

Premier League

The premier league this season is very surprising and interesting because Liverpool and Arsenal are doing very well. Manchester United are not doing very well because David Moyes' tactics are more defensive with less attacking play. I think the reason they are doing so bad is because that they are not attacking as well as they were last year.

I think the Merseyside Derby (Liverpool vs. Everton) in Goodison Park was definitely the toughest game so far this year. It ended 3-3. Leighton Baines broke his toe while playing against Liverpool. The Merseyside Derby games have had more players red carded than any other game in the Premier League.

These are my predictions for who comes in the top 4 this year to qualify for the Champions League:

- 1: Liverpool
- 2: Arsenal
- 3: Chelsea
- 4: Manchester City

If Liverpool FC qualify for the Champions League it will be great because the last time they qualified for the champions league was 2005 and they won it that year. Liverpool hold the record for most champions league titles as an English team. They have won it 5 times.

The goal-line technology is being used in the Premier League for the first time ever. I bet Stoke city will be happy with that because a typical Stoke goal is normally a goalmouth scramble ending with a fluke shot or a deflection.

How to watch free and live soccer on the internet:

Step 1: Search tvoo on Google and click on www.tvoo.eu

Step 2: Click on the match you want to watch

Step 3: Click one of the links (link 1 , link 2 e.t.c)

Mark Loughnane and Michael Kelly



Connacht and Leinster

Both provinces are doing good in Rabo Direct Pro 12 this year. Connacht have been winning a good few matches but Leinster have been winning more. Leinster are the defending Champions and most people expect Leinster to win about every match. But Connacht have been doing good too. They have not won every match but they won more than they lost. When Connacht played Leinster the boys in blue came away with the points. Munster are top of the table but there is still so much more matches to be played and Connacht still have a chance. Come on Connacht!

Shea Sloan



St Brendan's N.S
€0.80

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The Taste

We interviewed Barry Johnston of *The Taste* over the phone! Find out how we tracked him down and what happened inside with an article by Anna Larkin and Emily Salmon.



A revamp success

While we were away the school got a load of things done to it! Read inside and see pictures from old to new with an article by Tiernan Gohery.

Book Buddies

We have started book buddies with juniors - 1st class. We are having great fun getting to know our book buddies. Find out what we do with an article by Aideen Lyons and Caitlin Dunican.

Notifications

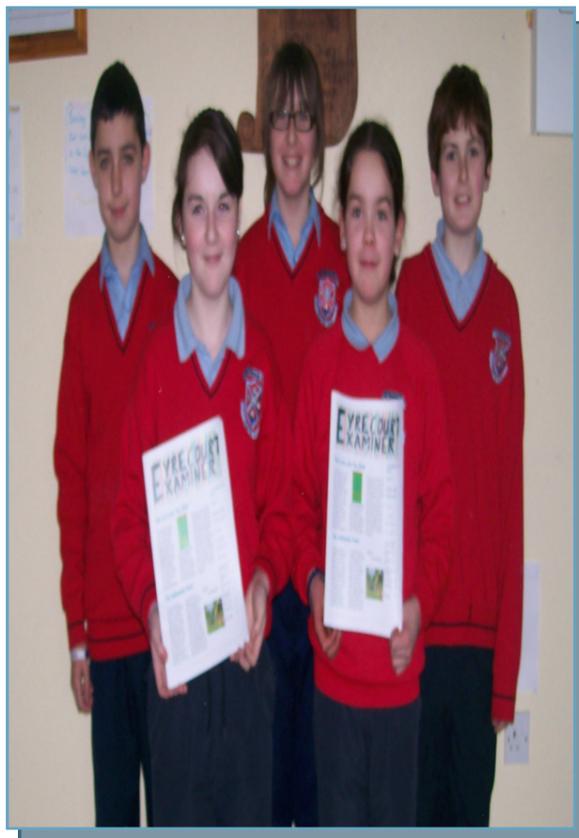
If you would like to place an advertisement in our monthly newspaper then email us at eyrecourt-examiner@gmail.com or @Eyrecourt_News on twitter.

We are going swimming every Monday for six weeks from the 13/01/14 — 17/2/14 in Birr swimming pool.

We are still doing *Children Helping Children* so if you would like to put a small donation email us at eyrecourt-examiner@gmail.com All donations go to children helping children charity!

New editors

Because Saoirse Larkin left our school we needed a new main editor and new sub—editors. Miss Treacy decided to put Chantelle Hughes as main editor and Alison Rosney and Katie Salmon as sub-editors, Mark Larkin and David Kennedy are still sub- editors. Hopefully it will all work out!



Editorial

Happy new year! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas! In this issue you can find out about swimming, lots of sports news, top Christmas presents chart, spring lambs and calves and also a interview with Barry Johnston!

We hope you enjoy reading this issue!

From your Editors

Chantelle Hughes, Alison Rosney, Katie Salmon, David Kennedy and Mark Larkin

Transfer News

Time is running out for the managers in the transfer window. Premier League leaders Arsenal are looking for Atletico Madrid's Diego Costa for 40 million while Manchester City are offering 45 million for Bayern Munich's goalkeeper Manuel Neuer .Monaco offered 60 million by Chelsea for striker Radamel Falcao. Everton signed Ireland and Spartak Moscow midfielder Aidan McGeady while Hull signing their other midfielder Nikica Jelavic. These are my predictions for the up coming games:

Liverpool 2 - 1 Everton

Tottenham Hotspurs 2 - 4 Manchester City

Manchester United 2 - 0 Cardiff

Arsenal 3 - 1 Southampton

Chelsea 4 - 0 West Ham United

Mark Loughnane

Champions League Qualifiers 2014

In the Champions Leagues Qualifiers there's a 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th round before you reach the group-stages.

Some teams get to start off in the group stages if they finish highly in 2013 in a League with a high coefficient ranking.

Saint Patricks Athletic will start off in the second qualifying round because the Airtricity League is ranked in between 16th and 46th.

Usually Irish teams have a 20/25 % chance of going through to the 3rd round but Saint Patricks Athletic are so good this year they have about a 40% chance of going through to the 3rd round 2014.

Saint Patricks Athletic are probably now the best team ever in the Airtricity League. I would say they are even better than Shamrock Rovers (2011)!

They have signed €1.55m worth of players in the past 3 months that have had their contracts finished at other clubs so they got them all for free!

Including Irish International Keith Fahey who is worth €750,000! Saint Patricks Athletic total player values is more than twice as much at €2.65m

Prize Money (total)*	Chance (of reaching)
2 nd round (€340,000)	3 rd round (40%)
3 rd round (€480,000)	4 th round (10%)
4 th round (€1million)	group (1%)
group (€12million)	

*= How much St. Pats will earn if they reach that round

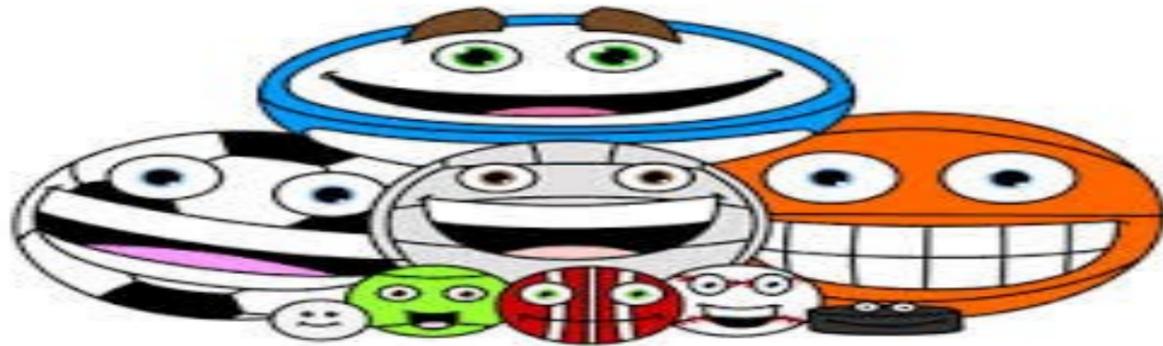
Ciarán Campbell

Champion's league draw

There are two sides of Manchester. Man City have fear in their eyes. And Man United are happy in some ways. Man City has been drawn with Barcelona. Best team in Europe. Man Utd has been drawn with Olympiakos . Man United have been doing very well in Europe not losing one game in the group stages. But I think with Robin Van Persie, Rooney and Carrick Man Utd should win. Arsenal also have a tough task against Bayern Munich. These are the other fixtures :

- Bayern Leverkusen - Paris SG
- Manchester City - Barcelona
- Arsenal - FC Bayern
- AC Milan - Atletico Madrid
- Zenit St. Petersburg - B Dortmund
- Olympiakos - Man United
- FC Schalke - Real Madrid
- Chelsea - Galatasaray

Evan Gohery



Under 13 and under 14 training starting up

On Wednesday 22nd of January under 13 and under 14 training start. We are all looking forward to it . I think it will be a successful season for both sides. We've very strong teams for the numbers of our club. Under 14 will be starting up in a couple of months. As under 13 will be later on in the year. This year I'm sure, we'll bring home the silverware!

Colin Downey

The Hobbit

The Hobbit - The Desolation of Smaug is an epic adventure film directed by Peter Jackson. This is the second film in the trilogy based on the novel, *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien. The series is a prequel to the Lord of the Rings Trilogy.

The Movie is set in Middle- Earth. The wizard Gandalf the Grey investigates a growing evil at Dol Gri. While Bilfo Baggins (Martin Freeman) continues his quest with thirteen dwarves led by Thoin Oakenshield (Richard Armistice) to reclaim the lonely mountain from the dragon Smaug.

I would recommend this film if you have seen the first film in this trilogy *The Hobbit - Unexpected Journey*, or the trilogy *The Lord of The Rings*.

Tomas Flynn

From Tanzania to Eyrecourt

On the 9th of January Sr. Annette Farrell visited our school. She told us all about life in Tanzania and how difficult it can be over there. We were amazed to hear about the all hard work that she has been doing for the past 30 years and the difference she has made to so many lives over there. She has built wells and schools for these people and has given them the opportunity to learn and live independently. It really showed us how lucky we are here in a first world country like Ireland.

After listening to her stories, we as a class have decided to donate some of our Confirmation money to her. She told us she will use the money to make desks and chairs for the Standard 7 class in Saku School Tanzania.

We then played some music for her on the tin whistles. She loved it and told us how good the people in Tanzania are on the steel drums. We hope that our money can make a difference and help all the people over there. Sr. Annette is a wonderful woman.

Damien Murphy



Going for a Swim

Every Monday for six weeks, we are swimming in Birr. We are so excited about it. 1st - 6th class are the pupils attending. The swimming teachers are very good and they help us a lot. There are three different groups in the pool. Fifth and sixth have been doing swimming in school since junior infants but a few years ago the teachers decided to change it to 1st - 6th. We hope we are going to be really good at swimming!

Aideen Lyons & Anna Larkin

Coming back to school

On the 7/1/2014 we came back to school. We saw a lot of familiar faces. Most of us were tired after the long break but the break didn't last. Lots of stuff happened like on Thursday the 9th Sr. Annette came to visit us. On Monday 13th we went swimming. On Friday 17th we started book buddies. We have quizzes this month also.

Adam Reilly



Pictures taken by Alison Rosney

A revamp success

On the 20th of December we received our Christmas holidays.

During our break away from school workers carried out a few jobs.

Due to the stormy weather, we experienced in December, the chimney was damaged and it needed repairing.

While the Chimneys was being repaired the builders took a chance to bring our school up to date with a accessible bathroom.

The Teachers bathroom was transformed into an accessible bathroom fitted with JERKO non-slip flooring.

The hall way, office and staff room has been fitted with JERKO non-slip flooring so now the school floor is safe and looks well too!

Tiernan Gohery

Meelick- Eyrecourt Muck Run

On St. Stephens day Meelick-Eyrecourt hosted the Muck Run. For under 16's it was 2km and for over 16's it was 5km. Under 16's started first. The muck was tough but awesomely fun. The hardest part was when we had to run through a drain. The funniest part was when we had to run up a slippery slope. Colin Downey came first in the under 16 followed by Jack Rosney and me. The overall winner was a person passing through. And it was a great day out!

Evan Gohery

East Galway Hunt in Eyrecourt

On St. Stephen's day there was a hunt in Eyrecourt. It started at 1p.m, just after the muck run finished. It led down by Reilly's then cut across fields to Lynch's. From there it went cross country through Larkin's, Toomy's, Flynn's, Briscose's, Salmon's and Murphy's, coming out in front of Morrise's house.

Then the hunt went up the road as far as Fahy Church, where there was a small bit of activity but then ended there.

The crew hacked back to the square at about 4p.m.

A couple of days later they held the children's meet which ran from McDonagh's pub through Gortanumera and held the half way point at my cousins house, then went back by the same route.

There were mostly built up fences like logs and loads of drains. The children's meet ended back in McDonagh's Pub where there was warm soup and sandwiches for all of the brave riders.

The East Galway Hunt is our local fox hunt and holds 2 meets every week, on Tuesday and Saturday, from the end of October until the beginning of March.

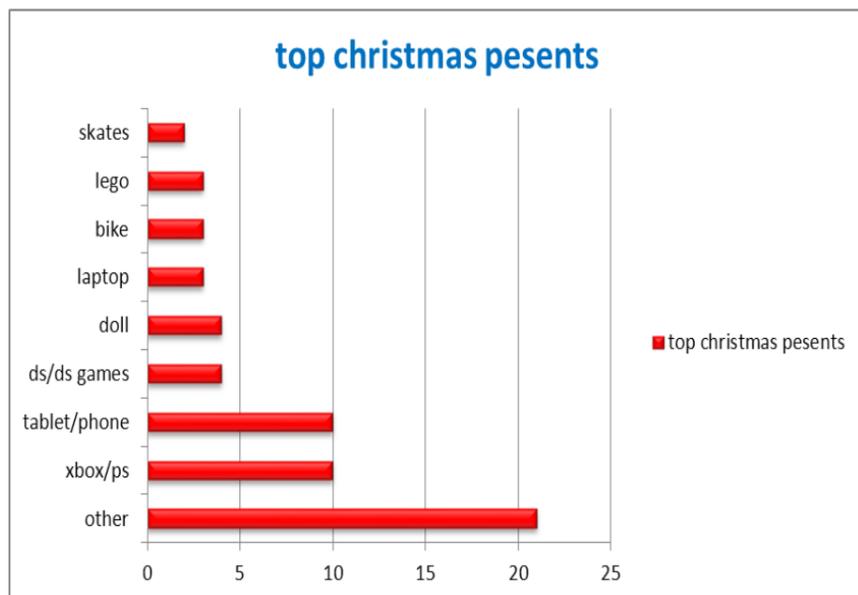
Once the Hunting Season is over there will be a lot of occasion to get together, from Point to Point to Hunter Trials and Golf Classics.

Katie Salmon

Top Christmas presents

We surveyed the pupils in our school. The topic was Top Christmas presents. Here is what we found:

Alison Rosney and Chantelle Hughes



Diary of a Wimpy Kid Hard Luck

This is a book from the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series by Jeff Kinney. The book is brilliant for ages 7-13. In this book Rowley dumps Greg for a girl. It's a must read book and it's bound to make you laugh.

David Kennedy & Oisín Neylon

'Wicked' was wicked

We went to see the fantastic hit Broadway 'Wicked'. We saw it in the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre in Dublin. When we walked in we could see lots of people waiting to see 'Wicked'.

The characters were Glinda the good, Elphaba the wicked witch, Nessaross elphabas sister, Boq who is in love with Glinda, Madame Morrible and Doctor Filament. Fiyero is in love with Glinda at the start but falls for Elphaba's charms. OZ great and powerful is a backstabbing cheat. They are all the characters in the musical.

The story starts in the future when the wicked witch of the west dies. Glinda tells the ozians that the wicked witch is dead. In the past her mother cheated on her husband with OZ. And then she got pregnant with Elphaba. Very unusually she was green. Later on she had another baby called Nessaross she was born with twisted legs. Elphabas' father was ashamed of Elphaba and treated her like a slave. The first half ends with defying gravity. The rest of the show was a blast but all the tickets are sold out.

David Kennedy and Oisín Neylon



Fight for the first years

Mr Scales visited our school on the 15th of January to tell us about Banagher secondary school.

Mr Scales told us what subjects there are and what it is like in secondary school. In first year you have to pick 3 option subjects.

Secondary school is a lot different to primary school because you have so many different teachers. Secondary school has a canteen and way more floors.

Mr Long also came to our school on the 15th of January to tell us about Portumna Community School. He told us what sports they do. And that they have good teachers and that they are a brilliant school.

Caitlin Dunican & Aideen Lyons

Photo: Ryan Cox

Book Buddies

On the 17th of January fifth and sixth classes started book buddies with junior infants, senior infants and first class.

Book buddies is where the fifth and sixth class pupils each get one of the infants or first class and read a story to them every Friday.

We do book buddies in Eyrecourt library. For the first week we pick the books, then our teacher will tell us who our buddy is. Then we find a place in the library to read our book. When we are finished, we will help our buddy chose a book for the next week.

Caitlin Dunican & Aideen Lyons



Pictures taken by Aideen Lyons

"I should have used less ingredients"

Star of the hit cookery show "The Taste" Barry Johnston spoke to us from his home in London.

On the 15th of January we, Anna and Emily interviewed Barry Johnston who was on the new cooking program called "The Taste". The first round Barry cooked a fish dish. In *The Taste* if the judges liked you, you have to pick the judge who you want to be with. Barry picked the American chef because he said he read a lot of his cookery books and he also said Anthony the American chef was like J.K. Rowling to him (hero). In the second round Barry cooked Tiramisu, unfortunately he got sent home. Barry said he learned how to cook from his Mother, Granny and his Uncle. His favourite dish to cook was roast lamb and said his father makes the best Christmas dinner in all of Ireland! He always cooks for his family when he comes home to Ireland and his brothers favourite dessert is chocolate pudding so he has to make it for them. Barry said after the interview that it was the hardest interview yet! He tweeted on twitter #can't wait to read Eyrecourt examiner #just got grilled by Anna and Emily in a hard hitting interview!

Anna Larkin & Emily Salmon

5th & 6th class P.E

Every week on a Monday afternoon we do P.E. We do it in Eyrecourt Hall. Our teacher Ms Treacy teaches it.

We do a wide variety of activities. We sometimes play spikeball, basketball and dance. Later on in the year we will be taking on athletics! It is great fun.

We sometimes have P.E in the hall when it's raining and outside when it's dry. We prefer it outside because we have more space to run.

Miss Treacy takes us to competitions as well. We love doing P.E

Emily Salmon & Caitlin Dunican

Tractors registered in Ireland 2013

Massey Ferguson	751
New Holland	688
Ford & Fordson	324
John Deere	321
Case & Case HI	290
Other Makes	111
Fiat & Fiatagri	85
Landini	80
Zetor	75
Deutz-Fahr	74
Same	71
David Brown	48
Renault	45
Mc Cormick	44
Claas	39
Lamborghini	35
International Harvester	33
Kubota	24
Valtra & Valmet	21

Massey Ferguson took top spot with 751 tractors registered, the Massey Ferguson 390/390T accounted for 116 of this. It is a popular model as it is simple to operate. The old Stalworth Massey Ferguson 135 was also a popular model with farmers.

The figures shown above may not give a true reflection as there was a change in the enforcement of the legislation regarding the use of unregistered tractors on the road. This resulted in a big increase in used tractor registrations especially during the months of September and October.

Galway had 220 registrations which was the fourth highest number.

Tomás Flynn

Spring Lambs and calves

Farmers will be very busy with ewe's lambing. It can be a lovely time of year but there are some unfortunate events as well. Here are some tips for lambing.

- if your ewes are in lamb put them in a shed at least 2 weeks before they lamb.
- make sure your sheds are thoroughly disinfected.
- give hay/silage/meal or sheep pellets to ewes daily.
- when your ewe is in the process of lambing it can take up to 3 hours, be patient let nature take its course.
- after your lambs are born let them into a field as soon as possible.
- anyone with dogs should supervise their dogs very well especially during the lambing season as a dog attack could inflict extreme damage to a farmers flock.
- lambs born in the end of January should be ready for Easter trade which is the most important time for spring lambs.

Farmers will also be very busy with calves. Here are some tips for calving.

- if your cow is struggling to deliver the calf call a vet quickly!!!
- if you don't know what bedding is best use fresh straw with lime.
- if your calf isn't taking to your cow put them in an individual pen so they can smell each other
- when your cow calves put them in a shed for a good few weeks.
- next tag the calf & let it into a field near your sheds so that if the calf gets sick he can be brought in easily.
- after 8-10 days bring your calves back in to de-horn them & treat them for black leg disease (Covexin 8)

Emily Salmon & Patrick Duffy

