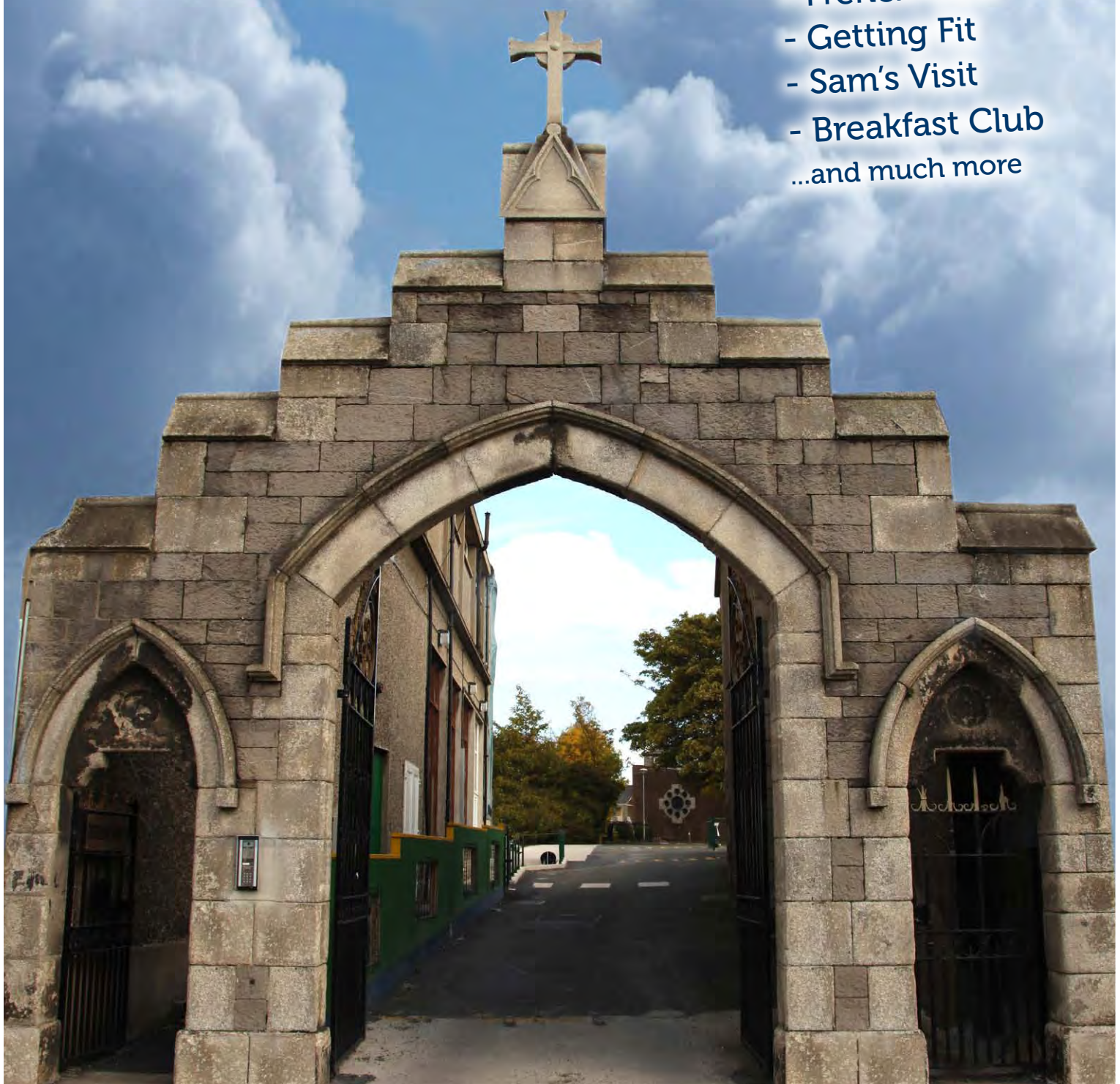


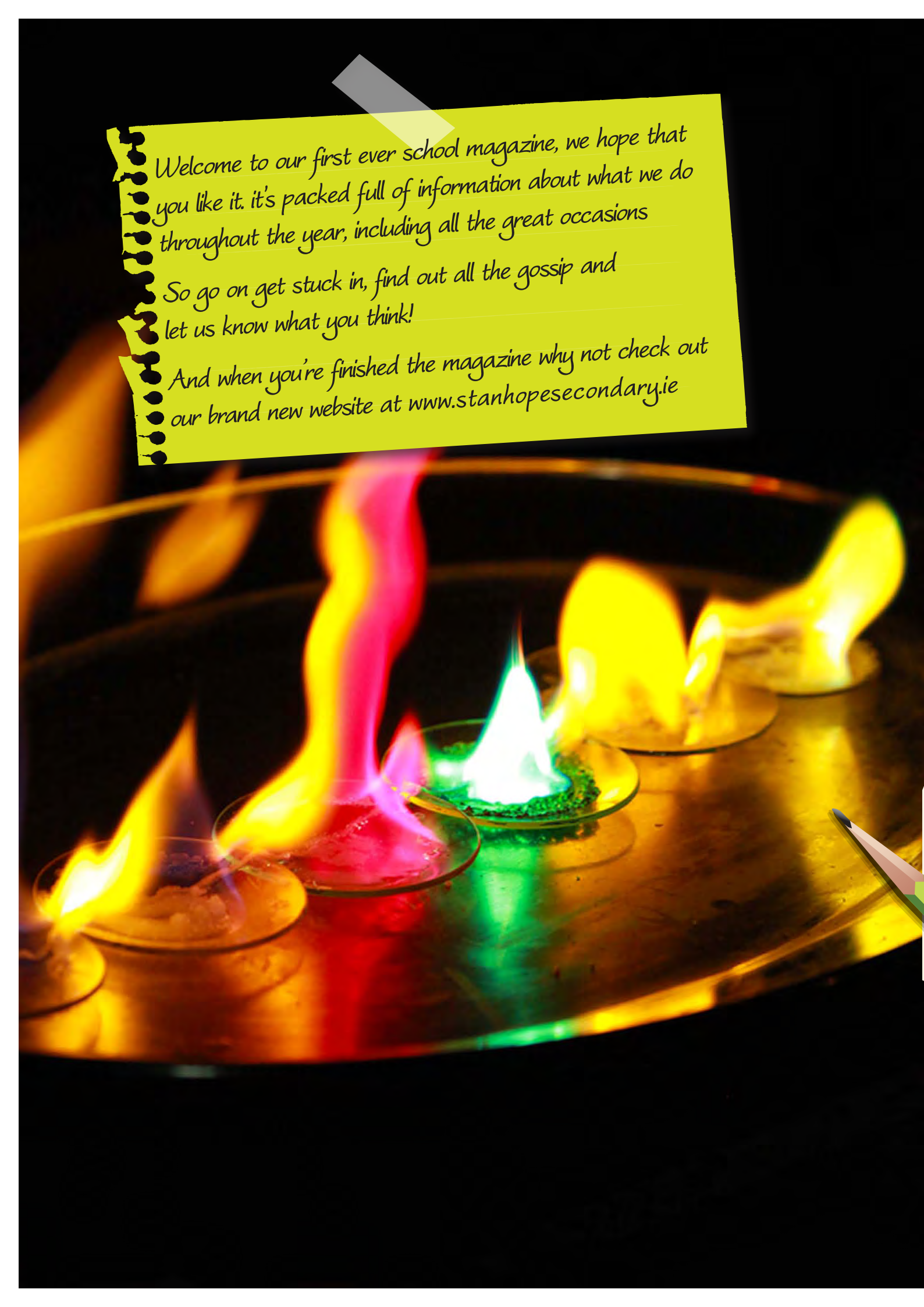


Stanhope Hi!

A new view for you! 2012

- Green Schools
- French Club
- Getting Fit
- Sam's Visit
- Breakfast Club
- ...and much more





Welcome to our first ever school magazine, we hope that you like it. it's packed full of information about what we do throughout the year, including all the great occasions

So go on get stuck in, find out all the gossip and let us know what you think!

And when you're finished the magazine why not check out our brand new website at www.stanhopessecondary.ie

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Welcome

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter of 2012. Isn't it marvellous to see the "stretch" in the evenings and to witness the first signs of spring with the buds on the branches and the emerging primroses, snowdrops and daffodils? It is indeed a season of optimism and hope and I personally am optimistic and

hopeful for our school and our students. So go on get stuck in, find out all the gossip and let us know what you think!

This Newsletter reflects the remarkable achievements of our school and its students – past and present.

It demonstrates a wide range of activities – music, drama, soccer, aerobics, basketball, gymnastics, the annual Calcutta trip and fundraising events, environmental projects etc. – the list seems endless. Ok yes, I nearly forgot – our girls are quite good at passing exams too! In fact, according to a survey in the Irish Independent of November 22nd last, 58% of our students went on to 3rd level i.e. Universities or Colleges of Technology. The vast majority of the remainder pursued Post-Leaving Certificate courses.

So well over 90% of our students went on to Further Education in 2011. This is a magnificent achievement and I would like, in particular, to thank our teachers for their commitment and hard work.

One of the main benefits of a small school such as ours (300 pupils) is that we get to know the girls on a personal basis. Thus by knowing them well, we can help them better.

I hope you enjoy reading about us and our school, our achievements, our relationships, our ethos. I hope you get a 'feel' for the school because it is indeed a lovely place in which to work and hopefully, in which to be a student!

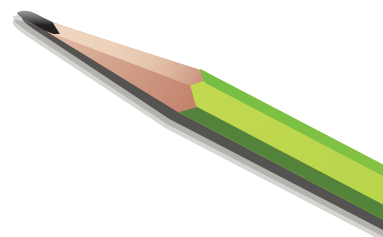
Finally, I would like to thank Ms Dorothy Kennedy for her trojan work in compiling this Newsletter.

Have a wonderful 2012.

Best wishes,



Tommy Coyle
Principal



Invitation

To all who read our Newsletter – be you parents, pupils – past or present or members of the local community/area, I invite you to share your ideas, comments or reactions. You can do so by emailing – info@stanhopessecondary.ie



Open Day – 20th October 2011

The purpose of an Open Day/Evening is to introduce the school to prospective new students, to parents and to members of the local area/community. It's amazing the numbers of people who don't know that we exist!!! One of the benefits of our school is that we have our own private grounds with an avenue leading up to the school but the fact that we are so cosily tucked away can be a disadvantage as well even though there is a signpost indicating our school outside the main gate! So Open Day was an opportunity for us to display our wares and we did just that. A lot of hard work and preparation by the staff went into making this such a successful occasion and our students, as usual, rose magnificently to the challenge.

The first part of Open Day which commenced at 1 pm was aimed exclusively at primary school students and their teachers. The first students to sample the newly refurbished school were students from Stanhope Street and St. Gabriel's Primary Schools. Our own students acted as guides for the younger ones and they took them on a "mystery tour" of the school where they soaked up the atmosphere and sampled excellent demonstrations from the PE, Home Economics, Music, Drama, Science and Hair & Beauty departments. They were also introduced to all the remaining subjects and teachers. The children professed themselves very happy with their visit.

The school re-opened at 6 p.m. for the second part of Open Day and there was a fantastic turn-out of students, parents, past pupils and members of the local Community. The atmosphere was electric as all the visitors were introduced to our school and its myriad activities. Many people talked about the special atmosphere which exists in the school, the friendliness

and excellent relationship between staff and students. Others remarked on how well the school looked since the major refurbishment. Some past pupils wondered where the "old yellow carpet" had gone – the answer being that it has gone to the old carpet factory in the sky! So all visitors were introduced to our state-of-the-art Home Economics Rooms, our Computer and Lap-Top rooms, our colourful and exotic Art Room, our PE Hall and all its modern health – inducing gadgets such as treadmills, cross-trainers exercise bikes, rowing machines, steppers and last but not least the really hi-tech X-Box Connect and Wii systems. There were also magnificent and imaginative presentations from all the other subject areas and teachers. The Stanner Starlets under the direction of Ms Amy Creighton continued to wow their audiences with numerous renditions from their recently successful show - Joey's Jive Box. The school choir under the baton of Mr P. J. Gargan performed beautifully in the John Hume Room. Visitors were able to see the Beauty Salon in action where the Leaving Certificate Applied students were busy beautifying themselves and others who risked volunteering themselves! ("Mens sona in corpore sano"). In another area of the school, past pupils spoke about their various courses and the colleges that they were attending. All in all, there was something for everyone in the audience!

So the Open Day came to an end at 9 p.m. We were all exhausted but delighted. Mary Aikenhead would have been very proud of us! Roll on Open Day 2012...

Prefects 2011-2012



Congratulations to all the following pupils; Head Girl: Anne-Marie Dowling and Deputy Head Girl: Nicole Noonan. The class prefects and deputy prefects for 2011-2012 are; 1st Year Britney Bonsu, Chloe Hutchinson, Rebecca Meleady

and Sarah Lee Morgetts: 2nd Year: Maria Buruiana, Jade Barret, Michaela Naghten and Alina Balc: 3rd Year: Amasi Mbanjwa, Kirsten Ohene, Sinead Dowling and Victoria Cicova: TY: Amy Judge and Aileen Healy-Brady: 5th Year: Shauna Johnston, Aleksandra Konieczka, Tosin Olusoga and Shauna O'Reilly: 6th Year: Zineb Nouhi, Hazel Kelly, Anne-Marie Dowling and Vian Al-Salih: LCA2: Nicole Noonan and Jessica Judge.

Transition Year September – December 2011

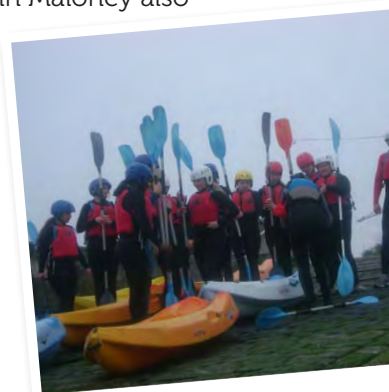
It has been a vibrant and challenging four months for the Transition Year girls. The class has had to bond as a group and come to terms with the array of opportunities and challenges presented to them. On 9th September we took a train to Bray and walked along the coastal path to Greystones. This was only a short stroll in comparison to our overnight hike in the Wicklow Mountains. The first major challenge the girls experienced was an adventure weekend with the Youth Venture Project. Early on Wednesday 19th October we gathered as a splintered group but returned on Thursday 20th a cohesive unit built on respect and a deeper understanding of each other. It challenged the girls physically, mentally and emotionally as many had to overcome their own doubts and weaknesses. That was only part of the experience as the girls also acquired basic navigation skills, camping/survival techniques and an awareness of the natural world.

Confidence building is an essential component of the Transition Year experience and Louise from

Martial Arts Inc. introduced the girls to the mental and physical benefits of self-defence training during her six week course. To build upon the skills they acquired to avoid confrontation and protect themselves, the girls completed a two day intense First Aid course with the Order of Malta. It is hoped that these skills will benefit them in their personal and professional lives.

As part of their continued personal development, Wassa Wassa conducted two social awareness workshops which facilitated the girls' reflection on their perception of society. Martin Maloney also facilitated two interesting and stimulating workshops on the process of dialogue. Johnny McGlynn introduced the girls to the skills of Gaelic Football but more importantly he taught them about organisation and effective communication.

A group of girls from the class have entered the Young Environmentalist Awards,





Transition Year Contd

which is a national environmental competition. The girls are planning to organise an Art/Fashion exhibition which will include works created by members of the local primary schools, Youth groups and our own school.

The concept is to promote an awareness of the effectiveness of recycling by creating pieces of art from recycled materials. They will be looking for your participation in bringing their ideas to life in the 2012 by making St. Joseph's a greener school. From Stanhope St. to Hollywood; there is no stopping the film-making talent of this Transition Year group who created their debut film under the guidance of Ger Cary from Armed Eye Film Company. The girls developed a creative and entertaining chronicle of the history of film from the early 20th century.

The first work placement finished on Thursday 15th December. It provided the girls with the opportunity to gain experience in careers of their interest. The girls acquired placements in a variety of areas including; Law, Hair and Beauty, Office work, Montessori and Childcare, Coaching and many more. They received excellent references that commended their attitude, energy and ability. The girls should take great confidence from their achievements and strive to overcome even greater challenges in 2012. Hopefully they will endeavour to grow and develop into young women who have the confidence to follow and achieve their dreams.



TY Business News

Transition Year Girls in association with AIB Smithfield have just set up a Student Bank in the school, the AIB Build a bank challenge 2011/2012, called "Allied Irish Beauties". The bank opens every Tuesday from 12.20 to 12.40p.m. The AIB team is as follows:

Manager: Angelika Zywczyk

Assistant Manager: Greta Baksysyte

Auditor: Kamile Rakauskaite

Sales & Marketing: Natalia Tyrakowska

Two Tellers: Jamie Byrne and Ashleigh O'Shea

The AIB Build a Bank Challenge is great fun but it also has huge benefits for the girls personally. It will introduce them to the world of finance and business and teach them a huge amount about running and managing projects, teamwork and getting things done.

Having a bank in school will have a positive effect on the whole school as it will introduce all students to banking and encourage them to plan for the future.

L.C.A. News



We have had a very successful first semester from September to Christmas. The girls were involved in Open Day both in the L.C.A. room and also in our salon where they provided a demonstration of all they have learned so far in Hair and Beauty. They are working hard at the

moment preparing for their three February tasks in Hair and Beauty, Practical Achievement and Social Education. The girls have also finished their third work experience and have been receiving glowing reports from their various employers. We also received the honour of having one of our students, Nicole Noonan elected Deputy Head Girl and another girl, Mary Judge elected Sports Captain of the school. We look forward to a busy but successful final semester from January to June.

Green School

Green Schools is an international environmental education programme and award scheme that promotes and acknowledges long term whole school action.

As a school, we must cut down on our waste and improve the recycling system. St. Joseph's have initiated this campaign. The Green School Committee has been set up with a view to include both students and teachers. We meet once a month to discuss our progress and future plans. Any parental involvement is welcome. We are delighted to hear that a lot of households are already recycling, and we ask you to continue to be vigilant with your recycling efforts.

Within the school, there is a black and green bin located in each classroom. We request that all paper is put in the green bin. It has become clear that the

highest volume of waste products in the school are plastic bottles, so we ask that these either be recycled in our designated bottle bins or are brought home and re-used. Any other waste is put in the black bin.

Our aim in the school is to do the best for the environment and encourage people to play an active role in maintaining a greener society. We want to foster in our students a greater awareness of the importance of recycling and the great benefit this will bring both their school and community in the future.



School Show

In October the School Drama Group entertained us greatly with their excellent production of a cabaret style show called *Joey's Jive-Box*. The show was produced and directed by Amy Creighton. The School Choir, trained by P J Gargan, performed a number of their favourite songs. As well as performances for the students, families and friends, we also invited Stanhope Primary School, St. Gabriel's and Dublin 7 Educate Together School to a matinee performance. We look forward to more productions in the future.

Joey's Jive-Box presents the "Stanner Starlets"

What started out as a mere talent show has blossomed into a spectacular display of talent in the Stanner Starlets' Show. On the numerous days of the show, members of Amy's Drama Club gave an amazing cabaret styled performance. It consisted of classics such as "All That Jazz" and "Fever". The original script was full of funny situations and indulging conversations.

Under the careful eye of Amy and her sister Joy, the girls also did an excellent Christmas performance featuring the singing talents of Denisa Covaci, Holly Farrell, Katie Judge, Mary Judge, Alina Balci, Katie Kearney, and Niamh O'Reilly. The girls brought in the Christmas spirit with a small drama piece centred on the real meaning of Christmas.

Both shows highlighted the girls' wonderful talents, from acting through singing to downright amazing dances and gymnastics. As the show itself was an enormous success, the rehearsals and backstage time were spent in an amazing atmosphere in which the show-girls were able to improve their talents and discover new ones.

Throughout the two shows it was clearly visible that the girls were enjoying themselves and were proud of the hard work they did. The girls' hard work certainly didn't go unnoticed as the supportive audiences cheered

them on throughout the entire show. But none of this

would have been possible without the director and writer of the script Amy Creighton, Joy Creighton and the choreographer Ms Jones. As the girls are preparing for a new show, we hope to see many new faces join and explore their inner "divas". The rehearsals take place every Monday, Thursday and Friday.

By Monika Janas and
Laura Bohan (2nd Year St. Brid)



School Choir



The choir and conductor PJ Gargan

perform again next year has been extended to them. On December 20th the Choir performed for the Macro Centre Christmas party and received many compliments on an excellent and entertaining performance.

In recent months the School Choir and the Drama Group have been invited to perform in local venues. The first public performance was in The National Museum of Ireland Collins Barracks on December 3rd. The reaction from the audience was very warm and complimentary and an invitation to



The Drama Group and Joy Creighton in Collins Barracks

Getting fit in school

Stanhope Street offers a wide variety of sporting activities in the school including football, basketball and Athletics, which are held during lunchtime and afterschool. This year we have a first year, second year and a senior team. The 1st and 2nd years start their games in the New Year and are busy training this term. Training takes place twice a week, during lunchtime and after school on a Tuesday. New faces and beginners are most welcome during the year. Cross Country training has commenced on a Thursday after school in preparation for the first event which will be held in the Phoenix Park at the end of January. Girls have been selected to participate in the event based on their results in the beep test this year. There has been a very high standard in the beep test this year and so girls will be competing for their places on the cross country team.

Aerobics takes place after school every Wednesday and this year we have a large number of students participating on a weekly basis. The classes are fun and focuses on students engaging in cardiovascular activities through dance exercise, boxercise, step

aerobics, and circuit training to name but a few. The Class focuses on strength and general good health and encourages students to get active and feel energised while enjoying the company of friends.



Fitness levels in Stanhope Street

Each year all students take part in the Beeper Test- a test to assess their fitness levels. According to their age, each student has a minimum target to reach. Reaching a minimum target means their fitness is on average with girls of the same age. The targets are:

U'13 – 35 laps
U'14 – 40 laps
U'15 – 45 laps
U'16 – 50 laps
U'17 – 55 laps
O'17 – 55 laps

Each student who reaches her target receives a cert. How did your child do?

Stanhope Street also has a wall of fame for any student who reaches 70 laps or over. The list has been compiled since 1994. This year the following girls were entered into the wall of fame for reaching 70 laps. This list can be seen on the website which should be going live shortly.

Yasmin Seky (1st Yr.) -72 laps
Courtney Murphy (1st Yr.) – 73 laps
Kelsey Murray (1st Yr.) – 73 laps
Lauren King (2nd Yr.) -70 laps
Lauren Walker (2nd Yr.) -76 laps
Katie Judge (3rd Yr.) – 80 laps
Naomie Mulqueen (3rd Yr.) – 70 laps
Mary Judge (6th Yr. LCA) – 70 laps

This year the school record was broken. The record for the highest lap recorded was 84 by Rebecca McCabe 1996 and Katie Judge 2011. Annija Glaudane (3rd Yr.) smashed this by reaching a record level 86. Well done! How long will this record last?



Sam's Visit

There was much excitement on the 21st of February when the school had a very special visit. Bernard Brogan came to the school with the Sam Maguire. This is the trophy Dublin won in September by winning the All Ireland Football Championship. The whole school gathered in the sports hall to welcome Bernard and Sam. It was a very special day for Nadine Hughes who is a dedicated Dublin supporter.



Visit of the Eucharistic Congress Bell to St. Joseph's.



On September 19th the Eucharistic Congress Bell which is visiting parishes throughout Ireland in preparation for the 50th International Eucharistic Congress in June 2012

visited the school. The bell is a reminder to prepare for the Congress through prayer and good works and it is also a symbol of life's journey to God. A representative number of students plus the community from the convent received the bell in the school avenue. Four students, Mary Judge, Krishnee Shamloll, Rebecca Bohan and Sinead Dowling volunteered to carry the bell to its next station in Drumalee Road.

Mass for the Opening of the School Year

On October 14th the Mass for the Opening of the School Year took place in the Assembly Hall and was celebrated by Monsignor Eoin Thynne, Head Chaplain, Arbour Hill Church. A big welcome was extended to all the students and especially to the new first years. All the students and staff participated through communal singing, readings and prayers. The choir added to the celebration by singing two beautifully prepared songs and four second years performed a prayer dance to the song "The Prayer" as a reflection after Holy Communion.

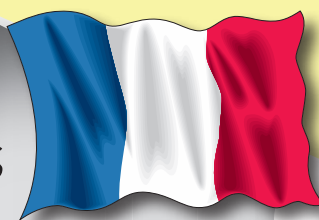
Mary Aikenhead Heritage Centre

St Anne's first year class visited the Mary Aikenhead Heritage Centre in Harold's Cross on Monday 21st November. The students were delighted to visit the room where Mary Aikenhead spent the last years of her life and were fascinated to see her actual writing desk and to examine her handwriting on some of her letters. One of the highlights of the visit was the story of Mary Aikenhead in an audio visual presentation. The visit ended with juice and chocolate biscuits laid on by Sr. Maria Coates who runs the centre.

Alcohol/Drug Awareness

Our school is committed to raising awareness among our students about the effects of alcohol and drug abuse. Apart from the cross-curricular learning in this field across all age groups, towards the beginning of each year First Years are introduced to consider well the dangers associated with under-age drinking and drug abuse. This school year 2011/2012, twenty-nine of our First Years took a promise to stay off all alcoholic drink until they are eighteen years old and never to do drugs. The students are to be highly commended for their motivation and courage in taking on such a commitment which will be very challenging but most beneficial for their lives if they keep this promise

The French Club – Le Club Français



The French Club is up and running in school and takes place every Wednesday at lunchtime. The idea is that students can come and experience French language and culture in a relaxed atmosphere. Students from every year are very welcome. The students get to meet new people as well as practising the French they know so far. Students are welcome to try hot chocolate and eat traditional French cuisine such as Croissant and Pain au chocolat. The students take part in varied activities each week ranging from team games, music, film, drama, art and crafts and engage in seasonal activities for Halloween, Christmas and Easter, all through the French language.

Adult Education

The adult education classes will start again in late January. These classes are free of charge. Each course runs for ten weeks. By doing a course you will improve your skills and make new friends.

English for Speakers of Other Languages:
Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 9.15am–11.15am

Beauty: Wednesdays: 10.00am–12.00pm

Cooking For Fun: Fridays: 9.30am–11.30am
(St. Gabriel's Primary School)

If you're interested in doing any of the above please contact **Dorothy Kennedy** HSCL Tel: 0863692572

India Diary 2012



What excitement when Shauna Johnson, Chelsey Kearney, Rebecca Kennedy, Clara King, Rebecca Somers, Ms Macken, Mr Hayes, Ms Plunkett and Ms Connolly headed off on our annual school visit to Calcutta, India on 28th January 2012. The object of this trip every

year is to show our students what life is like in Calcutta, to allow us work with the poor and very needy there and for us to bring money to the various organisations who work with the homeless, the poor and the sick. This year our extended group (a few other adults joined us) brought out €35,000 which really helps fund some very worthy projects in Calcutta.



On our drive in from the airport we were immediately struck by the relentless poverty and squalor all around us. It really is a third world city. The biggest shock to us was to see people living, working and sleeping on the streets. As we walked along the footpaths we were literally walking through people's bedrooms and living rooms. The lucky ones had a canopy of corrugated iron or tarpaulin over them. Their few possessions were piled in neat bundles. They prepare their food, cook it and eat it on the pavement. All that we do in the privacy of our homes is performed for all to see on the streets. It is really distressing. Yet, in spite of their surroundings people take great pride in their appearance and in being clean and tidy. They wash their clothes, their dishes and themselves from a few buckets in full view of everybody. People also have little stalls trying to sell a few odds and ends, hoping to eke out a living. Men sit with a few tools in front of them all day long hoping someone will need a repair job. You can get your hair cut, get a shave, have your shoes polished, your clothes ironed, all at the side of the road. Yet, in spite of their miserable conditions we were struck by the dignity and good humour of the people who always had a ready smile for us.

Our students worked with the Rainbow Children in the Loreto School. They are called rainbow children because they are here one minute, gone the next. Many of these children were trafficked from the countryside and sold – some into slavery others into the sex trade. They go to school here and sleep on the roof on mats and each girl has a little drawer where she keeps all her worldly possessions.



India Diary 2012

Ms Macken arranged visits for us to the Hope Foundation and Goal, two of the organisations we donate money to. We saw at first hand the very good work that is being done by these organisations and we can assure everybody that the money you donate is being put to very good use.

Hope has a school cum home for young street girls from 5 to 13, another for young boys, a home for teenage girls, a restaurant run by the girls and a school and clinic in one of the many slums on the outskirts of the city.



The slum was built beside the river, which is fetid. The stench, the filth, the destitution was everywhere. It really shocked us to see human beings living in such appalling, unsanitary and degrading conditions. Yet as we went through little alley ways people smiled at us and greeted us and welcomed us to their very, very humble abodes. Some were built of bamboo, others tarpaulin, others of cow dung – some looked no better than a pig sty. Hope runs a school and also a clinic here – both so necessary for the population of over 5,000 people.

Our next visit was to Goal, where once again we saw the good use our money is being put to. This time we visited a slum built on/beside the city municipal dump. There were about 200 households living on the dump and they made their 'living' by scavenging on the rubbish heaps. They collect any kind of garbage which can be recycled e.g. plastic bottles, cans, shoes etc. and they earn about 100 rupees a day – a little over a euro! The fumes coming off the heaps, the pigs scavenging all around, the dank, stagnant, fetid ponds of almost toxic water, the deplorable conditions are stomach-churning and extremely hard to bear for a quick visit let alone to live there permanently. They have virtually no services in terms of health, education, safe water, sanitation etc. It is really inhuman, degrading, a shame on society that it can happen. Now for the good news and again helped in some small way by our donations, Goal is running some very good programmes here. They have installed communal latrines and mended the wells ensuring that there is running water. They set up a school for the kids aged 5-14 who, from as young as 6-7 are engaged in garbage collection instead of going to school. Some students have graduated from this tiny school to school outside and we heard of one girl who became student of the year in the outside school and won a lunch box, which is her pride and joy.

So the experience of a lifetime has come to an end for most of us – although Ms Macken will return next year. She has been bringing students to Calcutta for 10 years now and we who have been there are amazed at how she does it. It requires great physical stamina, but more than that it requires a big heart and great generosity of spirit, which Ms Macken has in abundance. We applaud you, Ms Macken. Thank you for arranging these life-changing trips.

"I couldn't believe what I saw. People were just walking on the roads with no shoes on. We went up to Sealadh, the school/orphanage where we will be working. The kids were so nice, they love having their photos taken and they all called us 'aunty'. They were lovely and so loving." **Rebecca Kennedy**

"We went to school as usual this morning but today we walked instead of getting a taxi. All we could see were people begging and old people calling us auntie. There were people living under sheets on the path and trying to sell us all sorts. After this we went to see a shanty village which the Hope Foundation is trying to improve. This was hard to look at it. It was so poor" **Shauna Johnson**

"I learned a lot about how people live in Calcutta. It amazed me how they coped and managed to stay in good spirits in spite of their poverty." **Rebecca Somers**

"Calcutta was a life-changing experience for me. It opened my eyes to the poverty and appalling conditions that the people lived in. But in spite of this the kids woke up every morning with a smile on their faces." **Chelsey Kearney**

"It was a great experience. The conditions that the children lived in were horrible but they still managed to get on with it and were cheerful." **Clara King**

First Year Coffee Morning



On February 2nd the First Years hosted a very successful Coffee Morning for their families and teachers. With the wonderful help of their Home Economics teacher, Ms A. Bosonnet, the pupils did a lot of baking for the event. We all enjoyed this sociable event.



Awards

At a recent Awards Ceremony 81 pupils received a certificate for excellent attendance and compliance with school rules during the first term. This was a record number of recipients. We hope that a similar number of students will receive awards at the end of the academic year.

Homework

R.O.P.E.S. is a homework initiative which aims to provide help and support for pupils and their parents. Last year a leaflet was produced with input from pupils, parents, Home School Community Liaison Coordinators and staff from An Siol and Aosóg. Pupils in participating schools were invited to design a poster. The overall winner of the competition was Annija Glaudane. Other winners were; Rebecca Bennett, Ilona Legic (St. Gabriel's) and Andrada Trif (Stanhope N.S.). In November during Homework Week each pupil received a leaflet and fridge magnet to bring home. There are some very useful tips in the leaflet about homework:

Routine

Organisation

Policies

Encouragement

Study space

In Stoneybatter Aosóg and An Siol offer homework clubs and extra tuition free of charge.



Annija Glaudane & Rebecca Bennett

Fundraising

The LCA class were very busy last term fundraising for charities. They collected €360 for Down Syndrome Ireland and participated in the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal. A number of shoeboxes filled with gifts were sent to needy children in Eastern Europe and Africa. A staff Coffee Morning, organised by Ms O'Dowd, raised €350 for Hospice Ireland. Mrs Macken, Mr Hayes, Ms Plunkett, Shauna Johnson, Rebecca Somers, Chelsea Kearney, Rebecca Kennedy and Clara King have all been very active over the last six months fundraising for their Calcutta trip.

Past Pupils - Where are they now?



Niamh Ward

Hi! My name is Niamh Ward and I was a student in St. Joseph's Stanhope Street. I sat my Leaving Certificate in 2010. I had to study hard and with the encouragement and help of the teachers in the school, I got the results I needed to get into college and do the course of my choice. I am currently in IT Tallaght in my 2nd year of a degree

in Accounting. I'm really happy doing this course because it's what I have always wanted to do. In secondary school I really enjoyed accounting as a subject. I will achieve an ordinary Degree in Accounting after three years. Then I plan to do an extra year of study in order to get an Honours Degree. In the future I hope to be a qualified accountant and on a very good salary. I would like to work for PwC, one of the top accountancy companies in Ireland. College is a great experience. You meet people who have a common interest with you and there are a lot of clubs and societies you can join. There are always college events like Freshers Week, Rag week etc. These are great fun!



Meghan Daly

I am currently a second year Finance and Accounting student of NUI Maynooth. I sat my Leaving Cert in 2010. For those of you seniors and teachers, you may remember me as your elected Head Girl of class 2009/2010. I would be lying if I said it wasn't hard work to reach third level, but it's most

definitely possible. I remember well, the great support and encouragement I had. I will always have many fond memories of my six challenging and inspirational years in Stanhope Street.

College can represent many things for each individual, but for me it has taught me how to grow as a young adult. I have gained so much - lifelong friends, the value of new experiences and learning how to survive as a poor student! Thank God for student discount! University is hard work but there is a fun side too. It is all about balancing your social and academic life. So, for all present and future Stanhope Street students sitting exams, I personally encourage you to aim high for your dream college and it's possible you will get there.

Past Pupils Where are they now?



Delia Maiercan

Hi! My name is Delia and I am 22 years old. I did my Leaving Certificate in 2008 and afterwards I went to DCU to study Business. However it wasn't what I really wanted to do. So I changed courses after a year and went to the Dental Hospital in Trinity College to study dental nursing. After two years, I successfully graduated in June 2011 and now I'm in a full time

job which I love. In the future I'm hoping to do dental hygiene. Thanks to all the help I got from the teachers in the school and the hard work that I put in, I was able to pursue a career I always wanted to have.



Dorothy Adjei

My name is Dorothy Adjei and I'm originally from Ghana. I attended St. Joseph's Secondary School Stanhope Street from 2003 to 2005. The two years I spent in Stanhope Street Secondary School were fruitful ones. The staff became my family as I had no immediate family of my own in Ireland. I felt at home in the company



Aoife Earl

Having finished in Stanhope Street back in 2008, I have since graduated from UCD with an Honours degree in July 2011, majoring in both English and Art History. I enjoyed the course so much that I am currently midway through my Masters in Art History in UCD. As a result of pursuing these courses, I have been able to travel to London, Paris and Istanbul just to study art works in close proximity. University has not been all work

and study for me as I have got involved in many of the clubs and societies. For instance, I was PR Officer of UCD's DeutschSoc, am currently on the UCD HipHop Crew, was on the Trampoline Squad and am now a trained Level Zero Trampoline coach. With the trampoline club I get to travel to different parts of Ireland and Scotland competing, and with DeutschSoc we promote German culture and make an annual trip to a German speaking country. Apart from University life I have also managed to maintain a job as stock controller in a DocMorris Pharmacy (formerly Unicare) as well as completing an OTC course and first aid course. The rest of my leisure time has been filled with different minor training courses, girl guides, and league matches with tag rugby, so there is never a dull moment to be had!

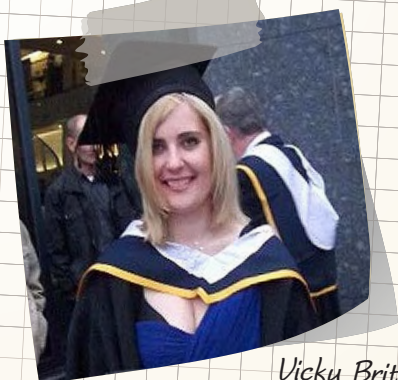
the staff and students. The relationships I built during my time in the school encouraged and motivated me to go the extra mile with my education. I achieved an honours degree in Chemical and Electronic Engineering and have successfully graduated with a Master's degree in Sustainable Energy. Guess what, I owe all to the dedication and the commitment of the staff of Stanhope Secondary School.



Rita Ryan

I really enjoyed my time in Stanhope Street. School isn't always easy but, teachers and friends were always there to help. I finished school in 2008, at 18, with a Leaving Cert I was proud of. However, it wasn't enough to get me into the course I wanted in university. My wish was to pursue a career as a nurse, taking up a degree in Children's and General Nursing in DCU. The points for this course were very high and I didn't get an offer from the CAO. However I accepted a place in

TAP (Trinity Access Programme). This meant I would have another chance to apply to the CAO for the nursing course I wanted a year later in Trinity College due to a direct affiliation TAP had with the university. It was an amazing year. The workload was difficult to manage at times but the support from lecturers, staff and fellow students was immense. I was determined to stick to the deadlines with the goal of getting into nursing in my sights. I had to meet these essay deadlines and pass exams to qualify for a valid CAO application through TAP. It paid off too, as on the same day my niece was born, I was offered a place in my nursing course from the CAO. That was in 2009. I am now in the third year of my level 8 degree course. I have a year and a half left to go until I am a fully qualified children's and general nurse. I am currently on clinical placement in AMNCH Tallaght Hospital and despite the long shifts, I am loving every minute of it. I wish the pupils of Stanhope Street all the best for the future and the best of luck in pursuing your dreams.



Vicky Britton

I was delighted to take up study in Dublin City University once I finished school. It was my number 1 choice on my CAO. It was a bit of a shock to the system as I hadn't expected to get in to such a highly reputable journalism course. When I first started, there were 10,000 students on campus, a far cry from the close knit community of Stanhope Street. After my first couple of weeks I settled in well. The course was challenging,

with many practical classes. We were sent out on the streets interviewing and finding stories (often on cold, rainy mornings), taught how to write clearly and coherently and how to compose and edit radio and TV packages. It was tough at times but very rewarding. I continued my interest in extracurricular activities from school of course, and made many friends through the Drama and Media Production societies. I also represented DCU as a Student Ambassador. As part of my course I undertook a 2 month work placement with a new radio station, Classic Hits 4fm. I loved it and since my recent graduation, have worked there on a number of occasions as a producer. I'm completing a Masters in International Journalism Studies at present and will be spending my spring semester in Boston University, taking broadcast journalism classes. I can't wait, and I look forward to my future career.

Gallery

