



2011 – CASA Celebrates 30 years!

It has been a successful year for the CASA group, no more than when CASA was formed thirty years ago, the same enthusiasm is present in every CASA gathering.

As in previous years, we continue to meet on a monthly basis and partake in activities such as days out, and fun days in the Family Centre where we have a social gathering including Mass, tea parties, disco's and games.

We participated in the CASA pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. We were joined by some people from the locality with special needs. The week was enjoyed by all, as they gained from the spiritual benefits of Lourdes.

In November we joined with other CASA groups in the Burlington hotel for the celebrations of CASA'S 30th anniversary. This was a lovely opportunity to meet friends, and socialize

while taking time to reflect on the years gone by, with fond memories of some members who are no longer with us.

We are grateful to all who helped us by participating in the marathon especially to the staff of Cameron who chose us as their charity. As this is the only source of funding we receive, it enables us to continue the work of CASA locally, as we look forward to the next thirty years of CASA!



A happy gathering of the CASA family.



Casa Members who took part in the Longford Marathon in late August. Standing from left: Miriam Concannon, Mary Lanigan, Elizabeth Lanigan, Therese O' Shea, Eddie Croghan, Eileen Meenaghan, Debbie Brennan. Front row: Caroline Gillen, Bernie Belton, Barney Kane, Donna Belton.

Highlights and Achievements at Templemichael College

As the new school year commenced we looked back at a very busy 2010/2011 in Templemichael College. It was a year of great change accompanied by steady progress and development within the school.

Great success was achieved once again by our students in the Leaving Certificate, Junior Certificate and also by our large number of Post Leaving Certificate students who excelled in a wide variety of courses. Many of our students are happily pursuing their ambitions in Third Level Colleges and we wish them all continued success in their studies. As always their success reflects their hard work the support of their families and the work done by the diligent team of teachers in Templemichael College.

Society is experiencing immense change both economically and educationally. We in Templemichael recognise the importance of creating and sustaining successful, confident, resourceful and highly skilled young people who have the resilience and ambition to pursue all opportunities. The students of Templemichael College are exposed to a busy educational experience involving both curricular and extracurricular activities. The following provides just a glimpse of some of the daily experiences in our school:

RETIREMENTS AND NEW APPOINTMENTS:

We extend a long and happy retirement to the following members of our teaching staff: Mr. Eddie Leavy, Mr. Gerry Moore, Ms. Noeleen Walshe and Mr. Brian Hyland. Their dedicated service has contributed immensely to the students of Templemichael College.

We welcome the following new members to the staff and we hope they enjoy their time in the school: Mr. Damian Wallace, Mr. Morgan McCaffrey, Ms. Lisa Anderson, Ms. Sarah Coffey, Mr. Shane Crossan, Mr. Oliver Fay and Ms. Caroline Naughton.

NEW UNIFORM/ SWIPE CARDS:

Ms. Nic Dhonnacha, the school principal, has introduced a new school uniform. Students now wear a navy jumper, grey trousers and black shoes. The excellent Art Department assisted the students to design the school crest. A new swipe card system is in operation



Art Competition – European Mobility Week. Left to right, Ms. Sinead McHugh, Jamie McMahon, Samantha Rossiter, Victor Appiah-Konadu, Ryan O'Kane, Paulina Narozna and Ms. Olive Wright



Templemichael College Student Council. Back row, left to right, Ms. Anna Marie Flynn, Nathan McKeown, Victor Appiah-Konadu, Philip Stewart, Ryan O'Kane and Usami Ali. Front Row L-R Bridie Flanagan, Jordan Hunter, Elizabeth Ojogbede, Sophie Hanafee and Principal Sorcha Nic Dhonnacha

tion in the school to monitor students as they enter and exit and to record attendance.

STUDENT COUNCIL:

The School Council had a very busy year. Two students from each year liaise with the school community and convey their concerns at the regular meetings. They were involved in organising several fundraising events and represented the school in Comhairle na nOg.

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS:

Students attend Leinster House each year as part of their C.S.P.E. Course.

Leaving Certificate Students have already completed their Field Study of the river Silles in Derrygonnell, Co. Fermanagh. This is a mandatory part of their Leaving Cert. Geography Course. Regular day trips to many of the Third Level Institutes and Universities are organised by the Career Guidance Teacher in Templemichael College. Speakers from many of the Colleges visit the school regularly to update students on relevant courses.

EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK/ GREEN SCHOOLS:

As part of the "Green Schools Initiative" the Green Schools Committee

successfully achieved the green flag for our water campaign last May. The Committee is currently pursuing the new initiative to encourage students to walk and cycle to school. This was incorporated with European Mobility Week. To celebrate this event an art competition was held in the school and the walls are adorned with eye catching posters.

COFFEE MORNING FOR POLISH PARENTS:

This new initiative provides the parents of our Polish students with the opportunity to meet and share experiences and to celebrate cultural differences. A translator was available to assist. This was a real success and we look forward to hosting further events.

SPORT:

Students are involved in many sporting activities both during and after school hours. They are currently enjoying Gaelic Football, Soccer and Swimming. The first year students are participating in the "JAWS Swimming Programme".

MS. READATHON:

Junior Cycle students once again have taken on the Ms. Readathon Challenge. This has become an annual fundraising event organised by the English Department and the J.C.S.P.Co-ordinator. All funds raised are forwarded to M.S. Ireland an organisation that provides essential support to people with M.S.

TASTES OF CHRISTMAS 2011:

After a very successful event last year Templemichael College once again hosted a "Celebration of Christmas Day Cooking" demonstration on Thursday, 8th December 2011. The well known author, broadcaster and chef Mr. Frank Moynihan amazed and impressed us with his delightful and easy to execute Christmas recipes. Local Christmas crafts were showcased along with freshly baked home-made produce and a beautiful range of gifts. It was a most enjoyable and informative evening. The proceeds will be shared between Templemichael College Development Fund and St. Christopher's Services Longford.

Finally the students and staff of Templemichael College would like to take this opportunity to wish you all

Nollaig Shona agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

Caring for People with Dementia

Longford Branch of The Alzheimer Society of Ireland



was founded in 1994 to work for and on behalf of people with dementia and their carers. We ensure they have the necessary supports and services to enable them to maximise quality of life, respecting the needs, rights and dignity of the individual.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland exists to provide necessary supports to enable people with dementia to live as independently as possible within their own community. Our aim therefore within the Longford area is the provision of Dementia specific care and carers supports.

SERVICES PROVIDED IN CO. LONGFORD
The Alzheimer Society Longford Branch currently provides dementia specific care within Longford. We are dedicated to the principles of personhood, consultation with carers, innovation through research and development and partnership with local communities, state and voluntary agencies.

Our services currently include:

- We operate a Home Care Service where our trained workers care for people with Alzheimer's disease at home.
- In conjunction with a local Nursing Home in Longford we operate a day care Monday to Friday and a respite service. This service provides an essential respite to those families caring for their loved ones at home.
- We also have a day care service operating each Saturday at St. Joseph's care centre, Longford.

Families who wish to be considered for any of these services should contact: Breda at our local office: 043-3348402 or 086 3802183 or Samantha at: 086 6078584.

Our office is located at No 1 Church Street, Longford which is open from 9am to 5 pm daily. Tel: 043 3348402. Fax: 043 3342723.

Longford Victim Support

Longford Victim Support established in 1998 offers a free, confidential



listening service to victims of crime. Our trained volunteers provide emotional and practical support to those who have suffered at the hands of the criminal. We also provide Court Support to anyone attending court for the first time.

If you have been a victim of crime and feel you need help do not hesitate to contact us at 043 33 47422.