

St. Ailbe's School, Tipperary Town

Mission Statement

- To provide quality education that meets the actual needs of young people in the best quality learning environment, creating an atmosphere of trust and confidence between students, parents, and staff which enhances self-esteem and self worth.
- To help all pupils reach their full potential in all areas of life, moral, academic, social and vocational, recognising that there is no single standard that applies to all.
- To help pupils grow in confidence with a positive outlook on life and with the due consideration for others and for property.

Aims of the School

The broad aims of the school are to create an atmosphere of trust and confidence in which everyone is valued and everyone's needs are met. In all fields we seek to recognise success at whatever level it comes, helping all pupils to recognise their full potential. Success must mean different things to different pupils - there is no single standard which all can reach. We look forward to our pupils growing in confidence, enjoying life at school and leaving with an outlook which will help them in the changing and often bewildering world outside.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Chairperson:	Mr. Christy Kinahan, M.C.C.
Secretary:	Mr. Paul O'Callaghan, Principal.
Teacher Representatives:	Ms. Brid Collins Mr. David Hickey.
Industry:	Mr. Ken Kingston Mr. Noel Boland.
V.E.C. Representatives:	Mr. Brendan Griffin, M.C.C. Mr. Michael Maguire, M.C.C.
Parent Representatives:	Mr. Caoimhin O'Raghallaigh Ms. Margaret Doyle.

*Staff List 2003/2004***Staff****Principal**

Mr. Paul O'Callaghan

Deputy Principal

Mr. John Blackburn

Teaching Staff

Byrne, Dan	Special Duties Post, Science, Biology
Blackburn, John	Deputy Principal, Mathematics
Carroll, Liam	Assistant Principal, Guidance Counsellor
Clancy, Noel	Programme Coordinator, Mathematics, Physics, Science
Clifford, Deirdre	Learning Support Teacher (Career Break)
Collins, Brid	Special Duties Post, Home Economics
Collins, Eddie	Assistant Principal, Irish
Cullen, Donal	Assistant Principal, Metalwork, Mathematics
Devitt, Rhuraí	Resource, Mathematics, Metalwork
Doyle, Michael	Computers
Fitzpatrick, Sean	Special Duties Post, Mathematics, Woodwork, Computers, Drawing.
Hayes, Ailish	Special Duties Post, English, Religion
Hickey, David	Assistant Principal, Woodwork, Drawing

Hogan, Shiela	Irish, Mathematics
Kiely, Fiona	French, German (Career Break)
Laaksonen, Lisa	Special Duties Post, French, Spanish
Landers, Siobhan	Assistant Principal, German, English
Lewis, Valerie	Special Duties Post, Art, CSPE
Lonergan, John	Special Duties Post, Biology, Mathematics, Geography
McCormack, Bridget	Irish, English
McDonnell, Pat	Metalwork
McGrath, Christóir	Special Duties Post, English, Physical Education
McGuire, Fiona	Music
McLaughlin, Nicole	English, History
Nugent, Miriam	Home Economics, CSPE
O'Brien, Bobbie	Assistant Principal, (Secondment to Education Department NUI Cork.
O'Dea, Emer	Business Studies
O'Donoghue, Cáit	Irish, Geography
O'Donoghue, Caroline	Business Studies, LCVP, Computers
O'Dwyer, Kieran	Chemistry, Mathematics, Science
O'Rourke, Audrey	Learning Support Teacher
O'Sullivan, Emily	Business Studies, Computers (Career Break)
Quinlan, Maura	Special Duties Post, Mathematics, Irish
Quirke, Michael	Assistant Principal, Woodwork, Drawing

Ryan, Noreen	Home School Liaison Community Officer
Ryan, Patricia	English (Career Break)
Scally, Clare	French, Geography
Walsh, Sean	Art
Weber, Angela	Business Studies, Mathematics

Administration and Caretaking Staff

Cummings, Nicholas	Caretaker
Glasheen, Mary	Attendant
Hogan, Veronica	Administration
Looby, Jack	Caretaker

Canteen

Fowler, Joanne
 Riordan, Mary
 Ryan, Helen

Special Needs Assistants

Bell, Crystal
 Farrell, Anne
 Halligan, Anne

School Completion Programme

Butler, Michelle

Devitt, Rhuráí

Lonergan, Jo

Nolan, Tony

Enrolment 2003-2004:

Mainstream Programme	305
Secretarial	13
Office Technology Retraining	16
Core VTOS	<u>6</u>
<i>Total</i>	340

Highlights of the Calendar Year

The highlights of the calendar year included the Academic Awards Ceremony, Sporting Achievements Awards night, Trip to Old Trafford to see Manchester United play Leicester City in April, The Graduation Mass, Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate Results, PALL Ireland Science Quiz for Fifth and Sixth Class Pupils, Open Night for incoming First Years, Junior Certificate Schools Programme Graduation Ceremony, Fourth Years in Coca-Cola sponsored Form



and Fusion, Litter Blitz by First Years, Various Outings to Delphi and Killary Adventure Centres. Tag Rugby blitz for local primary schools. Fourth Years who qualified for AIB's 'Build –A-Bank' National Finals at the Radisson SAS Hotel in Dublin in May and also their Bar-B-Que for their graduation ceremony.



Chris Dolan (You're A Star Fame) opens AIB 'Build-A-Bank' with some Fourth Year Girls who reached the National Finals, held in Dublin May 2004.

in

St. Ailbe's held a Christmas concert just before our holidays and all students were welcome to play an instrument, sing a song or take part in a play. It was a nice end to the term and all enjoyed the show.



First Years getting their Act together before the Christmas Show.

Extra Curricular Activities

Each student is urged to become involved in some aspect of sport, or cultural activity as we feel they are an integral part in the development of our students.

St. Ailbe's competed in the following activities:

Hurling – Under 17 Fitzgerald Cup, Under 15 Hennessy Cup, Munster Junior Vocational Schools and Munster Senior Vocational Schools competitions.



Football – Under 18 McGabhann Shield, Under 15 Cusack Shield, Under 14 Rockwell Blitz, Munster Senior Vocational Schools, Munster Junior Vocational Schools, All-Ireland Inter-Scheme Senior Football, Inter Schools Leagues and 1st Year Munster V.S. Championship.

St. Ailbe's School had four students, Gerard Peters, Adrian Fitzgerald, Donnadha Barry and David Jones representing the County in the All-Ireland Inter-Scheme Senior Football Team, Gerard Peters captained the side who won the All-Ireland Inter-Scheme B Final. This team beat Limerick in the Munster Final and went on to beat Leitrim in the All Ireland Final.

Mr. Christóir McGrath was Coordinator of this team and he wishes to thank all the Principals and Teachers of the 11 schools in the scheme, both North and South Tipperary, for all their help and cooperation throughout the year in running the County Vocational Schools Team.



Gerard Peters, who captained the County Vocational Schools Team to All-Ireland Victory over Leitrim.

Ladies Football Mr. Pat Moroney took charge of the Ladies Football team and organized many games, both challenge and competitive. Ladies football has been offered in St. Ailbes for the past few years and is still at the development stage.

Basketball Mr. Devitt coached St. Ailbe's Cadet and Senior Basketball teams. Both teams competed in the South East League. They were unlucky in their matches and as a result decided to train over this past summer. They are expecting better things this coming season.

Best players were Stephanie Walsh, Stephanie Tracey, Ciara Ryan and Catherine Kelly.

Rugby – St. Ailbe’s School entered the Under 15 Munster Coca-Cola Junior Cup and Shield Rugby Competition. An Under 14 mixed team won the Schools Tag Rugby Blitz (pictured)



Under 18's played a series of challenge matches throughout the year and our under 14's played a touring Welsh side Penarth Dragons.

St. Ailbe's also ran a very successful Tag Rugby Blitz for 5th and 6th Classes from local Primary Schools such as Bansha, Ayle, Gael Scoil, Monastery and Cahir.



Alan Quinlan (Ireland and Munster Rugby Player) on a visit to St. Ailbes just before departing to Australia for the Rugby World Cup. Mr. P.O'Callaghan (Principal), Mr. C.McGrath and Mr. J. Lonergan were among the enthusiastic rugby supporters.



St. Ailbe's Under 15 Panel 2003-2004 with Mr. Lonergan (Coach)

Soccer –Under 14's Munster FAIS Cup, Defeated Borrisokane in First Round after a penalty Shoot out at home and were then beaten by Davis College Mallow in round 2.

We also participated in a new competition for South Tipperary Schools and were narrowly beaten by Cashel Community School after a very good match.

Under 16's Munster FAIS League, qualified from our group and went down narrowly to Colaiste Mhuire, Cobh, in the quarter-final.

Under 18's Munster FAIS Senior Cup, were beaten narrowly by the Vocational School, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford in the first round.

Equestrian:

On Saturday February 21st three St. Ailbe's students Joey O'Dwyer, Seamus Crowe and Catherine Kelly competed in the Irish Ferries Inter Schools' Show Jumping Competition held at Clonshire Equestrian Centre in Adare, Co. Limerick. This competition attracts entrants from secondary schools around the country and offers students the opportunity to showcase their abilities on the equestrian stage. With competitors entering in large numbers many of our students had to endure an early start in order to arrive at the venue on time. This competition consists of both team and individual events, with Joey representing us at Senior level and Catherine and Seamus competing at Junior level. Each competitor jumped two rounds in the individual competition and two in the team competition. Catherine Kelly riding Shanballymore came fifth overall in the Junior competition.

On Sunday March 21st, the above three students also competed in the All Ireland Schools' Hunter Trials, which were held at Ballyhyland Equestrian Centre, Co. Laois. These students were involved in a very early start as they were the third team out on the course and arrived at Ballyhyland at 6am to walk the mile and a half course.

The inclement weather meant that competitors went through several changes of clothes throughout the day, as they braved the elements throughout the various competitions. The team event consisted of twenty four obstacles of varying difficulty, which included walls, water complexes various forms of mobile and upright fences. As the hailstones fell during the latter part of the afternoon, the last of the riders made their way through the finish. Once again Catherine Kelly and Shanballymore proved to be consistent competitors coming eighth in the Junior section of this All Ireland event.



Seamus Crowe, Joey O'Dwyer and Catherine Kelly warming up for the Irish Ferries ShowJumping League held in Clonshire on Sat. Feb 21st 2004.

Debating, A debating Club was re-established in St. Ailbes during the year, Mr. McGrath and Ms. Flynn attended Debating competitions with some interested students. It is hoped that St. Ailbe's will continue to have a Debating Team in the future. Amy Flynn, Mary McDonnell, Catherine Kelly and Adam McAuliffe all hope to take part in future debating competitions.

Athletics St. Ailbe's entered the county competition held in Nenagh during the course of the year. The Girls under 15 team, Blaithnaid Watters, Denise Connolly and Katie Walsh, came third in the cross country event. The Boys under 14's came fourth. Catherine Kelly came fifth in the under 17's which was excellent for a first attempt. Mr. Dave Hickey and Mr. Rhuraí Devitt coached the teams. Mr. Devitt also ran the Irish National Marathon and was the 37th Irish man home out of over 8,000 runners. He was representing the Dundrum Team who came in 2nd in the Munster event. He recorded a time of 2 hrs 50 mins.

Young Scientist Exhibition, - Kayleigh Ryan, Mary McDonnell, Amy Flynn and Louise Withero, members of St. Ailbe's Science Club, put the wheels in motion to enter the Esat Young Scientist Competition in January 2005. They have begun their investigations so as to have it completed in time for the event. Mr. K.O'Dwyer and Ms. H.Flynn are offering excellent tutoring.

County Student Enterprise Competition, Fourth Years entered 'Build a Bank' and won first prize for their stand.



Fourth Years 'Build-A-Bank' Entry with Ms. Purcell, AIB, who sponsored their entry.

Leaving Certificate Applied Year 2 entered their 'Celebration Company' and came second in the Senior Category.



Adrian Fitzgerald, Charlene Glasheen, Joseph O'Connor, Rosemarie Esmonde and Paul Clarke at their stand.

Survival Course for Young Adults, This course was run in conjunction with the School Completion Programme. The students involved spent 5 Monday mornings completing this course.

Safe-Pass Course for Construction site workers. This course was run in St. Ailbe's in May 2004. Both students and members of the Community completed successfully and received their certificates. This certificate is a legal requirement for those who work in construction.

Community Links

St. Ailbe's School is committed to building a strong community link in providing continuing educational opportunity for all adults in the community. A full time and very well established Secretarial Course was offered where Adults studied ECDL and Computer Applications. Office Retraining and Technology is also provided as is VTOS Year 1 and Year 2.

As part of HSCL programme parents have taken part in Policy Development in St. Ailbes.

Awards

V.E.C. Awards 2003/2004

Best Leaving Certificate ...	...	...	...	...	Marian Kinahan
Best Leaving Certificate Applied .	...	...	...	...	Thersa Wills.
Personal Achievement	...	...	...	...	Michael Noonan
Sport ...	...	...	...	...	Adrian Fitzgerald

Academic Awards 2003/2004

An Academic Awards Ceremony was held in St. Ailbe's School on September 2003 for the first time. These awards were to recognise contributions and achievements of the pupils in the various classes during the past year. The recipients are as follows:

First Place in Class:-

- 1.1 Amy Flynn
- 1.2 Martine Dalton
- 1.3 Donna Ferris
- 2.1 Denise Bradshaw
- 2.2 Edmond Peters
- 2.3 Alison Spooner
- 3.1 Mary McDonnell

3.2	Eleanor Ryan
3.3	Richard Bresnan and Stephen Whyte
3.4	Tina Cronin
LCA 1	Mary Gilsenan
LCA 2	Thersa Wills
Fifth Year	Fiona Fox

Special Merit awards were presented to the following students:

April Roche - Overall contribution to her class 3.3, work ethic, register upkeep, attendance etc.

Kayleigh Ryan – Local Studies Project in Junior Certificate was used by Department of Education and Science as an Exemplar Project.

Edel Hickey – Participation in PALL Ireland Table Quiz and her keen interest in Science.

Padraig O'Halloran – Consistent Hard Work and Attendance.

Garret McInerney, Joey O'Dwyer, Derek Daly and Sean Barry – Achievement in Reaching the All Ireland Coca-Cola Form and Fusion Competition.

Colleen Cunningham was presented with Merck Sharp and Dohme South Tipperary Chemistry Award in recognition for achieving Grade A1 in her Leaving Certificate Higher Chemistry Paper.



Mr. P.O'Callaghan, Cathriona Sheehan, John Condon (both M.S.& D.) Colleen
and Mr. K. O'Dwyer (Chemistry Teacher).

Sporting Awards 2003/2004



(Back row) Richard Childs, Brian Fox, David Hanrahan, Patrick Noonan, Kevin Fox, Karl Greaney, Ned Lowry, Gerard Morey and Tristan Greaney.

(Middle Row) Philip Long, William O'Neill, Christopher Doyle, Graham Quirke, Sean Barry, Wayne Barry, Adrian Fitzgerald, Gerard Peters and Jonathan Ryan.

(Front Row) Donnadha Barry, Fiona Fox, Moira Kiely, Catherine Kelly, Ciara Ryan, Louise Fitzgerald and David Jones.

Special Achievement Award went to Anthony Glasheen who has gone on to represent Ireland at the Third Level Colleges World Cup Games held in Cyprus.



Anthony is picture here with his father Tony, Mr. McGrath and Mr. O'Callaghan presenting his Irish Jersey to the school.

PALL Ireland Table Quiz

A very successful table quiz was held in November 2003. Twenty nine teams of 5th and 6th class pupils participated. One hundred and sixteen pupils participated in this most enjoyable event. St. Joseph's Girls National School in Tipperary Town emerged as the eventual winners. Here they are pictured with Mr. Paul O'Callaghan (Principal), Mr. Kieran O'Dwyer (Organiser and Science Teacher), Sr. Claire and Ms. Margaret Troy receiving their trophies sponsored by PALL Ireland.



Courses and Curriculum

Junior Certificate Course:

All Junior Certificate students follow a three year programme for which the following subjects are offered: Irish, English, Mathematics, Science, Art, CSPE, German, French, Music, History, Geography, Metalwork, Technical Graphics, Woodwork, Business Studies, Physical Education, Home Economics and Religion.



Kate O'Dwyer is working hard in the Metalwork room.

During first year pupils are allowed to try out all subjects. Boys, for example take Home Economics and girls take Metalwork and Woodwork.

Tristan Greaney and David Hoban getting the Apple Pie ready for the oven.



Junior Certificate Schools Programme is offered in tandem with the Junior Certificate subjects. Pupils who complete the JCSP are issued with Certificates of Completion at the end of their Third Year.

Our Third Years held a very successful graduation ceremony in May when they invited their parents for a meal, which they themselves prepared. Five students took part in the National 'Build A Book' competition and attended the Awards Ceremony in Dublin Castle.

Pictured below were the students who took part in the JCSP having been presented with their Certificates of Completion by the Regional Coordinator Mr. Gerry McCarthy. Also pictured is Mr. Dave Hickey (Third Year Head) and Ms. Audrey O'Rourke, JCSP Coordinator.



Fourth Year Programme:

This is a new programme introduced this year to replace the Transition Year. Students are offered all subjects which are available to the Leaving Certificate. While there is a greater academic emphasis much of the traditional aspects of Transitional Year are incorporated: Work Experience, Visits to Third Level Institutions, Driving Tuition and Theory, First Aid, Java Computing Programme, Horse Riding are just a sample of the other curricular activities.

In the following picture Mary McDonnell (4th Yr) helps in the surgery of a local Veterinary Clinic.



Pictured below are the Fourth Years of 2003-04 receiving their Certificates of Completion with Mr. Liam Carroll (4th Year Head and Guidance Counsellor), after their graduation ceremony and bar-b-que.



Leaving Certificate Programme:

This two year programme offers all of the following subjects at both Higher and Ordinary Level :

Irish, English, Mathematics, French, German, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, History, Art, Geography, Engineering, Construction Studies, Technical Drawing, Music, Home Economics, Accounting, and LCVP.



The non-examinations subjects Religion, Career Guidance are also provided.

Pictured are students attending a Careers Exhibition held at Limerick Racecourse, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

Leaving Certificate Applied Programme:

In St. Ailbe's School the LCA Programme has been run since it replaced the Senior Certificate some years ago. St. Ailbe's was part of a Pilot Programme offering the Senior Certificate and was also to the forefront in the introduction of the LCA programme.

Last year we had 17 students sitting LCA Sixth Year and 20 students in LCA Fifth Year. Students have work experience for one day each week plus a two week block release. They participated in the County Enterprise Competition. Adrian Fitzgerald, Paul Clarke, Margaret Gilsenan, Rosemarie Esmonde, Charlene Glasheen and Joseph O'Connor worked very hard. They really enjoyed participating in the County final, which was held in Cashel, taking second prize in the Senior Category.

School Completion Programme:

The SCP is now in its second Year and is well ahead in achieving its aims. There was a 100% success rate in keeping targeted children in second level. During the year the SCP co-operated in running an Easter Camp for Fifth and Sixth Class pupils from the local primary schools which participate in the Programme. A very successful week-long Summer Camp was also held in June.

The SCP Team also play a role in Learning Support and one-to-one tuition. A very successful 'Copping On Programme' was delivered to our LCA students where they followed a Crime Awareness Induction Programme.

Various activities were introduced which included Dance and a Home Work Club, where some rolls and drinks are provided before getting down to home work. When they finish they play Soccer or Rugby. A friendly ladies soccer match with Rosbrien was played in May.

School Development and Planning

During the course of the year various policies were adopted and ratified by the Board of Management. Committees were established consisting of teaching staff, caretakers and members of the Students Council. Meetings were held throughout the year in the teachers own time and policies were drawn up. These policies were presented to the staff at our School Development and planning meetings in December 2003, January, March and finally in May 2004. These policies were then approved by the Board of Management.

The policies drawn up included

- Pastoral Care Policy,
- Environmental Policy,
- Attendance Policy and
- Internet Acceptable User Policy.

The following Policies were reviewed and updated:

- Our Admissions policy and
- Discipline Policy.

Student Services

Students Council

The Students Council is very strong in St. Ailbes School and in 2003/2004 the following students were elected to the Council.

Anthony McDonnell, Eric Keane – 6th Year

Tanya Withero, Denis Pollard - 5th Year

Mary McDonnell – 4th Year

Cian O'Raghallaigh, Gerard Morey, Aidan Peters – 3rd Year

Kevin Fox - 2nd Year

Aisling Daly – 1st Year.

The Student Council attended a meeting of the Local Urban District Council in April and Dáil Éireann in May. Some members assisted in the drawing up of our Environmental policy.

First Years having completed a Local Clean-up in school and the adjoining local community .



First Years who took part in the Litter Blitz about the school and around the local housing estates.

Canteen Facilities

Canteen facilities were available from early morning breakfast from 8.15am up until evening tea and rolls at 4pm. Many of our students avail of the breakfast having a bowl of flakes, orange juice and toast. Students attending evening study from 4pm to 6pm can get a cup of tea and a sandwich roll.

At our break at 10.55am there was a great demand for hot dogs and salad rolls the great variety of food on offer and the soup was very welcome for lunch.

Evening Study

Evening Study commenced at the end of September 2003 and provides an opportunity for the students to establish good study practices under supervision. Evening Study was provided for a nominal fee for the first and second term and all those who availed of it had a free final term. Light refreshments are served before evening study commences. This enabled the students to sit down and study with a 100% concentration.

St. Ailbe's 'Women into Science'

Three students from St. Ailbe's attended the 'Women into Science and Engineering' programme held at NUI Cork. This was a two day event sponsored by Intel Ireland Limited which is designed to encourage more



female students to consider careers in Engineering and the Physical and Chemical Sciences. Mary McDonnell, Michaela Kiely and Kayleigh Ryan are pictured with Mr. O'Dwyer (Chemistry Teacher) and Mr. Declan Burke (Professor of Electrochemistry at NUI Cork).

Students attending UL Laboratory Work

Four Leaving Certificate Students visited the Chemical Instrumentation Laboratory at the Department of Environmental Science at UL in December 2003 to get a hands-on approach to Practical Laboratory Work. Those attending were Angela Hanrahan, Alanna Landers, Fiona Fox and Kristy O'Connor. Also in the picture is Mr. K. O'Dwyer and Dr. Tom O'Dwyer.



Seachtain na Gaeilge 8ú – 17ú Márta 2004.

Tráth na gCeist don chéad Bhliain – eagraithe ag an gcúigiú bliain- Duaiseanna urraithe ag Banc na scoile.

Comórtais éagsúla do gach rang sa scoil, mar shampla, Lúbra focal nó crosfhocal do gach dalta sa scoil – curtha le chéile ag an idirbhliain.

Fógraí i nGaeilge timpeall na scoile. Comórtas do chártaí oiriúnach do lá Fhéile Pádraig.

Uibheacha Cásca do na buaiteoirí go léir.



An chéad Bhliain sa rang Gaeilge.

Easter Camp

Preparation for the incoming first years to St. Ailbe's School took on an innovative approach during the Easter Holiday. While other 6th class pupils relaxed, the incoming 2004 made many new friends, solved murder mysteries using science techniques, ordered food in a French café, engaged in art, sport and self-development classes, in an attempt to facilitate an easy transition to secondary school.

The aim of the Camp was to develop self-esteem in our pupils, to extend friendships beyond that of Primary School and to allow students to explore experiences of transferring to Secondary School. It also hoped to overcome

some emotional challenges such as moving from one school to another, engaging in a different peer group and coping with structural change of daily life in secondary school such as multiple classes and many new teachers.

Students who took part in this inaugural two-day event were from the feeder schools in the area. All students are enrolling in St. Ailbe's School in September. The Camp was planned and run by Home School Community Liaison Co-ordinator, Noreen Ryan and School Completion Programme Co-ordinator, Michelle Butler. Both parents and students were invited to take part. However, students proved to be more adventurous than their parents – maybe next year!



The students who helped in running the Easter Camp.

Organisers were most impressed by St. Ailbe's senior students who volunteered to act as Mentors. April Roche, Mary McDonnell, Kayleigh Ryan, Michaela Kiely, Natasha Quinn and Ciara Lawlor received training by Michelle Bulter (SCP Co-ordinator), in group-leadership and mentoring. Michelle devised a short programme that guided the Mentors over the two days. The girls organised and ran a table quiz, with the assistance of Jo Lonergan (SCP) and played requests and music, which was broadcast to create a lively atmosphere and add to the

sense of fun during breaks. Mentors got to meet and get to know the incoming students and alleviate any worries that arose.

Participants were divided into teams and took part in classes in Science, French and Art. Volunteers, from the Staff, ran these classes. Kieran O'Dwyer ran a murder mystery science class, Ann Halligan ran an art and craft class and Jane O'Dwyer ran a Café complete with menus in French. Ruairidh Devitt and Pat Moroney were responsible for the sporting activities. Michelle Butler, Caroline Casey, Tony Nolan and Jo Lonergan of School Completion Programme acted as Team Leaders and organised art, self-esteem, and a school based treasure hunt.

After registration the participants started their day with a healthy breakfast of orange juice, cereal, tea and toast. In an attempt to encourage healthy eating, fruit was provided as a break time option, with a roll and juice for lunch. All provided fuel for the activities of a busy mind and body for the day. A big thanks to Mary for feeding everyone in the school canteen!

Issues which concerned students such as many teachers, finding rooms, new friends, losing old friends, getting into trouble with students or the Principal and time-tables, were addressed during the two day Camp. Students attended classes following the new timetable, discussed the abbreviations, identified teachers and found subject rooms using the school map. The treasure hunt also gave participants the opportunity to find objects in rooms in the school, therefore allowing them to discover the lay out.

The Camp ended, much to the disappointment of all involved. Comments from the participants, while reviewing the camp, included: I had a great time, it was fun, overall I enjoyed it, I think this is a very good school. I had a great time, the camp was run rather well, the team leaders and teachers were very nice and helpful, and it is a class school.

To finish, the Principal, Mr Paul O’Callaghan, presented each participant with a certificate and complemented the students on their participation. Mentors also received certificates in recognition of their excellent work. A fun filled learning experience was had by all.

Premiership Match

Over the long weekend at Easter St. Ailbe’s set off for Manchester to see the Red Devils take on Leicester City who were fighting for premiership survival. It was a Tuesday evening kick-off and the students got to experience the electric atmosphere of the ‘Theatre of Dreams’.



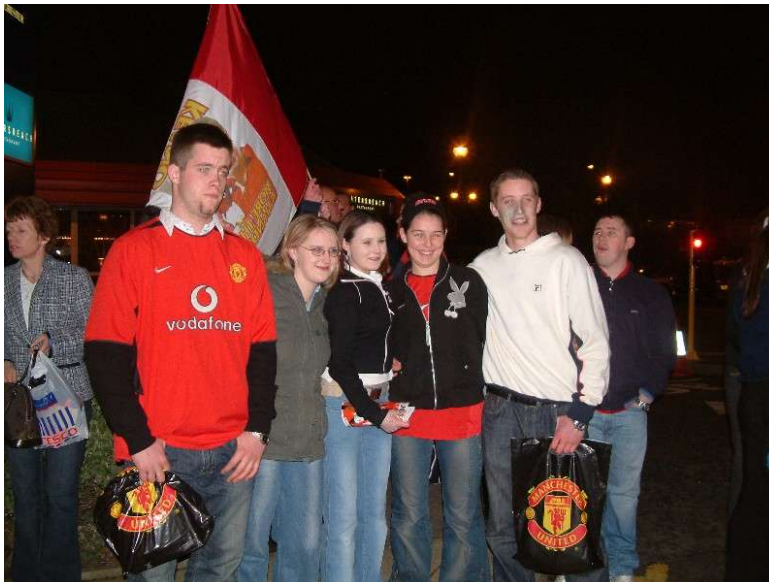
Stadium Tour

During the days it was possible to take in a guided tour of Old Trafford, visit the Science and War Museums and even pay a visit to the set of ‘Coronation Street’.

A very enjoyable and memorable trip was had by all and of our four previous trips across to see the premiership, it was probably the best. The question which was on all pupils lips on the way home was 'Can we go there again next year?'



Just before kick-off



A Night to Remember – "Roy Keane decided to play again for Ireland"