

‘Heritage in Schools‘ Exhibition of Projects
Laois Education Centre Thursday 10th February 2011

Laois Education Centre was the venue on Thursday 10th February for a celebration of local history and heritage in Laois and Offaly. The occasion was the presentation of certificates to the primary and second-level schools that took part in a competition organised by Laois Heritage Society in partnership with Laois Education Centre and supported by Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society. The competition which was open to schools in Laois and Offaly had two categories at primary and second-level for essay and written projects as well as art and design. 25 teachers and 221 pupils from 12 schools participated in the project.

Participating schools:

Portlaoise College, Portlaoise
 Tullamore College, Tullamore
 Colaiste Naomh Cormac, Kilcormac
 Castlecuffe NS, Clonaslee
 Ballinagar NS, Ballinagar
 Sacred Heart PS, Portlaoise
 Scoil Mhuire PS, Portlaoise
 St Pius NS, Ballacolla
 Gaelscoil Thromaire, Mountrath
 Emo NS, Emo
 Ballyroan BNS, Ballyroan
 Rosenallis NS, Rosenallis

The prizes were awarded on the evening by Mary Lalor and Michael Parsons of Laois Heritage Society. The able M.C. for the occasion was Paddy Bates from Laois Education Centre. Among the judges were Laois Arts Officer Muireann Ni Chonaill and Laois Heritage Officer Catherine Casey.

The M.C. Paddy Bates congratulated all the students and teachers taking part in the competition and looked forward to the competition being held again. He particularly wished Teddy Fennelly the Chairman of Laois Heritage Society a speedy recovery and thanked all who took part in and organised what is a celebration of the rich heritage of the midlands of Ireland.

The prize winners were as follows:

	School Name & Project		School Name & Project
Category	Art & Design	Category	Essay/Written Project
Post Primary 1st Prize	Portlaoise College	Post Primary 1st Prize	Mary Nevin, Colaiste Naomh

	(Our School, Our Town, Our Heritage)		Cormac, Kilcormac (St Cormac of Kilcormac)
Post Primary 2nd Prize	Tullamore College (Croghan Man)	Post Primary 2nd Prize	Jenny Whelan, Portlaoise College (Grant the Robber)
		Post Primary 3rd Prize	Enda Black, Tullamore College (Old Croghan Man)
Primary 1st Prize	Sacred Heart PS, Portlaoise (Odlums- A Flouring Legacy in Portlaoise)	Primary 1st Prize	Cillian McEvoy & Liam Delaney, Ballyroan BNS (The History of Ballyroan)
Primary 2nd Prize	St Joseph's NS, Ballinagar (3D Monastic Settlement)	Joint Primary 2nd Prize	1. Shauna Ní Dhubhaí Gaelscoil Thromaire (Tinakill House) 2. Rosenallis NS (The Quakers of Rosenallis & Mountmellick)
Primary 3rd Prize	Scoil Mhuire PS, Portlaoise (A Historical View of ST. Peter & Paul's Old Church)	Primary 3rd Prize	Bronagh Conroy, Emo NS (Emo Court Anthology of Poetry)



Students from Sacred Heart PS, Portlaoise with their project on Odlums Mill which won 1st Prize in Primary Art & Design Category in 'Heritage in Schools' Exhibition in Laois Education Centre.



Ms Carmel Buggie, Principal with students of St Pius NS Ballacolla with their model of Grantstown House at the 'Heritage in Schools' Exhibition in Laois Education Centre.



Catherine Casey Laois Heritage Officer, Michael Parsons Laois Heritage Society, Muireann Ni Chonaille Laois Arts Officer and Yvonne LaCumber Laois Education Centre presenting a pupil from Ballyroan BNS with school certificate at 'Heritage in Schools' exhibition in Laois Education Centre



Mary Lalor, Laois Heritage Society presenting Scoil Mhuire Portlaoise with 3rd prize in 'Heritage in Schools' Exhibition in Laois Education Centre



Michael Parsons, Laois Heritage Society presenting Shauna Ní Dhubháil, Gaelscoil Thromaire with joint 2nd prize for her essay on Tinakill House in 'Heritage in Schools' exhibition in Laois Education Centre



Teachers Roisín Carton and Grace Digan with pupils from Castlecuffe PS with their project at 'Heritage in Schools' exhibition in Laois Education Centre



Teacher Gemma Goulding with pupils from Rosenallis NS with their project on 'Quakers of Rosenallis and Mountmellick' which received joint 2nd prize at the Heritage in Schools exhibition in Laois Education Centre



Bronagh Conroy, EMO NS receiving 3rd prize from Michael Parsons, Laois Heritage Society for her 'Anthology of Poetry on Emo Court' at the Heritage in Schools exhibition in Laois Education Centre.



Teacher Siobhan Holland with pupils from Portlaoise College with their project 'Our School, Our Town - A History' which won 1st prize in Art & Design category in the Heritage in Schools exhibition in Laois Education Centre