



EOLAS

Student Council Edition

Volume 19
Issue 1
Number 474
March 1st 2019

Dear Reader,

2019 is well on it's way and has certainly brought great development and change. As part of our own expansion and growth, the **Student Council** is excited to re-launch "Eolas" as our monthly newsletter. Our aim is to share all developments, achievements and general news happening within the school and create a network of communication between students, parents and teachers. If you have something that you would like to include in our next edition, please email

'stucouncil@portumnacs.ie' or talk to a member of the Student Council. We really hope you enjoy this newsletter!

The Student Council 2018/19

The Pope John Paul II Awards 2018

Twelve students from our school took part in the Pope John Paul II Awards last year. As described by the award facilitators 'the Pope John Paul II awards enables participants to take an active part in the life of their church, their community and society.' Last year's participants took on **voluntary roles** in their local churches as well as their communities with students visiting nursing homes, St. Dymphna's, training underage sports teams etc. These students also co-ordinated a **youth choir** which 'toured' parishes around the Diocese. The students were presented with their awards by Bishop Kirby at a medal ceremony held in the Meadow Court Hotel on January 14th. This was the first year of the award in the Clonfert Diocese and in our school. It's popularity within our student body is growing rapidly with **many more students** hoping to achieve their JP2 award this year. We wish them the **best of luck!** **Many thanks** to Mrs. Lohan and Marie Burke for facilitating the awards.

Therese Keane 5th Year



Junior Camogie Success!

On the 31st of January, the Junior B camogie team were crowned **Connacht Champions** when they beat St. Raphael's College Loughrea. It was a very tough game in extremely cold weather conditions. The first half remained fairly even, however, in the second half, the Portumna girls changed gears and cruised to victory on a scoreline of 3-7 to 2-4.

The girls then prepared for what they anticipated to be a challenging team from Armagh. They left the school on Sunday morning the 24th of February at 8:30am for the All Ireland Semi Final and arrived at 1:30pm in O'Connell's GAA grounds, Tullysaran for a 2:30 throw in. They were evenly matched in the first half but with a few tactical changes the girls rallied to **victory** on a comfortable scoreline of 4-8 to 2-4.

We wish the Junior Connacht Champions and their coach Ms Sheil and mentor Susan Keane every success in the All Ireland Final where they take on Cashel Community School, Tipperary.

Sinead Lohan 5th Year



Student Council

The Student Council has been very active within the school recently! In the last month we have had the pleasure of overseeing the installation of **a new water tap** in the Home Economics room where students can refill their water bottles at morning break and lunch time. We continue to supervise the microwaves also in the Home Economics room where students can heat their lunch. We feel that both of these new facilities promote health and wellbeing within the school community. As the saying goes '**A healthy body is a healthy mind**'

You may have noticed the **three new benches** in the courtyard! These were continuously requested by the student body and we are delighted to have had these installed before the good weather begins!

Please continue to approach us with any problems or suggestions you have. We would be delighted to help out. You can place any suggestions into the **Student Council Box** in the social area, or email 'stucouncil@portumnacs.ie'.

Stephen Donelan and Ruth Cowan 3rd Year





BT Young Scientist

Well done to the **two teams** from our school that competed in the BT Young Scientist competition in the RDS in January. The **first year** team of, Ruth Lohan, Aoife Murray and Ciara Kenny and the **TY** team of Jamie Hogan, Gavin Headd, Eoin Horan and Oisín McDonagh represented the school with pride. Congratulations to both students and teachers who were involved!

Vincent Glynn 5th Year



Rugby League

On the 11th of February the First and Second Year Rugby blitz concluded with a climatic final between the **Tynagh Tigers** and the **Kilimor Cubs**. Congratulations to the Tynagh Tigers who managed to take the inaugural **Daithi Frawley Trophy** which was presented, as pictured, to the winning team by former Connacht rugby president and member of staff Daithi Frawley.

37 first and second year boys competed in this competition, many of whom never played rugby prior to this. This is a great opportunity for students to be involved in a team activity while developing a new skill and keeping active! A special mention to **Sean Ladeinde** who was nominated as '**Player of the Blitz**'. Many thanks to Mr Smith and Mr. Plews for organising the event.

The PCS Rugby team's next fixture will be against St Raphaels College Loughrea. All First and second year boys are very welcome to join the team. Training takes place at lunch time on Monday and after school on Wednesday.

John Luke Reynolds 2nd Year



Congratulations Sean

In November, the **National Comhairle na nOg Showcase** took place in Croke Park, hosted by Comhairle na nOg Ireland, which promotes all county and local committees. At this event, all the County Committees showcased the work they had completed in the previous year. Following this, representatives from each county collected a certificate for their contribution. We are delighted to have had one of our own Student Council members, Sean Power chosen to accept the award on behalf of the Galway County Comhairle from Minister of Children and Youth Affairs, **Katherine Zappone**. This was a great opportunity to meet committee members all over Ireland, and an encouraging experience for all.



Sean Power TY

Riddle of the Month

I am a precious stone, as clear as a diamond. Seek me out while the sun is near the horizon. Though you can walk on water with my power, try to keep me and I'll vanish in an hour.

Rachael Dermody and Kaeyshanti Raj Khanna
2nd Year

Chamber Choir

At the end of January, students from first year up to fifth year took part in auditions for the new **Chamber Choir**. This Chamber Choir is a new addition to the school, set up by the music teacher, Ms Brogan. A total of **40 students** were chosen to take part. The new Chamber Choir will compete in many different competitions all over Ireland. We wish them the **best of luck!**

Sienna Fahy 3rd Year and Ruth Lohan 1st year

Seanfhocal

Maireann croi eadrom i bhfad

-A light heart lives longest

Kyle McCole Madden 3rd Year

Quote of the month

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall

-Confucius

Dates for your Diary

25th March-5th April: Leaving and Junior Cert Music/Home Economics Practicals, Irish and French Orals



Riddle Answer: Ice