

Irish Schools Hockey

On Wednesday the 22nd of October we began our Irish school boys competition full of nerves and excitement. After three years in exile from Ireland's biggest schools hockey competition we returned in dramatic fashion. A last minute drag flick from Declan Murphy was needed to see off Villiers in the qualifiers to put us through as third seed from Munster.

We were drawn in by far the toughest group, surrounded by giants of the competition Wesley College, Banbridge Academy and RBAI, who between them have won the tournament 15 times. In contrast our best finish was bowing out in the semi finals as recently as 2010. We knew we had a tough task ahead of us over the coming days.

The morning of the first game is one to be savoured, the buzz around such a big game is something we couldn't wait to be a part of. We began in front of a packed crowd against Banbridge and despite a decent performance we were seen off 3-0 by a far more experienced, clinical and strong side. It was clear that a big improvement was needed from us to compete in this group and on Thursday morning against Wesley College we gave just that. A feisty, quick paced start from us lay down a marker and we frustrated the Dublin side, counter attacking at every opportunity. In the second half Wesley, somewhat against the run of play opened the scoring. We reacted almost immediately as Declan Murphy rattled the upright with a trademark flick. It bounced out and along the goal line where Jack Northridge was ready and waiting to volley the ball home. With the college supporters in full voice we pressed Wesley in search of the winner, coming close on a few occasions, in particular through a Nick Daly effort that seemed destined for the top corner. The game finished 1-1 and we were out on our feet, absolutely gutted knowing qualification from our group was out of our reach. There was no real time to ponder what might have been as we had a quick turn around for our match against RBAI that afternoon. It was a dead rubber game and this was reflected in our performance. Despite countless opportunities to win

the game it finished 0-0, frustration once again. We were all extremely disappointed, it just wasn't to be. We picked ourselves up and got ready for the tournament dinner soon forgetting the disappointment of the day at the thought of potentially seeing Mr Seale in a suit later on.

For myself and the other sixth years it would be of course our last competition and we were all thankful it was such a memorable one. To play in front of the crowds we did is something I know we will all never forget and although our results leave us disappointed we can take solace in the manner in which we played.

On behalf of the entire team I would like to thank all the supporters who came out, ye made a huge difference! I would also like to thank Ms. Power and Mr Seale for their huge efforts in both organising the tournament and ensuring it ran so well. It was a huge honour and responsibility for the college to host the tournament and if it was not for their dedication and hard work it wouldn't have been such a success. To our coaches as well, in particular Mr. Callendar who's efforts throughout the season helped us hugely and also to Mr Blaney for his words of support and guidance. Lastly I would like to thank all of the lads for their efforts throughout the tournament and the season. Our memories from these few days will stay with us forever.

- Alex Burns.



Boys Hockey Irish School Panel



Back Row L-R: Mr. Blaney, Mr. Seale, P. O'Riordan, A. Calzado, C. McGregor, N. Daly, Mr. Callender, Dr. Gash.

Middle Row L-R: D. Murphy, E. Daly, R. Johnston, A. Burns, A. Deane, E. Hayes, A. Sheehy. Front Row L-R: L. Mariga, J. Northridge.

Midleton Endowed School – a Carolean baroque building.

By Tony Harpur.

Midleton College Founded 1696. This inscription over the great door of the original block of Midleton College is both accurate, and disingenuous. The school was indeed founded by Elizabeth Villiers in 1696, but the building itself didn't actually exist at the time. Indeed, the school house was only completed in 1717 – over two decades after the indenture of foundation was issued. This essay will attempt to answer two issues: first, what caused such a long delay between the foundation of the school and the completion of the school building; and, secondly, what was the architectural source for the design of the original building?



Figure 1 The original Midleton School that was completed in 1717 is the building on the right of this photograph. The wing on the left was added in the latter part of the 19th century. The original building has lost some features, especially a cupola which originally stood on the roof over the centre of the building. The H-plan of this part survives intact. This photograph comes from the National Library of Ireland's Eason Collection and is mislabelled 'Barracks, Midleton!'

To understand the delay in building Midleton Endowed School (its original name) we have to go back to 1660 and the restoration of King Charles II. As soon as he was back on the throne, Charles sought to establish his younger brother, James, Duke of York, in a style befitting a royal prince. To this end, Charles granted James a huge Irish estate of over 95,649 acres which brought in almost £26,000 per annum. When James succeeded his brother as king in 1685 he retained this estate as a source of private income. However, James's inept religious policies were sufficient to give his son-in-law, William of Orange, Stadholder of Holland, the opportunity to organize a successful invasion of England in 1688 with a fleet that was larger than anything the Spanish had ventured a century earlier. With the final defeat of Jacobite forces in Ireland, confirmed by the Treaty of Limerick in 1691, King William was in a position to award James's private Irish estate to his wife, Queen Mary. It's intriguing to think that some of the rents from Youngrove near Midleton may have contributed to the construction or decoration of Kensington Palace, which was being built at the time. On Mary's death in 1694, her sister, the Princess Anne, might have expected to inherit her father's Irish estate. However, William, wilful

as ever, granted the estates to his former mistress Elizabeth Villiers, perhaps in acknowledgement of her past services to him, as he decided to end all intimate associations with her.

This vast grant infuriated both the Irish and English parliaments, which wanted to sell off the lands to pay down the public debt. And therein lay the rub. Elizabeth, soon afterwards married to George Hamilton, the newly created Earl of Orkney, proposed to mollify opposition to her good fortune by using some of her Irish lands to endow a new school. To this end, before her marriage, she entrusted her Irish estate to her brother, Edward, Viscount Villiers, and to one of William's privy councillors, Thomas Brodrick of Midleton. A year later, on 23 October 1696, she conveyed over 1,882 acres in the County Cork baronies of Kinnelea and East and West Carbery to the lawyer Alan Brodrick of Midleton, and to his brother in law, Laurence Clayton of Mallow. These men were the trustees of the lands Elizabeth Villiers had set aside to endow her newly founded school.

The Brodricks of Midleton seem to have been involved in the whole affair from the start. They even offered the site for the new school in their town of Midleton, carving out of their townland of Town Parks the new townland of School Lands for the purpose. This measure kept the school firmly outside the jurisdiction and control of the Corporation of Midleton.

However, political arguments over the grant of lands to Elizabeth Villiers finally culminated in the Act of Resumption passed by the English Parliament in 1700. This removed the private Irish estate of James II from Elizabeth's hands, except for certain properties, in particular the lands she had set aside to endow her new school. A later Act in 1702, and a further indenture of 1703, confirmed the endowment of 1696. On paper, it seemed there was now nothing to stop the trustees constructing the school. Thomas Brodrick, one of the original governors of the school, was specifically charged under the 1696 indenture with the task of building the school. He was to '*frame modells, provide and contract for ground materials and other necessaries and to do all other things whatsoever in order to the erecting, building and furnishing a school, schoolhouse, and other fitting out-houses, and conveniences at Midleton aforesaid as he shall find best and most expedient.*' (Spelling as in the original.)

Yet, Brodrick did not begin to construct the school immediately after the confirmation of the endowment in 1702 and 1703. The problem was quite simply lack of money. It was due to '*...the unsettled state of the country..*' that the trustees of the endowment, Alan Brodrick (Thomas's

brother) and Laurence Clayton (Alan and Thomas's brother-in-law), were unable '...to accumulate out of the rents and profits a sufficient sum to build a School House.' In October 1710 they leased some of the lands to Francis Daunt, gentleman, for a fine of £300 and a yearly rent of £100. The lease was renewable for three lives subject to perpetual renewal on payment of a fine of £25 for each life. In 1712 the remaining portion of the lands were leased to Thomas Hodges and William Ware and their heirs for £100 per annum. The perpetual renewal clause was the same as that granted to Daunt. Thus the lack of funds, due to the lack of any income from the endowed lands, had prevented Thomas Brodrick from commencing construction until sometime after 1710, perhaps even after 1712.

The foundation indenture of 1696 also stipulated that the school master and ushers should not be appointed until the building was complete, 'or sooner as they [the Governors] shall see occasion'. The appointment of Rev. George Chinnery MA as Master on 21 August 1717 suggests that the school was ready to accommodate the Master and his family, as well as the ushers, who were appointed at the same meeting. As an aside, the carpenter Benjamin Griffin was also granted extra payment for wainscoting the school room. All this shows that Midleton Endowed School wasn't actually built until the second decade of the eighteenth century.

But what of the school's architecture? Who designed it, and what were the sources of the building's design? As noted above, Thomas Brodrick was charged in the foundation indenture with framing models. That is, he was to draw up the plans for the building. Yet, Brodrick isn't listed as an architect on the Irish Architectural Archive's comprehensive online *Dictionary of Irish Architects*. As a gentleman he certainly had some acquaintance with, and perhaps a considerable knowledge of, architecture, but it seems likely that he may have had some professional help in drafting the design of the building. One possible architectural advisor may have been the Scot, John Curl, who was reworking Beaulieu near Drogheda. His work there was done for the Tichbourne brothers who were, like the Brodricks, staunch supporters of the Williamite settlement. It's worth noting that the plan of the somewhat earlier Beaulieu bears some resemblance to that of Midleton School.

However, the actual inspiration for the school building came from a source that was, ironically, linked to King James II. James's first wife was Anne Hyde (1637-1671), the mother of Queen Mary and Queen Anne. Her father, Edward Hyde (1609-1674), was created Earl of Clarendon by Charles II at the Restoration. Clarendon didn't actually approve of Anne's marriage to the Duke of York, since he hoped to arrange for the Duke to marry a suitable foreign princess. He also disapproved of the king's mistress, Barbara Villiers, a cousin

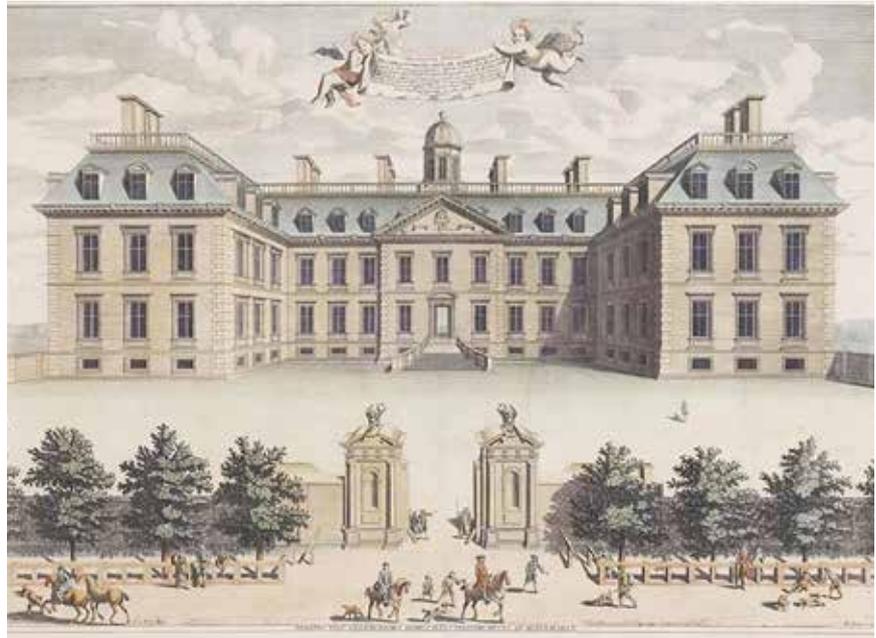


Figure 2 Clarendon House, St James's, London, was designed by Roger Pratt for Edward Hyde, 1st Earl of Clarendon. The Earl of Clarendon was the grandfather of Queen Mary and Queen Anne.

of the foundress of Midleton School. Barbara Villiers was instrumental in attempting to undermine Hyde's position as chief minister. (There was also a family link to Dromana House in County Waterford. Edward Villiers, a cousin of both Barbara and Elizabeth married Elizabeth Fitzgerald of Dromana, County Waterford. Elizabeth also had a sister called Barbara, which confuses some commentators.)

In 1664, King Charles granted Clarendon an eight-acre plot of land in St James's in London. On this Hyde built a grand and very influential mansion – Clarendon House. Designed by Roger Pratt, and completed in 1667, Clarendon House was built to a plan that followed Pratt's belief that the family apartments should be separated from the guest apartments at the opposite end of the house by an apartment of parade. The plan was laid out as a wide H with the transom, or crossbar, being the main entrance and garden facade. The house was a double pile (at least two rooms deep) and consisted of two equal storeys over a basement, with an attic lit by dormer windows above. The main section of Clarendon House, the 'transom', was of nine bays in length. The side wings, of the same height as the main section, were three bays wide on their principal facades, and accommodated the family on one side and guests on the other. The whole composition was topped off by a cupola situated on the roof directly on the central axis of the building above the main entrance. This may have lit a staircase hall. Pratt's design for Clarendon House was a Carolean baroque scheme which influenced a number of large houses in England until the 1720s, the best known example being Belton House in Lincolnshire (built 1685-1688). One advantage of Pratt's composition was that it could be enlarged or reduced in size to suit the pocket of a patron. Note that the term Carolean is derived from Carolus for King Charles II and refers to the style of baroque architecture and decoration employed in both Britain and Ireland after the Restoration in 1660 until the 1720s when the Palladian revival took hold.



Figure 3 Belton House in Lincolnshire (built in 1685-1688) is the best surviving imitation of Clarendon House, which was demolished at the same time. Belton is attributed to the architect William Winde.

Clarendon House was sold off by Edward Hyde's heirs in 1675 to Edward Monck, 2nd Duke of Albemarle, whose spendthrift ways obliged him to sell it in 1683. Bought by a consortium of property developers, including Sir Thomas Bond, Clarendon House was in such a poor state that it was promptly demolished and the site used for developing Dover Street, Albemarle Street and, of course, Bond Street between 1684 and 1720.

Given that Elizabeth Villiers' mother, Frances, was the governess of the Princesses Mary and Anne, and that Elizabeth was herself Lady in waiting to Mary when she married William of Orange, it is likely that this link to the Hyde family and Clarendon House influenced Thomas Brodrick's scheme of architecture. One is left wondering if Elizabeth Villiers herself might have suggested Clarendon House as a model for Midleton School. It should be noted that Elizabeth's sister, Mary, married William O'Brien, 3rd Earl of Inchiquin, who owned Rostellan near Midleton. Inchiquin was one of the first school governors, and a cousin of Henry Boyle of Castlemartyr, who was another governor of the school.

Midleton School was also laid out as two equal storeys over basement on the Clarendon House H-plan. The transom presents the main (west) facade to the visitor and to the grounds (east front) with the ends of the flanking accommodation wings located to the north and south. These wings present three window bays to the front and back, as at Clarendon House, although the central windows are now blocked up. Obviously one wing accommodated the Master and his family, while the other accommodated the ushers with the pupils boarding upstairs. The single schoolroom occupied the transom, with additional dormitory accommodation overhead. It is worth noting that the

transom has a frontispiece in the centre of each facade, again as at Clarendon House. That on the west facade provided the main entrance while that to the east held a large arched window to provide morning light for the schoolroom. The principal door is flanked by two high arched windows and the upper storey has round windows, or *oculi*. Such round windows were used on certain buildings constructed in the English baroque style in the period 1790 to about 1720, for example on Christopher Wren's portion of Hampton Court Palace, and the later Cannons House in Middlesex, and Appuldurcombe on the Isle of Wight. The north and south facades were designed with a four-bay frontispiece flanked by two bay setbacks. Again, the inner bay of each setback has had the windows blocked up. These blocked up windows present a difficulty. Were they originally blind windows inserted to provide symmetry

and interest to the facades, as at Belton? If so it seems very odd that they are now totally flush with the wall. There really would have been no point in making the recesses flush with the outer plane of the walls at a later stage. It seems much more likely that these windows were original openings that were blocked up during the late 1820s under the supervision of Joseph Welland, a native of Midleton who was then the architect for the Commissioners of Education. It seems likely that Welland may have remodelled the original entrance door as well.

One other detail requires mention, although it is now absent. In his book, *The Ancient and Present State of the County and City of Cork* (1750), Dr Charles Smith gives a description of Midleton School in which he mentions a cupola on top of the building which had been taken down some years previously. There is no reason to disbelieve Smith since he appears to have been quite diligent in his researches. Since no copy of the school's original plan or elevation has yet come



Figure 4 Appuldurcombe on the Isle of Wight was built from 1702. Note the oculus or round window over the door, a favourite device of the architect, John James.



Figure 5 The glazed cupola on Belton House closely resembles that on Clarendon House and probably represents the best surviving model of the cupola that originally adorned Midleton School.

to light, we must ask what was the purpose of this cupola? At Clarendon House the cupola seems to have provided light for the staircase below. If the cupola on Midleton School was a glazed lantern, it may have been designed to draw more light into the dormitory on the upper floor. However, there exist in England examples of open arched cupolas on some houses of the period. These seem to have been intended to add dramatic flourish to the appearance of the building, emphasising the central axis. Either way, the mystery of the Midleton School cupola remains to be resolved, but whichever style of cupola was adopted it provided a dramatic flourish to emphasise the central axis of the building, just as the cupolas did on Clarendon House and on Belton and other houses built under the influence of Pratt's design between the late 1660s and the 1720s.

What all of the preceding argument shows is that the architecture of the original building of Midleton School possesses Carolean baroque features rather than Palladian revival ideas. It is the architecture of the court of King Charles II, of William and Mary, and of Queen Anne. It is NOT Georgian architecture, despite the fact that King George I had been on the throne for three years when Midleton School was completed. In short, with its Roger Pratt style H-plan, its receding and protruding planes, its close set and varied windows (rectangular, arched and round), and its vanished cupola emphasising the central axis of the plan, the original design of Midleton School was

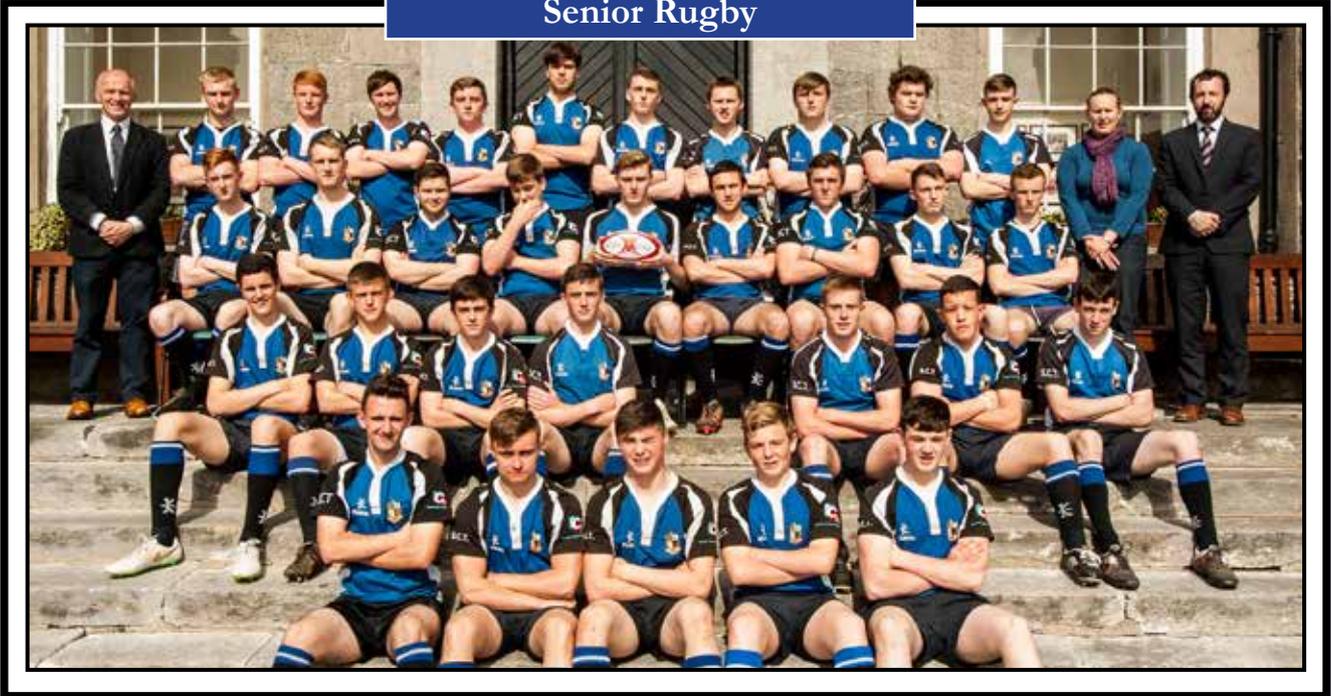
a Carolean baroque composition rather than a Palladian design. Its architectural ancestor was clearly Roger Pratt's Clarendon House erected in London for King Charles II's chief minister, although the latter was the grand townhouse of the Duke of York's newly ennobled father-in-law, while the building in Midleton was a much reduced version designed for use as a schoolhouse. The baroque design of the building is today obscured by the loss of the cupola, the blocking of window openings, perhaps by the alteration of the doorway, and the nineteenth century additions to the structure. Mercifully, enough survives of the original plan and elevation to support the idea that the school was a Carolean baroque building when completed in 1717,

Appropriately the school was approached via Charles Street, named after the monarch who granted the charter which established the Manor of Midleton and incorporated the Borough of Midleton in 1670. Charles Street, now Connolly Street, seems to have been laid out on its current triangular plan to focus on the school built between 1710 and 1717. To emphasise the baroque influence even further, the view from the school door would originally have taken in the large steeple attached to the previous St John the Baptist's Church, a steeple that held a peal of six bells when Charles Smith visited in 1750. Thus the baroque influence wasn't simply confined to the school building but reached out towards the town itself, although it was never fully developed there!

Mr. Tony Harpur is a local historian and recently gave a talk on the architectural history of the College. He forwarded the text of his talk to Mr. Preston who suggested it would be an interesting article for the Magazine. We thank Mr. Harpur for his kind permission to publish it here.

- Ed.

Senior Rugby



Back Row L-R: Mr. Power, R. England, C. Hall, J. Power, L. Farrell, J. Hennigan, M. Humphreys, P. Power, M. Moloney, G. Hosford, A. Sheehy, Ms. Guest, Dr. Gash. 1st Middle Row L-R: A. Burns, S. Mitchell, G. Smiddy, C. Phelan, C. Simpson, E. Daly, P. O'Riordan, J. Tierney, P. Mathews. 2nd Middle Row L-R: R. Johnston, C. Kiy, T. Tierney, M. Humphreys, R. Walsh, A. Hoban, D. Murphy. Front Row L-R: D. Wright, F. Baily, M. O'Sullivan, I. O'Sullivan-Hourihan, M. Stafford.

SENIOR RUGBY

Seasons come and go. Many are memorable, some unfortunately blend into each other and lose their individuality. This season, however, will be etched into our minds due to the death of Robbie Steele in October. Robbie was an integral part of rugby in Midleton College for all of his six years. He was a character both on and off the field. His enthusiasm was infectious. He was part of one of the most successful squads the school has seen, winning two Mungret Shields at JCT level and the Mungret Cup in his final year. Robbie's death shocked us all. He has left us with some wonderful memories. He will be greatly missed.

It was a season punctuated by cancelled matches. As is often the case the early part of the season is about building a new team following the departure of so many from the previous years squad. These early matches are vital for developing team co-ordination and understanding.

We began at home against Bandon. There were some positives to be taken from the 24-17 defeat. Tries by Sam Mitchell, Patrick O'Riordan and Rory Walsh who also kicked a conversion showed that we had the potential to score in a variety of ways. We also learned that ball retention in contact and general decision making needed to be improved.

Our second fixture saw us travel to Kilkenny College. This was a one sided affair against a weakened Kilkenny seconds team. We were grateful for the match but learned little from the 35-0 victory. Tries were scored by Muiris Moloney, Eoghan Daly, Rory Walsh, Julian Power and Jack Tierney. Peter Matthews had a good day with the boot kicking all of the conversions.

It was another five weeks before our next game. We travelled to Dublin for an Autumn International against

South Africa and played De la Salle Churchtown in the morning. This was a competitive outing. We ran out 25-8 winners. Julian Power had a great day scoring a hat trick of tries. Cormac Phelan added a fourth and Peter Matthews contributed with a conversion and a penalty.

One week later Glenstal paid us a visit. This had the potential to be a good match, one which could provide an insight into how our development was progressing. It turned out to be a fast paced 30-24 victory. Sam Mitchell, Eoghan Daly, Rory Walsh, Jack Ryan and Conor Kiy all scored a try each. Rory also kicked two conversions. This turned out to be our last fixture of 2014. Four matches in four months. Normally we would have more than double this number. We knew that we were lacking in match practice and so took the unusual step of organising a match during the Christmas holidays. We were grateful to Midleton RFC for this fixture in the early days of the New Year.

January 3rd came around quickly. It was a good opportunity for the team to purge some of the Christmas turkey and pudding from its system. Matches against Midleton RFC have become more frequent in recent seasons. They are always a good contest. The 26-0 margin on this occasion did not give a fair reflection on the game. Tries on this occasion were scored by Eoghan Daly, Jack Ryan, Rob Johnston and Kieran Simpson. Peter Matthews kicked three conversions.

Two weeks later came the match we were all awaiting the arrival of, the Mungret Cup against Bandon. We knew we lacked match practice but we were up for the game. Competing at the breakdown was important and in this regard we started well with our back row of Eoghan Daly, Patrick O'Riordan and captain Kieran Simpson all very

much in the action. Unfortunately we lost Patrick from our back row after twenty minutes. He had been an influential presence all season. Rob Stafford came on in his place. As a young player with two years ahead of him at senior level he showed much promise of good things to come. Unfortunately the lack of match practice showed and we found ourselves down 17-0 at half time. A few changes at half time both positional and among personnel and we were ready for the second half. Things improved. Our defence was tighter, we were now winning more of the exchanges but unfortunately could not make the break through for that elusive score. The final score remained 17-0. This was a disappointment. The level scoring second half was only a slight comfort helping us to accept defeat with good grace.

When the cup campaign is over it can sometimes be difficult to maintain the enthusiasm for training. We were fortunate that this was a tour year. We knew we could be better than we were in the cup. The tour provided us with another target and gave us the motivation we needed. Two weeks later Newtown travelled to play us. Our back line was intact from the cup with the exception of the influential Alex Burns. Our pack on the other hand was quite changed. Gareth Hosford and Muiris Moloney came in at loose and tight head prop respectively. Kieran moved into the second row to join the ever present Sam, while the back row was an all new combination of Conor Kiy, Marvin O'Sullivan and Rob Stafford. It proved to be a good all round performance. The final score was 34-0. The revamped pack had an impressive day providing the backs with the platform to run freely. Jack Tierney as always fired out rapid passes which contributed to the backs dominating the scoring. Cormac Phelan enjoying his time on the wing scored two tries as did Rory Walsh. Jack Ryan and Kieran Simpson contributed a try each and Peter Matthews completed the scoring with two conversions.

Clonmel High School organised a mini blitz in February with next year's teams in mind. While this disappointed our sixth years it did provide us with the opportunity to field many new younger players. It was an enjoyable occasion. The other teams present were Newtown, Abbey and of course Clonmel. We won all of our games and players like Liam Farrell and Marvin O'Sullivan really stood out. It was also great to see the return of some lads who had been concentrating on hockey during the year such as Alan Sheehy and Declan Murphy.

March rolled in and Villiers came down to play us. This was a very one-sided match. We ran out winners by 63-0.

One highlight of the game was the discovery of a new second row in Chris Hall. He had spent much of his time up to this playing in the backs but was eager to try the forwards. Patrick O'Riordan stood out on the scoring front with an impressive haul of four tries, Shane Murphy and Rory Walsh scored two each while Declan Murphy, Rob Johnston and Peter Matthews all scored one. Peter also kicked four conversions.

Our last match of the season before the tour was a return visit to Glenstal. This game was notable for a number of reasons. It was to be the last game for the College for Gavin Smiddy as he was unable to travel on the tour. Gavin had a storming game from his favourite position of hooker. He had a good season playing at both prop and hooker as the need arose. We also were glad to see the return of Rob England and Mark Humphreys. Mark was a willing contributor off the pitch during the season while recovering from his shoulder dislocation. Rob had broken his ankle very early in the season and like Mark had shown great determination in rehabbing to get back into action in time for the tour. It was a good day for Rob scoring our sides only try while losing 17-11.

Our tour was very enjoyable. We had success in all of our matches and some entertaining times off the pitch as well. Some of the squad are writing their own particular memories of the tour, so for an account of it I recommend their article. It was a very enjoyable season. Working with like minded coaches is one of the great pleasures in the game. Thankfully this is the case for us and working with Laura Guest and Andrew McCarthy has been rewarding. The players in this squad have that great skill of being able to have fun while still working hard. In recent years we have been spoiled with good leaders. This year had been no exception. Kieran took his role seriously both on and off the field. He really understands the idea of being part of a team and the commitment to the unit. He led by example at all times and wore the jersey with pride. He was hurt by defeats but was quick to rally the troops for the next encounter. My thanks go to all the players and especially to Kieran.

Panel: G. Smiddy, C. Kiy, L. Farrell, J. Hennigan, S. Mitchell, K. Simpson (Capt.), P. O'Riordan, E. Daly, J. Tierney, P. Matthews, A. Burns, R. Walsh, J. Ryan, C. Phelan, J. Power, R. Stafford, M. O'Sullivan, G. Hosford, R. Johnston, C. Hall, P. Power, T. Tierney, F. Baily, R. England, M. Moloney, A. Hoban, A. Irwin, B. McEvoy, S. Emerson, D. Wright, Z. O'Sullivan Hourihan, A. Sheehy, D. Murphy, M. Humphreys, S. Murphy, J. Winckworth.

- R.St.J.P

J.C.T. RUGBY

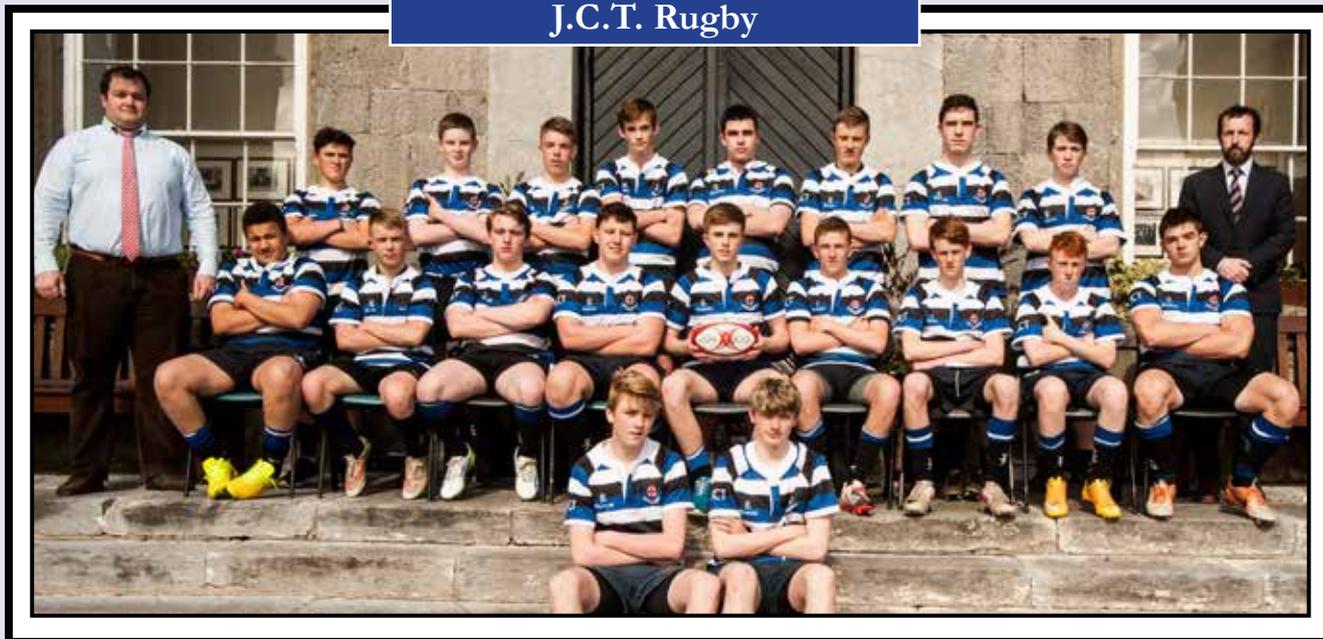
The new season saw a change in coaching staff as Mr. Gill stepped into Mr. Stanley's boots and they were big boots to fill! The squad were eager to play and improve their skills.

It was plain to see that we had a lot of to do. It is a big step up from U15 to JCT as there is now lifting in the lineout etc and therefore more work is needed to teach these new skills.

Our first match was against Bandon away, well we played poorly, Bandon were very strong on the day and we lost Pdraig Fives with a broken collar bone. We were lucky that this injury didn't keep Pdraig out for the full season, he was back playing after eight weeks.

After this performance it was evident that there was a lot of work needed to improve our defence and overall communication across the board.

J.C.T. Rugby



Back Row L-R: Mr. Gill, J. Cremin-Mehmet, A. Ford, H. Compton, S. Beckingham, K. O'Riordan, D. Thompson, P. Fives, M. White, Dr. Gash.
Middle Row L-R: D. Cuthbert, H. Smyth, G. Hennessy, B. Hoban, C. Walsh, B. McHugh, W. Baker, C. Bawden, J. Kowalski.
Front Row L-R: M. Stafford, B. Donovan.

Our next Match was away to Kilkenny. With the work we had done and not as strong an opposition we were successful in this match and more over it was the starting point of teamwork and a new energy in the squad.

In November we played PBS it was a hard fought game, which saw us lose our captain Bryan McHugh, with a knee injury that kept him out for the rest of the season. Bryan worked very hard on his rehab and never stopped supporting the team, he came out to all training to help out and show his support. Conor Walsh stepped up to the position of captain and did a great job for the rest of the season.

Our cup campaign was short lived with our match against St. Clements of Limerick at home. It was a very exciting

first-half with the team working extremely hard. We went in after break 7-5 down, after a smashing try from Mark Stafford in the corner just before half-time.

Clements made a number of substitutions at half time and pulled away to a 27-5 victory. It was disappointing that our cup campaign was over so quickly, but I am very proud of the performance the squad put in that day. The whole squad never gave up and right to the end they were putting in all they had.

Overall the season was marred with injuries and the lack of match practice, on the positive side the squads skills and technical ability were better at the end of the season.

- B.G.

U15 RUGBY

The Under 15s were a very capable team who demonstrated a high level of potential. With focus and dedicated effort in training and preparation they have the ability to become a very successful team in the future. The season was a mixed one with some positive results and some performances that left room for improvement.

Notable performances included a win in Clonmel and a high scoring 45-37 win away against CBC. Bandon Grammar provided a serious test for us winning both our encounters albeit by quite narrow margins. Possibly our best performance of the season ended unfortunately in a 17-7 defeat to a very strong Villiers team. Frustratingly the team often played excellent attacking rugby scoring some outstanding tries only to make basic mistakes and allow the opposition to run in scores making it difficult to secure the victories that were often there for the taking.

Stand out performers during the season included Captain, Mark Donnelly, versatile back line player, Hugh Jeffrey, and the dynamic Mark Stafford who operated mainly at

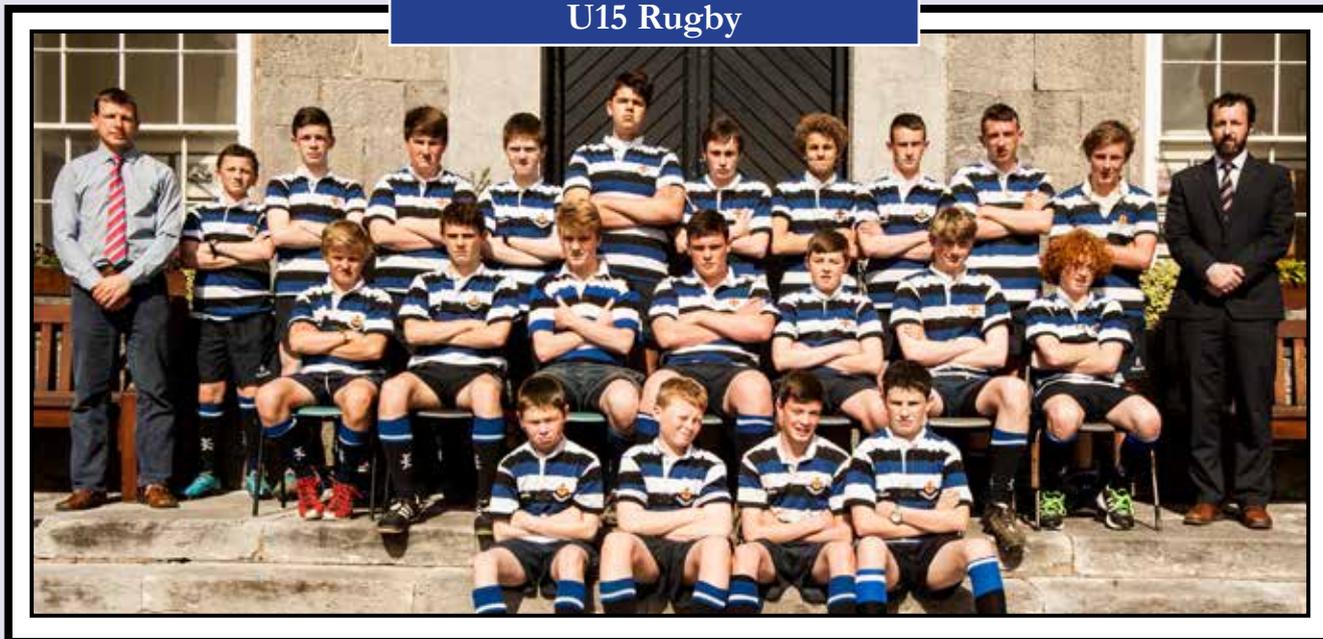
Number 8. Another player who consistently gave of his best, both in training and matches, was John Deane. His determination to make the most of his ability and improve his playing skills was very pleasing to see.

The forward pack was built on several key performers in the front row. Jack Bowles,

Darren Kenneally, Simon Walsh, Sayef Ziad, Cathal O'Deaghaidh and Alex Moore were all reliable performers and made significant contributions. In the second row Patrick Harty was a virtual ever-present partnered at various times by several players including Robert O'Leary and Mark Stafford. A number of players also wore the 6, 7 and 8 shirts but the players who operated most in those positions were the strong-running Calvin McDonagh, the combative Tiernan Murphy and the tireless Mark Stafford.

The back line saw a lot of inter-changing of positions during the season due to injury and unavailability. At number 9, Jason Daly, Stephen Ford, Iarlaith Farrell and

U15 Rugby



Back Row L-R: Mr. Cashman, I. Farrell, S. Daniels, S. Walsh, R. O'Leary, P. Harty, T. Murphy, J. Cardoso-Murphy, C. Bane, C. McDonagh, H. Jeffrey, Dr. Gash. Middle Row L-R: A. Moore, J. Bowles, M. Stafford, M. Donnelly, D. McGauran, B. Donovan, D. Phelan. Front Row L-R: S. Ford, J. Deane, J. Daly, A. Moore.

Art Moore all made good contributions. In the number 10 shirt Daniel McGauran demonstrated his natural ability as a place-kicker while Art Moore gave several impressive performances. Ben Donovan was a powerful runner in the centres while Jack Cardoso-Murphy and Hugh Jeffrey were particularly skilful and evasive. On the wings John Deane was outstanding while others who made decent contributions included Sam Daniels, Rory Cheasty and Tiernan McCarthy. Diarmaid Phelan was a live-wire in the early games of the season before injury made him unavailable. Finally, at Full Back, Cathal Bane showed intelligence and courage on a regular basis.

Overall a mixed season with some highs and some lows. It is clear, however, that the squad has both ability and

great potential. To finish I'd like to thank Phil Cunningham for his assistance in coaching the team. Phil's enthusiasm and "Kiwi know-how" were invaluable and helped both the players and myself immensely.

SQUAD: M. Donnelly (Capt.), J. Deane, P. Harty, D. Kenneally, C. McDonagh, J. Cardoso-Murphy, T. McCarthy, J. Bowles, I. Farrell, M. Stafford, J. Daly, A. Moore, B. Donovan, H. Jeffrey, D. McGauran, S. Walsh, A. Moore, R. O'Leary, S. Ford, C. O'Deaghaidh, T. McCarthy, S. Daniels, S. Ziad, C. Bane, D. Phelan.

- P.C.

1st Year Rugby



Back Row L-R: Mr. McGuckin, A. O'Leary, B. Quill, C. McCormack, D. Oujalape, J. Buttimer, L. Thompson, J. Howard, P. Martin, B. Baily, J. Doran, Dr. Gash. Front Row L-R: J. Maddix, B. Ingamells, R. Bawden, L. Daly, R. Bailey, J. Devine, G. Stuart.

1ST YEAR RUGBY

The Under 14 Rugby season starts as usual with a group of first years walking the beaten path from the school side gate down to the rugby pitches. The squad was not as new to rugby as years gone by, most had played before and several had talent.

As always our year starts with 3 Blitzes, the first is always in Bandon, the second is hosted by Midleton and the third is at Glenstal Abbey (referred to as Hogwarts by the boys.) The Blitzes are 12 a side games with two halves of about 10 minutes. The scores are not recorded and the main aim of the day is to enjoy running rugby and for the coaches to figure out the course of action over the next coming months.

The Bandon Blitz: We played 4 games. The highlight of the day was the fact we won more than our share of the lineout. With Luke and Luke (Obersby and Thompson) dominating, the ball got out to the backs a lot more. Once again Bandon's first years were the size of giants, but we only lost to their A team by a try, and we hammered their B team.

The Glenstal Blitz: At this stage we were developing into a good team, well able to play and play with style. We had wingers Jesse and Brian who had pace, Ceaden played center, although new to the game he was developing very quickly into a good player. He was big, fast and quick to learn. We had Ross at full back and Ben at 2nd five eight, both very reliable in their positions. My halfbacks (Rory and Jaye) both controlled the pack and distributed well to the back line made life tough for the opposition teams. The main player however was Leo who played first five eight. He was an outstanding player and led superbly as Captain for the whole year. The only bad part of this day is the bus ride to Glenstal. Not for the players but for the coaches. It takes the best part of two hours and that is a long time to listen to your team sing songs especially when they sing "Let it go" for most of the journey. On the journey home, I banned singing!

The Game against P.B.C: Midleton 47 P.B.C 15

Luke Obersby two tries, Conor McCormack one try, Ceaden Hogan one try and three tries to Leo Daly and also six conversions.

It was a cloudy day and we were playing a strong P.B.C side. We however were amazing on this day, every pass went to hand, every kick was chased and we put them under so much pressure the tries flowed. At this point I need to talk about the pack: Joseph, Brion, Graham, George, Andrew, James, Daniel and Rob the engine room of the team. They tackled, rucked and mauled brilliantly making a great platform for the backs to attack. This day this team put down a marker of how they were going to play.

The Game Against Newtown: Midleton 69 Newtown 0

Newtown up to this point were a good rival. We always played them home and away each year. However, this time we were very strong with Leo scoring great tries and kicking many conversions. In this game Jack Howard and Jack Buttimer and Conor McCormack (the teams flankers and No. 8) imposed themselves on Newtown turning over ball and tackling anything that moved. The opposition coach thanked me when I replaced Conor at half time as he hits so hard when tackling.

We had other matches, some we won some we lost. The highlight of the year for players and coaches was our mini tour. We left early one Saturday morning and made our way to Dublin. We arrived at High School, a school in Dublin that Mr. Levis Jr. had taught at. The bus trip had taken a lot out of the team, by half time we were behind by 10 points and not playing well. In the second half we were back to playing good rugby. We spread the ball wide and scored tries in the corner. The win was nice, but our attention was turned quickly back to why we were here: to watch Ireland v France at the Aviva. The Boys had a fantastic day, two games of rugby and two wins.

I would like to thank the team on a very successful but more importantly very enjoyable year.

Panel: J. Doran, R. Hickey, S. Graham, L. Thompson, L. Obersby, J. Howard, J. Buttimer, C. McCormack, B. Bailey, L. Daly, R. Bawden, B. Ingamells, C. Hogan, P. Martin, R. Bailey, J. Maddix, A. O'Leary, J. Butler, D. Ojulape, G. St Ledger, J. Devine, B Quill.

- M.M.

SENIOR 1STS GIRLS HOCKEY

The season 2014/15 was captained by Angel Axson with Janet Rumley as our vice-captain. Our coaching team consisted of Mr. Levis, assisted by Mr. Callender and Mr. Blaney.

We began our season with a hard earned draw in a friendly against Rockwell in September, our only goal coming from Amy Chambers. We then unfortunately slipped up badly in the League with a heavy 4-0 loss against Fermoy. However we then redeemed ourselves against a competitive Newtown, with our captain Angel Axson leading from the front and scoring 2 goals in the 2-1 victory.

Next in the League were St. Angela's at home. An outstanding defensive display saw us keep the score-sheet to a 0-0 draw against an extremely skillful side. Our next League match resulted in a 1-1 draw against Bandon, our top goal scorer Angel Axson again scoring our only goal in the tight contest. This brave display however was unfortunately not enough to see us through to the knock-out phase of the League.

The first round of the Cup saw us through with flying colours with a 4-0 win against Laurel Hill. Goals came from Angel Axson (2), Amy Chambers and Clara Roch-Perks. In the next round against Coláiste Choilm we came

Senior 1st Girls Hockey



Back Row L-R: Mr. Levis, S. Deane, P. Axson, R. Oppermann, C. Fletcher, A. Aldous, R. O'Sullivan, C. Roch-Perks, A. Chambers, C. Hall, E. Compton, Dr. Gash. Front Row L-R: P. Calzado, C. Moore, J. Rumley, A. Axson, R. Drennan, J. Ryall, M. Kingston.

out on top with a 3-0 win, Angel Axson scoring twice and an excellent goal from Amy Chambers was the icing on the cake. However, our season came to a disappointing end against a superior Crescent side in the next round of the Cup. The 5-0 loss did not reflect the incredible work rate and effort put in by the team throughout the school year. We look forward to next season and to the chance to progress towards further success.

Senior girls 1st XI squad 2014-15: Angel Axson (c), Janet Rumley (vc), Réidín O'Sullivan, Ella Compton, Rachel Drennan, Eva Bourke, Ruth Provan-Bessell, Amy Chambers, Clara Roch-Perks, Julie Ryall, Richenda Thomas, Kate Fleming, Bryony Archer, Katie Archer, Patricia Axson, Maeve Kingston, Alex Aldous, Charley Moore, Caoimhe Walsh, Ellen Ryall, Rebekah Oppermann, Charlotte Hall, Patricia Calzado, Sarah Deane, Cara Fletcher.

- A.L.

Senior 2nd Girls Hockey



Back Row L-R: Mr. Levis, A. Burns, A. Aldous, S. Murphy, R. O'Sullivan, S. Deane, C. Hall, Dr. Gash. Front Row L-R: L. O'Riordan, J. Ryall, P. Axson, S. Johnston, M. Kingston, E. Marley, P. Calzado.

SENIOR 2NDS GIRLS HOCKEY

The senior seconds started the season off well with a 1-0 win at home to Kilkenny College on the 3rd of September. A great first game by all and especially for Tricia Axson who got us our first goal of the season.

Next up was another friendly against Kilkenny College. We knew them well at this stage and we were away this time. They put up a great fight, but we still got a well deserved 2-1 win, with Angel Axson scoring both goals.

Our first league match of the season was against St. Angela's in Harlequins on the 7th of November. We fought our best but unfortunately lost 3-0.

We made up for this loss when we played St. Angela's at home later in November. This was also a league match in which the whole team played extremely well, leading to a 3-2 win, with 2 great goals from Laura O'Riordan and another well taken goal by Richenda Thomas.

We started off the new year with an amazing win against Bandon Grammar away in a league match. We had a very strong side playing that day, with a great performance by all involved, especially Réidín O'Sullivan who got a hat trick and great goals also from Tricia Axson and Sarah

Murphy. This led to a great victory of 5-0.

The last week in January we had our final league match against a tough Ashton side. Every single team member tried their best, with some great runs up the pitch by Keziah Ottman in the centre of midfield. However, we drew this game 0-0.

On the trip home from Ashton that day, we looked back on all our games, proud of all of our performances, especially our 2 great league wins.

We would like to thank Mr. Levis for coaching us throughout the year. We would also like to thank Mr. Seale for organising all of our matches.

Senior 2nds squad: G. Kearns, E. Ryall (vc), B. Archer, E. Brennan, A. Burns, K. Archer, K. Fleming (c), M. O'Leary, L. O'Riordan, T. Axson, L. Kenneally, S. Johnston, S. Poloczek, A. Axson, A. Aldous, C. Hall, J. Ryall, R. O'Sullivan, R. Drennan, R. Provan-Bessell, E. Bourke, J. Rumley, E. Marley, S. Deane, R. Thomas, K. Ottman, C. Fletcher, L. Oertle, C. Perez-Hernandez.

- A.L.

U16A Girls Hockey



Back Row L-R: Mr. Levis, E. Marley, C. Hall, G. Humphreys, N. Power, E. Roch-Perks, P. Calzado, M. Kingston, C. Moore, Dr. Gash.
Middle Row L-R: K. Mariga, V. Hosford, S. O'Donnell, R. Oppermann, B. Heffernan, A. Tierney, L. Summers.
Front Row L-R: R. Martin, C. Fletcher, D. Cardoso-Murphy.

U16A GIRLS HOCKEY

The season began with the squad in high spirits, knowing that this was their last year together before graduating to senior hockey, the girls were very keen and motivated to do as well as they could. The team was to be captained by Maeve Kingston, with Charlotte Hall her deputy.

The season opener was a friendly away in Kilkenny. Although the team played well at times, Kilkenny had too much for us on the day and ran out deserved 2-0 winners.

Our next match was away again, this time in Fermoy for our first league match. The girls upped their performance and produced a fine display winning out 4-0, with Mary

Smiddy (2), Sarah O'Donnell and Maeve Kingston scoring the goals in this demolition of a good side.

In early November, we had our first home league fixture of the season, with St. Angela's the visitors to the College. In what was to prove a tight match, we just had the edge over our opponents, crossing the line victors on a 2-0 score line, with 2 very well taken goals by Charlotte Hall and Maeve Kingston, in a match of few chances.

Focus then shifted to the cup, which began in early December with a home fixture against Ashton. On a cold and windy day, the girls put warm smiles on the faces of