



Student Council Newsletter 2012/2013

9 June 2013

Tralee Educate Together National School
"Learn Together to Live Together"

Student Council Election Day - 11th October 2012



Student Council Members 2012 – 2013

Co-Chairpersons – Sherraya & Rory

Co-Secretaries: Jessica & Nicolas

Junior/Senior Liaison Officers: Kyle and Caoimhe

PR Team 1: Bríd, Wendy & Nikolas **PR Team 2:** Siobhán, Jagoda & Jack

Treasurers: Basit & Dylan

DID YOU KNOW...

Student Council Newsletters from previous years are available on the school's website

AND

History of Student Councils from 2009 to 2012 - is available on the website too!

AND

You can Like us on Facebook!

Dear Parents, Staff and Pupils

Welcome to the third edition of the Student Council newsletter. We invited members to write an article for the newsletter. They did a great job! We hope you enjoy reading it.

Thank you again for your encouragement and support of the Student Council, and for buying lines for their raffle. Homework vouchers are proving very popular indeed! We will be arranging the plaque for the bench this month.

The students are also in the process of writing to the Minister for Education – they would like an extra hour PE time per week.

They had a particularly busy year in this the 10th Anniversary Year.

We hope they enjoyed being the voice for such an important part of our community – the students!

Student Council Committee - Denis, Maryanne and Caroline



Sherraya - "My friends"

I have lots of friends. They are all really nice and friendly. We play fun games and go to parties.

We all go to the best school in the world – Tralee Educate Together National School. We love our school.

I like being on the Student Council because it is fun helping around the school



Sherraya O'Connell, 6th Class



Rory - "The Hunger Games "

I have read all the Hunger Games books and I am reading them the second time at the moment. There are three books altogether.

I like the books better than the movie because you get to guess what the characters look like.

The books are about a girl called Katniss. The District she lives in is very poor. There are twelve Districts altogether. There used to be thirteen Districts, but the Capitol destroyed District Thirteen.

Katniss is a hunter. She illegally hunts in her district with her friend Gale. They would hunt so they can

feed their families or sell the game in the black market.

Katniss is picked to be in the Hunger Games twice. The Hunger Games is where 24 Tributes are picked to fight in an outdoor arena. They have to survive and hunt by themselves until there is one winner.

The Capitol is the ruler of all the Districts and they invented the Hunger Games for their own amusement.

I like being on the Student Council because you get to organize lots of events during the year, and its lots of fun.



Rory O'Connor, 5th Class



Wendy ... "Fried Chicken"

I love fried chicken – everyone knows that.

It was in my speech, posters, everything.

It's yummy yummy in my tummy!

Sadly my favourite place, KFC, is not in Tralee ☹

I like being on the Student Council because we get a say in what happens in the school.

Wendy Jakpovi, 5th Class





Basit..."PS Vita"

The PS Vita is a handheld gaming device developed by Sony. It has a lot of features. You can take pictures and make a video. It has a built-in mic at the front, and rear view camera. It is touch-screen and has a rear touch pad.

It comes in a wi-fi version and in a 3G version. If you get the 3G version you can call people and text them the same way you can on a phone. You can browse the Web, download videos, Facebook, Skype and YouTube.

If you have a PS3 or PS4 you can join it up and use it as a controller. It has a lot of features most of which I haven't mentioned.

I think it's great.... and you would too.

I like being on the Student Council because you get food, crisps and prizes.

Basit Kareem, 5th Class



Siobhán....."On my holidays"

Me, Cathal, Kenny, Ruairi, Aoife, mom and dad were in the car on the way up to the ferry to get to England.

It was really boring. Aoife put on a song – I think it was called "meow meow".

It took us five or six hours to get to the ferry and it was the middle of the night when we got to the ferry.

In the morning we had to up so early.

When we were going to the car I saw Jessica and Zachary on the boat.

It took us two hours to get to Plymouth (well it seemed like two hours to me).

I like being on the Student Council because we get to think of ways to make the school a better place.

Siobhan Foran, 5th Class



Dylan "Hobbies "

I like playing X-BOX 360. I like MW2 and MW3. I got my x-box for Christmas.

I got 4/5 games for x-box and I got membership.

I like the Student Council. I like soccer and golf – they are my favourite sports.

I like being on the Student Council. It is good and you get jobs to do in the school.

Dylan Moran, 6th Class



A word from the Mayor of Tralee.... Cllr Johnnie Wall



I got a copy of last year's Student Council Newsletter to see what kind of news that gets circulated by you the students. I was delighted with its varied and colourful content.

So I'm expecting this year's issue to be just as good if not better, now that's putting you all under pressure !!

My memories of your school is one of great fun at the Student Council Election -

of great fun at your Anniversary Celebrations, and of a serious discussion down at the Town Hall where you kept the Town Clerk and myself on our toes with the very thoughtful questions that you all asked. I'm sure that there are future politicians in that group.

I must pay tribute to the way that you all behaved on all the occasions that I met you - you are a credit to your parents and your teachers. I have no doubt that in time you all will be a credit to your country and will play a big part in Ireland's future.

Best of luck for the remainder of your term and really enjoy the summer holidays which are just around the corner.

Sincerely,

Johnnie Wall
Mayor of Tralee

OUR STUDENT COUNCIL LOGO
WAS DESIGNED IN 2011

BY SIOBHAN FORAN,
Student Council Member





Bríd “My Life”

My name is Bríd. I am 8 years old. I love playing piano. I am now on primary and I'm going into Grade 1 on the 19th May. I live in Tralee. I am in second class.

My favourite food is bacon and cabbage. I love riding my bicycle. I have a pet lizard. I have one brother and he is ten. I have a sister and she is six.

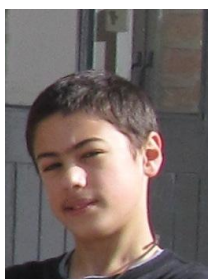


My favourite subject is maths. I love the 10+ sums. They are so easy!

I do ballet. My teacher's name is Debby. We do Zumba as well. My friend Tara goes to ballet as well. I am going to be 9 in October. I love being on the Student Council.

I like being on the Student Council because we get to organize fundraisers, raffles, and loads of fun ideas.

Bríd Doyle O'Brien, 2nd Class



Jack Erah dun....”My favourite hobbies”

My favourite hobbies are running on the grass and I like eating junk food. I like playing video games, especially Far Cry 3.

I love playing with my pets – Teddy, Legs, Thor, Sonic and Tomy.

I like playing with my friends in the school yard and at my house.

I also like going to school, apart from the work. Our teacher Jean is also a nice lady.

I love going to the Student council – it's a great chance for me to help the school. Well for now, this is the end.

I like being on the Student council because I get to help the school and students.

Jack Erah dun

4th Class



Caoimhe Hussey..... “Student Council”

I like being on the Student Council because I want to help the school.

I have loads of memories from this year... rehearsing for the 10th anniversary.

I remember going to the Town Hall and a lot more too.

Being on the Student Council made the year go so fast.



Caoimhe Hussey, 3rd Class

Maryanne Keane - A History lesson !



**This is a short history about Collis Sandes House.
It was known as Oak Park House until 1994.
The Estate covered the land from the House all the way down to the Lodge on Killeen Road.**



HOUSE & GARDEN



MAURICE FITZGERALD SANDES

The Bateman family moved to Oakpark in 1697. It was a large estate – 300 acres. It was sold to Maurice Fitzgerald Sandes who was born in 1805 in Tarbert (on the left). He was Registrar General of the State of Bengal in India, and owned rubber and tea plantations in India and Sri Lanka. On the 8th January 1857, aged 52, he married Ellen Lousia Dennis of Fortganite, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow (on the right). Construction of Oakpark House also began for his private residence. It is understood that the house was a wedding present for his new wife. **So Denis' classroom "the Ellen Dennis Hall" is named after her.**



ELLEN LOUSIA DENNIS

The house took three years to complete and cost £37,000 with a further £6,000 being spent on the decoration. The house was designed by Cork Architect William Atkins. The house has been much admired in architectural circles, and described as "An Irish jewel of Gothic Revival". Go see it if you haven't already done so as it is impossible to describe here the wood, marble, paintings, brass work, arches, sculpture and spectacular ceilings.



FALKINER SANDES COLLIS-SANDES.

Maurice Fitzgerald Sandes lived in the house until his death on 4th March 1879. He had no children and left the house to his wife. Ellen Dennis died on the 16th March 1894. The estate was then left to his nephew, Falkiner Sandes Collis (on the left). By Royal Licence granted by the King of England on 8th July 1879, Falkiner Sandes Collis assumed the name and arms of Sandes, to become Falkiner Sandes Collis-Sandes. Falkiner became a barrister, lived in India for most of his life, and married Louisa Jane Young in 1882 in London. They came back to Oak Park House in 1885 – they had one son and three daughters (on the right). They lived happily at Oakpark House until Louisa died in 1905, and Falkiner died in 1912. Their son, Maurice James was killed in the Battle of the Somme in the First World War in 1917.



COLLIS-SANDES CHILDREN



The house and land was put up for sale in 1922 and was sold in different parts. Tralee Golf Club, Presentation Order, Tralee UDC, County Committee of Agriculture and Pitch n Putt bought sections of it at different times. It was a Novitiate – training centre for women wishing to join the Presentation Order - from 1923 to 1973. .



Enda O'Brien and Patrick Crean became owners of the house on the 1st February 1994 and renamed the house "Collis Sandes house". It opened for business as a hostel in 1994, and is now an educational and cultural centre..... and where you go to school!

Enda O'Brien is related to Tom Crean, Antarctic Explorer... but that's another story....



Jessica Davis..... “One Direction “

One Direction is my favourite band. There are five members. Their names are Niall James Horan, Zayn Jawaad Malik, Liam James Payne, Harry Edward Styles, and my favourite in the band Louis William Tomlinson.



Niall is from Mullingar, Ireland. Zayn is from Bradford, England. Harry is from Cheshire, England. Liam is from Wolverhampton. Louis is from Doncaster.

Niall is 19 years old. Harry is 19 years old. Louis is 22 years old. Zayn is 20 years old. Liam is 19 years old.

Niall has one brother called Greg. Harry has one sister called Gemma. Louis has four sisters called Charlotte, Felicite, Phoebe and Daisy. Zayn has three sisters called Doniya, Waliyha and Sofoa. Liam has two sisters Ruth and Nicola.

They have two albums out. They are called “Up All Night” and “Take Me Home”. My favourite song of theirs is “Little Things”.

Zayn has a girlfriend called Perrie. She’s in a band called “Little MX”. Louis has a girlfriend too. She is at University in Manchester.

They are five hard working lads and I love them.

I like being on the Student Council because we get to organize fundraisers and raffles.

Jessica Davis, 6th Class



Nicolas Larkin.....”What the Student Council is about”

The Student Council is not about just getting coke and chips. It’s about helping the school and the students.

It’s about where a group of people come together and help the school.

At first you think its going to be easy, but it’s not. It’s hard.

You have to work a lot. You have to sacrifice some break time to go to a meeting.

Everyone has to make decisions. You have to get jobs done.

What I don’t like about the Student Council – I do not like the way you have to miss break. That’s all I do not like about the Student Council.

I like the Student Council because it gives me a chance to see what politics is like.

Nicolas Larkin Damm

3rd Class





Caroline Doyle “Random Acts of Kindness”

“When we feel love and kindness toward others, it not only makes others feel loved and cared for, but it helps us also to develop inner happiness and peace.”

The 14th Dalai Lama (1935)
Head Monk Of The Gelugpa Lineage Of Tibetan Buddhism

At Christmas this year I got a calendar called ‘Random Acts of Kindness’ as a present from a friend. I keep it on my desk in work. Every day I tear off a page and read the different quotes and different stories all focusing on one thing- kindness.

Random Acts of kindness is a movement that was founded in America and has as its mission.... **”Inspiring people to practice kindness and pass it on to others”**.

In some schools throughout America they have brought in programmes to encourage kindness in their schools and have done things like had random acts of kindness days or week, helped someone in the neighbourhood, practiced smiling all day, helped an environmental project etc. There are lots of activities on their website...

When I read the calendar every day it makes me think about myself and people around me- I wonder am I being kind. Am I doing things to help people? Have I been polite, smiled, showed someone friendship? Have I written a letter to someone recently? Called an old friend? Do I want praise for this- that’s not so cool.

Anyway all this talk of kindness gets me wondering-what random acts of kindness could happen in Tralee Educate Together? Could we clean the woods? Help more in the garden? Thank our friends and teachers more? Play with someone in the class that we do not usually play with? Bake a cake to share? Compliment someone who is working hard? The list is endless and could go on.....

For more information on random acts of kindness go to:
www.randomactsofkindness.org

A big thanks to my friend for giving me such a great gift this year.



Kyle “Gerbils”

We were given to gerbils by friends of ours. Gerbils are desert rats.

Gerbils grow up to 30 cm from tip of the tail to the tip of the nose.

Gerbils make good pets. They are very friendly. You need to play with them every day so they can get used to you. Gerbils like to dig and sleep in holes. They have very sharp teeth. They can chew through metal.

They need fresh water every day. They eat different types of seeds. Gerbils are very clean pets. They cannot see very well, but smell and hear very well. They live from 2 to 4 years.

Gerbils are soft and furry. They move very quick, so you have to watch them all the time.

I like being on the Student Council because it was a new experience for me.

Kyle Hellstrom, 2nd Class



Jagoda....”My hobbies”

I like to dance, do art, play and do P.E.

My favourite hobby is dance.

Every Saturday morning I go to dance class near Dunnes.

There are only five in the class.

Debbie is our Instructor.

She's a great dancer. She's very flexible.

Hopefully some day I will be as good as her.

I think it's important to have hobbies. It's a good way to meet people and do what you like doing.

I like being on the Student Council because we help the school and we get to see the Mayor.

**Jagoda Waszkiewicz
4th Class**



Nikolas.... “ Soccer “

Soccer is my favourite sport.

I like playing soccer with my friends. My class played soccer in a Park. It was a competition. I wore a red jersey and Nike football boots. I was in Team A. We played against other schools. I played in goals once and then I played in the field. I had a good time.

My best soccer team is Barcelona. My favourite player is Messi. He is good at shooting goals. They won the UEFA Champions League.

When I am older I want to be a soccer player. I want to play in Barcelona.

Nikolas Gyngo, 6th Class





Sunshine, oh how I have missed you!
I'm writing this as the sun beats down and
everywhere looks bright and cheerful.
What a difference it makes.

Everybody seems to be in a better mood when the weather is good and the sun is shining.

Weather like this brings to mind the saying "make hay while the sun shines". Does this mean that you should be out in the fields working with the farmer, helping them save a crop of hay or silage? Given the current fodder crisis that has hit farmers in Ireland, possibly. What it really means is take the opportunity that you are given.

Hopefully, our summer has not already come and gone by the time you read this. If the weather is still good, make use of it and get out and get some exercise. Go for a walk, take your bike out for a cycle, jump around your garden, etc. Do anything as long as you are outside in the fresh air and you are active.

Make hay while the sun shines is not only about grass crops and playing in the sun, however, it also goes for many things in life.

Make sure you make the most of every opportunity that you are given.

Make the best of your education, use the energy of youth before it's gone, be nice to the friends that life has given you.

That reminds me of another saying, this time in Latin, though I'll leave you do a bit of work to find out what it means: [Carpe diem](#).

OUR YEAR IN PICTURESTHUS FAR...



Election 11/10/2012



Training October 2012



Anniversary Speech 9/12/12
We also did Open Day
Speech on 20th March 2013



Trip to the Town Hall February 2013



Student Council Raffle - May 2013

We sold raffle lines and raised €100 for a plaque for the bench in the yard. We made posters, designed lines and homework vouchers. We sold lines at 50c each and Treasurers counted the money. The Chairpersons delivered the prizes to the winners. We invited ideas for the inscription for the bench from parents, staff and pupils. Inscription to be agreed by Student Council and plaque will be in place in June

June 2013 - Dear Minister for Education - we want more PE time!

We are writing to Ruairi Quinn, Minister to ask him for an extra hour's PE time each week to bring it up to 2 hours per week. We will introduce ourselves and tell him why we think it is a good idea to have more PE time. We think it is good to be fit, to be active and to exercise. PE time helps us to focus and to relax, helps develop team work, and fight obesity in children. We will give him the solution – where to take the time from other subject s (but not Maths, Irish or English!). We will invite him to the school, and we will all sign the letter.

We have invited Minister Jimmy Deenihan to the school to present him with the letter – we hope he will be able to come although we only have a few weeks left!

