

St. Aloysius' Secondary School

Sharmon Crawford St , Cork



Any newsletter can only capture a flavour of the wonderful level of endeavour in any given school year and in my first year as Principal of St Als I am proud to report that as a school community we can all look back with pride on a marvellous year. Hard work and commitment from both staff and students have ensured that this newsletter showcases the wide variety of educational activities that our girls enjoyed and benefitted from in the past year.

However, the past year has also been tinged with sadness and loss with the death in July of our school secretary Mrs. Ann Trinder. Ann was a most dedicated and committed member of staff and her time in St Als spans her years here as a pupil and her 38 years service as school secretary. She is sorely missed by her colleagues and friends on the staff and by the large number of students and their parents who experienced Ann's kindness and support during their time here.



Ann Trinder

(1956 - 2012)

As Christmas 2012 approaches I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of the school community a Happy Christmas. Thank you all for your ongoing support of all we do to make St Als an excellent school.

Yvonne Bane

Principal



St Aloysius' Annual Awards Ceremony 2012

Outstanding students of St Aloysius Girls Secondary School on Sharman Crawford Street, Cork were honoured at the 2012 annual awards ceremony. The awards presented recognised achievement and excellence in all aspects of school life. A host of dignitaries, special guests and sponsors attended the evening including Guest Speaker Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Agriculture, Marine and Food.

The main award of this year's ceremony was presented to All Ireland Scholarship winner Vitalia Sava in recognition of her excellent Leaving Cert results in 2011. Other winners of awards for academic excellence were Hayley March (Leaving Certificate 2011) Jessica O Driscoll and Aoibhne Warner (Junior Certificate 2011).

St Als has a long tradition of celebrating and showcasing the talent and ability of students in the school. The ceremony recognised outstanding achievement in many areas – academic excellence, commitment to school life, sport, musical & cultural endeavour, perseverance, and leadership. Head Girl Sinead Warner spoke of Awards Day as being a time when the school gathers together to celebrate its shared accomplishments. It instils a sense of pride, of progress and achievement. This sense of community is crucial.

The awards were sponsored by the Crawford College of Art & Design, The River Lee Hotel, St. Aloysius Parent's Association, Diarmuid O Cathain, Solicitor and The Lough Credit Union.



Photograph – Laura Mac Mahon, Sadie Cobb (Head Girl), Yvonne Bane (Principal) and Rena Buckley (Captain)

All-Ireland Football Success

Last month Cork were crowned TG4 All Ireland Ladies Senior Football Champions for the 7th time in 8 years by beating Kerry in a thrilling match in Croke Park. Rena Buckley, a past pupil of St Als (L. Cert 2005) captained this winning team and Rena and her team mate Laura Mac Mahon got a huge welcome they returned to the school with the Brendan Martin trophy recently. Rena is a really positive role model for all St Als' girls and she has shown what can be achieved with hard work, determination and commitment. Rena has also been very successful in her professional life having qualified as a Chartered Physiotherapist. Well done and congratulations to Rena and her team. St Als is extremely proud of Cork's winning captain.



School Enterprise Initiative Awards 2012

Congratulations to our Transition year <3 (Less than 3) mini company team who participated in the Junior Achievement School's Company Competition in Cork and progressed to the Munster regional Final and eventually to the national Finals held in Dublin last May. <3 produced and sold promotional merchandise to raise awareness on the subject of youth suicide prevention. The group was mentored and supported by their Business teacher Ms. Carmel Mc Gee and they also enjoyed the support of Mr. Leonard Godsill of Bord Gais Networks who came on board as business mentors to the project. An article in a Bord Gais network publication praised the "dedication, hardwork and skill" of the team and describes them as "truly champions". Bord gais went on to say "As a nation our future largely depends on the creativity and innovation of today's young people and if the girls from <3 are reflective of the generation that will develop the Ireland of tomorrow – we'll be in good hand!" Praise indeed girls and well done to you all and Ms. Mc Gee.



Leaving Cert. Results

Congratulations to the Class of 2012 who obtained excellent results in this years Leaving Certificate exam. We all share and salute each and every one of them in their individual achievements. The staff in St Aloysius Secondary School, are proud to see our students accessing their chosen courses and we wish them well in their future courses and careers.



Lord Mayor's Essay Competition



Congratulations to Kelly Hayes, Ms. Sandra O'Shaughnessy, History Teacher, and Amber Harrington on winning the prestigious Lord Mayor's History Essay Competition 2012

Garda Awards

Gemma Conway, Ciara Hartnett, Shauna Williams, Ms. Ann Roche Cagney, Cllr. Terry Shannon, Lord Mayor 2011, Ms Eileen Kelleher, Deputy Principal.



Lord Mayor's Visit 2012

Sadie Cobb Head Girl, Yvonne Bane, Principal, Cllr. John Buttimer, Lord Mayor, Dr. Frank Steele, Chairperson Board of Management.

Google Art Competition Finalist 2012

Serena Foley





Maths Week

1st and 2nd year students attended the "Dr. Maths" lecture in U.C.C. It was a very enjoyable talk and students got to use their logic and skills to crack some really unusual codes.



Gunilla Visit 2011



TY Sailing 2012



Young Scientist 2012/2013

This year we have had a huge success in the Young Scientist. We have 5 projects accepted to proceed in January to the competition. The titles are the following:

1. Correlation between critical flicker frequency of the eye and reaction times (Transition Year)
2. Reuleaux – 3 sided wheel (Transition Year)
3. The Relationship between Leg Dimensions and the mechanics of kicking a football (2nd Year)
4. Natural or Synthetic Dye (1st Year)
5. Smartphones: Smart by name, Smart by nature? (1st Year)

This is a phenomenal result as this year there were 1879 projects entered and only 500 projects are accepted. The student involved have great scientific endeavour and we wish them the best of luck in January for the competition.



5th Year Gaeltacht Visit 2012



Giving Tree Appeal The 2012 St Vincent De Paul Giving Tree Appeal run in conjunction with the ST Al's Student Council and Parent's Association was launched by Munster and Irish rugby stars Simon Zebo and Donnacha Ryan. Last years Giving tree Appeal was a huge success and resulted in hundreds of euros worth of gifts being donated to needy families in Cork at Christmas . With the excitement generated by these rugby boys during their recent visit to St Als the 2012 campaign may even prove more successful than Giving Tree 2011.





Variety Show 2012



Girls with the X-factor took to the stage for the St Als annual variety Show 2012 in front of a 300-strong audience of parents, family and friends . A matinee was also staged for 250 students from local primary schools. Our talented students performed scenes from musicals including Mary Poppins, My fair Lady, Grease and Good Morning Baltimore. Third year students also gave their own unique performance of Sminky Shorts. The audience was also entertained to some Bollywood and Nepalese dancing along with beautiful performances from the school orchestra. Props and sets were designed by teachers and students in the Art department. Congratulations to Ms. O'Callaghan who directed and produced the show.



Munster Swimming Champions

Head Girl 2012

Sadie Cobb

Tara desmond who won two gold and one bronze and her sister Caitlin who won silver in the Munster Schools Swimming Gala 2012 in UL.

Meitheal Group 2012/2013



Junior Cert Results 2012



Sponsored Walk 2012

St Als staff and students in conjunction with the Parent's Association enjoyed a very successful fundraising activity in our sponsored walk on October 19th. € 4,636.30 was raised and this will go towards the cost of painting the school.

