



# RED SOKZ

Volume IX, Issue II

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

18th December 2009



## Editorial

*Seasons Greetings to all our readers this Christmas. We presume that just like us you are also looking forward to the festivities and fun of this season.*

*Inside this issue of Redsokz you will find a snapshot of life at Villiers over the past six-weeks, from Greenshools Updates to Rugby News and from TY news to farewells from some of our international students.*

*We remember those who are sadly not with us this year and offer a prayer for families who are without a loved one this holiday season.*

*J. Woods (Editor)  
B. Barry (Ass. Ed.)  
E. Senger (Ass. Ed.)  
TY Redsokz Team*

### CONGRATULATIONS TO REBECCA, KAREN, AILLE & AODHGHAN

Two of our 2009 Leaving Certificate students, Karen Gillespie and Rebecca Bourke, achieved the highest grades in Ireland, in single subject areas, in their respective Leaving Certificate exams. These students have been honoured by the Department and by their respective Third Level institutions.

Karen was tutored in D.C.G. by Mr. James Brown and attained the highest grade by a female in this exam. She is now using the skills learned in furthering her education. Rebecca attained the highest grade in Economics in the 2009 exam and she was tutored by Ms. Maeve O'Brien. We are sure that in this economic climate the concepts bequeathed to her will serve her well. With approximately 59,600 students sitting the Leaving Certificate each year it is no mean feat that two of our students have come out tops.

No doubt we shall hear more from each of these young ladies and along with our Congratulations we send them best wishes for their future careers.

In addition Aodhghan Gleeson and Aille McInerney, also 2009 Leaving Certificate students, were awarded the UCC & TCD Entrance Scholarships in recognition of their outstanding Leaving Certificate results.

Villiers is extremely proud of these four students and indeed all of our 2009 LC's, many of whom have started on another phase of their lives in colleges and universities across Ireland and the UK.

*Villiers Staff*



## FEATURES

### Limerick Lions Food Appeal & SVP Raffle

Villiers School takes part in an annual food donation called the Limerick Lions Christmas Food Appeal. Each student in school is asked to donate an item of non-perishable food or drink. The purpose of this donation is to give less fortunate people something to enjoy this Christmas. All the food is donated to people in Limerick City, Clare and the surrounding areas.

It is a good idea for students to take part in this donation because it encourages you to spare a thought for others who are not as privileged as you, especially during the Christmas season. It also gives you the chance to give back to others, and not just think of what you want, but maybe what other people need and just are not able to have. It proves that young people can be just as eager and at times even more helpful than adults.

This year we also decided to hold a fundraiser for SVP, particularly in light of the recent difficulties brought to many homes following the flooding. We raised over €850 and presented it to SVP during assembly on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

*Emily Moloney & Gillian Johnston*





## Features Contd.

### Green Schools Update

The Villiers Green Schools project is continuing to expand and all at Villiers are continuing to cooperate with all projects. So successful are our efforts that we recently had to contact Mr. Bin man to request an extra collection day for our opti-bags.

We have also taken the decision to use the new Mr. Bin man collection service for all food stuffs. Furthermore, in conjunction with the new composting system we remind everyone to dispose of their butter cartons and paper in the correct facilities provided i.e. recycling and general bins.

We are also planning to take away some of the counter tops in the I.C.T. suite to install a treble bin and we also have plans to install a further treble bin at the entrance to the library. We are also in discussion about the locations of a compost bin for the school yard between the old and new blocks.

When the new external changing rooms are completed the driveway to them will be made wider and most of the surrounding trees and bushes cut down so as to have a better view of the surrounding area. This will result in a totally new entrance to the school, which will be lit by new self sufficient flood lamps. These flood lights will be powered by a built in solar panel and a built in wind turbine. Therefore they will not need to be connected to the ESB grid.

The TY Environmental students and volunteers wish to thank everyone for their cooperation so far and wish to express special thanks to Mike Kearsley and Jim Grace who make the bin brackets and are invaluable to the Green Schools team.

*Emmett Russell*

### Christmas Dinner 2009

On December 8th the Annual Christmas Dinner took place. As usual, the 4th years worked as waiting staff for the evening. We took our instructions from the kitchen staff and our nerves began to kick in. However, once the melon and berry starter had been eaten and cleared away our nerves dissipated and the pressure of working in the service industry kicked in.

The main course was a traditional turkey and ham platter accompanied by potatoes, carrots and brussel sprouts. This course was also a hit and was followed by a calorie laden trifle.

Once everyone was sated and resting over their tea and coffee, the speeches began. As is traditional, the Head Boy, David Howes, gave his speech and he was followed by Mr Hardy. The first years then handed out presents to the non-teaching staff who are a vital cog in the Villiers wheel.

*William Lynch*

### Road Safety Awareness

TY's attended a Road Safety Awareness programme aimed to promote awareness of crash situations. The presentation included gruesome clips and stories of victims of car accidents.

Many other secondary schools attended the programme and the majority of us left with clear images of the dangers caused by speed, drink-driving, tiredness and bad weather. We were also made very aware of the risks that a person takes when not wearing a seat belt.

So **'belt-up'** and take extra care this X-mas season.

*Rory King*



**Each year the Villiers family extends a warm welcome to a number of overseas students. Juan joined us in September and below he tells us about his home city of Malaga and Christmas in Spain.**

### Malaga

Malaga is a city in the south of Spain on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. It is a tourist city that a lot of British, German, Irish and French come to because they like the weather, the food and the beach. The famous food in Malaga is the "pescaito". This is little fried fish and you will find it in all restaurants near the beach and it is very good. Near Malaga is Marbella, a village of Malaga that a lot of famous people go to in summer. In Malaga the most famous place that you have to go if you visit is the Picasso museum; the Alcazaba, a Muslim monument; Malaga's cathedral; the bullring and Gibralfaro castle. In Malaga you would have to go to a restaurant at the beach to eat fish. The famous street in Malaga where you can find a lot of shops is the Larios' Street.

### Christmas in Spain

Christmas in Spain is very well celebrated. The 25<sup>th</sup> of December is important but it is less important than in Ireland and we only share one or two presents. In Spain the family dinner is usually on the 24<sup>th</sup> December and a lunch on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Our next celebration is the 31<sup>st</sup> of December where we eat dinner at 12 o'clock at night and then each person eats twelve grapes...this is a major tradition in Spain. We also have a dinner on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January to celebrate the coming of the three wise men. Then the 6<sup>th</sup> January is the most important day of the Christmas celebrations and on this day we get a lot of presents. In conclusion, the Spanish eat a lot at Christmas.

*Juan Martin*



## Features Contd.

### South American Orphanage

Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos is a system of orphanages that runs throughout South America, Central America and Mexico. My uncle is head of their Arizona offices, and has kindly arranged for me to visit their orphanages in Guatemala and Mexico and for me to do my work experience there, so I decided to find out more about what I can expect.

#### What kind of activities/sports are arranged for the children to do outside of school?

Soccer is the biggest sport in all of the homes except Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic where baseball is also as popular. They also play volleyball, basketball and in Mexico they go swimming.

#### Are the children educated within the orphanages or do they go to separate schools?

The children attend our own schools from kindergarten through grade 8 in all of the countries except Bolivia and Peru (because those homes are so new). Mexico is the only home that has its own high school. There are approximately 100 outside students who pay tuition and attend there also.

#### Do you get support from the governments in the countries where you work?

We get no assistance from any of the countries. In fact, we get a lot of road blocks bringing donations and supplies into those countries, especially Mexico.

#### Do you get support from the American government and if so, has this changed under Obama?

No, we receive no direct support from the U.S. government.

#### The system at Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos is that the children do not get adopted, but stay there until they feel ready to leave and live independently. Is this an unusual system for an orphanage to work under?

Yes it is. We are not aware of any other home that allows the kids to stay after they complete high school. After high school, they are the caretakers of the younger children. Then they go to live on their own (most are age 20). If they have the capacity to go to the university, they do a second year of service and then go on to complete their university studies.

#### What is the most effective way to fundraise?

85% of our funding comes from private individuals. The other 15% comes from companies, churches and foundations.

#### How do you help children coming to the orphanages with psychological problems?

We have psychologists and social workers that work with them.

#### What would be a typical routine for a child in the orphanage?

5:00 A.M. - Wake up, shower, get dressed, clean dormitory

6:15 A.M. - Bread roll and juice

6:45 A.M. - School begins

10:00 A.M. - Breakfast

10:30 A.M. - Classes resume

2:00 P.M. - Lunch

3:00 P.M. - Chores on the farm, school, kitchen, etc.

4:00 P.M. - Homework

5:00 P.M. - Organized activities

6:00 P.M. - Free time

7:00 P.M. - Dinner

7:30 P.M. - English classes/Free time

8:15 P.M. - Dorm meetings and TV or homework

9:00 P.M. - Lights out

**If this article has interested you or you would like to donate please visit [www.friendsoftheorphans.org](http://www.friendsoftheorphans.org) or [www.nph.org](http://www.nph.org). If you would like to learn more about the orphanages go to their websites.**

Ana Gaston

### Goodbye to Villiers

I'm from Spain and I came to Villiers in September to learn English and to improve my horse-riding skills at Clonshire Equestrian centre.

I want to say thanks to all at Villiers because my stay here was fantastic. I learned a lot, did many new things and really enjoyed my time here.

There are many different things in Ireland and it was great to learn lots of new things. The 4th years students were very nice and welcoming to me and I am really going to miss them. Some of them will be my friends forever.

I also want to say thank you to all the staff who were very patient...they always slowed their speaking for us, which is a good thing, and I really feel that my English has improved!

I am going to miss Villiers a lot when I go back to Spain. Ireland is a lovely country and I promise that I will come back and visit again.

Pilar Avila

### HEADGIRL

Today I caught up with the Headgirl, Shauna Greaney. Shauna plays a very important role in school life at Villiers. She has been a boarder since she first started here six years ago and says that she would not wish to be in any other school.

As a boarder, Shauna spent much of the first month helping the firstyear boarders to settle in. Now that it's sorted she is combining preparation for the Leaving Cert with other Headgirl duties, such as speech making and representing the student body.

She loves the honour of being Headgirl and hopes to fulfil her duties to the best of her ability.

Jamie O'Farrell

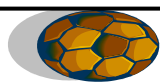
### SCHOOL CHOIR

Once again the choir are preparing for the Christmas Carol Service. They have been practicing for the past three weeks under the guidance of Ms. O'Sullivan.

This year there is a junior and a senior choir and both have been working on their harmonies, melodies and rhythms. Furthermore, soloists like David Howes and Vivienne Crowley have been warming up their vocal chords.

As usual Ms. O'Sullivan has some surprises up her sleeve with new ensemble pieces. So come along and listen to them at St. Marys Cathedral on Friday December 18th.

Jamie O'Farrell



# Sport

## BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS THIS CHRISTMAS

Bean Ui Riains' girls First and Second year basketball teams are currently competing in the Limerick School Basketball League, the league started in November and finishes in March 2010 before St.Paddy's Day. The First year team hammered Scoil Carmel on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>, however the Second years lost a very exciting game by only a few points. Bean Ui Riain mentions how lucky the teams are to have coaching help from Scott Kinnevene who plays for the UL Eagles. Training for First year girls is held on Tuesday and boys' training will be held on Thursday. Training for Second year girls will be on Friday from 3pm – 4pm.

In other Basketball related news, Villier's TY girls are cheer leading for a match in the UL. Choreography has been organised by TY girls; Rachel Brickenden and Alex Brislane.

*Rory King*

## SPIKEBALL

Spike ball is a course that teaches leadership and coaching skills. It is run under the auspices of the Volleyball Association of Ireland. After the training day the TY students helped Mr. Hanna teach the First years how to play Spike ball. On January 28<sup>th</sup> there will be a training day in Villiers with Mary Lawlor and Ciara Buckley from the Volleyball Association of Ireland. Fifteen students will then go to three other primary schools for six sessions, at the end of which there will be a Spike ball tournament held in Villiers. The schools they will be coaching are; St.Nessans Mungret, St.Michaels Perry Sq., St.Nicholas' Adare. Good Luck to all who are involved!

*Rory King*

## HORSE RIDING

Villiers has both a Senior and a Junior horse-riding team. The junior team comprises of Sarah Howard, Eophan Robson, Sophie McSweeney & Tara McSweeney while the senior team comprises of Olivia Agnew, Dominic Furnell, Georgina Bevan and Amelia Furnell.

Each of the members trains individually and then meet up for the schools' competition. Stephanie Shine takes charge of coaching the Villiers Teams on competition days. Both teams performed extremely well at the recent interschools competition held in Clonshire on November 1st, with the Juniors taking first place.

*Pilar Avila*

## MINOR GIRLS HOCKEY

At the start of each school year the hockey coaches eagerly put the first years through their paces, in anticipation of new talent. This year was no exception and there is now a fine minor squad who will be able to replicate and even surpass the achievements of former minor teams of Villiers.

This was demonstrated in their recent convincing 3-0 victory over Rockwell.

*Emmett Russell*

## BOYS HOCKEY

Events in the region of boys' hockey have advanced on all fronts; each of the four age groups had games on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>. The Senior and Junior teams travelled to Kilkenny and played a pair of friendlies with the Seniors achieving a win and the Juniors being less lucky with a loss. Down in Newton the results are excellent, with both the Minor and 1<sup>st</sup> year teams notching up wins. Each team triumphing by two goals. Players are being given extra encouragement for after Christmas training as the Cup is fast approaching. Overall, things are going well in Villiers boys' hockey and we all hope this will remain so throughout the rest of the year.

*Brendan Barry*

## VILLIERS RUGBY

Recent events in the world of Villiers rugby consist of the senior team's qualification and eventual contention of the Cup final. The latter resulted in a very tense and at times frustrating game as the boys put every ounce of effort to get results for their efforts. They fought to the last and the game was never truly lost. However, an unfortunate penalty clincher resulted in a 3-0 score and heralded utter devastation to a Villiers team who had victory within their grasp throughout the game.

As if to compound the loss, stalwarts Keith White and Henry O Grady incurred injury in the first half. However, the boys can hold their heads high and despite the result remember that their worth and skill is entirely proven.

Training for the various teams continues as normal on Tuesdays and Thursdays and all who participate are welcomed.

*Brendan Barry*

## SENIOR & JUNIOR GIRLS HOCKEY

The Senior hockey squads tour to Cork in November was an out and out success. The squad traveled to Cork after school and played a game on the Friday evening and Saturday morning. The girls won their first game comfortably with Katie Campbell and Ruth Sheppard firing home the winning goals. The second game was a thriller to watch as both teams fought for victory. Although St. Angela's came out on top the entire squad showed their true colours by working until the very end. After the game the girls got the chance to see two of Ireland's top womens' teams, UCC and Randalstown, compete in the Irish Hockey League. Claire Casey did very well to win a prize in the cross bar challenge at half time!

The squad put in another excellent performance against Laurel Hill in a friendly game the week after their trip with Ruth and Katie continuing their goal scoring run. Everyone has been putting in tremendous effort to brave the winter weather and come out training despite two league matches being postponed. Their commitment was seen in the their 3-3 draw against Crescent Comprehensive.

On Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup> the Junior squad put in a convincing performance against Rockwell, coming away with a well deserved draw. Gemma Ryan the very convincing goal scorer on this occasion. Well done to all the Juniors and lets focus on a successful 2010.

*Hockey Coaches*



## Transition Year

*Transition Year is a very busy, but enjoyable experience. The aim of the year is for students to develop into responsible young adults and to explore options that are not merely academic. This year our TY's have been extremely busy and the following two pages aim to bring you up-to-date with some of their activities. Further information is available on our website.*

### TY DRAMA - The Play's The Thing

Transition Year students are having a drama production. This is very exciting as it is the first time ever that a drama has been done in Villiers School. The play is called 'The Play's the Thing', and contains extracts from many different plays written and produced over the years. It ranges from Shakespeare to plays set in the early 1940's of Ireland!

Holding a drama instead of a musical this year, gives people who may not be musically inclined, a chance to have an active part in the drama.

'The Play's the Thing' will show on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, and will be held in the L.I.T Millennium Theatre, at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and we urge all students to support their peers. Adult tickets are 15 euro and student tickets are 10 euro. You can buy tickets in the school or you can buy them at [www.uch.ie](http://www.uch.ie) or [www.litmt.ie](http://www.litmt.ie). Group rates are also available at request.

*Emily Moloney*

### AIB BUILD A BANK CHALLENGE

Every year Villiers' TY students take part in AIB's Build A Bank Challenge. It is a competition where a team of six students per school are involved in the setting up, running and day-to-day management of a school bank. The School Bank Team has the opportunity to be involved in all aspects of banking from sourcing new customers to opening AIB accounts and encouraging regular savings and new ways to bank such as AIB Phone & Internet Banking.

The School Bank Team also have responsibility for providing ongoing customer service for their student customers and keeping accurate financial records. In fact, everything it takes to run a bank! The challenge involves Regional Finals throughout the country, in March, where schools compete against other schools for a place at the National Final in May. There are lots of prizes to be won along the way for both the school and the individual team members.

Villiers' bank had an official opening on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, where there was a great turn out. Many students, particularly the newer students in the school, decided to open an account with the school bank. There was music, lots of goodies given out and Spin Southwest even paid a visit!

The bank is open every Wednesday from 1.15 to 1.35 and account holders are free to withdraw or deposit any amount of money you may have. For many, particularly the younger students, this is the first real independent banking experience that they may have.

*Emily Moloney*

### Ode To Outdoor Pursuit

The dawn of the 18<sup>th</sup> had come upon us, the calm before the storm, hopes were high of deeds worthy of legend, our vision, our vocation of reaching the final destination had been dashed upon the rocks and lay dying, confessing its last woes unto this earth, drowned by the weeping tears of the Irish clouds. We were corralled into herds of numerical hexagons, and sent forth forcefully to survive the ordeal of initiation into the senior cycle within the unique Villiers ethos. Our voyage began at the gates, symbolical of leaving our sanctuary and venturing outside that which we know is safe. Our foray led to the shoes of Operation Overseer Mr McCrohan who had been anxiously awaiting our progress, fretting with anticipation of continuation.

Before long the entirety of TY had progressed as far as the Quay of Arthur. At this stage in the adventure, uneventful climatic situations served no barrier to our determination and morale. The journey reached the esteemed UL campus upon which our retinue settled for an extended session of gastro-intestinal deliberations. Following this our sojourn resumed. A great struggle was there to be fought, of which the might of our resolve threw down and smote. The penultimate station had come, Clonlara, a public-house to lay down our world weary limbs to recover strength in preparation for the mounting of the final summit.

However we were forced to abandon our quest due to the disappearance of the trail by flooding. At this stage arguments ensued with many wanting to continue the gander. Regretfully, Mr McCrohan's hierarchal superiority held sway over the delegation. Having failed in our mission we returned the beaten heroes battered, muddied and bruised. Though, we were defeated and the battle lost the war still remains to be fought. We shall prevail and conquer the Lough Derg way.

*Challenged TY Students!!!*

### BAWNMORE

In transition year we have an option of volunteering at Bawnmore, two days per week. Bawnmore is a centre for people with physical and mental disabilities. Some people are residents and some are day care patients. The staff who work there look after the people with disabilities; teaching and coaching sports, teaching therapeutic techniques and life skills and taking them on day trips.

Each Tuesday and Thursday ten TY students volunteer and spend their time playing games and partaking in sporting activities with the patients. It has been a really good and enjoyable experience and we have learned a lot about recognising and accepting difference.

*Gillian Johnston*

### TY's Cheer Leaders

Always willing to try something new TY girls have been training really hard for their cheerleading performance at UL during a UL Eagles basketball match.

Training took place for three weeks with Rachel Brickenden and Alex Brislane putting the girls through their paces with the assistance of Bean Uí Riain.

Next year, we'll let the boys join our lofty ranks!

*Pilar Avila*



## Transition Year Contd.

**Transition Year** students work on a variety of social issues at a variety of levels. One TY project is Young Social Innovators and this nationwide project allows students to explore societal issues and to offer solutions to them. Below are two of the projects that our current TYs are working on.

### I'd Rather Be Pale Than Have Skin Cancer

Our project is about skin cancer and helping to prevent it. We feel that there is not enough information available about skin cancer and how to protect yourself from sun damage. Skin cancer, or malignant melanoma as it is medically known, is not a very well understood disease.

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Ireland. About 90% of the cases are fully preventable if the sufferer had been educated about safety in the sun. Skin cancer can take up to 20 or 30 years to develop, so we need to raise awareness in teenagers especially, to prevent them from being diagnosed with malignant melanoma when they are older.

To try and get a good understanding of what people know already about sun safety, we carried out a survey in school whereby we interviewed one class from each year, picked at random. The results were interesting, with 67% of people never wearing sun cream in Ireland, although 84% wear it abroad. The survey showed that only 1% of students use tanning beds, and all knew that they can cause skin cancer. 48% of people had been badly burned at some stage from the sun. Damage from the sun is permanent. Even when the redness fades, the damage is still there, and as more and more harm is done to the skin by U.V. rays (ultraviolet rays), the more at risk you become from suffering from skin cancer.

We are going to be talking to S.P.H.E. classes in the junior end of the school, and we intend to make a leaflet with information on skin cancer and how to prevent it.

*Pilar Avila & YSI Group*

### Depression In Young People

As part of our TY YSI group we are trying to raise awareness on depression through our school and society. Some students have been asked to do an anonymous survey on their opinion of depression and we soon realised there is not enough information being provided to young people. Our hope is that we can make young people realise that it is okay to talk about depression and that it is not something to be ashamed of. We will be holding a bake sale in the near future to raise funds for badges we are going to hand out. A video is also in the process of being made.

Depression is a feeling of sadness that can last for at least two weeks. It is more severe than your everyday disappointment and is a medical condition caused by a chemical imbalance in your brain. Over 400,000 people in Ireland experience depression. It is often caused by set-backs in life, such as bereavement, relationship or financial issues, problems at school or illness. We all get disappointed and upset sometimes and it's important to remember it affects us in different ways, some worse than others. If there is a history of depression in your family, you will naturally be more likely to get depressed.\*

The symptoms of **DEPRESSION** are as follows:

- F**eeling - depressed, sad, anxious or bored
- E**nergy - tired, fatigued, everything is an effort, slowed movements
- S**leep - waking during the night or too early in the morning, oversleeping or trouble getting to sleep
- T**hinking - slow thinking, poor concentration, forgetful or indecisive
- I**nterest - loss of interest in food, work, and life seems dull
- V**alue - reduced sense of self-worth, low self esteem or guilt
- A**ches - headaches, chest or other pains without a physical basis
- L**ive - not wanting to live, suicidal thoughts or thinking of death

**If 5 or more of the above FESTIVAL (acronym) symptoms are present for more than 2 weeks, it probably is a depressive episode.**

If you have been experiencing these symptoms, please don't be afraid of contacting the school counsellor. The service is completely confidential. Regular exercise helps to balance the chemicals in your brain, and talking to someone you can trust always makes you feel better. Don't bottle things up and 'go it alone'. It is not weak to cry or admit that you are struggling.

\*information taken from [www.aware.ie](http://www.aware.ie)

*Michelle McInerney & YSI Group*

### Enterprise

The module "Enterprise" is one of the many modules here in Villiers School. It is taught by Mr. Jones and Ms. O'Brien who have more the role of supporters and helpers than teachers in this subject. The whole project focuses on the idea of students developing their own product. There is a choice of working in either small groups of 3-6 or as individuals.

Villiers has had some success in this national competition with one group winning the Limerick heats. I am working with Ellen Langley and Romy O'Callaghan. We came up with the idea of creating an international recipe book for children. We are working very hard to get it ready for presentation to the judges from Limerick Enterprise Board. We have to prepare Business Plans and maintain financial records. We also have to have a sample of our book and prepare a stand to publicise it.

All the other groups will present their inventions also. These will include a vanity mirror for the back seat of a car, a device for attaching hockey sticks to a gear bag and stamps for teachers. These stamps, for example, are really useful because they are easy to use and additionally really efficient. They include the name of the teacher and an interchangeable date. It the stamps have the desired success teachers will have the opportunity to purchase them for about €18-€20.

In general, it is great to come-up with and develop a product that hopefully may be sold outside of school.

*Elisa Senger*



**A Couple Of Random Facts About Animals.**

- Earthworms have five hearts.
- The finger prints of a koala are very similar to those of a human.
- Walt Disney was afraid of mice.
- Naturalists use marshmallows to lure alligators out of swamps.
- The combined weight of all the ants in the world is greater than the combined weight of all the people in the world.

**Limerick Lawn Appreciation**

On behalf of Villiers TY we would like to express our gratitude to Limerick Lawn Tennis Club Ennis Road. The use of their facilities has been a great experience for all of us who participated. It was a great way for us to keep fit and try out a new sport. Limerick Lawn is to be recommended to all as a worth while experience. Limerick Lawn tennis club is one of the oldest in Ireland. It has twelve tennis courts and three inside courts. Changing facilities are top of the range and there is the added bonus of a relaxing sauna. Thank you from Villiers TY for making your facility available to us.

*Eoin Neville*

**Advent Prayer**

Lord of darkness and light,

Enter our hidden lives

That we may find your light in the darkness

And your truth in the shadows.

Touch our hearts with the promise of your love

That we may bring to the waiting world

Your compassion for all who suffer

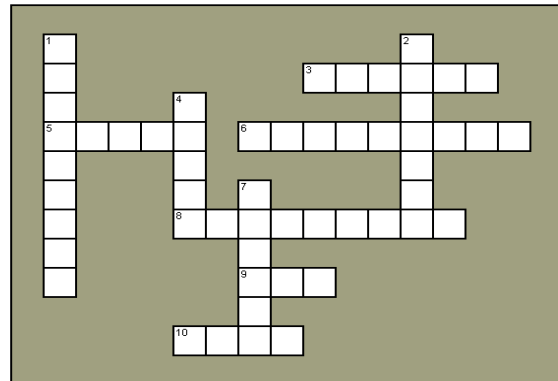
And your joy in all that you have made.



**FESTIVE CROSSWORD**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Christmas**



**Across**

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the world.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ on earth good will towards men.
6. City where Jesus was born.
8. The kind of clothes baby Jesus was wrapped in.
9. Glory to \_\_\_\_\_ in the highest!
10. Jesus's mother.

**Down**

1. Heard choirs of angels.
2. Traveled from the east.
4. Christmas celebrates his birth.
7. Where the baby Jesus would be lying.

Created with the help of Worksheets - www.Qualint.com



**Announcements**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Monday January 11th—H1N1 (Swine Flu)**

Vaccination on Monday 11th.  
Please ensure completed consent forms are returned to school office asap.

**Thurs & Fri 21st & 22nd January**  
*"The Plays The Thing"*

Book your tickets at school office or from LIT Millennium Theatre



**Friday January 29th**

Parent Teacher Meetings Form 1, 2 & 5

**Monday February 1st to 12th**

TY Work Experience

**Tuesday February 2nd to 12th**

Mocks Form 3 & 6

