

Douglas Community School

Douglas, Cork

Website: www.dcscork.ie Email: admin@dcscork.ie Tel: 4294201



Summer 2011

UCC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS HONOURED WITH DCS GRADAM AWARDS

Pictured at the recent DCS Gradam na Scoile Awards Night are UCC students Brian Murray and Ciarán Fleming with Principal Mr. J. Long, Deputy Principal Mr. C. Hickey, Ms. E. Barry and keynote speaker Ms. Kathleen Lynch, Minister of State. Brian and Ciarán were being honoured on their superb achievement of securing UCC Entrance. Brian and Ciarán follow many other past DCS students who have won UCC and other university scholarships in the past. The remarkable achievement of two students securing such prestigious scholarships in the same year was justifiably celebrated and deserved the special recognition of a Gradam Award from the school.



MEDICAL STUDENTS RETURN TO DCS TO SPEAK ON THE WORK OF THE SURGEON NOONAN SOCIETY

DCS past pupils John McNamara and Peter McCarthy, both fourth year medical students at UCC, addressed students recently on their volunteer work with the Surgeon Noonan Society. John and Peter are fundraising for a forthcoming trip to two medical clinics in Africa. Students were given a presentation on the work of the Surgeon Noonan Society and on the conditions and lack of facilities in the hospitals and clinics that receive much needed aid from the Society. Following a charity football match organised by 5th Year LCVP students, a donation of €1,500 was presented to John and Peter. We wish them every success in their valuable and worthy work.



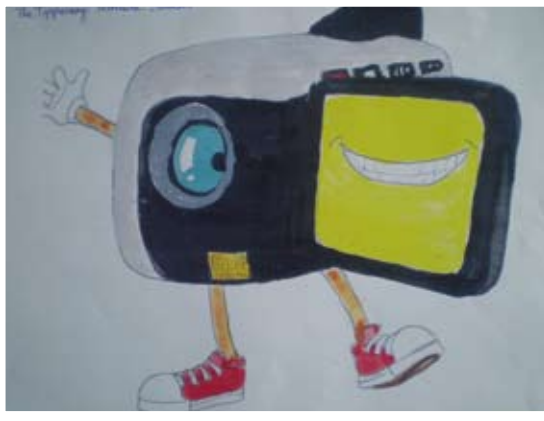
Principal's Address

It is with great pleasure that I welcome the publication of this school magazine, which reflects the achievements of our students during recent months. 2010/2011 has been a great year for the school with many notable achievements taking place.

We are very fortunate in Douglas Community School to have such a wide range of extra curricular activities and this is due to the big commitment given by the teaching staff. Without this dedication outside of normal working time the students would not be in a position to fulfill their potential from a holistic perspective. I am most grateful to all those who give so selflessly of their time to the students of Douglas Community School.

The wideranging nature of school activities was reflected in the recent gradam award ceremony and I congratulate all the recipients of these special awards. I would like to particularly thank Ms. Kathleen Lynch, Minister of State at the Department of Health who kindly presented the awards. Finally, I would like to wish our Junior and Leaving Certificate Students well in the upcoming exams. They have prepared well and I am sure will perform to their potential and hopefully will reach the heights achieved last summer when Brian Murray and Ciarán Fleming were the recipients of entrance scholarships to University College Cork.

Jim Long, Principal



TALENTED ARTIST AND JOURNALIST REPORTS ON COLLEGE LIFE IN UCC

DCS student Liam Cuthbert was recently invited as one of seven Cork second level students to experience student life at UCC recently. Liam and his fellow students were asked to report on the various aspects of student life in which they were immersed for the UCC Turas 2011 Magazine. This magazine is designed to aid incoming third level students in settling in during their first few months at UCC. Liam wrote an article on the variety of societies and clubs open to students at the university. Liam was also successful in the field of art recently with his design logo being chosen as the logo of the camera department of Tipperary Institute Thurles.

FIRST YEAR SCHOOL TOUR TO NEWGRANGE AND DUBLIN

Pictured are a number of first year students during their tour of the historic site of Newgrange tomb recently. All first year students took part in a History field trip to the ancient tomb at Newgrange and the National Museum of Ireland in Dublin. A full and educational day was had by all with students enjoying a very informative tour as well as experiencing an ancient Egyptian exhibition at the National Museum.



VICTORY FOR DCS CRICKET TEAM

Douglas CS cricket team won their first match of the season against Bandon Grammar School. The match was a Twenty over a side encounter that brought great performances from both sides. We lost the toss and were put in to bat. Our openers of Sharukh Nawaz and Ibrahim Khan made a steady start and accumulated well with some lusty blows from Ibrahim. They lost their wickets around the 8th over and in came Mohammad Ali and Ismail Khan both playing well with Mohammad Ali sticking the inning together with a real captains knock staying in until almost the end of the innings and was the top scorer of the match. Even the lower order played well with Javed and Azim Bhayla adding runs and Cian Hurley contributing in his first school match. We set a target of 87 a good score but not enough to be safe.

We started with Azim who bowled well and the second over was bowled by Mohammad Ali who took a fine caught and bowled to dismiss their opener. This proved a mixed blessing as it brought in their star player and wicket keeper who went on to get more than half of their runs. However Ismail, Ibrahim, Javed, Cian, Sheharyar, Azim and Akhil all bowled very well to hold them down and steadily work through the order taking wickets ever few overs. Fielding was excellent with good catches taken by Azim in particular and excellent work by Luke at 3rd Man and Emmanuel at Short Cover to keep the scoring low. Down to the last wicket and they were winding up for a close finish needing 14 off the last 10 balls. Their best man at the crease cracked a decent ball towards the boundary only to be brilliantly caught by Sheharyar Nawaz to win us the match. A very good natured and friendly game ended with handshakes all round.

The team was Mohammad Ali (Capt), Shahrugh Nawaz(VC and W/K), Azim Bhayla, Luke Courtney, Ibrahim Khan, Ismail Khan, Akhil Chellapuri, Emmanuel Oladunjoye, Sheharyar Nawaz, Javed Bhayla, Cian Hurley and Kyle Twomey. Mr. N. Bronks



Dept. of Education and Science Inspector's Report: Douglas Community School

"The impressive ability of students to engage with higher order skills and questioning, demonstrating their level of understanding of the topics being studied was highlighted."



DCS STUDENTS IMPRESS IN "DRAGONS DEN"

Pictured are DCS Transition Year students Shane O' Sullivan and Sharuk Nawaz with advisor Ms.M Carter following the team's award for best presentation at the Dragons Den Competition run by the Cork City Enterprise Board at the Silversprings Hotel, Cork. The students were set the task of firstly devising an innovative and original business idea and then prepare a persuasive "pitch" to a panel of four expert judges. Shane and Sharuk came up with an innovative design for a medicine dispenser designed to dispense medicines for chronically ill patients at pre-determined programmed times. The product idea as well as the professional pitch was to impress the judging panel, and the students were praised for their entrepreneurial spirit and professionalism in their preparation, well done to our budding future business leaders.



DCS ANNUAL SCHOOL TOUR 2011 - SKIING IN SLOVAKIA

Over forty DCS students and supervising staff travelled to Jasna in Slovakia to enjoy an energetic weeks skiing over the February Mid Term this year. Following the success of last year's trip to Jasna a return visit was deemed well worth the effort and students and staff were not to be disappointed. Students of all ages and expertise participated fully in a week full of skiing, snowboarding, more than a few slips and of course a lot of laughs.



2011 PRIMARY SCHOOLS SOCCER BLITZ AT DCS

Pictured are some of the local primary school pupils enjoying a fun and competitive day at Douglas Community School's state of the art Astro Turf pitches recently. Run in conjunction with the Football Association of Ireland, this is a Transition Year module aimed at developing DCS students' coaching skills. Facilitated by Mr. S. Lynch, TY students organise and run a weekly soccer blitz where local primary schools are invited to participate in a morning of training and competition where the emphasis is not only developing soccer skills but to HAVE FUN!! Local schools that have participated in this year's programme include: Crab Lane School, Beaumont School, Scoil Niocláis, Gaelscoil na Dúglaise, St. Columbas School and St. Anthony's School.



Dept. of Education and Science Inspector's Report: Douglas Community School

"There is a good quality of teaching and learning in Science and Chemistry in Douglas Community School. Successful teaching strategies were employed...Relationships in the classroom provide a positive atmosphere in which achievement flourishes."



Douglas Community School



First Year Endeavour Award
Conor O' Gorman



Junior Gradam Recipient – Séan Keating



Best Junior Certificate – Sha...



Robotics – Gavin McCarthy



Young Scientist – Jame...

The Douglas Community School Gradam na Scoile Awards were presented on the evening of Monday the 9th of May. Keynote speaker and prizegiver Ms. Kathleen Lynch, Minister of State, Department of Justice, Equality and Defence was welcomed by Ms Eileen Barry, Cathaoirleach of the Board of Management and by Mr Jim Long, Principal of Douglas Community School. The awards recognise the excellence, achievement and endeavour of the students of DCS in many diverse spheres of school life.



President's Gaisce Awards

Dept. of Education and Science Inspector's Report: Douglas Community School

"A positive atmosphere pertained in all lessons and it was evident that there was mutual respect and a very good rapport between students and the teacher, thus facilitating students' learning. Classroom management was effective and discipline was maintained in a sensitive manner. In all lessons students were comfortable asking questions. Students were attentive, interested and generally participated well in the learning process."

Gradam Na Scoile 2011



Shane O' Sullivan



Gael Taca – Daniel Savage



Maths Club – Pawel Kulicki



Shane Flynn



Senior Gradam Nominee – Barry Thompson



Le Crunch Radio Advert – Shane O' Sullivan & Liam O Cuanachain



Chess – Maykel Mendiola



Athletics – Ian Tobin, Declan Herlihy

Dept. of Education and Science Inspector's Report: Douglas Community School

"The atmosphere in all the lessons visited was positive and relaxed. Students were addressed by name and there was good use of affirmation to encourage them in their efforts. Students' behaviour was excellent and they applied themselves well to the tasks assigned."



DCS ARE MUNSTER YOUTH CUP SOCCER CHAMPIONS

Douglas Community School - 2,
Crescent Comprehensive College - 1
(Rob Lehane, Eoghan Murphy)

On Tuesday 22 March at Pike Rovers Grounds Limerick, our senior soccer team captured the Munster Youth Cup with a magnificent 2-1 victory over Crescent Comprehensive College of Limerick.

The first half was a tight affair with neither side having many clear cut chances with both defences coming out on top. At half-time manager Mr Kevin Ronayne urged his team to attack more and try and be more creative in possession. The lads set about their business with far more energy and attacking guise in the second period and were rewarded with a brilliant goal from Rob Lehane, his 13th goal of a wonderful season playing for DCS. A second goal followed from man-of-the-match Eoghan Murphy with a sublime piece of skill. Crescent snuck in for a dubious consolation goal but our team had the belief and determination necessary to see the game out for a memorable victory.

Squad:

Cian Hammond, Jack Wilkins, Eoghan Murphy, Andrew Lehane, Luke O' Sullivan, Eoin Cremin, Graham Cullinane, Stephen Bunney, Rob Lehane, Darren O' Sullivan, Cian Ryder, Cormac McCarthy, Paul Beale, Shaun Healy, Jack Buckley, Eoghan O' Connell, Andy O' Connell, Adrian O' Connell, Billy Davis, Djamal Tirab, Padraig O' Flynn, Michael Forrest, John Daly.

Kevin Ronayne



DOUGLAS STUDENTS EXCEL "AS GAEILGE" IN IRISH LANGUAGE QUIZ

Pictured receiving their trophies for finishing in a highly commendable third place at the recent Gael Taca Irish language table quiz are DCS students Eoghan O' Brien, Daniel Savage, Robert Bolton and Cian Mangan. Organised by Gael Taca, a group which promotes the use of the Irish language in the community the event was held at the Rochestown Park Hotel . The competition was contested by 20 Cork secondary schools and tested students through the Irish language in areas ranging from politics, general knowledge and geography. Comhghairdeas le gach éinne a ghlac páirt ann!



DCS CORK MENTAL HEALTH PUBLIC SPEAKING CHAMPIONS

The DCS Public Speaking Team after a keenly contested contest were to emerge victorious in the finals of the recent Cork Mental Health Public Speaking competition. Defeating Christ the King School and Clonakilty Sacred Heart School the team of Jason Moloney, Kevin Twomey and Liam Cuthbert were coached by Ms.S. Mackey and Mr. S. Lynch. Pictured congratulating the team on their victory is Principal Mr. J. Long and Ms. Mackey.



Dept. of Education and Science Inspector's Report: Douglas Community School

"Students, in a number of lessons, demonstrated an impressive ability to engage with higher-order skills and questioning that clearly demonstrated their level of understanding of the topics for study. Achievement in state examinations is good and teachers are to be commended for their high expectations of the students in their care. Uptake of higher-level geography is also impressive."

S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS AGAIN!!

Congratulations to our second year basketball team who recorded a great victory in the South County Final against a tough St.Aidans team led by the incredibly talented Jordan Blount (35 pts.). On the 5th of April 2011 the talented team (including three Cork players) travelled to a packed Neptune Stadium and knew they were about to confront a tough and tiring game. But despite all the hype and an atmosphere of excitement and ecstasy, the team managed to keep cool and play to their usual fast pace and easy flowing game. At the end of the first quarter, Douglas was on the wrong end of a 13-10 scoreline. The tides were turned, however, when the gifted Jack O'Mahony (21 pts.) was introduced. Douglas ended the half with a 19-22 lead. The game was still open to either team and some great baskets from Blount meant St. Aidans headed into the final period trailing by only 1 point. Douglas started this quarter superbly and pulled away from a fatigued opposition with Danny O'Keeffe (3 pts.), Liam Harris (14 pts.) and Gary Pineda (6 pts.) providing some fantastic three point shooting. This was supported with some fantastic rebounding from Ryan Lacey and O'Mahony. Blount hit some clutch shots in the final minutes of the game but great defensive coaching and support from team coach Ms. O'Callaghan helped the team on their way to a fantastic triumph. Well done to all players for a fantastic game and we wish them, and their coach, all the best as they compete in the All-Ireland Championships later this season.

Full squad list – *Fionn Bracken, Rory Barry, Gary Pineda, Kevin Houston, Jack O'Mahony, Danny O'Keeffe, Liam Harris, Kevin Brennan, Ryan Lacey, Michael Lynch (team captain), Conor Kennedy, Adam Walsh.*



DCS SCHOOL BANK 2011 REGIONAL CHAMPIONS IN BANK CHALLENGE

Pictured with advisor Ms. J. O' Connor are the Douglas Community School Bank management team receiving the congratulations of competition organisers from AIB on becoming Regional Champions. In winning this event students were presented with personal I Pods as well as winning a Sony Camcorder for the school.

Douglas Community School students successfully beat some stiff competition from a total of 24 other schools to emerge victorious at the recent Build a Bank Challenge held at the Rochestown Park Hotel. Team members had to make a presentation to a panel of expert judges and scored highest points for their business plan, customer loyalty scheme as well as their teamwork and communication skills. The name of the school's award winning student bank is DC\$aver\$ and it gives pupils from all year groups the opportunity to save money with AIB as part of the Build A Bank Challenge. A team of six students from 5th year were selected to run the bank through an interview process at the start of the year. This year's team consisted of Kevin Twomey (Manager), Robert O' Neill (Assistant Manager), David Kelly (Sales and Marketing), Pádraig Wilson McCarthy (Auditor) and Shaine O' Neill and Cian Lynch (Tellers). The dedication and professionalism of the student staff have created a very successful bank, since September more than 90 accounts have been opened and the team have also run a range of innovative initiatives including Online Banking Tutorials and a Role Reversals week. Congratulations to all involved !!

Dept. of Education and Science Inspector's Report: Douglas Community School

"Students were courteous and respectful of their fellow classmates and of their teachers in all lessons. An atmosphere of mutual respect and commitment to learning was clearly evident....
These were very effective and successful lessons."



FRENCH BREAKFAST - LE PETIT DÉJEUNER FRANÇAIS

The French Department held their annual French breakfast recently in the school. A wonderful morning of French language and food was had by both students and staff alike. Students and staff were encouraged to sample some typical French cuisine whilst experiencing some French culture and conversation from the teachers of the French department. Some of the classic French delicacies sampled included pain au chocolat, crêpes, brioche, baguette, French cheeses, jams, chocolate spreads, chocolat au lait, jus d'orange, jus de pomme and, of course, croissants. Key phrases were taught at the beginning of the morning and the students then practised their language skills throughout the morning as French became the language of the day. Pictured with their helpful assistants Dylan Preston and Stephen Lyons are the teachers of the French department Mrs A. Goulding, Ms. C. Moylan and Mrs C. O' Mahony. C'était délicieux et bravo à tous!



DCS ARE ALL-IRELAND CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONS

It was an unbelievable day for Douglas Community School at the All Ireland Schools Cross Country Championships with DCS winning the SENIOR BOYS TEAM TITLE and the JUNIOR BOYS team winning silver.



The National Aquatic Centre in Abbotstown Dublin was the perfect venue for the AVIVA All Ireland Schools and Irish Universities Cross Country Championships. The flat course provided great underfoot conditions and as a

result fast running was the order of the day. It proved to be a day that will long live in the memory of the schools athletes with every athlete producing their best ever performances.

The junior boys produced the biggest performance of the day winning the silver team medals, having finished third at the Munster championships. It was an absolute storming performance by Liam Harris, Jamie O'Connell, Declan O'Herlihy and Fionn Bracken.

The senior boys managed to win the team title after a very close team battle with St Malachys College, Belfast. DCS took it by a mere point, congratulations to Cullen, Patrick, Ian, Emmet, Cillian, Mark, Dave, Rob and Jamie on a great win.



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The full content of the Inspection Reports can be accessed via the inspectorate link on the Department of Education and Science website: www.education.ie

Dept. of Education and Science Inspector's Report: Douglas Community School

"Classroom management was good in all cases. In general, students were attentive, interested and participated well in the learning process... Inspectors universally commented very favourably on student-teacher interactions and on the general atmosphere in classes. The courteous and respectful attitudes displayed during lessons were noted."