



## NEW YEAR, NEW JUNIORS

By Niamh O'Dowd

On the first of September, the new Junior Infants started their first day of "Big School" in Eyrecourt N.S. The new Juniors, Masie Gohery, Nicole Horseman, Isabella Larkin, Rhian Power, Oisín and Daniel Treacy, were excited but still very nervous about their new school.

Once they settled in, they started to make friends and get started on their work. They all have either a sibling or a cousin from the school to help them out. They seemed very happy playing outside in the playground and they didn't seem to mind the school uniform! They went into the school for the first time in June, for the open day. They played inside for a while and then they went outside.

Their teacher, Ms. Burke, was very kind and welcoming to them, but unfortunately, Ms. Burke left on the 24th of September for her new permanent job in Clonfert. Although they are very sad to see her leave, they were excited to meet their new teacher, Ms. Kearns. They seem to be just as happy with her.

*This years Junior Infants.  
(Photo taken by Ms Treacy)*

The Juniors might be just playing and learning how to add now, but in a few years I bet they'll be the one's writing this article, not me!

## MY FINAL YEAR

By Leah Gohery

It's my final year in Eyrecourt school. I have lots of good memories in this school. I feel very sad that it is my last year, but I'm excited to have one final year. We started back to school in September and we finish in June. I have made lots of friends and I hope this year I will make more. Everybody in this school is so happy and no one is ever sad. Every teacher in the school is so kind, but if you mess you will get into trouble!!

Every child that comes into the school always goes home with a smile on their face. I have always loved every single minute of school. It is hard to believe that this is my final year and I can't believe that I will soon have 8 years of school done. All the teachers that have taught me were really good, kind and very helpful. I have had a great time so far and this year hopefully I can have an even better one!



# THE EYRECOURT EXAMINER IS BACK!

By Ethan Cusack

Every child in Eyrecourt primary school should know about the Eyrecourt Examiner, but any child that doesn't know will definitely know now because it is going monthly.

The 5th and 6th in Eyrecourt primary works hard to make the Eyrecourt Examiner. Let's look at how the 5th and 6th do it.

There are lots of things to look at but let's start with the deadline. The 5th and 6th need to get their articles in by the deadline or they won't appear in the Eyrecourt Examiner.

We have two Editor in Chiefs: Niamh and Róisín. They're assisted by Amy, Jane and Molly. Along with the assistant editors we have Leah and Kayla in charge of Distribution and Marketing and Enda is the Accounts Manager. All of 5th and 6th class are reporters and have to submit articles to keep their positions.

The first task of the team was to run a logo competition and chose the best one to be the newspapers logo for the year. Aoife Larkin was the winning designer and she is pictured here with the chief editors Niamh and Róisín and her winning design.



# THE PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

By Enda Mullery

My uncle John and his friend George brought me to the Ploughing Championship on Thursday, the last day of the show. It had rained day the previous day and although the ground underneath was very wet in places, we had a lovely fine day.

We looked at various farming machinery. Tools, work wear, garden, furniture and lots more. We tried to queue up to meet Joe Canning in the Canning tent but the queues were over half an hour long.

I learned a lot of bargaining skills from my uncle John. We had great fun with people selling stuff. We got something to eat on our way home and my legs were tired after all the walking.

I hope he brings me again next year, it was a great day!



thanks to **The Irish Times** for the photo



# The Wait Is Over For Eyrecourt NS!

*By Kayla Earner and Amy Connaughton*

The Mini sevens is the toughest competition in primary schools in both hurling and camogie. Every school in Galway participates in this event. We won out the local blitz and our camogie team got into the finals. We played in Cappataggle for the local blitz and we were in a group with Gurteen, Esker and Clonfert. Thankfully we won all our matches until it came down to the final against Portumna. We got a bit nervous in the first half and were a point down at half time. We went on to score a lot of goals in the second half and Portumna failed to score any more than the two points they got in the first half.

When we went to the finals we first played New Inn. Sadly we lost. Next we played against Clarinbridge. Again we lost. There was a confusion with the score but it came to a unfortunately they had scored more than us.

After the match we got to go to Supermacs so at the end of the day it was a win win!



## AFTER 29 YEARS GALWAY WELCOMES HOME 'LIAM'

*By Alanna Hogan*

Galway 0 – 26 Waterford 2 – 17

There was great excitement in Eyrecourt on Sunday September 3<sup>rd</sup> when our Galway Senior Hurlers walked onto Croke Park with two of our own past pupils, Noel Larkin (Selector) and Rory McGauran (Maor Caman).

It was a great hurling match against Waterford with both teams rising to the challenge and giving us a game to remember. Both teams playing with great skill, however it was Galways point scoring and determination that won it for them in the end.

David Burke got to lift the “Liam McCarthy Cup” and brings it back to the west after a long 29 years.

Galway 2 – 17 Cork 2 – 15

Of course we can't forget about another of our more recent past pupils John Fleming who also won the All Ireland Minor Hurling Final on the same day. Unfortunately due to injury on the lead up to the final John was unable to play on the day but played a big role in getting them to the final.

Both teams were welcomed home to a great reception in Ballinasloe. We look forward to welcoming both cups to the parish in the near future.

Congratulations again to Noel, Rory and John from all at St. Brendans N.S. Eyrecourt.

# GALWAY TRIUMPHS IN ALL IRELAND HURLING FINAL

*By Enya Lodge*

On the 3rd of September 2017 Galway took on Waterford in the All Ireland Final. They played in Croke Park in Dublin.

Galway made an outstanding score Galway 0-26 Waterford 2-17. Galway last won the All Ireland in 1988. It was a momentous occasion for all Galway supporters all over the World.

Galway was thrilled when the Galway Seniors won the Liam Mc Carthy Cup. It was a very large celebration for all towns and villages in County Galway. Galway manager Michael Donoghue said "They have been questioned and doubted so many times-even to the build-up of the game ahead".

Supporters and Fans all over Ireland were calling family members from all over the world. They got through into the all-Ireland so many times and lost Galway deserved to win this Liam McCarthy Cup.

There were 4 mins extra time. We definitely needed this win if we didn't I say we would have never won it. Overall everybody on the Galway team it was an amazing feeling walking out with the Liam McCarthy cup. Lots and Lots of people were so happy and Galway did an excellent Job! Well done Galway.

## JOHN FLEMING: BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE ALL-IRELAND

*By Jasmine Gohery*

I caught up with John Fleming the week after the All-Ireland and asked him about that historic day for Galway!

John told me he got up on that Sunday morning at 7.30am to get ready for the All-Ireland. His parents then dropped him to Gullanes Hotel in Ballinasloe for breakfast with the Galway team.

Soon after breakfast they then got on a team bus and headed for Dublin. When they arrived at Dublin they stopped at Whitehall in Dublin for a puck and a chat. After the puck around they got on the bus and went through the crowds and headed to Croke Park Stadium.

When they arrived at the stadium they went to the dressing rooms which were very large. They had their own personal spaces and a warm-up room.



Then the moment arrived where they had to run out onto the pitch. John was nervous, excited and anxious about the game ahead. Galway were losing by 3 points at half time and then came back in the second half and won by 2 points.

It was a great day for Galway all around as the seniors also won. The following day they came home to a huge homecoming in Ballinasloe and Galway.

# MY TRIP TO NORTHERN IRELAND

*By Róisín Buckley*

During the summer I went on a road trip with my Father to Northern Ireland. It was probably the most educational but exciting trips I will ever go on. On the first day on the road we went to Dublin and got a meal in a lovely restaurant and then went shopping in Blanchardstown Shopping Centre. We had a hotel booked in Dundalk so we headed there after. It was a gorgeous modern hotel named the Ramada Resort. We went swimming there and had dinner.

We left early in the morning and headed for Belfast. We visited the Titanic

Museum and I have to say it was incredible. It

took us three full hours to complete the full museum. Some parts made me want to laugh, cry and made me a little angry too. It honestly was the best tour I have ever done. There is no words to explain how incredible it was.

Then we headed to The Hedges Hotel Ballymoney and we stayed there one night. The next morning we left for the Giants causeway. When we got there I was astonished. We got some audio guides and started our walk. I heard some stories about the Giants boot and Finn Mac Cumhail's granny and he turned her to stone.

After all that we had a four hour drive home. It was by far probably the best holiday I've ever had. I highly recommend all the places I've gone and if you do visit them I hope you have a great time



## Another Win For The Dubs!

*By Molly McDermott*

The Dublin football team have won their third in a row, but for Mayo the curse continues.

The All Ireland Football Final took place in Croke Park last Sunday. The two best football teams fought it out until one team was left and sadly for Mayo, it was Dublin.

Dublin started the match off with an amazing goal but thankfully Mayo came back and in the lead with some amazing points. Dublin also got a lot of points and came back to draw the game.

In the second half Mayo fought hard and worked their way to another goal. Dublin came back again and drew it again.

The match went into extra time. This was the game-changer.

Mayo had the chance to ease back into the lead with a free kick but unfortunately, it hit off the post. Dublin then hit the point that edged them forward.

The final whistle blew; Dublin had won by a point. It was another year of devastation for Mayo, but I think next year they will come back even stronger.



Thanks To [pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com) for the picture.

# Two Senior Pupils Win Writing Competition

*By Molly McDermott and Niamh O’ Dowd*

At the start of the school year, we got word that two of our senior pupils won an award for writing their short stories and poems. Ethan Cusack won the overall award for his poem and Roisin won an award for her short story. The theme this year was 10. The name of Roisin's story was 10 seconds and Ethan's poem was called My Granny. It was about a granny who can do crazy things all at once. Roisin's story was about a car crash.



The competition takes place every year. Pupils have a choice of writing a poem or a story. The age group is from 4th to 5th class. The Shorelines competition is an arts festival that takes place in Portumna each year. The presentation was in Portumna Library. The overall winner gets a trophy called The Barbara Kennedy Annual Shorelines Award. Ethan won this award and also won a gift token worth €20. He also got another trophy but it was a lot smaller. Roisin won a gift token as well but it was worth €5.

We were delighted when we heard the news and are very proud of both of them!

# The Benemerenti Meets The Parish

*By Jane Duffy*



On Friday the 29th of September Janie McCormack and Nora Burke were awarded with highest honor awarded by the Pope to lay persons in recognition of their long and exceptional service to the Church .They both have been very hard working over a very long time opening and closing the Church and playing music.



photo: **facebook**

The Mass started at 7pm. The Bishop took over with the Mass and it was the time everybody had been waiting for; the Medals. It was Janie who got awarded the Medal first and she also got a lovely parchment written in Latin .

And certainly last but not least it was Nora’s turn to get awarded with her Medal and parchment. There was also a surprise for Janie’s twin sister who got a lovely bouquet of flowers. After the Mass everybody went over to the Hall for some food and a surprise cake.

By Enya, Ethan, Alanna and Alison

## The West's awake

When all beside a vigil keep  
The West's asleep, the West's asleep  
Alas, and well may Erin weep  
When Connacht lies in slumber deep  
Then Eyrecourt sent, three men to play  
Young John played minors to a tee  
Say Noel was selector for the team  
And let's not forget Rory!

And if, when all a vigil keep  
The West's asleep, the West's asleep  
Alas, and well may Erin weep  
That Galway lies in slumber deep  
But hark, a voice like thunder spake  
Galway's awake, Galway's awake  
Sing oh, McCarthy from his grave  
I am with you now, All-Ireland day



On the 23rd of October some Galway team members came to Eyrecourt NS to meet the pupils and show us their silverware. They brought The Liam McCarthy cup, The Irish Press Cup, the league final cup and Leinster cup.

We were weeks preparing and we sang the song above and played Congratulations and the theme music from The Sunday Game. We were all gathered in Ms Treacy's classroom and we welcomed the visitors with the Sunday game tune. They were really surprised, especially when they heard their names in the adapted West's Awake.

Our three locals John Fleming, Noel Larkin and Rory McGauren were accompanied by Jason Flynn and Davy Glennon. Noel Larkin talked about how hard they trained to get to the All-Ireland. John Fleming who played minors talked also and finished with a night of no homework. He seemed to really enjoy that! We got to ask questions and we took lots of photographs. They spent over an hour with us in total.

We were all wearing our Galway colours and we all got a hold of the famous cups! It was a historic day for our school and one we will always remember.

## Our generous gift gets attention

by Leah Gohery and Enda Mullery

While this is the first Eyrecourt Examiner of the year, we have already hit the newspapers! On the 1st of September we were featured on the Connacht Tribune over two full pages. The editor Dave O'Connell also talked a lot about us on his weekly slot on Galway Bay FM.

For the past 8 years, we have sent out some of our confirmation money to help Sister Annette with her continuous work in Tanzania. She is from Kilconnell and she has been over in Tanzania for the last 30 years. Every year the confirmation class sends out some of their gift money. The last time we had confirmation, the class sent out money for Sr. Annette to buy furniture for the Street Children's computer classroom. This school has children who have never been to school before. Sr. Annette decided to set up a computer room so they could have basic computer skills. The money from the confirmation class paid the carpenter who made all the tables and shelves for the computers. Sr. Annette also bought plastic chairs for the pupils.

Our teacher Ms Treacy has gone out two years to Sr. Annette. She also brought out extra gifts with her like pens, footballs, t-shirts, lego, basketballs, board games, USB's and Raspberry Pi's. Raspberry Pi's sound like cakes but they are actually the brain of a computer and we use them in our Coderdojo Programme in school.

Ms Treacy also set up Coderdojo in Tanzania the past two summers. This year we hope we can help Sr Annette with her work out in Tanzania. We're looking forward to see what project she will get us involved in.



# The Sporty School!

**By Patryk Polka, Jennifer Glynn and Jasmine Gohery**

We are a very active bunch in Eyrecourt NS. We do every type of sport; hurling, camogie, rugby, soccer, basketball, swimming and cycling.

We started the hurling and camogie. Every Tuesday Joan arrives at lunchtime to coach junior infants, senior infants and 1st class. She comes back after school to train 2nd to 6th class from 3-4pm. Sometimes the 1st class join in the senior training as well! At break time we like to play basketball and soccer. We are lucky to have a full size basketball court and a massive pitch with goals. We did basketball for PE in September and we like to play it. We had a school league last year in both sports and that will start up again after Halloween.



Every Monday after Halloween we are starting rugby with a rugby coach from Ballinasloe RFC. 1st class upwards will get the coaching on Monday afternoons. We're really looking forward to it! On Thursday the 26th of October we started a Safe Cycling course. 4th-6th class get to take part for 6 weeks training, 2 hours every week. It's like a driving licence for bikes!

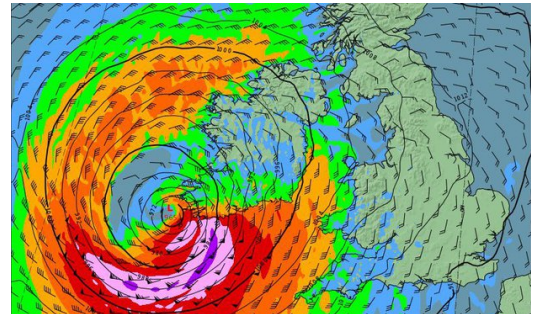
Then in the new year, we will have our 6 weeks swimming lessons in Birr swimming pool. 1st to 6th go every week over the winter months.

Photo **Entertainment.ie**

## Storm Ophelia

**By Alison Cheeseman**

On Monday the 16th October all of Ireland was hit by a hurricane called Ophelia. It hit the south of Ireland first causing a lot of damage and nation wide power outages. Thousands of trees were blown down and sadly three lives were lost. The Department of Education decided on Sunday to close all school for Monday and that closure followed on to Tuesday as a precaution. We were back in on Wednesday and thankfully no damage was done to our school.



## Hallowe'en horrors at Eyrecourt N.S!

