



## Kilimanjaro Campaign officially launched by Minister for Finance

On the 30th of January the Minister for Finance, Michael Noonan, visited Crescent College Comprehensive S.J. and helped officially launch an exciting and ambitious fundraising campaign being run by members of Crescent's student body, in aid of Console.

On 13th of June 2012, the writers of this piece along with 5 other Crescent College Comprehensive students and 1 Gael Colaiste student are planning to climb Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain, in aid of Console.

Console is a suicide awareness, prevention and intervention charity. It plays a huge role in Limerick and the group has close ties to it. We hope to raise €10,000 for this worthy charity.

Minister Noonan helped us unveil a piece of work that keeps track of how much money we have raised. With the support of the school the piece was built by the Woodwork department and painted and designed by the Art department.

During our short speech at a special school assembly, we tried to explain why we wanted to

climb the mountain and the answer was quite

simply "because it's there". as well as being a challenging way of raising money for such a great cause.

We are climbing with Ian McKeever, the current world record holder for the quickest ascent of the seven summits, in just 156 days. Mr. McKeever is a lecturer, author and mountaineer and spends 10 weeks in the summer taking



students between the ages of 11 and 18 up Kilimanjaro, with which he has a 100% success rate.

We have many fundraising events planned for the next five months including sponsored walks, a table quiz, a race night, a colours day and many more events with the help and support of our schools, friends and families.

By Will Heffernan and Denis Doyle

## ACTA—Anti Counterfeiting Trade Agreement!

Ireland is due to sign the controversial ACTA (anti counterfeiting trade agreement) treaty on January 26th 2012. The aim of this treaty is to crack down on the trade of counterfeit goods and illegal internet file sharing. The treaty is due to be signed in a ceremony in Tokyo by the Irish ambassador to Japan, John Neary. Although the treaty is primarily aimed at stopping the trade of counterfeited physical goods, it contains provisions which demand that participating countries offer equal protection and enforcement procedures against digital copyright infringement.

It is rumoured that when crossing borders mp3 players or smart phones could be searched for pirated files. ACTA is unrelated to the previously controversial SOPA (stop online piracy act) and PIPA (protect intellectual property act) acts. Critics of the treaty suggest that it will forbid the distribution of generic drugs because they would infringe the copyright of the pharmaceutical brands whose research led to their discovery. A European Commission spokesman said ACTA would not create new intellectual property rights, but would merely serve to enforce existing ones –

and would not lead to constant monitoring of Internet traffic. A government spokesperson said, however, that Ireland did not expect to have to amend its current legislation – believing that the provisions of the deal were already accounted for in Irish law. The United States, Canada, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Morocco – all of which took part in negotiating the treaty – signed up to ACTA in October of last year. The European Union and Switzerland said at the time that

they would offer their support for the treaty and would sign it as soon as was practicable. Other interested countries can sign up to the deal before May 2013. It was signed by the Irish but has yet to be finalised by the European Parliament.

By Niamh Roche, Ciara O'Donoghue and Phoebe McDonogh



AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM

## First Year Science Projects!

Every year each first year student enters the Annual Crescent First Year Science Competition. Already students are busy putting the final touches to their projects before the completion date on the 3rd February 2012.

After handing in their projects, students are questioned about them by transition years. Interviews begin on the 6th February and go on until the 10th. Two of the best projects are selected from each class, and these advance to the final stages of the competition. This year there will be ten participants in the final, two representatives from each of the five classes. The following week, a teacher who hasn't taught any of the participants will mark the projects and the winning candidate will

win the perpetual trophy and have their name engraved on the plaque. Last year the top ten candidates represented the school at the Scifest in LIT, where three won out in their categories.

Jack Fitzsimons's won the regional competition with his entry and progressed to the national stage of the contest. The aim of the science competition is to open up the world of science to the students and encourage them to take an interest. The results of this can be seen in later years as students progress through the school.

For example transition year Chris Young's entry in the BT Young Scientist Exhibition in 2009, which took place in the RDS. Chris's pro-

ject, entitled "Attitudes Towards Anaphylaxis" won out in the Social and Behavioural Sciences category. Well done to Chris on an amazing achievement! We wish all the first years the best of luck in the competition.

By Eva McCarthy  
Lyons & Jessica  
Guerin



## Suspect at Large

This morning, 23rd January 2012, a man who is facing a murder charge escaped from an armoured van that was transferring him to Stafford Crown Court. John Anslow was being brought to court this morning when, around 8:20am his van was the victim of what was described as being a "well orchestrated ambush. Anslow is one of five men who was suspected of murdering Richard Deakin in Staffordshire last year. If you see this man, run. Fast. Police describe Anslow as a "dangerous man" and recommend members of the public to avoid him if they see him, as the caption above highlights. He was being transferred to Stafford Crown Court in an armoured van by the private company GEO Amey.

At about 8:20 that morning, near Tardbigge, the van was close to the prison when three men with balaclavas on, two of which were carrying sledgehammers, ambushed the van. They then smashed the windscreen and drivers window and punched the driver in the face. Not lightly. There were also two other prisoners in the van, but neither of them escaped. The ambushers were originally driving a VW Scirocco, but were believed to have switched to a Mercedes, say police. The West Midlands and Staffordshire police forces are working together to get the matter solved, says Jon Marsden, of West Mercia Police, who are also working on the case.

Anslow, from Tipton, was charged on 18

January. He is white, 5ft 10in tall, of medium build, with short straight dark brown hair. It is advised that if you see him (although not likely in Ireland...) that you stay away and do not engage him directly. Instead you should contact the police.

By Neil Garmody, Cian Guinee and Eamonn Moore





AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM

## Munster : On The Road To Victory!

Munster clinched a home Heineken Cup quarter-final spot as they hit last season's runners-up for a record 51 points. Simon Zebo raced over for a hat-trick of tries to provide the perfect ending to a week in which he was invited to train with the Irish Six Nations squad, and Ronan O'Gara kicked 24 points as the two-times champions saved their best for last. Having clinched the pool the previous weekend, this game was all about securing a home draw. They did that and more as they overtook reigning champions Leinster to take the top seed position. Northampton Saints knew they had to win with a bonus point to stand any chance of reaching the Heineken Cup quarter-finals and

also had to be aware that if the Scarlets won in Castres, the Welsh could pip them to a potential Amlin Challenge Cup place. As for Munster, the only team in the



tournament to have won all their games after five rounds of pool matches, they needed to grab at least a losing bonus point to ensure they played their quarter-final at their beloved Thomond Park. So there was all to play for, although Saints went into the game without their England trio of Chris Ashton, Tom Wood and

Courtney Lawes. The home side came into the game on the back of five successive wins in all competitions and were seeking revenge for having victory snatched from their grasp by an 84th-minute Ronan O'Gara drop goal on match-day one. It was the first time this season in Europe that Munster had picked up a bonus point and now they have to break the Heineken Cup hoodoo by becoming the only team to win the trophy by winning nine straight games. Zebo's hat-trick try and Ian Keatley's conversion took the score over 50 points and Scott Armstrong's last-minute try was hardly any consolation for the shattered Saints. Munster will play Ulster in Thomond Park, on Sunday

8th April 2012, at 13:45. If they win, they will secure a home semi-final. Let's hope they can do us proud!

By Eloise Hickey

## Anois Leadership Programme 2012

On the 15th of January a group of 8 students in Transition Year from our school, participated in the Anois Leadership programme for 4 days in St. Patrick's College Thurles, Co. Tipperary. The students were: Bonnie Dowling, Maria Dowling, William Heffernan, Denis Doyle, Dean Lysaght, Aine Leahy, Isabelle O'Mara. Overall the trip was a great experience and students from Crescent were

also joined by pupils from Ghaelcholaiste, Ard Scoil Ris, Askeaton and Scoil Carmel.

During the course the 8 students learned vital leadership skills from Fr. Chris O'Donnell and Aoife Walshe. There were also fellow leaders guiding us through the program, helping us and supporting us in the process.

The daily routine included waking up at half seven taking a shower and then out for a brisk walk around the college field - taking in the fresh air and beautiful scenery of Thurles to wake us up! The walk got us more than ready for our beautiful breakfast containing a variety of cereals and bread. Then it was on to our group sessions and learning.

However the best meal of the day would be lunch time and we have to say we tasted the best mashed potato ever at St. Patrick's College!! The students that were involved would definitely recommend this leadership programme to anyone that is looking for a confidence boost and a great time. Many thanks to the teachers who organise and support the Anois program in Crescent.

By Aoibheann Cullinane and Maria Dowling :)

## The Best Second Half In Football Ever – Tottenham Hotspurs v Manchester City

The first half was a disappointment. Both teams were testing each other, getting a feel for their strengths and weaknesses.

No real flair or magic shown from either side just the odd half chance,

the atmosphere was tame and it was a meek contest, we all thought the second half would be symmetrical. Oh how wrong we were!

As the second half kicked off, it was a tense affair until 11 minutes later David Silva

slipped a clean pass cutting through the flat-footed Tottenham defence for Samir Nasri to thump it past Tottenham keeper Brad Friedel into the top left hand corner.



The crowd burst into life and so did the game and three minutes later Joleon Lescott bundled home a Nasri corner to put the home side Manchester City 2-0 up.

It looked like City were home and dry, clearly the more enthusiastic side and were showing more confidence pressing forward and creating chances.



Nearly seconds later Tottenham were thrown a lifeline when Stefan Savic's mistimed header meant for Tottenham striker Jermaine Defoe to pounce and cleverly

take it around keeper Joe Harte to slowly place it in the bottom left corner.

The home crowd were stunned, and on the 66th minute of play so was every spectator, when Gareth Bale guided the ball first time 30 yards out straight into the top right corner with an angelic strike.

4 goals in 9 minutes was hardly believable, and the end was no disappointment either.

The infamous Mario Balotelli came on in place for Edin Dzeko. And within minutes of coming on was given a yellow card for an idiotic challenge.

More controversy was to follow when he kicked out at Scott Parker. Luckily the referee and linesmen were distracted because it was a definite red card offence and that could have easily changed the whole

outcome of the game.

When stoppage time arrived it was like a game of ping pong, both teams wanting the three points just as much as the other and



both teams were equally matched. In the 92nd minute Gareth Bale sent a rocketing ball across the face of Man City's goal for Jermaine Defoe to simply tap it in. But incredibly the ball went wide. No one knew how it did but the Man City fans weren't complaining.

This gave them confidence and it proved successful as the substitute Mario Balotelli was brought down in the area for a spot kick to win the game.

He stepped up with millions of people watching, the weight of the world on his shoulders. But none of that mattered; he coolly slotted the ball into

the corner to beat the devastated Friedel.

A 1st vs. 3rd encounter proved to be one of the games of the season, and one if not the best second half ever.

By John Mc Donagh and Chris Dunford



## Kidney Cup Final

Last Wednesday on the 25th of January our iKidney Cup team played in their third consecutive final in the last three years. The 09/10 Kidney Cup team were victorious in their final as were the 10/11 team so the current team had a lot to live up to.

On a wet and windy day Crescent played C.B.C (Christian Brothers Cork) in the school at a 3:00pm kick off. Crescent started as the better side in the first few plays of the match with some clever plays by Val McDermot. As Crescent were playing into the wind they had to carry the ball in hand for most of the half which

proved difficult due to the weather conditions. There were some strong carries and hits by Eimhin Prendergast and Owain Quinlan. Crescent scored a great break away try when the ball was kicked into the air, the Christians winger fumbled and Mark Varley with a brilliant pick up sped down the wing an over the white wash for a try.

In the second half Christians dominated most of the territory and position. They played a mostly forwards game and got over for a try which the Christians kicker converted, leaving the scores 7-7 a piece. In the closing stages of the match Christians

went over for another forwards try to leave the scores 12-7 in favour of Christians, although there was a consolation drop goal by Cian Spillane at the end. For a finish Christians were victorious! It was a tremendous effort by the Crescent boys but left the record of three consecutive titles in a row behind them.

By Shane Eades, Ronan McCarthy and Cian Spillane

## Glandore Fishing Tragedy

In the early hours of the morning, on Sunday January 15th the fishing trawler named 'The Tit Bonhomme' hit the rocky shore of Adam Island and sank in stormy weather in Glandore Bay. During the week the local parish priest Fr. Michael Curran described the sea as being 'a powerful friend and sometimes enemy'.

Local people from surrounding areas came out in large numbers to help search for the 5 people who were on board at the time. On Tuesday 17th January, over 300 people attended the search. It

began at first light as 20 gardai and navy divers started underwater searches. Volunteer units from Mallow and Killarney also then joined in the operation. Many of the divers spent some time searching near Adam's Island where the boat sank and where a body was subsequently reported to have been seen floating. However, no body was recovered from that area. Experienced Garda search teams combed dangerous cliff and shoreline areas, while Civil Defence Units and volunteers surveyed other locations, even up the estuary as far as the village of Leap.

Michael Hayes, 52, student Kevin Kershaw, 21, and Egyptians Wael Mohammed, Saied Ali Eldin, Attia Shaban and Abdou Mohammed were on board the trawler. Abdou Mohammed was rescued from the water and taken to a local hospital. He is said to be in a comfortable condition at Cork University Hospital. But the remaining five fishermen remained missing until two bodies were located by divers from the Naval Service at about 1pm on 19th January. On the 22nd divers recovered the body of 32-year-old Egyptian crewmen Wael Mohammed. The remaining two men are still missing. Abdou Mohammed was the only fisher that survived.

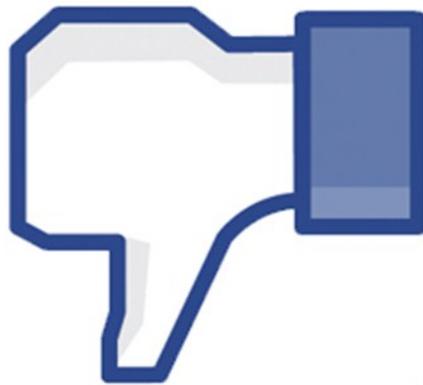
By Niamh McCarthy & Julie O'Donohue

## Timeline is coming and we can't stop it!!

All Facebook users will now be forced into using Timeline, its new profile page, which allows members to tell the story of their life on a single page, within the next 'few weeks'.

Until now, the change to the new-look Facebook has been voluntary. But Facebook's 800 million users around the world no longer have a choice as Timeline has been made compulsory.

From the point when a user clicks 'get Timeline', they have seven days to play around with the new profile. However, the new look will



become compulsory for all users "within the next few weeks".

Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook founder explained the thinking behind Timeline at the annual investor conference, saying: "Millions of people create stories of their lives on Facebook every day and have no way to share them once they fall off your pro-

file page...we have been working on 'timeline' all year. It's the story of your life and completely new way to express yourself."

He said that wanted people to be able to share "their entire lives" on Facebook and have "total control" over how their page appeared online. Using his own profile to demonstrate the new timeline, Zuckerberg showed photos of himself as a baby which he has inserted into the new profile page which is orga-

nized by years.

However, many users of the site have been up very unhappy about the forced change – which is a very dramatic change from the established look.

All we can do is wait and see, if users adapt to the new look. Many have already threatened to leave the site when there profiles change!

By Patrick O'Connor



The Crescent Express

AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM

CRESCENT COLLEGE COWBOYS & INDIANS

Written, edited and  
produced by:

Arrupé TY 2012

**Journalists:**

N.Carmody

A.Cullinane

M.Dawling

D.Doyle

C.Dunford

S.Eades

C.Guinee

W.Heffernan

E.Hickey

J.McDonagh

N.McCarthy

R.McCarthy

E.McCarthy-Lyons

P.McDonogh

E.Moore

P.O'Connor

C.O'Donoghue

J.O'Donoghue

N.Roche

C.Spillane

**Edited by:**

Lauren Cassidy (de Chardin)

Lisa Kearney (de Chardin)

**Produced by:**

Luke Rohan (Ogilvie)

Michael McGann (Ogilvie)

**Editors Note:**

Be sure to read next week's edition for more on Minister Michael Noonan's visit to Crescent—his words of encouragement to the students and his good news!!!

Also in next week's edition:

- how the Fr. Troddyn Walkers faired and how much was raised;
- sports updates from basketball, athletics, rugby and hockey;
- and the latest app craze to hit Crescent students!

**Check out the Crescent Express next week!**

Got a story for The Crescent  
Express?

E-mail:

crescenttynewspaper@gmail.com