CAN ROSES GROW FROM CONCRETE?

St Vincent’s CBS, Glasnevin, Dublin 11 have been named “Young Social Innovators of the Year”. Their project entitled “Can Roses Grow from Concrete?” examined whether the area young people come from determines their participation in the education and employment system and affects their chances of ending up in prison. It was selected by the judges from over 140 social action projects exhibited at the annual Young Social Innovators (YSI) National Showcase at Citywest, Dublin which took place from 10th-11th May 2006. Loreto Secondary School, Balbriggan were runners-up with their project “Laughter is the Best Medicine” which focused on the benefits of laughter as a remedy. Joint third were Our Lady’s Presentation College, Drogheda with their project on bullying and St Mary’s Secondary School, Mallow with a project on road safety.

Government ministers, sports personalities, musicians and representatives of statutory and voluntary organisations were among the visitors to the Showcase. Over 3,400 Transition Year students from 104 schools and one Youthreach programme participated in Young Social Innovators 2006 making it the fastest growing social awareness programme in Ireland. YSI engages young people in social action. Working in teams, young people select a social issue that they want to change and then identify ways to improve or solve it. This year again they tackled a broad range of issues with the showcase including projects on topics such as road safety, mental health, domestic violence, health services, recreational facilities and disability.

Earlier in the day, Minister for Education, Mary Hanafin TD visited the showcase to launch YSI’s new website www.youngsocialinnovators.ie As well as providing information on the YSI programme itself, this portal site on social awareness education brings together resources and links on a variety of areas including environmental education, development education, citizenship and health. Other visitors to the Showcase over the two days included Brian Lenihan, Minister for Children, Emily Logan, Ombudsman for Children and Cork Hurling Star, Sean Og O’Halloran. The event also included a Music Showcase which was headlined by Director, Dublin’s newest stars.

Over 7,000 young people have participated in YSI since it was co-founded by Sr Stanislaus Kennedy and Rachel Collier in 2002 as a social awareness programme for young people. The programme will be extended to more Youthreach Centres and to Northern Ireland from this September. Other new features for 2006/7 include a web page for each project and the first YSI Virtual Showcase. Schools and Centres are invited to participate in the YSI 2007 programme. If you are interested in becoming involved in the organisation of local cluster events please contact Transition Year Support by emailing us at ty@blackrockec.ie with your thoughts or ideas. Your comments are also welcomed and appreciated. We look forward to working with you during the new school year and beyond.

Michael O’Leary, Transition Year National Co-ordinator
Mary Sorohan, Administrator Transition Year Support.

Local Transition Year Teacher Professional Networks.

Work is under way to establish Teacher Professional Networks for teachers and coordinators of the Transition Year Programme in collaboration with the Education Centre Network. It is proposed that such networks will identify teachers’ needs and respond by organising and supporting events at local level to meet these needs. The first series of exploratory meetings to identify what the needs are, if any, will take place during October and November 2006 in Education Centres around the country. All details of dates, venues and times will be sent to schools in advance of these meetings. While it is proposed that these “Local Networks” will be self sustaining and lead to the establishment of Teacher Professional Networks for Transition Year teachers, a National approach is being taken to initiate the process. If you are interested in becoming involved in the organisation of local cluster events please contact Transition Year Support by emailing us at ty@blackrockec.ie with your thoughts or ideas. Your comments are also welcomed and appreciated. We look forward to working with you during the new school year and beyond.

Michael O’Leary, Transition Year National Co-ordinator
Mary Sorohan, Administrator Transition Year Support.
BADMINTON TRANSITION YEAR MODULE!

Badminton Ireland (BI) is committed to bringing an enjoyable sport to all young people and to giving them the opportunity to take responsibility for their own participation. With this in mind we have developed a transition year module that aims to make its use easy for teachers and enjoyable for students. The module contains elements of practical play as well as club and competition administration and general badminton knowledge.

The module includes a teacher pack with suggested timetable, suggestions for cross curricular links and a full set of notes for the delivery of the theory aspect of the module. Other resources will also be sent out to the school such as the Badminton Union of Ireland Fun Games and Activities for Badminton Pack, the Laws of Badminton and a photocopiable student pack with notes for them to build into a folder by the end of the module.

This module must be delivered by either a level 1 badminton coach or a qualified PE teacher who has completed the BUI Introduction to Badminton Coaching award. The BUI has regional development officers that can help to locate a coach in your area and that also set up teacher training days.

We suggest that the module should take six sessions to complete, each lasting 90 minutes (15 minutes theory followed by 60 minutes practical in each session). On completion of the module, the BUI will issue certificates to each student on a pass, merit or distinction basis, the level of which is decided by the teacher or coach who delivered the module. We are also running transition year competitions aimed at beginner level players who start to play through the module over the course of the 06/07 school year.

If you are interested in getting your students involved in a lifelong sport for all that is equally attractive to boys and girls, please contact the BUI office on 01-8393028 or info@badmintonireland.com to get contact details of your local regional development officer. www.badmintonireland.com

If you are interested in getting your students involved in a lifelong sport for all that is equally attractive to boys and girls, please contact the BUI office on 01-8393028 or info@badmintonireland.com to get contact details of your local regional development officer. www.badmintonireland.com

The Get Up & Go Mini Company National Final took place on 2nd May in the Heritage Hotel Portlaoise.

ACCOUNTS
Rosses Community School Dungloe Co Donegal students Gemma Boyle, Yvonne McMonagle, Maurice Gallagher and Ciarán Sweeney with teacher Anne Moy are presented with their prize by William Telford, President Laois Chamber of Commerce. Included are Angela Drum, AIB, Anne Ryan, National TY Minicompany Administrator and Padraig Cawley member TY organising team.

MARKETING
William Telford, President Laois Chamber of Commerce presents their prize to Aisling Beecher, Hilary O’Connor, Nicole Hogan, Louise Kelleher of Regina Mundi College Douglas, Cork. Also pictured are teacher Sandra Lane, Angela Drum, AIB, Anne Ryan, National TY Minicompany Administrator and Padraig Cawley member TY organising team.

ORIGINALITY OF IDEA
Students Fionnuala Dore, Emer O’Shea, Janice Morrissey, Aoife Doyle, Lynda Collins and Amy Dolan of St Marys Secondary School Charleville Co Cork are presented with their prize by William Telford, President Laois Chamber of Commerce with Angela Drum, AIB, Anne Ryan, National TY Minicompany Administrator and Padraig Cawley member TY organising team also in attendance.

QUALITY OF PRODUCT
Scoil Mhuire Naas students Marc Murray, Margaret Macaria, Liam Ennis, Ronan Garry, Richard Lally and Amanda McCarthy are presented with their prize by William Telford, President Laois Chamber of Commerce with Angela Drum AIB and Josephine Moran and Catherine Cooke Harkin of the TY organising team.

STAND PRESENTATION
Students of Coláiste Lorcáin Castledermot are presented with their prize by William Telford, President Laois Chamber of Commerce. Pictured are students Jack Germaine, Emma Thorpe, Elaine Hogan, Nicola Ormsby, Aaron Kenny and Sínead Whelan with teacher Padraig Cawley, Angela Drum AIB and Josephine Moran and Catherine Cooke Harkin of the TY organising team.
Blastbeat is a mini-company programme that engages a whole transition year class and any other post primary students in two linked All-Ireland competitions; one between the mini-music companies and the other between musicians in the Blastbeat Battle of the Bands.

Blastbeat is a business game that rewards teenage enterprise and artistic endeavours. Blastbeat mini Music and Multimedia companies (MMC’s) find or form the best bands to play their mini company Battle of the Bands, and learn how to deal with all the ups and downs and highs and lows of running their company, a properly staged music event and dealing with all the people that surround such activities along the way.

We also provide students with many real incentives to help motivate them with very generous prizes. These MMC’s compete all over Ireland to win the title of best MMC, a gold disc and €5000. Meanwhile the participating bands battle it out to win the accolade of Best Band in Ireland, a record deal, a full backline, and an all Ireland tour.

The Blastbeat prize pool includes a total of €25,000 worth of prizes, plus recording opportunities for the musicians & bands worth over €10,000. The icing on the cake includes the offer of the opportunity to record an album for the winning act.

Blastbeat was created to give young people the opportunity to learn how to work as a team, and run their own company/business while having a lot of fun through learning by doing. Blastbeat empowers young people to manage themselves, deal with school authorities, fellow students, teachers, bands and overcome all the trials, tribulations and problems involved with a new business start up.

All the action from Blastbeat 05/06 was captured on the 6-part ‘Blastbeat TV’ series that ran on RTE 2 every Friday at 7pm with repeats on Saturday at 11am.

We saw how they overcame all these challenges to reach their goals, how they developed their marketing strategies & business plans and how they targeted and achieved their success. We saw how teenagers took on a major business and music industry challenge and made it work.

Last term saw 24 Blastbeat companies, from schools North and South of the Border stage 24 concerts, with over 144 competing Bands. These schools then went on to put over 36 bands into the recording studio to create the Blastbeat Vol IV album which peaked at 16 in the Irish Charts.

Qualifying bands competed in 4 provincial regional finals to qualify for a place in the national finals of Blastbeat which took place in the Cork Opera House on Saturday May 13th. The final saw Blastbeat in full flight with the exhibition of the MMC’S and the best young bands in Ireland strutting their stuff on stage. The winning MMC on the night was ‘Pulse TY’ from St. Columba’s College in Donegal, while the winning band was ‘The Impressionists’ from Ballincollig Community School, Co. Cork. Footage of the Blastbeat National Final is now available for viewing on the Blastbeat website www.blastbeat.org.

This whole process culminates not only in the national finals with awards and prizes etc but also in ongoing activities evolving from Blastbeat. The teams involved in Blastbeat go on to continue to organize Blast all ages alcohol/drug free concerts and put their learning experiences into action. The bands involved continue to perform at these Blast events also and develop a fanbase nationwide.
Here is a very innovative and NEW Transition Year project that we believe will interest a lot of schools and students called ‘2winaid’.

It is an innovative Mini Company programme that entails the students setting up and running their own NGO (Non Government Organization) in a business like manner through their own “Mini company”.

The purpose of the NGO is to “twin” with a school in Sri Lanka. We can in some cases set up an internet link so that the students get to know each other over distance and help raise some finances to assist in the priority student and educational needs. The focus of NGO’s activities would be around twinning and fundraising to help improve the educational environment of the twinned school in Sri Lanka. This will help poor kids there move from a third world status towards a first world position and give the students here a wonderful learning opportunity and experience.

The whole class can be involved, with many jobs for which students can volunteer. The ‘full time jobs’ include C.E.O./Project Co-ordinator, Marketing Manager, Sales Manager, PR Manager, Finance Manager, Video Crew, Web Master, Events Manager, Art & Design, Photographer. There are also many part time jobs for the class or team. The 2winaid mini co will raise funds in various ways and Transition Year students will have a lot of fun doing this while at the same time learning to run a proper business.

At the end of the year all the schools and mini companies will be invited to a BIG Sri Lankan party in May as part of the exhibition day. The activities of each mini NGO will be viewed that day when all the NGO’s meet to display their work and the most successful NGO’s will win awards. In addition there will be certificates, commendations etc for everyone.

For more details on the Blastbeat programme, or if you would like your school to take part in Blastbeat this term check out www.blastbeat.org and download an application form.

You can also contact robert@blastbeat.org or rory@blastbeat.org for more information on the programme.
FAILTE IRELAND TOURISM AWARENESS TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME

CONTEXT

Tourism is one of the world’s fastest growing industries, and in Ireland it ranks as one of the country’s most important sources of employment and revenue. Around 230,000 people are employed in Irish tourism, and further growth projected for the industry will create new job opportunities for young people. The Irish tourism industry provides a wide range of career paths and requires competent, motivated individuals to meet the demands of the future.

As tourism has a major influence on both our economy and development, young people will benefit from having an overall awareness of the nature and complexity of the industry, whether or not they plan to pursue a career in tourism. In addition, most people, whatever their profession, will themselves be tourists at some stage and so will shape and influence the global environment while engaging in various tourist activities.

FAILTE IRELAND TOURISM AWARENESS PROGRAMME

The Failte Ireland Tourism Awareness Programme is specially designed for second-level students as an introduction to tourism at home and abroad. It has operated in Irish schools since 1991 and has recently been reviewed and updated to take into account the demands and concerns of the 21st century. This new version should make the programme more attractive to students, and teachers will find the new resources easy to use. The programme offers a relevant, challenging and rich learning experience for students and a support network for participating schools.

The programme aims to make a substantial contribution to tourism education by providing a foundation for third-level tourism-related programmes. At the same time, it will equip students following other career paths with a broad appreciation and awareness of this important industry. Furthermore, it will be an opportunity for students to acquire knowledge and skills relevant not only to the tourism industry, but also to a variety of situations in life.

The Tourism Awareness Programme is a Failte Ireland initiative, endorsed by the Department of Education and Science, and the Travel and Tourism Programme in Ireland.

The Tourism Awareness Programme supports the aim of the Transition Year. This aim, as outlined in the Transition Year Mission Statement, is to ‘promote the personal, social, educational and vocational development of the students and to prepare them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society.’

The programme also in part fulfils the responsibility of Failte Ireland, as set down in the National Tourism Development Authority Act, 2003 to “encourage, promote and support recruitment, training and education and development of persons for the purposes of employment in connection with the tourism industry in the State.”

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The programme has been designed to allow flexibility in timetabling and implementation. It consists of six units presented in a series of lesson plans, with support material for each lesson. The lesson plans are intended as guidelines, and certain areas may need greater or lesser emphasis depending on local needs.

The Tourism Awareness Programme can be offered as:

- A single-term module comprising 8-10 weeks with 2-3 classes per week. If schools opt for this option teachers can chose from the range of lessons plans
- A full-year programme comprising 3 terms of 8-10 weeks duration each, with 2-3 classes per week

The programme includes two mandatory units, which cover the core themes of the tourism industry. In addition, the programme includes four optional units, which explore knowledge, skills and expertise relating to four distinct subject areas. Two of the four optional units must be chosen.

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<th>Units</th>
<th>Mandatory (core units)</th>
<th>Optional (two units must be chosen)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to Tourism</td>
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<td>Tourism Education and Training</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Geographical Aspects of Tourism</td>
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<td>Tourism and Heritage</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Tourism and Culture</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>History of Irish Food</td>
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LEARNING METHODOLOGY

The programme is designed to incorporate discussions, role plays, assignments, presentations, visits, lectures and practical work as learning experiences, thus enabling students to apply their knowledge and appreciate the ongoing process of learning. The new resource material facilitates these aims and consists of the following:

- Teacher’s pack (including lesson plans and resource material)
- Interactive CD (including lesson plans, resource material and website links)
- Dedicated website with teacher and student zones
Given the scope of tourism, we recommend that teachers adopt an integrated approach in implementing the syllabus. Teachers may find a series of mandatory in-service training seminars, offered by Fáilte Ireland, useful, to familiarise themselves with the programme implementation and its educational philosophy. If more than one teacher is implementing the programme, we suggest that teachers co-operate closely with each other and adopt a variety of teaching methods. The new resource material supports this approach.

**ASSESSMENT**

Assessment for this programme will be through a portfolio of coursework, using a range of appropriate assessment techniques, submitted by each student. The portfolio will be assessed by the teacher/s.

**REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION**

Registration of schools and certification will be administered by Fáilte Ireland. Fáilte Ireland will offer certification endorsed by the Department of Education and Science to students who have completed the Tourism Awareness Programme in Transition Year.

Certification will depend on successful completion of the programme and assessment according to Fáilte Ireland guidelines. Certificates will reflect which option is chosen.

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

Work experience in tourism operation is an optional part of the programme, allowing students the opportunity to observe tourism professionals in the workplace. Inputs from industry practitioners are a recommended feature of the programme.

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**PROPOSED TOURISM AWARENESS SEPTEMBER IN-SERVICE CALENDAR**

Seminars will take place between 7.30 - 9.30 pm

**Region 1**

- Drumcondra Education Centre - Thursday 21st September 2006
- Monaghan Education Centre - Thursday 28th September 2006

**Region 2**

- Blackrock Education Centre - Tuesday 26th September 2006
- Kildare Education Centre - Wednesday 27th September 2006

**Region 3**

- Waterford Education Centre - Tuesday 26th September 2006
- Wexford Education Centre - Thursday 28th September 2006

**Region 4**

- Cork Education Centre - Monday 25th September 2006
- Limerick Education Centre - Wednesday 27th September 2006

**Region 5**

- Laois Education Centre - Wednesday 20th September 2006
- Clare Education Centre - Thursday 28th September 2006

**Region 6**

- Mayo Education Centre - Thursday 28th September 2006
- Sligo Education Centre - Thursday 21st September 2006

*Booking forms will be circulated to schools in late August.*

*If you have any queries regarding the programme please do not hesitate to contact either Ann Whelan 01-8847815 or Georgina Dunne on 01-8847821.*

**NB** Venues and dates are subject to demand
### SAFE DRIVING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Email/Website</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academy of Transport</td>
<td>Gerry Waldron</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gerry.waldron@transportsimulation.ie">gerry.waldron@transportsimulation.ie</a></td>
<td>087 4159244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayside Services</td>
<td>Drive for Life Programme</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pmcneely@eircom.net">pmcneely@eircom.net</a></td>
<td>027 50038 / 087 9350357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Sch of Motoring</td>
<td>Early Drive Programme</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@ism.ie">info@ism.ie</a> John Walsh</td>
<td>1850 530 430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOG Car Safety</td>
<td>Car Simulator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mogcarsafety@eircom.net">mogcarsafety@eircom.net</a></td>
<td>086 1705361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nat Safety Council</td>
<td>Staying Alive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nsc.ie">www.nsc.ie</a></td>
<td>01 4963422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary Smith</td>
<td>Think Awareness Driving Programme</td>
<td></td>
<td>01 2956570 / 087 2320788</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irish Drivers Educ Assoc.</td>
<td>Steer Clear</td>
<td><a href="mailto:idea@steerclear.ie">idea@steerclear.ie</a></td>
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### PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Workbook/Manual</th>
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<tr>
<td>Get Your Ideal Job</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seamus McEvoy</td>
<td></td>
<td>086 8361884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition/Lifestyle Advisor</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tina Dunne</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@tinadunne.com">info@tinadunne.com</a></td>
<td>086 8571074 / 01 2351988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looking Ahead and Living Now</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin Kelly</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kevinkellyunlimited.com">www.kevinkellyunlimited.com</a></td>
<td>087 7995558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Association</td>
<td>Mental Health Matters. Video cassette &amp; ringbinder</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.mensana.org">www.mensana.org</a></td>
<td>01 2841166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Bord Bia</td>
<td>Safe Food for Life Teacher’s manual &amp; pack</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.bordbia.ie">www.bordbia.ie</a></td>
<td>01 6685155 / 021 2304100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Fire Brigade</td>
<td></td>
<td>Patrick Flood</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Patrick.flood@dublinicity.ie">Patrick.flood@dublinicity.ie</a></td>
<td>01 6734085 / 087 2722655</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Sensitivity through Awareness</td>
<td></td>
<td>Liz Dillon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lizzdillon@yahoo.co.uk">lizzdillon@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>01 2751958</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Creative Writers Workshop</td>
<td></td>
<td>Irene Graham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Creativewriting@ireland.com">Creativewriting@ireland.com</a></td>
<td>086 252 3428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Advice and Budgeting Service</td>
<td>‘CASH conscious’ A young person’s guide to money. Handouts and teacher’s notes</td>
<td>Yvonne Bogdanovitch</td>
<td></td>
<td>061 419388</td>
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<tr>
<td>IPHA (updated version due soon)</td>
<td>Medicines and You.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>01 6603350</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Statistics Office</td>
<td>Making Sense of Us.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>021 4535032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ombudsman for Children</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emily Logan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:oco@oco.ie">oco@oco.ie</a></td>
<td>1890 654 654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Children’s Office</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:nco@health.gov.ie">nco@health.gov.ie</a></td>
<td>01 2420000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Job Care / Colour &amp; Image</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paul Mooney</td>
<td><a href="http://www.jobcare.ie">www.jobcare.ie</a></td>
<td>01 677 3897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sue Davidson</td>
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### SPORT

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<td>Sea and Shore Safety</td>
<td>Survival Techniques &amp; Water Safety – Ben Pluck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:seandshore@eircom.net">seandshore@eircom.net</a></td>
<td>01 2955991</td>
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<tr>
<td>Badminton Ireland</td>
<td>Transition Year Module</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@badminton.ie">info@badminton.ie</a></td>
<td>01 8393028</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judo Ireland</td>
<td>Alan Martin Ray Butcher</td>
<td><a href="http://www.judoireland.com">www.judoireland.com</a></td>
<td>086 2703220 / 087 2290332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coláiste U.I.S.C.E.</td>
<td>TY activity packages in Mayo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eolas@uisce.com">eolas@uisce.com</a></td>
<td>097 82111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiglin</td>
<td>National Mountain and Whitewater Centre</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tiglin.com">www.tiglin.com</a> <a href="mailto:mail@tiglin.com">mail@tiglin.com</a></td>
<td>0404 40169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAA</td>
<td>Sport &amp; Lifeskills modules.  Jimmy D’Arcy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jdcary@admingaa.ie">jdcary@admingaa.ie</a></td>
<td>01 8363222</td>
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<tr>
<td>F.A.I.</td>
<td>Coaching Course</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fai.ie">www.fai.ie</a></td>
<td>01 7037500</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tom O’Connor</td>
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### DEVELOPMENT/ SOCIAL CONSCIENCE

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<tr>
<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Overseas Development Lissy Clarke</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lissyc@habitatireland.ie">lissyc@habitatireland.ie</a></td>
<td>01 6299650</td>
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<td>Amnesty International</td>
<td>Voice our Concerns Karen O’Reilly</td>
<td><a href="http://www.amnesty.ie">www.amnesty.ie</a></td>
<td>6776361 ext 232</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Social Innovators</td>
<td>Cathy Roche</td>
<td><a href="http://www.youngsocialinnovators.ie">www.youngsocialinnovators.ie</a></td>
<td>01 4905841</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable Energy Irli</td>
<td>Aoife Cannon</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sei.ie">www.sei.ie</a></td>
<td>01 8082049</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Cultural Directions</td>
<td>Developing skills to interact across cultures. Karen Ruddock</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cross-culturaldirections.com">www.cross-culturaldirections.com</a> <a href="mailto:info@cross-culturaldirections.com">info@cross-culturaldirections.com</a></td>
<td>01 2891276</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holocaust Education Trust</td>
<td>Lynn Jackson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:het@clifton-house.com">het@clifton-house.com</a></td>
<td>01 669 0593</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehab Ireland</td>
<td>Disability Awareness</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rehab.ie">www.rehab.ie</a></td>
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</table>
| **Citizenship** *(see feature on page 12)* | The Horizon Project  
Joanna Dempsey  
joannadempsey@iolfree.ie | 087 6322094 |
| **DEBRA Ireland** *(see feature on page 12)* | TY programme on the effects of living with a debilitating condition  
lisa@debraireland.org | 01 6785044 |
| **Trocaire** | Education Dept  
www.trocaire.org | 01 2885385 |
| **Concern** | ‘School is the Best Place to Work’ education pack.  
Stop Child Labour  
www.schoolisthebestplacetowork.org  
Lizzy.Noone@concern.net | 01 4177740 |
| **Trust** | Ed Programme on theme of the outsider  
www.trust-ireland.ie  
Lizzy.Noone@concern.net | 01 4543799 |
| **Environmental Protection Agency** |  | 01 2885385 |
| | | |
| **COMPETITIONS / THE ARTS** | | |
| **Songschool**  
Recording/Performance  
Studio workshops & courses | www.songschool.ie | 01 8417573  
086 6998453 |
| **Blastbeat** *(see feature on page 4)*  
Robert Stephenson  
Music in TY  
www.blastbeat.org | 01 6632203  
087 2401312 |
| **2WinAid** *(see feature on page 5)*  
Robert Stephenson | www.2winaid.ie | 01 6795744 |
| **Ros na Rún** | Karen Ui Lionaird  
irddiri@rosnarun.com | 087 2058133 |
| **Irish Film Institute**  
Film Studies in TY | www.irishfilm.ie | 01 2680100 |
| **Theatre – Cups and Crowns**  
Fiona Mc Donagh  
Gillian Kelly  
www.cupsandcrowns.ie | 087 7769828  
086 8534542 |
| **Poetry Workshops** | Mary Melvin Geoghegan  
cupsandcrowns@eircom.net | 087 7841247  
021 4503832 |
| **Youth Quiz on line** | The Gradu8  
www.gradu8.net | 086 2304991  
094 9021551 |
| **National Forum on Europe**  
Public Speaking Competition | info@forumoneurope.ie | 01 6705900 |
| **Opera Ireland**  
Young Members Scheme, Nicola Moore | info@operaireland.ie  
www.operaireland.com | 01 4786041 |
| **ArtScope**  
Interactive Programmes, Caroline Wynne | www.artscope.ie  
artscope@eircom.net | 01 6712335  
087 2368160 |
| **Media/Music Exam Board**  
Oral Communication & Media Theatre Exam, Maria Barry | www.mediamuse@iol.ie | 01 686405 |
| | | |
| **TOURS** | | |
| **National Gallery of Art**  
Art in TY | info@ngi.ie  
www.nationalgallery.ie | 01 6613155 |
| **City Tours**  
Tours of Derry – Martin Crossan | www.irishtourguides.com  
derrycitytours@aol.com | 028 19967  
0771 2937997 |
| **Kingswood Directory of School Tours**  
Published by Ashville Media Group | www.ashville.com | 01 4322200 |
| **National Museum of Ireland**  
Collins Barracks, Helen Beaumont | info@asville.com | 01 6486405 |
| | | |
| **SCIENCE** | | |
| **Chip Electronics**  
Exploring Electronics in TY  
Associated software & soldering kits | www.chip.ie  
chipsales@chip.ie | 021 4289958  
087 2312105 |
| **ECO-Unesco** *(see feature on page 11)*  
Young Environmentalists Awards & Programme. | www.ecounesco@eircom.net | 01 6625491 |
| **Streamscape**  
Information pack | www.streamscapes.org | 027 50453 |
| **Intel Design and Discovery**  
Pre-engineering module | Gerry Nolan  
iterves@asville.com | 01 6056996 |
| **Discover Science & Engineering**  
Pharmacaceutical Ireland | Mark Glynn  
mark@eircom.net  
pharmaceuticalireland@ibec.ie | 01 6051584 |
| | | |
| **MISCELLANEOUS** | | |
| **Royal Inst of Architects**  
Shaping Space module | | 01 6761703 |
| **PAL**  
Public Access to Law | Vincent Martin palddp@eircom.net  
www.palddp.org | 087 2312105 |
| **European Studies**  
Aoife Ruane | aoife@eclrumcondra.ie | 01 8576400 |
| **Irish Times**  
Transition Times - occasional | Louise Holden  
www.languagesinitiative.ie | 087 2429385  
01 8057794 |
| **Post Primary Languages Initiative**  
Bridín Gilroy  
www.racingacademy.ie | enquiries@racingacademy.ie | 045 522468 |
| **RACE**  
Racing Academy & Centre of Education | | 01 2680100 |
| | | |
Our school Portumna Community School and particularly Transition Year, were elated to receive the news that we had won a very prestigious prize in a European Studies Project. The title of the project was “European Studies should be made compulsory in all schools in Europe.” Ten students took first place and won a four-day trip to Strasbourg.

European studies promote joint study and communication among students and teachers in several European jurisdictions with the aim of increasing mutual understanding, awareness and tolerance in the youth of contemporary Europe.

Last year, Mr. Coughlan who is the Transition Year Co-ordinator attended the annual Residential International Planning Conference. At that conference we were assigned to a cluster group, which contains a Northern Ireland school, two schools from the republic and two schools from Europe, one in France and the other in Italy. At the conference the cluster group completes an agreement/contract of curriculum based work to be exchanged between respective pupils for the forthcoming academic year.

Students have exchanged personal profiles and with the help of their I.T. teachers have designed a web site. Our partner schools can then visit the site.


It is intended that students following the European Studies programmes will increase their knowledge and develop skills and competencies which will lead to better communication and an awareness of what we share and what we can contribute and receive from being Europeans together. This shared identity is not promoted at the expense of local or regional cultures or interests. In the course of their studies, students are encouraged to carry out investigations on a variety of levels. They research a wide range of perspectives amongst the people of Europe and are encouraged to develop an appreciation of their own regional contribution to European culture and identity, as well as an understanding of that of their neighbours.

Students are encouraged to develop the skills necessary to use technology as an effective tool in communication and to develop the ability to understand and to communicate in at least one non-native language, so that they will be prepared as adults to take advantage of the opportunities arising from being part of contemporary Europe.

In the project the students focused on:
- Curriculum
- Culture and Tradition.
- European Studies a subject for everyone.
- What I enjoyed most.

Conclusion of project:
“As you can see European Studies helps us with our studies. It gives us new learning experiences. It helps us to expand our horizons by visiting other countries. It enriches our own culture by learning about other countries and cultures. European Studies gives the opportunity of putting our well-based theoretical knowledge into practice, by visiting that country and teaches us to realise the importance of language learning in our lives. It opens a new window in our lives, which would not have been done through traditional textbooks.”

JAMES COUGHLAN
Transition Year Co-ordinator

THANKS
As Co-ordinator, I would like to thank all of the Transition Year teachers who had a collaborative and valuable input into this project. I would also commend the diligence and stamina of the students who succeeded in winning this unique prize in a European setting. The winners are Mairead Felle Co-ordinator, David Culbert, Stephanie Blake, Robert Carty, Anita Burke, Patrick Dolphin, Siobhan Gantley, Eoin Fahy, Alva Cunningham and Kevin Burke.
ECO-UNESCO offers a wide range of programmes and services, which can assist and support the Transition Year programme.

- **An Environmental Youth Programme** - we provide workshops on a variety of environmental topics which aim to enhance peoples’ understanding of the environment and empower them to take action for their environment. A full range of topics is available from our website www.ecounesco.ie.

- **Education and Training Programmes** – we provide training for young people and training for trainers and teachers. Our ‘Going Green’ programme is a one day training session that upskills teachers with the knowledge and skills for working on local environmental action projects with young people. It also assists anyone carrying out a Young Environmentalist Awards project. We also offer FETAC accredited modules. Further details are available on www.ecounesco.ie.

- **Publications** - over the years ECO-UNESCO has developed a wide range of publications, which can support Transition Year programmes. The resources are full of interactive activities such as simulation games, role play, discussion work and offer the transition year teacher an opportunity to engage young people in environmental issues in an interactive, learner-centred way. Titles include ‘Trees in our World’, ‘Embracing Diversity’, a ‘4Seasons Activity Pack’, ‘Our Environment, Our Responsibility’, ‘Tree-mendous Trees’, ‘The Young Environmentalist Awards Teachers Manual’, ‘Your Environment; Your Choice’ CD-Rom and a wide range of posters. A more comprehensive list is available on www.ecounesco.ie.

**The Young Environmentalist Awards programme (YEA)** - The Young Environmentalist Awards is an all island environmental awards programme for young people between the ages of 12 and 18. The awards honour young people who protect, conserve and enhance our environment, making a difference in the lives of others locally and globally.

**Why get involved in the YEA?**

The YEA compliments the Transition Year Programme, as many of its aims and objectives can be met. The YEA promotes the personal development of young people, which is of primary importance in Transition Year; it also promotes positive environmental awareness and social responsibility. Young people can make a positive contribution to their environment, and community through participatory action and citizenship. Through the project participants develop and improve organisation and communication skills, while gaining knowledge and building environmental awareness. Participants learn to work with others, develop confidence, and leadership qualities.

**How to get involved in the YEA:**

Transition Year students can enter the senior category (16-18 yr olds) of the awards, which facilitates teams of between 5 and 25. There are some important dates to remember:

- **Registration of project outline:** 24th November 2006
- **Closing Date for completed projects:** 23rd February 2007

You can register online at www.ecounesco.ie, alternatively a booklet with registration form will be sent to your school in early September.

Show Casing and Awards Ceremony: May 2007 - Shortlisted projects will be show cased at our high profile awards ceremony, previous speakers included President Mary Mc Aleese and An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern.

**The YEA Steps:**

There is a lot of scope and numerous ways for teachers to approach a YEA project, which will meet the abilities of the young people involved. There are six steps to follow:

1. Decide on a team
2. Decide on an environmental issue
3. Decide on a plan
4. Decide on an action
5. Take action
6. Raise Awareness

A Teacher Training Manual with step by step instructions to help carry out an environmental project is available online at www.ecounesco.ie/teachers.htm
Alternatively you could request a copy from ECO-UNESCO, 26, Clare St., Dublin 2.

Call our YEA Hotline: 01 662 5491 or e mail: yea@ecounesco.ie for support and information.

**To make it one of the highlights of your Transition Year make sure to take part in the Young Environmentalist Awards 2007, this September.**

For further information on any of ECO-UNESCO’s programmes, workshops, training, publications or Young Environmentalist Awards please contact:
ECO-UNESCO, 26 Clare Street, Dublin 2.
Tel. 00 353 1 662 5491
E-mail: info@ecounesco.ie; yea@ecounesco.ie
Web: www.ecounesco.ie
AIB Build a Bank Challenge

On Thursday, the 27th April 2006, Mercy Secondary School, Newtownsmith, Co. Galway were announced as overall winners of the AIB Build a Bank Challenge 2005/2006 at the National Final held in Clontarf Castle Hotel, Dublin.

With over 150 schools taking part nationwide, The AIB Build a Bank Challenge has created a fantastic opportunity for transition year and 5th year secondary school students to create, develop and run a bank within their school with the support of AIB.

8 heats were held throughout the country where each School Bank Team created an exhibition of how their school bank operated. They also developed a business plan, as well as focusing on either marketing, customer care or technology as a speciality subject. 10 School Bank Teams deemed to be the best by the adjudicators qualified for the National Final.

At the National Final, the 10 chosen School Bank Teams from Dublin, Cork, Wicklow, Donegal, Meath and Galway re-created their School Bank exhibition and made a presentation to a panel of 4 judges from the banking and wider business community.

Awards presented at the National Final were as follows:

1st Prize - The six members of Mercy Secondary School Bank Team, (Newtownsmith, Co. Galway) and two teachers will jet off for a fantastic 3 day stay in Barcelona

2nd Prize - The six members of Colaiste Choilm School Bank Team, (Ballincollig, Co. Cork) and two teachers will be driven by limo to and from the Robbie Williams Concert in Croke Park, Dublin, and will spend the night in the

DEBRA Ireland

DEBRA Ireland is a small charity with a big mission – researching cures and providing support for people with Epidermolysis Bullosa or EB for short. EB is a genetic disorder which means that the skin and other internal linings are so fragile they can blister and tear at the slightest touch.

The DEBRA Ireland Schools Programme is a new and exciting initiative being offered to Transition Year classes. It is an educational and fun programme through which students learn about DEBRA Ireland, the effects of EB and what it is like to live with a debilitating physical condition.

The schools programme aims to

- Promote understanding and respect for people who are different through presentation and discussion.
- Encourage students to develop decision making skills such as goal setting, cooperation and team work.
- Promote creativity, personal development and heighten social awareness.
- The Schools Programme is centred on the Emmy award winning Channel 4 documentary ‘The Boy Whose Skin Fell Off’ which chronicles the life and death of Jonny Kennedy, who lived with EB. Jonny challenges us to question our own lives and gain insight into those of others in a humorous and thoughtful way. He provokes discussion on disability, diversity, courage, our view of life and our attitudes towards death.

The programme is divided into 10 Modules which include watching the DVD, a presentation by one of the DEBRA team, a debate and a group project as part of the DEBRA Awareness Campaign with prizes awarded for the best project in each school. Upon request each school will be provided with an information pack which includes information leaflets, newsletters, fundraising tips, a lesson guide and a Certificate of Appreciation for each student upon completion.

For more information or to request your information pack please contact the DEBRA Ireland office on 01 6785044.
Jury’s Towers Hotel, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

3rd Prize - The six members of the PCC School Bank Team, (Falcarragh, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal) each received a specially engraved AIB Build a Bank Challenge iPod.

2 Category Prizes:
2 additional category prizes were awarded and the winning School Bank Teams each received a specially engraved AIB Build a Bank Challenge iPod shuffle.

- Best Exhibition: Mount Mercy Secondary School Bank Team (Model Farm Road, Co. Cork)
- Best Speciality Subject: Presentation College School Bank Team (Currylea, Tuam, Co. Galway)

As well as the above, each of these five schools received a specially commissioned trophy and each finalist student received an AIB Build a Bank Challenge medal and certificate.

The AIB Build a Bank Challenge programme is now in its fourth year and has grown significantly from 30 schools entered in year 1 to approximately 150 schools registered in the competition this year.

The Build a Bank Challenge programme is just one of many youth-focused programmes in which AIB is involved. This year over 250 schools will take part in AIB sponsored initiatives.

- We proudly sponsor the AIB Get Up & Go Mini-Company programme, the final of which was held on Tuesday, 2nd May in the Heritage Hotel, Portlaoise.
- We are one of the key sponsors of skool.ie; the most widely used interactive pre-exam web site for second level students, with nearly 3 million hits predicted in the next month by over 190,000 unique users.
- Our Better Ireland programme has provided over 11 million to 1,000 projects since 2001 to groups working with children affected by drug abuse, poverty and homelessness.
- AIB will also provide summer employment and job experience for 500 students this coming summer.

AIB is dedicated to the support and development of young people in our society, as we believe that today’s children will be tomorrow’s leaders.

The Horizon Project (Ireland) Ltd

Citizenship Resource Pack

A brand new, exciting educational resource pack has recently been published by The Horizon Project (Ireland) Ltd with financial help from Community Relations Council and Peace 11 funding. This educational resource pack targets a broad range of teachers and offers a refreshing and new approach to the teaching of Citizenship and places great emphasis on using action-based activities to promote and develop in young people a greater understanding of what it means to be a good citizen.

Teachers may in particular be interested in adopting the resource pack as part of the wider curriculum of Transition Year, with different opportunities and possibilities presented for a module focused on Citizenship and understanding Northern Ireland.

Course work is divided into the following key concepts:
- Human Rights and Social Responsibility
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Equality and Social Justice
- Democracy and Active Participation

The main features of the pack include:
- 25 complete step-by-step topics in full colour.
- Additional activities for homework and/or supplementary class work.
- Suggested answers given.
- Wide variety of action-based exercises and methodologies used to suit different abilities/age groups.
- Proposals for Action Projects.
- Complementary out-of-school activities.
- An optional student workbook containing all worksheets and handouts.
- 3 Case Studies: -
  - The Race Issue in Northern Ireland
  - The Travelling Community
  - Democracy in Northern Ireland

- 3 Special Topics on Northern Ireland:
  - Cultural Symbols in Northern Ireland
  - How Inequalities in the 1960s Pushed Northern Ireland Towards Disaster

The Horizon Project (Ireland) Ltd was founded in 1993 when senior students from two schools in Dublin and Belfast met, with the idea of working together to promote peace and reconciliation in Ireland. In a short time other schools became aware of this initiative and subsequently became involved. To date, there are over ninety schools, which are now members of The Horizon Project (Ireland) Ltd.

Throughout the years, the ideas of the students have moulded Horizon’s programmes and activities. Representative students from each school, who form a Student Council, ensure that Horizon’s organisers are kept closely in touch with the ideas and aspirations of young people throughout Ireland. These students then can become trained as Facilitators and work with The Horizon Project at residential, workshops and community endeavours.

Horizon’s educational work is delivered through cross-community, cross-cultural and cross-border processes, and includes action community-related projects, interactive workshops and shared leisure activities. The inclusion of education for Citizenship is a further development of Horizon’s overall contribution to the education of young people.

In order to benefit fully from the resource material, we would encourage schools to actively participate in The Horizon Project’s out-of-school activities. Also teacher-training sessions (focused on the book’s material) are organised throughout the year by The Horizon Project. The next teacher-training session has been arranged for 29th and 30th September 2006 in Newry.

For further information about the book and/or becoming a member of THE HORIZON PROJECT please feel free to contact Joanna Dempsey at 087 6322 094 or e-mail joannadempsey@iolfree.ie
Can you imagine being told you have cancer and then undergoing gruelling treatment in hospital away from family and friends, often for months on end?

This is reality for hundreds of children and young people who come to stay at Barretstown children’s charity in Co Kildare each year.

Barretstown is a magical castle in the foothills of the Wicklow mountains. Children with cancer and other serious illnesses come to take part in a fun programme of challenging activities designed to help them deal with the trauma of serious illness.

Hospitals take care of the physical effects of serious illness. Barretstown helps to heal the emotional scars.

At Barretstown children are encouraged to step outside their comfort zone and take on challenges such as being on stage and climbing a 40ft tower. Through their successes the children begin to stop seeing themselves as sick kids and use their new-found confidence and skills to deal with the challenges of their everyday lives.

The children come from Ireland and 21 countries across Europe. In the spring and autumn, families from Ireland, the UK and Spain come for long weekends so they can benefit from some quality time together. In the summer there are 7 and 10-day programmes when children come from all over Europe without their families, but supervised by trained volunteers.

Barretstown has to find 600 volunteers – interpreters, chaperones and childcare volunteers – who act as big brothers and sisters to the children to help them gain the most from their stay. The volunteers – known as ‘caras’ (the Irish word for ‘friend’) – are aged 18 and over and come from all over the world and all walks of life.

Children are referred through their hospital consultant and Barretstown works with 110 hospitals.
around Europe. The site at Barretstown includes a medical centre – known as ‘The Med Shed’. Doctors from around the world volunteer their time to staff the Med Shed which is as little like a hospital as you could imagine.

Staff wear runners and jeans rather than white coats and there are bright murals covering the walls. The aim is to keep the children out of the Med Shed as much as possible, so their medicines are taken to them in the dining hall or the cottage where they stay. However the children do love coming to the Med Shed to kidnap the cuddly seven dwarves and leave ransom notes – ‘Dopey will be returned in exchange for Tayto crisps or chocolate’!

Everything including first-class medical care and airfares is provided free of charge, so Barretstown has to raise 4.5 million each year.

Chief Executive Jenny Winter sums up: “We have the backing of the medical world, we have the facilities and we know there are thousands more children who need our help. Now all we need are the funds to make it happen.”

Watch out for Barretstown’s annual fundraising and awareness day – Serious Fun Day – on February 15 and get involved!

Before my son came to Barretstown he was very low and depressed, which is pretty much expected after all his treatment. There is no more sadness and tears. Full of smiles and chat about all the wonderful things he had done with all the gang. Horse-riding was his biggest fear but he conquered that and it’s all down to the wonderful work you do.

Parent UK

In the meantime, if you would like to help Barretstown by holding a fundraising event, check out our website for details: www.barretstown.org, call our friendly fundraising team on 045 864115, or email fundraising@barretstown.org.

BARRETSTOWN BLOOMERS

Here are some commonly-held misconceptions about what Barretstown is about:

‘Barretstown is a holiday camp’

No! Children are encouraged to take part in an activity programme which is backed by medical experts. It is based on having fun, but helps their recovery from cancer and other serious illnesses.

‘Barretstown is just for foreign kids’

No! Around 50 per cent of children who come to Barretstown are Irish and come from the 32 Irish Counties. The remainder come from 21 different countries ranging from Iceland to Greece.

‘Barretstown is entirely funded by Paul Newman’

No! Most of our money comes from donations from individuals, companies and trusts. All donations, however small, are a great help.

‘The kids who come to Barretstown are terminally ill’

No! Children who attend Barretstown have a serious illness and a very small number will be terminally ill.

In the meantime, if you would like to help Barretstown by holding a fundraising event, check out our website for details: www.barretstown.org, call our friendly fundraising team on 045 864115, or email fundraising@barretstown.org.
UPCOMING EVENTS

2 Day Residential Course:
Introduction and Induction for Effective Transition Year Implementation and Management

a two day residential seminar for Principals/Deputy Principals/Co-ordinators/Core Team Members new to Transition Year.

Date: 12 and 13 September 2006
Booking: Booking forms will be sent to TY Co-ordinators end August 2006

MODULAR COURSE: SL 0624

Management, Development and Promotion of the Transition Year Programme in your School.

Target Group:
This course is designed for Transition Year Co-ordinators, Co-ordinating Team Members as well as Principals and Deputy Principals.

MONAGHAN ED CENTRE
3/10/06 and 23/1/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 27/9/06

BLACKROCK ED CENTRE
5/10/06 and 25/1/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 29/9/06

WATERFORD ED CENTRE
10/10/06 and 30/1/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 3/10/06

CORK ED CENTRE
12/10/06 and 12/2/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 5/10/06

ATHLONE ED CENTRE
16/10/06 and 15/2/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 9/10/06

DONEGAL ED CENTRE
17/10/06 and 6/2/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 10/10/06

MAYO ED CENTRE
18/10/06 and 7/2/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 11/10/06

LIMERICK ED CENTRE
24/10/06 and 13/2/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 17/10/06

MODULAR COURSE: SL 0625

Transition Year Science
some new practical approaches

Target Group:
Teachers of Science in Transition Year - Afternoon Course

GALWAY ED CENTRE
7/11/06 and 7/3/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 1/11/06

CORK ED CENTRE
12/10/06 and 12/2/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 5/10/06

NAVAN ED CENTRE
23/11/06 and 21/3/07 - Further day 2007
Closing date for application 16/11/06

CONTACT DETAILS:

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Transition Year Support
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Email: michaeloleary@slss.ie

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Email: ty@blackrockec.ie