



# Loreto Newsletter

SUMMER 2009

**Congratulations to Emma Costello of 2M who won the Dublin Airport Authority Children's Short Story Competition 2009. She won eight books for herself and a donation to our school library. She also became one of the judges on the panel to judge the Children's Book of the Year 2009!**

## Athletics

Despite some dreadful weather conditions during this term we still managed to participate wholeheartedly in the many athletic competitions that were available. The Loreto Championships were held in Santry on April 23rd and I would like to thank the team of wonderful parents who assisted on the day. Without their help the Loreto Athletics would not be held. Due to the enormous amount of supervision required for such events we always need extra help from non-teaching supporters.

East Leinster and Leinster Athletics were held over the past four weeks with many outstanding results. The Relay teams did very well once again with many medals won. All track and field competitions

performed well, many progressing to the Leinster finals, with a few going to All Ireland finals.

### Best Results of the Year in Athletics

Senior Relay - winners of yet another Loreto Championship- Noelle Healy, (Captain) Sophie Penco, Catherine Murnane, & Stephanie Creaner.

Intermediate Relay - winners of East Leinster and Leinster competing in All Irelands on May 30th - Caroline Brogan, Sarah Powell, Aisling King & Elaine Mongan.

Junior Relay - 2nd in Loreto, 2nd in East Leinster, 2nd in Leinster - Breanne Flynn, Alison Smith, Deirdre Murphy (Captain), Alanah Quinsey. Good Luck in the All Irelands! Congratulations also to individ-

ual athletics who did brilliantly during the season - Kate Parker - Junior high jump, Elaine Begley - long jump and hurdles, Roisin O'Donovan - javelin, Aisling King - 100 meters, Stephanie Creaner - 100 and 200 meters - winner of Loreto and Leinsters, Rachel Sweeney - discus, Sarah Finegan and Kayla Flynn - track

### 175 School Sports

Thank you to all the 5th Years and parents, staff and Sports Department who organized such a lovely Sportsday in Iveagh Gardens on Sunday May 10th on what was one of the loveliest warm and sunny days so far this year. We all really enjoyed the great fun and great spirits and all agreed that it was a lovely finish to the 175 year.

## Tennis

This year's tennis season was very busy. Tennis team trials took place over the Easter holidays. Great numbers of participants signed up for the various age groups.

Ten teams were selected and matches got underway in Lansdowne Tennis Club and in various schools in Dublin.

The first year A team were runners up in their Leinster section. The Minor B, Senior B and Senior C, all finished in

third place.

Well Done to the Minor A team captained by Alanah Quinsey who won the Inter Loreto Minor Tournament.

The Junior A Team captained by Hannah Waters were runners up in the Inter Loreto Tournament and semi finalists in the Leinster League - congratulations girls

The Senior A team captained by Ciara Baragwanath won the

Inter Loreto Tournament and were semi finalists in the Leinster League also - a great achievement.

All teams played home fixtures in Lansdowne Tennis Club. Thanks to Cillian O'Riordan who helped out and supervised the away match fixtures.

Fun Tennis and private coaching were organized to encourage participation and active lifestyles.

# Debating

There have been a number of Debating finals taking place in the last month and Loreto, Stephen's Green have been well represented in them. Well done to Marcella Maher who spoke excellently and deservedly won the Junior Loreto Public Speaking competition which was held here in the school. Emma McDonnell represented the school in the Senior competition and spoke very well. That same day Emma, Hannah Lucey, Rosa-

lind Ní Shullabháin and Anna Harrington all took part in the final of the Aoife Begley Debating competition in NUI Maynooth. All the girls performed exceptionally well with Emma and Hannah coming 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. Niamh Murray and Rebecca Moloney represented the school in the finals of the International Competition for Young Debaters which was held recently in Cambridge. The girls argued brilliantly and won two of their three debates. Trinity College hosted this year's Leinster

Debating final. Cathy McAndrew qualified for the final and supported by a large and enthusiastic Loreto crowd performed excellently on the night.

This year the Leaving Certificate Debaters have donated a perpetual trophy to honour the school's rich debating tradition. The inaugural winner was Cathy McAndrew. For a full update on what has been happening in debating please see the extra curricular section of [www.loretothegreen.ie](http://www.loretothegreen.ie)

## French Exchange

Plenty of interest has been expressed in a French Exchange with a school in Tarbes in the south-west of France. The Irish students will travel to France in October 2009 and will host their exchange students in 2010.

## Camogie

The Junior Camogie team recently played in the Dublin "B" Shield final. The match was held in Ballyboden and we were up against a strong Loreto Beaufort team. The competition was late getting organised this year and as a result we had to play our semi-final the day before the final. In the semi-final the girls put in a fantastic performance to defeat Coláiste Chillian by 6-2 to 3-1.

The final was a classic game of two halves. There was a gale

force wind blowing down the field and in fact neither team was able to score when playing against this wind. We played with the breeze in the first half with Alison Stenson dominating in the middle. She scored 1-2 and Eleanor Buggy also got a goal to leave us ahead by 8 points at the break. The girls knew that they would be up against it in the second half and they put in a tireless effort to try and win the shield. Unfor-

tunately Beaufort managed to get a late goal to defeat us by a single point. It is tough to lose any match by one point (Loreto Beaufort 2-3 Loreto College, Stephen's Green 2-2) but the girls can be very proud of the effort they put in over the course of the year. Having won the "C" shield last year to come runner up in the "B" shield this year is a fantastic achievement. Well done to all the players.

For full details and team photo please see the sports news section of [www.loretothegreen.ie](http://www.loretothegreen.ie)

## Geography Investigation

On Friday 8th May, 37 5th Year Geography students completed their compulsory field study entitled "Geomorphic processes of erosion in a marine environment" The study site was Shankill Beach. The girls had

to complete a certain number of activities including the measurement of wave type, a cliff survey, rock analysis, field sketching and many more. The weather was perfect. The final report will be submitted in April 2010. How-

ever the students are writing the report up now as part of their 5th Year summer exam.

Good Luck!

# End of Year Liturgical Celebrations

Marking special times and occasions is one of the features of Loreto school life.

This year, because of our 175th anniversary, we had two liturgical celebrations to add to the calendar in May, our 175 Closing Mass in St. Teresa's, Clarendon St. and our regular but very special 6th Year Graduation Mass on home territory.

Saturday 9th brought us thankfully to an early Summer's evening and the sunshine, illuminating some wonderful stained glass, set the scene. To be truthful, the rattle, hum and high-pitched tones of teenagers is often the sound I associate most with the gaggles of

Loreto students but it's no exaggeration to say that we heard the voice of angels that evening. Ceiliúir harmonies, a solo psalm singer, a wonderful organist and an inspired conductor combined to bring us along the road to heaven. Anyone who has a love of colour might have noticed the sunburst quilt placed on the altar to represent Loreto Schools throughout Ireland remembering their founder Mary Ward. Readers, procession participants, altar servers, Eucharist ministers all played their part while Fr Murtagh's words and smiles helped to celebrate our tradition.

Thank you to each one who at-

tended, your presence made the celebration.

Our second liturgy took place on 18th May when 6th Years and their parents along with staff and Brother Richard marked that threshold moment when school-days are left behind. We had a very special evening.

Music and dance, scripture and poetry, tears, smiles, prayers and rings, artwork, gentle candlelight, quiet memories and spoken dreams, pride love and laughter - just some of the features of our Graduation Mass 2009.

Once again, thanks to all gave of themselves for a memorable night.



## Model United Nations

The Model United Nations Conference took place on April 6th - 9th in the Royal Marine Hotel in DunLaoghaire. 32 students took part in the conference representing countries as diverse as Sri Lanka, Portugal and Israel.

Each student researched their countries political, environmental

and human rights records depending on what committee they chose to be a part of. They did this with a view to writing resolutions on these very important global issues. Then armed with these resolutions they brought them to the conference. Many of the resolutions were passed to the committee stage where they were dis-

cussed by all the delegates present. This was nerve racking for some of the students taking part for the first time.

Students came from all over the globe, many of whom stayed with our students. The MUN conference was a great success and enjoyed by all students!

## ECDL

This year's transition years have been working very hard on improving their computer skills. During the year they have been working towards achieving their **European Computer Driving Licence**; learning essential computer skills that will really stand to them in their futures.

A total of **51** girls from the year,

so far, have passed all four modules of the **ECDL Start** program and will receive official certification for their achievements.

The ECDL Start program of four modules was offered as part of the transition year program, rather than the full 7 modules of the full ECDL course, due to the time constraints of the academic year. However, sixteen girls decided that they would take on the extra

commitment of studying for the additional 3 modules in their own time so as to acquire the full ECDL certification during transition year.

**I have passed all 7 so far and will receive their full ECDL certificates on return to school in September. So congratulations!**



## Prize giving Perpetual Awards

### The Denis O'Sullivan Medal

This Medal has been awarded in recent years in memory of a past pupil Moyra Briody who was a gifted pianist with a golden voice. It was asked that the medal be presented each year to the girl who gave the greatest contribution to singing in the school. This year this medal is awarded to Sara Sorensen.

### The Frankie Rooney Award

Frankie Rooney was a music, choir and orchestra Teacher from 1970 until she retired in 2003. This prize rewards excellence in music. This year the honour goes to Emer Murray.

### The Charles Maguire Music Award

Charles Maguire was a conductor of the senior orchestra for 20 years until his death in 1993 after a short illness. This shield is awarded each year to a talented and hard working musician. This year that person is Hannah Scaife.

### The Mary Moloney History Award

Mary Moloney (1926-1994) was educated here in Loreto college. In 1995 her children, one of whom is Professor Eunan O'Halpin, established the Mary Moloney prize to commemorate Mary, her interest in History and her affection for Loreto College. This year the Award goes jointly to Maeve Brady and Ellen Ryan.

### The Sr. Seraphia Science Award

This award was presented for the first time in 2006 in honour of Sr. Seraphia who perished in the fire in 1986. She was one of the first women to graduate in Science in UCD. This year the award goes to Noelle Healy.

### The 175 English Debating Trophy

This award honours an individual who embodies the ideas of debating. That is an individual who is confident and argumentative, whilst being respectful and a good listener. The inaugural winner of this award is Cathy McAndrew.

### The Mary Ward Silver Salver

The Social Enterprise Award was presented for the first time two years ago to commemorate the life of Mary Ward, the founder of the Loreto order. This award is a way of showing the deep appreciation that the school feels for the commitment and personal initiative that a student has shown in her school career to date. This year the wonderful participation in the school community is being acknowledged by awarding the prize to Siobhan Blackwell.

### The Spirit Award

Ciara Baragwanath and Maria Whelan share this year's Spirit Award.

## First Year Author Visit

On 6th May, two first year classes (1G & 1M) were privileged to receive a visit from the author of their class novel, "Faraway Home" - Marilyn Taylor. She spoke to the classes about the process of writing a novel, from what inspired her and her research methods to the painstaking process of editing her completed work. She truly was an inspirational speaker on the subject of creative writing and kindly offered the students many useful tips for essay writing and perhaps even for their own novel writing in years to come!

Ms. Taylor concluded her talk by reading a short extract from her latest novel, "17 Martin Street"

before conducting a Q & A session with the students. Before she left, Ms. Taylor took the opportunity to admire some of the many pieces of work the students had completed based on "Faraway Home"

It was a fantastic opportunity for the pupils to meet the person behind their much loved novel and hear firsthand what had inspired Ms. Taylor to create such an enjoyable book. As a token of appreciation, Ms Taylor was presented with flowers and a card by Sarah Dent (1M) and Sorcha O'Loughlin(1G)

## Student Enterprise Awards

Congratulations to Kate O'Regan, Emilee Thornton and Ciara Walsh on winning the Intermediate Category of the National Finals of the Student Enterprise Awards on Thursday May 14th in Tullamore, Co. Offaly. Their business named "Personalize Me" was selling personalized chocolate. They decided to incorporate the 175th Anniversary in their business by putting the Loreto Crest on the chocolates and selling them at various 175 events throughout the year including the Charity Ball and The Fashion Show. Well done to the girls involved.