

St Kierans at Warrington November 2014

St Kieran's College Secondary School in Co. Kilkenny hosted its annual interschools show jumping competition in conjunction with the Equestrian Interschools League with the generous welcome of the Moloney Family at the Warrington E.C. last weekend. This is the seventh year St Kieran's College has been involved in hosting the event and it has continued to grow in popularity among competing schools and individual riders. The course design by Pat Drennan and the assistance of staff and so many parents ensure that the day runs as smoothly as possible and it affords riders, many of whom have travelled a long distance the opportunity to compete.

Well over 50 teams from all over Ireland entered the competition including schools from Wicklow, Wexford, Tipperary and Kildare and even as far away as Limerick. The day itself brought ideal conditions for show jumping allowing use of both outdoor and indoor arenas throughout the day.

The format used, which had the first round jumping in the outdoor arena followed by the second round in the indoor allowed riders to experience two different courses, with attendant opportunities and difficulties. The first event was the novice team competition and this was followed by the novice individual event, a one round speed class in the indoor arena that was hotly contested.

In the individual events we had great wins from Aoife Crowdle on Skylark in the Novice and a great ride from Jack Ryan on Costello's Boy saw him coming out on top of the Open Individual. St Kieran's was well represented in this competition with Jack Brennan riding brilliantly to finish in 2nd place with Diarmuid O'Brien finishing in an excellent 5th place.

Winners on the day for the Novice Competition were Kildare Town Community College, followed by St Brendan's Community School Birr then St Declan's Community College in third place. Kilkenny College, St Declan's Community College and Newbridge College came in fourth, fifth and sixth respectively. We had a very entertaining Open Competition with Good Counsel New Ross coming out on top. Loreto Wexford finished second with Ardscoil Trionoide coming in third spot. Well done to our own St Kieran's College team who finished fourth with Presentation Kilkenny and Loreto Kilkenny (white) coming in fifth and sixth respectively. The St Kieran's team consisted of Cian Drennan, Victor Costello, Hugh McOwen and Jack Brennan. Thanks to all who took part in such a great day. See you again next year