

Davitt News



Outstanding Results for Davitt College Students in Junior Certificate 2014

Page 1 December 2014

It was screams of excitement and delight following the Junior Certificate results at Davitt College, Castlebar on Wednesday 10th September 2014. Results were excellent with a number of students getting A's across the board. Three students, Nicola Glennon, Meabh Murray and Laura Ryan achieved an impressive Ten A's in Higher Level Subjects. 147 Davitt College students received their results, with the vast majority achieving honours in all subjects. "I am delighted with all of our students' excellent results in the Junior Certificate," said Ms. Bernie Rowland, Davitt College Principal. "Our students worked very hard throughout the three years leading up to the Junior Certificate Examination and today they reap the rewards of that hard work. It is a wonderful day and we are very proud of each and every one of them. A special word of thanks to all of their dedicated teachers and supportive parents who, collectively, helped today happen," she said. Clearly a very happy Principal as well!



Pictured (from Left) Laura Ryan, Simona Fernandes, Roisín Lennon and Lydia Garey of Davitt College are joyous after receiving their Junior Certificate results 2014.



Pictured (from Left) Fintan Borotto, Shane Gavin, Tadhg Salmon and Callan Quinn of Davitt College, Castlebar congratulate each other after receiving their Junior Certificate results 2014.





Transition Year Students Blown Away At The Bord Gáis Theatre

On Wednesday September 17th 2014, Transition Year students of Davitt College were treated to a scintillating show at the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, where they attended the hit West End Musical “*Rock of Ages*”. This visit was in preparation for Davitt College’s own interpretation of the Rock of Ages screenplay “Don’t Stop Believing” at the end of November.

The students were absolutely enthralled as the characters of Drew, Sherrie, Stacey Jaxx, and Lonny were brought to life in dramatic and more often comic fashion, right before their eyes.

Rock anthems such as “*Wanted Dead Or Alive*” and “*Paradise City*” were part of the show, played by the aforementioned rocker Stacey Jaxx and his band “*Arsenal*”.

Every song was delivered with phenomenal energy and gusto, with every actor pulling more than their weight in the vocal department, with angelic harmonies and deep male vocal motifs, ensuring that every song wowed.

In short, the students of Davitt College will be hard pressed to ever forget the eclectic performance put on by the show’s very talented cast. The Transition Year students were accompanied by the dedicated musical production team of Davitt College staff which includes: Mr. David Nevin, Mr. Eamonn Mulderrig, Ms. Fiona Murtagh, Ms. Claire Kennedy and Ms. Andrea Silke.

First Aid Training for Transition Year Students

Over 60 Transition Year Students recently completed a First Aid Course provided by Ms. Sarah Molloy from Croí. The students were shown CPR, Heimlich Manoeuvre and various First Aid procedures.





DAVITT COLLEGE STUDENTS HONoured FOR JUNIOR CERTIFICATE BUSINESS MARKS



Davitt College students celebrated academic success when they were presented with certificates of achievement from NUI Galway based on their Junior Certificate results. The students recorded an 'A' in their Higher Level Business Studies Examination 2014, and were among a group of 250 students from throughout Connacht to receive awards. The presentations, in association with the Business Studies Teachers Association of Ireland (BSTAI), were made at a special ceremony at the university, to which teachers and parents were invited.

Pictured are: Back row (from left): Ms. Joan Walsh and Ms. Antoinette Hopkins, Business Studies Teachers; Meabh Murray; Laura Ryan; Ms. Bernie Rowland, Principal, Davitt College; Dr. Gerard Turley, NUI Galway; Front row (from left): Aidan Ruane; Emma Sheeran; Nicola Glennon and Simona Fernandes.



Transition Year Students climb Croagh Moyle, Glenisland

Well done to all the Transition Year students who took time out after the hectic schedule of the School Musical to climb Croagh Moyle in Glenisland. It proved to be a great bonding and exercise session for the students and of course the teachers!

Davitt College Welcomes Visiting International Students

Davitt College is committed to supporting and encouraging International Education.

We warmly welcome an increasing number of international students each year.

Pictured are: (from left): Lisa Hauseu (Germany), Michaela Arnold (USA), Elena Gil-Alias Ruiz (Spain), Cecilia Peroni (Italy), Martina Gilmartin (Spain), Anna Neumann (Germany) and Eleonora Guzzo (Italy).



Davitt College launch “Build a Bank” Challenge



The Davitt College, Castlebar Transition Year Build a Bank team comprising of Niamh Mullins, Ethan Carey, Laura Canning, Simona Fernandes, Laura Ryan, Niamh Whyte and Niamh Tobin were congratulated and commended for their work by GAA All-Star, Mr. Colm Cooper (AIB Representative), at the official launch of their Build a Bank Challenge in association with AIB. The **Bullseye Bank** is open every Wednesday at lunchtime in the school library

Career Options 2015 at Davitt College



Pictured at the launch of Career Options 2015 were Ms. Bernie Rowland, Principal, Davitt College; Mr. Cillian O'Connor, Mayo Football Player and All-Star and Mr. Pat McHale, The Education Working Group of Mayo County Council.

Davitt College, Castlebar, in partnership with The Education Working Group of Mayo County Council and the North East LEADER Partnership Co., is organising a 2nd Career Options Event in **Davitt College, Castlebar on Saturday 17th January 2015**. So successful was the 2014 event that it has been decided to hold the event again. **The event will run from 11a.m. until 4.00p.m. Admission is free.** The aim of the event is to provide senior students and their parents, from Post Primary Schools in Co. Mayo, with information on the main Third Level Universities/Colleges, Post Leaving Certificate Colleges/FETAC, access routes, HEAR and DARE and information on other career opportunities available. The Careers Fair will see exhibitions from the main CAO Universities/Colleges and will give students the opportunity to liaise with representatives from the colleges and ask questions. Students should then be well informed and be in a better position to make informed decisions about future career options. On the day there will also be presentations and information on CAO, UCAS, Student Grants, Scholarships and Bursaries.

The event is open to Post-Primary students from Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years and their parents. This is an ideal opportunity to learn about the wide range of Third Level and Further Education career options available to young people. Speaking at the launch of the Career Options 2015, Cillian O'Connor, GAA All-Star and 2014 Career Options Representative for St. Patrick's College, stated, "I really enjoyed the Career Options event last year. Career Options gives students the opportunity to liaise with representatives from the colleges and ask questions. Students should then be well informed and be in a better position to make informed decisions about future career options". Ms. Bernie Rowland, Davitt College Principal said, "This wonderful opportunity enables Post-Primary students and their parents in Mayo gain valuable information on a vast range of university and college courses right here in our home county." "Students and their parents will also have easy access to information on grants, scholarships and bursaries available to students progressing to Third Level, together with important advice on applying to CAO, UCAS and SUSI," she said.

Trinity College Award for Davitt College Student



Congratulations to Fintan Murphy, Snugboro, Castlebar and former Davitt College student on receiving a Trinity College Entrance Achievement Award 2014. Fintan is son of Mairead and Ger Murphy and was honoured with his award based on his excellent Leaving Certificate Results in 2014. Fintan is currently pursuing a Degree in Mathematics at Trinity College and hopes to eventually pursue a career in the area of Technology, Finance or Engineering. Fintan is pictured with Ms. Linda Hogan, Vice Provost and Chief Academic Officer of Trinity College Dublin after receiving his award.



After School Supervised Study was introduced this year for all students in Davitt College. It takes place Monday-Thursday, 4pm to 6pm in the school Library.

Please contact Principal for details

Coming Soon!

Science Week

9th - 13th February 2015
Lots of Experiments, talks and advice!

Davitt College Swim Team Excel!

Longford was host to this year's Connacht Secondary Schools Swimming Competition. Davitt College's girls swimming team performed excellently on the day to bring home lots of medals. The swimming team took part in two Senior Girls Relays, winning Silver in the 100m Freestyle and Bronze in the 200m Individual Medley. The teams consisted of Davitt College students Aisling Grady, Dearbháil McNamara, Paula Mc Donagh and Síofra Horan.

Dearbháil Mc Namara was also on flying form winning two individual medals, taking Gold in the 100m Breaststroke and Bronze in the 200m Individual Medley. Paula Mc Donagh had an excellent swim in the 100m Freestyle to take Gold and finished in 4th place in the 400m Freestyle. Aisling Grady clocked up two PB times in her 100m Backstroke and 200 Individual Medley. Second Year student Hazel Coen put in a brilliant swim to finish 5th in the 100m Breaststroke and 7th in the 400m Freestyle competitions. First Year student Saoirse Hoban had two top ten finishes in the 200m Individual Medley & 100m Butterfly competitions. Síofra Horan also did very well to pick up two medals in the relays.

Well done to all the Davitt College Swim Team.



Pictured: Left to Rights: Síofra Horan, Aisling Grady, Paula Mc Donagh, Dearbháil McNamara and Saoirse Hoban. Missing from photo - Hazel Coen.

Welcome to the First Years of Davitt College

There is a certain buzz around Davitt College as First Year students begin their Post-Primary education. Positive feedback from parents and staff suggests that the transition from Primary to Post-Primary school has been very smooth indeed. Wishing all First Year students the very best over the course of their time in Post-Primary School and hope they have some unforgettable times as well.



Girls—Back row (from left): Ella Mongey, Emma Mullahy, Alisha O'Reilly. Front Row: Ciara Middleton, Saylawla Say

Boys—Back row (from left): Dylan Ralph, Jonathon Quinn, Roy Sheridan. Front Row: Shane Quinn, Thomas Talbot



**1A Class with
Class Tutor Mr.
Murphy**

1A

**1B Class with Class
Tutor Ms.
Gallagher**

1B





**1C Class with Class
Tutor Ms.
Philbin**

1C

**1D Class with
Class Tutor Mr.
MacDonnacha
and Year Head
Ms. Nyland**

1D



**1E Class
with Class
Tutor Mr.
Murphy
and Year
Head Ms.
Nyland**

1E



DAVITT COLLEGE Says Don't Stop Believin'!

Davitt College's long running history of school musicals was upheld this year with the performance of its most successful show to date, Don't Stop Believin'! The Joe Langan Sports Hall relived the glory of the 80's with four sold out performances. The show was very warmly received by those lucky enough to witness it. The Transition Year Musical in Davitt College is a wonderful example of teamwork and collaboration between staff and students. Producer David Nevin paid homage to the wonderful tradition of school musicals in Davitt College and he is delighted that this production has enriched this tradition. He also highlighted the importance of Music and Theatre as a powerful vehicle of self expression in the lives of young people. It can be safely said that the cast and production team responded in an extremely positive manner to this challenge to ensure that this was a spellbinding and enchanting performance which had the audience smiling from ear to ear. The cast were rewarded with a rousing standing ovation at the finale. Davitt College is extremely proud of all students involved and looks forward to next year's show!

Davitt College would also like to sincerely thank all of the local businesses who sponsored the musical. Without their generosity and support, the school would not have been able to stage such a fantastic show.



Davitt College's 2014 production of Don't Stop Believin' – Ethan Carey (Drew) and Aoife Halligan (Sherrie) are pictured ahead of their final performance in the Davitt College Musical



Davitt College, Castlebar 2014 Production of Don't Stop Believin' – Cast members Roisin Lennon (Constance) and Fintan Borotto (Stacce)

DON'T STOP BELIEVIN'



Davitt College, Castlebar 2014 Production of Don't Stop Believin' – Cast members Déirbhile Mellotte (Patricia) and Callan Quinn (Mayor)



Davitt College, Castlebar 2014 Production of Don't Stop Believin' – Cast members and Bouncers Brandon Keenan and David O'Donnell



Davitt College, Castlebar 2014 Production of Don't Stop Believin' – Cast members Stephen Kearns (Lonny) and Niamh Mullins (Denise)



Davitt College, Castlebar 2014 Production of Don't Stop Believin' – Cast members Ryan Walshe (Paul) and Mistura Akano (Justice)



Davitt College gives back to the Community

As a school, Davitt College prides itself on giving back to our Community and we wish to thank all who contributed to various charities during the first term. As a result of the our community's generosity and compassion, people at a local, national and global level have been helped. Each year the school contributes generously to the Coffee

Morning in aid of the Mayo/ Roscommon Hospice and this year was no exception. Over twenty Transition Year students also helped out in the TF Royal Hotel at the excellently organised Coffee Morning.

Students also sold tickets for a raffle in aid of the Irish Guide Dogs with Ms. Ruth Carney being the lucky winner of the beautiful cake made by a talented parent.

A large number of Transition Year students volunteer every week with the Irish Wheelchair Association 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.

Davitt College students were involved in the Lions Club Christmas Collection again year

Thanks for making a difference

On Tuesday September 16th, the Transition Year students of Davitt College were given the opportunity to participate in a rugby coaching initiative run by Mr. Paul Jennings from the I.R.F.U., Mr. Jennings took time out of his hectic schedule to share his knowledge and facilitate modules throughout the day.

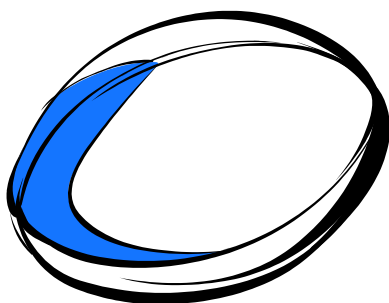
Rugby Coaching Course

A huge number of students participated in this initiative. Forty students were selected to go on to coach Primary School students in the local Primary schools.

The students were rigorously put through their paces and learned vital communication skills and rugby drills, necessary to teach young children basic rugby skills to help them effectively play the game. As part of the course, Third Year students were brought in to help the Transition Year students to demonstrate their newly acquired skills.

RBS Six Nations Fever Hits Davitt College!

Following on from the recent RBS Six Nations Championship win for Ireland, rugby has been high on the agenda for many. The students of Davitt College got to view and hold the RBS Six Nations Trophy which caused great excitement throughout the school. Pictured holding the elusive Trophy are Transition Year students Amy Dowling and Molly McHale



C.S.I. comes to Davitt College!

On October 1st 2014, Transition Year students of Davitt College participated in the third annual Forensic Science Workshop at Davitt College. The aim of these workshops is to bring classroom science into real-life situations and get more students interested in continuing to study science for Third Level education. The activities provided the students with an exciting opportunity to experience an everyday use of Science in a real world situation. It proved to be an exciting and interactive educational experience, where observation and deductive reasoning combined with the science that students are learning in Davitt College, and are used to solve crimes in the real world. As part of the workshop, students were presented with a real crime and given all the appropriate information to solve it, such as suspect information; where they were and what they were doing at the time of the crime, their occupations and evidence such as fingerprints. Students then went from station to station trying to match pieces of evidence to each suspect to help solve the crime. Each station had a different topic such as ballistics, where students had to study the amount of GSR (Gun Shot Residue) left on the clothing of each suspect.

The students of Davitt College thoroughly enjoyed being put through the analytical stages and having to actively bring their learning to life. This is just a sample of the showcases that the Science Department do each year, with the BT Young Scientist Competition being a pivotal part of the Transition Year Programme. This day was facilitated by Forensic Scientist, Ms. Alison Leck from Education Interactive, Sydney, Australia.



Pictured at the Forensic Science Workshop are Ms. Fiona O'Connor, Biology Teacher; Mr. Aaron Tonry, Physics Teacher; Ms. Alison Leck, Forensic Scientist; Ms. Andrea Silke, Agricultural Science Teacher; Ms. Martina Kelly, Chemistry Teacher; Mrs. Caitriona O'Donnell, Chemistry Teacher and Transition Year students participating in the workshop.



Get Active Davitt College!

Davitt College is running an 'Operation Transformation' walk for students and staff twice a week on the school pitch (1.20-1.40) Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you would like to join in please bring your runners!

BE PART OF IT!



Thereze wins Art Competition

Congratulations to Davitt College, Castlebar Second Year student Thereze Belseva who has won First Prize in the Post-Primary Section of the Mayo Education Centre Christmas Card Design Competition 2014. The judges were hugely impressed with Thereze's design and creativity. *Pictured from left: Ms. Anne Staunton, Staunton's Pharmacy; Ms. Agnes Nyland, Davitt College Art Teacher; Thereze Belseva; Mr. Art Ó'Súilleabháin, Director of Mayo Education Centre and Mr. Vladimir Belseva*



Christmas Carol Service

On December 5th, Davitt College School Choir and a group of Transition Year students made the annual visit to the Sacred Heart Hospital for a Christmas party and recital. The choir sang beautifully and performed a variety of Christmas carols and school musical hits. The Transition Year students held a raffle and distributed a number of presents to the delight of the patients.

A great time was had by all and well done to the students for showing kindness and compassion to the patients who thoroughly enjoyed their company.



North West U16 Rugby Champions

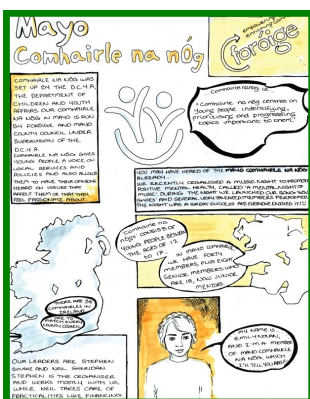


Pictured are the victorious Davitt College U16 Rugby Team who won the North West Championship Cup 2014 for the second year in a row. Accompanied with the team are Mr. Dave MacDonnacha, Teacher and Trainer (Left) and Mr. Jason Keane (Right).

Linenhall Art Exhibition for Davitt Girls!

Congratulations to Leaving Certificate Art students Melissa Duffy and Emily Nolan who took part in the Kawaii Comics Project in association with The Linenhall Arts Centre. The students worked with artist Maeve Clancy in the Linenhall Arts Centre to explore graphic reportage and the use of comic form as a mode of expression in non-fiction contexts. Maeve Clancy is an illustrator, animator, and paper artist. She has had a number of solo and group exhibitions, and her pop-up books feature on the music videos of Lisa Hannigan ("Lille" & "I Don't Know") and a 2013 Samsung advertisement.

The students' work will be displayed at an exhibition in the Linenhall Arts Centre which runs from Saturday December 13th 2014 until Saturday 31st January 2015. This exhibition of large comic strips is the outcome of three months of work wherein the group explored the work of a selection of organisations, groups and activities available to young people in Mayo, and reported on it in comic format.





Davitt College U16 Basketball Team reach All-Ireland Finals



Congratulations to the Davitt College U16 Basketball team who recently played in the Boys Basketball All-Ireland Playoffs at Galway Community College. The boys faced Galway Community College in the first of their two back to back playoff games and won on a score of 52 – 47 . St. Michael's Grammar School, Lurgan were the next opponents and proved to be very difficult challengers. The Davitt team took control of the game in the third quarter. Impressive pressing from Ler Lah, Jamesy Finnerty and Bah So allowed Bartek Zalewski and Jordan Keighley to outscore St. Michael's team. They continued to control the game in the fourth quarter and were deserving winners with a score line of 36 - 32. These impressive wins secures Davitt College's place in the All-Ireland Semi-Final, which will be played in the National Basketball Arena, Dublin in February 2015.

Bullseye Bank fundraise for St. Vincent de Paul



Chairperson of "Bullseye Bank" Simona Fernandes presenting the proceeds from their very successful Christmas Carol Singing to Mr. Martin Waters from St. Vincent de Paul

Check out all the Bullseye Bank News on their Facebook page - www.facebook.com/bullseyebank