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***Debating News***



Congratulations to Tara O'Neill (2X) who reached the Grand Final of the Matheson National Junior Debating Championship during the finals day on Saturday 21st April. The competition is the biggest and most prestigious in



Ireland and Tara was placed 7th in the country. She is the youngest Jes debater to have ever achieved this accolade and had to beat over 700 debaters from every province nationally to get to this position. We are very proud of her and all who participated. The future of debating looks very bright. Fourteen other Jes debaters qualified for the final day, the largest number of debaters from a single school in Ireland. Congratulations to Ellie Concannon who was fourth best First Year in Ireland.

- Mr. Matthew Harrison

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***Mock Trials***

Although, hard fought, the thirteen members of the Coláiste Iognáid student legal team unfortunately were unable to continue on to the national semi-final of the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Mock Trials tournament in the Criminal Courts of Justice last Saturday (21<sup>st</sup> April 2018). However, weeks of thorough preparation were not put to waste. Two legal teams, consisting of two barristers and a solicitor each, argued, with the help of exceptional witnesses, two different cases prosecuting and defending various characters. Transition Year students from all over the country were marked on how they performed in their various roles and argued their cases in front of professional legal experts. Not all decisions were received very well on the day; with one Judge questionably handing the win to an opposing team. However, this did not bother the Jes students and they continued through the day, receiving two favourable jury verdicts, along with wins awarded by the judges of the remaining cases, beating the opposition by 23 points in total. The Mock Trial, which is the largest non-sport-based team competition in Ireland, was an occasion that everyone enjoyed. Students from roughly 40 schools around the country got the chance to come together, compete and meet one another,

and nobody left without feeling that they had done shown their best. The help of Mr Paul Kilraine and Mr Stephen Reilly could not go unmentioned along with the help of David and Clodagh from the Galway Offices of Ronan Daly Jermyn Solicitors, as well as Tim Keogh, Cian Gleeson, Eoin Rowe and Conor O’Sullivan from the 2017 Mock Trials team. The success, work ethic and initiative that the competing Jes students showed will hopefully help to build a platform for next year’s TY students, who will hopefully go on to compete at the same exceptional level that the current TYs managed to carry out. We are proud. The Jes team consisted of William Godfrey, Liam Carton, Tomás Gillanders, Fionn Ryan (Barristers), Stephen Hynes, Georgia Megahy (Solicitors), Fiona Kelly, Roisin McGrath, Jenny Rowe, Brian Counihan, Elise Carney-Frazier, Harry Redfern (Witnesses), Theo Morvan (Tipstaff/Registrar), Keelin Molloy, Zara O’Toole, Katie Ryan (Jury).

- Tomás Gillanders (TY)

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### *Success at the Press Pass Journalism Awards*



*Keelin Molloy’s Photo was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the Press Pass Journalism Awards. William Godfrey also achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> place with his written piece, “Journey through Life.” The awards ceremony was held in Twitter Head Offices, Dublin on 26<sup>th</sup> April. The annual competition attracts hundreds of entries. 10 classmates, Mr. Ray Silke, who oversees the media program in TY, and Ms. Shelly Barron were all on hand to celebrate Keelin and William’s success.*

## ***Junior Hockey – 2<sup>nd</sup> Years lose to Salerno in a hard fought Connaught A Finals***



As the final approached, we were nervous and excited to play our rivals, Salerno. The rivalry between both schools has been strong for many years and both teams seemed anxious to play each other. For some weeks, Georgia, Zara (with other TY hockey players), and Ger our coach had been preparing us for the match. Game day came and the team were prepared to give it their all. Our incredible friendship drove us to get that far and we were not willing to accept defeat without a fight. The whistle blew, Salerno attacked but the Jes fought back. By half time the score was nil all and both teams were exhausted. Our captains, Camille Keane and Aoife Quinn pushed us to our limits. After another tough half the score remained nil all. Extra time followed and the score remained nil all. Penalties would now be taken to determine the winners. As Éabha Durkin, Molly McGrath, Caoimhe Cleary, Camille Keane and Aoife Quinn were chosen to take these penalties, their hearts were pounding. ‘Penalties are pure luck’, the coaches remained us. Unfortunately the luck fell into Salerno’s hands and they were the Junior Connacht 2<sup>nd</sup> Year hockey victors. We were devastated with the result. Although Salerno were our rivals we respected their win and there was good sportsmanship between both teams as can be seen from the accompanying photo. We couldn’t have made it this far it wasn’t for our outstanding coach Ger, TY coaches, and Ms. O’Brien our manager who supported us in training week in and week out and helped us believe in ourselves. The bond between the girls on the hockey team is unbelievably strong and in years to come we will make it to more finals.

- Róise McMahon, 2G

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## ***Roots Go Deep – Hockey at the Jes and Much More***



Some of the past and present hockey players, coaches who came out to celebrate the launch of Brenda Flannery’s book, *Roots Go Deep*, which tells the story of hockey at the Jes and much more besides. Also photographed is Mr. Mike Heskin, Director of sports at NUIG and Mr. Richie Malone, long time Senior Hockey coach.

Brenda Flannery launched her comprehensive book “Roots Go Deep” in Coláiste Iognáid on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2018. The book on Jes hockey, sport and wellbeing is a marvellous compilation. Brenda spent over a year working on “Roots Go Deep” collecting and compiling stories and photos from over 250 people, across many sporting and health fields. Reflections and photos of Jes hockey past and present, as well as contributions from top sports people and health experts are included in the book. A fantastic celebration of Jes hockey and sport, took place at the launch, with past and present staff and students attending.



Brenda played hockey and now coaches with the Jes, contributing hugely to its many successes over the years. Brenda played a leading role helping the 2009 Jes team win the prestigious Kate Russell All Ireland hockey competition and also coming second in 2010. She went on to Captain Ireland at u.18 and U.21 levels, leading the team to win the European cup. She represented Ireland also at senior level, coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Hockey World league. Brenda achieved a sports scholarship studying Physiotherapy at UCD. There Brenda captained UCD hockey team, winning the Premier Irish league and got Gold in the European championships. She also played a leading role with Greenfields hockey club in winning the Irish Cup and represented Connaught (starting from age of 13) at u.16, u18, U. 21 and senior level. Brenda also represented Ireland in soccer and enjoys being a Piano teacher!

Brenda as well as being an excellent athlete, is a very generous, caring, humble and thoughtful person. She has a very positive impact on all who meet her. With all the experience of hard work and from the immense challenges of the highs and lows of sport, Brenda continues to give back to the community. She contributes significantly to hockey coaching and educating staff and students alike, on all aspects of wellbeing and mental health. All in Coláiste Iognáid want to congratulate Brenda on her magnificent achievement in publishing her book “Roots Go Deep”. We are very thankful for her hard work and for her incredible generous contribution to Jes Hockey and health education. The book is available to purchase from the school, Bell Book and Candle at the Crane, and Charlie Byrne Bookshop. Proceeds from her book are being kindly donated to help fund Jes Hockey, for future generations to enjoy.



- Ms. Clodagh Mitchell.

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## Rowing Club News



*The Rowing Club celebrates as it is named Overall Winners of the 2018 Irish Schools Rowing Championship. The Club achieve 10 wins at the Schools Regatta at O'Briens Bridge on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The title of Overall Winners is returning to the school for the first time since 2013. Success at O'Briens Bridge followed on a very successful trip to Neptune on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April where wins were recorded for the Boys J18 four, Boys J18 coxless quad, Boys J16 eight, Boys J14 double, and Girls J18 coxless quad. Well done to all the rowers and coaches on an amazing month of rowing.*



*Some of the Jes' successful rowers. From left to right, Oliver Kelly (3X), Aaron Burke (3G), and Mark Ward (3G) holding the Schools Regatta Overall Winners trophy.*



The 2018 Jes Year book has gone to print and should be ready for mid-May for distribution to the almost 300 students and staff who are supporting the venture. A really big well done to the entire editorial team, the photography and sales team who have put in some hugely productive, and at times frustrating hours, over the past few months and weeks to produce a super looking 84 page year book. A year book cannot happen without a core group of Transition Year students from the Media Studies class coming together and deciding that they are going to carry the burden and make it happen every year. Those students are very good examples of "People for Others". The students decided that all profits from sales will go to support the work of Cystic Fibrosis Ireland Without the sponsorship

this production would not be possible so a sincere thank you to all. Le gach dea ghuí.

-Mr. Ray Silke



Aoife Moran and Tim Keogh (Editorial team, 2017) presents a cheque to Ms. Anne Wynne, Director of the Galway Samaritans. Also pictured are Geoff Cornall from the Samaritans and Mr. Ray Silke, Yearbook Coordinator. Well done to all.

## *1<sup>st</sup> Year Girls' Basketball*



The First Year Girls followed up their Regional success with a trip to the All-Ireland Playoffs in Navan. With three games in one day, the girls played very well and performed admirably in their representation of the school. With no less than five coaches, the girls were well looked after. A big thank you to Ben Kelly, Jason Maughan and Kevin Toner in Transition Year for coaching the team. Also a very large thank you must be given to Ms. Shelly Barron and Ms. Rowena Kelly for their commitment throughout the year and to Mr. Carlos Chuquihuara for travelling with the team to the All-Ireland Playoffs.

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### *Twitter*

To keep up-to-date with all the latest news from the school follow us on Twitter @Col\_Iognaid\_SJ