

## February 2010 Newsletter

# St. Mary's Academy CBS, Carlow

### Mock Exams

The results of the Mocks will be available on Eportal from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and will be posted shortly afterwards. In our experience a lot of work can be done between now and June to make improvements in grades. We ask all students to continue to strive for excellence and reach their academic potential.

### Study Skills

Mr. Michael Bond has spent two days in the school this week with the Third Years and the Sixth Years working on exam technique and motivation. It is now the responsibility of students to make effective use of the seminar.

### Easter Revision Course at Carlow IT

Revision course for Leaving Cert students, in Maths and English, will be available in Carlow IT during the Easter Holidays. The courses are free. Full details are available from Ms. McKeon. Many Sixth Years have already signed up for the courses but as the courses are of proven value in preparing for the Leaving – not least in the way they relieve the pressure on personal, focused revision - all students are advised to participate.

### Thomas Crosbie Quiz

Well done to our Quiz team, coached by Mr. Nolan and Mr. O'Grady, on the recent success in the TCH Quiz. The team of Kevin Threadgold, Conor Maguire, Babar Faridi, Patrick O'Grady and Barry Neenan had an emphatic victory over Presentation College, Carlow.

### Basketball

Congratulations to our First Year and Second Year Basketball teams on their wins in their respective competitions earlier this week. The teams are coached by Ms. Tennant and Mr. Storey.

### Texting Service

The texting service has been in operation since Christmas and proved very useful during the snow. If you did not receive a message please contact the school to rectify the problem.

### Irish Debating

The Junior Irish debating team of Diarmuid Kelleher, David O'Neill and Peter Morris has reached the third round of the Gael Linn competition and will be competing on Monday next in Heywood Community School. The team is prepared by Mr. Coffey. Beirigí bua.

### Young Entrepreneurs

Congratulations to Sean Walsh and Niall Kelly on their success in the finals of the Young Entrepreneur competition, organised by the Carlow Enterprise Board. They won the 'Networking' category with their entry 'Last man Standing'. The teachers involved are Mr. Browne and Mr. Ewing.

### Agricultural Science

All students taking Agricultural Science in the Leaving Cert will visit the Lyons Estate in UCD as part of the preparation for the project component of the subject. Their teacher, Mr. Cronin, will accompany the group.

### **Project Work**

Please ensure your son is fulfilling the deadlines for each project. Science students in Junior Cert are at the design stage of their investigation.

### **French Exchange**

At the moment a group of students from France are in the school as part of the exchange programme set up by Mrs. Ahern with a school in Dole, Carlow's twinned town in France.

### **Space for Learning Competition**

TY students are involved in a nationwide competition organised by the Irish Architecture Foundation (IAF). Local architect, Keith Graham, is working with the students in formulating a design for a school building. Students are working with Mr. Graham to create and to submit their design ideas to an IAF panel for selection in March 2010. Winning teams will receive funding to develop their design for a national exhibition tour, which will begin in autumn 2010. Participants are encouraged to exchange ideas, post images and report their experiences at [www.aspaceforlearning.blogspot.com](http://www.aspaceforlearning.blogspot.com). This is a great opportunity for students who are particularly interested in Art & Design or architecture.

### **Lunch Club**

From next week students may purchase (from the secretary) a voucher for €10 which will entitle them to 4 hot lunches – Monday to Thursday. This represents a saving of €6 (4 x €4 normally). A voucher for 4 hot rolls will cost €6. These prices will continue until Easter.

### **New Babies**

Congratulations are in order for two staff members on the births of their first children: Mr. Kealy and his wife on the birth of Eoin and Mr. Kehoe and his wife on the birth of Daniel.

### **Carlow Athlete of the Year**

Well done indeed to Marcus Lawlor who was presented with an award for Athletics at the County Carlow Sports Stars Awards Night last Friday night. Marcus' performances on the track over the past year have been remarkable.

### **Gaeltacht Trip**

A group of 50 students from First and Second Years will spend a weekend in Rathcairn Gaeltacht from 5<sup>th</sup> march, accompanied by Mr. Coffey and Mr. Hennessy.

### **Updated Calendar**

March 11th	Staff Meeting, 2 - 4 pm. School closed for students at 1.05 pm.
March 16th	6th Year PTM, 2 - 4 pm. School closed for students at 1.05 pm
March 17th	St. Patrick's Day. School Closed.
March 29th	Start of Easter Holidays
April 12th	School re-opens
May 3rd	May Bank Holiday
May 4th	Free day
May 17th	Staff Meeting, 2 - 4 pm. School closed for students at 1.05 pm
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Holidays