

**St. Mary's
Boys' National School
Maynooth**



Yearbook 2008 - 2009

A word from the Principal

It's hard to believe that a year has passed since I last typed an introduction to a school year book. And what a year it has been. As I flick through these pages I'm reminded of what an eventful year our school has enjoyed. The boys have had a chance to take part in a huge variety of activities both during and after school hours. They have participated in experiences stretching from dance to sport, from music to drama. The boys benefit from all these activities because a number of groups and individuals give so freely of their time and efforts.

The Board of Management have contributed enormously to the running and upkeep of our school. The school extension and the continued improvements to the school are proof of their tireless effort and hard work. Thank you.

We are extremely fortunate to have an ancillary staff who are second to none. They are part of the fabric of our school life. The Christmas trees, the spring clean before Communion and Confirmation, the printing of this yearbook and the setting up of the PE Hall for various meetings; these and other jobs, although not part of their remit, are freely and generously undertaken. Our staff gives freely of their time in a cheerful friendly way. Thank you.

The Parents' Association have organised a number of successful initiatives during the year. They have also been in the background at every event the school runs. From providing refreshments at the school functions to raising the funds that give our pupils the extra resources that help so much. In addition many individual parents have helped so much. It is good to know that if I need expertise of almost any kind I have only to lift the phone. Thank you.

What leaps from every page of this yearbook is the wonderful commitment of the teachers. Our teachers give a huge amount of personal time to make sure the pupils get to participate in a wide range of activities. Experiences the pupils enjoy, from the nativity play to the school's football and hurling teams, the school musical to the green schools, depend on the voluntary work of the staff. Thank you.

And lastly, the boys. Every visitor to our school comments on the friendly, cheerful atmosphere in the school. The energy, enthusiasm and good manners of the pupils help to create that atmosphere. By their good behaviour they make all the activities in this book possible. Thank you.

As you read this book I hope you get a flavour of Maynooth B.N.S., and in years to come I hope our pupils will read back and remember the good times they shared in our school.

Peter Coakley
Príomh-oide

Pride in our School by Jack Dignam in Ms. Mc Laughlin's 5th Class



My school is St. Mary's Boys National School, Maynooth.

The school was built in 1944. The principal is Mr. Coakley. I am in fifth class and my teacher is Miss Mc Laughlin. There are 30 boys in my class.

I am very proud of my school because it has a good sports timetable. We have an all weather pitch where we do P.E.

We go swimming in NUI Maynooth every Friday morning.

At break time, we do different yard games. We are even taught Irish Dancing by Rita Doyle. We also have a computer room where we go each week to learn about computers.

We have a school website, the address is: www.maynoothbns.ie.

Our school is environmentally friendly because we have three Green Flags. We hope to get our fourth Green Flag in the future. Pupils who are on the Green Schools Committee take it in turns to pick up the litter at lunchtime and recycle what they can. In every classroom there is a green bin and a paper bin. They are different colours so we can tell the difference quite easily. The school also recycles batteries.

The school also has great after-school activities such as guitar, chess and sports.

We have an assembly in the P.E. Hall every fortnight.

Mr. Coakley talks to us about the different things that are happening in the school. Also during assembly, a boy from each class is awarded a "*Pupil of the Week*" Certificate. Our teacher Miss Mc Laughlin allows you to sit on a leather chair for a whole week if you are the *Pupil of the Week* and Mr. Coakley gives you a bag of popcorn.

The school has a hurling and a GAA football team and they play against other schools. They get on very well each year. Each year we go on a school tour for the day. We also have Sports For All Day each year. Classes from Junior Infants to first stay on the school grounds while classes from second to sixth go to North Kildare Rugby Club for the day. We play different sports all day. I would gladly recommend my school to anybody thinking of enrolling here!



Ms McLaughlin had five winners in the Pride in Our School Competition. All the entries were fantastic - well done boys!

(Conor Dooley, Andrew Kelliher, Jack Dignam, Viljar Orumaa, Rory Feehan)

School Activities

Book Fair 2009



Our Annual Book Fair took place between the 19th and 25th of March. As in previous years the fair was a great success and was well supported by adults and children. We are delighted to report that the school earned over 3,000 euro in commission. This has been spent on new books for all the class libraries. We are very grateful to Edel Van Duyvenvoorde and her team of volunteers from the P.T.A. who managed the fair so efficiently.

(Miriam O'Connor)

Operation Christmas Child



We are delighted to confirm that this year's Operation Christmas Child collection was the biggest success to date. Last Christmas the organisers collected 354 parcels from the school. This was almost 100 more than was previously collected. A huge THANK YOU to all the boys who brought in these Christmas presents (and their families). You made it a very Happy Christmas for 354 children.

Parents Association

The school would like to thank all parents for their support this year, especially the Parents' Association. We wish to thank all those who gave up their time to help with the School Open Day, the Musical and the Sponsored Walk, to name but a few. We would also like to thank those who helped with teas and refreshments for the boys and their families at the Confirmation, Communion and Graduation etc. It was very much appreciated.

(Bridgeen McLaughlin)

Art Display

During the last week of May our P.E hall and corridors were brightened by our end of year Art Display. Every child had an exhibit and parents and children had a chance to view the work of our budding Renoirs and Van Gogh's! The display showed the fantastic work done in Visual Arts during the year. Many thanks to Ann Hafdioui,



Ann Feehan and Catherine Carton who helped to display the masterpieces.
(Mary Brosnan)

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl sa scoil idir 10-14ú Márta. Bhain páistí agus múinteoirí an-taitneamh as na himeachtaí éagsúla.

'Seachtain na Gaeilge was a great week, we got to speak Irish all the time!

We did a play in Irish about 'Naomh Pádraig. Is maith linn an Ghaeilge!'

(Nathan McGeough agus Peter Donaldson, Rang a Ceathair)

A wide ranging list of activities took place in the whole school, with lots of colour, and a fabulous Gaelic atmosphere! Each class performed a concert item for Junior or Senior Assembly "as Gaeilge". Senior Classes performed a "Naomh Pádraig" drama, co-coordinated by Mr. Downes. Ms. Tierney organised a full Irish Céilí in the Junior end of the school. Prizes were awarded for the best speaking effort in each class. It finalised with a *Lá Glas* on Friday 14th. 3rd-6th classes participated in a "quiz gaeilge". 6th Class participated in an Irish poetry competition, and the winners are listed below.

Quiz winners: Ross O'Connor, Jonathan Flatley, Tadhg Forde

Runners Up: Conor Gorman, Darragh Burgess, Eoin Bonass, Austin Dunne, Mark Thompson, Dónal Reilly

Irish Poetry Winners: Brian McLaughlin, Eoin Bonass, Samuel Rabieu

Art Competition Winners: Andrew Kelliher, Seán Roche, Owen Leavy, Alan Tighe

Míle Buíochas do na múinteoirí go léir ach go háirithe, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Downes, Ms. Buckley, Ms. Tierney & Ms. Murphy.

Green schools



Luke Coyle, Conor Dooley and Donal Devine of the Green Schools Committee were delighted to go to Croke Park in February to receive our third green flag from the President of An Taisce, Éanna Ní Lúmhna. The school put in a tremendous effort to achieve this flag. The theme was water conservation. We lifted manhole covers, took daily meter readings, put litre bottles in toilet cisterns, held water competitions, composed watery poems and catchy slogans. Then in early June we had the Lord Mayor of Kildare Senan Griffan officially raise our flag. Senan was pictured in the Liffey Champion with our two youngest green school officers; Ciarán Krahn and James Carroll from second class. Our next flag is on transport so get those walking boots on, dust down those rusty bikes and let's reduce our carbon footprint!



Food Dudes Programme

Food Dudes Healthy Eating Programme began in the school last spring. It is based on positive role models (Food Dudes Characters; Razz, Rocco, Charlie and Tom), repeated tasting of fruit & vegetable portions and rewards for all pupils. The programme has introduced fun into eating fruit and vegetables and both the food and prizes are going down a treat!



Halloween Fancy Dress



Halloween was a very scary time in Maynooth B.N.S.! There were all sorts of wizards, skeletons and vampires roaming the corridors! Well done to all the boys and some spooky teachers and S.N.A.'s for dressing up in such scary costumes!

Open Day



Maynooth B.N.S. hosted its first Open Day this year and it was a great success! Many thanks to all the staff and parents who helped make this day so enjoyable. There was a fantastic turn out with old and new faces visiting classrooms and admiring all the fantastic work on display!



Maynooth's Got Talent - School Musical

Maynooth B.N.S was proud to present yet another world premier this year, for it was the world premiere of 'Maynooth's Got Talent'! The show tells the charming story of John McKenna, a shy boy with a great voice. However, John is reluctant to show the world his talent. The orchestra is practicing hard for the local "Feis" competition. There is one problem however; the school is desperately under-funded. The music room is dusty and old and their instruments would not be out of place on the 'Antiques Roadshow'. One day, after a particularly awful rehearsal, Bill and Ben have an idea. They persuade their teacher, Mr. Holohan, to allow John to sing with them. The plan works! The orchestra sounds good for a change!

John is still reluctant to sing and when he discovers that X-Factor auditions will be taking place in the Glenroyal Hotel, he is very unsure. However, some encouragement from his friends and a little run-in with some bullies, John decides to enter X-Factor. John is now torn between trying to help out his school orchestra and searching for fame and fortune. Entering X-Factor is a turning point in his life and with the help of his conscience, Mr. Good Self and Mr. Bad Self, we follow him on his journey through the auditions and all the way to the final!



The show premiered on 19th June 2009 and was a huge success. Well done to the boys, teachers, parents and all involved.

School Tours

🐾 The day the teddy bears had their picnic! 🐾



We went on a walk with our teddy bears.
We had a special teddy bears picnic.
We played games and we sang songs.
We had lots of fun in the playground.
Our teddies made lots of new friends.

Thank you Big Bear and Tommy Teddy for inviting us!

Senior Infant school tour



We went to Lullymore on our school tour. I liked the golf and picnic. I got a hole in one. It was the hardest hole. Yippee! I went on a double decker bus. It was fun. I got a lollipop. It was yummy!



By Jack Hensey (Ms. McMahon's Senior Infants)

First Class in Dublin Zoo!



We went to Dublin Zoo this year on a double-decker bus and saw lots of animals! The monkeys were playing and the tiger came up so close to us! It was a really sunny day and we



had a picnic. My favourite part was seeing the baby giraffe and the City Farm. Jakob's favourite part was when the elephants had a water fight! Lorraine, Paula and Mr. Murphy came as well as Ms. Duignan and Ms. Murphy so no one got lost and we had great fun!

By Martin Gerard McDonnell & Jakob Adriano, Ms. Duignan's First Class

Fifth Class School Tour



On Wednesday the 3rd of June 2009, 5th class went on a school tour to Clara Lara. It took about 1 hour to get to Clara Lara. When we got there it looked incredible. There was mini golf, go-karting, canoeing, climbing net, rope swing, electric boats and a big water slide. There were also some shops that sold souvenirs. It was the best school tour

ever! Thank you Miss McLaughlin and Mr. Fenton!

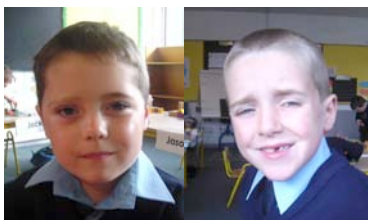
By Seán Ward & Neil Simon Miss Mc Laughlin's 5th Class

6th Class School Tour

For our 6th Class school tour we went to Dunmore Caves and Kilkenny Castle on the 16th June. Mr. McGeady and Mr. Downes chose a really good day to go because the weather was beautiful for the whole day. We left the school at nine and we got back at half five. When we got to Dunmore Caves, we first watched a short video about the caves and then we walked down seven hundred steps into the caves. We got a guided tour from a man called Jim. It was really cold in the caves. When we got to Kilkenny, we had our lunch in Supermacs and then we had a game of soccer on the grass in the grounds of the castle. We had a tour of the castle and some of the rooms in it like the Tapestry room and the Library. After the tour we got some ice-creams and came back to Maynooth on the bus. We had a great day!!

By Christon Senekam

Class Activities



Interview with
Ms. McMahon's Senior Infants

Q1. Are you looking forward to next year?

Yes we are really looking forward to next year

Q2. What do you think of your teacher?

She is very kind and good at teaching Irish

Q3. What do you like about school?

Writing stories and when teacher reads stories to us.

Q4. Has your homework gotten harder?

A little bit but we like homework!

Q5. What's your favourite subject?

Daniel's favourite subject is art and Luke's favourite subject is Irish.

Q6. If you had a choice of yard game what would it be?

Definitely pass the hoop!

Interviewed by David Keogh & Pearce Desmond in Mr. Downe's 6th Class

Interviewing Daniel McLoughlin & Luke Murnane

Interview with
Ms. Duignan's First Class



Q1. What do you like about your teacher?

She says nice things to us & sometimes gives us no homework.

Q2. Do you like doing homework?

No we hate it, it would be better if we got no homework every day.

Q3. Are you looking forward to going into second class?

Well we don't mind we're used to moving classes by now.

Q4. If you were to have a yard game what would you make it?

Army with fake guns & soccer

Q5. What teacher do you want to have next year?

Mr. Davis or Mr. Creevey

Q6. What was your favourite part of sports day?

Bouncing castles & relay races

Q7. What was the best song you learned this year?

Old Dan Tucker by Bruce Springsteen

Interviewed by Austin Dunne & Fergal Stack in Mr. Downe's 6th Class

Interviewing Ethan Moran & Aodhán O'Carroll



Cooking with
Ms. Flynn

Q1: Name a rule in the kitchen?

No playing soccer in the kitchen.

Q2: Would you like to be a chef when you get older?

No I want to be famous.

Q3: What foods can you make on your own? Toast.

Q4: What is the best thing you made in school? Fairy cakes.

Q5: Do you know why she does a lot of cooking?

Not exactly I think it's a family thing.

Q6: Does Ms. Flynn have any hobbies? Yes ballet and cooking.

Q7: What is Ms. Flynn' favourite food? I think its pineapple.

Q8: What did you learn with Ms. Flynn?

Don't mix food to fast or it will splat out.

*Interviewed by Samuel Rabiou and Breen McGeough in Mr. Downe's 6th Class
Interviewing Morgan Dunne and Adam Jordan*

Interview with
Ms. Dunning's
Senior Infants



Q.1 What subject did Ms. Dunning do most during the year? Irish

Q.2 What was your favourite part of the sports day? The football

Q.3 Where did you go on your school tour? Lullymore

Q.4 What was the best part? The play centre was the best part

Q.5 What was your favourite part of the school year?

Dressing up for Halloween

Q.6 What was the best bit at the fire station?

Spraying the hose at the cone

Q.7 Are you looking forward to 1st class?

No because we will get more homework!

*Interviewed by Eoin Bonass and Mark Thompson in Mr. Downe's 6th Class
Answered by Cillian Kearney and Michael O'Neill*

Junior Infants - Nativity Play

The annual Junior Infants Nativity play was held on Tuesday 23rd December in St. Mary's Church. Following many rehearsals, Ms. Ring's, Ms. Tierney's, and Ms. Kelly's classes performed excellently to their first ever audience.

All the boys had different roles to play, including a very special donkey, and the

usual roles of Mary, Joseph, Shepherds and sheep, Angels, Wise Men,

Innkeepers and many more. A great time was had by all in preparing lines, songs, costumes and props for the day, and the boys wrapped up the show



with a superb rendition of Shakin' Stevens "Merry Christmas Everyone". Many thanks to Fr. Liam, Fr. Paul and Martina for the use of the church. Thanks to Mr. Fenton's 5th Class who helped us prepare for the church and last but not least, a huge thank you to Ms. Murphy and Ms. Duignan's 1st classes who were backing singers on the day. We are looking forward to seeing all of the boys perform again in the future.

Junior Sports day



We had our sports day on Thursday 4th June and it lasted all day. We had lots of fun and games and we were really tired at the end of the day.

We had relays and fun races with Ms. Carr. We had to fill a cup with water without spilling any, and we had an egg and spoon race too!!

We had a trampoline and skipping ropes to play with also, and Ms. Murphy played with us with the parachute. We even made a tent from it.

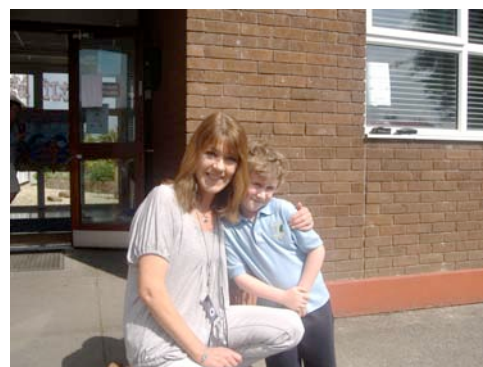
We played soccer and Mr. Murphy tried to get a goal past Ruairí Coakley, but the Junior Infants goalie was too good!!

The best part of the day was the bouncing castle. We had so much fun and we hope the bouncing castle comes back again next year!!

By Ms. Tierney's Class



At the bouncing castle



Helen & Michael Geoghegan

Senior Infants – Trip to the Firestation

Early one morning we set off to the Fire Station. It was a long walk. When we got there two firemen welcomed us. Next, they showed us a big fire truck. It had lots of hoses and ladders. It had other machines that the firemen use at car accidents.



After that the firemen showed us the special clothes they wear when they have to go into a burning house. They have fire proof gloves, hard hats, goggles and oxygen tanks. Some boys were even lucky enough to try on some fire hats!



They then took us for a trip on the fire trucks. Some boys even got to sit in the captains seats. The sirens were very loud and it went very fast. We had to hold on tight! Finally, we got the chance to use real fire-hoses. It was so much fun, we had to aim at a target and try knock it down. And we had to try not aim for the teacher! It was a great day. We had lots of fun and still learned all about firemen and fire safety. Thank you to all the firemen in Maynooth fire station.



Ms. McMahon's Class at the Fire Station

First Class – The Storyteller



A storyteller came to our class. He was very funny and silly. He jumped onto the table and started screaming as loud as he could. He made silly faces and noises and it was really funny. He told a story about Humpty Dumpty, he falls off the wall and you could see the egg yolk! The three little pigs were very naughty and sneaky. We had lots of fun.



Kristofer Gray, 1st Class, Ms. Murphy.

2nd and 3rd Class - Christmas Carol Singing

On 18th December our boys went carol singing in the Manor Mills Shopping Centre. They provided great entertainment to the passers by and had fun in the process. The good news is that they raised €585. This money will be presented to Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children. Well done lads! Special thanks to the many teachers who accompanied the boys.

Also, on Monday 22nd December, Mr. Davis brought a group of 24 boys from 2nd & 3rd classes to the TLC Nursing home on Straffan Road and entertained the residents with their wonderful singing.



2nd Class - First Confession

It was a sunny day for our first confession on the 24th of March. The two second classes made their first confession together. We felt that our souls were clean and full of wisdom. Father Liam blessed us. We did a little play about the Lost Sheep. Everyone loved the play. Father Paul said some prayers. We sang and said lovely hymns and prayers. Father Paul then said a blessing and the mass was over.

Clint Simon. 2nd class, J.Gunn.



2nd Class - Our First Holy Communion

On the 9th of May the two schools made their First Holy Communion. We were very lucky to get good weather for our special day. Father Liam said some prayers. Then we made our Holy Communion. We were really nervous and shy on the day. The bread stuck to the roof of my mouth! It tasted just like wafers.

James Wallace, 2nd class, J.Gunn.



2nd Class - Cecil Day Lewis Awards

We won the Cecil Day Lewis story and poem competition. It was really cool. The headmaster came in to tell us and he congratulated us. Thomas

wrote a poem called "The Silly Policeman" and James won the competition with a story he wrote; "When Good Food Turns Bad." We all had to go down to Athy to receive our awards. It was a great evening.

James Carroll and Thomas Davis, 2nd class, J. Gunn.

3rd Class - Trip to Donadea Forest

It was a cold November's morning but we didn't mind because we were all excited. Our class and Mr. McBride's class were going on a trip to Donadea Forest. We got there and had our lunch first. Then we went on a walk around the forest. We saw lots of trees, for example the oak tree. When we got back to class we looked at the pictures we'd taken it was great fun!

By Paul Damery (Ms. Henderson's 3rd class)



3rd Class - Incredible Edibles Challenge

One day after finishing some of our work in school our teacher told us about a competition we were in; the Incredible Edibles Challenge. From

February to June, we had to grow scallions, strawberries, potatoes, cabbage and lettuce. We planted them and watered them every two days.

In the end our vegetables and fruit grew well except the cabbage which turned into nettles. It was fun doing it!

By Paul Damery (Ms. Henderson's 3rd Class)



3rd Class - All the world is clapping

Last Thursday we went to a percussion session. The man's name was Eddie. He was fantastic at playing instruments. My favourite instrument was the hand-drums. They came from West Africa. I liked the sound they made. He had another instrument which



looked very funny - kind of like a cow-bell. He had shakers with beads in them and lots of other instruments. I had a super day!

By Blake Van Duyvenvoorde (Mr. McBrides 3rd Class)

Credit Union Quiz

This year the boys from 4th, 5th and 6th took part in the Credit Union Quiz. The first stage was the local quiz. There was two ages groups: U11's and U13's. Tomás Feeny, Michael Wilson and Dylan McCarron were on my team. We came first in the U11's and a team from 5th Class won the U13's. We got a plaque and money as a prize. Then we went on to the next stage of the quiz. The Regional final was held in Tallaght in Dublin. The questions were, very hard. We came 3rd, but unfortunately we did not get into the National Finals.



By Michael Mc Brearty (Mr. O' Connor, 4th Class)

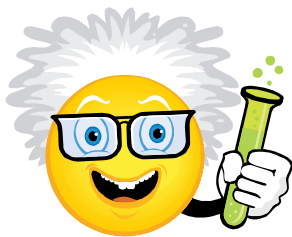
4th Class - 125 years of GAA projects

This year our school celebrated the 125th anniversary of the GAA. We each did a project on it. I completed a project on Michael Cusack, Kerry, Derry, Cork, Player Profiles and lots more. We also made a sign for the windows saying "Celebrating 125 years of the GAA". The GAA is almost everyone's favourite pastime and is very important to us.



By Eoin Donnellan (Mr. O' Connor, 4th Class)

4th Class - Our Chemistry Trip



One day we went to the Chemistry lab in the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. There we had to put on a pair of glasses, a pair of gloves and a big white coat that trailed along the ground. We got to make Lava lamps, volcanoes and measure oxygen. Then a man called Ken brought us outside and

showed us explosions. It was great fun and really interesting.

By Ross Kavanagh and Callum McCabe (Mr. Creevy, 4th Class)

4th Class - Trip to the Helix

We went on two trips to the Helix for music. The first trip was in December to sing Christmas Carols. One man and two women sang the Carols first and asked us to follow. The second trip was last January. This time a man was telling us about singing. He had six girls helping him. We had to do lots of clapping and stamping. It was great fun.

By Dara McCormack and Michael Diamond (Mr. Creevy, 4th class)

5th Class - Science Report



Library Visit - "The Big Bang"

As part of 'Science Week', the 5th class boys went to the Maynooth Library on



Tuesday 11th November to find out more about "The Big Bang" theory. At the library we met with an astronomer who told us some fascinating things about the universe, the solar system and the stars. He also told us about the Binary Code and how it worked. We made a one-sided sheet of paper, which was very cool! The astronomer also told us about a very interesting website where we could see lots of pictures of space. We checked it out the next day in school. We had a great time in the library. It was well worth the visit.

By Adam McAvinue & Michael Flynn – Mr. Fenton's 5th Class

Intel Mini Scientist Competition

This year both 5th classes took part in the Intel Mini Scientist Competition. The boys worked really hard and made fantastic science models from an overflowing volcano and a miniature house, to a giant-sized light bulb. Pupils set up their projects in the hall and other classes were invited in to view their great work throughout the day.



The Intel judges had a very tough task to choose two winners. The lucky winners were Matthew Sutton, Aron O'Brien, Jack Dempsey and Niall Doddy, with their project entitled 'Stop Pollution, Think of a Solution'. The runners up with their project 'Bright Sparks' were Adam McAvinue, Ciarán Flood, Shane Sweeney and Luke Gisbey. Well done to all the boys who took part and made it a really enjoyable Science Display!

Young Scientist Trip

On Thursday 8th January four pupils from Mr. Fenton's class went to the RDS to display their winning project in the 'Primary Science Fair', which was taking place alongside the 'BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition'.

The boys had a most enjoyable day and did the school very proud, impressing the judges with their in-depth knowledge of their project. The boys also received a beautiful piece of crystal (along with other goodies!) to commemorate the occasion.

The boys also made an impression on many of the passers-by, one of whom was the Science Editor from the Irish Times. In the following

day's newspaper he wrote "four Fifth class pupils from Maynooth Boys N.S. built models and demonstrated the benefits of solar and wind energy. Jack Dempsey, Niall Doddy, Matthew Sutton and Aron O'Brien, all 11 year olds, used a voltmeter to prove their model devices worked. They also showed themselves as very proficient in wiring up the hardware to produce their alternative energy"....worthy praise indeed!

6th Class - Confirmation Day

The 6th Class Confirmation took place on the 5th February 2009. It snowed all morning on the day. The ceremony was very good. Bishop Raymond Field confirmed us and he took time to speak to us. We weren't nervous because our teachers, Fr. Liam and Fr. Paul helped us to prepare for our spiritual day. Our parents were extremely proud of us. Everyone enjoyed the choir's singing. After the ceremony we went back to the school for refreshments. We donated some of our Confirmation money to the Nagarhope Charity, which helps the poor people in Nepal. Our teachers Mr. McGeady and Mr. Downes made sure we would always remember our Confirmation Day.

By Ross O'Connor, 6th Class



Looking Back on Eight Years

*It started back eight years ago
When we had fun with play dough
Our teacher then was Ms. Furlong
She taught us how to sing a song.*

*Ahead a year we had Mrs. Gunn
With her we had a lot of fun
She taught us how to add and spell
She always helped us when we fell.*

*Ms. Ring was great, she helped us a lot
She always stopped us when we fought
She let us do PE and Art
Where she helped and did her part.*

*Ms. Buckley liked to sing and dance
She taught us lots of tunes to sing and gave everyone a chance
That year we made our First Communion and it was a lot of fun
But that year was definitely a tough one.*

*In third class we moved onto the big yard
But playing with the big boys was hard
Ms. Brosnan helped us not to be scared
Within a few weeks we were fully prepared*

*Our fourth class teacher was our first to be a man
For PE Mr. Murphy always had a good plan
Our best memory of that year to show
Was when he brought us out to play in the snow.*

*In fifth class the work was tough
But we learned a lot of important stuff
Ms. McLaughlin helped us throughout the year
And because of that when it came to work we had no fear.*

*Now in sixth it's our best year yet
And it'll get better we bet
Mr. McGeady helped us along the way*

*And that is needless to say
This year was great we had a blast
We can't believe it went so fast!*

By Alex Howell and Shane Roche 6th Class

After School Activities

Guitar lessons

When did you start guitar lessons? In first class

When is it on? Monday's after school

Who runs it? Mr. Davis

Do you like it? Yes we love it!

What's your favourite thing part about it?

You get to play guitar & learn new stuff.

What's your favourite song? The Drunken Sailor

Who's your favourite singer? Mica & Mr. Davis

Glen & Robert in Ms. Murphy's First Class

Interviewed by Aidan Carroll and Jack Courtney in Ms. Henderson's 3rd Class



Hip Hop

When did you start hop hop? In March

When is it on? Mondays after school

Who runs it? Aideen Byrne

Do you like it? Yeah it's cool.

What is your favourite dance? The wave dance

Do any of your friends do it? Yes, Blake and Seán

What's your favourite thing about it? Learning new break dances!

Aidan Carroll, Ms. Henderson's 3rd Class

Interviewed by Basil K Roy, Mr. O'Connor's 4th Class.



Homework Club

When is Homework Club on?

Every day of the week except Friday from 3 - 4pm

Who runs it? Ms. Duignan

Do you like it? Yeah, I like it a lot, I get my homework done quickly.



What's your favourite thing about it? I get all my homework done before I go home!

Basil K Roy, Mr. O'Connor's 4th Class

Interviewed by Aidan Carroll and Jack Courtney in Ms. Henderson's 3rd Class

Speech and drama

When did you start speech and drama? In Junior Infants

When is it on? Thursdays after school from 3-4

Who runs it? Miss McDonald

Do you both like it? Yes because the plays are funny!

What's your favourite play? The Boy because one of the ladies in it screams & faints!

Do any of your friends do it? Lots, Kevin, Alan, Pierce, Michael, Cian, Matthew

What are your favourite things about it? The plays because we are very good at acting!

Gareth Ashe and Eoin Walsh, Ms. Duignan's First Class

Interviewed by Aidan Carroll and Jack Courtney in Ms. Henderson's 3rd Class



After School Sports

When did you start after school sports?

I've been doing it since First Class

When is it on? It is on Tuesday at 3pm.

Who runs the after school sports for 2nd class?

Mr. Downes & Mr. Murphy

Do you like doing it?

Yes because it is sporty and fun.

What is your favourite game?

Football, my favourite team is Chelsea

What's your favourite thing about the after school sports? Football, I'm a forward, Drogba is my favourite player.

Darragh Nolan in Ms. Henderson's 3rd Class

Interviewed by Basil K Roy, Mr. O'Connor's 4th Class.



After School Art & Craft

Every Wednesday we had Art & Craft after school with Ms. Ring. We had lots of fun creating and making new things! Some



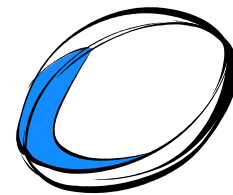
of our favourites this year included making clay coasters which took a lot of time and effort but it was worth it in the end when we saw the final result. Also we got to design and dye our very own t-shirts which was really great fun! We made new friends and learned new skills and techniques!

By Samuel Corrigan, Cian Durkin, Charlie McMyler, Tom Fagan, Christian Corrigan, Cathal Quinn, Dan C & James Sheridan

Sporting Success

Rugby Blitz In North Kildare Rugby Club

On Wednesday, the 25th of March, fifth & sixth classes went to North Kildare Rugby Club (NKRC). We spent our day playing rugby and we had our lunch in between including our fruit & vegetables from the Food Dudes Programme! It was great fun. There were a lot of other schools from around the area playing alongside our school. We played tag rugby and touch rugby. We met Shane Jennings and had our photograph taken with him and the Magners League Cup Trophy. At the end of the day, we got a rugby ball shaped pencil case, a miniature rugby ball and a key ring as presents for our brilliant behaviour. We give a big thanks to Louis for organising a great day at North Kildare Rugby Club and also to all the teachers for giving us permission to go - We had a great day!



*By Dylan Mc Carron & Cian Hutchinson
Miss Mc Laughlin's 5th Class*

Hurling Report

Although no silverware was annexed this year by our hurling teams, it was nonetheless a superb year with some fantastic performances. A host of boys represented the school this year. In early March twenty one boys from 3rd class took part in a 'Ground Hurling Blitz' in Celbridge. In early May a selection of boys from 4th and 5th participated in a 'Mini 7's' competition held in Confey. Added to this both our Under 11 & Under 13 panels reached their respective County finals. I would like to thank the boys who trained so hard all year and I would like to wish the 6th class boys, who are leaving us, all the best in the future. Another person who won't be around our training sessions next year is Mr.O'Connor and I

would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all the work he has done for hurling, in the school, down through the years.

(Mr. Fenton)

U-11 Hurling Final

It was a great honour for Maynooth to contest Division One Hurling Final U-11 . The game was played in Clane – with a huge turn out of teachers, and parents and pupils to support us. Lady Luck frowned on Maynooth in the first half. Naas had a six goal lead at half-time. Maynooth totally dominated the second half. Niall Doddy and Luke Gisbey scored a goal each. Cillian Madden scored three points.

We hit crossbar – and upright – had about 10 wides, and had the ball stuck in goal line twice. It was one of the proudest, gutsiest displays ever by a Maynooth team.

Backs were outstanding in the second half. Mr. Fenton (trainer) and Mr. O'Connor (assistant) were very happy with the progress through the year and the commitment they got from the players.

Special thanks to parents and teachers who supported us in all our four matches.

Visit of the GAA President

The new president of the GAA, Christy Cooney, visited Maynooth on 21st May to launch the hosting of the National Féile Finals in Kildare. The 5th & 6th class pupils were invited to attend the GAA Club for the event. There were pupils there from the Irish school and the Girls school too. Everybody was excited to meet the new GAA president. When he arrived there was a big cheer from everyone. The winning Feile team got a picture with the President. They were very proud indeed. There was a short questions and answers section near the end. It was a very enjoyable day.
By Michael Flynn and Ian Flattery – (Mr.Fenton's 5th Class)



Under 13 Football

The U-13 Footballers had a very good year. The boys played their first game against Celbridge on 31st March. It was a very close game and we battled hard to win by one point. In our second game against Kilcock, we won by a high number of points and we were very happy with the result. In our final group game against Clane, we went behind by a point at one stage, but we fought back brilliantly to win by five points. We topped the group to go on and play St. Conleth's of Newbridge in the county semi-final. In another tough game, we held on to win by seven points to qualify for the county final on the 28th May against Athy. The final was in Sarsfields GAA grounds in Newbridge. Against a very strong Athy team, the game was level at half-time. Athy scored a goal and two points early in the second half but we fought back to get within one point of them. A brilliant save from the Athy goalkeeper denied us a goal which would have given us the lead but unfortunately, time ran out and we were unlucky to lose the final by a single point. The boys were naturally disappointed to lose on the day but they should be exceptionally proud of their brilliant efforts showing fantastic bravery, skill and dedication over the last few months. Well done lads!!



Under 13 Hurling Year

The under 13 hurling panel this year has had a fun year although it was tough! Mr O'Connor and Mr. Fenton were very proud to be in charge of us. We had many successful games with wins over Confey, Scoil Uí Dhálaigh and a big win over Clane in the semi finals. When we got to the finals there were nerves coming from both teams. We started off great and hurled really well in the first half. Luck was not on our side and things started to go the way of Naas in the second half. Two late goals meant that Naas won by four points but things like that happen. We were very proud to have reached the county final of 09 and I am sure Mr. 'O' Connor was very proud of his last year.

By: Ciarán Flood

FAI 5-A-Side Soccer

On Thursday the 19th March, we brought three teams o the North Kildare section of the FAI 5-a-side soccer competition in Celbridge. Two of our teams topped their groups to qualify for the Kildare Finals in Newbridge on the 1st April. Both squads performed excellently on the day, with Maynooth 'B' getting to the final against a strong Ballymany team. Unfortunately, we were beaten by a cruel 'Golden Goal' in extra time. All the players must be commended on their skill, energy, spirit and

teamwork. Many thanks to all parents who helped out with lifts during this competition. Special thanks to our teachers and team managers, Mr. Creevey and Mr. McGeady.

Squad Members ; Seán Hooker, Louis Hartnett, Owen Leavy, Conor Duffy, Seán Flanagan, David Moynan, Austin Dunne, Gerard Heraghty, Patrick O'Connor, Darren Maguire, Adam Cully, Donal Reilly, Fergal Stack, Daragh Burgess, Ross O'Connor, Jack Doyle, Jack Kerrison, Keith Kelly, Mark Thompson, Tadhg Forde, Conor Dunne, Kurtis Walsh, Jonathon Flattery, Conor Gorman.

Futsal Tournament

Our Futsal Team, from 4th class, won the Kildare Tournament in December. As a result, they went on to the National Basketball Arena to represent Kildare in the Leinster Finals. They joined the champions of the other counties in a very keenly contested competition.



Despite some brave and skilful play from the Maynooth boys, they were unable to emerge from their group, following three tough matches. The school are very proud of all the boys for the huge effort they put in. Well done lads.

Cross Country

On Thursday the 2nd April, five of our 6th Class boys travelled to Celbridge GAA grounds to take part in the Kildare Cumann na mBunscoil Cross Country Finals. The boys put in a fine performance, finishing very high in the team event. Competition was very strong in the large school section, with almost 60 athletes competing. Sean Flanagan put in a supreme performance to finish in first place and become Kildare Primary Schools Cross Country Champion. Congratulations Sean! All our athletes finished well, with everyone coming in the top thirty. Well done to all the boys who took part.



Panel; Ross O'Connor, Jack Kerrison, Seán Flanagan, Louis Hartnett, Conor Dunne.

Printrite Trophy U8's - Soccer

A Saturday in April, Maynooth and Beaumont U 8's battled it out for the Printrite trophy. The two teams were led out by the referee, it was just

like a real match! The two teams played very well. It was 0-0 at half time. Eoin Harrington stepped up to shoot in the top corner; 1-0 to Maynooth! Minutes to go and Tom Fagan turned around the defenders and scored! The referee blew the final whistle and Maynooth Town won 2-0.
Tom Fagan, 2nd class, J. Gunn.

English as an additional language

Group activities and written work

This is a taste of some of the work we have covered this year in English as an additional language. Between baking, playing music (tin whistle and bells) and playing with toys we had a busy year.

How to make Muffins

First mix butter and sugar in big bowl. Then add eggs one by one. Next put in the melted chocolate and milk. Then add in flour, baking powder and bread soda. Spoon the ingredients into the muffin tray. Bake in the oven at 180 degrees. Hey presto- fifteen minutes later lovely muffins. Enjoy!



By Adam Czubak age: 13

My News Wednesday 10th, June.

Today is Wednesday its 14 degrees. Today we will have half day. It is very sunny. The teachers will have a meeting. The meeting will take place at the computer room. I forgot my bag from my dad's car. In Poland my dad bought me a steering wheel for my computer/Play station. I drove my steering wheel this morning. I drove my steering wheel using a computer game called "Need for speed most wanted".

Written by Pawel Barycki age 10

We love playing with and talking about our toys.



Ms. R. Murphy and Ms. E. Buckley would like to thank the boys for all their hard work this year.

Mr. O' Connor

One of the great highlights of the year was the retirement function held in the Glenroyal hotel on Friday June 12th to celebrate Mr. Pat O' Connor's retirement. Mr. O' Connor joined the school in 1966 and has given forty three years of loyal, outstanding service to our school. His retirement function was attended by a huge crowd of friends, staff, family and especially past and present pupils who down through the years have shown great respect and affection for Mr. O' Connor. It was a wonderful night, full of memories and nostalgia and was a fine tribute to a great teacher who will be missed by all. We wish Mr. O' Connor many years of health and happiness in his retirement.

Joe Mc Bride.



Mr. O'Connor with his last ever class.

Editors Note

We would like to thank each and every person who has helped us with this yearbook. Thanks also to the boys who kindly gave up their time to be interviewed and the boys who took time out of their day to go and interview, report and scribe the many events that took place this year.

The photos have been taken from the school archive and many more of them are to be found on the school's new website.

Ciara Duignan, Eimear McMahon and Sarah Murphy
June 2009