

SAYING THANKS



UPLIFTING: The Children's Choir and the Youth Choir 'Rap' up the evening with 'We're never alone - God is always there - and Shout for Joy'

# St Patrick's: a parish celebrates

Awards made by Ed Cooke and given to young helpers who gave their time

By ANNA MARIE MCGUIRE

A SPECIAL award ceremony took place in St Patrick's Church, Skerries, on Wednesday, May 24, to celebrate and appreciate the many young people in our parish who give of their time year after year to participate in the various ministries in our church.

The awards were for two, four and six years service as altar servers, readers, children's choir, and youth choir, at the family Mass and other church celebrations. The awards were in the form of pins with a symbol of each ministry with a silver medal made by our local artisan jewel-



Oran, Dave, Ross, Diarmuid Woodcock, Ben Oakes, Alex Mahon, Sarah Burns, Isabelle Sherry & Katie Kampff

ler, Ed Cooke, for the six year recipients.

This year the Skerries Community College Transition Year (TY) students received certificates for

their hard work and dedication to the Friday morning hospitality and many other activities in our Parish.

Much thanks also is due to the mentors of the various ministries, Orlagh Bowers (family Mass), Paula Wilde and Suzanne Kelly (children's choir), Cora Mulvany (altar servers), and Suzanne Kelly (youth choir). Thanks also is due to Bernie Egan Chaplain of SCC and indeed to all who the parish in many ways.

The participants of the awards were accompanied by their proud parents and the ceremony which was prepared by the college students with Sr Liz Byrne, Fr Paul Glennon and Ms Bernie Egan was a wonderful success.

It concluded with the usual hospitality and social engagement. ■



THEY WORKED HARD FOR THIS



FLY THE FLAG: Eamonn O'Reilly pictured with just some of the students who have been involved since the first year in working for the award.

## Second Green Flag for Community College...

Making school cleaner and greener

By EMILY DIEBOLD

SKERRIES Community College was awarded its second Green Flag by An Taisce at the Helix in DCU on Tuesday May 23. The theme this year was 'Energy Conservation'. The school sought to reduce its carbon footprint, and in doing so, also reduced its non-renewable fuel usage.

Eamonn O'Reilly, Green Schools coordinator, explains: "The first flag was litter prevention. We had to stop litter in school and recycle as much as possible. We have to make sure that we keep that going on. Now this second one is energy awareness. "We put signs around each class and the hallways reminding people to turn off the lights and the computers at the end of the day. The principal makes announcements about it and we

did a project in May when it was brightest to turn off all machines and electrical equipment in the school."

Eamonn works with the Green Schools committee of teachers and students in the school. They come up with the ideas and help to implement them.

Says Eamonn: "The award was a culmination of work by all stakeholders in the school, students, teaching and non-teaching staff and Fingal County Council provided immeasurable help, throughout the process."

In September the school will continue its environmental journey, working towards a third flag, 'Water Conservation', finding ways to reduce water wastage in the school. At the same time, they will need to continue their awareness of the first two themes in order to retain their flags.

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