

Davitt News



Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill visits Davitt College

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Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill, renowned poet in Irish literary circles, was hosted recently by Davitt College, Castlebar. On November 23rd, 5th and 6th Year Gaeilge students at Davitt College were privileged to receive a personal reading of Nuala's poem 'Mo Ghrá-Sa (Idir Lúibíní)', which is currently on the Leaving Certificate Irish course. Nuala also spoke at length about the inspiration and ideas that mould her poetry and she gave a much informative and entertaining insight into her love of poetry. Many thanks to Seán Ó Cionfhaola and Brídín Ní Cheallaigh ó Chonradh na Gaeilge for helping make the event possible. We look forward to a further visit by Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill to Davitt College in the near future.



Dragons Den Winners—All Ireland Finalists



Congratulations to Davitt College students Ornaith Hopkins, Shannon Mangan and Claire McDonagh and their company Fíor Dhathanna who competed in the National Finals of Junior Dragons Den in Dublin on Saturday, December 8th 2012.

Well done to the entrepreneurs on a fantastic achievement.

News Flash!

After School Supervised Study was introduced this year for all students in Davitt College. It takes place Monday-Thursday, 4.15pm to 6.15pm in the school Library.

Please contact Principal for details

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Cyber bullying Information Evening at Davitt College

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Cyber Bullying is when a person is repeatedly tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed or otherwise targeted by another person using text messaging, email, instant messaging or any other type of digital technology. In light of the recent events involving cyber bullying we at Davitt College, in co-operation with the Parents Association, ran an information evening for parents on Wednesday 14th November which gave an overview of the modern phenomena of cyber bullying. The information evening covered mobile phones, texting and online social media, and was delivered by Brendan Smith of the Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI) at NUI Galway. At Davitt College we see the need to inform parents about mobile phone and internet use and how they can be used in a negative way. Brendan Smith from NUI Galway has travelled to schools all along the west coast delivering a positive and clear message to parents on their role in Cyber -Bullying prevention. All members of the school community, teachers, parents and students need to collaborate in order to combat cyber-bullying. This information evening was an opportunity for parents to get an insight and understanding of the potential impacts of Cyber Bullying.

Shoe Box Appeal at Davitt College



Teacher Mr. Donlon is pictured with his Junior Certificate C.S.P.E. class and just some of the presents they collected in Davitt College as part of the National Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2012. Sincere thanks to all who donated.



Science Magic at Davitt College 2012



Students from Scoil Raifteiri, Castlebar are intrigued as they are shown Static Electricity during Science Week at Davitt College, a three-day science event for sixth class students from national schools in Castlebar and surrounding districts.



Boys from St. Patricks School, Castlebar examine plant cells during Science Week at Davitt College. This was just one in a range of Science Experiments and Computer Programming events that took place over the three day science and technology event.

English Department News



A group of 114 Third Year students from Davitt College embarked on a *Literary Tour of Dublin* on November 7th 2012 and were accompanied by their English teachers. The purpose of this tour was to offer the students an alternative perspective to Literature and hopefully embellish their experience of studying some of our great Irish writers, dramatists and poets who have had connections with Dublin. The Irish literary tradition is undoubtedly one of the most illustrious in the world, famous for four Nobel Prize winners and for many other writers of international renown. Such a tradition is exhibited at The Dublin Writer's Museum which the students were fortunate enough to visit. The museum showcases and celebrates the historical wealth of literary Dublin. The students were also guided around the Campus of Trinity College, securing a visit to the Old Library to view The Book of Kells and the Long Room which houses over 200,000 of Ireland's oldest books, along with first edition manuscripts of James Joyce's *Ulysses* and *The Dubliners* and one of the few remaining copies of the 1916 Proclamation of the Irish Republic. The W.B. Yeats exhibition then drew the touring group to the National Library on Kildare Street. W.B. Yeats was one of the great poets of the twentieth century who has exerted a profound influence on world literature. As Dublin's longest established theatre in continuous production, The Gaiety Theatre is one of Dublin's premier venues. The students were lucky enough to partake in a guided back stage tour, behind the scene of The Gaiety Theatre. The final stop on this literary excursion was Merrion Square, one of the largest and grandest of Dublin's Georgian squares hosting the Oscar Wilde monument and the home of W.B. Yeats. It is hoped that this Literary Tour of Dublin instilled a certain level of enthusiasm and interest for the subject of English, which will be looked for in their responses to questions on the English Junior Certificate Examination Papers in June. Furthermore, this tour offered a further dimension to the study of English which will stretch far beyond the classroom walls and it is an experience that will undoubtedly remain with the students for years to come.

Congratulations to Liam Corcoran, a Leaving Certificate student at Davitt College, who recently won the Irish Junior Road Race Championship and will now wear the National Champions jersey for the next year. Liam was surrounded by his delighted club and class mates from The Castlebar Cycling Team and Davitt College when he was congratulated by School Principal, Ms. Bernie Rowland and The Castlebar Cycling Team Manager, Mr. John Brennan. Liam's win has attracted attention from leading professional cycling teams in Europe as he now joins the ranks of past winners such as Sean Kelly, Mark Scanlon and Stephen Roche. The future is bright for Liam who has the potential to go all the way towards a professional career in cycling

Irish Junior Road Race Championship 2012



Agricultural Science Farm Visit



Davitt College students Laura Joyce, Aoife Hastings, Adrian Neary and Elana Allen on a Leaving Certificate Agricultural Science Farm Visit to Barretts Dairy Farm, Breaffy.

Christmas Carol Service



Pictured is the Davitt College School Choir who sang at the Christmas Carol Service in the Church of the Holy Rosary on Wednesday December 11th 2012. They were part of a festive celebration of music, prayer, song and dance which involved the church's daily choir, folk group, parish choir, gospel choir and national school choirs from around Castlebar.

Pictured is Hannah Mc Ellin at a prize giving ceremony where she received second prize in the Generation X-tra Factor Essay Competition organised by Croí. She is congratulated by Ms. Bernie Rowland, Principal, Mr. Art Ó' Súilleabháin, Director of Mayo Education Centre, Ms. Veronica Morley, English Teacher and Ms. Ailish Houlihan, Nurse with Croí



ALL-IRELAND FIRST AID WINNER WITH ORDER OF MALTA



Congratulations to Aoife Deasy, a Leaving Certificate student at Davitt College, who has become All-Ireland First Aid winner with Order of Malta. Aoife was surrounded by her delighted classmates when she was congratulated by school principal, Ms. Bernie Rowland and a presentation was made to her in recognition of her outstanding commitment and dedication to Order of Malta over the past number of years.

DAVITT COLLEGE STUDENTS CELEBRATE “MATHS WEEK IRELAND”



Students David Gavin and Holly Logan received an A in Junior Certificate Honours Mathematics, were presented with Certificates of Achievement from Mr. Niall O'Connor, Maths teacher and Ms. Bernie Rowland, Principal.

Maths Week Ireland is an all Ireland celebration of Maths and took place from 13th October to 21st October 2012. A huge variety of events and activities were organised throughout the country to promote awareness, appreciation and understanding of maths. Davitt College encourages its students to enjoy Maths and helps them build their confidence in studying Maths.

Students are also taught that Maths are a part of everyday life. During Maths Week Davitt College students participated in a number of activities including Transition Year students tutoring First Year students Maths through the use of ICT, Maths Quizzes for a number of students and the history of Mathematics.



Irish Poets visit Davitt College

Davitt College were delighted to welcome renowned translator, playwright, poet and children's author, Gabriel Rosenstock on Friday, 16th November 2012 In conjunction with the Indian Cultural festival in the Linen Hall Art Centre, the 2nd year students of Ms. Morrissey's Irish class and Ms. Silke's Art class wrote and drew responses to Mr. Rosenstock's collection of aphorisms. He spoke to the students at length about his life as a writer and the inspiration that he gained from trips to

India. A huge thank you to all involved.



Transition Year Activities Volunteering & Radio

Every Thursday morning Transition Years from Davitt College present a TY radio show on CRC radio.

Two students each week present the show, telling the listeners about activities taking place in Davitt College, not only in Transition Year but across the whole school. The show includes four interviews recorded during the course of each week played live on the radio. A team of twelve committed pupils take on the responsibility of conducting interviews; producing the show and sourcing a musical guest from the school to perform live on the show each week. Shona Connolly has also been acting as a main presenter and has shown huge commitment, her day starting at 6am four days a week. Tune in to 102.9 fm to hear all the news on the show and well done to all involved.

Transition Year students are volunteering with the Irish Wheelchair Association every Tuesday from 2pm-4pm in the Bowling Alley and the Tennis Club. Rotating teams of six students assist with activities weekly, chatting with the members of the association and helping with distributing meals. The Wheelchair Association were also very grateful to the Transition Year pupils who raised €828 in a flag day for the Association on Friday November 9th.

On October 10th 2012, the 6th year LCA class visited CRC radio station with their teacher Ms.

LCA students visit CRC

Whyte. This visit was incorporated as part of their class study of radio, and how it is a form of communication. While at the station the group were shown around the station by manager Benen Tierney. Benen demonstrated how a lot of the equipment in the station was used; and he gave a presentation on how a community station is run and the benefits a community radio station can bring to a local area

The students thoroughly enjoyed their visit and used it to compile one of their key assignments for English and Communications. Davitt College would like to thank Benen

Tierney and the staff of CRC for facilitating this educational opportunity.



DAVITT COLLEGE HOMEWORK CLUB

The Homework Club takes place for Davitt College students in Room 18 on:

Monday and Thursday from 4.15 -5.15pm for 1st years

Tuesday and Wednesday from 4.15-5.15pm for 2nd & 3rd