Seachtain na Gaeilge



Tá Seachtain na Gaeilge buailte linn arís. Tá clár imeachtaí iontacha againn don bhliain seo. Tá Bannaí ceoil traidisiúnta, ceoltóirí , amhránaí agus ár Cór álainn againn. Tá aíonna an speisíalta againn freisin. Tá gach duine ar bís ag tnúth leis na himeachtaí éagsúla.

Stratford College Secondary School is a teaching and learning community committed to quality and excellence in education

Beimid go léir ag caitheamh píosa beag de ghlas agus ag caint Gaeilge ar an Luan agus beidh Bratach na hÉireann ag eitilt ós cionn na scoile. Tá bród an domhain orainn go léir as ár dteanga álainn ,Gaeilge.

Scott Whelan (6th)

Reports and photos of these events will be included with the next edition of the school newsletter.

# Pesach

Pesach (Passover) is an 8 day festival during which we recall the events leading up to and including the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt over 3300 years ago. To help us retell the story, a ceremony called the Seder (order) is held on each of the first 2 nights of the festival. During the Seder, relevant Biblical passages are read, symbolic foods are discussed and/or eaten, questions are asked, songs sung, and a festive meal enjoyed. The symbolic foods are arranged on an ornamental plate in the centre of the table and consist of:

- A roasted lamb bone- reminder of the last meal in Egypt & of the daily Temple offerings
- A roasted egg- a reminder of the festival offerings in the Temple
- A green vegetable e.g. parsley, celery)- a symbol of Spring; is dipped in salt water & eaten
- A bitter herb (horseradish or spring onion) eaten as a reminder of the bitterness of slavery
- Charoset- a "chutney" made of chopped apples, wine & cinnamon, eaten as a reminder of the mud from which the slaves made bricks.

We also eat matzah (unleavened bread) during the Seder and the whole of Pesach. This is done for 2 reasons: a) to remember that the newly freed slaves baked their unrisen bread dough to make food for the journey, and b) to fulfil the commandment to refrain from eating leavened foods for the duration of the festival.

Ms. J Charry

#### Dates to note

- 12th—19th March: Seachtain na Gaeilge various events.
- 17th March: St Patrick's Day School closed.
- 18th March: 'Ides of March'
  Classics quiz Mt Anville.
- 23rd March: Junior Certificate oral examinations.
- 23rd March: Avon Ri day trip 1st & 2nd Year.
- 25th March: Senior Boys' rugby tournament the High School.
- 26th March: entrance scholarship exam.
- 29th March—9th April: Spring holidays.
- 29th March—6th April: Pesach.

## Looking ahead

- 12th April: CSPE Oireachtas workshop 2nd Year.
- 19th April: Yom Ha'Atzmut (Israeli National Day).
- 21st April: CSPE guest speaker 1st Year.



5th Year group 'Hello Tasty' backstage at the Battle of the Bands

# World Book Day



World Book Day 2010 (4th March) was marked in Stratford recently with a series of book-related events. The highlight was the successful 'Bring a Book, Buy a Book' scheme in aid of St Michael's House, which raised  $\ensuremath{\in} 92$  for St Michael's work with intellectually disabled adults and children. Many thanks to all students and staff who donated second-hand books and bought books on the day, and a special thanks to the TY and 1st year students who promoted the book swap and helped out at the stall.

# Mini-company success!

1st Year mini-company 'Just a Little Treat' (Sadhbh, Carly, Ruth, Hannah, Ciaran: *pictured below*) received an Endeavour award at the Dublin finals, held at Croke park.



Endeavour award-winning mini-company 'Just a Little Treat'

Sadhbh reports that "the products we made included Rocky Roads, cookies, Mars bar squares and cupcakes. We sold nearly all of our products. It was a great day, and we even saw the Irish rugby team training. Mr Russell was very proud of us!"

Well done on this great achievement!

# Sport / Activities

### Senior Boys' Rugby

Well done to all the boys involved in senior rugby. All their hard training will be put to the test with a 7's tournament on the 25th March in the High School.



Senior Boys' rugby team

## Weekly training schedule

Monday: 1st, 2nd Year boys' basketball

Tuesday: swimming in Ballinteer

Wednesday: matches

Thursday: Senior boys' rugby

#### Basketball

1st Year boys had their first match versus Holy Child Sallynoggin which they lost by 3 baskets. Even though they lost the match, there was some great plays and scores. I've seen lots of potential on the team and am excited about the next matches. Keep up the hard work at training!

## Avon Ri adventure centre day trip

On Tuesday 23rd March, 1st and 2nd Years will have a day trip to Avon Ri, where they will participate in kayaking, windsurfing, low ropes course, archery and team challenges.

Ms L. Finnegan

### Prefects and student council

Congratulations to Killian McLoughlin, Todd Harrison, Tadhg Charles and Holly Furey (all 5th Year), who have been elected prefects for the forthcoming year. Selection of students who will represent their Year group on the Student Council will take place soon. The outgoing student council wishes to thank Ms Kenny and Ms Gordon for their help and support throughout the past year.





# TY news

#### Battle of the Bands

'The Kassettes' won an exciting and competitive Battle of the Bands, held in the school hall on 24th February as part of a TY mini-company. The event proved to be well attended by fans of all the bands involved. The Kassettes win €250 and they, along with four other groups, will play at Musicmaker for Phantom FM. Well done to Robert, Ailbhe, Cathy, Sarah, Ella, Eoin and Lucy from Mr Russell for organising such a successful event.





Robert Cummins (6th Year) and Jake Regan (3rd Year) compete at the Battle of the Bands

# Irish online project

As reported in last month's newsletter, TY students have been working on a short story as part of an Irish online project with Ms P Ivers. The work, *Síomón*, is now finished and a very brief extract is included below.

"Ní hé. Is 'ball'é', arsa Danny. Cheap an rang go raíbh an chaint seo an-ghreannmhar.

Sa lá atá inniú ann, tá Danny MacClearí pósta le beirt pháiste. Tá saol sástúil agus sona aige.



### Yearbook

As part of another TY mini-company, full-colour school yearbooks will be available soon at  $\in$ 12 each. A deposit of  $\in$ 6 is required before the spring holidays to secure your copy. Contact Anna or Lucy for more information.

### Community week

"On the 8th March, the TY students began Community Week. Cathy Dunne and I got a placement at Cheeverstown. Cathy was put into the junior room for children with intellectual disabilities, while I was put into the senior room, helping children with physical disabilities. Cathy and I enjoyed the experience of looking after children with disabilities and to see the care they receive."

Sarah Corrigan (TY)

### Other events and activities (TY news continued)

- The group involved with the mini-bank travelled to Killiney for the competition finals.
- The entire class took part in a two day First Aid programme.
- The class also enjoyed events for Law Week, including a visit from a barrister and a tour of the Four Courts..
- The class group were required to write and record original pieces for the recent two-day Song School.
- A team made up of Aifric, Cathy, Olivia and Ailbhe finished
   5th at the annual TY French table quiz at Castleknock
   College on 10th March.

### Student activities

- Jake Long *(1st Year)* will travel to Poland during July to represent Ireland U-13s in baseball.
- Ben Ingoldsby (5th Year) tells us about his experiences sailing in St Tropez over the mid-term break:
  - "As part of the Irish squad, I took part in a 7 day training programme. We were supplied with, and assembled, two new Hobie 16s. The intensive daily schedule involved a 5 mile road run, physical training and lectures, before classes came together to race at 3pm. The weather ranged from sun and blue skies to gale force winds and hailstones. Though we didn't qualify for Istanbul, we were proud to be able to take part in the event."
- Liam Mesbur's (6th Year) band, Post No Bills, play at the Turk's Head on Tuesday 16th March.
- 5th Years attended a Second Age Theatre production of Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' on 2nd March in the Helix Theatre.
- On 9th March, several 5th and 6th Year History students, along with Ms V Kenny and Mr K Barry, attended a talk at Terenure College hosted by Glencree Reconciliation Centre and delivered jointly by former UVF paramilitary Alistair Little and the Centre co-ordinator, Wilhelm Verwoerd.
- Best of luck to 1st Years and some 4th Years who will be taking exams with the Leinster School of Music and Drama.
- Diarmaid Kelly (2nd Year) recently participated in the quarter-finals of the Literary and Historical debates in UCD's Arts building on 28th January. Diarmaid spoke for the motion 'That this house would legally require you to provide reasonable assistance to a person in danger'.

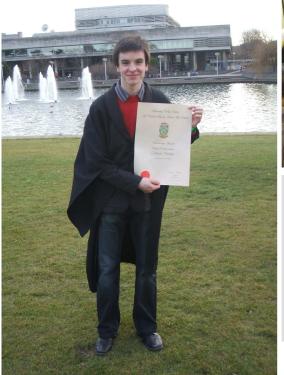
# Past pupils

- Former student Niall Sherry (2004) has received the Demosthenes trophy for debating, opposing the motion 'this house believes that Ireland owes a debt of gratitude to Fianna Fáil' while representing Trinity College at the Irish Times Debate in DCU in February.
- Colman Hanley (2007), in the final year of an Irish & Classics degree at UCD, was recently given a college award for the promotion of use of the Irish language in the day to day life of UCD.









Clockwise from left: Former student Colman Hanley receives his Irish award from UCD; TY students Robert, Lucy and Ailbhe (far left) onstage at the Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration in Dublin's Mansion House in January; Browsing at the recent Bring a Book, Buy a Book event; Diarmaid Kelly (2nd Year) at a debate in UCD in January; more Battle of the Bands participants.



# **Notices**

- Congratulations to Ms D Donohoe on the birth of her daughter, Amber, who arrived on 20th February.
- Beginning in April, board games will be available in the library for all students at Monday lunchtimes.
- The music and drama society continues. Seachtain na Gaeilge marks their first performance, with a version of Green Day's '21 Guns'. There are also plans for a Haiti fundraiser by the end of the month.
- Lost Property: Items left behind in a classroom will be brought to lost property. They can be reclaimed on Wednesday from 1.20—1.40 pm.

