

First Year students from MCS win six major Awards at SciFest

Budding young Scientists from MCS were well rewarded at the recent SciFest Competition at the AIT, winning six major awards, including Runner-up overall.

Darragh Owens and Paul Kelly compared the effect on the bounce of a football when filled with Helium as opposed to filled with Air in *The Big Bounce Theory*. They recorded the bouncing ball in both cases and used Data Logging Software to track the ball on their movie and measure the height of each bounce. The two energetic students enthralled the judges with their enthusiasm for the project, winning first place in the Physical Science, Junior Group category. They also won the Discover Sensors Award which included a Teacher Award for Ms. Margaret Mandal.

Corrin Foley and his team of *Atom Explorers*, Eoin Heavin and Jacob Fannin won the Pharmaceutical Award, as well as third place in their category. They explored the structure of atoms and the Periodic Table. They made models of atoms with polystyrene balls and toothpicks showing the protons, neutrons and



SciFest Discover Sensors Award Moate Community School.

electrons. These models were used in their First Year class to help the students learn about atoms.

Thomas Maguire won runner-up in the overall SciFest @ AIT competition for his project *'Home Heating from Household Waste'*.

He investigated using fruit and vegetable waste

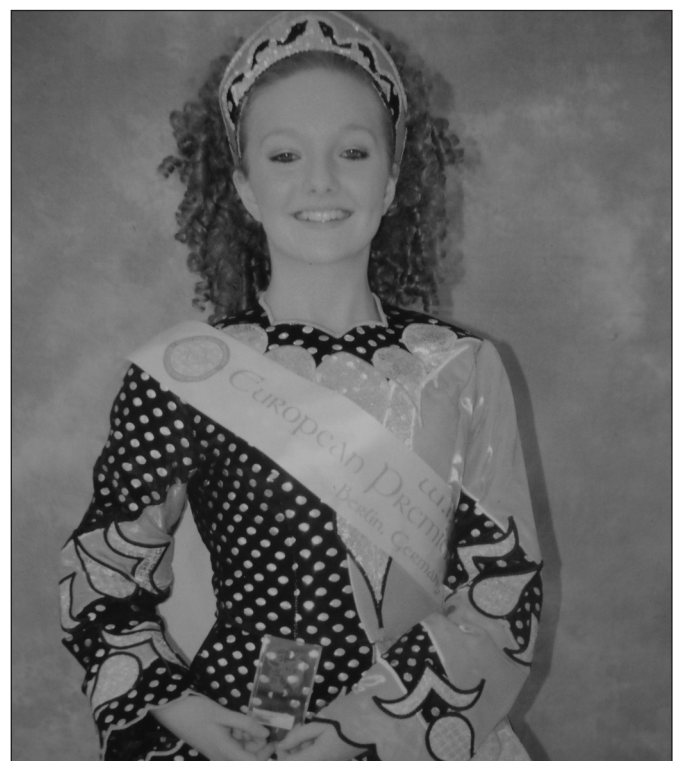
as a source of ethanol which could then be used as an energy source in place of kerosene.

The students put in many hours of hard work in the weeks prior to the competition, supported by their teachers Ms. Margaret Mandal and Ms. Irene O'Sullivan. Well done to all involved.

Niamh Glynn

European Intermediate Champion

On Saturday 23rd April 2011 Niamh Glynn (pictured right), a TY student became *European Intermediate Champion Under 20* in Berlin at the World Irish Dance Association (WIDA) European and World Championships. This was the first time she had competed at this level, beating strong competition from Russia, Germany, Belarus, the UK and the Netherlands. Niamh also competed with her school of dance, Kevin Lyster School of Dance, in group competitions, where they picked up two second place prizes in the World Championships. Niamh has now qualified to dance in the World Championships next year. Well done Niamh!



IRISH MUSIC SUCCESS FOR MARTHA AND BERNADETTE

Congratulations to Martha Finnerty and Bernadette Moran for their performances in the Offaly Fleadh which took place on 7th and 8th of May. Martha took first place in the 15-18 Bodhrán and will go on to compete in the Leinster Final in Portlaoise in July. Bernadette came first in the over 18 slow airs tin whistle competition and second place in the normal whistle over 18. Well done girls and best of luck in the Leinster Final in July.

TY STUDENTS THRILLED WITH LONDON TRIP

TY students of MCS travelled to London for their annual foreign trip on Monday the 2nd of May. The students departed from the school at 5am, with 3 members of staff, Mr I Hatton, Ms L Buggy and Ms F Bracken. Students spent a few hours on London's famous Oxford Street and then visited Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abbey which of course were buzzing with activity after the famous Royal Wedding. Other famous sights on the agenda were Downing Street, The Tower Bridge and of course Big Ben. Many other attractions were seen on route such as The London Eye, the famous Memorial of the Great Fire of London and the House of Parliament.

On day two the group travelled to Madame Tussauds Wax Museum in central London. The students were overwhelmed with how alike the wax figures looked to some of the world's most famous celebrities both past and present. It was now or never for the girls to get their photos taken with Justin Bieber and for the boys to be seen alongside Cheryl Cole. Some of the students were offered the chance to sing in their very own XFactor audition in front of the panel of on-screen judges. Next it was off to Westfield Shopping Centre where students were lucky enough to catch a glimpse of Robert Pattinson and Reese Witherspoon at the Premiere of their latest



movie *Water for Elephants*. After a few hours shopping the group enjoyed the West End Show *Dirty Dancing*.

Wednesday was the final day of the trip and the group enjoyed a visit to Thorpe Park. Thorpe Park is one of the biggest theme parks in Europe and the group could not wait to get on the rollercoaster's and rides spread all over the theme park. One of the tallest rollercoasters in Europe, *Stealth*, didn't faze many of the students, however some decided it was just too much! Many thanks to those who organised this great trip.



Transition Year group enjoying London trip.

MCS WELCOMES KENYAN VISITORS

The link formed between MCS and Moi Sorget Secondary School in Kenya was further strengthened with the visit of the principal and deputy principal John and Kennedy of the Kenyan School on April 6th. The Kenyan teachers had a very busy week and a half in Ireland including a tour of our school and classroom visits, bowling in Athlone, Gaelic football, the river Shannon, horse riding, a farm visit, a cinema trip, dinners provided in the homes of various staff members, a visit to Clonmacnoise and a meeting with the Board of Management. The visiting teachers along with Ms Lawlor and Mr Hatton also attended a conference in the Aisling Hotel, Dublin, hosted by World Wise entitled *'Looking to the Future'*. The conference was attended by many Irish teachers from schools all over the country. Nessa, Iain, John and Kennedy took part in a number of workshops on development education, engaged in a question and answer session and Iain and Nessa gave a presentation on the progress of the link. MCS students also took part in a Friends of Londiani forum in Mountrath Community School. Students and teachers from Killanarden Community School, Mountrath and MCS along with their respective visiting teachers took part in the event where the students facilitated workshops for each other, everyone enjoyed an African drumming session and the Ambassador of Kenya spoke to all present.

Friday the 15th was John and Kennedy's last day in MCS. A gala ceremony of song, dance, the occasional speech and gift sharing took place. Following a short introductory speech by Mr Duffy, the MCS choir displayed their talents. Beautiful renditions of songs like *Let it Be*, *Alleluia*, *Say a Little Prayer* and *The Lion Sleeps Tonight* were enjoyed by all present.

The MCS Trad group performed a number of jigs, hornpipes, polkas and reels. Thomas Pettit performed The Brush Dance and Niamh Glynn and Lorna McLoughlin danced a reel. Finally eight students performed a set dancing arrangement.

Jamie Madden, on behalf of the student body presented a handmade Celtic cross, made by Transition Year student Daniel Hiney, to John and Kennedy to bring back to their students. The last words of the day were left to the guests who spoke of their joy at this link which has already brought about great interaction between our two student bodies.

MCS ATHLETICS

On Thursday 14th April a group of MCS students accompanied by Ms Seoige travelled to Galway to compete in the South Connaught Athletics Qualifiers. The competitions began with the 100m and 200m sprints, with Jason Kelly, Kevin Booth, Conor Sheridan, Boidu Sayeh and Caoimhe Kelly taking part. Excellent performances by Caoimhe in both races earned her a place in the Connaught Finals. However, despite tremendous effort, the others fell short of victory.

The 800m and 1500m races saw Sean Sheridan, Sarah Maguire, Kevin Cuffe, Ellen O'Meara, Niamh Pettit, Thomas Fagan and Dwayne Farrell fighting for their place in the finals which will be held in the Athlone Institution of Technology. Thomas and Sarah succeeded in getting through to the next level. Meanwhile Owen Concannon represented Moate in the shot putt competition.

Patrick Heffernan, Joe Kinahan, Boidu Sayeh and Louie Duffy formed the relay team, which, unfortunately on the day, fell one place short of qualifying for the next round. Heffernan however, ran a fantastic race in the 100m hurdles thus qualifying. Robbie Gorman jumped his way to success as he came third in the high jump, securing himself a position in the Connaught finals. Well done to all who participated and good luck to those competing in the AIT!

MCS Awards Night 2011

The Annual Awards Night took place on 12th of May in the school gym. This is an eagerly awaited night on our school calendar where the endeavours and achievements of our students are rewarded and recognised. Marty Morrissey was the special guest on the night and his witty and down to earth speech enthralled all present. The following are the awards:

SPECIALISED AWARDS

Student Enterprise Awards: Gary Mullins, Cathal Slevin, Darren Hynds, Gary Egan, Emer Redmond, Joanne Murray.

GAISCE AWARDS

Silver recipients: Dervla Murray, Michael Melly, Aaron Molloy, Jill Shortall, Darren Keenan, John McHugh Dolan and John McManus

Bronze recipients: Bill Horan, Shaunagh O'Flaherty, Roisin Smyth, Arlene Coughlan, Edel Daly, Thomas Fagan, Áine Haney and Celine Holloway.

FIFTH YEAR PREFECT AWARDS

YOUNG SOCIAL INNOVATORS

Best Leaving Certificate Result 2010: Nicole Guinan, Shane Byrne

Best Junior Result 2010: Rachel Dunning

Sci-Fest Awards: Thomas Maguire, Darragh Owens, Paul Kelly, Corrin Foley, Eoin Heavin, Jacob Fannin

Young Scientist Award: Oisín Foley

Eason's Journalism Award: Peter Cunningham

Stars in your Eyes

Irish Traditional Group

TEACHER AWARDS

ECDL Award: Aoife Halligan

Kenya Project Award: Iain Hatton

SPECIALISED DEPARTMENT AWARDS

ART

John Galvin Junior Art Student of the Year: Fianadh Bracken

John Galvin Senior Student of the Year: Eilish Birmingham

SCIENCE

Junior Science Student of the Year: Louise Newman

Biology Student of the Year: Shaunagh O'Flaherty

Chemistry Student of the Year: David Concannon

Physics Student of the Year: Thomas Fagan

Ag. Science Student of the Year: Michael Martin

MATHS - Junior Student of the Year: Sorcha Galvin

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

Tony Parker Memorial Woodwork Student of the Year: Conor Dolan

Senior Construction Student of the Year: John Eagney

DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS

Student of the Year: Jack O'Meara

ENGINEERING

Junior Metalwork Student of the Year: Simon Geoghegan

Senior Engineering Student of the Year: John Maguire

MUSIC

Junior Student of the Year: Deirdre Higgins

Senior Student of the Year: Adrian Rabbitte

Cultural Award: Eugenia Juarez

HOME ECONOMICS

Junior Student of the Year: Ellen Sheridan

Senior Student of the Year: Emer Fox

ACCOUNTANCY

Nick Linnane Senior Accountancy: Bill Horan

SKILLNET BUSINESS AWARD

Senior Business Student of the Year: Olga Moran

ENGLISH

Junior Student of the Year: Frances Cunningham

News 4 U Literary Award: Margaret Malarney

IRISH - Student of the Year: Robert Duffy

SPANISH - Student of the Year: Dervla Murray

GERMAN - Student of the Year: Colm Casey

FRENCH - Student of the Year: Áine Haney

SPORTS AWARDS

Moate CS U-16 Boys GAA

U16 Leinster B runner-up medals (Ladies)

Cochrane's Junior Sportsman of the Year: Theo Watts

Harten's Junior Sportsman of the Year: Lorna Henson

Marie's Senior Sportsman of the Year: Ashling Warburton

Auld Shebeen Senior Sportsman of the Year: John Maguire

STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2010/2011

First Year Students of the Year: Lisa King and Cathal Slevin

Second Year Students of the Year: Emma Kirwan and Nigel Flanagan

Third Year Students of the Year: Grace Kelly and Eoghan Doyle

Transition Year Students of the Year: Amy Redmond, Christine Warburton, Keith Monaghan

Fifth Year Students of the Year: John McManus, Emma Buckley

SIXTH YEAR 2010/2011

Contribution to Mentoring: Sarah Malynn, Bill Horan, Robert Watson, Fiona Boland, Paula Martin

Contribution to Student Council: Adam Cunningham, Paulina Miskiewicz

Excellent Attendance Award: Jack O'Meara, Colm Casey

Pastoral Contribution Award: Amy Ballesty, Richard Dooner

Personal Achievement Award: Sheila Reilly, Conor Barrett

St. Brigid's Credit Union Award: Áine Haney, Emer Fox

MCS Outstanding Contribution: Colm Casey, Eanya Tone

Fr. McGrath Gold Medal: Jack O'Meara, Shaunagh O'Flaherty

Fr. Hipwell Memorial Award: Cathy Fox, Thomas Duffy

Bank of Ireland Student of the Year: Robert Duffy, Amie O'Connor

MCS Student of the Year Award: Dervla Murray, Thomas Fagan



Fidelma Nolan and Tom Lowry present the Senior Home Economics Student of the Year Award to Emer Fox.



Moate Community Sixth Year Students of the Year for 2011, Dervla Murray and Thomas Fagan are presented with their prestigious awards by Marty Morrissey and Tom Lowry.



Guest Speaker, RTÉ's Marty Morrissey presents the Personal Achievement Award to Sheila Reilly.

Junk Kouture

This year the TY art students were very fortunate that a new Competition called Junk Kouture was introduced.

Students were asked to create wearable art and outrageous couture dresses and outfits, rework trash and already used materials that are beyond their intended purpose and create them into remarkable high end couture fashion.

Students worked in groups of three and soon nine creations were emerging, materials such as old net curtains, wallpaper, plastic bottles, bread wrappers, waste paper, crisp bags, scrap wool and capri sun pouches were used.

Dresses were completed by early January and entered in the competition with all nine dresses from Moate getting through to the regional heats in the Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone on Sunday 27th of March.

With 60 costumes at the heats in Athlone and only fifteen places available we were delighted to get three through to the Final in Dublin. They were *Crisp Cracker* made by Una Costello and Chloe Handy, who also modelled the dress. This dress was made entirely from waste crisp bags. *Origami Girl*, made from waste paper donated by a printing company and made by Elaine Dunning, Aishling O'Neill and Emily O'Connor who also modelled the dress. Our last costume was *Capri-Sun* made from Capri-Sun packs, the students involved were Lorcan Kelly, PJ Mealiff and Lorna McLoughlin and Lorna modelled this dress.

The All-Ireland Final in the Burlington Hotel Dublin was on Sunday, April 17th with Ireland AM's Noel Cunningham as the compare.

Emily, Chloe and Lorna were fantastic and did a great performance unfortunately it was not our night but although we didn't win the students did MCS proud.

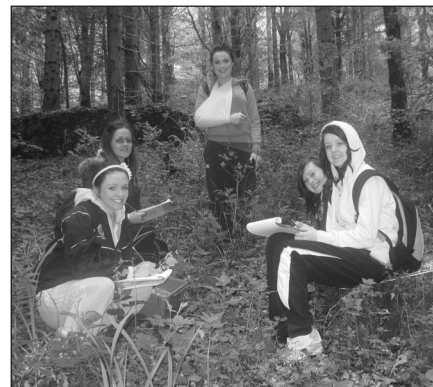


Emily, chloe Lorna with teacher Pamela Keogh.

Fifth Year Biology Students discovering Surveying the Woodlands

Fifth Year Biology students from MCS recently went on an Ecology Field Trip to Birr Education Centre. After a short introduction by the Education Officer, the students and their teachers were brought to Orange Hill Woods near Roscrea. This is a beautiful woodland area with native trees well over one hundred years old. The students performed qualitative and quantitative surveys of the woodland habitat. Orange Hill is a wonderful area for this field trip, with a huge diversity of plants from the canopy layer high in the trees to the mossy ground level. They discovered how a variety of plants and animals adapt to their surrounding environment.

The Ecology Study is a very important part of the Leaving Certificate course and was well covered on the day, including many tips for answering questions on the exam papers. The students worked diligently to carry out their tasks, and completed their surveys back at the Education



Orlaith, Jill, Kaelene, Lauren and Claire gather data on Ecology Trip.

Centre before their return to school. It was a very worthwhile experience for all the participating students.

GRIFFITH COLLEGE COMPETITION

The Griffith College Dublin Reinvent Fashion Awards is a competition that some TY art students took part in this year. Students had to research sustainable fashion, then design and construct one outfit using second-hand garments to remake a one off original. The competition is open to FETAC, Transition, Fifth and Sixth Year students.

Netted Zebra was one of our entries made from old net curtains that the students printed on. The students involved were Gemma Cowen, Fiona Geoghegan and Caitlin Sheridan; with Fiona modelling the dress.

Our other entry was *All Wrapped Up*, made from waste knit. The girls knitted, sewed and used an embellisher machine to make their dress. Linda Maxwell, Mary Griffin and Rachel Dunning were the creators and the dress was modelled on the day by Emily O'Connor.

There were over eighty entries from all over Ireland, only six were picked to go to the next stage, and after a long day we got the result we were hoping for, one of our entries was picked to move forward to the next stage.

Netted Zebra will represent MCS at the Final in May where it will be modelled by a professional model, at the Griffith College Annual Fashion Show. Well done to all involved.



Emily - All Wrapped Up



Fiona - Netted Zebra.

MCS GOLFERS SECURE SEMI FINAL SHOWDOWN

Golf took centre stage on Friday the 20th of May as the senior men from MCS strolled past Newbridge College, 10-1, in a crucial Leinster Match Play Quarter Final tie to ensure their place in the semi final. The four man outfit from Moate, consisting of Brian Guinan and Cian Bradley with Simon Geoghegan and Paul Coughlan being substitutes, were never in any danger of defeat as they lead from the first hole right through to the final putt on the eighteenth. However, it was not the result that was most impressive about this victory but the manner in which it was carried out. Both Brian Guinan and Cian Bradley played

some scintillating golf throughout, most notably during the front nine which put the pair six up, and also saw the duo card a very creditable combined total of -1 as they turned for home.

The back nine for Moate began equally as impressively as the front nine did with the pair taking the tenth hole and subsequently the eleventh hole which guaranteed victory for Brian Guinan and Cian Bradley due to the fact that they were eight up with only six holes remaining. Best of luck lads in the semi final of the Leinster Senior Championship, which will take place in the upcoming weeks.