



Red Sokz

Volume III, Issue II

<http://www.villiers-school.com>

03 October 2003



Editorial

Welcome to Issue II of Red Sokz. We would like to dedicate this issue to last year's Form VI, who we will never forget. If you would like to see their Class Photo so that you don't forget them check the **Alumni** section of the website. There are some older photos in there too. We hope to add some more during the year.

Most of them have moved on to 3rd level education, some have gone traveling taking a 'year out', while others have got into the world of work and stress-related mental illness. We wish them all the best wherever they are!

In this issue, we have a special feature on the international students who have come from far and wide to spend a year here with us in Villiers and see what it's like in Ireland. We wish them the best of luck in Villiers and we hope that they enjoy the experience here!

We also have small but necessary features on Form & Fusion, the Form II trip to Killaloe, this year's senior trip to Finland and Estonia and of course the annual Ski trip. We hope you enjoy this issue of Red Sokz. Have a good weekend!

*Luke Hamilton & Barry Kennedy
IVN, Pream Neote IVP & Daniel Eve IVM,*

International Students

In the last issue, we welcomed all the new International Students. This week we decided to have a look and see how they are getting on thus far.

After "interrogating" both Ilia Liaskin (IVN from Moscow) and Teresa Fernández Zafra (VN from Seville), good reports have been found on all fronts.

Although there are big differences between Ireland and their native countries (language being one of the smaller ones!), these were easy to adapt to, and in most

cases the general consensus is that Ireland is better.

Teresa claims the experience is like being "born again". The most positive feedback seems to be about the people. They feel that we have more open personalities than those in either Spain or Russia, and are more likely to give an enthusiastic "Hi" to people they don't know.

Sport and foods are more varied here than in Spain and both students said that they thought that the School food was great. All in all, it seems for them, the School and the country is brilliant. It's great to hear that neither are homesick as of yet - will we give them a couple of weeks to change their minds?!

We might check back with them again to see how they are getting along.

Jade O'Mahony IV N

Features

Form II Trip to Killaloe

Wet and cold are two words we hear when we ask about the trip. In spite of this we got lots of great feedback where everybody enjoyed the day.

Activities included: Windsurfing, High Ropes, Kayaking and Orienteering (fun as ever).

We hear that Mr. Jones took part in all the activities! Everybody in Form II would like to thank Mr. Jones, Ms. Byrne, Ms. O'Brien and Mr. Atkinson for organising such a great day.

Alan Ryan IVQ

Form & Fusion

For the third year running, the Art Department is entering Coca Cola's very well known Form and Fusion. This year is no exception and Form IV students have watched a video of the competition which has generated lots of enthusiasm.

Most of the art class is entering, with some very interesting ideas coming forward; the show should be a big success for Villiers. More details will be published in later issues.

By Pream Neote IV P and Luke Hamilton IVN

School Musical '04

As you all know the School Musical this year is going to be "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat".

You might have heard a few people in Form IV singing and humming in the hallways due to the auditions that were held on the last few Tuesday (P & Q) and Wednesday (M & N) afternoons. It was great to see a few people in form IV get up the nerve and sing in front of all their form, which isn't easy.

For the first time ever, the Musical will run for three nights - February 3rd, 4th and 5th so more than ever we are hoping you will support us.

Brian Carney IV N

Finland and Estonia Trip

It is all systems go for the group of thirty students and two staff (Mr. O'Hanlon and Ms. Byrne) heading off to Finland and Estonia later this month (October 22nd to 29th).

They are looking forward to four nights in Helsinki, one night in Tallinn and two nights in Espoo.

While on tour, it is planned to visit many places of interest like the Olympic

Stadium, the Kiasma Museum, the Helsinki Sea Life Centre a Serena Water Park and the sea fortress of Suomenlinna. Remember it will be a 4 a.m. departure from Villiers on Wednesday 22nd.

Alannah King IVQ

Ski Trip

The annual Ski Trip is taking place during the mid-term break in February from the 21st - 28th. Topflight For Schools, the travel company, has offered us the opportunity to go to another location (Lofer, Austria) which gives us an extra ten to fifteen places on the trip.

About fifty people turned up at the latest Ski Meeting, apart from those lucky ones who have already secured their places. The extra places will be given out on a first come, first served basis. So, if you are interested, get your preliminary letter and permission slip from Mr. Sutton ASAP. Go home, discuss it and if you decide to go, get your signed slip in as quick as you can.

Ski suits can be hired, so HURRY UP and you could be jetting off to Austria with us.

Hollie Lamlor IVP, Paul Murphy IVP



Sport

We would like to welcome our New School **Hockey** Coach, **Mr. Aamir Hussain Khan**, who has joined us all the way from Pakistan, which is renowned for producing some of the best hockey players in the world.

Aamir himself, is a Pakistani International hockey player and we look forward to learning lots of skills from him. We wish him all the best for the coming year.

Form I had their first taste of competitive Hockey this week with the annual **Blitz** hosted this year in Villiers. The visiting teams were: Bandon, Ashton, Newtown and Middleton. Our A team won 2 games and lost one, however they still won their group. Well done, lads!

The B team won all their games and also won their group. Looks like a talented crop of youngsters. The **Junior Team** were beaten in Dublin by Wesley, hard luck boys!

The **Senior Hockey** team went down to Ashton and won 2-1. The goals came from Jimmy McCarthy and Roger Gray.

Villiers went 1-0 down in the opening of the second half which shook the team into action and from then on Ashton were under pressure and Villiers got the winning goal minutes from the end - a good start to the year!

The **Rugby** coaches, Mr. Collopy, Mr. Fennell, Mr. Saddleir and Mr. Sutton, would like to report that training sessions are going well and they look forward to a good year if current levels of commitment are kept up - well done, lads!

A group of Form IVs will be seen braving the waters as they are set to **row** on the Shannon shortly. We wish them the best of luck in their endeavours. Perhaps the Rain, Hail or Shine Club, mentioned in Issue I, might cheer them on as they power-walk the North Circular. Speaking of this fledgling **Power Walking Club**, Ms. Redfern reports it's enjoying great success. More Senior Girls are welcome to join their walking sessions.

This week's Sports section was brought to you by: *Ciaran Kelleher IV P, Eoin Walsh, Daniel Eve & Roy Stoddart IV M IVM*



Announcements The weeks ahead

Walk on the Right

A suggestion from the Student Council, to reduce blockages in the corridors, tells us that we must walk on the right hand side. Please observe this and don't forget to indicate when turning!

Chances are that by the end of next week collisions will be caused by many of our International Students confused about which side to walk on. Maybe we could get some of those trilingual signs you see on the roads for International drivers - the only problem for Villiers you'd need multi-lingual signs.

Eoin Walsh IVM

Martial Arts Club

Mr. M. Carroll has said their may be a Martial Arts Club set up in the School. This will take place in the afternoon and/or the evening and is free to Villiers students while outsiders will be charged a small fee which has yet to be decided. Date to be confirmed.

Bins

As some of you may have noticed some new bins have been attached to the side ends of the lockers in the Main Block. No different to our society as a whole, litter is a dirty issue. Please keep the School clean, remember we're trying to become a Green School.

As Mr. Hardy constantly reminds us, please use the bins provided and help fill the rubbish landfill they call Clare

Gareth Davis IVP

Outdoor Activities / Caving

It is proposed that the club, this term, will take the form of a small outdoors activities club, that will incorporate caving into the curriculum.

Mr. Lillis hopes to work with ten or so interested individuals, one day a week, on Wednesdays, weather permitting, for 1 hour from 15:00 to 16:00.

The activities may involve rope work, abseiling and archery. Those interested should talk to Mr. Lillis.

Netball

Rumors have it that Netball may become an optional after-school activity. This will probably be for Forms I to IV. Contact Gráinne Conway (IVN) for more information

Form I Music Trip

On November 14th, Form Is will be visiting the native city of Ms. O'Sullivan on an Annual Music Trip – any chance of

giving another county the business, Miss?

While the only reason Cork was the chosen county is clear, we also recognise the musical talents that the county seems to have (despite the bad conditions that only non-natives seem to notice - "The smell up the Lee is rather wicket, How does Fr. Matthew stickit?" etc.).

Anyway we still remember our day there and we're sure you'll have a great time too. Any chance we could go again, Miss?

Interschool Quiz

Anyone interested in trying out for the General Knowledge quiz team, please go to Room 3 at 13.00 on Monday. The team will consist of two seniors, two juniors and two subs.

Literature Library

This is a reminder to all book lovers that the library in Room 3 is open. The opening hours are as follows:

- Tuesday – 13:00 - 13:30
- Wednesday – 15:00 - 16:00
- Thursday – 13:00 - 13:30

All are welcome. If the library doesn't have the books you're looking for, let Mrs. O' Sullivan know and she will try to get them for you.

Essay Competition

If anybody is interested in an Essay/Project Competition on EU Awareness please contact Mrs. M. O' Sullivan, in Room 3 ASAP.

Pream Neote IVP

Win up to €100,000!

There is an online competition being held for second level students, in which large sums of money can be won. Check out www.gradu8.net, an excellent website, well worth seeing.

In order to win, one must log onto the website and take the online quiz and if all the questions are answered correctly then you will be entered into a draw to win the money. Good luck!

- Luke Hamilton IV N

School tracksuits are to be made available again this year, consisting of a tracksuit top and bottoms displaying a nice copy of the School crest. The cost should be around €70-€80, depending on demand. For more information please contact Mr. Atkinson.