

DVS Newsletter

Summer 2017



Aine Prior, Niamh McNamara, Sharon Burke, Claire McKeon & Chris McCrum-Boyle took part in a Bond Trader's Challenge, in the Abbey in Roscommon run by the Bank of Ireland: they did very well to come in 8th overall. This was part of Enterprise Education.

All 5th year students go out on a week of work experience in February, as part of the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP). They all learn so much from this and we do thank every employer who supports us and takes one of our students—we hope they are helpful to you!

We bid farewell to the last of our Spanish students: they have been a pleasure to have in the school & we wish them Good Luck in the future! 2nd years had an ice-cream afternoon as a farewell!

MUSIC WEEK

In a new departure this year we had Music Week—huge thanks to all who contributed to the highly successful innovation! How can we beat that next year???



**Rumour has it that Mr. Shannon MAY be in Shave or Dye this November—if he gets enough sponsorship!
Watch this space.....**

Our ETB introduced Awards this year. Our 6th years entered a project called 'Altruism in DVS' which went through to the finals but was sadly beaten—the project recognised all the charitable work undertaken by our students.

Days Out:

Second year outing was to Zipit & Boda Borg, all had great fun, as did the first year mountaineers who tackled Slieve Anierin with Mr Wynne. They had great fun jumping in bog holes and exploring the local environment.



We often forget to look around us and appreciate that we live and work in one of the most beautiful places in the world!

Sci Fest RSC Chemistry Award was presented by Dr. Jeremy Bird to Haji Dean Swarray & Darragh Perrin for their project 'Growth of Grass'.



Students for Lourdes:

Claire McKeon & Deirdre McKeon are heading to Lourdes as helpers on the Youth Pilgrimage. An Easter Egg Raffle & an Ice Cream Sale in school hadn't raised enough, so some students did a Church Gate Collection to meet the target required. Hope you have a great time!



Aibhe Rynn, Damien Clarke & Katie Molloy represented DVS in the Irish Junior Maths Finals in May . Well done!



Health Promoting Schools:

From Mental Health Awareness Days, healthy food options in the tuck shop, breakfast club for examination students, random acts of kindness week to mental health themed essay & poetry competitions—just some of the activities organised by the Health Promoting Schools Committee in DVS during the school year.

Further health promoting activities on the themes of mental health awareness and healthy eating will continue in the next academic year, all aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of the whole school community.



A talk on Breast Cancer to 5th & 6th year girls was reportedly “the best talk we’ve ever had” from one participant. Informative and based of personal experience, the speaker, Rachel Fitzgerald Feeley, held the audience in the palm of her hand for the duration!

To keep the equality of opportunity, for which we are famed, the lads had a talk on testicular & prostate cancer from another survivor, Martin McHugh. Interesting stuff! We thanks these speakers for sharing their experiences and knowledge with us.



The 1st years undertook a Reading Challenge which involved reading everyday and recording their views on what they read. Some students did some wonderful work, others made little effort—those who were rewarded for their endeavours were Roslyn Kane, Tara Keaney & Caoimhe Rogers. Damien Gilmartin was a runner up. Well done to everyone who entered: reading helps in all our work, so never stop reading. The only way to improve your reading is to read!

*Student Council:

Congratulations to the Student Council for 2016-17 who were democratically elected: they are Roslyn Kane, Sam Dawson, Caoimhe Rogers, Shane Mc Keon, Aaron Rogerson, Katie Lavin, Chloe Cull, Laura Whitney, Haji Yamil Deen Swarray, Emma Heeran, Kellie Griffin, Rebecca Moran, Kobi Adigwe, Aoife Gilmartin, & Brian McCormack. They are the link between students & management.

Sports Update

GAA Under 16 Boys: Beaten in the semi-finals in Connacht, played in Swinford. Better Luck next year!

Volleyball: Boys Junior A team were runners up in the All-Ireland final played in the University of Limerick. Senior Boys were also runners up in the All-Ireland Final in Loughrea. Well done lads for getting to the finals!

Basketball: 1st & 2nd yrs Girls Basketball: 3 teams competed - 2 reached the semi-finals and 1 narrowly lost in the final. Great day out for all!

Girls Active: First year girls participated in Girls Active weekly, we had a great day hosting other schools who came to Drumshanbo. All participants received a Certificate.

Athletics: Emma Heeron qualified for the All Ireland Final of the Shot Put in Tullamore.

Fundraising in school this year has mainly been towards new sports kits for our teams: some of the kits have lasted for twenty years, so it is about time. Recently we concluded a Last Man Standing Competition which was won by Jennifer Duignan and Timmy Kane, both 1st yrs who walk away with €125 each, Congratulations! We have yet to reach the target for all new kits, but we are well on the way, a further effort in the Autumn should see us home! Many thanks for all your support, and especially to our sponsors.

Declan Foy RIP

Tragically last Christmas a past pupil, Declan Foy, died while on holiday in the Far East.

In memory of Declan the students raised €300 which we have presented to the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust—a charity that brings home the remains when such awful tragedies occur, providing a service to families when they are at their most vulnerable.

Whole School Evaluation in November: Report now available, go to the school website for the link.

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