



Red Sokz

Volume V, Issue I

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

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Editorial

A little later than usual, our newsletter is back. We are delighted to see it has begun its fifth year in print. We hope to bring interesting issues to you our readers. Please remember that all issue are available online. Simply go onto the School website and follow the links into Red Sokz.

Our big news is that we have an IT Engineer taking up a position in the ICT Department on Monday next. His name is Mr. Flanagan and we are told he comes with a huge wealth of experience in ICT. As part of his remit, Mr. Flanagan will be assisting Form IV English teachers and students as they bring regular issues of the newsletter to you. He will of course be busy keeping the network and machines working as well as developing the area of ICT in the School and teaching ECDL. *Céad Míle Fáilte* Mr. Flanagan.

Pony Trekking

On October 11th, after sitting on a coach for nearly three hours; an hour longer than it was supposed to be (due to an accident we encountered along the way as well as a quick stop in Borrisokane at Crawford's shop,) IVP & IVQ arrived in the Sliabh Bloom Mountains, in the middle of nowhere about three quarters of an hour from Roscrea.

We were sorted into 3 groups; beginners, intermediate and advanced. While each group did a mini 'tour' of the mountain range, which took approx. 45 minutes, the other 2 groups would 'chill out' around the cabin with the horses or go for a short walk- as a few people did.

The only drawback with the excursion was the dreadful toilet at the back of the cabin. As we were literally in the middle of nowhere you can imagine

that this toilet was hardly ever, if ever, cleaned. The state of it made most people go in the woods to do their necessaries 'o natural!'

Having stopped in Roscrea to get McDonalds' quickly we arrived back at School around 6pm, rather than the arranged time of 4pm, after an overall enjoyable day!

IVM & IVN went on the same excursion yesterday and they tell us they had a great day. This time they were divided into two groups and got longer on horseback.

All agree that the venue is idyllic and there is huge interest in going up there next April/May for a weekend. We hope to camp out over night and do some more pony trekking, hiking and cooking over a campfire.

María Sedó, Rhiannon Lewis & Isaac Bote

Features

Art Portfolio

On the 6th of October Mr. O'Regan started an art portfolio course with the students who are interested.

These is being held every Tuesday and Thursday in the Art Room. At first lots of people thought that an art portfolio would only be of use to people hoping to get into Art college. Soon they realized that it is also of great use to people who hope to be architects, fashion designers, interior decorators and much, much more.

On the first day we talked about what we would be doing throughout the course and looked at other artists who use the style we would be taking our inspiration from. The pieces we will make will be made up of small sections that we colour and when seen from a distance will look like one large portrait. We have chosen the pictures we will be basing these on and we can't wait to get started!

Virginia Merriman

Fashion Show

The 15th annual fashion show will take place on the 23rd of November in the sports hall. This is a Wednesday

night; please pencil it into your diaries.

This year the Fashion Show will once again be coordinated by Ms. Hillary Thompson of Faces Modelling Agency.

This is as usual a Form IV production. The prices are €12 for adults and €6 for students.

As in previous years, the show is in aid of a good cause; all money goes towards Self Help

<http://www.selfhelp.ie/>

The clothes will hopefully, once again come from our many loyal sponsors from previous years. We are already in contact with these shops and it looks like there will be a great variety of fashion and style.

All are welcome. Please come along and support this worthy cause.

*Saoirse Guerin, Marta Aranda,
& Cristina Gnell*

Self Defence

As some of you may know. The fourth years have had the pleasure of being able to experience ju jitsu. Mr. Mike Carroll an instructor from the Dojo in Limerick City has been coming out every Friday; to teach Form IVs "waza kai ju jitsu". This is a form of street self

defence and is based on the most practical things to do when someone attacks you on the street.

He has taught techniques like punches, kicks, grabs and how to defend against knives.

The fourth years will all be taking turns to learn from Mr. Carroll and they are very grateful to him for the opportunity to learn these techniques.

Finbarr Begley 4Q and David Compar 4P

Hockey Tour

It is hoped to run a tour to Santander in Spain. The tour is open to hockey players in Forms III, IV & V as well as students of Spanish in Forms II & III.

It is hoped to avail of 'cheap' Ryanair flights out of Shannon. We hope to travel in late March '06 or early April. It is most likely that we'll travel during the Easter holidays. The flights are not available yet so we are unsure of the exact dates.

Fifty five students attended today's meeting in the Lecture Theatre. If you missed the meeting and you'd like to hear more, Mr. McCrohan has a letter addressed to parents/guardians. He asks students to keep an eye on the Sports notice board for updates.



Sport

Walking

Walking continues this year on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Walking starts at 7.15am with Ms. Redfern.

Everyone meets outside the dorms near the 'Villiers' benches, where we do stretches before we start.

This year a longer course has been selected; we walk along the North Circular and go down by Centra in the Northtown Shopping Centre.

Form Is go walking once a week, while there is also walking for Forms II & III. Forms IV, V & VI go on all of the above days. Walkers need to wear the appropriate gear bearing in mind the weather!!! And punctuality is most important

Stephanie Lynch

Boys Hockey

A busy start to the year; the Senior Boys have played 5 matches already. The highlight being, their qualification to the All-Ireland tournament in Cork next week.

The minors have just returned from a very successful and enjoyable Scottish Trip to Edinburgh, where they played George Watson's College, Stuart Melville and Currie High School.

The Form Is are training well and are making steady progress.

Congratulations to the following who have been nominated for Munster Trials: Under 16: Roger Clarke, John Perrot, William James, Robert O'Donoghue and Paddy Galvin. Under 18: Mathew Shine, Edmund Gleeson, Eric Calendar and Simon Brickenden.

Jade Ryan

Rugby

On Thursday the thirteenth of October, Villiers Senior and Junior Teams played Bandon at home in Coonagh. The Juniors put forward a great game with tries from Hugh Kelleher, Dean Wallace and John Perrot and excellent performances from Dean Wallace, James and Alberto González. The final score was 15-10 in Villiers' favour. The Seniors also put on a great game but unfortunately got overpowered in the last minutes of the game which resulted in a 17-6 in favour of Bandon.

Determined performances came from Colm Goode, William Langford and Luke Holmes. All points came from kicks from Villiers. Villiers will be determined to prove themselves in their next match against Newtown.

Kris O' Shea 4Q, & Elena Sabaté 4M.

Sailing

On Tuesday, October 11th, IVM & IVN went on a sailing trip to Dromineer, Co. Tipperary. We were pretty excited; we met the instructors and we got wetsuits and lifejackets. Then we rigged up the boats, and then launched them, David who wanted to be first sailing went running down the slip way and slipped and fell into the water. Everybody laughed.

When we were out on the water we were enjoying ourselves, even though there wasn't much wind; but when Kealan fell into the water, twice, we were too busy laughing that it didn't matter. We were all very cold and wet by the end of the day but still we the day's sailing was enjoyed by all.

The Ps & Qs went sailing yesterday and we hear that they had a great day. We'd like to thank everybody for two great days.

Lorna Powell, Jonas Ziegler, Alberto González & Alberto Vidal.



Announcements

Musical

Form IV students have been busy in a Music Workshop module with Ms. O'Sullivan & Ms. Lynch as they prepare for auditions for this year's musical. Forty or so lucky students will be cast to appear on stage and we eagerly anticipate details on final casting shortly.

As with other years, those not cast will be very busy in doing the crucial behind the scenes work.

Bawnmore

A group of Form IVs have started helping people with varying special physical needs from Bawnmore playing sports and activities. This is part of the *Community Involvement* of the Transition Year programme. It is very rewarding and you can see the difference it makes.

Kris O' Shea 4Q, Elena Sabaté 4M.

Operation Christmas Child

It's that time of year again. People are getting ready to buy gifts. Like previous years Villiers students are asked to fill an old shoebox for those children who are less fortunate than ourselves.

You can fill a box for either a boy or girl and your gifts should fall into 1 of 3 age groups. These are 2-4 years, 5-9 years and 10-14 years. Please try to fill some for the 10-14 categories as we are generally short on these every year.

Your shoebox can be wrapped in some nice, colourful, paper. It would be very helpful for our volunteers if both the top and bottom of your box are wrapped separately.

Your shoebox can include cuddly toys, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, colouring books, pencils, sharpeners, hats, gloves, scarves, sweets, puzzles, toys like dolls and cars. Please DO NOT put in any battery depending objects, war toys, anything that could possibly go out of date before it arrives i.e. crisps / biscuits, glass items, medicines or books with words. Please DO NOT seal your box. You may add a photograph or a greeting card as the children like to know who gave them this gift which means so much to them. Please include €3 to go towards transporting if you can.

The closing date is the 10th of November. For more information don't hesitate to contact either myself or Ms. Sexton.

David Conpar 4P

Christian Union

The C.U. meets every Friday at lunch time (around 13:10) in the Chaplin's Room (beside room 16) At These meetings topics, to do with faith / social issues, chosen by you can be discussed. Contact Mr. Lawes for more information.

David Conpar 4P and Conor Campbell 4Q

Debating

Mr. Rusk and I would like to know if any one is interested in starting up a debating team.

Being able to debate is a useful skill in life and can help in many lines of work. So if there's any one out there who thinks they might be good at it and is interested please let myself or Mr. Rusk know.

Virginia Merriman