



Red Sokz

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A Right Doll On Villiers Staff

Last Tuesday night two of our Red Sokz Team went to the University Concert Hall in Limerick to watch our own Ms. Sinead O'Sullivan as Adelaide in the Caecilian production of Guys and Dolls. We were very impressed by our teachers acting, dancing and of course singing abilities. In our opinion she was the best in it and stole the show! I'm sure that everyone will agree with us that attended, especially the guy that was sitting in front of us who nearly had a heart attack laughing at the waiter! The dancing was good, the acting was fantastic and the singing was amazing. Without a doubt the best part was played by Ms. O'Sullivan and we all look forward to seeing her in any other shows that may come along and just hope that she decides to tell us about it!

Gráinne O'Brien and Sadhbh O'Connell IVN

A Sad Goodbye!

So long, farewell! We unfortunately have to say goodbye to Mehnaz Hossain and Ben Walter Range as they prepare to depart from Villiers School after Christmas, All the best! You'll be missed!

Ciara Healy & Emma Corbett IVP

Editorial

Uh Oh! Its Friday the 13th, spooky! Keep those black cats and lonely magpies away, don't walk under any ladders or break any mirrors! And remember... Its bad luck to be superstitious! Lets hope that thirteen is an unlucky number only for people outside Villiers (and Red Sokz!).

While we're working hard at it here in the computer room, you should be studying hard for the upcoming Christmas Exams (this is the last weekend for studying!!) Just think of it this way, after next week (seven days and counting) we have 2weeks and 1 day to recover! Viva Christmas!

Mr. John McCrohan would like to thank the Red Sokz committee for doing all the work while he sits back, clicks his fingers and does nothing (while talking in a Kerry accent). And withdraw the comment recently made by Mr Hardy and say that it is in fact the committee that do 95% of the work, while Ms. Storey and Mrs. M. O'Sullivan do the final 5% by proof

reading the closing drafts of Red Sokz.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome back Jason Thong, a fellow member of Red Sokz, after his recent illness. You may have noticed how quiet the school was lately with the lack of Jason, well poor ol' Jason was previously keeping the nurses and doctors of the Regional hospital, Limerick, quite busy with his crazy antics!

With the excitement of the Disco, Prize Day and the Fashion Show finally over and our days of excitement are growing fewer, waiting for the Musical, Action Day, our trip to Delphi outdoor pursuits trip, the Ski trip and the last day of this year (Its summer time and the weather is fine you can reach right up and touch the sky... sorry!) We're running low on things to chatter incessantly about so if you have an article or would like to see your name in Red Sokz just drop in and talk to Mr. McCrohan. This way, maybe he will do some work!

Ciara Healy IVP

**Features****The History of Santa Claus**

"..Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, Not even a mouse. The stockings were hung from the chimney with care. In hope that Saint Nicholas soon would be there..." In Ireland we are extremely familiar with Father Christmas, but how did he come to be? Santa Claus was originally St. Nicholas, who was well renowned for his charitable nature. One Christmas he was passing a house in a poor neighbour-hood, and on glancing inside, saw a poor family, who had no money, celebrating Christmas. Touched by the scene he climbed up onto the roof and threw some coins down the chimney. These were the first ever Christmas presents from Santa Claus. Around the world, Santa is known by many different names including Pere Noel in France, La Befana in Italy Sinterklaas in Holland, and Knecht Ruprecht, Krampus, or Pelzebock in Germany. Christmas is

actually over 4000 years old. Many of our Christmas traditions date to before Christ was born including the 12 days of Christmas, the bright fires, the yule log, the giving of gifts, carnivals with floats, carolers who sing while going from house to house, the holiday feasts, and the church processions can all be traced back to early man.

Ruth Court IVQ

Christmas Dinner

It's come to that time of the year again where all the boarders collect their delectable dresses and their sexy suits! Yes, that's right, in just under a week the boarders will be sitting down to the gorgeous turkey dinner that the lovely Kitchen Staff shall prepare for us! Aren't you day pupils so jealous?!? Its considered by a lot of boarders to be the nicest meal of the year and we look forward to welcoming the new Form One and other boarding pupils up through the years to their first Christmas

Dinner in Villiers School. Only problem is as Fourth Form we have to serve! Don't drop anything Evan!!

Ciara Healy IVP

Congratulations!

Huge congratulations to Kevin McNamara, Shane Sibbel, Sinead McInerny, Gerard Thong and substitutes Maeve Stone and Jade O Mahony who won the first round of the Thomas Crosbie Holdings All Ireland Schools Quiz 2002/03 in the West County on Tuesday the 10th of December. They travelled with 13 supporters from Form Four to Ennis and made us sit on the edge of our seats through a close draw against Mary Immaculate College, Lisdoonvarna and Rice College, C.B.S., Ennis. They are currently awaiting confirmation of the date and venue of the second round. Congratulations and Good Luck!

Ciara Healy IVP



Sport

Tennis Championships

Congratulations to Jason Sibbel IIM who competed in the Munster Provincial Match Play Tournament organised by Tennis Ireland on the weekend of Friday 29th- Sunday 1st of November. He played excellently, but was unfortunately beaten in the final by the No.1 seed in Ireland Paul Fitzgerald. He will now play in the National Ranking Tournament which will take place on the weekend of Friday 13th – Sunday 15th. Best of luck Jason from all at Red Sokz!

Natalie Kennedy IVM

The Slaughter House!

On Tuesday, the Senior Girls played their second Cup Match against a fine team from Doon in Villiers. The morning was frosty and the girls took a few minutes to warm up but Sarah Gray took the initiative and scored the first goal of the match. The score at half-time was 3-0 after two more great goals from Ciara Hereward-Ryan and Noelle Casey. After encouragement from Mr. Sutton and Mr. Whisker in the goal mouth at half time Ashlynn Craughan decided to gain a 4-0 advantage with a clever goal from the back post. Aislinn Ryan got a little too eager to score when she moved from sweeper to centre forward and just kept running straight through that poor Doon goalie, following the ball over the line and into the goal to make it 5-0. In the last few minutes Ciara Hereward-Ryan decided to really demoralise Doon by scoring the fifth and final goal leaving the final score at a spectacular 6-0. The day was a great success except of course for the Doon team!! Hopefully this winning streak will continue!

Ciara Hereward-Ryan & Natalie Kennedy IVM

Villiers Swimmers Make Explosive Splash!

Last Saturday, John McCall IIM, Ciara Hereward-Ryan IVM and Kevin McNamara IVQ traveled to Douglas in Cork to represent the school at the highly competitive Munster Schools Swimming Championships.

John (swimming in the Intermediate age group) swam a mediocre 100m Back crawl before exploding into action in his 100m Butterfly. He qualified for the final, swimming an outstanding two second personal best time in his heat. In doing so he qualified for the Irish Schools.

Due to ill health, it must be said that Ciara swam poorly by her own extremely high standards. However, she still managed fourth place in her Intermediate 100m Breaststroke, narrowly missing out on the Bronze Medal. She also easily qualified for the Irish Championships.

Swimming in the Senior age group, Kevin swam a solid 100m Back crawl but agonizingly missed out on qualifying for the Irish Championships by 38 milliseconds. He bounced back from this disappointment by winning the 400m Front Crawl invitation in a personal best time of five minutes and two seconds. He now has an anxious wait to see if that time is good enough for an invitation to the Irish Schools.

The Irish Schools Swimming Championships will be held on February 7th and 8th at the Lisburn Leisureplex Complex near Belfast. We wish these three the best at the nationals.

Ciara Hereward-Ryan IVM & Kevin McNamara IVQ

Rugby

Commiserations to the Senior Boys Rugby Team who were sadly beaten in a narrow defeat against Middleton, Cork, in Coonagh yesterday. It was a close victory for the opposition at only 6 points. Hard Luck boys, better luck next time!

Ciara Healy IVP



Announcements The weeks ahead

Commiserations to Kiernan and Robin and other members of INSIGNIA, who, despite their stunning performance, did not make it through to the next round of the Shockwaves "Get Out Of The Garage" competition. We wish them the best of luck in future events.

Ruth Court IVQ

Congratulations to Maeve Stone and Mrs. T. Hereward-Ryan who will be going to Uganda next year! Maeve was chosen from an essay competition which many fourth years took part in. We wish them the best of luck.

Ruth Court IVQ and Gráinne O'Brien IVN

Fifth Year Romances

During the week I was attacked by some very excited fifth years, not naming any names or anything but Nicola Sterritt and Jane Hedigan begged me to put in some news about the reuniting of Damien O'Mahony and Sarah Hamersly. Also at a dinner-dance on Saturday night Sarah Holmes and Shane Sibbel eventually got together! Do we hear wedding bells?

Ciara Hereward-Ryan IVM

The **Christmas Carol Service** is going ahead yet again! It will be on the 20th of December (final day of exams everybody!) and will as usual be full of fun and a great show to be enjoyed by everyone involved and to everyone watching. It is being conducted by Ms. O Sullivan and Duncan Brickenden and will include singers from every year in the school.

Gráinne O'Brien IVN

Coming up in the months ahead:

- Lucky for us, the Christmas Reports will be sent out on the 20th of January!
- Parent Teacher Meetings will be held for forms III, IV and VI on Friday the 24th of January, while Forms I, II & V will be held on Friday the 31st of January. The only good thing about these is that us students have no school!
- The Mock exams for lucky Forms III and VI shall be held the week before midterm starting on February the 19th.
- Fourth Forms annual musical shall be held in early February, watch this space for more.
- We're off to Austria on the 3rd of March for the snowy ski trip!
- You'll be glad to get rid of Fourth Form as we head off into the wild and crazy world of Work Experience! Oh the joy!

Ciara Healy & Emma Corbett IVP

Christmas Concert

Yesterday, Thursday 12th, we were entertained by 30 budding young soon-to-be stars as they sang, danced and generally entertained everyone. Congratulations to everyone who participated from all here at Red Sokz.

Congratulations

We hear that congratulations are in order as Ms. Kirby ties the knot with the lucky "Mr. Kirby"! We have heard the date is very soon (*cough* before Christmas *cough*) but we are unfortunately unable to give away any more details and I promise it wasn't Mr. Hardy who told us!

Ciara Healy & Emma Corbett IVP