

# Scoil Bhride - Loreto

## National School Newsletter

Volume 12

June 08

### Welcome to our Readers

Hello everyone! This is our 12th issue of our annual newsletter and we hope you will enjoy reading all about the wonderful things we did throughout the year. And of course, all the hard work that we did during the year. As you will see, it was a very busy year for all of.

Scoil Bhride would like to wish the sixth class every good luck as the go onto secondary school.

**Go dté sibh slán.**

### Our Official School Opening



Pictured at the Official Opening — Eamonn Courtney, Fr. Kevin McNamara, Ann Byrnes, Michael Lucey, Bishop Bill Murphy, Paul Garnett (Chairperson B.O.M.), Risteard O'Lionaird, Mary O'Sullivan (Principal), Jackie Healy Rae T.D., Treasa O'Sullivan and William Shine

We had the official opening of our newly extended and refurbished school on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2008. In 1998, ten years ago, the Board of Management applied for this new building. A lot of time, effort, energy and hard work was put in by every member of the school community to bring the project to fruition. Over the ten years there has been five different Boards of Management and seven different Chairpersons of Boards trying to get this school finished.

The Finance Committee held many fundraisers such as a race night, raffles and a golf classic to raise a lot of money. The Building Committee kept a constant watch on the building as it progressed. Parents Associations helped on an ongoing basis, whenever needed. The Arts Committee worked with artist Ameile Gagne to produce a beautiful Mural. She illustrated the history of the school, from the arrival of the nuns in 1860, the building of the school, the handover of the school and the playing area to the laypeople, up to the present day.

The Architects, O'Sullivan Campbell came up with a wonderful design, keeping the field, the view and the light at the back of the school. The builders were Colliswood who came over from Tralee every morning. This beautiful building is a testimony to their skill; we have gained an extra classroom, a computer room/library, an assembly hall which is 200m<sup>2</sup> in area, a staff room, an office and a learning support room. We got our basketball court re-surfaced and got extra parking facilities at the front.

A lot of hard work was put in by the teacher's special needs assistants, the caretaker and the secretary. Everyone helped to make the dream of a new school become a reality. All the parents, pupils, former parents, and past pupils helped with everything that needed to be done. Many volunteers helped with the packing, moving furniture and putting up notice boards. For the opening flowers were planted, bunting was put up, the grotto was repainted and people helped with the parking and providing refreshments. There was a great feeling of community spirit and good will. Children will benefit from this beautiful school for years to come. It is set in spectacular scenery and we are thrilled and very fortunate to have our new extension.

**By: Alison Shaw and Zoe O'Sullivan.**

## Down Memory Lane.

### Foundation of Loreto Killarney.

In 1860 Dr. Moriarty, Bishop of Kerry sent an invitation to Mother Teresa Ball to start a convent in Killarney. She agreed. It was her last foundation as she died in 1861.

The Torc View Hotel overlooking the lakes was procured. Mother J, Ann Hickey Superior came with a band of sisters, Mother Evangeline McCormack. Sr. DeSales O'Sullivan and others. They arrived on November 17<sup>th</sup> between 10 and 11p.m on a bleak night. They set up for mass the next morning. Dr. Moriarty came that morning to install the blessed Sacrament in the convent where it remained until 1989. After a few weeks the school was ready to receive pupils. The first boarder was Alice Adam who later entered the Order in which she worked until her death in 1911. Irish Catholics were poor at that time because of the penal laws. Even though school fees were small many could not pay. They thought the school would close but the Mother General came to the rescue.

The school grew in numbers. It was a boarding school and students who lived far distances from Secondary Schools enrolled. All subjects were taught through Irish. Day pupils came from Loughquittane, Muckcross, Faugh, Ardagh and Woodlawn Road.

There was always an excellent school choir started by Sr. Céline and Mother Angelica continued the tradition for many years. Loreto Secondary school closed in 1989.

**By: Lydia Coughlan, Níamh O'Sullivan, Cian Griffin and David Naughton. 4<sup>th</sup> class**

### History of Loreto.

Mary Ward is the foundress of the Institute of the blessed virgin Mary ( I.B.V.M.) as the Loreto Sisters are officially called. She was born in England in 1595. She travelled across the continent founding schools in many countries, and setting up anew style of life one that was very active and ordinary in its way of life. Prayer was the centre of this way of life. She died in 1645 confident that "women in time to come would do much". Many new convents have been set up all over the world. Mother Teresa of Calcutta was a Loreto nun. Education of girls was the mission of the Loreto sisters but mother Teresa wanted to help the poor so she started a new order of nuns. She looked after and cared for the dying in Calcutta. She also looked after those who had no homes. She is now a saint.

**By: Seán O'Brien and Jack Foley. 4<sup>th</sup> class.**

### First Holy Communion Mass

The first Holy Communion Day in Loreto was very special for the boys and girls. Mass was at 9.00a.m. The teachers Mrs. Kissane and Mrs. Hickey would collect Mother Angelica at 8.40a.m in the convent and proceed on to Muckcross Church. At that time children received Holy Communion with their class mates. They all sat together. Later they sat with their families and received Holy Communion. At that time they had to fast for three hours before they received Holy Communion.

Parents, teacher and older family members did the readings at the mass. The children did the prayers of the faithful and brought up the gifts. At the offertory the Children stood around the altar for the consecration.

After the sign of peace they came back to their parents and gave them a hug and the sign of peace. The choir were from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class. Mother Angelica and Mrs. Kissane prepared the choir. Sr. Eugenia played the organ and later on Ms. Mary Quinlan. Mr Louis Browne tenor sang at the mass. Mrs Hickey taught First Holy Communion class for 12 years.

**By: Jane Culloty and Áine O'Sullivan 4<sup>th</sup> class.**

After the Communion Breakfast the class and their families would go to the flat Roof to take pictures. The view was fantastic. We could see Mangerton and Torc mountain. We could see the middle and lower lakes of Killarney.

**By: Peter O'Donoghue 3<sup>rd</sup> class.**

### Communion Breakfast

After mass parents and their children were invited to the convent for a Communion Breakfast with their families. The child that made their communion and their parents went to the Refectory where there were white linen table cloths and china delph. They were provided with brown bread, toast and fruit. Other members of the family went to a special room where they had refreshments. Sr. Brendan, Sr. Thomas Moore, Sr. Michael and Sr. Bernice served breakfast. Sr. Brendan was the portress and served tea, coffee and scones to all the visitors that came.

**By: Caoimhe Lynch 4<sup>th</sup> class.**

## Down Memory Lane.

### Crowning Our Lady

During the month of May each year a lovely tradition of Crowning our Lady took place. All the children from St. Gertrudes and later from Scoil Bhríde gathered for prayer and then went often the path to the convent to crown our Blessed Lady. A lovely statute on a high pedestal stood graciously in the front yard near the church. Fifth and sixth class made a crown with flowers and had to climb a ladder to crown our Lady while all the other children sang hymns and sometimes talked when they shouldn't.

We are very lucky that we got a gift of the statue when the convent closed in 1989. It is now in the front lawn of our school. Charlie O'Connor who was the caretaker at that time made an enclosure of stone for our Lady. He brought his children on their bikes to see his work. The statue of our Lady needed to be washed, cleaned and painted in May 2008 Joy O'Donoghue, her father and Catherine Devlin restored the statue. They painted the statue and Joy's dad made a wooden cabinet to keep our Lady dry and clean.

#### **Tradition Continues.**

Each year we have a May procession where each class says prayers and we all sing hymns like "May is the month of Mary" and "The bells of the Angelus". The children bring pretty flowers for our lady. We all place flowers class by class around the statue for the crowning of our Lady.

**By: Kathryn Cronin, Oisín Shannon, Tara Casey and Aoife O'Donoghue. 4<sup>th</sup> class.**

### The Loreto Crest.

The Loreto Crest is surrounded by the words "Maria Regina Angelorum" which means under the patronage of our Lady Queen of the Angels.

**The Cross** – Sign of our Salvation

**The Sacred Heart** – Source of infinite love of Jesus for each one of us.

**The heart of Mary** – Our human model and inspiration

**The Anchor** – Symbol of hope.

This symbolism is summed up in the final scroll: "Cruci dum spiro

fido" – Throughout my life I shall place my hope in the cross.

**By: Rachel Randles and Jevon Flaherty 4<sup>th</sup> class.**

### The Tree Huts.

Former students of St. Gertrudes and Scoil Bhríde spent many happy days playing in the school field in particular in the tree huts. There were tall palm trees with wide spreading branches. They gave shelter from sun and rain and provided children with make belief houses. They spent many happy hours playing shops, tea parties and innocent games of magic. They played for hours and were unhappy when they heard the bell. On very hot days the teachers took their classes outside under the shade of trees. Restless students went and plucked daisies and had a game of soldiers with plantain. They also played rounders and this was a very popular game with boys and girls.

We would love to have tree huts in our playground. They would give us shade on hot days. We could hide there when we play hide n seek. We could play shops and sell branches, leaves and other make belief things.

**By: Rosanna Ryan and Laura O'Sullivan 3<sup>rd</sup> class.**

### February Football Blitz.

As the nuns didn't play football Mr. Dan Kelleher manager of Muckcross Estate came every week to coach the football team. Every class from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class played. They were divided into teams. The February football blitz was an exciting time.

There was great rivalry and great fun. Mr. Kelleher insisted the blitz be played no matter what type of weather. Children often came in covered with mud.

The teams that qualified for the final were very excited. Everybody in the school went out to see the Final. The students and teachers lined up going into the field and sang Amhrán na bhFiann.

Mr. Kelleher organised bus trips to Kilbreen where his brother Fr. Finbarr Kelleher coached both hurling and football teams.

Mr. Kelleher also organised basketball games and football games against a school in Thurles which were played in Tipperary. Games were won and lost and Mr. Kelleher always said "it's a good lesson for life".

**By: David Shaw, Patrick Wrenn, and Dónal O'Sullivan 3<sup>rd</sup> class.**

# Our Favourite Subjects

by: Mrs Foleys 3<sup>rd</sup> Class

*My favourite subject is maths. I like maths because they are fun to learn. You will always need to know how to do maths even when you are older. My favourite maths are adding, subtracting, crack the code, decimals and anything to do with lines and angles.*

By: **Anna O'Connor**

*My favourite subjects are maths and history. I like maths because they're fun and I'm good at them. I like all maths, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, problem solving and brain teasers. I like history because I like finding out about people in the past and how they lived. History involves a lot of reading but I like it as it can be interesting and informative.*

By: **Elizabeth Mohan**

*Art is my favourite subject. I like art because it is not like any other subject. I like it also because you just try your best and it doesn't have to be perfect.*

*There are many different forms of art. It's all about being creative.*

By: **Shauna Courtney**

*My favourite subject is art. I like art because it is exciting. In art you can do anything. You can use paint, pencil, marker, crayon or gel pen. You can do amazing things but the best part is you can use your imagination.*

By: **Aldina Murphy**

*My favourite subject is maths. I like maths because they are fun and you get to learn lots of new skills. You will always need to know maths in your every day life. My favourite maths are fractions, but I really like adding numbers as well.*

By **Ada Fleming**

## Our First Senior School Tour (2008)

*On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, third, fourth, fifth and sixth classes went to Ballyloughran on our school tour. We took the bus and arrived there at 10am. When we got off the bus we went in to the activity centre. We were split into two groups, third and fourth went together and fifth and sixth went together. We left our bags in the dressing room. The first activity we did was orienteering. We had a sheet with clues and we had to look for words and write them down. Then we went to the bench to do some archery. We had a shot each and then the girls had a competition with the boys. Before the competition we practised for five or ten minutes. After the archery the girls played basketball and the boys played soccer. The girls sang songs when they were finished playing basketball. Then everyone went for lunch. We went swimming in the afternoon. It took some of the girls ten minutes to get ready (it only took the boys two minutes!). We had lots of races in the pool. After swimming we went canoeing. We wore life jackets and helmets. We got a canoe each. We were given two oars each. We went into the water where there was a little island. We were canoeing for about twenty minutes. We got out and we went for showers. Later, when we were ready we went to the climbing wall. We put on our helmets and harnesses. Two people went up at a time. When we were finished at the climbing wall we had an obstacle course. We had two teams where one person out of each team raced against the other. When we were finished it was time to pack up and prepare for the journey home. We got our bags and we went to the bus. We had the best day ever on our first senior school tour!*

By: **Ada, Aldina, Anna, Elizabeth and Shauna.**

## **Our trip to St. Mary of the Angels & The Gap of Dunloe.**

It was a beautiful magical sunny May morning. We arrived at St. Mary of the Angels School, excited and ready to go. Bags were packed in anticipation the night before. We met our new friends and when we got to the school we had some taytos and drinks. Afterwards everyone had a game of basketball. Exhausted, we sat down and had a chat. We shared stories with our new friends and we had lots of laughs. We then drove up to Kate Kearney's cottage. We took some photos and enjoyed our beautiful surroundings. There we started our long walk through the gap.

We stopped and had lunch with our friends. We shared our food and sang songs. At this stage we waved goodbye to our new friends and my classmates and I continued our trip through the Gap.

We strolled along and listened to music. Clouds gathered at one stage and we thought it might rain but luckily the sun came out again. When we were walking through the Gap we admired the valleys and corrie lakes formed by the glaciers. Nine miles later, sore feet, but happy and exhausted, we arrived at Lord Brandon's Cottage. Thrilled and delighted we stocked up on more treats for our next adventure which was the fabulous boat trip. We had fun on the water. Next we stopped at Innisfallen Island which was named after St. Faithleann. We had a Going Forth Service there as we prepare to leave Loreto and head out into the world. We said prayers and sang some of our favourite hymns. It was a very spiritual experience especially being on Innisfallen Island.

The whole class agreed it was a great day. We made lots of new and special friends, and came closer as a class. We learned to appreciate how lucky we are to have our health and our beautiful environment.

**By: Grace Ryan,  
6<sup>th</sup> class**

## **Muckross Abbey.**

After Killeagy graveyard we proceeded to Muckross Abbey via the main road to Kenmare. The entrance to Muckross Abbey is opposite Molly D'arcy's. We noted the leaves missing up to brouse level of the trees from the deer. We observed copperbeech trees on the right and lime trees on the left. On the left we also observed the Giant Redwood. It is now dead. We took a photo of Colin beside it to show how tall it is. We continued along Friar's walk where the monks would have prayed and meditated. We saw the catalpa tree with its large branches. Muckross Abbey was built by McCarthy Mór in about 1448 for the Franciscan Order. In the 1542 King Henry 8<sup>th</sup> of England wanted to divorce his wife. He had already divorced five wives so the Catholic Church denied him a divorce. In retaliation he suppressed the monasteries. The monks had to leave, but came back in 1602. In the year 1655 they had to leave again, this time because of Cromwell's Soldiers. They burned down the Abbey but the graveyard is still used.

Some things we liked for at the abbey were the McCarthy Mór tomb. Another grave we saw was the grave of Patrick Kelleher. He was a past pupil of Scoil Bhríde, who was tragically killed on his way to school in 1979. He was ten years old at the time. We said a prayer for him and his family.

In the Abbey we saw a huge Yew tree and gothic and Romanesque arches. We found a sundial which was carved into a stone wall.

We returned to Muckross P.O via the old funeral road through some woodland and crossed Cloghereen Stream.

I enjoyed our local history tour because it was very exciting. We learned lots of history and nature while having fresh air and of course, lots of fun.

**By: Katie O' Connor  
5th Class**

## **A Present for the Baby**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2007 Junior Infants, Senior Infants and First Class presented their Christmas play which was called "A present for the Baby".

Everyone had their own little part to play but each one was as good as the next. The moral of the story was that the baby Jesus wouldn't stop crying. In the end all it took was a loving kiss. During the play there were lovely songs such as "Boo boo hoo" and "look at the Emerald shinging bright". During the whole show you could see the amount of hard work put into it which was amazing. On behalf of the school I would just like to say thank you to Ms. O'Mahony and Mrs. O'Meara.

**By Andrea McCarthy,  
5<sup>th</sup> Class.**

# Cumann na mBunscoil Chiarraí Thoir

Loreto were one of five teams participating in the blitz. The team with the most points represent East Kerry in the county quarterfinal. The blitz was played on the 8<sup>th</sup> October in Kilcummin. It was a wet and miserable day. The other four teams taking part were:

Faha N.S., Kilcummin N.S., Gneeveguilla N.S. and Knockaderry N.S. The panel of players on the Loreto team were: Colin O'Donoghue –Captain, Michael Lagan, Alison Shaw, Eimear O'Sullivan, Michael Ryan, Creagh Courtney, Conor Murphy, Ryan O'Connor, Michael Foley, Elaine Courtney and Adam O'Shea.

Kara O'Connor, Andrea McCarthy, Katie O'Connor, Zoe O'Sullivan, Emily Treacy, Rebecca Walsh and Oisín Shannon.

## Faha V Loreto

Loreto's first game was against Faha N.S. and the throw up was at 10.50a.m. Faha were a strong team as they had played a previous game against Gneeveguilla and they won. We watched some of the match and know that they would be hard to overcome. We all know we had to play our very best to win.

Faha played well in the first half and so did Loreto. Faha got on the scoreboard first with a goal. They scored three more points and at half time the score was Faha 1-3 Loreto 0-0. By now Loreto had realised what a great team Faha were. Loreto had to be on top for in the second half. Loreto needed their whole team to be playing their best if they wanted to win. Conor Murphy and Colin O'Donoghue scored three points between them. Faha were now winning by a goal. Could Loreto come from behind to win the match?. Faha

then scored another goal and three points. The score at the full time whistle was Faha 2-4 Loreto 0-3.

## Loreto V. Kilcummin

Loreto's second game was against Kilcummin. Loreto started the game and were full of determination. In the first half Loreto's goalkeeper, Michael Lagan made some great saves. Kilcummin still managed to get a goal and a point. Loreto came back with a point from Michael Foley. At half time the score was Kilcummin 1-1 Loreto 0-1.

In the second half Loreto were playing with the wind behind their backs. The rain was lashing and it made the surface very muddy and slippery. Loreto scored three points but Kilcummin got a goal and a point. The final score Kilcummin 2-2 Loreto 0-4.

## Loreto V. Gneeveguilla

Loreto's third game was against Gneeveguilla who were also a great team. Loreto needed to win this game. Ryan O'Connor and Colin O'Donoghue scored two points. Not long after, Gneeveguilla got a goal. Both teams were playing well. Loreto scored a goal but Gneeveguilla scored two points which meant at half time Gneeveguilla were winning by a point.

Loreto proudly walked onto the pitch knowing if they played well, they could win. Ryan O'Connor scored three points and Gneeveguilla responded with a point. Colin O'Donoghue scored a goal and a point. Adam O'Shea got a goal and a point. The final score was Loreto 3-7 Gneeveguilla 1-3.

## Loreto V Knockaderry

Loreto's last game was against Knockaderry who were a superb all out team and were determined to win. It was still lashing rain

and the wind had gotten stronger. Knockaderry opened the scoring with a goal and two points. Loreto scored a goal and a point but Knockaderry had that extra point.

In the second half of the game, things didn't go Loreto's way. Loreto did get a goal and two points. Knockaderry got three goals and the game was over. The score at the full time whistle was Loreto 2-3 Knockaderry 5 - 1.

We enjoyed our day at the football blitz. We didn't come out on top but we all participated and we did our best.

**By: Katie O'Connor ,5<sup>th</sup> class**

## Girls Soccer League

On Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of May the Girls Soccer League was held in Celtic pitch. There was a panel of eight on our team. Andrea McCarthy in goal she saved a huge amount of goals. Elaine Courtney and Lauren O'Connor were midfield, Zoe O'Sullivan, Rebecca Walsh and Aoife Allen were forwards, Eimear O'Sullivan and Katie O'Connor were the backs.

On the day there were twelve schools participating in the Girls Competition. The weather was fine but we had a few showers.

Our first match was against Bunscoil Dingle. We played exceptionally well. At the end of the match the score was Loreto 4 - Dingle 2. Our second match was against Kilmurry N.S. Cordal. We played our best but lost the second game. The score was Loreto 2 - Kilmurry 3. Our last match was against Asdee N.S. Listowel. I thought it was our best match. The score was Loreto 8 - Asdee 0.

Unfortunately we lost out on goal difference and did not get to the semi-final. However it was a great day out we enjoyed every minute of it and we were delighted to be participating.

We will try again next year and we will work on our weaknesses.

**By Lauren O'Connor and Aoife Allen 5<sup>th</sup> Class.**

## Visit to Killeggy Graveyard and Muckross Abbey

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of November fifth and sixth class set off on a local history trip with Mrs. O'Sullivan and Mrs. Moynihan. We assembled at the former Muckross P.O. (now an art gallery). It was a bright crisp morning- perfect for exploring our beautiful environment. We admired the colours of the leaves as we identified the trees we passed.

We set off on the path up to Killeggy. The plaque on Mr. Kelleher's house says H.A.H 1879. This was the Estate Manager's House and was built by Henry Arthur Herbert.

On the pathway up to Killeggy we saw the churchyard yew and the bamboo tree which was often used to torture people. When we entered Killeggy the first thing we went to see was the big

Celtic Cross which is made from Limestone which marks the grave of Henry Arthur Herbert. This Celtic Cross was erected by the people of Killarney to thank him for providing employment for them building Muckross House during the famine in 1845. In 1866 he died on a night out as a guest of Lord Adare. In 1892 his wife Mary died aged 75. Mary is also buried in Killeggy. She was a famous artist.

From the cross we could see Mangerton Mountain, the Old Kenmare Road, Torc Mountain, the Eagle's Nest the Gap of Dunleo and the Purple Mountain.

We saw the graves of Dr. Hillard who died in 1972. When there was a possibility that Muckross House would become a Great Southern Hotel, he made a suggestion that it be turned into a folk museum. We also saw the grave of Toby Hodd who was a scientist and naturalist. He died in 2000. His headstone is made from natural limestone and his family planted foxglove and clover on his grave.

We identified the grave of Arthur Rose Vincent who received Muckross House as a wedding present. He died in 1956. Behind this is the grave of John Vincent who died at three years of age. He died as a result of swallowing a piece of his toy.

We also studied the Hillard Tomb. Richard Hillard erected this tomb in memory of his daughter Jane who died at the age of sixteen. Richard founded Hillard's Boot Factory, which was located at Hilliard's Lane off High Street in Killarney.

On our way out of the graveyard we saw the Mortuary Chapel which held the remains before burial. It has Gothic Archways and a belfry.

There is a plaque inside the chapel dated 1714 which commemorates Mr. Maurice Hussey.

**By Alison Shaw, 6<sup>th</sup> class.**

## Christmas in Killarney

On the 29<sup>th</sup> November the turning on of the Christmas lights in Killarney took place. The Thursday night the air was mild and dry. Fifth and sixth represented Scoil Bhríde.

The Parade started at the Fair Hill car park and finished in Main Street. We walked through the town and at the end of the parade was Santa in his sleigh.

While the Lord Mayor made his speech we were entertained by a band. Finally Santa turned on the lights and we all cheered. Then we all know how close Christmas was.

**By Kara O'Connor, 5<sup>th</sup> Class.**

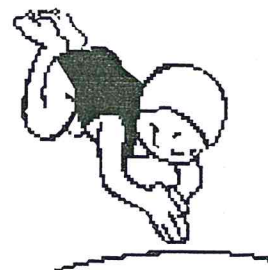
## Swimming

On November the 4<sup>th</sup> 2007 I represented Scoil Bhríde in the Irish Minor Schools Competition in swimming which was held in Cork. There were many other children there representing their schools. I swam in the 50m breaststroke in a time of forty eight seconds, which was just inside the qualifying times for the finals in Dublin.

Similar competitions were held all over Ireland and all the children who qualified met in the N.A.C. (National Aquatic Centre). I travelled to Dublin with my Dad. I felt a little nervous before my swim. I didn't win a medal but I was very privileged to get a personal best (P.B.). I was also very proud to see Scoil Bhríde's name on the programme.

I love swimming and I enjoyed my experience very much.

**By: - Aine O' Sullivan, 5th class**



## Girls' Mini- Sevens

On Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February a fit and strong panel of twelve girls from Loreto N.S. set out to Fitzgerald Stadium to face nineteen schools in the girls' mini-sevens football.

In our first game we played Barraduff N.S. Elaine scored two magnificent goals and a point and Zoe hammered home three goals. The game was a great start to show that Loreto had great team spirit. The final score was Loreto 5-1 Barraduff 2 points.

In our second game we played Rathmore N.S. In the first half we scored two points and Rathmore scored three goals and one point. We were trailing badly behind but we kept our heads up. In the last five minutes there was a spectacular come-back by a determined Loreto team. Elaine scored four great goals. It was nerve wrecking. The final score was 4-3 to 4-1.

Our win brought us to the semi-final against the Gaelscoil. Our speedy mid-fielders showed their skill and prowess in this match as the final score was Loreto 4-2 to Gaelscoil 3-2.

We reached the final against Lissivigeen N.S. We played like a team but Lissivigeen were stronger. We were very pleased to get to the final and Mrs. O'Sullivan was very proud of us.

The panel consisted of:-

Andrea McCarty, Alison Shaw, Eimear O'Sullivan, Elaine Courtney, Aoife Allen, Emily Treacy, Zoë O'Sullivan, Rebecca Walsh, Lauren O'Connor, Katie O'Connor, Niamh O'Sullivan and Siobhán Fleming. All Players played superbly in all positions giving whole- heartedly to a great team effort.

**By: - Zoë O' Sullivan,  
6<sup>th</sup> class.**

## SCOTLAND

On Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of February some members of Spa Muckross A.C. and I travelled to Scotland for the Scottish Indoors Championships. I had been training hard to prepare. Athletes from Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales were taking part.

My first race was the 60m sprint. I had a good lane. I came third in the final. The next race I had was the 200m. I was just in time for the heat as I was waiting for my other medal. I got to the final and came third again. To finish my day I participated in the long jump. I came fourth. I was lucky to get a jump in as I had fouled my first two jumps. I had a great time in Scotland. It was a magnificent experience. I was very proud to come home with my two medals.

**By: Elaine Courtney , 6<sup>th</sup> class**

## Scrooge

On the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2007, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class held their play in the school hall. There was a great turn out.

Our main character Scrooge was played by Áine O'Sullivan, Áine fitted the part perfectly. This play was a tale about a man who was very mean. He was mean because he gave no money to the poor, the carollers, and the charity collectors. But after Scrooge saw his past present and his future by his best friend Jacob Marley and his helpers the past ghost, he finally learned the true meaning of Christmas.

**Cast: Scroogey:** Áine O 'Sullivan. **Future Scroogey:** Michael Lagan., **Past Scroogey:** Áine O'Sullivan, **Future Scroogey:** Michael Lagan, **Past Scroogey:** Siobhán Fleming, **Bob Cracthit:** Emily Treacy, **Tess:** Alison Shaw. **Their Children:** Alicja Korzec, Alastair Burkitt, Lauren O'Connor, Andrea McCarthy and Siobhán Fleming. **Tiny Tim:** Michael Ryan, **Fred:** Conor Murphy, **Mister Bright:** Colin O'Donoghue, **Mister Fortune:** Ryan O'Connor, **Carollers:** Alicja Korzec, Alastair Burkitt, Lauren O'Connor, Andrea McCarthy, Siobhán Fleming. **Michael Ryan, Zoe O'Sullivan and Alison Shaw. Marleys Ghost:** Zoe O'Sullivan, **Past Ghost:** Eimear O'Sullivan, **Present Ghost:** Elaine Courtney, **Future Ghost:** Kar O'Connor. **Teacher:** Katie O'Connor. **Pupils:** Alicja Korzes, Alastair Burkitt, Lauren O'Connor, Michael. **Little Mags:** Andrea McCarthy, **Eldery Mags:** Grace Ryan, **Lady Shopper:** Rebecca Walsh. **Her Husband:** Aoife Allen.

Parents and family who attended both plays donated to €600 to Kerry Cystic Fibrosis, a very worthy cause. We really enjoyed practising for and performing the play. A big thank you to Margaret and Mrs Whitty for their help with make up and costumes.

**By: Lauren O' Connor  
5<sup>th</sup> Class.**





## **Nial Mellon Township Trust.**

In November 2007 1350 men and women mostly Irish went to South Africa with the Niall Mellon township trust, building blitz.

My dad and uncle were two of the group. They went to build houses for the poor of South Africa.

The township was called Freedom Park, in Mitchell Plane which is 40km outside Cape Town.

In this year building blitz they built a total of 203 houses which housed just over 1200 adults and children .This is a very small amount of people in a township which has a population of over 1.1 million.

In order for a family to get one these houses the household must have an income of less than 150 Euro per month.

Before the building blitz started these people lived in shacks of corrugated Iron for walls and black plastic for roofs held down by old tires or blocks.

The people were very nice and friendly and cried with delight when their homes were finished.

I would like go as a volunteer in a few years as I believe this is a great cause.

**By :Colin O' Donoghue 6<sup>th</sup> Class**

## **The Gardaí's Visit**

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2007, the Gardaí to visit the school. Stephen Horgan is the garda who visits our school regularly. They talked to us about Road Safety. They advised us to use the zebra crossing when we are crossing the road, to walk in single file on narrow roads and to watch and listen for traffic. They also told us about cycling safety. We should always wear a helmet, obey lights and signs and also wear reflected clothes. We should never cycle with headphones. We should use the correct hand signal at the right times, keep back from traffic and make sure our bicycles are in working order. After the talk we brought them down to the hall and gave them some cookies. We took some pictures. We learned lots about road safety and look forward to their next visit.

**By: Siobhán Fleming. 5<sup>th</sup> class**

## **The debate in aid of the "Niall Mellon Fund"**

At Halloween 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class held our annual debate. This year it was the first debate in our new hall. We invited our parents and we raised money for the Niall Mellon Fund. We raised over €600 for the Niall Mellon Fund because parents of children in the school were going to South Africa as volunteers, to build houses for poor people.

The motion before the house was "Children today have a hard life". The captain of the opposing team was Alison Shaw. The captain of the proposing team was Áine O' Sullivan. Everyone wrote a speech and had a topic to cover. We had some practices before the day. The adjudicators were Frau Stoef and Mrs. Whitty. The chairperson for the debate was Mrs. O'Sullivan.

Everyone had great points and really enjoyed the first debate in the new hall.

**Áine O'Sullivan, 5<sup>th</sup> Class**

## **Girls skills Competition**

On Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 the Girls' Skills Competition was held at Dr.Crokes pitch. There were three girls representing Loreto N.S. - Lauren O'Connor, Aoife Allen and Eimear O'Sullivan. There were many types of skills like the penalty kick, pick up, solo run, overhead catch and many more. There were 12 teams participating in this event.

Our first test was the Solo Run which we did very well. Our second skill was the hook kick. Our next skills were the overhead catch, the pick up and the fistpass over the bar. Our score was 9/9. Our last skills were the punt kick, the penalty kick and the weak leg over the bar.

We did our best but unfortunately we did not win. It was a great day out and we enjoyed every minute of it. We will try again next year and we will work on our weaknesses.

**By Lauren O'Connor and Aoife Allen 5<sup>th</sup> Class.**

## Skills Competition

On Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2008 Ryan O' Connor, Colin O' Donoghue and Conor Murphy represented Scoil Bhríde Loreto in the East Kerry football Skills competition. There were eight football teams there. First Vince Cooper who organised this exciting competition in Deer park gave us a run through the skills. You could get twenty seven marks in total. We began with the off the ground kick. We all did well. Then we had the hop and solo, the left leg over the bar, the hook kick and the straight kick. We had a very exciting evening, even though we did not rank among the prize winners.

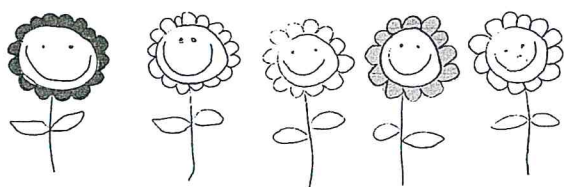
We put in a whole team effort.

**By Ryan O'Connor, 6<sup>th</sup> class.**

## No Uniform Day

This year a campaign to build Ireland's first Children's Hospice is being led by the Laura Lynn Foundation. Jill Barrett and her cousin Louise embarked on Ireland's first all-female driven and longest tractor-run visiting each of the 32 counties. They visited Killarney on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> of April and on that day the children in our school had a no uniform day. Children were invited to contribute €2 (or more) to this worthy cause. We raised €328 which was a terrific amount of money. In the afternoon the tractor called to our school which was a great surprise. First class pupils presented the money from our no uniform day to Jill and Louise. They thanked us and we were very happy because we had helped other children.

**By Alicja Korzec 5<sup>th</sup> class**



## Cloghereen – Blue Pool – Science trip.

On the twenty- second of April 2008 fifth and sixth class visited Blue Pool Cloghereen on a science trip. We were accompanied by Stephanie and Aine from the Streamscapes programme and Mrs O Sullivan. We came well prepared with lunch and wellies. Cloghereen means little stony place and is the old name for the Muckross village. The Blue Pool is situated up the Mangerton road on the left.

Water is essential for survival. We sampled the small invertebrates that live in the Blue Pool to find out how clean the water is. Only worms can live in very polluted water. Emily and Aoife found sticklebacks. We also found minnows, freshwater shrimp, may fly larvae, midge larvae, may flies and caddis fly. We observed the caddis fly cases on a leaf and in the water. We searched under rocks and pools.

Our assessment of how clean the water was, was based on what we found.

**Quality1**-only worms will be found.

**Quality2**-beetles will be found.

**Quality3**-caddisfly will be found.

**Quality4**-mayfly will be found.

**Quality5**-stonefly will be found.

Freshwater shrimp cannot tolerate polluted water. Therefore we deduced that the water was clean –Quality 4. Having observed the creatures in the bug viewer we put them back carefully in the area we found them.

As part of An Taisce Spring Clean Week we collected litter at the picnic area and the entrance to the wood. We felt disgusted when we saw all this litter in our beautiful environment.

When we got back to school we were very wet. We changed our clothes and had a cup of tea to warm up. Stephanie and Aine told us about the food web and the life – cycle of the salmon.

We enjoyed the day and learned more about the importance of protecting our water supply.

**By Alastair Burkitt, 6<sup>th</sup> class.**

## The Primary School Sports

We held our own sports at our school to see who would qualify to run up in Spa. Everyone took part and the first three people in each race qualified for Spa. Then the winning relays in Spa and the first three in every race will go to Castleisland on Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May to represent their school.

We had a great turn out. The first race was the boy's first class. All the boys ran really well. In the final Peter O' Sullivan ran great and came home with the bronze. Next was the girls first class and we had two of our girls in the final. Rachel McCarthy and Emily-Rose McAllen ran excellently in the final but unfortunately were just out of the placings. In the second class race we had Aoife Farrell who came third in the 60m and Cian Gamell who came second in the 100m. Then in the third class boys we had two winners, Billy Courtney in the 200m and David Shaw in the 80m. Both boys ran extremely well. In the fourth class boys Sean O'Brien won with ease and Michael Foley came second in the 200m. In the sixth class races Elaine Courtney came first in the 100m girls and Ryan O'Connor also finished first past the line.

Next were the relays. Loreto did really well. The first class girls were running first. Their team was very strong this year and they won easily. The second class boys competed really well too and they came home with the silver. In the fourth class girls relay they had hard competition but with a strong finish from Aoife O'Donoghue they gained a well earned third place. In the boys relay they had great experience and it showed when they won. Our final relay was the sixth class girls who ran their hearts out but met stronger teams.

I would like to thank Mrs.O'Sullivan, Bríd Ann Cronin, Antoinette O'Sullivan, and Frances O'Sullivan who kindly volunteered to help out. I would also like to thank the members of Spa-Muckcross A.C committee for holding the day.

On Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May all our athletes competed very well. Elaine Courtney came first in the sixth class 100m. Billy Courtney ran in the 3<sup>rd</sup> class 200m boys and came first. David Shaw was in the 100m third class and he won too. These boys were both in a relay along with Sean O'Brien, Michael Foley and Cian Griffin. This team was very strong and came home with well-earned bronze medals. Congratulations to everyone who took part and well done to all the participants.

**By:- Elaine Courtney 6<sup>th</sup> Class.**

### **5<sup>th</sup> Class Girls 11 a-side Football Outing**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2008 the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class girls set off to Kilcummin to play in the girls 11 aside football blitz. We arrived at Kilcummin G.A.A. pitch at approximately 10.15 am.

Our first match was against Kilcummin National School. This was a very exciting game but in the end we won very well. We were all very pleased. The final score was 3-2 to Loreto and 1-2 to Kilcummin. We had a little break. Our second match was against Faha National School. They were a physically stronger team and our strongest competitors. Unfortunately we lost that game and the final score was 0-3 to Loreto and 0-5 to Faha. Then we had a bite to eat.

After a team talk from Mrs. O' Sullivan we then took on the Kilcummin girls again. After beating them quite easily in the first game we were not worried about playing them. It was another easy win as we stormed to victory yet again. At this point everyone was on their game. The forwards were on target. They included Emily Treacy, Rebecca Walsh, Kara O' Connor and Zoe O' Sullivan. Our backs could block anything that came to them. They were Lauren O' Connor, Eimear O' Sullivan, Katie O' Connor and Alison Shaw. Our midfields Aoife Allen and Elaine Courtney were catching every high ball. Our goalie Andrea McCarthy made some spectacular saves and our subs Grace Ryan and Siobhán Fleming proved themselves very useful.

Now we had to take on the challenge of Faha again. We were determined to beat them. We started off perfectly with a quick score from Elaine Courtney. By halftime we were in the lead. In the second half we retained our lead even though Kilcummin made a strong come-back. The final score was Faha 1-2 Loreto 2-4 .

We won the match by three points. Everyone got a chance to play and we had a very enjoyable day. We would just like to thank Mrs. O'Sullivan for training us and for bringing us to the event so soon after the opening.

**By Andrea Mc Carthy, And Emily Treacy 5<sup>th</sup> class .**

### **Focal Buíochas**

Sincere thanks to our teachers, our secretary Margaret, our caretaker Sean, our SNA-Grainne and Rosemarie, the board of management, parents Association and all who have helped in any way with the running of our school over the past year.

In particular we would like to thank Niamh and Marie Cronin for their great help on producing this newsletter

Thanks also to all the parents who Collected SUPERVALU and TESCO tokens and gave them to their children. With these tokens we have ordered P.E. Equipment.

### **Proceeds of our Newsletter**

The proceeds of our school magazine will go to a very good cause the children of Chernobyl. I am sure you have all heard of the nuclear disaster which happened in Chernobyl in April 25th, 1986. Our proceeds will go towards giving the children of Chernobyl , a holiday in Killarney when they arrive to stay with their host families for the month of July.

*Thanks you all for supporting this worthy cause*

## Energy Guzzlers banished from Scoil Bhríde.

The members of the Green schools committee were busy again this year organising activities to promote a sustainable future within the school. In April the school participated in An Taisce's National Spring Clean Campaign. This was a whole school effort. 5th and 6th were assigned to clean up Cloghereen Wood. 3th and 4th picked up litter along the Reservoir road. 2nd and 3rd targeted the litter in Birchfield estate and the Infants and first concentrated on the school grounds. In all, the school collected 15 bags of rubbish during the clean up. Ms. O'Connell was delighted to see that there was very little litter around the school grounds.

Micheál O Coileáin visited our school in March and he was very impressed with the committee's digital-media presentation on Energy.

The School achieved the following Energy targets as part of their Energy Action Plan. Recycling has increased by 25% and recycling saves energy.

Electricity use on Mondays was reduced by 14.3 units.

Daily cost of electricity was reduced by E 4.29.

Staff, teachers & pupils are now implementing energy saving tips at home & school.

Energy efficient lighting system has been installed as a result of the refurbishment & renovations at Scoil Bhríde.

Just less than 50% of children availed of the bus service to Bru Na Páirce, thus reducing the amount of CO2 fuel emissions into atmosphere.

In May, we heard the good news that our application for a new green flag was successful and the whole school were awarded no-homework for one night!

On Wednesday the 28th of May 2008 Sean O'Brien, Conor Murphy and Ms O'Connell went to An Taisce's award ceremony in Cork. Jim Wilson presented them with the Green Schools flag on the day. Everyone is looking forward to the Flag raising ceremony.

Thanks to all the children, teachers, school staff and parents who helped us achieve this flag. A special word of thanks to Sean Kelleher, the school's care taker, for all his hard work and dedication. Thank you Sean. You are a star! Well done everyone and keep up the good work!

**By: Conor Murphy 6th, Sean O'Brien 5th and Billy Courtney 4th Green School Committee members.**

## The Basketball Blitz

Every year for almost twenty five years Breeda O'Donoghue coached the Loreto Basketball team at St. Mary's Parish hall. John Keane joined her later. They trained every Monday 6 until 7 o'clock. Matches were played against Kilcummin, Fossa, the Monsatery and many other local schools.

Scoil Bhríde, Loreto N.S won the final on many occasions. They collected a little money every week for the use of the hall. One year there was some money left over and Breeda joined with Scoil Bhríde in sending a goat to Bóthair with the money.

Both boys and girls played. There was many a hard competition and huge rivalry.

**By: Creagh Courtney Jack O'Connor and Adam O'Shea 4th class.**

## Credit Union Quiz.

On the 27th of January Loreto participated in the Credit Union Quiz. First of all there was a trial in school and the twelve highest scorers were picked for the teams. There were three teams participating for Loreto. David Naughten, John Beecher, Donal O'Sullivan and Niamh O'Sullivan were on the team from Mrs Hickey's room. We did very well as we came 5th. We were the youngest team from our school that participated. Two teams from Mrs. O'Sullivan's class took part. The team from 6th class were Elaine Courtney, Eimear O'Sullivan, Michael Lagan and Alison Shaw. The team from 5th class were Andrea McCarthy, Aine O'Sullivan, Kara O'Connor and Zoe O'Sullivan. They all did well at the Quiz. The quiz was held in the Gleneagle Hotel.

**By: John Beecher 3rd class and David Naughton 4th class.**

## The School Tour

This year's school tour was to Ballyloughran on the 2nd of May 2008. The bus to Ballyloughran left at 8.30am and we arrived at Ballyloughran at 9.30am. On the way we played on the Nintendo D.S., sang songs and talked.

When we arrived we divided into two groups. In one group there was 5th, 6th and some 4th and in the other group there was 3rd and 4th. The leaders of 3rd and 4th were very nice. Their names were Deirdre and Kathy. The leaders of 5th and 6th were also very nice. Their names were Tom and David.

First we did Orienteering and then Archery. Then we took a lunch break for an hour. After, we went swimming and canoeing. Most of the group loved the canoeing. We had fun especially when we jumped into the water. The part I liked best was the Orienteering because it was like a mystery tour and it was lots of fun. The canoeing was definitely the second best thing but I have to say it was all fun. On the way home we were all so tired after the day. We all arrived home safely and had a great day.

## The Mini Sevens Football

On Tuesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of February we all set out in high spirits. We were very proud to be playing in Fitzgerald Stadium. We were also proud to be participating in the Mini-Sevens. We got changed and put on our jerseys.

Our first game was against the Monastery N.S. We had a warm up and we were ready to go up against the Monastery who were in the black and white. We proudly wore our green and white. They were a much stronger team. They were the defending champions as well. They started brightly with some scores. But then Conor scored a magnificent point. With our very young team we had a tremendous work-rate. The Monastery won the competition again this year and we did extremely well against them. The final score was the Monastery 3-1 to Loreto 0-1.

We had our lunch break and got ready for our second game against Faha N.S. They were a good side. It was a tight match and at half time the score was Faha 2-1 to Loreto's 1-0. They didn't score much thanks to our backs Oisín Shannon and Creagh Courtney. In the second half we started well after Adam followed the goal from Conor in the first half with a well taken point. Michael Lagan kept us in the match with some spectacular saves. We pushed for that goal we needed.

Unfortunately we couldn't get it, despite the efforts of Patrick Courtney, Jevon Flaherty, Jack Foley, Jack O'Connor, Cian Griffin, David Naughton and Michael Foley who all impressed. We were left vulnerable at the back and they hit us twice on the break with a goal and a point. The final score was Faha N.S 3-1 Loreto 1-1.

We did very well and enjoyed the experience. The panel was Michael Lagan, Oisín Shannon, Creagh Courtney, Conor Murphy (CAPT) Michael Foley, Adam O'Shea, David Naughtan, Patrick Courtney, Jevon Flaherty and Cian Griffin. There were 19 teams participating and enjoying the experience. Everyone played very well and did a great job. We would like to thank Mrs O'Sullivan for managing us. We would also like to thank the parents who came to support and gave us drives. The whole team behaved very well and Mrs O'Sullivan was very proud of us.

**By: Conor Murphy and Michael Lagan  
6<sup>th</sup> class.**

## Singing for Cardinal Seán Brady and 1000 delegates at The I.P.P.N. Conference.

Killarney hosted the I.P.P.N. (Irish Primary Principals Network) in the I.N.E.C at the end of January. A choir of children from local schools performed at the opening of this conference.

Our school was invited to attend. Lauren O'Connor, Andrea McCarthy and I volunteered. This gave us an opportunity to perform for an audience of over 1000 delegates including our new Cardinal Seán Brady.

Mr. Pádraig McIntyre directed this choir. The songs we sang were "Doe a deer", "God help the Outcasts", and "I believe in springtime". We were delighted to represent the school on such an important occasion.

**By: Eimear O'Sullivan,**

## FAI School Soccer Tournament

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> of April, fifth and sixth class left Loreto to go to an FAI School Soccer Competition at Celtic pitch. The mixed team included Kara O'Connor, Ryan O'Connor, Siobhan Fleming, Conor Murphy, Michael Ryan, Aine O'Sullivan, Michael Lagan and Emily Treacy. Colin O'Donoghue was assistant manager on the day.

For our first match we were playing Scoil Eoin from Sneem. Michael Ryan scored a hat trick and Conor Murphy scored a cracking two goals. Michael Lagan made some spectacular saves. Ryan O'Connor scored a goal running the length of the pitch. In the end we won 6 goals to 2.

We were less fortunate in our second game. We were playing Two Mile. The game ended 5-3 in favour of Two Mile. We were a little despondent, but were looking forward to the challenge of our third game.

In our next match we took on Knockanes N.S. This was a very tight game. Knockanes started brightly with a goal from a corner headed by Fionnán O'Donoghue. Under the encouragement of our assistant manager, Colin O'Donoghue, we rallied with a goal scored by Conor Murphy. Tensions were high as he managed to score again. However our pocket rocket Michael Ryan burst through to score and this score equalised the game.

With only minutes to go, Conor Murphy then foiled the opposition to put us in the lead again. Great work by Ryan O'Connor, Kara O'Connor, Emily Treacy, Aine O'Sullivan, Siobhán Fleming ensured that we maintained our lead to secure victory. We were thrilled with the result and went home happy.

**By Emily Treacy 5<sup>th</sup> class & Michael Ryan 6<sup>th</sup> class.**

## Visit from Loreto Sister

Sr. Kathleen Mc Glennan, a Loreto nun, originally from Letterkenny visited our school on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> of December to tell us all about the Loreto missions. She thanked us for the money we send every year from our Easter raffle to our twin school in Jicamarca



in Peru. She explained the history of the Loreto Order I.B.V.M. - Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was founded by an English

woman Mary Ward (1853-1645). Frances Teresa Ball from Dublin was educated by the I.B.V.M. in England, and later trained there to join the order. The bishop of Dublin asked her to come back as a nun and set up schools for girls in Ireland. When she finished training she came back to Rathfarnham. It was a boarding school and a day school.

A priest from the centre of Dublin asked the Loreto Sister to build schools all over Ireland. They wanted to build schools in Letterkenny, Navan, Gorey, Kilkenny, Clonmel, Youghal, Balbriggan and Killarney. Unfortunately Frances Teresa Ball died before the school in Killarney was finished.

In the year 1837, two priests from India came to the Loreto Sisters and asked would they build schools in India. Sr. Frances Teresa Ball didn't want to ask the other sisters to leave Ireland and the priests said she didn't care. Frances said she'd ask the nuns who wanted to go and told the priests to come back in a few days or so. Frances gathered the nuns together and said "Step forward if you would like to go to India and build schools for poor girls who have no education". All the nuns volunteered to go to India. Seven weeks later, seven nuns left Ireland never to return again. They set off on a boat to India. After a while the sisters opened a boarding-school and a day school. An Irish nun is now the Principal there. Now there are dozens of schools in India. So many mothers dropped their children at the schools, the nuns started an orphanage and called it "Entally". Priests also came from Sudan asking would the nuns build schools for girls in Sudan. Sudan is the biggest and poorest country in Africa. In Sudan the temperature is never less than 36 degrees. All the children have to shave off their hair because it's too hot and they can't keep it clean. People and animals need sun cream because their skin would burn. In Sudan, children live not only in poverty but in fear. War has been going on in Sudan for the past 21 years. Every night bombs are dropped and people's lives destroyed. In school, the children sit on stone benches and have no pencils and paper.

People live in thatched houses. The average age to die in Sudan is 48. In Ireland it's 84. 85% of men are illiterate and 95% of women are illiterate. 25% of children attend school and only 3/10 finish primary school.

In Kenya, the nuns have built a school and a Kerry nun is the principal. In Kenya, it rains only once or twice a year. Crops don't grow very well but men come to the school with rice, flour and oil. This happens four or five times a year. All the milk goes to the children under 5 years of age. In Kenya the children are happy and their clothes are colourful.

After the visit from Sr. Kathleen we now realise so many people are living in poverty. We should feel so lucky that we have a family, food, a home and such a peaceful life. Sometimes we take what we have for granted.

I would just like to say thank you to Sr. Kathleen for coming. We will continue to support our friends in our twin school in Jicamarca.

**By Rebecca Walsh,  
6<sup>th</sup> Class**

## German and French Plays

On Wednesday the 18th of June 5<sup>th</sup> class will perform a German Play. The play is called "Der Wolf und die Hexe", which means "The Wolf and the Witch". Frau Stoeff, our German teacher has organised this play with hairstyles, make-up, wardrobe and a backdrop.

Kara, Katie and Andrea are her assistants. We are very busy learning our lines and organizing costumes. We are looking forward to the day and we hope that all goes well.

### Cast

Wolf- Aine O' Sullivan

Hoppel- Siobhan Fleming

Kra Kra- Eimear O' Sullivan

Hexe- Alicja Korzec

Kasperl- Aoife Allen

Narrator- Emily Treacy

Magic Tree- Lauren O' Connor

Costumes Mistresses- Andrea Mc'Carthy, Kara O' Connor

and Katie O' Connor

The 6<sup>th</sup> class will perform a French play on the same day.

**By Eimear O' Sullivan and Lauren O'Connor**

## Scoil Naomh Gertrude

In 1869 Scoil Namoh Gertrude was built by the Loreto nuns. It was a two room school. It was this school that Mrs. Moynihan attended. Mrs Hickey taught there and so did Mrs. Kissane. Later on a kitchen was built. A fire occurred and the building had to be rebuilt. The children went to school under the palm trees and later in the Gleneagle Hotel during the rebuilding.



In the church on the morning of my First Holy Communion I read a prayer of the faithful and I brought up the Book of the Sick at the offertory procession. Later in the day we had a great big party at home with a bouncing castle. I got really tired of all the photos but I still had a brilliant day!

By: *Lorcan Mc Monagle*

My Special Day was definitely my First Holy Communion Day. I introduced the theme before mass and I sang "My Shepherd is the Lord" at the responsorial psalm. Afterwards my family, friends and I went to the Killarney Park to celebrate and later we continued our party at home. I had a great day!

By: *Abigail O'Donoghue*

When I arrived at Muckross church, many of my friends were there. We chatted for a while until Mrs Foley called us outside to begin our procession with our bouquet for Jesus. We said lots of prayers. I read a commentary at the offertory procession and I also sang the responsorial psalm. My favourite hymn was "Go in Peace". I had the best day ever!

By: *Darren Mulcahy*

My First Holy Communion was a very special day in my life. I read the introduction and welcomed everybody to our celebration. I dressed the altar with the white cloth. I received Jesus for the first time. We said many prayers. I loved the hymn "Go Now In Peace". I had a great day!

By: *Aoife Farrell*

At my First Holy Communion I brought up the white cloth at the dressing of the altar with Aoife. Afterwards we had a big party at my house with my cousins and friends. The bouncing castle was great fun!

By: *Sean Courtney*

My First Holy Communion was one of the best days of my life. Our mass was beautiful. I read the story of Jarius' Daughter 'Abigail' and I sang the responsorial psalm. My favourite part of the mass was when we processed up the aisle and made a bouquet for Jesus. After mass we had had some photos taken. I smiled so much my mouth hurt! We had some refreshments at school and then I went home and had a big party. I felt very special.

By: *Niamh Randles*

I really liked my First Holy Communion Day. It was great from the very beginning! I had two very special jobs to do in the church. We had a party afterwards. I wish I could do it all again!

By: *Harry Allen*

My First Holy Communion was great! I had a lovely time in the church. I read a prayer of the faithful and I brought up a candle at the offertory procession. I loved the bouncy castle. I got lots of presents and I had great fun.

By: *Natalia Kennedy*

I was very excited on the morning of my First Holy Communion. I got dressed in my new clothes and I went to the church with my family. I read a prayer of the faithful and I brought up the wheat at the offertory procession. After we received Communion we were all very happy. We had a great party and I played soccer with my cousins.

By: *Kevin Lavery*

My first special day was the day I made my First Confession. We told the story of 'The Lost Sheep'. We had great fun! My other special day was the day I received Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time. I told the story of Jarius' daughter and I sang the responsorial psalm. It was a great day! I had a big party. It was lovely.

By: *Ciara Carroll*

My most special day was the day of my First Holy Communion. At mass I read a prayer of the faithful for our parents and friends. I also sang the responsorial psalm. We had great fun. I had a big party and stayed up late that night.

By: *Oran Flaherty*

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My favourite thing about school this year was our opening because there was a chance to show other people what we can do. By we had fun singing. by Emily-Rose Allen

The best thing about first class was the opening day. It was fun. We had a party. We played soccer. I brought up the gifts. by David Culloty

The Best thing about 1st class was my school tour. I loved going bowling because it was fun, and the aquarium was very very nice. by fergal

The best thing about 1st class was the school opening. Because there was a party and music. At break I played with my friends Aisling and Emily-Rose. I had fun. by Eve O'Donoghue

2008

the best thing about First Class for me was our school tour because we went bowling. It was fun. by lawna mulcahy

The best thing about first class was our school tour. It was fun. We went to an aquarium and went bowling. by Rachel McCarthy

The best thing about First class was the school tour because of all the fish. I saw a shark. by Daniel Lucey

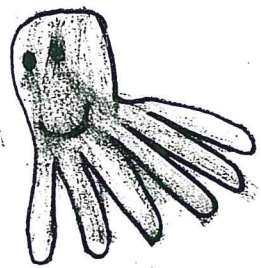
# First Class

The best thing about first class was the day we had our school opening. We all played outside. My Dad played some music and my mom sang. Oisín O'Connor

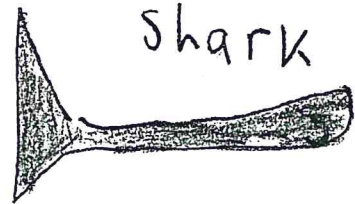
Bowling



Aquarium



Shark



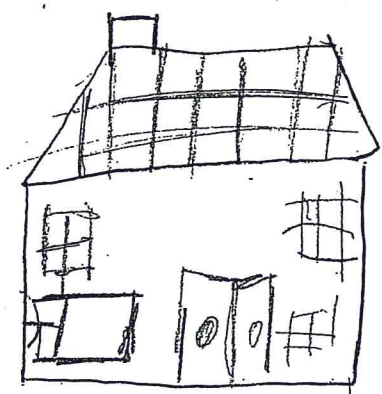
## School tour 2008

The best thing about first class for me was the school opening day. we had sweets. we sang. My Mom was there. Liam Connor played the accordion. Garyl

The school opening. Lorcto's school opening was in May the 30th. on Friday the bishop came and all the mom's and Dads came. we had a great day. We all loved it. Aisling Doyle

# Opening Ceremony

The best day ever was in school. It was the school opening because it was the best day. all parents were there and the bishop was there. when they cut the ribbon every one clapped. by Jack Ryan.



by Maria Donoghue  
The best thing about 1st class was going to pingle. I loved it because we had the best time ever.

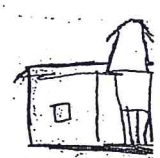
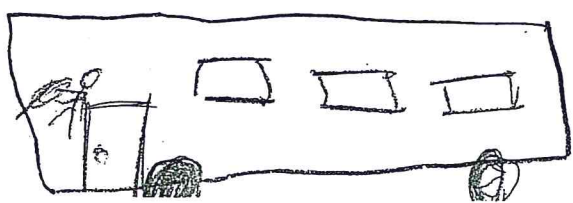
The best thing about first class was the school opening. The bishop was there and and the bishop cut the ribbon. By Peter Sullivan

★ The best thing about first class for me was our school tour. We went to the Aquarium. I saw Piranas and Sharks. And we went bowling. BY KATE O'CONNOR.

The best thing about my school was the school tour. we had fun. we went to the aquarium. We got to see piranas and sharks, then we went bowling I got a strike. Kevin said "Well done." By Tristan O' Donoghue

Year 2008  
the best thing about first class for me was our school trip. Because we went bowling I got 4 strikes and I had lots and lots of fun.

By Kate Gracey  
The best thing about First class for me was our school tour because we went to the bowling all eye I got a strike and two spars by Donall Lucey.  
The best thing in First Class was our school tour and the school opening we all had fun. By Conor Lucey



Len

Owen

William

Jen

Paudie

Caolinn

Niamh

Lawrence

Filip

**J**unior **I**nfants

Aoife

Ailbhe

Brogan

Jack

Saidbh

Ryan

Chloe

Treasa

pa n nagh

**J**unior

**I**nfants

# *The teacher's poem*

## Great Expectations

It's time to say good-bye,

our year has come to an end.  
I've made more cherished memories  
and many more new friends.

I've watched your child learn and grow  
and change from day to day.  
I hope that all the things we've done  
Have helped in some small way.

So it's with happy memories  
I send them out the door.  
With great hope and expectations,  
for what next year holds in store.

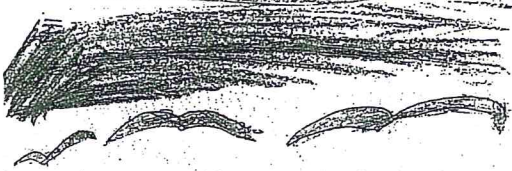


My name is Ritth.

I am 6 years old.

I like p.e and running.

I like swimming.



my name is Donald

I am 6 years old my

favourite sport is golf I have

1 brother my favourite food is

chocolate.



my name is Thomas.

I am six years old.

my favourite sports are  
football and golf.

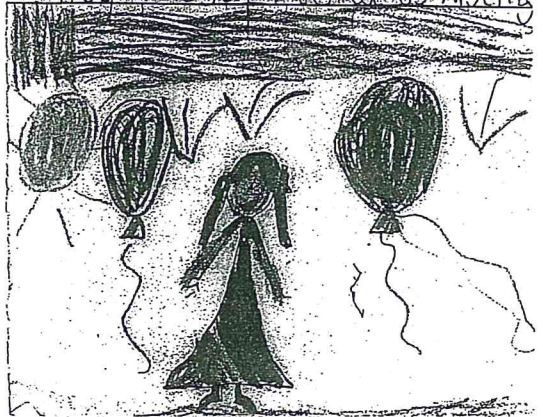
my name is

Margaret. I am 7 years

old. my favourite

sport is cycling.

my best friend is Aisling



my name is Emily

I am six years old

my two favourite sports are

swimming and running.

my two best friends are

Olivia and Rutho



my name is Zena.

I am six.

my favourite sport is

football.

S  
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Q What is a cat's favourite colour?

Ans: Purr -ple!

by Aisling Coghlan  
(6)

Knock! Knock!

Who's there?

Banana

Banana who?

Banana don't eat me!

by Brooke  
O'Connor  
(6)

Knock! Knock!

Who's there?

Isobel!

Isobel who?

Isobel! Your best friend!!

by Isobel  
McAllen (5)

Q What kind of bee hums

and drops things?

Ans: A FUMBLE Bee!

by Aisling  
Reidy

Q What did one pencil

say to the other?

Ans: You are looking

SHARP!

by Ciara Randle  
(6)

Q: What do you call a

Cow having a barbecue?

Ans: A barbe MOO!

by Aine O'Connor  
(6)

## SENIOR INFANTS JOKES

2008

Two bags of taytos were walking  
Down the road.

A man stopped and asked them,

"Would you like a lift?"

"No thanks!" said the taytos.

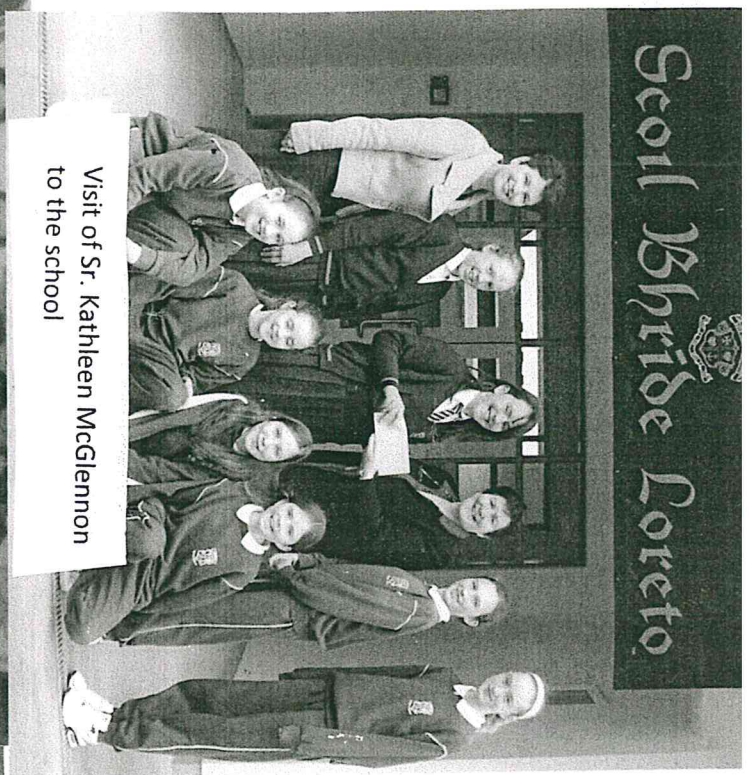
"We're WALKERS !!"

by Fimear Beazley

(6)



Streamscapes River Trip



Visit of Sr. Kathleen McGlennon to the school



Operation Christmas Child donations



Junior Christmas Play "A present for the baby."



Dan Kelleher Manager of the Muckross Estate who coached football teams and organised the annual Football Blitz in years gone by with some of his footballers.





Senior Football Team: Michael Ryan, Conor Murphy, Michael Foley, Adam O'Shea, Michael Lagan, Zoe O'Sullivan, Rebecca Walsh and Oisín Shannon. Katie O'Connor, Kara O'Connor, Emily Treacy, Andrea McCarthy, Colin O'Donoghue, Ryan O'Connor, Alison Shaw, Elaine Courtney, Eimear O'Sullivan, Creagh Courtney.



Community Games Art Winners John Beecher, Ruth Courtney, Laura O'Sullivan, Kara Carroll, Aoife Farrell, Fergal Murphy and Seán Courtney.



Visit to Killleggy Graveyard and Muckross Abbey.



Enjoying the Gathering.



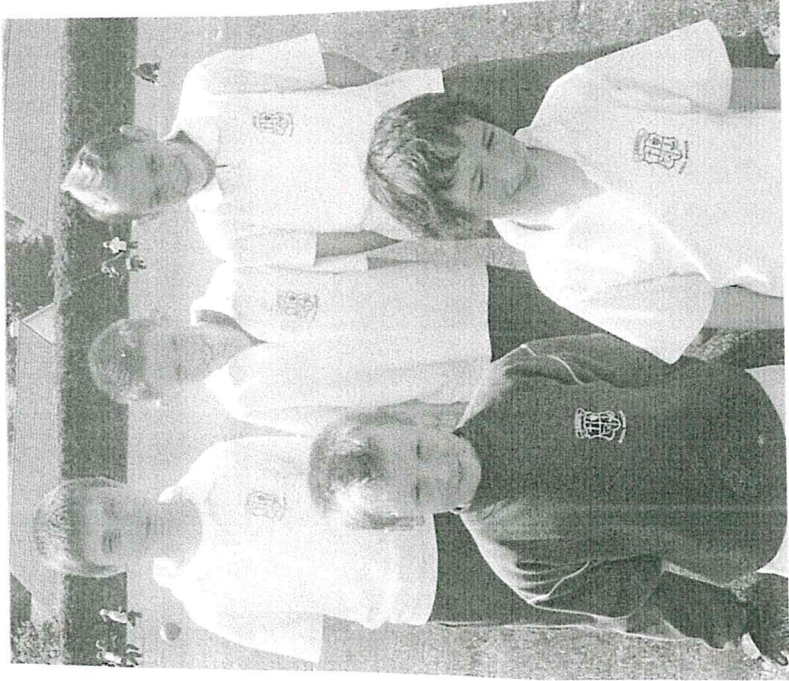
**Boys Mini Sevens '08**

Jack Foley, David Naughton, Jack O'Connor  
Michael Lagan, Michael Foley, Cian Griffin.  
Oisín Shanon, Patrick Courtney, Adam O'Shea,  
Conor Murphy, Jevon Flaherty and Creagh Courtney.



**Soccer mixed Team '08**

Zoe O'Sullivan, Áine O'Sullivan, Michael Lagan,  
Andrea McCarthy, Michael Ryan, Conor Murphy  
Rebecca Walsh.  
Colin O'Donoghue, Kara O'Connor,  
Lauren O'Connor, Eimear O'Sullivan, Aoife Allen,  
Katie O'Connor, Emily Treacy, Siobhán Fleming,  
Ryan O'Connor and Elaine Courtney.



**Boys 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class relay team**

Who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the finals in Castleisland  
Billy Courtney, Seán O'Brien, David Shaw  
Cian Griffin and Michael Foley



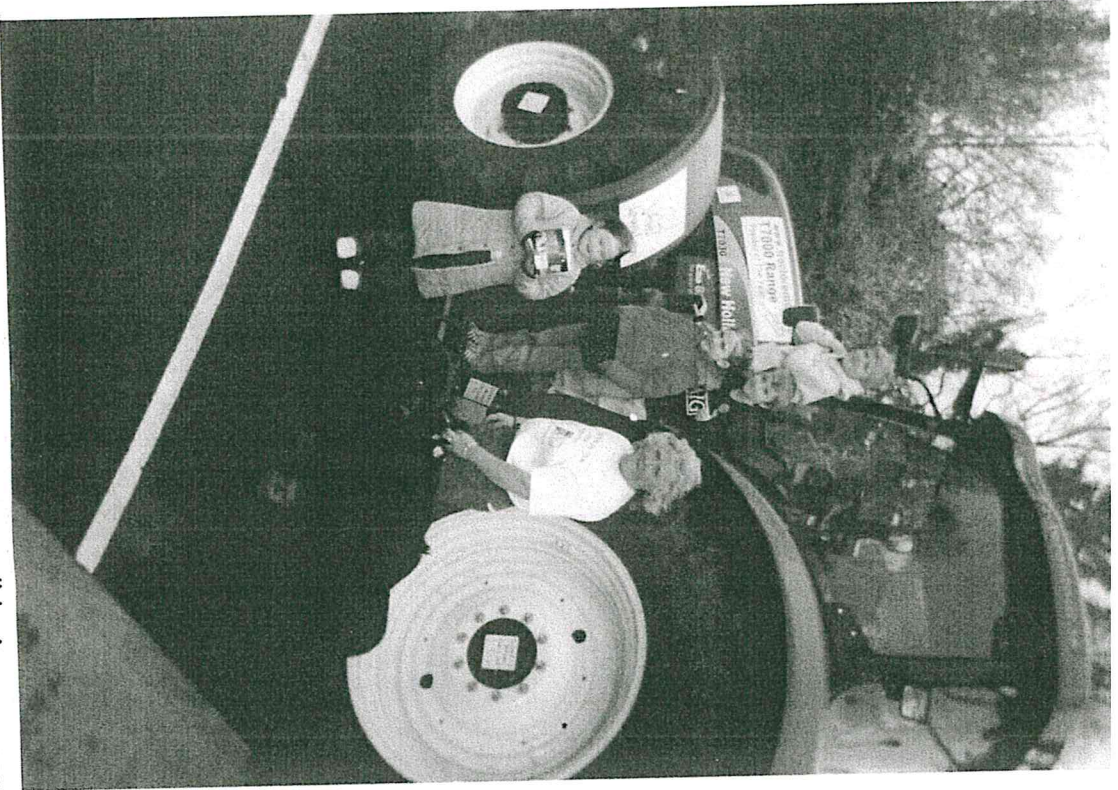
**Girls Skill team '08**

Aoife Allen Eimear O'Sullivan  
And Lauren O'Connor.



**Boys skills team '08**

Colin O'Donoghue, Conor Murphy  
And Ryan O'Connor.



Proceeds from our "No Uniform Day" being presented to representatives of the Laura Lynn Foundation.



Senior School Tour '08.

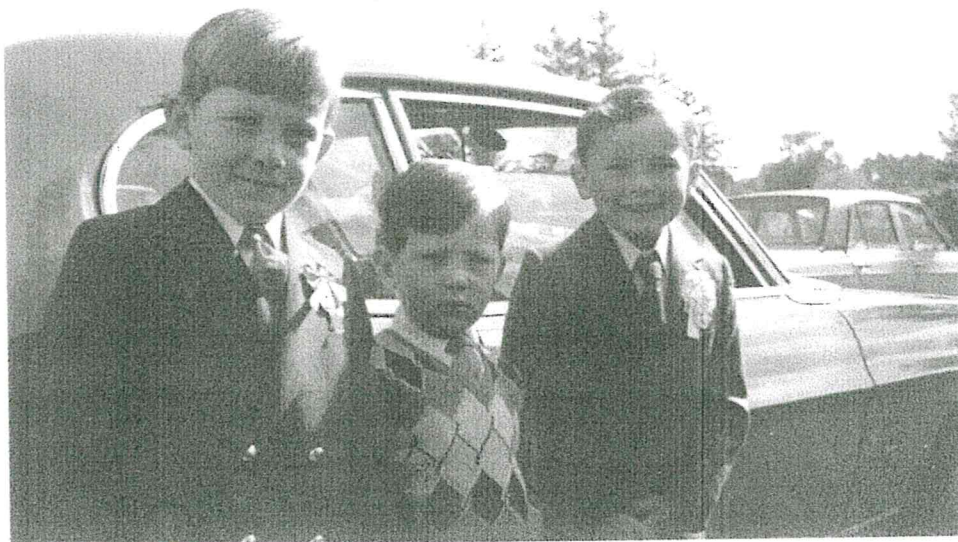


# Memory Lane

## Communion Days.



Communion photos taken on the flat roof of the convent with magnificent views



Con Lucey

Denis Lucey  
1973/74

JOHN BEAZLEY



**Easter Raffle winners:** Aoife Farrell, Aoife O'Donoghue, Cian Griffin and Cian Gammell. Also in photo St. Pauline Boyle and Mrs. Hickey.



**The sixth class annual Gap Trip**  
 Michael Lagan, Alastair Burkitt, Ryan O'Connor, Conor Muphy, Michael Ryan, Colin O'Donoghue, Zoe O'Sullivan, Rebecca Walsh, Alison Shaw and Grace Ryan.



**The cast of the Senior Christmas Play Scrooge**



**Green Flag**  
 Ms O'Connell, Conor Murphy and Seán O'Brien collects the school 2<sup>nd</sup> Green flag. Also in picture are Jim Wilson (wild life photographer and Broadcaster) Micheál Ó Colleáin (K.C.C. Environmental Officer) and the school staff.



**Scoil Bhride, Loreto, National School team who participated in the East Kerry Mini Sevens with Mary O'Sullivan at Fitzgerald Stadium, Kiharney, on Wednesday.**



**Credit Union Quiz Participants:**

**Siobhán Fleming, Eimear O'Sullivan, Michael Lagan, Dónal O'Sullivan, Kara O'Connor, Elaine Courtney, David Naughton, John Beecher, Níamh O'Sullivan, Andrea McCarthy, Áine O'Sullivan and Katie O'Connor.**



**Gardaí visit the school.**



**Elaine Courtney who participated in the Scottish Indoor Championships.**



**Proceeds of debate are presented to Shelia Donoghue for the Niall Mellon Fund.**