

Fr O'Donnell R.I.P.



The death took place in Dungarvan last week of former school chaplain, Fr. Columba O'Donnell, a man fondly remembered by students, staff and parents from his time here at Good Counsel College. Fr O'Donnell had been serving as chaplain in our sister school, St Augustines for the past number of years and his popularity there was no less than it had been in New Ross. The great affection for the man was reflected in the huge turn out of students, past and present, and of local families whose lives he had enriched with his infectious enthusiasm and optimism.

While chaplain of Good Counsel, Fr O'Donnell made it his goal to visit the family home of every student each school year, an enormous undertaking given the numbers and the geography involved but one which he carried out successfully and with great rewards in the appreciation shown by all those he visited. For any member of the school community who needed a little help and support, Fr O'D was always there to provide a

listening ear and a kind word.

He will be sorely missed by all whose lives he touched in the various communities he served. Our sympathies are extended to his family, his Augustinian brothers and to all his friends.

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam.

TY 1 – YSI Project: T.I.M.E.

TRANSITION YEAR pupils in Good Counsel College have relaunched a medical campaign in a bid help people in the event of emergencies. Students in TY1 are currently raising awareness of their TIME (Telephone In Medical Emergency) campaign – a relaunch of the existing ICE (In Case of Emergency) programme, which enables first responders, such as paramedics to contact a patient's next of kin by looking at the ICE contact in the person's mobile phone.

The ICE programme began in the mid-2000s and while initially very effective, the success and awareness of the programme was short-lived. Many of the student's generation had neither heard of the programme or had no ICE contact and so as part of their Young Social Innovators project, initiated TIME.

Their newly launched project aims to get people to place the emergency contact number of their next-of-kin in their mobile phones and carry a TIME wallet card listing their medical details and history. This is an effort to assist emergency services in contacting patient's relatives in an emergency situation in a more efficient manner and to promote efficient administration of medical treatment – without this information treatment may be delayed or ineffective and lives may be lost.

As part of their project, students are encouraging people to store their next of kin in their phone under the contact name TIME and fill out their TIME wallet card to carry with them. In the first few weeks of their campaign students have spoken to their peers in Good Counsel College, sent leaflets home to all parents, created a website for the campaign and a Facebook page. They have also created and implemented lesson plans for national school pupils raising awareness of the importance of personal safety and the TIME campaign, which Cushinstown NS are partaking in, and have made contact with the Department of Health, the Health Minister, local ambulance corps, businesses and hospitals.

Music and Craft Fair



On Sunday, November 27th, the school sports hall was transformed into a colourful bazaar of local crafts and produce. Everything from homemade cards and jewellery, to homebaking and the Christmas turkey were for sale at the event planned and organised by the college Parents' Council.

The event which was free of charge drew an enormous crowd creating a wonderful atmosphere which was enhanced by the music and song provided by students from the school and also by some girls from St Marys, members of the schools' joint orchestra.



All who visited the fair were welcome to a cup of tea or coffee with some cake and biscuits, all provided very generously by members of the Parents' Council who were on hand throughout the whole afternoon.

The day was a wonderful manifestation of the sense of community which is so important to our school with parents, students, staff and friends of the college gathering for what was a most pleasant social occasion.



All Ireland Inter-Schools Hunter Trials



All Ireland Inter-Schools Hunter Trials, March 19th 2011. In Ballinaboola, hosted by Good Counsel College.

A word of thanks to all competitors, their parents/guardians, chef d'equipes and the army of people who worked so hard to run the show on Saturday. Well done.

Top Ten Results for each competition below:

[top_ten_results](#)

School Closed



A bleak campus on Monday afternoon.

Good Counsel College, along with all other schools in New Ross, was forced to remain closed on Monday due to the very severe weather conditions. The college will also remain closed on Tuesday with the situation being reviewed on a daily basis

with regard to the rest of the week. Parents will continue to be kept informed by text message and through local radio.

YSI winning project 2010



Bare Necessities – Jack Bolger, Peadar Cody and Ben Doherty.

Congratulations to the students of TY1 on their recent success in the Young Social Innovators competition. They won their

category which was entitled *"Making Our Country More Inclusive and Poverty Free"*.

They were presented their award by Minister of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs, Pat Carey, in Croke Park on May 5th.

Their project entitled *"Bare Necessities"* raised much needed funds for Focus Ireland and the Simon Community. They also raised awareness with their "key campaign". They held a 1st year hurling blitz, food drive and bake sales to raise funds to purchase care packs. Over six thousand TY students participated and over 400 teams were entered. Ten awards were presented on the day with TY1 scooping the award for combating poverty and social exclusion. Great credit must go to their teacher Ms Cushen and many thanks also to Ms Kinsella and Ms Wessley who put a lot of work into the YSI. Well done everyone!

Members of the Winning YSI group.



On stage for the prizegiving.



Cillian Bennett, Robert Muldoon, Ethan Butler and Brian Mernagh.

