



*IN BUSINESS.....FOR BUSINESS*

# Press Release

**DATE: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

## Innovate School Business Awards Launched

*“The aim is to stimulate enterprise and encourage entrepreneurial activity in young people”.*

In a joint venture with Gorey Community School, Innovate and Gorey Chamber – the Launch of the Innovate School Business Awards took place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January.

Working with the Transition Year students, the theme of the programme centres on recession busters and sustainability. Over 35 students coordinated by T.Y. Teachers Lisa Nangle and Emma Hamilton were briefed on the programme sponsored by Innovate.

Jim Hughes from Innovate said: “We believe in supporting our community and in encouraging our young people in a way that will benefit our economy. This is our first venture in this area and we are delighted to work with Gorey Community School and Gorey Chamber.”

The full list of Mentors includes John Dempsey of Weatherglaze Systems, Niall Slattery, Director of Warren Estates, Finbarr O’Donoghue, The Haven Group, and Jim Osborne, Developer of Gorey Business Park who are all experienced professionals and they have willingly given their time to guide these ventures. John Dempsey said “We are really excited about working with the students over the next few months – they have already impressed us with their ideas.”

Speaking, Dick White, CEO of Gorey Chamber said “We are delighted to be involved in such a Project, it encourages entrepreneurship and gives young people a real taste of business. We are particularly fortunate to have a strong panel of Mentors to work with the students and their projects.”

Gorey Chamber agreed the structure of the programme following a series of meetings between Michael Finn, Principal of GCS, Dick White, Gorey Chamber, Jim Hughes of Innovate and members of the TY Teaching staff.

Students will work on their projects until May 2012 when they will present their ideas to a panel of judges, with the best idea winning the inaugural Innovate School Business Awards.

Ends

Dick White mobile 087 751 8454



*IN BUSINESS.....FOR BUSINESS*