



### REPORT ON THE NINTH ANNUAL JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION SEMINAR FOR LORETO SCHOOLS.

#### MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

*'...I hope you will judge yourselves not on your professional accomplishments alone, but also on how well you have addressed the world's deepest inequities...on how well you treated people a world away who have nothing in common with you but your humanity'.*

*Bill Gates*

*'Be lovers of truth and doers of justice'.*

*Mary Ward*

#### THE SEMINAR

The image of a man ploughing with a plough pulled by his three children is an image which will stay with those who attended the JPIC seminar this year. It speaks of poverty of a degree unimaginable.

Just as shocking is the knowledge that by buying their products we invest in multinationals which show no regard for individuals, families or communities. In the rush to create markets, they divest people of the very natural resources around them and actively ensure that they create dependence at best and outright poverty and death at worst.

The aim of the conference this year was to provide opportunities for participants to discover and explore ways in which to make a real difference to people both at home and around the globe and to begin by taking personal responsibility for the small ways in which we ourselves may unwittingly contribute to world poverty, injustice and inequality.

Over fifty students and thirty teachers participated in the conference which focused on making a difference. As in previous years, the residential conference took place over a two day period. Students from all Loreto schools took the opportunity to work together, get to know each other better, share ideas and recognise the strength of the Loreto network of schools.



The keynote speaker, Justin Kilcullen, described the work of Trócaire but also his own personal engagement with global justice issues through people and influences in his own early life. Challenging political structures and showing farmers how to grow crops are as important if not more so than donating money.

Annette Honan challenged participants to examine the language they use when talking about global justice and development. She illustrated the ease with which we talk about 'us' and 'them' without realising that our language carries within it prejudices and attitudes of which we are hardly aware. She challenged us to unlearn the language we use and to relearn it in such a way as to remove stereotyping and speak the language of interdependency.

Students attended Trócaire workshops at which they investigated, along with many other things, the differences between 'charity and solidarity'. One of the main messages to students was that solidarity is a long term commitment to empower. Charity is something entirely different because it is associated with help and pity rather than empowerment.

There were two workshops, one each for primary and post-primary. Primary teachers attended a workshop with Annette Honan entitled 'Engaging in Critical Development Education'. The focus was on practical strategies for use in the classroom. Post primary teachers attended a workshop with Nessa Ní Chasaide of Debt and Development Coalition. Complex issues were made accessible and teachers engaged in very practical activities which could be transferred easily to the classroom.

This year students and teachers together participated in workshops given by Young Social Innovators underlining the local as well as the global dimensions of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation.

Louise O'Sullivan IBVM gave a presentation on 'Global Loreto' on the evening of the first day. Loreto/IBVM continues to expand, to go where others have not been, to support and empower people in local communities to build better lives through education and appropriate health care. Recent IBVM foundations can be found in Sudan - the most recent of the Irish Province - also East Timor, Bangladesh, The Seychelles, Albania, Ghana, Ecuador and Zambia. Better health care, provision of education, eradication of female genital mutilation, treatment for HIV/AIDs in children and adults, care and education of the homeless and street children, child slavery, human trafficking, sustainable agriculture and the effects of global warming are among the seemingly insurmountable issues which are engaged in daily by IBVM women worldwide.

The evening of the first day of the conference ended with a reflection, a time to pause and think about what we had heard and how our minds and hearts had been directed that day.

Patsy Toland of Self Help Africa gave the final presentation on the second day to the conference. He used a simple device, a bag of shopping. Like a magician he pulled out of the bag ordinary items and told the extraordinary stories of how the consumption of them continues to ruin lives.

It was shocking to learn that by buying their products we invest in multi-nationals which show no regard for individuals, families or communities. In the rush to create markets, they divest people of the very natural resources around them and actively ensure that they create dependence at best and outright poverty and death at worst.

His presentation gave the expression 'food for thought' a whole new meaning.

For the final part of the conference, students and their teachers worked together on action plans for the coming year. Some final work was done on the third book in the Twenty Fifteen series which is shortly due for publication. It will be the culmination of work done throughout the year by Loreto schools on Millennium Development Goal Three.

Making a difference is not about feeling good. It is about recognising that each one person in the world is equal with all others and that if we claim rights for ourselves we have no option but to claim the same for each and every other human being on the planet. And yes, each one person can make a difference.

The conclusion of the presentation on Global Loreto seems an appropriate end:

*'Tell me what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?' (Mary Oliver)*

*Blathnaidh Colhoun*

# SCHOOL ACTION PLANS

## FOR

### 2012/2013

*Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Seminar*  
*9 - 10 October 2012*

#### **BALBRIGGAN**

##### *Before Christmas:*

- Anti discrimination assembly given to a year group in the school
- World AIDS Day ~ 1 December
  - ~ nail painting! Available to all students
  - ~ information given about the issue of AIDS
- Christmas party in the convent

##### *After Christmas:*

- Fair-trade day/week
  - ~ selling chocolate, checking availability of Fair-trade products in school canteen.
- International Women's Day ~ 8 March
  - ~ Poster campaign, inspirational women!
  - ~ inspirational quotes read over the intercom
- Mother Earth Day ~ 22 April
  - ~ photo competition – theme to be decided

#### **BEAUFORT**

##### *Before Christmas:*

- One World Week - November
- World AIDS Day Campaign ~ 1 December x 3 days
- SVP Awareness Campaign (over a week)
  - ~ Christmas party and luxury food hamper appeal

##### *After Christmas:*

- Fair Trade Week including an awareness week campaign for students and staff.
- Mary Ward Week (not fund raiser)
  - ~ creating awareness on the work of Loreto Worldwide, through the course of the week.
- Women's Health in the developing world – awareness week (March)
  - ~ linking with child mortality/maternal health (Patsy Toland's talk)

## **BRAY**

### ***Before Christmas:***

- Ethical Shopping
  - ~ raise awareness in JPIC group
  - ~ raise awareness in the school in general
- Fair-trade Christmas Bazaar

### ***After Christmas:***

- Mary Ward Day
- Trócaire
- Ethical Fashion Show in collaboration with Loreto Dalkey

## **CAVAN**

### ***Before Christmas:***

- JPIC Awareness
  - ~ As new JPIC captains, it is our duty, if you will, to educate the school, particularly TY, about what JPIC is and to promote our work in the school.
- JPIC Day - Tuesday, 23 October 2012
  - ~ JPIC captains to talk to TY during PPC class about the work of JPIC, what has been done, what the seminar was about and what will be done in the future.
  - ~ Write a report on the seminar and this will appear on the blog to coincide with the presentation.
  - ~ Encourage active participation within the TY year.
  - ~ Miss Kelly to organise a notice board for JPIC, badges and wristbands for the core committee members.
- World AIDS Day – 1 December (26-30 November)
  - ~ Education – TYs to create photo stories (mini film) in their Multimedia class on how AIDS affects people in the world. The best film from each class will be shown in all religion classes during World AIDS Week (throughout the week).
  - ~ Focus on positive stories like Deborah's story.
  - ~ Raising visual awareness – extra-large ribbons to be placed at major school traffic points.
  - ~ First-year classes to create red paper chains to decorate stairs of school.
  - ~ Red ribbons for teachers' doors.
  - ~ 'Seeing Red' Day (students and staff to wear something red) (FRIDAY)
  - ~ Campaign to be highlighted on the JPIC notice board.

### ***After Christmas:***

- World Women's Day - 8 March (4-8 March)
  - ~ To promote MDG3 and to focus on raising awareness regarding female education in the Global South during the week.

- ~ Interview with Sr. Anne-Mary Murphy via Skype regarding the work in Rumbek and look at the issues involved with access to education in Africa. Interview to be recorded and shown in Religion/CSPE classes.
- ~ Book Drive – collect books for donation. Those that collect the most books go into a raffle to win a prize (Tesco Kindle?). Miss Kelly to investigate the possibility of setting this up.
- ~ ‘We could be heroes (just for one day).’ Dress up as female heroines to promote female role models, particularly those that inspire others. (Friday)
- ~ Create Blackberry-type Swag Notes with inspiring quotes about women.
- ~ Poster campaign featuring our Loreto heroines (the Sisters working globally) to go up on the Ard Mhuire corridor.
- ~ Campaign to be highlighted on the JPIC notice board.

*All ideas subject to the approval of the Principal and Vice Principal.*

## **CRUMLIN ROAD**

### *Before Christmas:*

- World AIDS Day
  - ~ awareness campaign – booklets and flyers
  - ~ fundraiser – selling ribbons and face painting
- Self Help Africa – talk to TY students and JPIC members – Patsy Toland ‘Time to Face the Facts’ campaign.
- Gender Equality – Katie Taylor interview
- Christmas campaign
  - ~ to buy as many Fair-Trade/Ethically sound Christmas gifts

### *After Christmas:*

- Pieta House – speaker – presentation on where fund go
- Fundraiser – continue with successful events from last year
  - ~ link in with fun day
- JPIC Notice board with weekly updates – events, campaigns
- Rumbek – poster campaign
  - ~ pictures from Rumbek showing how funds have been spent
  - ~ fundraising in solidarity rather than charity
  - ~ contact students in Rumbek, - network
- Presentation to Primary School
  - ~ Emphasis on JPIC work rather than Rumbek
  - ~ encourage future students to join up
- Trocaire Lenten Campaign
  - ~ Information – reintroduce Trocaire Box through JPIC group

## **DALKEY**

### *Before Christmas:*

- Posters around the school - to raise awareness

- ~ Choose a word a week e.g. solidarity
- ~ have this word in different places throughout the school
- ~ definition on JPIC Notice board.
- Peace Day – 17 November
  - ~ Morning Prayer related to issues of peace each day.
  - ~ form peace signs with students, sing, imagine, release doves
  - ~ ‘the troubles’, what is the Peace Process.
  - ~ where is ‘at war’? Letter from all students to government where there is war

### ***After Christmas:***

- Human Trafficking Day
  - ~ first week after Christmas.
  - ~ presentation by Ruhama to raise awareness
  - ~ surveys to learn how much people know about the issues
  - ~ guest speaker Patsy Toland
  - ~ get students thinking – case studies – students will connect
  - ~ try to make all the issues relevant for the students
  - ~ eliminate the idea of us/them
  - ~ poster see what you’re missing – images and facts
- Ethical Fashion Show
  - ~ collaboration with Loreto Bray – meet with sub-committee
  - ~ write to ethical clothing companies

## **FERMOY**

### ***Before Christmas:***

- Loreto MDG 3 Book
  - ~ research for Self Help Africa
- Patsy Toland talk for all Transition Year students– 13 December
- Trócaire Workshop – Bríd Dunne - First Years

### ***After Christmas:***

- Follow up on Trócaire Workshop
  - ~ posters showing learnings – solidarity not charity
  - ~ challenging stereotypes
- Completion of JPIC Project
  - ~ Mural on Development Goals highlighting Loreto’s contribution around the world
- Ethical Goods
  - ~ Mini-Company Produce - ethical goods for Valentine’s Day
  - ~ posters spreading awareness of importance of buying ethical goods outside canteen and staffroom
  - ~ investigate the possibility of promoting ethical goods in local shops
- Domestic Violence – 23 November
  - ~ come into school with ‘bruises’ on faces
  - ~ talk from Community Guard on ‘violence against women’
  - ~ activities on violence against women world-wide

## **FOXROCK**

### ***Before Christmas:***

- Find suitable place for JPIC notice board
- Slideshow and presentation for Fourth Years – 17 October
- JPIC Committee Meeting – 19 October – invite all new members
- Announce Logo Competition
- Meeting with principal to take place that week about goals and funding
- Peer Teaching Week – First, Second, Third Years

### ***After Christmas:***

- World Poverty discussion
- ‘Why are we rich’?  
~ survey on learnings – give feedback

## **KILKENNY**

### ***Before Christmas:***

- MDG 3 Loreto Book  
~ seek contributions from Justin Kilcullen, Henry Shefflin, Brian Cody and Eddie Keher  
~ stay at-home fathers

### ***After Christmas:***

- Investigation into make-up/beauty products  
~ present findings in the form of peer-teaching to other classes
- Awareness – Coco Cola and Nestle products  
~ notice board and posters in canteen – information regarding explorative nature of these companies
- Fundraising  
~ brown money collection - decide on charity later
- Link in with SPHE/YSI/CSPE  
~ promote positive mental health  
~ teachers jumping – photos placed around school (to put smile on people’s faces)  
~ pictures around the city, day of jumping in the city  
~ play music, balloons
- Sticker Day  
~ representing different classes  
~ teachers and students according to class
- Christmas Party for disadvantage  
~ students/school, maybe nursing home
- Ask Patsy Toland to come and speak in school

## LETTERKENNY

### *Before Christmas:*

- Weekly Newsletter  
~ to outline activities and background information on topics
- Mental Health Week  
~ 'Don't hide behind the mask' campaign  
~ Masquerade Ball. A – Z of emotions
- Halloween Horrors
- Human Trafficking – 'Beautiful Slave' Traffic causes human chains of girls.  
~ Guest speaker
- Girls' Day  
~ gender inequality  
~ nail bar, hair salon, colours, and perfect partner

### *After Christmas:*

- Un Declaration of Rights  
~ explore 5 in week
- Stereotypes Anorexia/Bulimia – diseases in Ireland
- Suicide Awareness Day  
~ writing 'Love' on wrists
- World AIDS Day  
~ red nails
- World Water Day – March 22
- Homelessness  
~ dramatic act in canteen sleeping in boxes – people walking by
- Peace Day

## MULLINGAR

### *Before Christmas:*

- Structure the JPIC group –  
~ organise groups and assign each group a leader and objectives
- Breast Cancer Week  
~ bake sale  
~ breast cancer sign  
~ face paint, pink nail painting, fundraise
- Ethical Produced Goods – Guest Speaker
- ~World AIDS Day – 1 December

### *After Christmas:*

- Ethical Production awareness week (EPAW)  
~ intercom announcements with facts everyday  
~ guest speakers for students on ethical production (teachers, Leaving Certs, TY's)  
~ Student Selection Survey

- First Years Awareness Project
  - ~ First years to compile a list of UN days e.g. World Water Day, AIDS Day etc
  - and announce findings
  - ~ create a template for every UN world designated days, e.g. intercom announcements, face painting, speeches.

## NAVAN

### *Before Christmas:*

- World AIDS Day – 1 December
  - ~ awareness week
- Promote JPIC Group on school website.
  - ~ set online survey
  - ~ possibility of setting up a group forum
  - ~ set up links with Loreto Fermoy
- Branding of Social Justice in school
  - ~ using mascots, slogans, etc.

### *After Christmas:*

Focus on inequalities as overall them for year

- Inequality in school
  - ~ use surveys to gather information and opinions
  - ~ inequality that students of school may feel in their community
- Gender Inequality
  - ~ looking at it as a local and global issue
- Inequality regarding opportunities
  - ~ are members of certain communities discriminated against? e.g. Travelling Community
  - ~ receiving grinds
  - ~ how to change people's attitudes
- Inequalities of Resources
  - ~ focusing on materials
  - ~ consumerism
  - ~ where clothes come from
  - ~ impact on environment
  - ~ impact that the consumption of these resources has locally and globally

## LORETO GRAMMAR SCHOOL, OMAGH

### *Before Christmas:*

- JPIC Promotion
  - ~ give feedback on Seminar to senior students
  - ~ add JPIC section on school website
  - ~ intranet to raise awareness of current JPIC issues

## **PORTMARNOCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

### ***Before Christmas:***

The Justice Committee is a group that aims to promote awareness of both current global and domestic issues. The group plans to partake in events such as World AIDS Day and Europe Day.

- World AIDS Day - Wednesday, 28 November.
  - ~ We plan to fully bring light to the global problem of AIDS through interactive activities with the entire student body at break time that Wednesday.
- ~ Create an awareness raising campaign by doing 'Thought for the Day' on the Wednesday morning, having information and facts available to the student body throughout the day and getting the whole school population involved in signing a large red ribbon to show solidarity with those suffering from this disease.

### ***After Christmas:***

- Europe Day - an important date in the calendar.
  - ~ To recognise the large number of students that have joined us from abroad for this academic year.
  - ~ Aim to integrate all ethnicities and cultures into our modern society and to encourage our fellow students to embrace these different cultures. MDGs - raising awareness
  - ~ To build on the awareness created by previous Justice Committees on the MDGs. The student body need to know about the MDGs and just how important they are for millions of people around the world.
  - ~ We plan to create information posters and use this information then as a basis of a quiz for the students at lunch times.
  - ~ Possibility of creating Power Points relating to different MDGs to be shown at break time or lunch time in the assembly hall.
  - ~ To liaise with teachers of CSPE and Geography to try to raise the importance of the MDGs in their classes.

## **ST STEPHEN'S GREEN**

### ***Before Christmas:***

- MDG 3 Loreto Book
  - ~ focus on getting writers for contributions to book
- Create Facebook JPIC Loreto Network page
- World Aids Day – 1 December
  - ~ peer teaching to show direct link between poverty, women's rights and AIDS
- ~ Events: teachers wear red, students red lipstick/face paint
  - ~ use windows – message

### *After Christmas:*

- World Women's Day – 8 March – different labels
  - ~ gender equality – students wearing yellow (female) will be treated differently to students wearing green (male) Students will not be told why until end of the day
- 'Be the change you want to see in the world'
  - ~ research ethical products
  - ~ make sure staff room products are fair-trade/ethical
  - ~ get speaker in to talk about responsibility in regards to buying products
  - ~ effort to get Coca Cola products and Nestle removed from school canteen
  - ~ encourage other Loreto Schools to do the same

## **SWORDS**

### *Before Christmas:*

- Celebrating days of importance
  - ~ raising awareness through poster campaigns etc
- 'Mission Alive' month – October
  - ~go MAD (Make a Difference) for Peace competition
- Peer teaching on Millennium Goals - Transition Year students to First Years
- JPIC Awareness
  - ~ speaking at Masses over a weekend about work of JPIC Group and link with Rumbek
  - ~ making the parish link with our school

### *After Christmas:*

- Mary Ward Week/Catholic Schools Week
  - ~ link with JPIC activities/awareness
- Justice Lenten Campaign
  - ~ peer teaching to junior students, awareness campaigns etc.
- Easter Card Competition
  - ~ base on Millennium Development Goals – images/message etc.
- End of year presentation on JPIC work at prize giving

