

# LE CHÉILE DAY



PATRICIAN PRESENTATION  
SECONDARY SCHOOL  
FETHARD  
FRIDAY MARCH 31st 2023



Friday, January 6th 2023

Pupils and staff from Patrician Presentation Secondary School Fethard, participated in a celebration of The Feast of the Epiphany in the local Augustinian Abbey, Fethard. This was the first time since Covid that we were able to gather together, with members of the local community to celebrate mass. It was a welcome return to normality!

To mark Catholic Schools Week this year, our 1st year R.E classes researched the history of our school. Pamela O Donnell, a past pupil, shared her experiences of the amalgamation of the Patrician Brothers and Presentation secondary schools in 1993. They also explored the origins of the two founding religious orders. This research helped the students to appreciate the unique history of our school.

For grandparents day Ms Walsh and Ms Fogarty organised Bingo and Raffles. At P.P.S.S. there has been a strong connection with the local Day Care Centre and the Community over the years. This was to celebrate that connection.



## Le Chéile Conference 2023

On Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2023, my friend Lucy and I travelled to Mullingar with our principal Mr. Walsh for the Student and Principal Le Chéile Conference 2023. We had no idea what to expect. We were greeted by two of the teachers involved in the Student Conference, Claire and Nigel. We checked into our room and then headed down to the conference room. The conference went on over two days. Firstly we were given a lovely lunch of soup and sandwiches. This gave us a chance to break the ice and chat with a few of the other students. After lunch there were workshops and I found these really enjoyable. They were very interesting and interactive. I got the chance to learn and get a better understanding of what Le Chéile is all about and what they do. We got to meet and talk with students from the same congregations as us (Patrician Brothers) as well as others in different congregations. We compared and shared our different experiences of our schools' ethos. That night we all came together and had a big Céilí. It was great fun and it's a memory I will never forget! The following day we joined the Principal's Conference in the Mullingar Park Hotel. The day started with a ceremony full of singing, readings and prayer. We listened to some really interesting speakers and it ended with a focus on practising our faith through our hands, hearts and minds. My favourite part of the two-day experience was making new friends. I am very grateful for the opportunity I was given to better understand my school's history and ethos. I made friends for life and I would really recommend it to other students in my school.

Aiobheann Collum,

TY student.



Top Left Aiobheann Collum, Mr Billy Walsh and Bro. Matthew Hayes, (Below left, Lucy Burke Lawrence and Aiobheann Collum with students at the Le Chéile conference, Mullingar.



For many years students of P.P.S.S have helped to decorate the crib in the local Augustinian Abbey church in Fethard. The Abbey is over 700 years old and decorating the crib gives our students a better understanding of the history of this beautiful Church.

## LE CHÉILE PRAYER

In the power of the Spirit  
and in keeping with the traditions of our  
founding  
Congregations we pray that,  
for students and teachers alike;  
our schools  
may be places of learning and discovery  
places of hope and joy  
places of courage and confidence  
places of gratitude and generosity  
places of faith rooted in love.  
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord  
Amen.



**Our Class Retreat**  
 Before Christmas, Miss Maher held a retreat for our TY group. The meaning behind the retreat was to show that we as individuals are gifts.

We started out with team building games which were great fun. Next we made and designed gift boxes. In our decorated gift boxes we put in compliments about ourselves which our class wrote for one another.

Throughout the afternoon we took part in creating salt jars. We used different coloured chalk to colour the salt which represented our different talents.

At the end of the day Fr. Iggy came in and held a Mass. The class prepared an altar decorated with candles and our gift boxes. We also prepared music and prayers. Overall everyone enjoyed the peaceful day.

**Zoe Prout and Rebecca Needham**  
**Transition Year**



International student Margarita Aceto entertained with her Viola playing at the annual School Carol Service, Christmas 2022

## LE CHÉILE SCHOOLS

Le Chéile schools are committed to the promotion of a value-based education built on the shared purpose of:



[www.lecheiletrust.ie](http://www.lecheiletrust.ie)

During Lent 2023 students and staff worked on producing a school prayer book. The whole school community were asked to write prayers on various themes that the students selected or to choose prayers/reflections/sayings that they particularly liked.

The students and staff also worked together on a piece for the front cover of the prayer book, where they responded to a heart shape in whatever way they liked. We hope to publish this book in the coming weeks where it will be a valuable and special resource for our school. The staff worked together on composing 'Our School Beatitudes'



## Our School Beatitudes

- Blessed is our school family that comes together on the journey of learning for life each day.
- Blessed are the compassionate teachers, for they shall foster a culture of kindness and respect in their classroom and teach their students the values of empathy and inclusion.
- Blessed are the patient teachers, for they allow their students to flourish.
- Blessed are the teachers who refuse to give up on their challenging students, for they see the potential in every individual.
- Blessed are the creative teachers, for they shall bring joy and excitement to the classroom and spark curiosity and imagination in their students.
- Blessed are the students who are new to our country, may they flourish and grow here in our school.
- Blessed are those whose day is heavy, for their load shall be lightened.
- Blessed are those who come to school hungry, may they be fed and filled with joy.
- Blessed are the people, businesses and families that support our school community.
- Blessed are those in our school community who call out unkindness, injustice or inequality.
- Blessed are those who fight, then forgive, for friendships are never perfect.
- Blessed are those who impart kindness and empathy to those around them, they shall have peace of mind, heart and soul bestowed upon them.
- Blessed are those whose laughter lifts our spirits, for they sing the song of our souls.
- Blessed is he who unlocks the doors in the morning.
- Blessed are those of speed and limb, where there's fun and enjoyment in the gym.

Patrician Presentation Secondary School, Fethard  
2 Nov 2022

In November we remember all those who have died, especially members of our school community, our families, friends, relatives and loved ones.

