Mhuirí and each classroom is fully equipped with a PC, data projector and high speed broadband connection. In the practical classrooms there has been a massive investment in specialised equipment and resources to ensure students have access to high quality teaching and learning in those subject areas also. Subject teachers are encouraged to display students' work in classrooms and to use posters, charts, newspaper articles etc as an aid to teaching and learning.

Rapport between Students and Teachers

A warm relationship between teachers and students characterises lessons in Scoil Uí Mhuirí. Teaching staff take time to get to know their students' names and to identify teaching and learning strategies to include all learners in the classroom.

Supporting students with Special Educational Needs

All teachers at Scoil Uí Mhuirí play a key role in bringing about the successful inclusion of students with SEN in our school. Students with SEN are welcomed and we work actively and collaboratively to ensure that these students are integrated quickly and effectively into the relevant classroom. Teachers make themselves aware of the special educational needs of students in their classrooms at the outset and regular communication takes place with colleagues in the Learning Support/Resource/SEN Department. Their expertise and input is crucial in ensuring that we are customising our lesson plans to meet the diverse needs of these particular students.



We strive to create a supportive, caring environment for SEN students and we avail of opportunities to affirm them in their ability to learn and participate in school life. We also ensure that we enhance the support available to those students in our school who are receiving learning support/resource hours. Advice sought could relate to teaching and methodologies which would support teaching and learning for these students, textbooks, in class seating preferences of individual students, setting homework, formulating tests/assignments/resources, accommodations for in house assessment and reporting procedures for such students.

If any teacher feels that a particular student may benefit from learning support/resource hours within the school, referrals are made to the Learning Support/ Resource department in the school.

All teaching staff has access to a copy of the Post Primary Guidelines on 'Inclusion of Students with Special Education Needs' on the Teachers Drive on the server and they are encouraged to reference this when planning for teaching and learning with SEN students.

Active Teaching and Learning Methodologies

Teachers across the school use a wide variety of active teaching and learning methodologies to engage the range of student interests and abilities and to enhance student understanding and learning of the subject. Specific methodologies being used at present include:

- Pairwork
- Self Assessment
- Groupwork
- Peer Assessment
- Differentiated Worksheets
- KWL Sheets
- Project work
- Show me Boards
- DVD's
- Post its
- Mindmaps
- Quizzes
- You Tube Clips
- Cloze tests
- Teacher Tube Clips
- Powerpoint presentations
- Wordsearches
- Handouts
- Crosswords
- Graphic Organisers
- News Clips
- Interactive quizzes
- Discussion
- TV Programmes
- Debate
- Case Studies
- Newspaper articles
- Self Assessment
- Visitors to the classroom
- Peer Assessment
- Visits out
- Show me Boards
- Websites
- Teaching and Learning Apps
- Podcasts
- Timelines
- CD ROMs
- Wordwalls
- Journal articles
- Wall Charts
- Past pupils
- Student generated resources
- iPads as a teaching & learning tool

Use of ICT in Teaching and Learning

Teachers across the school use ICT in a variety of ways:

- 1 Planning for teaching and learning
- 2 During specific classes
- 3 Developing materials for use in the classroom e.g. quizzes, worksheets, crosswords, differentiated handouts etc
- 4 Generating a range of evaluative techniques for checking for student understanding
- 5 Student Attendance and Reporting
- 6 Communication via email, school website, twitter and facebook pages

The majority of staff are also using iPads in Teaching and Learning. In the 2013/2014 year we piloted the use of iPads as a teaching & learning tool in Transition Year.

Assessment at Scoil Uí Mhuirí

All members of the teaching staff recognise the importance of both formative and summative assessment approaches within their classrooms. Within classrooms, teachers utilise a range of formative assessment approaches including:

- Sharing Learning Outcomes
- Sharing Success Criteria
- Questioning – Open Ended and Closed Questions/ Targeted and Global Questioning Techniques
- Self and Peer Assessment
- Formative Feedback

Teaching staff appreciate and understand the inextricable link between the intensive use of formative assessment techniques within the classroom and the results which which students achieve after engaging in summative assessments.

Formal tests are held twice yearly and the results are communicated to students and parents through written reports. Every effort is made by teachers within the school to give students an opportunity to review test results and identify where they have done well and areas where they need to improve.

Parent teacher meetings provide an additional opportunity to discuss each student's academic and personal progress. If a teacher has a concern about

a particular's student's progress within a subject, a conversation takes place with the student and if necessary arrangements will be made to contact home and/or organise a meeting with the student and his/her parents/ guardians.

In the case of all tests/assignments/project work etc teachers record the results achieved by the individual students in their teacher diary and on the online reporting system at the school.

Homework

All subject department teachers are encouraged to regularly assign homework to students. The type of homework given may vary from class to class but at all times the homework assigned should be designed to support and re-inforce class learning. Examples of the types of homework assigned include question completion, reading texts, research in newspapers, research in the home, internet based research, project work etc. Students are facilitated in recording their homework in their school journals. Teachers across the departments also ensure that they are following and applying the school homework policy within their classrooms.

Department Results

Early in each school year, department members meet formally to review the examination results of Scoil Uí Mhuirí students and to compare those results with national averages and with the previous year's results in that subject.

A template has been developed within the school for recording the relevant information. Observations are made and decisions are taken regarding any changes that need to be initiated. These changes may relate to teaching and learning of subjects, promotion and uptake of subject at school level, options structure, timetabling and resources to name but a few. Where applicable the subject department co-ordinator may request a meeting with school management and/or prepare a submission for school management on the results from the department.

Marking schemes and chief examiners reports on subjects are also referenced by subject teachers. These documents can both inform discussion and debate among department members and are a vital resource in assisting with subject department and individual planning for teaching and learning.



Selection of Student Achievements

Scoil Uí Mhuirí Annual Awards Ceremony 2015

The Scoil Uí Mhuirí annual Awards Ceremonies took place on Tuesday 19 May 2015. The Awards Ceremonies which are one of the key events in the school calendar provides the school with an opportunity to recognise and celebrate students' achievements during the academic year. The range of awards presented reflected all aspects of school life in Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

Once again, 2014/2015 was an enormously successful year for Scoil Uí Mhuirí and the Scoil Uí Mhuirí community can take great pride in the range of achievements both academic and non academic over the past year. Over 300 awards were presented over the day and Ms. Kindlon stated "We are really proud of our students' achievements and we wish them continued success in the years ahead both in school and outside of it as well. Our students' achievements bring great joy and a huge sense of pride to the school, their families and the local community. We encourage all Scoil Uí Mhuirí students to maintain their exemplary performance in the coming school year."

We are really proud of our students' achievements and we wish them continued success in the years ahead both in school and outside of it as well. Our students' achievements bring great joy and a huge sense of pride to the school, their families and the local community. We encourage all Scoil Uí Mhuirí students to maintain their exemplary performance in the coming school year.

Ms. Kindlon
Principal



Ms. Kindlon also paid tribute to the staff, both teaching and non-teaching at Scoil Uí Mhuirí. Our teachers are extremely committed to our students, their welfare and their learning. They have worked so hard throughout the year to ensure that our students achieve their full potential, whatever that may be and they have also given of their free time at breaktimes, lunchtimes, after school, during mid term breaks and holidays to ensure that our students have opportunities to avail of and participate in a variety of extra curricular activities.

Ms. Kindlon also thanked the Parents Association for their work during the 2014/2015 academic year and thanked officers, Ms. Antoinette Rourke, Chairperson and Mr. Neil Cooney, Secretary, for their attendance at the awards ceremony and for the Parents Association prizes including vouchers for students with full attendance, Tall Ships Sponsorship for students and a bursary towards college for a senior student who had a full attendance record over the years at Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

The school also extended a special word of thanks to all other sponsors for their continued support and commitment to the students, staff and management of Scoil Uí Mhuirí throughout the academic year. This year awards were sponsored by JF Travel, LAN Consultants, Glen Dimplex, Dunleer Parish Credit Union, the Sound Shop/TLT Drogheda, Bank of Ireland, Hoey's Timber, Cregal Art Supplies, MCor Technologies, Opening Minds, Navan Bookshop, Topflight, Rumbles Catering, Shaws Scientific, Fearons Developments and Miko Metals.

The range of awards presented included Student of the Year, Full Attendance, Subject Specific Awards, Athletics, Gaelic, Basketball, Swimming, Debating, Green Schools, Scoil Uí Mhuirí Academic and Spirit Awards and the LMETB Civic and Community Spirit Award to name but a few.

1st Year End of Year Awards 2014/2015

1 st Year/ No	Details of Award	Recipients	Awards	Presented by
1	Student Council	1. Katie Mc Ginn 2. Temi Achoya	Certificate	Ms. Kindlon
2	Green Schools Committee	1. Ailish Carroll 2. Cian Bellew 3. Sarah Cassidy 4. Aaliyah Flood 5. Keisha Molloy 6. Alex Mc Auliffe	Silver Medals & Cert	Gemma Murphy
3	Basketball MVP 1 st Yr Boys MIP 1 st Yr Boys MVP 1 st Yr Girls MIP 1 st Yr Girls	1. Ben Callanan 2. Tom Dorian 3. Katie Mc Ginn 4. Ailish Carroll	Plaque & Cert Cert Plaque & Cert Cert	Susan Byrne & Niamh Hughes
4	Full Attendance	1. Hannah Darby 2. Joshua Kirwan 3. Conor Mc Weeney 4. Saul Mc Ginley 5. Dylan Curran 6. Amanda Mukundwo 7. Eoghan Dunne 8. Temi Achioya	Cert & Voucher from the Parents Association	Antoinette Rourke & Neil Cooney
5	Overall Student of the Year for each class	1 Fane Conor Mc Weeney 1 White James Mc Morrow 1 Liffey Tom Dorian 1 Boyne Hannah Darby 1 Glyde Yele Taylorw	Cert & Plaque	Declan Clarke



2nd Year End of Year Awards 2014/2015

2 nd Year/ No	Details of Award	Recipients	Awards	Presented by
1	Student Council	1. Finbarr Lynch	Certificate	Ms. Kindlon
2	Green Schools Committee	1. Martin Moynagh 2. Shane Kelly 3. Patrick Dorian	Silver Medals & Cert	Gemma Murphy
3	Basketball MVP 2 nd Yr Boys MIP 2 nd Yr Boys MVP 2 nd Yr Girls MIP 2 nd Yr Girls	1. Adam Callanan 2. Jamie Winters 3. Donna Farrelly 4. Moya Kirwan	Plaque & Cert Cert Plaque & Cert Cert	Susan Byrne & Niamh Hughes
4	Junior Boy Athlete of the Year	Conor Matthews	Plaque	Jackie Matthews
5	Football U 14 Player of the Year	Finbarr Lynch	Plaque	Brian Matthews
6	School Debating Team	Finbarr Lynch Niamh Sweeney Nicholas Berrill Doran Samuel Akintunde	Medals & Cert	Peter Devin
7	Water Safety Awards	Various Students	Certs	Lorna Finnegan, Susan Byrne & Fiona Duggan
8	Scifest	Samuel Akintunde Nicholas Berrill Doran Conor Walsh Cian Mc Guffin Uli Keller Jack Kearney Jamie Winters Cian Clinton	Certs	Mary Cox



9	Design Competition for new logo for the Parents Association	Eoghan Collier Niamh Sweeney Aoife Gallagher Donna Farrelly Claire Carron	Certs & Parents Association Prize	Deirdre Harrington, Neil Cooney & Antoinette Rourke
10	Gaeltacht Scholarships	Rachel Judge Katie Hoey Eve Callan Jennifer Gheagan Eimear McEvoy	Certs	Fiona O Connell
11	Full Attendance	Sophie Molloy Liam Mc Nee Adam Callanan Finbarr Lynch Vincent Malone Conor Matthews Eimear Mc Evoy Leah Murphy Sean Faulkner Esther Obe	Cert & Voucher from the Parents Association	Antoinette Rourke & Neil Cooney
12	Overall Student of the Year for each class	2 Rua Anna Mc Cabe 2 Fionn Leah Murphy 2 Glas Adam Callanan 2 Gorm Eve Callan 2 Corcra Anna Sarsfield	Cert & Plaque	Kathryn Shannon



3rd Year End of Year Awards 2014/2015

3 rd Year/ No	Details of Award	Recipients	Awards	Presented by
1	Student Council	Tunji iFaturoti Roisin Mc Auley	Certificate	Ms. Kindlon
2	Green Schools Committee	Caimhe Murphy Jordan Murphy	Silver Medals & Cert	Gemma Murphy
3	Basketball MVP U 16 Boys MIP U 16 Boys MVP U 16 Girls	Adeleke Mayungbe Pierce Hawkins Seoda Matthews	Plaque & Cert Cert Plaque & Cert	Lorna Finnegan & Miriam Howard
4	Junior Girls Athlete of the Year	Seoda Matthews	Plaque	Jackie Matthews
5	Girls Junior Gaelic Player of the Year	Aoife O' Brien	Cup	Susan Byrne
6	Gaeltacht Scholarships	Eimear Claire Shona Johnson Evan Whelan	Certs & Silver Medals	Fiona O' Connell
7	Full Attendance	Quayum Adegoke Dylan Byrne Stephen Matthews Darragh Brodigan Eimear Rourke Dane Farrell Andrew Mc Fadden Glory Obe	Cert & Voucher from the Parents Association	Antoinette Rourke & Neil Cooney



8	Subject Specific Awards (Junior Level)	<p>Maths Luke Halpenny Science Glory Obe Art Emma Campbell Business Studies Clarice O' Brien</p> <p>Woodwork Lee Farrelly</p> <p>Technologist Cormac Larkin Metalwork Matthew Downes History Andrew Mc Fadden Home Economics Louise Mc Donnell English Micheal Mac Giollacoda Music Luke Halpenny Technical Graphics Lee Farrelly</p>	<p>Cert & Plaque Cert, Plaque & V Cert, Plaque & G Cert, Plaque & Dunleer CU</p> <p>Cert, Plaque, Liam Cosgrove, V Cert & Plaque Cert, Plaque & V Cert, Plaque & V Cert, Plaque & R</p> <p>Cert, Plaque & V Cert, Plaque & V Cert & Plaque</p>	<p>Frances Lynch Maire Conneely Deirdre Harrington Frankie Clare & Sinead Carron, Dunleer CU Brian Matthews</p> <p>John Mc Gahon Gordon Magennis Peter Devin Gemma Murphy</p> <p>Pamela Mulroy Tommy Leddy Colin Heaphey</p>
9	Overall Student of the Year Class Awards	<p>3 Ash Eimear Rourke 3 Beech Rachel Matthews 3 Oak Colm Egan 3 Cedar Basirat Asubiaro 3 Rowan Evan Whelan</p>	Cert & Plaque	Maire Conneely
10	Junior Academic of the Year Award	Leah Cassidy	Cert, Plaque & BOI	David Duffy, BOI





TY End of Year Awards 2014/2015

TY/No	Details of Award	Recipients	Awards	Presented by
1	Representing School in Regional Finals of Junior Achievement	Charlie Maguire Rian Bolger	Plaque	Martina Farrell
2	Enterprise Award Louth Student Enterprise Awards	Shane Bowhan	Trophy	Martina Farrell
3	Share Fantasy Competition	Patrick Usher Patrick Callan	Cert	Martina Farrell
4	Chef of the Year	Shane Bowhan Conall Moore Ciaran Faulkner (highly commended)	Plaque	Ms. Kindlon
5	Full Attendance	Ben Dunne	Cert	Ms. Kindlon
6	JC Awards 2014	Excellence in State Examinations Charlie Maguire Laura Byrne	Cert & Cup Cert & Cup	Ms. Kindlon Principal
7	Overall TY Student of the Year Award	Conall Moore	Cert & Plaque	Ms. Kindlon



5th Year End of Year Awards 2014/2015

5 th Year/ No	Details of Award	Recipients	Awards	Presented by
1	Student Council	Liam Fussey Una Carroll Nicole Connor	Certificate	Ms. Kindlon
2	Green Schools Committee	Thomas Dorian	Gold Medal & Cert	Gemma Murphy
3	Basketball MIP U 16 Girls MIP U 19 Girls	Roisin Greene Kaitlin Smyth	Cert Cert	Miriam Howard
4	Senior Girls Athlete of the Year	Kaitlin Smyth	Plaque	Jackie Matthews
5	Senior Boys Athlete of the Year	Liam Fussey	Plaque	Jackie Matthews
6	U 16 Football Player of the Year	Paul Duff	Plaque	Colin Heaphey
7	Gaeltacht Scholarships	Kayla Crilly Darragh McEvoy Thomas Dorian Patrick Clarke	Certs & Silver Medals	Fiona O' Connell
8	Tallships	Aisling Shannon Sean Irwin	Cert	Antoinette Rourke & Neil Cooney
9	JC Awards 2014	Excellence in State Examinations Stephen Foley Laura Byrne	Cert & Cup Cert & Cup	Principal Principal
10	Full Attendance	Laura Byrne Darragh Mc Evoy Kayleigh Fagan Thomas Dorian Melissa Harmon Una Carroll	Cert & Voucher from the Parents Association	Antoinette Rourke & Neil Cooney
11	Overall Student of the Year Class Awards	5 Walton Kayla Crilly 5 Tyndall Gearoid Conlon 5 Kelvin Melissa Harmon 5 Callan Dylan Carter 5 Sloane Sean Malone	Cert & Plaque	Martin Cassidy

6th Year End of Year Awards 2014/2015

6 th Year/ No	Details of Award	Recipients	Awards	Presented by
1	Student Council	Nikita Kelly Kyle Murphy	Certificate	Ms. Kindlon
2	Basketball MVP U 19 Girls MVP U 19 Boys MIP U 19 Boys	Nadine Weldon* Abi Sasore* Nathan Sauramba	Plaque & Cert Plaque & Cert Cert	Lorna Finnegan
3	U 18 Football Player of the Year	Cian Callan	Plaque	Colin Heaphey
4	Girls Senior Gaelic Player of the Year	Sarah Maguire	Cup	Susan Byrne
5	Choral Contribution Award	Ciara Mc Grory Lisa Mc Gowan Nadine Weldon	Cert & Gift	Fiona Shields Ciara Morrison Reilly Tommy Leddy
6	Most Improved Student	Darragh Shevlin	Cert	Martina Farrell
7	Full Attendance	Todd O' Reilly Mc Ginley Kaeli Van Rhijn Ciaran O' Rourke Liam Callan Cormac O' Brien	Cert & Voucher from the Parents Association	Antoinette Rourke & Neil Cooney



8	Excellence in Attendance Award	Cormac O' Brien	Cert, Plaque & PA Bursary	Frances Beard
9	Subject Specific Awards (Senior Level)	Maths Christopher Harmon Science Niamh Murray Art Lisa Mc Gowan Business Michael O' Hare Construction Christopher Harmon Technologist Jake Murtagh History Cormac O' Brien Home Economics Niamh Murray English Rory Daly Modern Foreign Languages Gerard Dutton LCVP Award Cara Farrell DCG Colin Smith Engineering Michael O' Neill Music Aideen Byrne	Cert & Plaque Cert, Plaque & V Cert, Plaque & G Cert, Plaque & Dunleer CU Cert, Plaque, V Cert & Plaque & V Cert, Plaque & V Cert, Plaque & R Cert, Plaque & V Cert, Plaque & Topflight Cert, Plaque & Dunleer CU Cert, Plaque & LAN Cert & Plaque Cert & Plaque & V	Michael Gurn Anne Marie Kirk Deirdre Harrington Frankie Clare & Sinead Carron, Dunleer CU Hoeyes Conor Mc Cormack MCor Technologies Peter Devin Geraldine Friel Kathryn Shannon Niamh Keenan Frankie Clare & Sinead Carron Alan Hurley Colin Heaphey Tommy Leddy
10	Overall Student of the Year Class Awards	6 Deer Claire Gregory 6 Hare Sarah Maguire 6 Fox Shannon Hack 6 Mink AnnMarie Woods 6 Seal Adeola iFaturoti	Cert & Plaque	Fiona O' Connell
11	Senior Academic of the Year Award	Michael O' Hare	Cert, Plaque & BOI	David Duffy, BOI

Spirit of Scoil Uí Mhuirí Awards 2014/2015

	Details of Award	Recipients	Awards	Presented by
1	Spirit of Scoil Uí Mhuirí Award	Courtney Dowling	Certificate & Cup	Ms. Kindlon
2	Spirit of Scoil Uí Mhuirí Award	Nadine Weldon	Certificate & Cup	Ms. Kindlon
3	LMETB Civic Community Award	Jack Rogers	Certificate & Crystal	Mr. Peter Kierans, CEO

Student of the Month Awards

At the end of each month in Scoil Uí Mhuirí, our teaching staff have an opportunity to nominate students for the 'Student of the Month Award' and in doing so they consider a range of factors including rewarding students who consistently work to a high standard, students who co-operate and contribute in class, students who have made a marked improvement in their work and their attitude to school life, students who are positively engaged in extra-curricular activities and students who make a very valuable contribution to the life of Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

We in Scoil Uí Mhuirí would like to thank Dunleer Parish Credit Union who very kindly sponsor our Student of the Month Awards. Our winners in 2014/2015 were as follows:

April 2015

Student	Class
Lauren Mc Ardle	1 Boyne
Ben O' Mara	1 Fane
Emma Byrne	1 Glyde
Amy Kirwan	1 Liffey
Chloe Mc Grane	1 White
Craig Berrill	2 Corcra
Patrick Kennedy	2 Gorm
Uli Keller	2 Glas
Nicole Dunne	2 Fionn
Moya Kirwan	2 Rua
Rebecca Treadwell	3 Ash
Patrick Hamill	3 Beech
Louise Mc Carthy	3 Oak
Jack Murphy	3 Rowan
Erica Mc Guinness	TY
Adam Montague	5 Callan
Bernard Daly	5 Kelvin
Catherine Caffrey	5 Walton
Sean Malone	5 Sloane
AnneMarie Woods	6 Mink
Rachel Donnelly	6 Seal
Aaron Murphy	6 Fox
Karlie King	6 Hare
Peter Carron	6 Deer

Overall Junior Winner
Jack Murphy 3 Rowan

Overall Senior Winner
Karlie King 6 Hare

March 2015

Student	Class
Cherry Dillon	1 Boyne
Hannah Kenny	1 Fane
Niamh Farrelly	1 Glyde
Tara Kindlon	1 Liffey
Dean Mc Grane	1 White
Anna Sarsfield	2 Corcra
Nicholas Berrill Doran	2 Gorm
Claire Carron	2 Glas
Katie Reilly	2 Fionn
Anna Mc Cabe	2 Rua
Eimear Rourke	3 Ash
Chloe Mc Gahon	3 Beech
Leah Cassidy	3 Oak
Shane Meade	3 Rowan
Sophie Mc Anallen	3 Cedar
Ciaran Faulkner	TY
Conor Cunningham	5 Callan
Peter White	5 Kelvin
Ben Devlin	5 Tyndall
Tony Smith	5 Walton
Mark Hamill	5 Sloane
Niall Brodigan	6 Mink
Sam Mulroy	6 Seal
Shannon Hack	6 Fox
Karlie King	6 Hare
Alanna Dowling	6 Deer

Overall Junior Winner
Leah Cassidy 3 Oak

Overall Senior Winner
Conor Cunningham 5 Callan

January 2015

Student	Class
Hazel O' Sullivan	1 Boyne
Jamie Molloy Healy	1 Fane
Brandon Molloy	1 Glyde
Conor Byrne	1 Liffey
Aaron Mc Donnell	1 White
Ciara Gibney	2 Corcra
Rachel Judge	2 Gorm
Eoin Collier	2 Glas
Eoin Cooney	2 Fionn
Aoife Gallagher	2 Rua
Cameron Fox	3 Ash
Sadie Farrell	3 Beech
Sophie Mc Anallen	3 Cedar
Ciara Callaghan	3 Oak
Jordan Murphy	3 Rowan
Paul Kindlon	TY
Andy Power	5 Callan
Conor Lynch	5 Kelvin
Emily Gaughran	5 Tyndall
Keri Gray	5 Walton
Ceadoin Fleming	5 Sloane
Brendan Dyas	6 Mink
Aaron Scullion	6 Seal
Shannon Hack	6 Fox
Chelsea Halpenny	6 Hare
Cara Farrell	6 Deer

Overall Junior Winner
Aoife Gallagher **2 Rua**

Overall Senior Winner
Ceadoin Fleming **5 Sloane**

December 2014

Student	Class
Jack Thompson	1 Boyne
Jamie Molloy Healy	1 Fane
Caolan Mc Mullan	1 Glyde
Ben Callanan	1 Liffey
James Mc Morrow	1 White
Ciara Gibney	2 Corcra
Niamh Hickey	2 Gorm
Elsa Harris	2 Glas
Leah Murphy	2 Fionn
Sean Faulkner	2 Rua
Nathan Lynn Farrell	3 Ash
Killian Gregory	3 Beech
Basirat Asubiaro	3 Cedar
Micheal Mc Giolla Coda	3 Oak
James Mc Cabe	3 Rowan
Kayleigh Mc Hugh	TY
Shannon Greene	5 Callan
Darren Gibney	5 Kelvin
Laura Byrne	5 Tyndall
Ingrid Mc Grane	5 Walton
Sean Malone	5 Sloane
James Meade	6 Mink
Bernadette Devlin	6 Seal
Shannon Hack	6 Fox
Rory Daly	6 Hare
Liam Callan	6 Deer

Overall Junior Winner
Niamh Hickey **2 Gorm**

Overall Senior Winner
Liam Callan **6 Deer**

November 2014

Student	Class
Victoria Smith	1 Boyne
Barry Johnson	1 Fane
Nicola Bolger	1 Glyde
Emily Neilon	1 Liffey
Temi Achioya	1 White
Anna Sarsfield	2 Corcra
Adam Callan	2 Gorm
Alex Caulfield	2 Glas
Nicholas Callan	2 Fionn
Louise Brennan	2 Rua
Dylan Mc Donagh	3 Ash
Darren Clinton	3 Beech
Louise Mc Donnell	3 Oak
Grainne Murray	3 Rowan
Conall Moore	TY
Olivia Hoey	5 Callan
Katie O' Brien	5 Kelvin
Gwendoline Smith	5 Walton
Ceadoin Fleming	5 Sloane
Niall Brodigan	6 Mink
Amy Mc Connoran	6 Seal
Todd O' Reilly	6 Fox
Jamie Curtis	6 Hare
Caitriona Phillips	6 Deer

Overall Junior Winner
Louise Mc Donnell **3 Oak**

Overall Senior Winner
Caitriona Phillips **6 Deer**

October 2014

Student	Class
Hannah Darby	1 Boyne
Josh Kirwan	1 Fane
Noah Mc Carthy Dunne	1 Glyde
Amanda Mukundwo	1 Liffey
Taylor Heavey	1 White
Erlandeza Lacatus	2 Corcra
Adam Callan	2 Gorm
Eoghan Collier	2 Glas
Samuel Akintunde	2 Fionn
Niamh Mc Govern	2 Rua
Adam Cunningham	3 Ash
Curtis Johnston	3 Beech
Glory Obe	3 Oak
Enya Costello	3 Rowan
Kayleigh Mc Hugh	TY
Peter John Hanratty	5 Callan
Bernard Byrne	5 Kelvin
Eoin Morrison	5 Walton
Ceadaoín Fleming	5 Sloane
Anne Marie Woods	6 Mink
Adeola iFaturoti	6 Seal
Kim O' Brien	6 Fox
Christopher Harmon	6 Hare
Jack Mc Fadden	6 Deer

Overall Junior Winner**Enya Costello 3 Rowan****Overall Senior Winner****September 2014**

Student	Class
James Crean	1 Boyne
Hanna Kenny	1 Fane
Yele Shofola Taylor	1 Glyde
Dylan Winters	1 Liffey
Ciaran Monaghan	1 White
Megan Englishby	2 Corcra
Faith Kelly	2 Gorm
Conor Matthews	2 Glas
Abbie Matthews	2 Fionn
Esther Obe	2 Rua
Kellie Winters	3 Ash
Rachel Matthews	3 Beech
Rachel Carroll	3 Cedar
Colm Egan	3 Oak
Evan Whelan	3 Rowan
Simon Achioya	TY
Caolan Leech	5 Callan
Melissa Harmon	5 Kelvin
Kayleigh Fagan	5 Walton
Sean Malone	5 Sloane
Shane Reilly	6 Mink
Sean Coyle	6 Seal
Kelly Clarke	6 Fox
Aideen Byrne	6 Hare
Claire Gregory	6 Deer

Overall Junior Winner**Evan Whelan 3 Rowan****Overall Senior Winner****Shane Reilly 6 Mink****Three Awards in Three Weeks for Jack Rogers!**

During the last few weeks of term, Jack Rogers was busy collecting awards in Scoil Uí Mhuirí, Slane Castle and in the Department of Education and Skills, Dublin. Jack scooped the LMETB Civic and Community Contribution Award at our Annual Awards Ceremony on Tuesday 19 May 2015. Jack is an ambassador for Scoil Uí Mhuirí. He is well respected among management, staff and students at Scoil Uí Mhuirí and at all times has been a caring, courteous, co-operative, reliable and helpful young person. Jack also takes initiative and is creative in his approach to dealing with challenges.

He is good humoured, positive about the school he attends and gives a very positive impression of the school. Jack has engaged in a range of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities at the school and has contributed greatly to our school community. Overall, Jack reinforces the mission statement of the school in his interactions with students, staff, parents, management and the local

community and therefore won this civic and community contribution award. As part of the LCVF Programme, Jack entered the National Career Skills competition which is organised and sponsored by Careers Portal.

The competition asks students to investigate closely one person who they get to work alongside during their work experience. It asks that they describe the job description, the education and qualifications required for that career, the skills required to do that particular job and most importantly, the skills which the student has developed during their work placement. Jack was awarded 2nd place in the LCVF competition with his career investigation of Puppeteer Facilitator and Performer. He won Dr Dre Beats and was presented with his cup by Mr. Damien English, TD.

Earlier in the term, as part of the LMETB inter-schools competitions, a poetry competition to honour the famous local poet, Francis Ledwidge was organised and the winners were presented with their prizes in Slane Castle. Scoil Uí Mhuirí were delighted to receive the news that Jack Rogers won top prize for his poem. Jack was presented with his prize by Mr. Damien English, TD. Congrats Jack & well done! Pictured right is Jack with his LCVF Teacher, Ms. Mc Cready and the LCVF co-ordinator at the school, Ms. Howard. Check out Jack's second famous poem of 2014/2015 on the back page of our summer newsletter! Yes, we all agree, Jack is one talented writer!



5th Year Technology Students Awarded Scholarships with Glen Dimplex Ireland

Congrats to our 2015 Scholarship winners, Ben Devlin and Enda Mc Kenna, 5th Year students, pictured with Technology teacher, Mr. Cassidy, Pat Coyne, Glen Dimplex and Ms. Kindlon, Principal.

The scholarship programme will involve eight weeks on site at the two Glen Dimplex facilities in Dunleer. Both students will have 4 weeks at each site where they will receive hands-on experience in both research and development, and manufacturing.

The students will get the opportunity to follow the complete process from product design right through all the manufacturing stages to full product assembly and testing.

The scholarship programme has been designed to enhance the students' learning in the Leaving Certificate Technology course work by providing exposure to real world examples of topics they have studied in the classroom.

We hope that the experience provided will enable the students to further develop their academic, social and personal skills and enable them to make more informed choices about career paths in the future.

Gaeltacht Scholarship Winners 2015

Scoil Uí Mhuirí were delighted to announce in March 2015 the winners of the 2015 LMETB/Scoil Uí Mhuirí Gaeltacht Scholarships for students. These scholarships provide Scoil Uí Mhuirí students with the opportunity to immerse themselves in the Irish language and by so doing acquire a love for the language, while also enhancing their language skills that will pay dividends in future examinations.

Each of the scholarship winners have an opportunity to spend a three week stay during the summer in Coláiste Bhríde in Rann na Feirste in Donegal. Coláiste Bhríde has been operating since 1926 in the village of Rannafast overlooking the Atlantic, where Irish remains the spoken language. Students are accommodated with families where Irish is the first language. This total immersion in the culture provides the best possible opportunity to improve and enhance their Irish language skills.

Congrats to our winners: Rachel Judge, Katie Hoey, Eve Callan, Jennifer Geoghegan, Eimear Nic Fhiobhui, Kayla Crilly, Eimear Clare, Shauna Johnson, Darragh Mc Evoy, Evan Whelan, Thomas Dorian and Patrick Clarke.

Tall Ships Scholarships

For the past number of years the Parents Association and JF Travel have supported our students by financing a scholarship to join a Tall Ship for a voyage of approximately ten days. This year two 5th Year Scoil Uí Mhuirí students, Aisling Shannon and Sean Irwin were the recipients of the Tall Ships Scholarships. We would like to thank the Parents Association and JF Travel for their continued support for our Tall Ships Scholarships and we look forward to further scholarships being awarded in the coming years.

Louise and Jessica have recipe for success!

Congratulations to Louise Mc Donnell and Jessica Mc Grane, 3rd Year students who won first place in the Taste of Louth 'Best Tasting Cupcake Category' held in the Marshes Shopping Centre, Dundalk during Term 1.

Cian & Sam awarded Lennon Cup GAA All Stars 2014



The GAA Lennon Cup All Star Awards is now in its third year and has been gaining in prestige and recognition and is now a much sought after accolade for Senior Colleges Players.

This year, four Scoil Uí Mhuirí students Enda Mc Kenna, 5th Year, Darren Mc Mullan, 6th Year, Cian Callan, 6th Year and Sam Mulroy, 6th Year were nominated for these awards.

Students, staff and members of the Scoil Uí Mhuirí community were invited to vote for our students via the online voting system via the Argus and Drogheda Independent websites.

Through a combination of judging panel and online voting, we were delighted to receive the news that Cian Callan and Sam Mulroy made it through this highly competitive process and received All Star Awards for 2014.

The 15 winning All-Stars were presented with a sponsored DkIT Lennon Cup All-Star Jersey by All Ireland Medal Winner and two times All Star Oisín McConville who currently manages the DkIT Senior Football Team.



Scoil Uí Mhuirí Art Students impress the Judges and win on the Trashion Fashion Catwalk in the Carrickdale Hotel, Dundalk

On Tuesday evening, 27th February 2015, Scoil Uí Mhuirí's Abi Loughlin was celebrating along with her Art Teacher Ms. Harrington when her dress was announced as one of the winning dresses at the Louth County Council Trashion Fashion event in the Carrickdale Hotel, Dundalk.

Trashion Fashion is a catwalk show that showcases outfits made from materials that are really destined for the bin! This is the third year that the event has taken place locally and it has proven to be a very impressive showcasing opportunity for the creative talent that Co. Louth has to offer.

Abi, along with her classmates Kevin O' Neill, Ashling Hickey, Gwendoline Smith, Janet Akintunde, and Dammy Sasore's next step was to take part in the Regional Finals of the Junk Kouture Competition in the Helix DCU.

Congrats to all our students involved in these competitions and to their teachers Ms. Harrington, Art Department and Ms. Murphy, Home Economics Department. We look forward to more success stories from our Art students in the future.



Conor does us proud at Leinster Schools

The North Leinster Schools Cross country event was held in Santry in January and Scoil Uí Mhuirí had 30 athletes participating. There were some great performances on the day, with some students doing cross country running for the first time. Second year student, Conor Matthews was our top finisher, placing 11th and he qualified for the Leinster Schools' Championships.

In February, at the Leinsters, Conor finished in the top 15 to qualify for the All Ireland Schools' Cross Country Championships in Clongowes Wood College, Co. Kildare on Saturday March 8th. Conor was pleased to finish in 54th place in a field of 118 runners at the All Ireland event.

As part of the Seachtain na Gaeilge activities, and to encourage awareness of water, the Parents' Council organised a Green Mile at the Dunleer AC track on Monday March 16th. The winner of the Green Mile Run was 6th year student Darren Mc Mullen in 5.28, a second quicker than his previous PB. All of the first and second year students participated in the event and were joined by their teachers and members of the Parents Association.



Shane wins Social Media Award for his Mini Company

Congratulations to TY student, Shane Bowhan, who won the Social Media Award for his mini company at the Louth Student Enterprise Awards.

Scoil Uí Mhuirí Musicians open the LMETB Musical Extravaganza

On Wednesday evening, 11 March 2015, the Scoil Uí Mhuirí Music Department opened the LMETB Musical Extravaganza in An Tain Arts Centre in Dundalk. Music plays an very active role in the life of the school and the Music Department is growing and is now staffed by two teachers Ms. Fiona Shields and Ms. Ciara Morrison Reilly. The Department is passionate about giving students the chance to let their musical spirit run free and the recorder is now one of the many instruments taught in the school. Other instruments being taught include drums, piano, bass and guitar.

The school's 1st and 2nd Year Recorder Orchestra debuted at the Inaugural Christmas Fair in the school in December 2014 and were delighted to entertain a larger audience at the LMETB Musical Extravaganza. Their musical production of Eine Kleine Nachtmusik was warmly received by the audience on the night.

The school choir also had an opportunity to impress the packed audience with their version of Rihanna's 'Four Five Seconds' and Fun's 'Some Nights'. Congrats to all involved. Preparations are currently underway for production of a CD of music from the Music Department in the coming months and preparations for LMETB Musical Extravaganza 2016 are currently underway.

Scoil Uí Mhuirí girls consider Engineering as a Career

On 8th October 2014, a number of our 2nd and 3rd Year female students attended an 'Engineering your Future' event which was organised by STEPS Engineers Ireland.

This event provided an opportunity for these female students along with their Guidance Counsellor, Mr. Aiden Matthews to meet with Engineers who are passionate about their careers including women who have pursued a career in Engineering.

The students also attended a similar event organised by DKIT as part of National Engineers Week in the New Year. Women are beginning to recognise the opportunities a career in engineering can offer, a report launched by HRM Recruit has found as part of Engineers Week 2013. The research in association with Engineers Ireland, of 2,064 engineers in January and February of 2013, revealed that while men still outnumber women in the engineering profession, the tide is changing with 50% of female respondents under 35 years of age or younger.

TY Class of 2015 impress with their Musical 'Mammy Mia'

The 'Sold Out' signs were up for the TY Production of 'Mammy Mia' which took place in the school on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th March 2015. The production was the culmination of commitment, hard work and teamwork on the part of the TY students over the past few weeks and months.

Sincere thanks to Scoil Uí Mhuirí staff members Ms. Miriam Howard, TY Co-ordinator, Ms. Fiona Shields, Music Department and Ms. Niamh Hughes, English Department for their work in preparing the students for staging a high quality performance on both nights. Events like this provide students with an opportunity to develop many skills including research, communication and team building skills. This event also provides us with an opportunity to showcase the musical talent which is evident in the school. This is one of the highlights of the TY Programme each year and the students will look back in years to come with fond memories of the event.

We also greatly appreciate the support of local businesses and organisations who kindly donated prizes for the raffles on both nights. A big thanks also to Audrey and Claire in the main office, our cleaning staff Agnes, Brendan and Veronica, our caretaker George and our students who did make up, sound and lighting on both evenings. Thanks to Ms. Farrell, Business Department who co-ordinated ticket sales and the sourcing of prizes for the raffles.





Scoil Uí Mhuirí's Debating Team Activities 2014/2015

2014/2015 was a very successful year for Scoil Uí Mhuirí in Debating. We decided to focus on junior teams this year and many first and second years became members of a growing and committed cohort of debaters. All of the students got a chance to debate several times through the year – on topics like Irish language in school to Abortion to Social Media. The debates were held twice weekly for a duration of ten-twelve weeks.

Former student of the school Cathal Sweeney kindly came in and taught for a morning on Mace debates. He is involved with Trinity Mace debates. This was highly successful with over thirty students in attendance. Nicholas and Mikey Berrill-Doran and Niamh Sweeney went one further and actually attended Mace training in Conleth's College, Ballsbridge. It was hugely beneficial to their confidence and improved their skills immensely.

The biggest event of our calendar this year was hosting the inaugural LMETB debates competition. In all, eight schools attended. It was a tremendous day of heated confrontation, nerves, passion and chaos – what all good debates amount to. Everyone benefited from a day worth its weight in gold. Scoil Uí Mhuirí did really well and punched well above their weight. In the end the old seasoned professionals of Colaiste Na hInse and St Oliver's CC Drogheda prevailed – with victory to Colaiste Na hInse. However, we were able to recognise an excellent standard among all the debaters throughout LMETB and be proud of that.

Next year we travel to far flung Drogheda to continue this competition. This winter we are hoping to host a National Mace debate here in the school and bring a lot more for the interested debaters to Maces – wherever they may be. At this stage the students involved are hungrier to engage than ever. Long may it continue!

SVP Youth for Justice Programme

This year our TY students were involved with the SVP Youth for Justice Programme under the guidance and leadership of their RE teacher, Ms. Morrison Reilly.

The 'Youth for Justice' project is a school based program run by Saint Vincent de Paul. This program aims to inspire young people to understand and help other people in their community in practical ways that make a difference to the lives of the many people who experience isolation, loneliness or poverty in Ireland today.

This year Scoil Uí Mhuirí Transition Year students 'Youth for Justice' project is titled 'Pay It Forward'. The aim of the project was to 'Pay It Forward' in three areas; making a positive difference in the students personal lives, collecting recycled clothes for the local SVP shop in Dunleer and supporting first year students in Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

As part of the programme the TY students completed an online survey on transfer and transition with close to one hundred of our first year students. Students were surveyed on the following: What worried you coming into the school? What did you find most difficult about

starting Scoil Uí Mhuirí? What surprised you about starting school in Scoil Uí Mhuirí? How do you feel you are getting on in Scoil Uí Mhuirí? And What advice would you give to new first year students starting next year?

On Thursday 7th May the Transition Year students presented their project 'Pay It Forward' to over twenty different school groups and over six hundred students, teachers and Saint Vincent de Paul personnel in the Nuremore Hotel, Carrickmacross. It was a very inspiring and enjoyable day. Congrats to all involved in this very worthwhile project.

5th Year Art students engage with Louth County Council Art Project

5th Year Art students along with their teacher Ms. Harrington engaged in a ten week Louth County Council Art Project during the 2014/2015 academic year. The aim of the project was to facilitate young people living within the remit of County Louth to

experience the visual arts through first-hand contact with artwork produced by Irish artists. By engaging in the project, students had an opportunity to develop their visual literacy using the Visual Thinking Strategies methodology.

The project was facilitated by Lynne Mc Grane who has been a visual arts education practitioner for twelve years. Lynne teaches on the MA in Visual Arts Education at the National College of Art and Design.

During the project, students had an opportunity to meet with working contemporary artists and to discuss pieces of work and articulate their opinion. One artist who visited was Claire Halpin who brought her artwork Eidetic Amalgam for discussion.

Students were also filmed for a short video on the project to be uploaded on the County Council website soon.



Student Council organise Inaugural Christmas Fair

On Friday 12 December 2014, the Student Council, along with their Liaison Teacher, Ms. Caroline Murphy were delighted to host the school's Inaugural Christmas Fair for students, staff, parents and members of the local community. This event was a combined effort on the part of many of the subject departments across the school. Those attending had opportunities to enter raffles, pick from a lucky dip of prizes, purchase arts and crafts, Christmas logs, wood products, sample some French, German and Spanish traditional foods and enjoy some hot chocolate while listening to our wonderful choir and musical groups.

All proceeds from the event are going towards a new lunch area for students. Sincere thanks to all those who donated spot prizes for the event including our Parents Association.



Green Schools Committee Activities 2014/2015 at Scoil Uí Mhuirí

The green schools team at Scoil Uí Mhuirí comprises students who are passionate about the environment and agriculture. This year was a busy year for the team and towards the end of the school year we were delighted to open the Green Schools Garden and to raise our second Green Schools Flag. Committee Members were honoured for their work at our Annual Awards Ceremony.

Thanks to all the volunteers involved for giving up their time generously making our school environment a greener place.

Senior Students complete their Safe Pass Course

The SOLAS Safe Pass Health and Safety Awareness Training Programme is to ensure that, over the course of time, all workers in construction will have a basic knowledge of health and safety, and be able to work on-site without being a risk to themselves or others. From a health and safety perspective, construction workers are bound by law to hold a valid Safe Pass card. The aims of the programme are focused mainly around health and safety awareness, while the benefits include an improved safety culture.

A number of our senior students had expressed an interest in completing apprenticeships in the many different areas of the construction industry when finished at second level. The Safe Pass is a basic requirement for work on any construction site so we hope that being able to offer students an opportunity to have this completed will give them a little head start when looking for their dream apprenticeship.

Eighteen students from 5th and 6th year completed the day training on Saturday 7th February 2015 at the school. Well done to all the students, We hope this has gives you a helping hand towards a possible future career. The students involved were Liam Fussey, Peter John Hanratty, Conor Fitzsimons Lynch, Alex Tuite ,Calum Grimes, Dean Kelly, Daniel Reilly, James Meade ,Shane Reilly, Patrick Sharkey ,Darren McMullan, Marvin Reid, Peter White, Bernard Byrne, Ciaran Hoey, Sean Clarke, Conor Kirwan and Ciaran King.



Dragon's Den Gavin Duffy launches Enterprise Week and opens TY Trade Fair

Enterprise Week at Scoil Uí Mhuirí got off to a great start with Dragon's Den Entrepreneur, Gavin Duffy coming to the school to meet with the TY students and staff and to officially open the TY Trade Fair on Monday 1 December 2014. Gavin spoke with the TY students regarding successful entrepreneurship in action in Dunleer and also encouraged all students to consider developing their business ideas even further in the future. Gavin also visited each of the mini company stands and met with the students and asked them for a description of their business idea and the reason why they came up with those particular ideas.



TY Dragons Den Event

Many thanks to our local Business Dragons who attended our TY Dragons Den Event in the school on Monday 20th October 2014. This year's Dragons included: Mr. Thomas Clare, Mr. Joe Torris, Mr. Michael Durnin, Mr. David Duffy, Ms. Anne Reilly, Ms. Clare Dowdall, Ms. Jenny Mc Donald, Mr. Jim Dunne and Ms. Peggy Mc Glynn.

The event was organised by Ms. Martina Farrell and provides students with a chance to pitch their business idea with a view to sourcing funding for their mini companies. Once again this year, the Dragons commented on the high standard of viable business ideas and presentations made on the evening.

Each of the mini companies involved secured sponsorship for their business ideas and the winners were also given a stand at the Dunleer Christmas Fair.

Laura Byrne, 5 Tyndall remembers Irish Based Holocaust Survivor Tomi Reichental's visit to Scoil Uí Mhuirí this term....

Tomi Reichental came to our school, as he has done with many others, to tell a story. A story of a boy who was born in 1935 in Piestany, Slovakia. A story of a boy who was deported to Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in the cold November of 1944, by way of cattle car, like livestock heading for slaughter.

He told us the story of a boy who, made of nothing but skin and bone, played amongst the piles of bodies with his elder brother. He told us of the horrors that the boy, only nine years of age, had to face, the sight

of the bodies found against the electric fences where they had thrown them-selves of hopes of escaping their misery, or of those who collapsed, unbeknownst to anyone as to whether they would get up again. He told us of the boy who lost thirty-five members of his family to the Holocaust.

Tomi Reichental told us the story of the boy who was liberated in April 1945. His story.

3 Oak Visit Collon Animal Sanctuary

On 9th December, 3 Oak visited Collon Animal Sanctuary as part of the concept of Stewardship on the CSPE Programme. They decided to put together a hamper of food for the animals and bring it over on the day. This was gratefully accepted because it is a voluntary run sanctuary which relies heavily on donations. While they were there they learned about the history of some of the animals who have been there a very long time. They saw a hand-reared fox and also two snakes. There were some lovely pets for adoption which some of the students became very fond of!!! It was a wonderful experience to spend the afternoon at Collon Animal Sanctuary. 3 Oak obtained lots of information about animals and the Sanctuary itself. Well done to all of 3 Oak for their generous donations of food for the animals.

3 Oak Student Luke Halpenny reports on Garda Kevin Conway's visit to 3 Oak CSPE Class

On the 29th of September, Kevin Conway (a local Garda based in Dunleer) visited our class 3 Oak to talk about the law. He started the talk by answering some questions that the students had prepared. He joined the force in 1991 and has spent 16 years working in

Dunleer. He told us about the various types of guards, like frontline guards, detectives, dog handlers and many more.

He went on to talk about some laws in relation to Halloween. He explained why fireworks are illegal, bonfires and bangers like black cats. He explained how they are very dangerous and bad for people. He talked about his uniform and what it consists of: Steel toe boots, protective clothing, uniform belt containing a baton, pepper spray, hand-cuffs and his phone. He then talked about some other illegal activities, like assault, property damage, endangering traffic and disrupting a guard. Depending on the seriousness of the crime you can get a fine or a prison sentence. Later he talked about drugs – what they are, where they come from and how dangerous they are. He explained how you can be prevented from entering certain countries if you have been arrested for drugs. He ended off with this statement which I thought was great: “If your parents wouldn’t want you doing some-thing, it’s probably illegal.”

Operation Transformation’s Mark Mc Ardle meets our students

We were delighted to welcome parent, Mark Mc Ardle to the school early in the New Year to speak with our students and staff regarding his Operation Transformation journey and to facilitate a discussion on healthy eating and exercising. Mark received a warm welcome from all at Scoil Uí Mhuirí and we would like to congratulate him on his success on the programme!

Thanks to Ms. Matthews for organising same and we were delighted to see our school, students and staff make an appearance on RTE!!

Inaugural Green Mile Event Seachtain na Gaeilge 2015
We were delighted to launch our Inaugural Green Mile Event during Seachtain na Gaeilge this year. This was a collaborative event between students, staff and the Parents Association. Close to 250 1st and 2nd Year students participated in the event with members of the Parents Association, Antoinette Rourke, Chairperson and Neil Cooney, Secretary in attendance to kick start the event. The Parents Association have kindly offered to match the funds raised from the event by the school and all proceeds will go towards purchasing a second defibrillator for the school.



1st & 2nd Year Boys Basketball Teams

First Year Boys

First year boys kicked off the season with a game against Lusk. For many of the boys this was their first time ever playing a basketball match and unfortunately they were defeated 23-7. The boys worked together at training and were a much improved side for the second game of the season against Colaiste de Lacy. The boys recorded their first win when they travelled to Beaufort College in Navan. This was their final game of the league and it was a very close contest. Scoil Uí Mhuirí boys played some of their best basketball in the 3rd and 4th quarters to win the game on a score-line of 16-13. First year boys team: Brandon Molloy, Saul McGinley O'Reilly, Ben Callanan, Ben Murray, James Crean, Caolan McMullan, Conor McMullan, Evan Reilly, Noah McCarthy, Lee Molloy, Tom Dorian, Adam Walsh, Jack Scullion and Craig John-son.

Second Year Boys

The second year boys had a very successful season winning all of their games in the league. They recorded their first win away to O'Fiaich College. This was a very tight encounter with only a couple of baskets between the teams. Their next match was at home to Lusk, which they comfortably won 26-3. The boys

then travelled to Beau-fort College where they really played their best basketball and put an impressive 40 points on the board. This meant that the boys had topped their pool of the league and had reached the semi-finals with home advantage. They played Dundalk Grammar school who had finished second in the other pool. This game was a nervous encounter for the boys. The final score was 17-15 in favour of Scoil Uí Mhuirí. Next steps is to play Colaiste Oiriall in the final of the league on Thursday 26th March in Gormanstown College. Good luck boys!

Athletics Success

There was a very large entry at the Leinster Schools Athletics combined events in the Athlone IT indoor arena on Wednesday 22nd October, making it a long day for every-one but the Scoil Uí Mhuirí students enjoyed every minute!

The girls participated in the 60m hurdles, high jump, long jump, shot putt and 800m, while the boys took part in the 60m hurdles, 200m, long jump, shot putt and 800m. Liam Fussey and Seoda Matthews were top finishers for the school, with Liam 13th in the Intermediate boys and Seoda 6th in the junior girls. Liam had a personal best in the 800m (2.23.75) while Seoda's personal best was in the long jump (4.49m).

The minor boys also did very well with Conor Matthews leading the boys in 15th place, Daniel Shoroye in 20th, Ben Mullen 27th, Noah Mc Carthy Dunne 29th out of 41 competitors.

The minor girls were all competing in athletics competition for the first time and did brilliantly to manage all of these technical events after 6 weeks training. The minor girls were led home by Nicola Bolger in 27th, with Niamh Farrelly, Yele Taylor and Abbie Kearney all doing very well to finish in the top 30.

Big demand for Guitar Lessons from our 1st Year Students

There was great demand for our Guitar lessons which took place on a number of Thursdays for 1st Year students over the course of the school year. These lessons were facilitated by Ms Morrison-Reilly along with 1st Year student Ciaran Campbell. We look forward to many musical performances from the students involved in the 2015/2016 academic year

Scoil Uí Mhuirí 6th Year Awards & Graduation Ceremony 2015

Wednesday 20th May 2015, was a very special day for our 6th Year students as they celebrated their Graduation from Scoil Uí Mhuirí. Throughout the morning a series of activities were planned for the 6th Years including a talk on Positive Affirmation and looking after one's Mental Health which was facilitated by Rob Carley, Head of Ideas at 'Right Mind'.

On Wednesday evening 20th May 2015, our 6th Year students, their Parents/Guardians and Scoil Uí Mhuirí staff members gathered in St. Brigid's Church Dunleer for our 6th Year Graduation Ceremony. The evening provided us with an opportunity to honour our 6th Year students and congratulate them on their hard work, commitment, dedication and achievements during their time at Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

Towards the end of the evening the students were presented with their Graduation Certificate by Ms. Kindlon, Principal, Mr. Donagh, Deputy Principal and Ms. Beard, Former Year Head and Ms. Ni Chonaill, Year Head. We would like to thank all students and staff members involved in preparing for this special occasion.

We wish our 6th Year students every success in their examinations and we look forward to welcoming them back to the school on Wednesday 12 August 2015 to collect their Leaving Certificate Results.

TY students attend Savoy Cinema in Dublin for Youth for Decent Work Awards

On 26th February 2015, the Savoy cinema was the place to be for our TY students who were attending the Youth for Decent Work Awards as one of our TY film groups was nominated for their short film. The group comprising Shane Bowhan, Simon Achioya, Conor Burke and Conall Moore had produced a film outlining the issue of inequality of income and how it affects young people. The group enjoyed their trip to the cinema where they were able to view all of the nominated entries and see the overall winner scoop a trip to New York. The theme of this year's competition is Health and Safety in the Workplace and the classes are currently working hard on producing their films.

Peter John and Marvin awarded at ETTA Annual Conference

Scoil Uí Mhuirí's students Peter John Hanratty and Marvin Reid were both awarded certificates of distinction at the National Technology awards which were held in the Glen Royal Hotel Maynooth in November 2014. This awards ceremony is an important part of the Engineering and Technology Teachers Association's (ETTA) annual National Conference and the awards recognise excellence in student performance in the State Examinations.

Peter John and Marvin were awarded certificates in recognition of their outstanding work in the design and manufacture of their coursework for the 2014 Junior Certificate Examination in Technology. Congrats to both students on their success.



Themed Weeks

Week Beginning

15th September 2014
 22nd September 2014
 29th September 2014
 6th October 2014
 13th October 2014
 10th November 2014
 17th November 2014
 1st December 2014
 12th January 2015
 9th February 2015
 9th March 2015
 16th March 2015
 23rd March 2015
 4th May 2015

Details

Literacy Week
 Technology Subjects Week
 Study Skills Week
 Anti Bullying Week
 Maths Week
 Science Week
 Road Safety Week
 Enterprise Week
 Positive Mental Health Week
 Safer Internet Week
 Seachtain na Gaeilge
 Intercultural Week
 Green Schools Week
 Active Schools Week



Promoting Literacy: Literacy Week 2014

The school's inaugural Literacy week commenced on Monday 15th September 2014 and a wide range of activities had been scheduled all with the aim of promoting literacy awareness and development. Kevin Sweeney, parent and journalist with the Irish Times spoke to students around his career in journalism, Creative Writer Barbara Smith facilitated workshops for students, students were encouraged to enter the Spelling Bee and Design a Book Cover competitions. The Literacy Tree in the foyer proudly displayed book reviews by students and the week was used to launch our annual Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) initiative. Each Thursday for 10/15 minutes of one class period staff facilitate students in reading material which can include a suitable book of the student's choice and/or subject related books and newspaper articles. The purpose of the initiative is to promote reading and literacy development for students. Students have responded very favourably to this initiative.

Technology Subjects Week

Monday 22nd September to Friday 26th September 2014 was Technology subjects week at the school. Throughout the week students had opportunities to see the wonderful projects designed by students across the department in the school. Construction projects, metalwork projects and technology projects were on display and staff from the department were on hand to answer many interesting questions from students regarding the designs of these projects. A lunchtime wood carving workshop proved very popular once again this year and technology department students also visited companies including Glen Dimplex on the Barn Road. A number of visiting speakers facilitated talks for students across the department including members of the engineering department in DkIT. The 5th Year Glen Dimplex Technology Scholarship 2015 was also launched during the visit to Glen Dimplex.

Enterprise Week 2014

Practical examples of innovation and creativity in action were in abundance during Enterprise Week 2014 when many local entrepreneurs paid us a visit in Scoil Uí Mhuiri including Conor Mc Cormack, MCor Technologies and Gavin Duffy of Dragons Den fame who opened our TY Trade Fair on the Monday afternoon. Name the entrepreneur, logo quiz, business quizzes and crosswords and puzzles challenged students throughout the week. A trip to the Guinness

factory in Dublin was also a hit with business students and many 1st year students entered the Product Invention competition.

Positive Mental Health Week 2015

The theme of this year's Positive Mental Health Week, little things mirrored the National Campaign to promote how the small things in life can improve your mental health. Each day we had a different focus for students and staff as follows: Monday we were encouraged to be mindful, Tuesday reminded us that music makes you feel good, Wednesday the emphasis was on exercise to make us feel good, Thursday's focus was on the importance of eating good food for boosting your mood and Friday was time to reflect on the importance of time spent with friends.

The aim of the week was to encourage our students to identify one good adult in their life and that to realise that it is ok not to feel ok and it is absolutely ok to ask for help. Random acts of kindness, morning meet and greet sessions, teacher appreciation notes, at your service, laughter yoga and meditation were just a few of the activities on offer.

Our week was also organised in partnership with Dunleer Community Development Board with the aim of promoting looking after our mental health across the community of Dunleer and the surrounding areas. A series of joint activities took place in Scoil Uí Mhuiri and in the Market House Dunleer. One of the highlights of these activities were presentations by Dunleer Mens Sheds and David Carrie and Team Carrie on steps local people have taken to look after their own mental health and that of others locally.

A big thank you to Centra in Dunleer and HB Ice Cream who donated over 700 ice creams for all in Scoil Uí Mhuiri as a random act of kindness for the final day of our week.

Friday of 2015's positive mental health week was also a landmark day as the Green Schools Committee opened our Green Schools Garden, an area in the school where students and staff can sit and relax outside and admire the wonderful planting and gardening done by the Green Schools Committee. This will become a nice social area for breaktime and lunchtime when the weather permits. Congrats to Ms. Murphy, Ms. Curran and all students involved in this very creative project.

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2015

Once again, Seachtain na Gaeilge in Scoil Ui Mhuiri was an action packed week with events including student engagement with competitions, quizzes, crosswords, treasure hunts and wordsearches.

Students had opportunities to learn some Bodhran playing and practice some Irish dancing. Thomas Dorian and Luke Halpenny kindly agreed to be DJ's for the week and we were greeted each morning and at lunchtime to our favourite chart tunes as Gaelge.

On Monday 16th March we had our annual La Eadai Glas where our students turned up to school wearing something green to mark the occasion! Our inaugural Green Mile event took place at the track in Dunleer and this was organised in collaboration with the Parents Association.

Celebrating Diversity during Intercultural Week 2015 Intercultural week took place in Scoil Ui Mhuiri from 16th to 20th March 2015. Activities included continental breakfasts hosted by the French and German departments, cooking up of some tasty international dishes in the Home Economics department and wasa wasa drumming workshops in the Music department. Class challenges were built in to period one each morning in school and the reception foyer displayed flags representing the native countries of all students in Scoil Ui Mhuiri.





State Examinations Success

Scoil Uí Mhuirí Leaving Certificate High Achievers honoured at LMETB Awards Ceremony

Friday 11th September 2015 was a special evening for three students from Scoil Uí Mhuirí, Dunleer who received awards for outstanding performance in the Leaving Certificate Examinations 2015. With a student population of over 650 students Ms. Kindlon, Principal stated that the collective results of all students were excellent but Friday 11th provided an opportunity to award the highest male achiever, Michael O' Hare, the highest female achiever, Niamh Murray and the LCA student of the Year, Anne Marie Woods.

Ms. Kindlon explained that during their time in the school, these students were exemplary students who were enthusiastic, talented, focused and committed and who consistently worked to a very high standard. They excelled in academic and non academic areas both within and outside school. They brought enthusiasm to all aspects of Scoil Uí Mhuirí life and they were always willing to help in whatever way they could. Their teachers considered them to be excellent students who were a pleasure to have in the classroom.

They were well respected among management, staff and students at Scoil Uí Mhuirí and at all times were found to be caring, courteous, co-operative, reliable and helpful young people.

Ms. Kindlon congratulated the students on their achievements to date and wished them well in the future as they head off to college. Michael O' Hare has taken up a place in DCU to study International Business, Anne Marie Woods commences her training in DIFE around Antique Furniture restoration and Niamh Murray has commenced her Teaching Degree in St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin.

Ms. Kindlon also paid tribute to the students' teachers for their efforts in ensuring that Scoil Uí Mhuirí's students avail of high quality teaching and learning thus enabling them to progress their career when they complete their Leaving Certificate.

Congrats to all, a very proud moment for the students, their families, their teachers and the wider Scoil Uí Mhuirí community.

Scoil Uí Mhuirí Examination Students Excel once again

There was great excitement in Scoil Uí Mhuirí on Wednesday 12th August 2015 and Wednesday 9th September 2015 when the Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate classes of 2015 collected their results.

Once again this year, our students have excelled and the collective results of all our examination students are outstanding. Achievements like this demonstrate that commitment and hard work on the part of students is rewarded by fantastic results. In general there was a marked increase in the numbers of students taking higher level papers in a range of subjects and this is a trend that should continue in the future.

Exceptional results were achieved in a range of subjects. A number of our Leaving Certificate students achieved well over 500 points and are currently pursuing courses and careers in a range of areas.

Our Junior Certificate students have progressed to Senior Cycle where they are engaging in either Transition Year, the Established Leaving Certificate, the Leaving Certificate Applied or the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme.

An analysis of the school's Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate results has been completed by school management and subject departments and comparisons have been made with last year's results both locally and nationally.

We would like to once again congratulate our students on their wonderful results and to publicly acknowledge and thank the highly committed, supportive and professional teaching staff at the school for the hard work they have done with our students in preparation for these examinations.

6th Year Students take up places in college

A very high percentage of the Leaving Certificate class of 2015 have progressed on to third level to continue with their studies. Please see below an outline of where some of our Leaving Certificate class have gone and the courses they are pursuing:

College	Course
DCU	Enterprise/Computing
NUI Maynooth	Bachelor of Arts
DCU	Business
St Patrick's Drumcondra	Bachelor of Arts (Ed)
NUI Maynooth	Arts
University of Limerick	Aeronautical Engineering
DCU	Marketing Innovation
DCU	Global Business
Coventry	Occupation Therapy
St Patrick's Drumcondra	Education
Athlone IT	Sports rehabilitation
DCU	Law/Modern Languages
Sligo It	Forensics
Trinity	Philosophy
O'Faich College	Travel And Tourism
DKIT	Multi Media/ Communications
DKIT	Computing
DIFE	Nursing Studies
O'Faich College	Art Portfolio Preparation
DCU	International Languages
DKIT	Civil Engineering
DKIT	Mechanical Engineering
Letterkenny IT	Law/Criminal Justice

Buildings

Buildings works completed September 2014 - August 2015

During this academic year the following buildings projects were completed at the school:

- Upgrade of the main reception office at the school
- Installation of Bag racks for students' bags and PE kits
- Updating of software on computers across the school to enhance the teaching and learning experience and to facilitate sharing of information via drives and email
- Installation of new computers for DCG students with funding received from the Department of Education and Skills
- Installation of computers in the Technology room at the school
- Purchase of laptops and laptop trolley for use by LCVP students and for parents' ICT classes
- Upgrade of disabled washroom facilities and installation of new hoist facility
- Installation of five new prefabs for the 2015/2016 academic year including four general classrooms and one hybrid room for the technology subjects department
- Development of temporary accommodation for An Chrannog, including classroom and toilet facilities
- Upgrading of signage and installation of new queuing system in student canteen by Rumbles catering
- Erection of new gates on Dunleer village side of school to match in with main school gates
- Erection of fence at front of school leading to prefabs behind the main building on the Dunleer village end of the site
- Purchase of a range of teaching and learning resources for students along with suitable storage facilities. Resources included iPads, apps, books, CDs, DVDs, posters and other visual aids

School Extension Project

During this school year we also continued to progress our plans for the school extension project. Meetings continued with the Department of Education and Skills, Mc Garry Ni Eanaigh Architects Ltd, LMETB and Scoil Ui Mhuiri.

The new extension when complete will comprise a plethora of specialist classrooms including Science, Home Economics, Engineering and Technology workshops. A new guidance suite is also included along with a library and a multimedia lab. A special education needs suite will also be included. The planned external ground works will lead to improvements in pedestrian and traffic management issues at the school.

Scoil Ui Mhuiri Pilot '3 Student Technology Workstation' for the Department of Education and Skills Scoil Ui Mhuiri under the guidance of Mr. Martin Cassidy, Technology Department are delighted to be

one of six schools nationally who are piloting a new '3 Student Technology Workstation' for the Department of Education and Skills. The workstation is currently located in our Technology classroom and our students and staff are gathering information which will be used by the Department of Education and Skills (Building Section) to inform any design and specification changes to the workstation that may be required before the final version is added to the Department's list for the Technology subject in post primary schools.

The pilot project aims to ensure that the workstation is well tested under normal day to day circumstances for all elements of the Technology syllabus so that any problems or glitches can be ironed out before wider deployment of the workstation is initiated.

We have been delighted to welcome officials from the Department of Education and Skills to Scoil Uí Mhuirí on a number of occasions over the last year to discuss the project in detail.



Partnership with Parents

Parents Awards Ceremony 28th May 2015

Congrats to our parents who received their certificates of achievement for completion of parents classes here in the school. Eleven parents graduated from the FETAC Level 3 Word Processing course, ten parents graduated from the Art course and a further seven parents graduated from the Baking and Cookery class. Seven parents also graduated with a FETAC Level 4 Award in Information Technology. Thanks to Anne Gallagher, Olga Mc Ardle and Sinead Fearon for helping to make these classes happen!

Parents Association—Dietary & General Advice for Exam Students

The Parents Association and the HSCLO distributed dietary and general advice for exams to parents/guardians who had students sitting the Junior and Leaving Certificate exams which commenced on Wednesday 3rd June 2015.

Examinations time is a stressful time for everyone but we continually remind students to view these examinations as an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of the various subjects they have been studying over the course of two/three years.





Parents Association Presentations to Retired Staff Members

On 28th May 2015, Antoinette Rourke, Chairperson of the Parents Association made a presentation to former staff members Frances Beard (HSCLO & Home Economics teacher), Valerie Kelly (Business teacher) and Bernadette Martin (Art teacher), to mark their retirement from the school in August 2014.

Antoinette, on behalf of the parents, paid tribute to the contribution all three former staff members had made to the academic, personal, social and moral development of the young people they worked with over the course of their time at Scoil Uí Mhuirí. She thanked them for their commitment, dedication and professionalism during their time at the school.

Training for Board of Management Parents Reps

Louth Meath Education and Training Board (LMETB), has provided training for all members of the new Boards of Management in LMETB schools. The Principal, Ms. Kindlon, staff reps Mr. Aiden Matthews and Ms. Jackie Matthews and parents reps, Ms. Frances Kirwan and Mr. Neil Cooney all attended the training workshop which was held in the Glenside Hotel, Drogheda on Monday, 11 May 2015. Topics

covered during the training included functions and responsibilities of the Board and these training sessions were facilitated by Ms. Maire Ni Bhroithe, Education and Leadership Officer, LMETB and Mr. Peter Kierans, CEO, LMETB.

Funding towards resources for Scoil Uí Mhuirí

During the 2014/2015 academic year, the Parents Association have contributed funds to various activities within the school including funding towards a second defibrillator for the school, vouchers for full attendance awards for students, sponsorship of the Tall Ships Challenge for students, 1st prize for winner in the design a logo for the Parents Association competition and a bursary towards college fees for a senior student in the school who had full attendance during their time at Scoil Uí Mhuirí.

LCA 1 Students demonstrate their Cookery Skills at JCSP Coffee Morning

On 13th February 2015, a Coffee Morning was held for the students and parents of our JCSP Programme (JCSP). The JCSP is a national programme of the Department of Education and Skills. On completion of the Programme JCSP students receive a profile which is an official record of their achievements from the

Department of Education and Skills. This profile is in addition to their Junior Certificate results.

Refreshments for the morning comprising cheesecakes, banoffee, cream cakes and finger food were made by our LCA 1 students and indeed all in attendance were extremely impressed with the culinary skills of our senior students! Thanks to Ms. Gemma Murphy, Home Economics Department and Ms. Lorraine Duffy, JSCP Co-ordinator for co-ordinating the event

Communication with Parents

The school has introduced a new texting system for parents to keep them informed of developments in the school.

The school website, www.scoiluimhuiri.ie contains more information and communication relevant to parents. General notices and letters for parents will be uploaded to the Parents Tab of the website.

Our School Trips Facebook page and our school Twitter page @ScoilUiMhuiri are also proving popular among our parent community for up to date information on activities happening in the school on a daily basis. You can access these via our school website or you can also befriend us on twitter!!

Parent Teacher Meetings 2014/2015

The Parent/Teacher meeting provides you with an opportunity to meet with your son's/daughter's teachers and to discuss how they are progressing in school. It is important that you attend these meetings. The Home School Community Liaison Officer liaises with parents/guardians prior to these meetings to encourage all to attend. The PTM's run from 4.15pm to 6.45pm.

Attendance at Parent Teacher Meetings this year has been very good. Attendance at all of the PTMs from First to Sixth Year have improved from last year. The best attended this academic year was the First Year PTM with 83%, followed by 3rd Year with 79 %, 5th Year with 76 %, 6th Year had 74 %, 2nd Year with 73 % and finally TY had 71% attendance. This strong interest from parents augurs well for the future, as all education research points to the fact that the more interest parents show in their son's/daughter's education, the more effort will be put in by the students.

If there is something concerning you about your child in Scoil Ui Mhuiri, don't hesitate to make an appointment with the relevant Year Head or the Home School Liaison Coordinator. They are as follows: 1st Year Year Head & HSCL Co-ordinator: Mr. Declan Clarke; 2nd Year Year Head : Ms. Kathryn Shannon; 3rd Year Year Head: Ms. Maire Conneely; TY Year Head: Ms. Miriam Howard; 5th Year Year Head: Mr. Martin Cassidy and 6th Year Year Head: Ms. Fiona Ni Conaill.

New Board of Management Parent Reps for Scoil Uí Mhuirí

The Principal wrote to parents during the year inviting nominations for the positions of female (one) and male (one) representatives for the new Board of Management.

We are delighted to announce that the new Parent Representatives for the next Board of Management are Ms. Frances Kirwan and Mr. Neil Cooney. We look forward to working with Frances and Neil moving forward and we would like to thank our outgoing Parent Representatives Ms. Terri Callan and Mr. Peter Keane for their work on the Board of Management over the past number of years.

Information Session for Parents/ Guardians of Incoming 1st Yrs student 15/16

As our incoming 1st Years 2015/2016 took their Assessment Tests on Saturday morning 7 February 2015, an information session and coffee morning for their parents and guardians took place in the school. During this session presentations were made by the Principal, Deputy Principal, HSCLO, Guidance Counsellor, SEN Co-ordinator, SCP Project Worker and the incoming 1st Year Year Head Ms. Fiona Ní Chonaill. We were delighted to welcome Ms. Antoinette Rourke, Chairperson of the Parents Association who also gave an account of her journey as a Scoil Uí Mhuirí parent with her daughter now in 3rd Year and preparing for the Junior Certificate Examinations. We were delighted with the large attendance at this session and we look forward to working with our new parents over the coming years.

College Awareness Week CAO Information Session for Parents

As part of National College Awareness Week, Mr. Aiden Matthews and Ms. Rachel Mc Garrigle, Guidance

Department scheduled a talk on the CAO Application Process for students and their parents. This session was welcomed by parents as it provided them with a range of information on the CAO Process and HEAR and DARE schemes. The Guidance Department have also developed a blog which can be accessed from our school website **www.scoilumhuiri.ie**. Log onto our website and look for the 'Career Guidance' link. When you click on this link you can access a range of information and access other guidance related websites. You also have links to email addresses for Ms. Mc Garrigle and Mr. Matthews should you wish to contact them. For further information on CAO applications log on to **www.cao.ie**.

Road Safety Talk for Senior Students & their Parents

On Wednesday 3 December 2014 at 7pm we held a Road Safety Talk for Senior Students and their Parents. This talk which was organised in partnership with the Parents Association at the school was designed to show the real consequences of irresponsible and reckless driving. Young people are excited at the prospect of driving but rarely fully appreciate the potential hazards that exist. The talk challenged their attitude in a constructive and in-formative way. Most local communities have experienced loss from road fatalities and this talk reinforced the message that all young people need to drive responsibly and safely. If we have perhaps prevented one more accident from occurring in the future this session will have been worthwhile. This presentation contained scenes of real road accidents. We thank our facilitators and speakers on the evening: Garda Kevin Conway, Dunleer Garda Station, Mr. John Molloy, Dunleer Fire Service Ms. Siobhan O' Brien former student of Scoil Uí Mhuirí and Road Accident Survivor.

Coffee Morning for 1st Year Parents

Our Annual Coffee Morning for 1st Year Parents took place in October 2014. The purpose of the coffee morning was to give those parents/guardians an opportunity to discuss how the 1st Year transition process had been for their son/daughter and also to have an opportunity to meet other parents/guardians of 1st Year students. We were delighted with the large numbers who attended the event. During the coffee morning those in attendance also had opportunities to meet with the Principal, Deputy Principal, Home School Community Liaison Officer, School Completion Project Worker, Guidance Counsellor, SEN Co-ordinator and the 1st Year Year Head.

Towards the end of the event parents/guardians were asked to complete a Review and Evaluation questionnaire. Parents/Guardians have rated our Transfer and Transition Programme as being highly effective in ensuring a smooth transition from Primary to Post Primary. Parents also welcomed the fact that Senior Mentor Students met with their 1st Year mentees on their first day at Scoil Uí Mhuirí.



Parents Association 2014/2015

All parents and guardians of students in the school are automatically members of the Parents' Association. The role of the Parents Association is to sustain and maintain a relationship with the school's Board of Management, Principal, teaching staff, students and ancillary staff so as to develop a learning environment that is beneficial to all. The Parents Association works to ensure that parents have an opportunity to work with the school on a series of issues including policy development and resources provision for the school.

Others include:

- Organising information/social events for new parents to the school
- Organising welcome events for new students to the school
- Arranging talks on topics of interest to parents, e.g. guest speakers on parenting/discipline
- Channelling parents views on school policy issues to the Principal/Board of Management
- Contributing to school newsletters and other school publications
- Helping to organise and supervise extra-curricular activities
- Organising Fund Raising events for the school

The Parents Association meet regularly throughout the year and new members are always welcome. The Parents Association AGM took place on October 8th 2014 and included an informative presentation by Garda Noel Loughran, JLO for the area, on cyberbullying and the dangers of social media.

The following officers were elected at the AGM for the 2014/2015 academic year:

Chairperson	Antoinette Rourke
Assistant Chairperson	Pauline Butterly
Secretary	Neil Cooney
Treasurer	John McConville
PRO	Mairead Elmaadi

The dates of the meetings for 2014/15 were as follows: December 17th, January 21st, 25th February, 15th April & 20th May. These meetings started at 7.30pm and took place in the school. All parents and guardians were welcome.

Study Skills Tips for Parents

Ms. McCready and Mr. Clarke have developed a Study Skills Module which contains advice and suggestions for students and parents regarding getting the most from their study time.

Each edition of the Parents Newsletter will contain a tip for parents regarding Study Skills. Today's tip is for parents to download checklists for every subject from the website **www.skool.ie**. These allow you and your child to systematically work through the content of each exam subject to ensure that it is adequately covered.

Also check out the Examiner's Report for subjects on **www.examinations.ie** (State Examinations Commission) for tips on how to better answer each question that has appeared on Junior Cert and Leaving Cert papers over the years. A link to this site is available from **www.scoilumhuiri.ie**

Parents Classes

Classes recommenced for parents and guardians of students. The FETAC Level 4 IT course has completed its remaining sessions and has been followed by an Introduction to Computers course which started in late November 2014. An Introduction to Baking course took place on Wednesdays in the Home Economics Room and we have applied for a follow-on course to commence in the spring. We have applied for funding for a range of other courses and we will circulate information to parents on any further classes taking place in the future. We would like to acknowledge the support that the Community Education and Adult Literacy sections of LMETB provide for these.



Partnership with Others

PDST (t4) Teacher Professional Development

Scoil Uí Mhuirí were delighted to open our facilities up to PDST (t4), the Department of Education and Skills National Support Service for training sessions in the evenings and at weekends for Technology Subject Department teachers across the region. Those in attendance had an opportunity to view and work in our exceptional Technology related specialised and well resourced classrooms.

LMETB Youth Work Course

The school continued to host the LMETB FETAC Level 5 Youth Work Course throughout the school year. This programme is organised by the LMETB Youth Officer for Louth, Ian Walker.

LMETB Youth Grants Awards

In September 2014, over 150 young people and youth club volunteers gathered in Scoil Uí Mhuirí to receive their grant cheques as part of the Louth Meath Education and Training Board 2014 Local Youth Club Grant Scheme. The grants which were presented by Senator Mary Moran, were awarded to youth clubs and organisations in the voluntary sector to assist with running costs, purchase of equipment and hire expenses.

Music Generation Classes

Music Generation Louth is a music service for the county that aims to help children and young people access vocal and instrumental tuition in their local area. It is led by LMETB and is part of Music Generation, a national programme for music education initiated by Music Network with seed funding from U2 and the Ireland Funds. Create Louth and LMETB provide local partnership income.

Music Generation Louth has offered a programme of music tuition for children and young people in the Dunleer area with a selection of classes on offer at Scoil Uí Mhuirí in a wide selection of instruments and musical styles catering for beginners through to advanced level students. Both individual and group lessons are available. Classes take place in the evening time. Instrumental hire is also available to those enrolling in classes.

Full details are available on the Music Generation website: www.musicgenerationlouth.ie For further information, and to enrol, call 042 9364635 or email: musicgeneration@lmetb.ie

Irish Blood Transfusion Service (IBTS)

During this academic year, we were delighted to open our gym on several occasions to the Irish Blood Transfusion Service who are now using Scoil Uí Mhuirí as their Dunleer base for blood donations at various stages throughout the year. The large impressive gym and the school campus with ample parking space combined with an increase in the number of blood donors in the area has resulted in a very successful partnership been developed.

Let's Go Summer Camp

In July 2015 we were delighted to welcome young people from the locality who were attending the Let's Go Summer Camp at the school. The Let's Go Summer Camp offers two programmes of activities, one for the 5-6 years olds and the second for the 7-13 year olds. The camp runs for one week at the school.

Do you wish to enquire about using our facilities?

Should you wish to enquire about using our facilities at the school, please contact us at 041 6851344.



