

# ACCS

## Newsletter Nuachtiris

Cumann na Scoileanna Pobail is Cuimsitheacha Association of Community and Comprehensive Schools

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## Beannachtaí na Nollag

ACCS wishes all our schools a Happy Christmas.

## The ACCS In-School Management Conference 2015

The ACCS In-School Management conference returned to the Lyrath Estate Hotel & Spa, Kilkenny, back by popular demand after very successfully hosting the event last year. It proved an excellent backdrop to our conference for principals and deputy principals in Community and Comprehensive Schools. The theme of the conference, 'Sustaining the Team', followed on from our very successful conference of last year 'Sustaining the Leader'. Under the chairmanship of Denis Ring the In-School Management Team provided an agenda that engaged all delegates as witnessed from the extremely positive feedback received. The format of sourcing keynote speakers who are leaders in their field, coupled with workshops delivered by experienced practitioners in schools, provided the perfect balance.

Following the opening of the conference by ACCS President Antoinette Nic Gearailt, Denis Ring introduced our keynote speaker, Brian Cody. Brian has sustained what is probably the greatest

team in Irish sport, the Kilkenny Hurling Team who have achieved unprecedented success, and has occupied a senior management role in education as a school principal. His very powerful presentation focused on the key themes of honesty of endeavour, planning and a commitment to hard work. Brian's presentation set the tone for an excellent two days.

Two workshops followed, one focusing on **The "Droichead" Experience** in St. Louis Community School, Kiltimagh and the other, **The Practical Implementation of a Critical Incident Plan**, presented by Joe Sweeney, Principal, Coláiste Chiaráin, Leixlip.

The Droichead programme offers the opportunity to introduce a comprehensive mentoring programme for newly qualified teachers and has proved very successful in schools who have adapted the programme. Judy O'Connor and Rita Ryan, Regional Development Officers of the National Induction Programme for Teachers (NIPT) set out the rationale and



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Mr. Denis Ring, In-School Management Committee Chairperson, Mr. Brian Cody, Keynote Speaker, Ms. Antoinette Nic Gearailt, ACCS President, Ms. Eileen Salmon, ACCS General Secretary at the recent ACCS In-School Management Conference.

## The Droichead Team



Ms. Rita Ryan



Ms. Áine McAlpine



Mr. Cahil Doherty

practicalities of the Droichead programme, while Cahil Doherty, Principal of St. Louis Community School, and Áine McAlpine, Teacher and Mentor from St. Louis Community School described how it works in the school and helps to bring about a culture of sharing and professional conversations amongst teachers.

At some stage in the life of a school it is almost inevitable that the school community will experience a critical incident and the presentation delivered by Joe Sweeney, Principal of Coláiste Chiaráin provided an invaluable insight into managing such a sensitive time successfully. Joe very generously shared the resources he has developed on foot of the school's experience and these can now be found on the ACCS website under the header 'CPD Programme'.



Mr. Joe Sweeney

Following the workshops delegates had the opportunity to reflect on current issues exercising school management at regional meetings. Unsurprisingly, the union directive on Posts of Responsibility, the continued moratorium on appointment of non-teaching staff, the lack of teacher supply in certain subjects, and the disappearance of middle management from schools continue to be sources of huge concern for our school management.

Day one concluded with the opportunity to relax and enjoy the annual banquet where we acknowledge recently retired colleagues. Andrew Kelly, Loreto Community School Milford, spoke on behalf of the retirees who each received the now legendary ACCS lamp. He reflected on a career that commenced before WSE/MML or SSE, digital strategies or P-Pod. While believing the majority of change was good, Andrew still reminisced for simpler times when he and others embarked on their journey in educational leadership.

Denis Ring, Principal of Blackwater Community School opened day two with a presentation titled A

**Timely Review of School Development Planning.** He described how the school has set out a plan to make sense of School Self-Evaluation, School Development Planning, and School Improvement Planning. Denis spoke about the way the school developed a process and produced a calendar to support the school's planning. The calendar arranges in chronological order all policies required in schools and clearly identifies when they were last updated and will need to be revisited. The practicality of this session was very well received and understood. Denis has generously made the resources developed by the school available to all our schools. These can be found on the ACCS website under the header 'CPD Programme'.

Shane Martin, Psychologist, Moodwatchers followed with a presentation on **'The Science of the Survivor'**. With his style of presenting serious issues with a touch of humour he focused on the ten tips to survival. The detail of his presentation is described in this Newsletter.

To complete the programme of presentations, Stephen MacEoin provided a comprehensive and colourful account of **Ireland 2016 Schools Programme - 1916 Commemorations**. The description of educational initiatives and additional resources for teachers and students looked very interesting. We will

have opportunities to take part in a whole range of exciting projects and activities during the coming year.

The conference closed with an Open Forum chaired by ACCS President Antoinette Nic Gearailt and led by Eileen Salmon, General Secretary. The detail of what was discussed at the Open Forum can be found under the School Management section of the website. The relevant subsection is: In-school Management and Organisation and scroll to ACCS Information.

The In-school Management Team were delighted with the very positive feedback from over 160 delegates attending the conference. We hope that the ideas and reassurances and conversations that took place over the two days will help sustain our principals and deputy principals in the new year and support them in 'Sustaining the Team'.



Comdt. Stephen MacEoin



## Sustaining the Team

### *Mr. Brian Cody, Manager of the Kilkenny Senior Hurling Team*

Mr. Brian Cody, Manager of the Kilkenny Senior Hurling Team, was our keynote speaker at the conference. Since 1998 he has been managing the most successful hurling team in history and our principals and deputy principals were eager to hear his valuable insights into sustaining his team and maintaining the momentum for achievement.

Brian spoke for nearly an hour, with real conviction, without a note to prompt his message! He brought us through his journey with his team since 1998. When he took over as hurling manager Brian said he “wasn’t qualified to do the job from results he had”. He maintained that he had no great CV of success going into the job. He had two ambitions starting out, to build a spirit in the hurling community in Kilkenny and to bring a unity of ambition to all the stakeholders involved in the game in the county.

Brian felt duty bound to inspire the young people who would want to emulate what they saw in the senior team.

Throughout his talk Brian threaded the experience of being a teacher and a principal in a primary school in Kilkenny with the experience of being a hurling manager, having combined both careers for 17 years up to his retirement from principalship in September 2015. In summary he advised the following:

- Bring yourself to the job. Your strengths and weaknesses. Don’t be afraid of being the person you are. Be honest about this. No gimmicks, no notions!
- Be the best you can be. There is no limit to how good you can be! Instil this into your team.
- Generate respect. See the importance of every individual.
- Supporters invest in their team. The manager needs to put a team on the field who gives 100%. You need to earn the respect of your supporters.
- You need to get to know people, talk about your ambitions. Listen to others’ ambitions. Communicate.
- Get to know your players. No manager should demand too much of their players. Many players have full time jobs or are third level students. They have lives to lead as well. Managers don’t own them! Build trust.
- The greatest strength you can have as a team is your spirit. An unbreakable spirit. Then the sky is the limit. You will have setbacks, but you will bounce back quickly if you have spirit.
- Bring in expertise when needed. Don’t think you know it all. Humility, the absence of ego, is essential.
- A manager, a principal must see the sheer talent in the staff. We can all learn so much from each other.
- Be honest in your endeavour to be successful.
- Setting standards is most important. Standards of excellence are essential. Maintaining, sustaining, and constantly raising standards through defeat and success. How to do better? “Training should be more challenging than the actual game”. This can be aligned to the dreaded Whole School Evaluation. Don’t wait for the phone call for the WSE to get ready. You have to be ready all the time!

- Everyone wants to be part of a setup that allows you to be the best you can be.
- Stop making excuses for losing. You lost because you weren’t good enough to win! Making excuses is dangerous. You can get good at making excuses.
- When you win, when you taste success, it’s not enough to keep going as you are. It’s not enough to sustain, you have to improve. Small improvements all the time are necessary. They accumulate.
- There is a constant challenge in sport, in school. You need to keep looking after every aspect of it.

Brian then brought his audience through different key times in the hurling teams’ history to illustrate his beliefs. In 2005 the team were being ‘slaughtered’ in the semi-final with Galway. They were 13 points behind at one stage. But Kilkenny fought back with drive, energy, determination. In the end they lost by 3 points, but they were not annihilated! There was a good spirit in the team. The pundits claimed Kilkenny was a spent force. Kilkenny won the next four all Ireland finals! Spirit in the team was key.

Brian firmly believes in the capacity of every person in the group to be a leader. He developed this. After the success in 2006 an atmosphere of negativity, pessimism crept into the county. “We don’t mind if you don’t win this year”. Brian felt this was unacceptable. While individuals don’t last, the team lasts if the spirit is strong enough. You never get to the end of what you can do!

Finally, Brian advised his audience to “never be afraid to do the thing you believe in”. He described how Kilkenny drew with Tipperary in 2014. The question was “How can we get to the stage where they can’t handle us?” For the replay Brian left three players out of the squad who had played in the previous game. Was it a risk? No, it was an informed decision. Again, after a drawn game in another competition, Brian introduced a new player for the replay, one who hadn’t even played in a county match before. But he could see the potential in this young man. He had seen him on the training pitch and saw his worth. In the same way school leaders must see the potential in staff, motivate them to be leaders.

All delegates, even those who support teams who regularly come up against the might of Kilkenny, were very inspired and enthused by Brian’s advice. This presentation was just the impetus needed to steer the conference in a positive direction.



*Mr. Brian Cody*

## In-School Management Sub Committee

At the recent In-School Management Conference the following representatives were elected to the In-School Management Sub Committee of ACCS:

**Connacht:** Willie Culkeen & Majella Morrison

**Dublin:** John McKennedy & Bríd Ní Annracháin

**Leinster:** Joe Sweeney & Anne Smyth

**Munster:** Denis Ring & Bernie Heffernan

**Ulster:** Frances Boner & Ceola McGowan

## The Science of the Survivor

### Mr. Shane Martin, Psychologist, Moodwatchers

Shane Martin opened his talk with three realities:

- We are all vulnerable
- We will all face challenges, crises
- We underestimate our own potential to cope during the challenging times

He used the Master, Best and Garmezy 1990 definition of resilience as “the process of, capacity for, or outcome of successful adaptation despite challenging or threatening circumstances” and continued “more than education, more than experience, more than training, a person’s level of resilience will determine who succeeds and who fails”. (Dean Becker, Harvard Business Review) Shane then declared *the great news that it can be learned*. He described resilience as a unique journey, unique for each person but certain factors are consistently shown to be important. At this point he introduced:

#### Ten Tips for Greater Resilience:

1. **EMOTIONAL AWARENESS OR REGULATION.** The ability to identify what you’re feeling and express your emotions, and when necessary, the ability to control your feelings.
2. **IMPULSE CONTROL.** Highly resilient people are able to tolerate ambiguity so they don’t rush to make decisions. They sit back and look at things in a thoughtful way before acting.
3. **EMPATHY.** People who score high on emotional awareness and understand their emotions tend also to score high on empathy – the ability to read and understand the emotions of others.
4. **BEING COMPASSIONATE.** Compassion for others, compassion for oneself, unconditional compassion.
5. **UNLEARN HELPLESSNESS.** Failures are temporary setbacks, never underestimate your own potential and don’t be afraid to do things differently, do different things.
6. **OPTIMISM.** Optimism which facilitates problem-solving ‘wed to reality’.

7. **CAUSAL ANALYSIS.** This means the ability to think comprehensively about the problems/challenges you confront. Looking at problems from many perspectives, considering many factors and consulting with others.
8. **TAPPING INTO OUR STRENGTHS.** Confidence in your ability to solve problems. Knowing what your strengths and weakness are and relying on your strengths to cope.
9. **SOCIAL CONNECTIVITY.** Being prepared to take support. The crucial role of the ‘significant other’, being social – staying social.
10. **PRAYER/FAITH.** Sense of purpose, It’s not all about me! Life as a journey.

Shane concluded by stating that we don’t have to score highly on all to be given ‘the stamp of resilience’. Major progress occurs by even considering which of the factors we are strong at and playing to these strengths as much as possible. The entire presentation was delivered with a sense of fun and everyone definitely left with a bounce in their step.

Shane Martin’s slides can be accessed on his site [www.moodwatchers.com](http://www.moodwatchers.com) following the Resources tab and then the link, ACCS Slides.



Mr. Shane Martin, Moodwatchers, presenting the 'Science of the Survivor'.

## Retiring Colleagues



Photo L-R: Mr. Andrew Kelly, Mr. Noel Ó Gallcháir, Ms. Nóirín Fitzgerald, Mr. Eddie Morrissey, Ms. Eileen Salmon, General Secretary ACCS, Ms. Antoinette Nic Gearailt, President ACCS, Mr. Austin Naughton, Mr. Martin Gleeson, Mr. Paul Fiorentini, Vice President ACCS, Mr. Tony Walsh.



## Golf

Mr. Brendan Carroll, PCI, presents Corn an Easpag Uí Eigearthaigh (Bishop Hegarty Trophy) to 2015 winner Mr. Paul Crone, Old Bawn Community School Tallaght, in the presence of Ms. Antoinette Nic Gearailt, ACCS President, and Mr. Willie Culkeen, tournament organiser.

# Essential Education Law Day

The Clarion Hotel, Liffey Valley, Dublin was the venue for our Essential Education Law Day presented by Mason Hayes and Curran. We sincerely thank Mr. Ian O'Herlihy, Mr. Liam Riordan, Ms. Edel Kennedy and Ms. Catherine Kelly for sharing their expertise in a range of areas regarding the law which are to the fore at present. Based on feedback from schools and the issues currently hitting the desks in Mason Hayes and Curran the agenda was drafted which included presentations on:

**Whistleblowing and Protected Disclosure.** The aim of this legislation is twofold, to promote disclosure of improper conduct while providing protection for the whistle-blower. The presentation addressed how this applies to schools.

**How to Conduct a Workplace Investigation.** Investigations have become a more common feature of the Irish educational landscape. The presentation investigated what generates an investigation which includes, Grievance Procedures, Complaints Procedures, Disciplinary Procedures and Student Behaviour and how to proceed.

**Parental Leave.** Schools have reported that changes to the Parental Leave Procedures are posing challenges for schools given the fragmented nature in which it can be taken. Mason Hayes and Curran outlined the rights of the parent and the obligations placed on schools in CL 26/13 for teachers and CL 27/13 for SNAs.

**Data Access Requests.** Data protection has become an issue that has exercised all organisations holding data, particularly personal data. The presentation focused on the Data Protection Acts, 1988 and 2003, relevant filing systems and expectations and limitations to the Right of Access.

**Child Protection Procedures/Administrative Leave.** This presentation addressed how a school deals with an allegation or suspicions of child abuse regarding school employees. There are two main concerns, protection of children is the



*Ms. Antoinette Nic Gearailt, President ACCS, Ms. Catherine Kelly, Mason Hayes and Curran, Mr. Ian O'Herlihy, Mason Hayes and Curran, Ms. Eileen Salmon, General Secretary ACCS at the Essential Education Law Day.*

most important consideration and the school has a duty and responsibility as an employer in respect of employees. The presentation outlined the correct approach to the issues.

**Charities Act and the Charities Regulatory Authority.** The Charities Act of 2009 imposes legal obligations on all Community and Comprehensive Schools. The Charities Regulatory Authority has indicated they will engage with schools in early 2016 and outlines the registration process and how schools will report to the CRA.

**Update on Equality Law Cases.** To conclude Mason Hayes and Curran reviewed current equality law cases with a focus on the definition of discrimination and two areas that are particularly causing issues for employers, age and disability.

All presentations can be accessed on the ACCS website, [www.accs.ie](http://www.accs.ie), under the tab CPD Programme then follow the link 'Education Law Day Presentations'. ACCS wishes to express thanks to the Mason, Hayes and Curran team for generously giving their time and expertise to our schools.

## Recent DES Circulars since our last Newsletter

CL 75/2015	Job Sharing Scheme for Registered Teachers in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools
CL 73/2015	Revision Of Salaries Of All Staff Paid Directly By A Recognised School Or ETB With Effect From 1 January 2016
CL 72/2015	Revision Of Salaries Of School Maintenance Staff In Community And Comprehensive Schools With Effect From 1 January 2016 And Revision Of Pension-Related Deduction With Effect From 1 January 2015 And 1 January 2016
CL 71/2015	Revision Of Salaries Of School Secretaries In Community And Comprehensive Schools With Effect From 1 January 2016 And Revision Of Pension-Related Deduction With Effect From 1 January 2015 And 1 January 2016
CL 69/2015	Revision Of Salaries In Respect Of All Staff Other Than Teachers And SNAs Employed By ETBs With Effect From 1 January 2016 And Revision Of Pension-Related Deduction With Effect From 1 January 2015 And 1 January 2016
CL 68/2015	Revision Of Salaries With Effect From 1 January 2016 And Revision Of Pension-Related Deduction With Effect From 2015 For Clerical Officers And Caretakers Employed In National Schools Under The 1978/79 Scheme And Clerical Officers Employed In Post Primary Schools Under The 1978 Scheme
CL 67/2015	Revision Of Salaries For Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) With Effect From 1 January 2016 And Revision Of Pension-Related Deduction With Effect From 2015
CL 66/2015	Revision Of Salaries For Teachers With Effect From 1 January 2016 And Revision Of Pension-Related Deduction With Effect From 2015
CL 65/2015	Special Needs Assistants - Cessation of "Rolled-up Holiday Pay"
CL 64/2015	Revised Sick Leave Arrangements in respect of Clerical Officers and Caretakers employed in National Schools under the 1978/79 Scheme and Clerical Officers employed in Post Primary Schools under the 1978 Scheme



## Sr. Eileen Randles R.I.P.

It is with great sadness that we heard of the death of Sr. Eileen Randles R.I.P. on 5th December 2015. Eileen was a great servant of ACCS, acting as a Trustee of ACCS, reviewing the annual accounts and maintaining an active interest in the work of the Association. Eileen had a great understanding of the role of religious patron within the Joint Patronage model in Community Schools and together with her colleagues in the Loreto Community contributed in huge measure to the schools in their care. The Loreto Order is Joint Patron in five of our schools; St. Aidan's Community School in Tallaght, Portmarnock Community School, Gorey Community School, Pobalscoil na Tríonóide in Youghal and Loreto Community School in Milford. Eileen was a very active member of Boards of Management in Community Schools over the years, putting her knowledge into practice. In particular, her contribution as Chairperson in St. Aidan's Community School, Brookfield was exemplary and much appreciated by the school community. Eileen's knowledge and wisdom were greatly appreciated by all the partners in



Education and she will be sorely missed for her wise contributions at all educational fora nationally.

*Ní bheidh a leithéid arís ann. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a hanam dílis.*

## NACED conference 2015

*Clonmel Park Hotel, 26th & 27th November, 2015*

Over 30 schools were represented at the Annual conference of the National Association of Adult and Community Education Directors (NACED) in Clonmel in November 2015.

Certification and collaboration were the main topics for discussion with speakers in attendance from Further Education Support Service (FESS) and ETBI. Access to QQI (formerly FETAC) certification and validation for schools wanting to offer courses is a big issue these days, with many schools finding themselves locked out or priced out due to the high validation fees being sought by QQI. NACED is currently working with ACCS to explore avenues of collaboration with other schools and agencies so that the burden of quality assurance and validation can be shared across a number of schools in a region.

The conference was opened on Thursday, 26 November, with an address by John Irwin (ACCS). Promotions within adult education are a big issue and John outlined possible models of career advancement that may emerge in second level schools. Many Adult Education Directors find themselves working in isolation and carry a significant burden in the absence of assistant directors. Large schools that offer extensive adult education programmes cannot be

expected to operate into the future with a dwindling dedicated workforce and the associated loss of transfer of knowledge and expertise.



NACED chairman Mr. Fintan Kemple (right) makes a presentation to Mr. Liam Patten (centre), who retired as Adult Education Director in The Donahies Community School, Dublin, pictured with Ms. Gemma O'Connor, Acting Adult Education Director in The Donahies CS.



## ACCS Convention 2016

The 34th ACCS Convention will take place on the 3rd, 4th & 5th March, 2016 in The Slieve Russell Hotel, Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan.

### Dates to remember

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 3rd December, 2015  | Nominations for Presidency and motions for Convention to be submitted.  |
| 3rd January, 2016   | Draft agenda of business and nominations for Presidency and motions to be issued to Member Boards and Executive Members. Member Boards will be invited to submit amendments to the motions. |
| 3rd February, 2016  | Latest date for receipt of amendments to the motions.   |
| 18th February, 2016 | A final agenda will be issued to Member Boards.   |

# News & Events from the Community & Comprehensive School Sector

## Pobalscoil na Tríonóide wins Excellence Award...

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Pobalscoil na Tríonóide has received a Centre of Excellence Award for Microsoft Office Specialist. This award is presented by Prodigy Learning to a small number of Training Centres (academic institutions and private training providers) in the UK and Ireland, to recognise exceptional performance in delivering internationally recognised IT certifications from industry leaders such as Adobe, Autodesk and Microsoft.

Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification is the world's most recognised computing qualification for proving a person's skills and abilities in Microsoft's Office applications.

Pobalscoil na Tríonóide achieved this award in recognition of the high standard of training and certification exams which were taken by Transition Year students in the school over the school year 2014 – 2015. Students completed the Microsoft Office Specialist 2010 in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Access. The award was achieved following delivery of over 250 Microsoft Office Specialist exams. The success of the programme is such that students in second and third year are now being introduced to the programme in their ICT classes.

School principal Séamus Ó Ceallacháin praised the staff and students on this significant achievement. "Excellence is a core aspect of our mission statement, and this award is proof of our teachers and students achieving that", said Mr. Ó Ceallacháin.

This award was presented to the school's IT department by Mr. Billy Breen of Prodigy Learning, at a ceremony in the school on Wednesday 2nd December.



Mr. Tom O'Brien, ICT Co-ordinator Pobalscoil na Tríonóide receives the Centre of Excellence Certificate from Mr. Billy Breen, Prodigy Learning in the presence of Mr. Philip Coles, IT teacher, and School Principal Mr. Séamus Ó Ceallacháin.

## Cian McDonnell, Crescent College Comprehensive National Junior Science Olympiad Winner

### National Honour:

Congratulations to Cian McDonnell, who has brought National Honours to our school by coming first in the Irish Junior Science Olympiad on 24 October. The Irish Junior Science Olympiad (IrJSO) is a science competition for students who are under sixteen on December 31st of the year of the competition. Finalists qualify through the Junior Certificate Examinations and are identified by the State Examinations Commission (SEC). In total, five of our students (Cian McDonnell, Jack Roche, Elizabeth Mulvihill, Catherine Fraser, Mark Hickey) were invited to take part on the basis of their excellent Junior Cert results in both Maths and Science.

Cian achieved first place in the competition and was awarded the gold medal. He has now qualified as a member of the team to represent Ireland at the International Competition which will be held in Korea in early December. Training and preparation for the competition will take place at DCU.

Cian has already been successful in a number of Science/Maths related competitions during the last few years:

- Placed 3rd (out of 2,500 entrants) in Google Call to Code competition 2014
- Awarded Runner-Up Best Project at Limerick Institute of Technology Sci-fest 2014 – (team award)
- Won the All Ireland Programming Olympiad 2015, Junior category in 2015
- Part of a team that won 1st place in ISTA Junior Science Quiz in Limerick in 2015



Cian McDonnell (far right), Crescent College Comprehensive School, winner of the Gold Medal at the recent National Junior Science Olympiad with the other medal recipients.



# News & Events from the Community & Comprehensive School Sector

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## Imagine Garden Ballyhaunis Community School



Photo L-R: Kyle Cooke, Alannah Dennehy, Anna Naszkierska, all students, Mr. David McDonagh, Principal Ballyhaunis Community School, Privilege Ncube, student, An Taoiseach Enda Kenny T.D., Hamad Farooq, Joseph Wagacha, both students, Mr. John O'Mahony T.D., Cllr. John Cribbin.

Diversity and Multiculturalism have always been celebrated in Ballyhaunis Community School. At present there are 28 different nationalities represented within the student body which is highly unusual for a rural based school. In the past in an effort to promote tolerance and understanding we have held Multicultural Celebrations where for a few hours our school became a carnival of different cultures.

However it was felt that there was a necessity to more permanently celebrate the school's diversity. In late 2014 a very exciting project was embarked upon. With funding from Worldwide Global Schools and the NAPD's Creative Engagement it was decided to renovate one of the courtyard areas in the school and for it to be a focal point for multiculturalism in the school. Within the school the

project was co-ordinated by Ms. Antoinette Lennon and Ms. Genny Murray. Local artist Mr. Tommy Casby brought a wealth of experience and wonderful creativity to the design of the area. However it was the students themselves, representing the many diverse cultures in the school that did the majority of the work. What was once a wild and overgrown space is now a vibrant and colourful area that serves to enhance the visual appeal of the school and also serves to remind us of the diversity of our backgrounds but also the humanity that unite us.

The "Imagine Garden" was recently opened by An Taoiseach Mr. Enda Kenny T.D. on his visit to the school to turn the sod on the multi-million renovation and extension of the school.

## Cabinteely Community School Celebrates 40 Years

Central to the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the opening of Cabinteely Community School was a presentation given by Sr. Pauline of the Ursuline Order, founding principal Liam Ryder, his successor Joe Keane and the current management team of Orlagh Brett, principal and James Maloney, deputy principal. Sr. Pauline traced the contribution of the Ursuline Sisters to education in Cabinteely from 1962 prior to the emergence of the Community School in 1975. The Ursuline Sisters remain Trustees in partnership with the Archbishop of Dublin and County Dublin ETB. Each principal traced the history of the school through its 40 years. Congratulations to all in Cabinteely Community School and every best wish for the future.

*Pictured right at the celebrations marking the 40th Anniversary of the opening of Cabinteely Community are Mr. James Maloney, deputy principal, Ms. Antoinette Nic Gearailt, President ACCS, Mr. Liam Ryder, founding principal, Ms. Orlagh Brett, current principal, Mr Joe Keane, former principal.*

