

# Callystown News

Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2007

## New Extension For School

The school received notice from the Department of Education that it has approved our application for a new extension. The extension will likely consist of an additional four classrooms, two resource rooms and a new staffroom. The project will be going shortly to the architects for the most suitable design and work will hopefully commence before the end of this year. It is hoped that the new extension will be ready for the beginning of the school year 2008/2009.

The new extension will cater for the increase in numbers since our last building project and the projected increase that will occur over the next two years. This new building will do away with the need for the two large and two small prefabs presently on site. Also included in the project is the building of a new staffroom to accommodate the large increase in staff over the last number of years.

The Board of Management and staff are delighted with the news as this development will improve the overall classroom accommodation of the school. When plans of the new extension are available they will be displayed in the school foyer.

## Confirmation Class 2007



*Callystown N.S. Confirmation Mar 10th 07*

# Confirmation 2007

Nineteen boys and girls from Callystown National School were confirmed by Bishop Gerard Clifford, on Saturday, March 10th.

The sun shone on the pupils' special day and everyone was delighted with the beautiful ceremony. Families and friends of the children turned up in big numbers to celebrate the event.

The Bishop complimented the children on how well they had participated in the ceremony and praised the parents and teachers on how well the girls and boys had been prepared for the day. The choir got a special mention from the Bishop for its beautiful singing throughout the

ceremony.

The Bishop in his homily stressed the need for the children to be aware of the dangers of abusing alcohol. He encouraged the children to take the pledge and to be strong over the next few years in abstaining from alcohol.

As usual the Parents' Council provided much appreciated refreshments for all in the community hall.

Special thanks to Mrs. Lally for preparing the boys and girls and to Mrs. Greene, Miss Deery and Mr. Barnes for directing the choir.

To the boys and girls, congratulations.

## No Uniform Day for Clogherhead

### Life Boat

On Friday next, the day before the Easter holidays, the pupils of the school will have full permission not to wear their uniforms.

This special dispensation will be in aid of the Clogherhead Lifeboat. On previous years during Lent we have supported the charity Bothar but we have decided this year to help out a worthy cause closer to home.

We are asking the boys and girls to make a voluntary contribution of €2 for the privilege of wearing the clothes they want on the day

No inappropriate clothing!!

# School Choir sing in the Waterfront

The school choir had an experience never to be forgotten when they took part in the Paths to Peace concert. The concert March, in the magnificent Waterfront Hall, Belfast. Our school choir was from Louth, Down and was prepared by Mr. Barnes. Under conductor Gearoid Grant the choir had to sing five pieces with the Cross Border Orchestra. A number of these songs had actions to be



was on Friday, the 16th of March, in the magnificent Waterfront Hall, Belfast. one of a number of schools in Belfast who took part. The Mrs Greene, Miss Deery and conductor Gearoid Grant the pieces with the Cross Border Orchestra. A number of these songs had actions to be

The concert was a celebration of the diverse cultures of the island of Ireland.

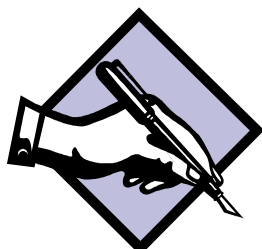
Along with the choir and the

Cross Border Orchestra were the pipe band Piping Hot and tenor Emmanuel Lawlor as well as a number of other musicians and dancers. The families and friends of the children who attended the concert were treated to a fantastic night's entertainment.

For the children the experience of singing with such an important orchestra at a renowned venue in front of a large audience will be a memory to be cherished.

## Handwriting Winners

Congratulations to Conor Byrne (Sen Inf), Lauren Reilly (1st) and Hanny Mohammed (1st) who won prizes in their respective categories, in the Drogheda district of the I.N.T.O./E.B.S. handwriting competition. This is the first year in quite some time that the school has entered the competition and it is a great result. The children were presented with their prizes at a function in the Boyne Valley Hotel.



## Morgan Rath talks to Gerry Ryan

All classes were tuned to the Gerry Ryan Show recently, as Morgan Rath of Second class spoke to the radio presenter on the phone from his classroom. Morgan had won a competition on the Ryan Show to introduce Westlife at the Childline Concert in the Point Depot. Morgan, like an interview veteran, spoke of the excitement of the concert and the thrill of meeting so many famous people. Despite all the excitement, and the fact that he was live on air, Morgan still remembered to wish his classmates the very best for their upcoming First Communion. Well done Morgan you were a real star.

### Sympathy for Shem

The school community learned with sadness of the tragic death of Shem Kirwan. Shem had been a long time friend of the school and had often helped his wife Kathleen with her cleaning work in the school. Shem was always a very kind, friendly and helpful man. He will be sadly missed. The school community would like to extend its deepest sympathy to Shem's family.

May he rest in peace.

### Credit Union Quiz

Congratulations to Michael Turnbull, Micaela Gorman, Robert Gargan and Lauren Rath who won the U-13 Credit Union quiz and to Darragh Shevlin, Hayley Malone, Clare Kirwan and Matthew Turnbull who came second in the U-11 category.



Jeanelle Smith and Lauren Rath have been chosen to attend the Frank Clark art workshop in Dublin. This workshop is sponsored by the Credit Union.



## K'nex Challenge

For the second year running the pupils of fifth class took part in the K'nex Challenge. The challenge is sponsored by S.T.E.P.S., an organisation that supports the development of science and engineering in schools.

This year the children had to design a lifeboat with a communication mast, cabin and steering wheel all within specific dimensions. The teams of two took to their tasks with enthusiasm and imagination. Kimmit Sayers, engineer and judge, was very impressed with the designs and finished models.

The winners of the challenge, Roisin Kirk and Colin Heaphey, seen in the picture working on their lifeboat, will represent the school in the regional finals to be held in the Dundalk Institute of Technology

### Easter Holidays:

School closes at 12.30 p.m. on Friday March 30th and will re open on Monday April 16th.

### Congratulations to:

Aaron Mulroy, Scott McEvoy and Alex Tuite who won a school raffle winning prizes sponsored by Puddenhill Activity Centre and Restaurant.

### First Holy Communion:

Saturday, May 26th @ 11.00 a.m.

### Public Meeting

To

**Demand Smaller Classes**

In

**Boyne Valley Hotel**

**Thursday March 29th**

**8.00p.m.**

**Please Attend**



## Callystown N.S. Going Green

The children and staff of Callystown National School have started their the An Taisce the last num-school com-very con-need to look ment and has fort to re-around the cided that we



campaign to win Green Flag. Over ber of years the munity has been sciouso of the after our environ-made a great ef-duce our waste school. It was de-would look for

recognition of our efforts by completing the necessary stages to attain the green flag.

The first stage is to form a Green School committee of students, staff and parents. This committee then co-ordinates an environmental review of the school to highlight good practice around the school and to point out what improvements are needed. From this review an action plan is decided upon and specific goals are set. As the school goes about achieving its target the pupils of the school will monitor and evaluate how we are succeeding. To increase awareness and participation among the pupils the children will work on environmental issues in their class work. An important step in the whole process will be informing the pupils', parents and community of the issues that arise with regard to litter and recycling. Finally the school will decide on a slogan to represent the school's commitment to the green school project.

Visitors to the school will have noticed that there are many posters and green school codes on display and hopefully will have heard their children talking about the green flag. Over the next few months we hope to have a newsletter with all the updates to do with the green school.

