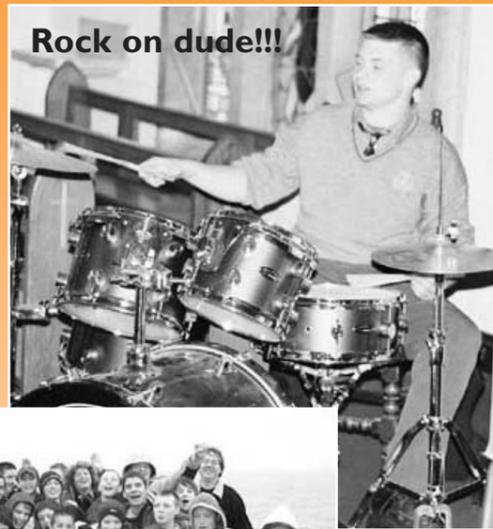




Irish weather!



Rock on dude!!!



Thumbs up.



Keep the Holy Ghost between ye!!!



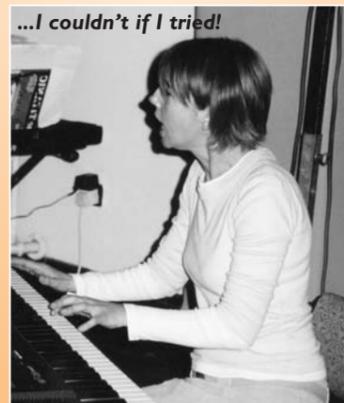
Something fishy's going on !



We will, we will rock you!



Don't go breaking my heart ...



...I couldn't if I tried!



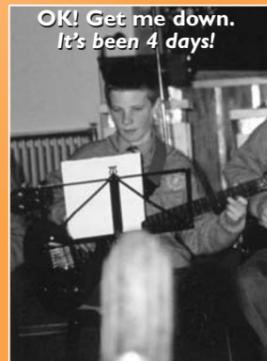
Aawwww! Str...



It's only rock'n'roll but we like it!



For my next number...



OK! Get me down. It's been 4 days!

KWP Print & Design. Tel. (021) 4373096



ROCO REPORT

ISSUE NO. 2

Enjoy the holidays!!

SUMMER 2003

PRIZE GIVING NIGHT

Prize giving night, one of the most important nights in the school calendar, was held on Thursday the 22nd of May. On this night, the students are rewarded for the contribution they make to the school in a wide range of activities: academic, sporting, and cultural. Fr. Bryan, the college Chaplain, opened the proceedings with a short prayer service. In his address, the Principal Mr. O Mathuna thanked all the diverse groups that had made 2002/2003 such a successful year. He thanked especially those parents who were now leaving the parents association, and he urged other parents to join.

"You have two ends, one for sitting on and one for thinking with, and your success in life depends on which end you use the most", with this witty aphorism, the guest speaker for the night, Mr. Michael Meehan, President of the P.P.U., drew his speech to a close. Mr. Meehan attended Rochestown College from 1956 to 1961. He is now general manager of IMAG, a company at the cutting edge of computer technology. In the course of his speech, he contrasted Rochestown today with the College of his time. His parents dropped him at the college in September and collected him at Christmas. He praised parents for the efforts they make to provide their sons with the benefits of education. He urged the students to avail of the opportunities offered to them, and wished them well in their exams.

Fr. Jack Twomey O.F.M. Cap., Chairperson of the B.O.M., thanked the principal and staff for their efforts during the year, and expressed his delight at the progress of the College.

Music for the evening was provided by Ms. Leen and the College Choir.

The M.C. was Mr. Liam O Murchu, and as usual he did an excellent job.



Mr. Ó Mathúna making a presentation to Mr. Michael Meehan, President of the Past Pupils Union, Guest Speaker.

IN THIS ISSUE....

- Prize-Giving Night • Deputy Principals Address • Chaplaincy at Roco • Sports Focus
- Student of the Year • Student Awards • C.S.P.E. Project • Art Competition • School Life in India • Scouting • Lord Mayors Cup '03 • Wordsworth • Feis Matiu • A Reflection of Sorts • Rochestown Music Night • Photo Gallery.....read on!



Another Successful Year!

Welcome to the summer issue of the Roco Report. How another year has flown! My thanks to Mr. O'Flaherty, Ms. Foley and Mr. McDonnell for making this issue possible.

Congratulations to all pupils for their consistent progress and their outstanding extracurricular achievements. End of year exams have taken place and the Public Exams are well under way. I wish all pupils well and especially the Leaving Certs who are passing out into an adult world of new vistas and high expectations. I wish them not only academic success and happiness in their future careers but also hope they will cherish and foster that special Saint Francis College spirit and camaraderie, born out of partnership, community and respect for human dignity.

In reflecting on the year gone by a number of highlights spring to mind. The large number of first years settled in very quickly and added a freshness and vibrancy to the college. The stimulating and informative talk by Mr. George Duncan on parenting in these changing times and his 10 useful tips, three of which were "affirm, affirm, affirm". I recall the special College mass to mark the occasion of the Feast of Saint Francis and the Christmas Liturgy and Carol Services. I remember with some trepidation the visit of John Pridmore, former London East End criminal as he described for the senior pupils his extraordinary adventure of the human spirit, a journey from despair and violence to hope and freedom. I recall that wet and windy Information Evening when prospective parents and pupils packed the room to overflowing. We look forward to welcom-

ing another 50+ pupils into First Year next September. I recall the extraordinary talent unleashed and revealed by Ms. Leen on the night of the 'Concert' which was truly magnificent. Those parents not able to make it, truly missed a great night.

I cannot let this opportunity pass without mentioning the consistent hard-work and dedication of the Parents' Association who represent all parents and do trojan work for the College. The Quiz and Race Nights were especially memorable and fun. These nights are great 'bonding' occasions and deserving of more and more support. The buzz and craic reflect real partnership.

I would also like to thank the Trustees and Past Pupils' Union for their continued support and I am sure they are well satisfied with the sustained progress on all fronts.

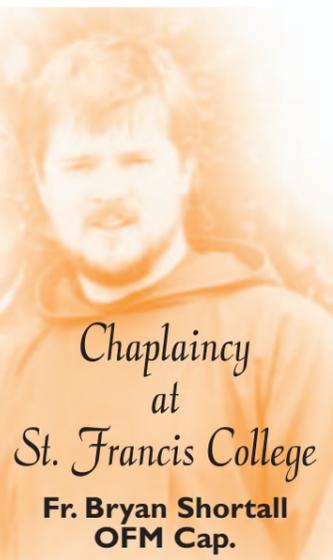
As we salute the successes of the past year and we plan for the next school year it is right and fitting to thank the Principal, Mr. O'Mathuna, who tirelessly, motivates and encourages the diverse groups.

To conclude, finally by borrowing some words from Dag Hammarskjold, "For all that has been, Thanks. To all that shall be, Yes".

May you all have a safe and satisfying summer.

Le gach dea ghui.

Adrian Groeger - Deputy Principal



Chaplaincy
at
St. Francis College
Fr. Bryan Shortall
OFM Cap.

The Chaplain to any school is a faith presence in the school community. I believe that means three relationships, chaplaincy to parents, to staff and of course to the student body. More and more, we are being encouraged to see the school as a community where staff, parents, pupils and management all have an important role to play in the life of the school. The chaplain is one spoke of this wheel.

The chaplain is one who tries to encourage the pupils to see our school as a Christian Caring Community. Christian: because we believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and our Saviour. Caring: because we try to respect and care for one another, to reach out to one another in our needs. Community: because we are a community in that we are interdependent and collaborative.

The day to day role of the chaplain is varied. I once heard a pupil put it well when asked what the chaplain does. He said: "O Father so-an-so, oh he's just there". I take that to mean that the chaplain tries to be available, even after 3.40pm. There is a role as teaching Religious Education and Social Personal Health Education to some classes over the week. There is the chaplain's role in helping to organise liturgies and retreat tome for the different classes and year groups. He is also available for one-to-one and small group work. Again all this work is done mostly during class time and teachers will be informed of who is out of their class and for how long. The chaplain will as part of his role visit families at home as part of his pastoral outreach. Other work such as being involved with charities and social justice concerns all add up in the role of the school chaplain.

Words Worth

THE YEAR 2020

by Manav Ghai

The Year 2020, how will it be?
People will fly in rockets
And carry plastic money in their pockets.

We will have no teacher, computers
Will become our tutors.

Life will be found in Mars
Just as advanced as ours.

We will spend weekends on the moon
All this will happen soon.

Oh! The year 2020
I can now imagine
How it will be.

Love is What?

by Barry Kelleher

What is love?
A commercialised entity that does not exist;
A state of mind that I shall never possess;
It is nought but a myth.

What is love?
The beauty of nature;
The surge in my hearts black depths as the peregrine swoops...
High, then love, then high once more,
Maybe a reality of a kind, maybe an illusion.

What is love?
All.
I feel my soul sweep upwards
I wish it ne'er come down
I pray this feeling continue.

Feis Matiu

VIOLA William O'Shea First

GUITAR David Keating Second

ENGLISH POETRY

Chris Daly Third
Mark O'Flynn Highly Commended
James McCarthy Highly Commended

IRISH POETRY

David O'Sullivan Second
Mark O'Flynn Third
Eoin Breen Highly Commended
Cathal Malone Highly Commended
James McCarthy Highly Commended



Top:
William O'Shea



Bottom:
David Keating

A Reflection of Sorts

BY BARRY KELLEHER

When they asked me to write this article on my experiences on six years in the school, I thought that it would be easy. I was wrong! I soon realised that writing and article fit for parents and students alike, isn't simple. The problem is that you have to write something witty, interesting, yet truthful at the same time! So I got to thinking. It didn't work! In the end I chose just to write whatever came to me, i.e., the following:

The time I have spent here in these hallowed halls has been some of the best of my life. You feel a sense of tradition, after all there has been a school on this site for one hundred and twenty years. Mr. O'Flynn, himself a past pupil of the college, often spoke to us about the sense of camaraderie that has been the backbone of the school for decades. It is only now as I prepare to leave that I fully understand what he meant. I think it's fair to say I'll miss this school. I've made a lot of new friends here and had a lot of worthwhile experiences. I'll probably even miss some of the teachers.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed to making our life here as pleasant as possible.

Rochestown Music Night

The Rochestown Music Night was a smash hit! Over 150 people turned up to watch the school choir and orchestra perform both classical and popular songs. There were also various solo and group pieces. The first years put on a mini musical called "Swinging Samsom", which went down a treat with the crowd. Group pieces included "Bright Eyes" by the third years and "Brown Eyed Girl" by the sixth years. The orchestra also played three pieces, "Ballade Pour Adeline", "Just The Way You Are", and "Take That Look Off Your Face".

Solo pieces were much appreciated by the crowd. Dominic MacHale sang "As Shw Moved Through The Fair", and Paschal Twomey sang "Tears In Heaven". Other songs included "Moonlight Sonata" played by Charlie Quinn, "Rock Around The Clock" played by Dara Harrington, and "Annie's Song" played by Richard Barry.

The Choir also had a brilliant performance with some great songs such as "When the Saints Go Marching In" and "Sixteen Tons". The best, of course, was saved until last with the song "Do You Hear The People Sing?", for which they got a standing ovation.

Many thanks must go to our music teacher, Ms. Leen, who organised and played for most of the concert.

C.S.P.E. PROJECT

The Third Years ran a soccer tournament to raise money for the school and Simon Community. They organised a raffle, and provided refreshments on the day of the tournament as part of the fundraising. The tournament was an outstanding success and €400 was raised. The school received €100 and Simon received €300. The money was presented to Declan Lucey on behalf of Simon, and will be used to help homeless people.

William Ashman



P.P.U. ART COMPETITION

On Saturday the 3rd of May, at 2.30 p.m., an art competition was held here, in Rochestown College. Garreth Allen, Dara Harrington, Brian McNamee, Shane Crowley, William O' Shea, Cathal Malone and Graham Madden all helped on the day. At first, we had to bring water, paper and other materials to the rooms, and then we had to help supervise the budding artists as they presented their masterpieces. Of course, this was a competition, and not everyone could win. The prizes were awarded in age groups of 4-5 year-olds, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11 and 12- 13. Two awards went to highly commended pictures, and three other certificates to the top three paintings/drawings/collages. Congrats to everyone who won! Even the Lord Mayor stopped by to congratulate the prizewinners. Afterwards, a disco was held. It all ended at 5.30 p.m., It was a day of fun and madness.

By Garreth Allen.

SCHOOL LIFE IN INDIA by Manav Ghai

In India there is a very high standard of education, even though life there can be hard because of the low quality infrastructure. The school day starts at 8AM , and is divided into about 8 periods of either forty or thirty five minutes. We get a twenty minute break after the first five classes. During this period we eat our packed lunches in the classrooms.

There is a lot of pressure on students in India, we even attend school on Saturday. However part of this day is dedicated to hobby periods. We choose our hobbies according to our individual interests.

All in all school life in India is very beneficial.

SCOUTING.

I am a member of the Scouting Organisation. Along with my friends I have great fun and I learn many useful skills. Part of our training is preparation for the Shield Competition. Here different groups compete against one another in outdoor activities. We learn how to build campsites, tie knots, read maps, light fires with flint etc. We have quizzes also, and play indoor soccer and target ball.

CHRIS DALY

LORD MAYORS CUP '03

This year's Lord Mayor's Cup started out for Roco with a tough game against Ashton. A close first half was followed by a similar second half, with Roco just taking the game by a couple of points in the end. After a difficult first game, the holders and favourites, Pres, were next.

We knew we were in for a tough game as stories reached us of how good this Pres team was, but we were mentally well prepared for it. The first half was a lot more evenly matched than Pres expected it to be. The second half saw Pres come out attacking heavily right from the throw in. The Roco forwards, including myself, found it difficult to break down the resolute Pres back line. With this failure to produce much up in the forwards, the Roco backs came under a lot of pressure and did well to keep the deficit down. Pres went out comfortable winners but Roco were by no means disgraced.

The next side we had to face was Bandon. The team was a little disheartened by the loss to Pres and we started slowly against Bandon, allowing them to pull away from us. A powerful team-talk from Mr. O Murchú encouraged us to go out there, as we still had something to play for. It was too little, too late though as our slow start had eliminated all hopes of a comeback. We finished the stronger, but it didn't matter as Bandon finished ahead on the scoreboard.

Our final match was against Christians. Led out by Captain Nelly we knew that if we played to the best of our abilities, we could beat Christians. The game was about playing for pride. Pres had beaten Bandon and retained their title. The first half came to a close with Roco ahead by a small margin. We realised that we were not playing to our usual standard and went on the rampage, barely letting Christians out of their own half. We won the game by a comfortable margin in the end and had shown that Rochestown still had one of the best teams in the tournament.

We finished right in the middle as Pres and Bandon finished ahead, while Ashton and Bandon finished below. For some it was the end, but the rest of us will be back next year, hoping for glory in the Lord Mayor's Cup.

Dominic McHale

Sports Focus

INDOOR HURLING.....

Mr O'Murchu, Mr McDonnell and Ms O'Connor organise Indoor Hurling for First and Second years every Tuesday after school. It is a great sport and really enjoyable to play, and we are very grateful to our teachers who give up their spare time for us.

BADMINTON.....Eoin Breen

Every Wednesday after school all first years are coached in Badminton by Mr. Ron Thompson. We have just had our singles and doubles competitions. Adrian Rey and Eoin Breen were singles winners and the runners up were Morgan Wong and David Lyons. In the doubles, David O'Sullivan and Morgan Wong came first and William O'Shea Eoin Breen and Martin Burke were runners up. We all look forward to continuing with Badminton next year.

WARPS.....Shane O'Donnell

Warps is U.C.C.'s role playing and war gaming society. Members get together every week to game, and have fun. But what is Wargaming and Role-Playing? Remember playing war with little plastic soldiers when you were 6? This is the next step. Big kids get together with armies (men, elves, futuristic machines of destruction, etc...) , rulers and loads of Dice and see who can best command their forces. Games can last anything from half an hour to several days depending on what size army you play.

It is organised by the College Students but anyone can join. I find it a great way to spend Saturday evenings

SOCCER

Rob Ryan will be playing in the semi-final of the National cup with Corinthians versus Cherry Orchard.

GAELIC

Sean Conway, Declan Kelleher, Cian Ryan David Carroll, Kevin Long and Ian Giltinan playing with St Michaels will be playing in the feile Final.

Cathal Fitzpatrick and Ronan Murphy playing with Shamrocks defeated Ballyrovers in the South east semi-final.

RUGBY

Damien Ashman playing with Sundays Well defeated Clonakilty in the South Munster Cup

Name to watch out for

Three fifth year students, Killian O'Mahony, Alex Rimmington and Jamie O'Keeffe are participating to a very high level in three widely different sports. Killian who plays rugby with Cork Con is a present waiting to see if he makes the Munster Youth team. Alex who sails in the Monkstown Bay Sailing Club, is a member of the Irish Laser 2 team. He is ranked 8th in Ireland in senior rankings. In August he will be in Holland to take part in the World Laser 2 Championships. Jamie O'Keeffe is a very successful Trampoline Gymnast. He trains in the Chimeara Gymnasium in Grange. He participated in the European Youth competition in Amsterdam last February and did very well. Next October in Hanover he will be a contestant in the World Age Groups (WAGS) for men under 18. We wish them all well in their chosen sports and know that they will be an inspiration to the other students in the college.

Student of the Year



The nominees for this year's student of the year were, David Dillon, Karole Cuddihy, John MacHale and Damien Patton. When the Principal, Mr. Ó Mathúna, announced that the winner was David Dillon, it was agreed by all that he was a very worthy choice. The award is given to the student who, by his conduct and disposition, best reflects the spirit of the school.

In his acceptance speech, David thanked the staff who had voted and who had worked so hard to prepare him and all the Sixth Years for their exams. He spoke warmly of his classmates and referred to the excellent spirit in the class.

Finally, he thanked all the parents for the assistance given to their sons over the years, and in particular thanked his mother who had been so supportive of him.

Student of the Year David Dillon photographed with his mum



Fr. Jack Twomey, Chairperson Board of Management who presented merit awards to Mitchell Cuddihy, William Ashman and Damien Ashman



Shane Ryan, 6th year, presenting flowers to Ms. Cindy Higgins, school secretary



Stephan Tuohy, 6th year, being presented with his school pen.



Mr. Groeger who presented Damien Patton, John McHale and Karole Cuddihy with academic awards.

Awards on Prize Giving Night

Capuchin Franciscan Award

Declan O'Byrne
Kevin O'Byrne

Academic Awards

Colm Barry (1a)
Eoin Breen (1b)
Cathal Malone (1c)
Alan Coughlan (2nd)
Dominic McHale (3rd)
Rory O'Brien (5th)
Karole Cuddihy (6th)

Attendance Awards

Cian Ryan
Jamie O'Keefe
James McCarthy
James Hayes
Kevin Cahill

Irish Award

Music Awards

Eoin O'Connor
Michael Hooper
William Ashman
Paul Stuart
Thomas Cotter
Graham Barry
Dominic McHale
Richard Barry
Ray O'Mahony
John MacHale

Science Award

Foreign Student Award

Merit Awards

Karole Cuddihy
Miguel Garcia
Brian McNamee (1b)
Alan Hands (1a)
David Carroll (1c)
Nick Hayes (2nd)
Cathal Fitzpatrick (2nd)
Mitchell Cuddihy (3rd)
Niall Twomey (5th)
Ronan Dineen (6th)

Leaving Cert. 2002 Award

Art Awards

David Sheehan
Neal Hooper
Ray O'Mahony

SPORTS AWARDS

Sports Achievement

Gaelic Football

Soccer Awards

Special Award

Sandy Rimmington
Jamie O'Toole
David O'Neill
Stephen Carroll
Graham Clarke
Karole Cuddihy
Gary Corkery
Gary Murphy
Barry Kelleher
Charles Quinn

Damien O'Connor for his service to the teachers soccer team

A special thanks to Mr. Eugene Higgins who was our photographer for the evening

David O'Sullivan (1b)
Mark O'Flynn (1a)
Kevin Cahill (1c)
Damien Ashman (2nd)

William Ashman (3rd)
Finbarr Brassil (5th)
David Lee (6th)

Sean Murphy
Damien Patton



Mr. O Murchú and Mr. MacDonnell who presented Graham Clarke, David O'Neill and Stephen Carroll with the Senior Gaelic Football Awards.