

Thanks to The Parents' Council for their sponsorship

FOREWORD



I am delighted to have the opportunity to present this foreword to the Class of 1998 Year Book. I wish to congratulate the pupils for contributing various articles, memories and photographs and Mr. Lucey, Year Head, who ensured that the Year Book would prove to be an excellent momento for the pupils of the 1998 Leaving Cert class.

I publicly wish to thank Mr. Lucey for the part he played as Year Head to the present Leaving Cert pupils. He has nurtured their development and has instilled in each a sense of maturity and responsibility that I am sure in years to come they will appreciate.

I am confident that the Class of 1998 will be worthy standard bearers of the excellent tradition set by previous years. Those of the class who go immediately into the world of work will contribute to the growth and development of the country. Others, who will pursue further studies in third level colleges, will emulate their predecessors by obtaining excellent qualifications.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the 1998 Leaving Cert class for their contribution to Ballincollig Community School. I hope that as they leave their "Alma Mater", each will carry into life happy memories of their six years at Ballincollig Community School.

Dan Murray, Principal

Message from a Year Head -A Summary of 6 Years of Morning Assemblies

ANYWAY

People are unreasonable,
illogical and self-centred,
LOVE THEM ANYWAY

If you do good, people will accuse you
of selfish, ulterior motives,
DO GOOD ANYWAY
If you are successful,
you win false friends and true enemies,
SUCCEED ANYWAY

The good you do
will be forgotten tomorrow,
DO GOOD ANYWAY

Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable,

BE HONEST AND FRANK ANYWAY What you spend years building

may be destroyed overnight,
BUILD ANYWAY

People really need help but may attack you if you help them, HELP PEOPLE ANYWAY

Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth, GIVE THE WORLD

THE BEST YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY from A Simple Path

THANKS

A Special Thanks to all of you for contributing your memories of your time in BCS. I hope you will recognise some of them here.

Also thanks to those who provided photographs. Finally, thanks to those who provided short accounts or poems.

I have deliberately excluded the names of all contributors from the Year Group because there are so many.



FIRST YEAR - WHAT A BIG SCHOOL!



WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

Over the last six years we have grown, cried and laughed together.

We have experienced the good times and the bad times but that's what friends are for.

We have spent the last six years building these friendships and we know that our friendships will last forever.

Even though we will all be separated, the memories of our schooldays in BCS will never fade.

Here are some of our memories.

FIRST YEAR

The first day at school was spent worrying whether the length of our skirts was fashionable and if we had the proper hairstyles. We can all remember our first day sitting in the Caf, looking around not knowing anyone; how things have changed. But as the years grew so did our confidence and we became known as the notorious First Years. We became experts in wood warfare and flying chairs causing quite a few casualties along the way.

The highlight of the year was our trip to Oysterhaven where we froze, where we swam through bogs and capsized into icy water; who didn't come home with a flu' that day!

Eacht Awards were presented to; Daniel Breen, Trevor Coleman, Brian Kelleher, Edel Kelleher, Marie Tobin, Coeurena Twomey. The Student of the Year was Daniel Breen.



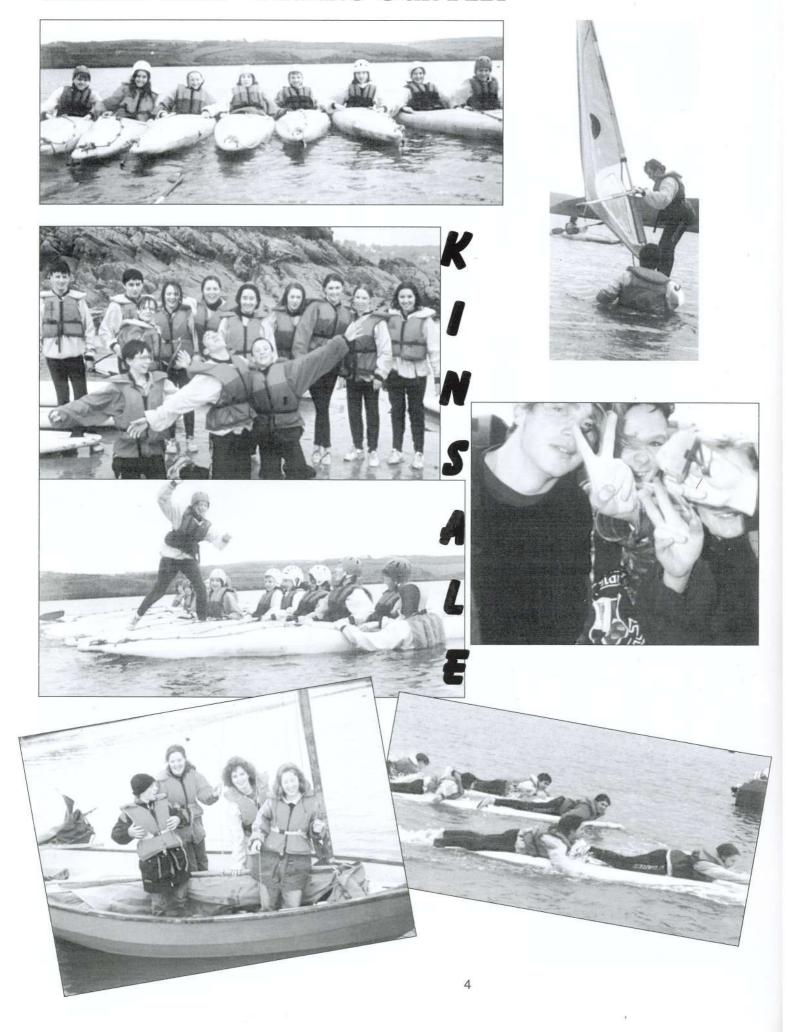
"We produced a newspaper on the Gunpowder Mills for the Muskerry Leader."

We moved to our classes, unsure what to find, No one seemed friendly, no one seemed kind.

The first weeks were hard, as we tried to progress, Our future unsure, the whole thing a mess. The first term, however, one thing did it bring That friendships and bonds were a valuable thing. Soon after by Christmas, we had settled in, No more Mr Timid, it was time to begin, To build the foundations that would last to the end, Our friends and companions, no need to re-mend. By the end of the year which had started so bad We talked with our new friends about good times that we'd had.

Now six years on, we're still going strong,
The memories of First Year distant, long gone.
Our targets are set on what the future will bring,
Our exams, then college, it all just begins.
The adventures and journeys we shared as a group
Always marching together, the BCS troop.
A troop we may be, but still we rely
On the friendships we made, we hope they don't die

SECOND YEAR - FINDING OUR FEET



SECOND YEAR

Second Year was a very crowded and successful year.

There were successes in national competitions - in particular, the Dairygold Creativity Awards (Lynda Murphy), An Post Letter-Writing Competition (Siobhan O'Shea) and the European Young Consumers Competition..

During the year also a group of second year boys and girls produced the BCS News which was distributed door-to-door in the local community. As well as this, in a 12 hour Lenten Fast the Year Group raised £2,255 for Ballincollig St Vincent de Paul.

On the sporting front, the girls reached the final of the Cork Colleges basketball competition while the boys won their final, with Michael O'Brien being awarded Player of the Tournament. In May a group of 15 boys competed in a European Soccer tournament in France - Eurofoot '94 - and Brian Kelleher was selected for the European team.

To complete the year, most of the Year Group took part in adventure sports in Kinsale. Eacht Awards were presented to; Stephen Cronin, Ian Hallissey, Kevin Kelly, Ciara Lordan, Lynda Murphy, Sally Murphy, Lisa Nolan, Paul O'Donoghue.

The Student of the Year was Lynda Murphy.

THE LETTER THAT CHANGED **EVERYTHING**

This letter began the long process which led to the building of the school's astroturf pitch.

The Community School, Dear Mr. Murray, Ballincollig, We are writing on behalf of the school's hockey teams to request the provision of a hockey Co. Cork pitch in the school. 9/12/1993

We feel a hockey pitch is well deserved as we have proven the success of hockey in the school. We we reer a nockey pitch is well deserved as we have proven the success of nockey in the school. we have three strong hockey teams and first years are now also playing hockey. Our intermediate team in particular have done our school proud as they are top of their league. We recognise the fact that hockey pitches are very expensive but we feel a hockey pitch is a

necessity if we are to continue playing hockey. It costs around £2,000 a year to travel to our home ground in Tower, Blarney. We have travelled to many schools which were able to proudly show off their hockey pitches on their school grounds. They were all amazed to hear that such a large school as B.C.S., with so many girls playing hockey, did not have a hockey pitch. A major disadvantage of not having a hockey pitch is the waste of time involved. There are usually

three teams playing matches and since we all go and come together in the same bus, after playing a north the same bus, after playing a match we have to wait until the other two teams have played their matches. This along with the match we have to wait until the other two teams have played their matches. This along with the journey to and from Tower means that we usually don't arrive home until between 5 and 6 o'clock. If we had a hockey pitch everyone could go straight home after their match, or those who have a late match could go home for lunch and return for their match. Not being home until around 6 o'clock is becoming increasingly difficult for some students with heavy work loads and state exams

As we already said we recognise the fact that hockey pitches are very expensive but we are very willing to raise funds. We could organise a sponsored hockey tournament, a school disco, a sponsored walk, raffles etc.

We hope to have the support of teachers, parents, the Board of Management and the people of Ballincollig and the district around. We have already received the support of many of the students of our school, particularly the girls, and we enclose a list of their signatures. We hope you will look Yours faithfully,

Aine Buckley, Lisa Nolan, Katie Spitere

On behalf of Ballincollig Community School Hockey teams



"The experience and memory which will stay with me forever will be my trip to France as part of the Eurofoot team.

Eurofoot gave me the opportunity to play against teams from all over Europe and undoubtedly some of the players we played against will become top professionals."

Ballincollig CS France bound

WHILE Jack Charlton and the Irish team are getting ready for the USA, fifteen second year students at Ballincollig Community School are about to depart for France to take part

community School are about to depart for France to take part in Eurofoot '94.

This soccer tournament has 24 participating teams all from the European Union countries and Ballincollig CS is from the European Union countries and Ballincollig CS is They will be playing against teams from Madrid, Salonika, Odense and Wolverhampton as well as teams from the host nation, France.

The Ballincollig team is the only school team involved as the other teams represent clubs in their home cities. This is the fifth year that Ballincollig CS has participated in this tournament held in Vigneux near Nantes and again they will be boarded with local families while abroad.

It is a huge undertaking by the local organising committee and the highlight of the tournament will again be the closing with over 350 players and coaches visiting the French town fireworks display after the final.

As a mark of the friendship which has developed with the French town, Ballincollig Community School were hosts to a team from Vigneux two years ago and this connection has been maintained over the years.

The 15-man Ballincollig squad under head coach Tony Weir, a PE teacher at the school, head off on Brittany Ferries on the first leg of their journey to France tomorrow.

"Every year the students return with a feeling that this year's team will feel the same way when they get back to the property of the same way when they get back to the property of the same way when they get back to the first leg of their journey to France tomorrow.

THE TEAM FOR EUROFOOT '94

John Ahern, Aidan Angelini, Daniel Breen, John Casey, Trevor Coleman, Daniel Connell Steven Cronin, Ronan Duggan, Ian Hallisey, Brian Kelleher, Daniel Lynch, John Murphy, Michael O'Brien, Paul O'Donovan, Aidan O'Shea.

Coach: Mr Tony Weir.









The European Young Consumers' project team, Kevin Kelly, Darragh Garvey, Conor Murphy, Robert Flood, with their teacher, Mrs Myers, and Mr Tom, Deering, Manager, Bank of Ireland, Ballincollig.



Siobhan O'Shea, winner of An Post Letter Writing Competition, with her family and Mr Murray, Principal.



£2,255 cheque for Ballincollig St Vincent de Paul



THIRD YEAR - SHAKESPEARE & STUDY

unnnni



"We did go to Dublin to see
"Romeo & Juliet". But it
was more the hour of
shopping afterwards
rather than the joys of
Shakespeare which
was the motivation
behind most of the
group going
there."

Contrasts in Culture -> The National Museum & On the Bus ✓



To R O

> M E O

8

J U L

T



Outside the Dail

THIRD YEAR

Time to hit the books, Third Year had dawned. We can all remember the endless classes and the long painful hours of study. Our trip to Dublin to see "Romeo and Juliet" was a break - great shopping facilities, pity about the play.

While Junior Cert. was the main focus of the Year Group, we were also involved in many other activities, such as

- raising money for Chernobyl
- winning the under-17 County Basketball title
- participating in winning projects
- and participating in the school's hockey, hurling and football teams as well as in local teams.

We combined all these activities with serious study. Finally, when the day of judgement arrived we were ready for the Junior Cert. Not surprisingly, we produced excellent Junior Cert results.

Eacht Awards were presented to; Sara Collins, David Connolly, Eric Down, Sinead Drinan, Lorraine Fenton, Brian Kelleher, Michael O'Brien.

The Student of the Year was Sinead Drinan.

"We collected for Chernobyl" -Siobhan Crowley presenting a cheque to Adsi Roche



"Third Year was a difficult year for everyone. It was our first year of very hard work and serious study and the year we faced our first important exam."



Nicola Bohan and Susan Atkins, Ballincollig, enjoying the sunshine at the Blackrock Charity Gymkhana at Ballincollig, Co. Cork. (Picture: Dan Linehan)



Sara Collins won Gymnastics Medals

Cousins in the Examiner

I will always remember...

"The day Clodagh chased Karen into Maths class with a bottle of water and poured the whole bottle over her. She had to wear Coeurena's coat with nothing under it for the remaining 2 classes.

"I think that our class because it is so small is a very close one. Everyone of the girls stick together. There is never any nastiness and fighting but

just telling each others stories or problems. I think I'm so lucky to have been in the class I'm in because of the times we had, the fun and even the bad times."

"Memories are golden'. Most expressions are nonsense passing as wisdom but this one certainly contains a germ of truth. Throughout all my school years my petty complaints with regards to school, teachers and homework which I considered to be genuine and reasonable at the time were constantly stifled by my elders and betters with irritating responses such as "You're school days are the best days of your life" and "Enjoy them while you can". It is only now in my final year at Ballincollig Community School at the ripe age of eighteen years that I'm confronted with the stark realisation that such remarks are indeed the wisest and most precious piece of advice I am ever likely to receive."

"Another memory was when the school got a Cadbury's chocolate machine and the building was painted a horrible pink and navy and orange."

"I'll always remember Martina and Maryam going up to the chocolate machine each day buying bars upon bars of chocolate and hiding them up their sleeves and devouring them

throughout the day."

"I'll never forget the years I spent with my friends in BCS."

he day of Karen's birthday she was tied to the pole in Area D. Karen

conscious of her hair so on purpose it was tied on top of her The lads in the area started to kick ball close to her. I never saw

".....Jason Acton pulling Ms Galvin's hair to check if it was a wig!!!"

"Mr Nally's love of West Brom."

"Marie Tobin was so concerned with hygiene that she felt the need to take a shower fully clothed in the gym. However, Mr Weir thought she would be better off writing a four page essay on Islamic Fundamentalism. Ironically the same thing happened the next year. I wonder if it had anything to do with Marie's birthday."

"....Stealing the remote control from the TV in D06 and the teacher wondering how the volume was going up and down, how the channels were changing and how the video was rewinding automatically!"

BCS Team Song

We're on our way to the NBA, We're BCS and we'll win today. We'll have a smile on our face And we'll lift up the pace. We're BCS and we'll rock the place.

...especially for Alan Gordon

and Darren

Forde....

S ALONG THE WAY Paul O'Donogh e and Laura Crowley Peter OBrien and Paula Murphy Jamie O'Keeffe and Caroline Lynch John O'Neill and Linda Harrington Paul Kennedy and Amy Walsh Barry O'Driscoll and Catherine Garry Kenneth Curley and Marie Tobin Jason Cahill and Clodagh Fleming William Morrissey and Nicola Quinn Mark Costello and Sinead Kearney and Mickey O'Brien and Ciara and Jennifer McSwiney and Isabella and Sandra and Julie and Caitriona and Della and Nicola

and Lynda Murphy.....and......

FOURTH YEAR - ACTION PACKED, MODULE ORIENTATED YEAR

Fourth Year provided us with that memorable opportunity to relax and participate in a de-stressed programme after the strain and pressures of the Junior Cert.

No longer was homework a major issue, study faded into the background but on a new exciting level came the introduction of transition year modules. There was Mr Weir with Photography class; First Aid came to our rescue in the discos; self defence in the gym reformed our image of protection.

But when we look back on Fourth Year, Self Presentation with Mr Ed Jordan comes to the fore. Those days in the Metropole Hotel, learning the 864468 walk, turns, hand movements, feet positions. Was it all worth it? Of course it was with those 2 spectacular fashion shows in the Metropole and Jury's.

There was also Cappanalea - this word sparks off an explosion of thought and feeling. We absailed, climbed, canoed, got totally wet and walked 6 miles in total darkness. The cold weather and tiredness will never be forgotten.

We can't forget Work Experience - though some would like to. For others it was an opportunity to be on time, look after themselves and mature into young men and women.

The last big event of Fourth Year was the German exchange. In the summer of 1996 we headed off to the warmth and beauty of Warendorf. The 3 weeks of great weather, sing-songs and socialising(!) provided a mega experience.

Eacht Awards were presented to; Laura Crowley, Teddy O'Leary, Seamus Cronin, Darragh Garvey, Sara Collins, Eric Down and Brian Kelleher.

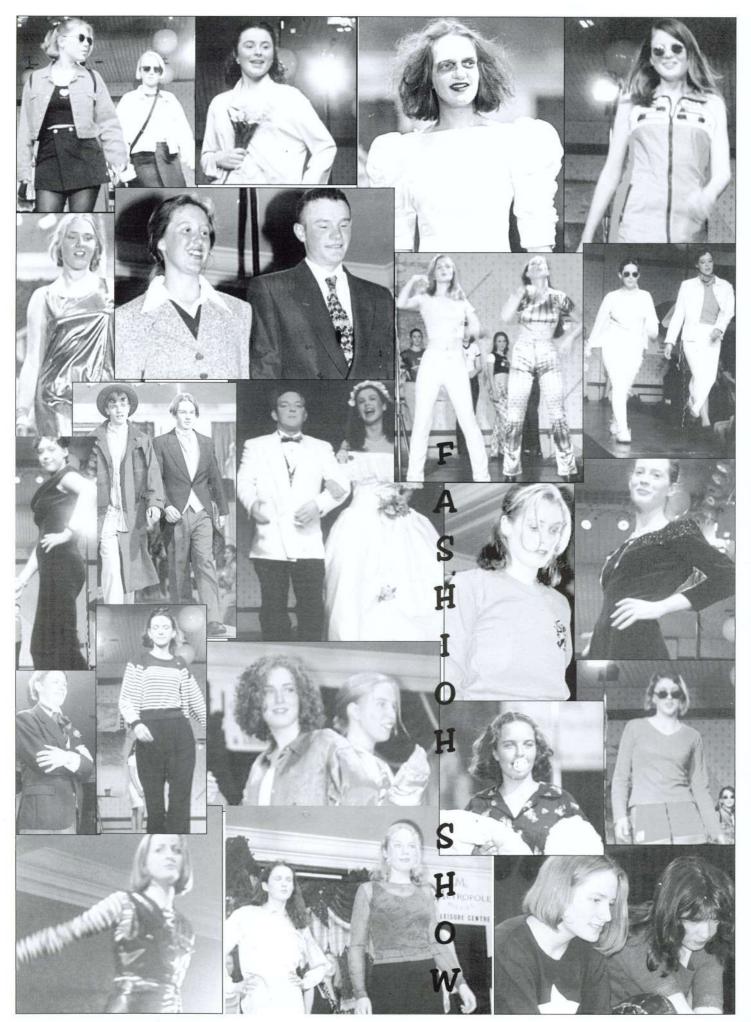
The Student of the Year was Sara Collins.





First Year 1992-93

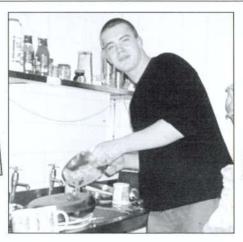




"Cappanlea was a sleepless night of gossiping and giggling."







"Let's not forget Cappanlea where love bloomed in the most unusual places."





"I will always remember watching "Cliffhanger" the night before we were going to absil down the cliff in Cappanlea!!"



LOTA EXCHANGE



Lota Exchange Group

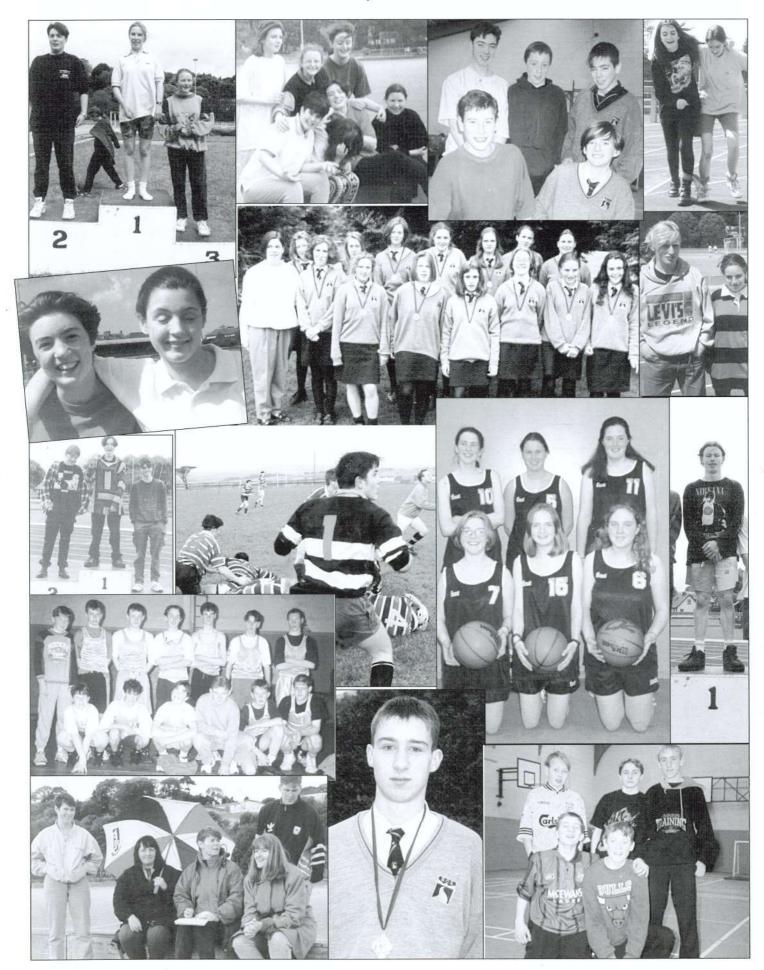
Linda Harrington Margaret Brennan Laura Crowley Edel Kelleher John Brennan Avril Barry



Lota Exchange Group

Jennifer Mc Swiney Jennifer O'Neill Maryam Akhmed Niamh Allen Paurig O'Regan Jason Acton

Sport - We were active, We were alive!



FIFTH YEAR - OH, WHAT A YEAR!

Fifth Year was a busy year.

There was serious work in class, but there was also involvement in German and French exchanges, debating, voluntary work in the local community, the school orchestra and sports. Fifth Years were prominent in the senior hurling and football teams and on the golf and pitch and putt teams; they formed the backbone of the rugby team which won the Kinsale tournament; in athletics, Michael O'Connor was outstanding in cross-country; in basketball the girls won their County title while Darren Forde captained the U-19 boys team to All-Ireland glory - the first sporting All-Ireland for our school.

One of the highlights of the year, of course, was the Fifth Year production of 'Godspell' for which 26 of the Year Group rehearsed intensively over 8 weeks.

There were also 2 outstanding tours; an enthusiastic bunch of Fifth Years took Mr Kennelly, Ms Chute and Ms Daly skiing in Bulgaria - another first for the school. They brought back great memories and smashing photographs.

There was also an action-packed tour to London which combined education and entertainment in 6 great days. We took in museums and exhibitions, the musical "Grease", Wimbledon versus Newcastle and ice-skating (twice). We all came home exhausted but happy.

Eacht Awards were presented to; Fiona Barry, Noel Barry, Eric Down, Sonia Holmes, Brian Kavanagh, Maeve Nash, Michael O'Connor, Mary O'Keeffe, Paurig O'Regan.

The Student of the Year - Eric Down









"Godspell" will always be a great memory for me. The great feeling of performing of a viewing audience was tremendous.











ON Tour -

"London has to be the trip that's indelibly inscribed on the minds of those lucky enough to experience it. A school tour so packed we had very little time to spare, even to sleep. Our ice-skating encounter was one of both pain and fun with many of us spending our time on our postriors rather than on our feet. On Monday London's Oxford Street tolerated an invasion it would never forget - a crowd of Irish females with money to burn."







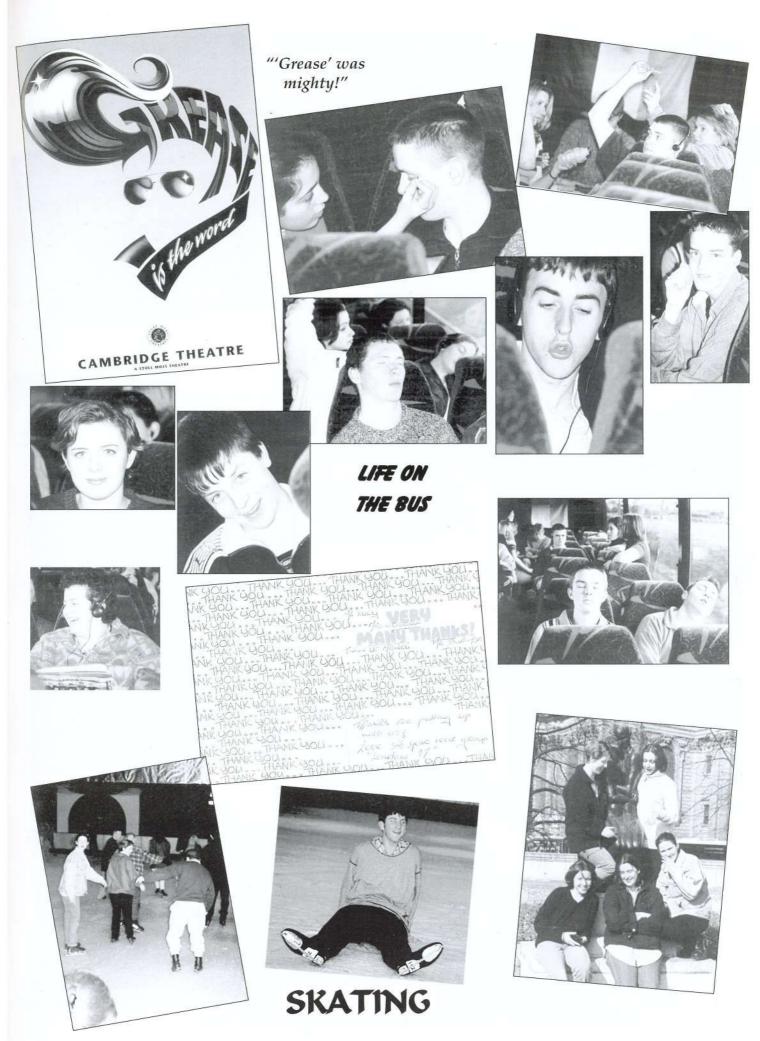


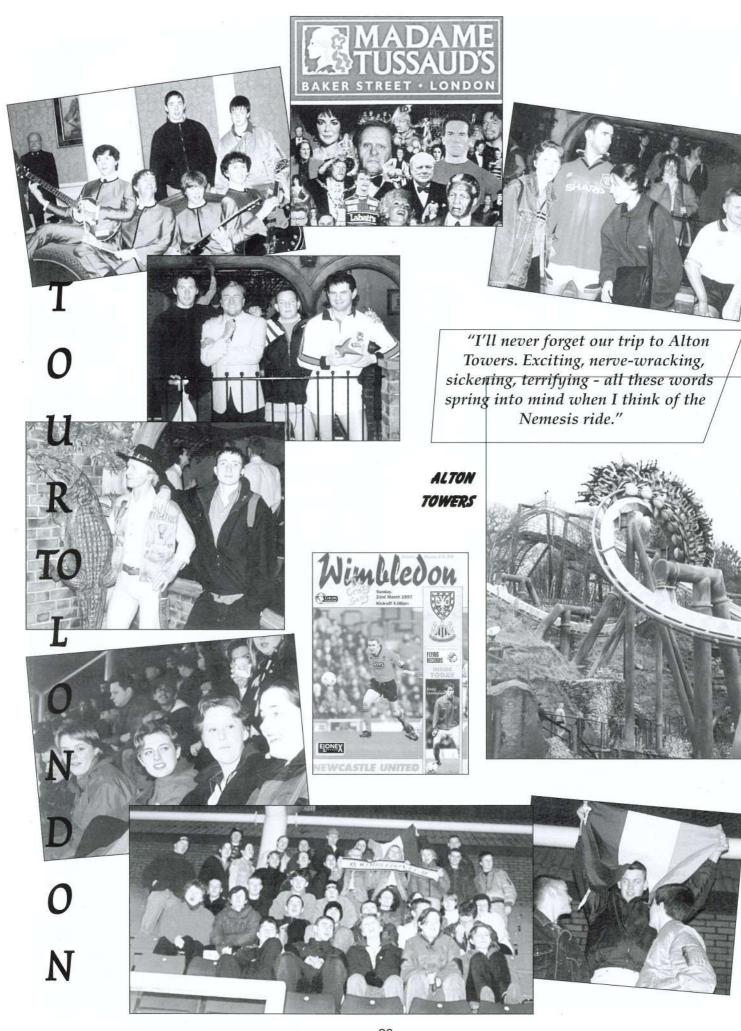






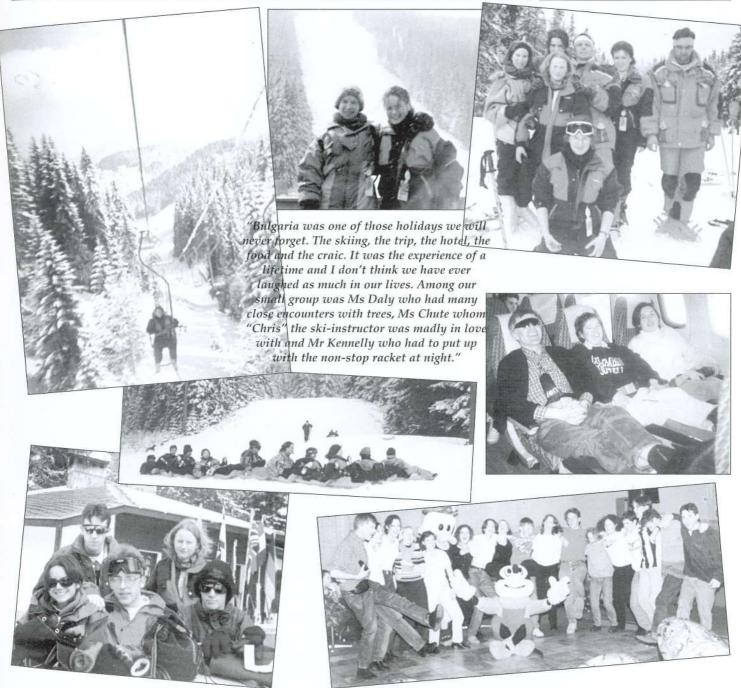








"Skiing was something I never ever dreamed of before. I saw it as something done by the rich and famous. Going all the way to Bulgaria was an unforgettable experience for me and I learned that anybody was capable of skiing - it was pure magic! I found myself at the top of a slope with skis shaped in a 'V' and a wide white ring laid out before me. Just to let yourself go and inhale the freshness, gliding down the slopes is definitely the most beautiful heart-warming experience."



SIXTH YEAR - THE END OF THE ROAD

Then one day we woke up and we were in Sixth Year. The countdown had begun but the time flew by with our hectic social lives. We celebrated many 'eighteenths' and the ending of Christmas and 'Pre' exams. And all of a sudden we are here together for the last time as a year group before the long awaited Leaving Cert.

"You are a child of the Universe, o less than the trees and the stars, You have a right to be here." Desiderata

You have been here for six long years; On recollection it may seem brief, Time flew through your scholar's hands; proceastination was the thief. But now you have reached the very and the future is all a haze; How will we make it through these last but trying days. The answer is to be found in the face of each friend here today, caught up in the final race for points and for success.

Yet these things if we lack won't make us any less a person to our friends that have been with us all the

through the classes, through the years through the laughter, through the tears It's the end of an era

but the start of a new life New life, new friends,

Old faces, old memories, endless laughs. For where there are memories there will al

laughs. &

Laugh and you will never be alone.

Rachel Burke, Past pupil 1987-1992

"My First Year in Ballincollig Community School was without doubt the most unsettling experience up to that point in my life. I hardly knew anybody in my class and getting to grips with the new school was hard. I wanted to get back to primary school. My six years have served me well and I am now more prepared to move on

ODDS & ENDS

"French Exchange; I also felt very lucky with the family I got, as they were very friendly and their house was beautiful. But best of all was their food as there wasn't a dish I was served that didn't have a 'taste of more' of it. We had fresh seafood frequently and the salads were only heaven but the highlight of Madame Cabon's culinary

talents was on the last day when she cooked for me my favourite dish, a real Spanish Paella with all the trimmings."





All-Ireland Basketball Champions

Eacht

Nominations - citations from fellow students

John Philip O'Connor; As well as being a bit of a comedian where he showed it off well in 'Godspell', JP is someone you could talk to and he is someone I will remember from my years in BCS

Mr Lucey

Please express thanks from Area E to the

who made an enormous Contribution to the fashin

show on Sunday Rosh

Margaret Brenn

Catherine Garry

Caroline Lynch.

following 6 of years

Paddy Daly because he is the owner of a pub.

Padraig O'Regan because he has a car to drive me home.

William Morrissey because he always smiles, very generous, sporty, never in a bad mood.

Conor Wall because he is always prepared to help someone out in class or at lunch. Della Walshe because she behaves well and takes part in hockey and she's very keen. Conor Murphy because he's the brainbox of the class and always has the answers to everything.

Jason Cahill because he is very friendly, vey involved in football and soccer and hurling, and a very enthusiastic pupil.

John Murphy because he is sporty, very friendly and good for a laugh.

Sarah Hassell because she sticks up to teachers for everybody else in the class.

Marie Tobin because she is the class rep. and she does jobs without asking her to.

Maryam Ahkmed because she is kind, caring and sensitive to other people's feelings. Sonia Holmes because she is good at everyhting; great runner, great artist, great imagination.

Clodagh Fleming - great personality, cool.

John Philip O'Connor because he captained the class soccer team to win the class league and because he saved 2 penalties in the penalty shoot out in the final.

John Casey because he is a great tryere and always gets things done.

Daniel Lynch as he always fights for what he thinks is right.

Notes from a Journal

11/9/96 Late for PS; moved twice without permission. No English homework completed fro today.

28/9/96 Late for class; Detention Tues. 1 Oct.

1/10/96 I think that (---) behaviour has improved dramatically since last year. His quietness and attentiveness in class is great.

2/10/96 No attention in Maths; \mathcal{E}_{x} 3D (a) to (9) Write an essay on -- for religion

7/10/96 (--) was told to get his History book last wekk. He must have it by Wed.

10/10/96 (--) hasn't handed in homework for 3 nights. Talking and unco-operative in class. Please comment.

15/10/96 Late for School Det. & Caf. duty

"If you don't shut up, you'll be going up to Mr Murray for some tea

and biscuits." Mr O'Connell

"You're not availing of my genius." Mrs Lennon

"This class won't function without me." Matthew Carroll

"See you never." Ms Delphine, French student teacher. "I'm not cracking up, I'm considering a career change." Ms Dawes. "Six weeks left to the Leaving Cert. and Mark Costello asks 'What's

coming up in the Summer Exam?'!!!!!"

"I'm hearing beeping noises again." Ms O'Farrell

"Has anyone got a duster?", Mr O'Connell

TEACHERS - THANK YOU

