

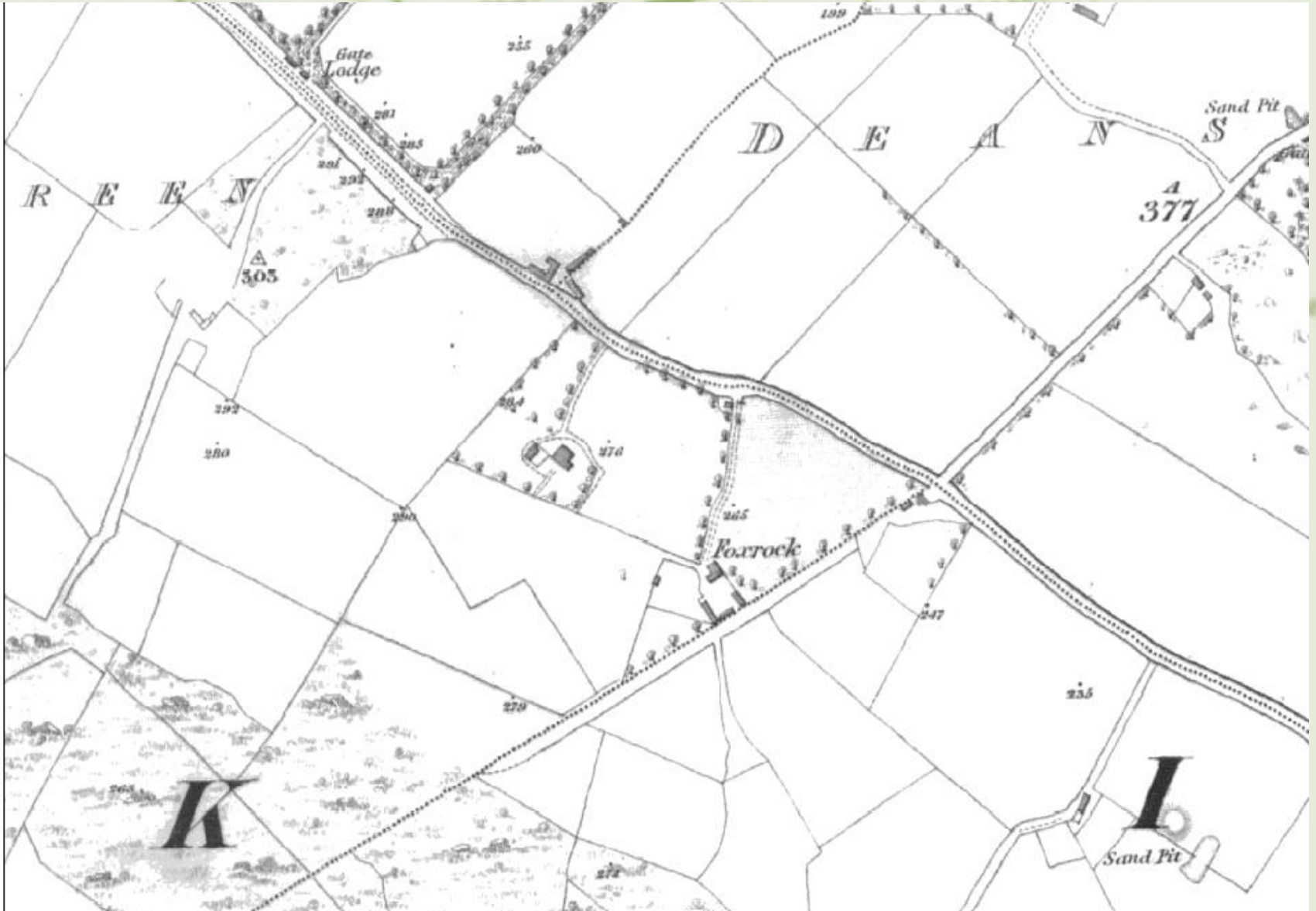
A Brief History of Loreto College Foxrock

1941-2016

Before the Loreto Order arrived

- In the early 19th Century, the area from Leopardstown to Cornelscourt and around the Galloping Green was all farmland.
- There were only 2 main buildings there pre-1840: Foxrock House and Foxrock Lodge.
- Taylor's map of 1816 shows Fox Rock (written as two words).

An early map of Foxrock in 1837 showing the House and Lodge surrounded by fields



The House and Lodge before it became a Convent (1800-1941)

- The earliest reference to Foxrock House concerns a lease of the property from the Lindsay family to Mr. Neville McGowan of Booterstown in 1838.
- Mr McGowan rented 10 acres and 39 perches together with dwelling houses, offices and buildings for the princely sum of £35!
- Mr McGowan was clearly an astute businessman and in turn leased the property to William Lunell Guinness for £1000 in 1839!

Foxrock House

- In 1861 the lodge of Foxrock House was occupied by William Wellington Bentley. Bentley was responsible for the development of many of the villas of Foxrock at this time.
- For most of its history, a family called Rutherford lived at the lodge and it is this lodge which became part of the school that has been run by the Loreto Order since 1941.
- Foxrock House was demolished in the mid 1970s and in the 1980s, the housing estate Westminster Park was built on these lands.

How did the school come about?

“The utter chaos and dire misery into which the present war has plunged the world can be traced in part to the usurped rights the State has exercised in the important task of the education of youth in many a country, with consequent detriment to the Christian outlook it is the duty of the Church to impart. It is not surprising then, that, when shortly after his consecration as Archbishop of Dublin, the Rt. Rev. Dr. McQuaid became aware of the crying need of a good Catholic School in the Foxrock area of his diocese and appealed to Mother General at Loreto Abbey, Rathfarnham, to establish a convent of our nuns there; she acquiesced, despite the appalling difficulties of the situation, and threw open the doors of the new Loreto to the children of the district on Our Lady’s Birthday September 8th, 1941”

extract from the annals of the House

The early days

- The Sisters arrived in the house on September 8, 1941. School began two days later. The pupil numbers were in single digits for the first few weeks, but had grown to 28 by the following Spring.
- Work on the construction of the Chapel (now the Staff room) began in January 1942. These early years of the 1940s marked the end of the Second World War, and conditions were difficult for all. When the Architect for the Chapel sought the iron girders needed for the construction, it was found that none could be sourced. He solved the problem by supporting the roof by two rows of pillars, which were considered to add to the dignity of the building!

THE PREMISES

- The house was surrounded by twelve acres of green fields where cows grazed peacefully.
- For the first few weeks, the Loreto sisters made the daily journey from Rathfarnham as there was not yet any accommodation in the new school.
- Classes were initially held in the parlours of the house!

The Staff in the Early days

Date.	Name.
3 rd December 1943.	Res. John Delaney O. M. J. Belmont College, Stillorgan.
"	M. M. Gonzaga Kehoe.
"	M. M. Celestine O'Flynn
"	M. M. Kotaka Brinin
"	M. M. Marguerite Heator
"	S. M. Edmond Walok
"	S. M. Imelda Mac Dermot R.I.P.
"	S. M. Presentation M. Sweeney.
"	S. M. Lucilla Malloy
"	S. M. Louis Gonzaga O'Connor
"	S. M. Eunan Mundy
"	Sister Urban Joyce R.I.P.
"	Sister Pius Murphy
"	Sister Monica Higgins
"	Sister Louise Mc Glade
"	Mary Finnelly
"	Miss Margaret J Mac Donald
"	Miss Mary Monica Devoy
"	Miss Mary Josephine Warren
"	Miss Anna M. H. Byrne
"	Miss Marie Christine Colbert
"	Miss T. M. Farrell R.I.P.
"	M. Auley Joa
"	Miss Laphne Mary Regan
"	Miss W. T. M. Shanahan
"	Miss Jean A. M. Byrne

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" " "	Mr. M. Marguerite Heator
" " "	S. M. Edmond Wald
" " "	S. M. Imelda Mac Donnag R.I.P.
" " "	S. M. Presentation O'Simoney.
" " "	S. M. Lucilla Molloy
" " "	S. M. Louis Gonzaga O'Connor
" " "	S. M. Susan Mundy
" " "	Sister Urban Joyce R.I.P.
" " "	Sister Pius Murphy
" " "	Sister Monica Higgins
" " "	Sister Louise Mc Glade



Sr. Monica Higgins, one of the first Loreto sisters in Foxrock

Teaching staff and their subjects

Teaching Staff	
	S. An. Edmond Irish
4.	Walsh. " H & Geo.
	" " History
	" " Geo.
	" " Eng.
5.	S. An. Presentation French.
	M. Sweeney. Eng.
	" " H & Geo.
	" " Drawing
	S. An. Luella. Eng. & G.
7.	S. An. Louis Gonzaga. Irish.
	" G. Connor. "
	S. An. Imelda. "
	M. An. Inerney. "

1	M. An. Gonzaga Kehoe. 3852.	Irish Eng.
		"
		"
		Irish.
		R. Know.
		R. Know.
	M. An. Marguerite 3985.	Maths
2.	Sheahan.	"
		"
		"
		"
		"
		N. Study
		French.
3	M. An. Kolska Cunio.	French.
		"
		"
		"
		"
		"
		Ph. Science
		Rel. Know.

Sch. Year 1942-43.

Sch. Holidays. 16th Nov. 9th March. 2nd Feb.

Exams. 14-18th Dec. 14-17 Apr. 7-12th June

Holidays. 18th Dec - 12th Jan. 17th Apr. 3rd May. 12th June.

Sch. Year - 1943-44.

Rec. Day. 16th Nov. 1st Feb. 22nd Feb. 29th May.

Exams. 13-18th Dec. 25th March - 1st Apr. 9th - 15th June.

Holiday. 18th Dec - 12th Jan. 1st Apr - 17th Apr. 15 June - 5th July.

Class Rooms.

4 Senior Cl. Rooms. 19 ft. x 16 ft.

Room off Cafeteria 12 ft x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Down Sc. Kitchen. 34 ft. x 25 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Cl. Room off Hall. 14 ft x 12 ft.

Library. 16 ft x 12 ft.

List of Pupils - 1942 - '43

Surname	Christian Name
Beddows	Dorothy Mary
Brusce	Hyacinth Helen
Gehan	Mary Nella
Kelly	Violet Marie Susan
Mc Gath	Mary Jane
Mooney	Pauline Therese
O Shiel	Clodagh Miriam
Purcell	Dorothy Dymphna
Byrne	Joan Ann Mary
Colbert	Eng. Marie Louise Caroline Madeleine
Freyer	Margaret
Hanratty	Elizabeth Monica

The original Teaching Staff

- The first Mother Superior was Mother Gonzaga Kehoe.
- Other Loreto sisters were Sr. Celestine O'Flynn, Sister Louise McGlade and Sister Presentation McSweeney (seen below photographed at the Golden Jubilee of the school in 1991).



Teaching staff outside the chapel (now the staff room)



The first pupils

- The Junior school block was completed and occupied by Christmas 1942, and by May of 1943, there were 50 pupils in the schools.
- Although the school initially accepted both boys and girls, by around 1945, it was 'girls only'.
- Some of the pupils came from the immediate environs but many travelled from a newly developed area called 'Mount Merrion'.
- Some of those first pupils were Olga and Marie Hick, Breide and Mollie McGrath, Mairéad and Margaret Forbes, Maeve Noonan, Maura Lenihan and George Carroll.
- Pupils attended school on Saturdays (they studied art and played sports).



The uniform of the day- think yourselves lucky girls! 😊

“We wore our school uniform, a very distinctive shade of ‘burnt sienna with a touch of orange’ as someone described it. It is not quite the same shade today. It was a tunic.....We had a cream blouse, a fawn jumper and a green tie, and white ankle sox. With these, we wore our school blazer with its distinctive Loreto crest and the motto – “Cruci dum spiro fido”. On our heads we wore a terribly chic U.S.-style forage cap, as also worn by Aer Lingus air hostesses”

Stephanie Batt

The early uniform, 1948



Loreto girls in the early days



Sports at Loreto Foxrock

- In the early years, sports began to play an important part in the curriculum of Loreto, Foxrock.
- Mother Imelda was the force behind hockey at Loreto Foxrock.
- In 1952, the school's first ever trophy was won: the Junior Cup under the captaincy of Chela Neary.
- The final was against 'The Green' and was played at Crumlin.
- A few years later, the prestigious Senior Shield was won.

Loreto Foxrock's First ever Hockey trophy – Junior Cup 1952



Sport through the ages: Junior Netball



Hockey successes





Senior Hockey 1962





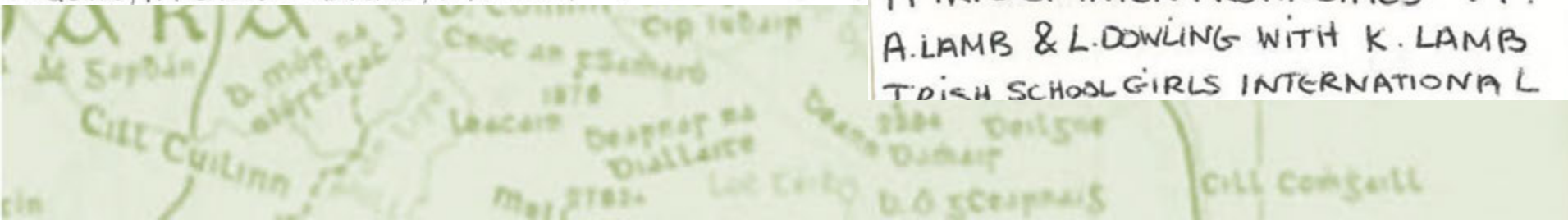


1st SENIOR HOCKEY TEAM

S. Moran (P.G. Mistress), L. Cosgrave, J. Le Gear, M. Kiernan, M. Hughes, E. O'Hare, J. Mahon, M. Quinn, A. Kiernan, A. O'Donoghue, A. Lamb (captain), B. Morrison



A TRIO OF INTER PROVINCIALS '77.
A. LAMB & L. DOWLING WITH K. LAMB
IRISH SCHOOL GIRLS INTERNATIONAL



Leinster Senior Hockey Cup 1977





And it wasn't just hockey either!

1978



MINOR A TENNIS TEAM
H. HUGHES ; E. M'GOVERN ; B. COUGHLAN
R. BERMAN ; D. FEARON (CAPTAIN) ; M. BUCKLEY



Tennis 1970s-80s



Senior A winners Leinster Senior Cup.
Beatrice Coughlan, Denise Fearon, Michelle Buckley (capt.)
Inez Wilson, Ruth Hamilton, Barbara Pattison, Ruth Berman



LEINSTER INTER A. TENNIS TEAM.
D. L'ESTRANGE. O. WALLACE. E. RYAN. C. CROWLEY.

Anyone for Squash?



WINNERS OF FIRST LEINSTER SCHOOL-GIRLS
SQUASH COMPETITION '77
M. McANALLY . M. HURRY . K. LAMB
H. HUGHES . A. LAMB . L. COSGRAVE .

Loreto students excel not at sport alone! (Debating Team 1958)



SENIOR DEBATING TEAM 1958

Geraldine Moynihan Norma Cullen Geraldine Bailey
Collette Mulcahy Mary Crowley Sheila Boylan

Intermediate Verse Speaking choir, Fr. Matthew Feis 1964



Public Speaking



The Loreto Carol Singers



An early Foxrock Television Appearance: the Eight Beatitudes



The role of the Loreto Sisters has always been central to all areas of school life



The long-lasting Influence of the Loreto Sisters

Many of our senior members of staff recall with great fondness the integral role of the Loreto sisters; their contribution to our school was immense; their prayerful presence a constant in the school day, and the passing of a beloved member of the community deeply resonated amongst the entire school body.

More recent staff members and our younger student body may never have firsthand experience of the important daily input of the sisters to the school but their legacy is nonetheless richly present in the ethos of the school they founded.



THEN V NOW

Members of the Foxrock Orchestra 1962-63 versus today's musicians



The traditional Foxrock sports girl versus the modern!



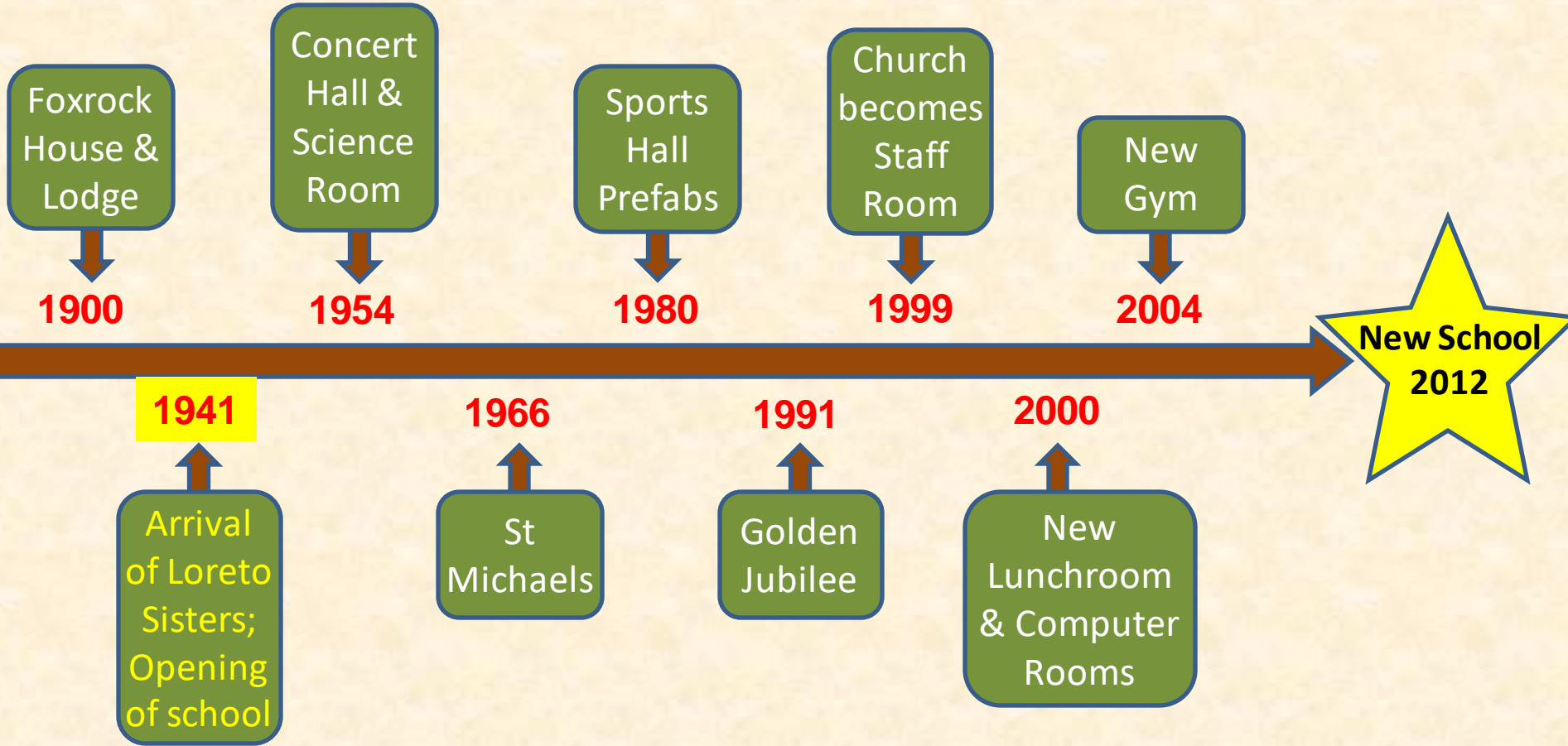
Proud Foxrock girls of yesterday and today!



Our School Community grows

- In 1953 - 1954, plans were drawn up for the construction of the Concert Hall and the Science room to the front of the building.
- The building known as St. Michaels was built in 1966.
- In the 1980s, with the help of a partial grant from the Department of Education, the old prefabricated building was updated.
- Following a Loreto Community contribution and fund-raising, the Sports Hall was added in the late 1980s. A fully equipped gymnasium was added in 2004.
- In 1999, the Trustees gave the Community Chapel to the Secondary School as a Staff room. In response to an increasing student population, the Trustees also agreed to give the Junior School and Kindergarten classrooms for use in the Secondary School.
- In 2000, a large extension was added to the lunchroom and recreation area.
- In 2006, the Loreto trustees gave part of the community residence to the school for development as classrooms and office areas.

Loreto School Timeline



Our Golden Jubilee in 1991

- On 8th September 1991, hundreds gathered in Loreto Foxrock to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its opening.
- Amongst those present was Sister Celestine O'Flynn who presented a seal to Bishop Donal Murray which she had originally presented to Archbishop McQuaid when he laid the foundation stone of the school 50 years earlier!
- Many of those who attended remarked that they hardly recognised the school because of the amount of development that had been carried out over the years. We wonder what they will make of our new school building 20 years on!

Our 90s' students became interested in travel and tourism



..while developing our core values of
Justice and Peace (Peace Day 1994)



Loreto Girls bounded into the new Millenium!

27th Jun. 1999

South Dublin Life & Leisure 17.

Loreto Secondary School

FOXROCK

'Taking it's pupils confidently into the new millennium'

Unobtrusively situated just off the N11, Loreto Foxrock resides in a beautifully maintained park land setting creating a veritable oasis of peace and calm amidst the bustling suburb of Foxrock.

Driving through the gates one immediately becomes aware that this is one school where harmony reigns. For over half a century, Loreto Foxrock has been upholding the tradition of education for its not just for examinations. Moulding the character, personalities and intellect of the young ladies who are fortunate enough to attend this renowned school, is the responsibility of Sister Brigid Quirk, school Principal, and her team of dedicated professional teachers. Children can only fulfil their potential if they are encouraged, helped, praised, and happy. The smiling faces of Loreto

girls at Loreto Foxrock is enough to convince any parent that here they have achieved the perfect balance.

In addition to providing the best possible education in all the traditional subjects, Loreto Foxrock has been to the forefront in innovation, the school being involved from the very beginning in piloting Transition Year and Civic Social and Political Education and along with St Brendan's College in Killarney, have developed the Best Travel & Tourism programme for Secondary Schools. Staff have been very much involved in these initiatives and have

seen in curricular development. Text books written by staff members include 'Information Studies' by Patricia Wras

'Généfleur' (French) by Alex O'Dwyer and 'It's The Business' by Debra Roggan. In line with the school's policy of helping pupils develop awareness of social inequality and environmental issues, the students have been involved in a number of fund-raising events including the Children in Need Fund, Academic excellence at Loreto Foxrock is the cornerstone of the school's curriculum and has resulted in two students being awarded scholarships to UCID and three exhibitions in Trinity College Dublin this year alone. Development of the whole person means learning



Senior A Hockey Team



Cadets A Basketball Team

Spring athletics

Information technology

The Staff of the New Millenium (a few familiar faces?)



A new school for a new generation of Foxrock girls!



The changing face of our school building



The new Building in planning stage



And now we can finally enjoy the new building ourselves every day!





Loreto College Foxrock 1941-2012

**Here's to many more
years of successful
teaching and learning
in our new school!**

This PowerPoint has been based on the following Sources:

- Loreto Convent Foxrock- Memories from the 1940s and 1950s Based on a talk by Stephanie Batt to the Foxrock Local History Club on 17th October 2006;
- A History of the Parish of Foxrock by Patrick Cronin, Foxrock Local History Club, Publication No. 11, 1984;
- Foxrock House, a talk by Edel Kennedy to the Foxrock Local History Club on 10 November 2001;

Sources Contd.

- Archives of Loreto College Foxrock;
- School website:
<http://www.loretofoxrock.ie/history.html>
- 50 Years in Foxrock by Dolores McKenna ,
Scope Magazine 1991.
- Conversations with staff members.