



Red Sokz

Volume VI, Issue II

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

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Editorial

Welcome to another Issue of Redsozk where you can find the latest on Villiers. Features in this issue include Transition year work experience and the annual trip to Achill. Also information on upcoming events such as the leaving Cert Graduation where we will wish the Senior year the best of luck in their onward journey and say a sad farewell to them. You can also view past Redsozk Issues on www.villiers-school.com by following the Redsozk Link on the Homepage. This Issue of Redsozk was brought to you by Mr. Rusk's TY English class.

DRUGS AWARENESS DAY

On Thursday the 26th April, in Villiers school the bi-annual drugs awareness day took place. This event was held to warn the youth of Villiers school against the dangers of abusing harmful substances ranging from class A drugs to alcohol.

The day was combined with a colours day and the money raised, (a total of €1,147) went to various charities, including a donation to each of the guest speakers. Other subscribed to included: Christian aid; the donkey sanctuary and the Alzheimer's association.

The guest speakers who kindly participated were Cuan Mhuire, a drug rehabilitation centre, a Paramedic, a Prison Officer and a member of the Garda drug squad.

Cuan Mhuire also returned later that evening from eight o'clock until ten to speak to the Villiers parents.

The unusual thing about this year's event is that it was organized by a particular group of Transition Year students, who are competing in this year's 'Young Social Innovators'. Well done to them all for the success of the day and good luck to them in the near future. They would like to say a special thank you to everyone involved.

Cathal Reynolds, Aoife Slattery, Rachel Deegan. Form VI

Features

4th Year Achill Trip

On the 16th of April 2007, around 80 transition year students went to Achill Outdoor Educational Centre for one week on an annual trip. Groups of ten students took part in both land and water activities e.g. Surfing, rock climbing, canoeing, orienteering and other various sports.

Every night two groups of students went out and hiked 25km to complete their 'Gaisce' award, for this they had to pitch tents, cook a meal and set up a camp fire. It was tough work but everyone completed it.

Mr. Penny drove up to Achill to do some Geography field-work. This was a practice for the Leaving Cert course, it was very interesting and enjoyed by all involved.

From start to finish the week was very entertaining especially when Sam and Camin won first prize in the Drag Show (Ms. Achill 2007).

This trip is a great chance for students to learn about teamwork and independence. We all learnt different skills and more about ourselves.

A HUGE THANK YOU to all the teachers that came with us, Ms Callender, Mr. McCrohan, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Penny and Ms Redfern and the instructors who made the trip worthwhile.

By Helena, Katie, Kim, Jennifer and Chloe.

Work Experience

- Every year the TY students go on work experience for two weeks just before the February midterm.
- There was a wide variety of workplaces chosen, for example: HMV, various clothes shops, red ribbon project, hairdressers, tattoo parlours, offices, schools, make-up consultants etc.

- Each student had the choice to work for two weeks at one workplace or to work for two weeks at two different places

- In a lot of cases this is the first time some of the students have worked so they get a taste of what the work life is all about and maybe an idea of what they may want to do later on in life.

In some cases students get offered a job in the workplace they chose for work experience which is great for the summer.

- Most people said they really enjoyed it and learnt a lot about themselves and what they may want to do later on in life.

- Some people did not like their work experience at all and found it very tedious, they now know that this is not a career they want to follow. Accounting and working in HMV were not among the favourites.

- The students had to organize their work placements for themselves which helped them develop their social skills and to be independent.

- When the fourth year students returned from their work experience, they presented their experience on PowerPoint to the rest of the year. The feedback was very positive. We would like to thank all the employers for taking on the TY students in their workplace and for giving us such a worthwhile experience!

By Megan Gleeson and Jessi Milne



Sport

Sports Announcements:

- U13s sevens tournament in Glenstal Sunday 13th May.
 - Rugby training on every Monday on the Astro-Turf for the rest of the year.
 - Boys rugby U-16 ten-a-side tournament in Musgrave park on 9th May.
 - Boy's soccer started last week. Teams: Glenstal, Crescent, Gailscoil, and Villiers
 - First years are playing Gailscoil in Coonagh this Monday coming.
 - Table tennis tournament on Monday and Tuesdays in the sports hall. Play offs have started.
 - PTA Golf Classic Adare Manor Golf Club. Friday 11th May. Please contact school for more details. Still some teams needed.
 - Senior girls hockey vs past pupils. May 4th. Villiers Astro-turf. Always a great fun match.
- Munster Schools Athletic Association competition. Tuesday 8th May in Castleisland. Thursday 10th May in UL.

By Robert O'Donoghue.

Boston Soccer Team:

Villiers girls soccer will be hosting a soccer team from Newburyport, Boston on Tuesday and Wednesday next week. The American girls and parents will arrive on Tuesday so make sure you give them a warm welcome! There will be soccer matches against the girl's soccer team and against Villiers boy's team.

Everyone is invited to the Irish /American night on Tuesday from 7.30 – 9.30 in the dining hall. There will be loads of music, singing and cross cultural fun. Villiers soccer girls are really looking forward to showing their American friends around Villiers and Limerick. They will be going on a tour of Limerick city and King John Castle.

Next year, 1st year girl's soccer team hope to go on the return trip and head to Boston to play soccer.

By Robert O'Donoghue.



Announcements

Announcements. By Julie Nealon

15th **May photo exhibition** in the sports hall all are welcome. MS Thornton

Villiers School came third in a chess competition recently well done

Table tennis on Mondays and Tuesdays in the sports hall. Play offs have started. Mr Penny

Books in lost property. Mrs. Breen

Reggie Dobs came in on the 20th of April to talk to the 5th years. He is a motivational speaker from America. There will be a religious trip to Croke Patrick in May. Mr. Lawes.

Junior girls were the hockey runners up to Rockwell the final score was 2-1, Suzanne Roe scored the goal. Well done to all the girls for a great season!!!. Ms. Ryan .

The summer music concert will be on the 23rd of May in the sports hall. Anyone who wishes to be in it please contact Ms. S.O.Sullivan.

The Y.S.I group will be travelling to Dublin on the 9th and 10th of May for their presentation. We wish them the best of luck!!!

Anyone who won trophies last year please return them to the office as soon as possible.

On Tuesday the 8th of May there will be a American/Irish night on in the school to welcome the American soccer team. It will be held in the dining hall from 7;30 -9;30.

Everyone is welcome

Photography Exhibition

Photography Club Exhibition.

There will be a photography exhibition taking place in the school on 15th of May. Transition year and the photography clubs photos that were taken during the year will be on display. The exhibition is combined with a parent teachers meeting in the sports hall. This has become an annual display of great talent, please be sure you look in.

Cathal Reynolds Aoife Slattery Rachel Deegan Form IV

Graduation

A graduation ceremony for 6th years will take place on the 24th of May to mark the end of their education in Villiers. The ceremony will take place in the sports hall and all family and friends of the students are invited to attend. We would like to wish them the best of luck in their forthcoming exams and future careers. The Junior Certificate is also looming on the horizon for Third Years. We wish all our Exam students the very best of luck. Stay calm and work hard!! The rewards will be worth it.

Katie Kennedy Form IV

Year Book 'Villiers Now and Then.'

An enormous amount of work is currently being done on the year book. Material is being compiled and at this point if you have anything you wish to submit it needs to be done **yesterday**. Hopefully the publication will be a good snapshot of life in Villiers in 2007 and an interesting contrast with year books from the past.

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