

# The Patrician

2022-2023

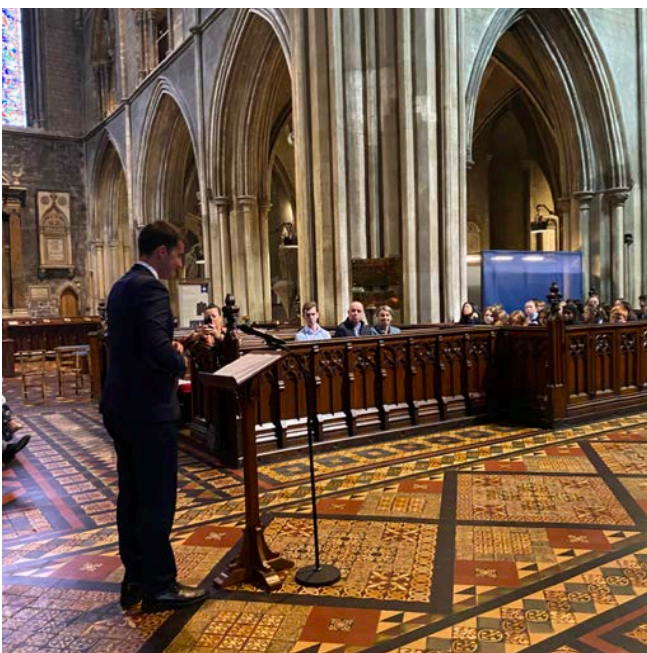


# OPENING YEAR SERVICE

This year, we had the honor of hosting esteemed guests at our opening service for the new school year: Jack Chambers, the Minister for Sport, and Aoibhinn Ni Shuileabhain, an academic and broadcaster. Jack played a crucial role in securing funds for our athletics team, which has made remarkable progress over the past year.

As a former secondary school athlete, Jack and I had an enjoyable conversation about our shared interests, particularly the GAA. His passion and insights inspired me to strive for the best achievements I can obtain. Additionally, Aoibhinn presented the Leadership award to a former Form 6 student who showed exceptional leadership within the school. Witnessing this recognition has motivated me to demonstrate leadership both within and beyond my sports involvement.

Reuben McCormick



# Prize Winners 2022

## Leaving Certificate 2022:

### First and Larminie Prize

Arnold L. Horner Prize (Leaving Certificate Maths)

Walter Scott Memorial Prize (Leaving Cert Music)

Rory McElligot

Aram Mallack

Lily Garland

### Second

Ristead O Glaisne Memorial Prize for L.C. Irish

Avnie Tyagi

Avnie Tyagi

### Third

Arthur Wisdom Memorial Prize: (Senior Chemistry)

Gavin Dunphy

Aram Mallack

O'Russ Prize for Leaving Certificate French

Lily Garland

### Fifth Year 2021/22

First:

Elvin Lucaci

Second:

Rosa Downey

Special mention:

Luke Collier

### Fourth Year 2021/22

Student of the year:

Alexandra Pugna

Interview of the year 4K

River Sweeney

Interview of the year 4P

Molly Nevin

Portfolio of the year 4P

Bianca Akpotor

### 3 P 2021/22

First:

Roisin Farrelly

Second:

Ramona Dineen

Special mention:

Grace Buckley

### 3 K 2020/21

First:

Ella Mullins

Second:

Freya Reddington

Special mention:

Mathew Ryder

### 2P 2021/22

First:

Sean Whealan

Second:

Henry Lawson

Special mention:

Rosalind Shevlin

### 2K 2021/22

First:

Luke Donaghy

Second:

Philip Naessans

Special mention:

Caleum Irwin Gowran

IG Year 2021/22

First:	Nawal Huseen
Second:	Denis Ryan
Special mention:	Leah Brady

1K Year 2021/22

First :	Ross Cassidy
Second:	Jim English
Special mention:	Marla-Tait Bacon

1P Year 2021/22

First :	Niamh Laidlaw
Second:	Danann Moger-Byrne
Special mention:	Summer Sheridan

Special Prizes donated to the Grammar School:

Scott Prize (Junior Cert Maths)	Finn Vaughan Buckley
Ovenden Bursary (Junior Cert Music)	David Lindsay
O’Russ Prize (Junior Cert French)	Ella Mullins
Ristead O Glaisne Memorial Prize for J.C. Irish	Millie Ni Choleman
Miss Ellis Prize (J. Certificate English)	Ella Mullins
John Lynch Memorial Prize for J.C. Art	Cherry McAuley Pratt
Arthur Wisdom Memorial Prize (J.C. Science)	Freya Reddington

Parents Association Prizes for exceptional achievement in, OR exceptional contribution to a particular subject, for students in non-examination classes:

Form 5 Biology	Elvin Lucaci
Form 5 Physics	Elvin Lucaci
Form 5 Geography	Rosa Downey
Form 5 Music	Rosa Downey
Senior P.E.	Jason Gaynor
Form 2 Music	Julia Fox
Form 2 Art	Holly Corrigan
Form 2 Home Economics	Rosalind Shevlin
Form 2 Business	Iona Akroyd
Form 2 Classics	Luke Donaghy
Junior P.E.	Mohamad Huseen

## Attendance Prizes for full attendance 2021/22

Joshua Farrell	6A
Rosa Downey	6A
Bianca Akpotor	5P
Cristian Rubino	5K
Isaac Adeniji	4P
Ben Mc Caffrey Byrne	4K
Seán Mac Lochlainn	4K
Anatoli Kucherul	3P
Andrii Pavlenko	3P
Renata Kullivea	3K
Samuel Clancy	2P
Naa Akaabi Effah	2K
Ali Ormonde	1K
Cassandra Pineda	1K
Chloe Li	1K
Joe Janota	1P
Manus O'Baoighill	1K
Shahriar Miah	1K



### JUNIOR MUSICIAN PERPETUAL CUP 2022:

The Junior Musician Perpetual Cup is awarded to a student in form 4 who in addition to studying Junior Certificate Music in the school has contributed to all aspects of extra-curricular performing activities during years 1-3. The selected student made a valuable contribution to the School Choir, Chamber Choir and School Orchestra. He has shown great leadership and commitment in her flawless attendance at all rehearsals. He has contributed to many solo and group performances and inspires his fellow musicians with his musicality on Clarinet and Voice.

The 2022 winner of the Junior Musician Perpetual Cup is David Zubarevs.

### Senior Musician Perpetual Cup 2022:

Senior Musician Perpetual Cup - The Senior Musician Perpetual Cup is awarded to a student in the previous form 6 who in addition to studying Leaving Certificate Music in the school has contributed to all aspects of extra-curricular performing activities at the Grammar School. This student consistently strove for excellence in every performance. He made a valuable contribution to the School Choir and Chamber Choir. She showed dedication and commitment in her attendance at rehearsals. She is a fabulous singer and gave many wonderful performances at school assemblies, services and concerts. She had the lead role in the Transition Year Musical Aladdin. She showed great leadership in the School Orchestra as an ensemble player performing on Clarinet while motivating those around her with her energy and enthusiasm.

The 2022 winner of the Senior Musician Perpetual Cup is Lavinia Stoppani.

# MUSIC

## *School Choir performance at the National Concert Hall*

The School Choir were invited to perform at the National Concert Hall on October 19th 2022 on the occasion of the retirement of Dr. Marita Kerin, head of the Bachelor of Music Education course at Trinity College Dublin. The choir gave an exquisite performance of *The Gift of Music* by John Rutter. They prepared the piece from memory, and sang with wonderful communication and expression under the guidance of their choral directors Ms. Lyons and Ms. Balfe. The Choir were conducted by Ms. Balfe on the night and accompanied on piano by past student and former Cathedral Organ Scholar Mr. Harry Meehan. School Principal Mr. Gill chaperoned the choir for the event. The guest of honour was blown away with the surprise performance and it was an honour indeed to be able to perform at such a special evening.



## *Belvedere College Senior Musical: Singing in the Rain!*

Form 6 Music Students Joanna Yusuf and Ailbhe Dé Burca had a very busy start to the school year. Both girls were selected to perform in the Belvedere College Senior Music Singing in the Rain! Following auditions, only fifteen girls were selected, to take part in the musical. Ailbhe performed in all chorus numbers and Joanna performed the lead female role of Kathy. Ms Lyons acted as vocal coach for the male and female soloists and Ms. Balfe played flute in the Orchestra on the nights of the show. They performed to sold out shows between the 23rd -26th of November at the O' Reilly Theatre. The girls sang and danced their hearts out and our school is incredibly proud of them!

# WESLEY INTER-SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL



*Another successful Wesley competition for St Patrick's!*

Winning entries:

Secondary Level Chamber Orchestra - H. C.

Secondary Level Orchestra – 1st class Hons

Solo Singing Classical O17 - H. C. Daniel McNally

Solo Singing Popular U14 – 1st class Hons Emma Kerrigan

Solo Singing Popular 1st Round - 2nd Mia Crotty

Solo Singing Popular O17B 1st Round – 1st class Hons Joanna Yusuf

Solo Singing Popular O17B 1st Round - H. C. Daniel McNally

Vocal Duet O15 - 2nd Bianca Akpotor & Rachel Akpotor

Vocal Duet O15 - Hons Daniel McNally & Mia Crotty

Vocal Duet O15 - H. C. Angelo Morales & Will Donovan

# VOLLEYBALL



This was our school's very first year of playing volleyball competitively. The sport was popular among all students, but especially among our junior students. Volleyball created many memories as we traveled the country and sampled the local Supermac's. We all improved our volleyball skills and learned a lot about teamwork. It also created opportunities to make new friendships with fellow students we didn't know before.

We trained every Thursday outside in the yard, in the rain or sunshine. We worked on our skills, hoping to qualify for an All-Ireland Volleyball competition. For a sport I thought I would never play, I really started to enjoy it more as we played. Our training ranged from digging to setting to serving. The time came, and we qualified for the competition. The games were intense, and we had to work hard, but we made it through. Our team was very strong and resilient. The matches were played in places such as Kilkenny and Portlaoise, and we got to see how these schools operate.

Our perseverance got us into the Semi-Finals, which sadly we lost. This was a disappointment for everyone, but we were proud we had made it this far on our first attempt. Also, we had a lot of fun on our trips, and I hope to keep playing it next year. I really enjoyed our volleyball adventure. I learned so much about the importance of teamwork, being a captain, and had a lot of fun along the way. Thanks to Ms. Burke and Mr. Whyte for everything. We really enjoyed volleyball this year!

Denis Ryan



# ATHLETICS



Having the opportunity to participate in the school athletics team is something for which I will always be grateful. Throughout my first three years at the school, there wasn't much opportunity for athletics aside from the occasional inter-schools event that a couple of us would attend. After Covid, there was a significant setback in all school activities, but soon enough, Ms. Harrington organised a proper athletics team that I was able to join for my final two years of school.

Students of all levels of experience and from all year groups were welcome to join, creating a lovely atmosphere of encouragement and support. We would meet most Tuesdays and train at the Ringsend stadium. Thanks to our wonderful coach, we had the chance to compete in numerous inter-schools events, advancing to East Leinsters, Leinsters, and even Nationals.

Sofia Fox



# FOOTBALL



The St. Patrick's senior boys' football team (The Confey) started off with a shaky run of form. That began with 2 disappointing results back-to-back in the Leinster Cup and All Irelands. The focus shifted to the inner-city leagues; we see a change in form as The Confey won their first game of the campaign with a comfortable 3-1 win against Westland Row. The lads controlled the game well and played with confidence, with goals coming from Daniel Lawless, Tom Mustafa, and Kevin Honer

The lads went into their second game fueled with confidence as they took on Clogher Road up in Pearse Park. It was a tight first half, but Patrick's were narrowly ahead 1-0 at halftime with the goal coming from Kevin Honer. The lads hit their stride and blew Clogher Road off the pitch as Daniel Lawless completed his hat trick and Jack Quinn rounded off a brilliant display of football with a 5-1 victory

The team were 2 for 2 and looking to finish the group stages off strongly as they face Ringsend College in Ringsend Park. We found ourselves 1-0 down to a brilliant free kick, but the lads stuck together and kept their heads, managing to pull the game back to 2-2 at halftime with Kevin Honer scoring 2 well-taken goals. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Brady fired the team up at halftime. We started off quickly as Daniel Lawless puts us ahead with a brilliant team goal within the first few minutes of the second half. It was a tough battle, but a well-taken goal by Daniel Lawless was enough to secure a 4-3 victory and ensure that we top our group, going unbeaten and into the semi-finals

Kevin Honer



It has been a remarkable year for our girls' football here in our school. We reached two semi-finals with nothing but hard work, determination, and teamwork. Our girls worked extremely hard to reach these semis and gave it our all in every game. Unfortunately, as much as we wish we could've exceeded, our race for the cup was brought to an end. But it doesn't matter at all because we made history in our school and got the girls to a semi-final. We also thank Mr. Brady for organizing every game and bringing us to every one of our games, and giving us the opportunity to compete in these games and come together as a team.

Kayleigh Phelan

# BASKETBALL



This year, St. Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School's Junior Girls' Basketball team has shown immense dedication and perseverance throughout our training sessions and various matches. Although not all of them came out the way that we wanted, we learnt from our mistakes and came back stronger and gave it our all. Next year, as the First-Years progress to be Second Years, making them most experienced on the team, they will carry on all the incredible skills and potential to the newcomers of the team. And as the Second Years enter Third Year, entering the Senior Girls' Basketball, that we will bring our experiences and our hunger for win onto this team as well. On behalf of the whole team, Ms. Sweeney deserves a massive thank you for all the hard work and dedication she has put into each second, each dribble, each layup and each 'box out' she has shown to this team. She is the reason that the team is as strong as it is, and without her help we wouldn't be where we are today. Thank you, Miss. In conclusion, this team has progressed and shown a lot of dedication this year and we hope that it carries on for years to come in our own personal basketball journeys.

By Naa Effah & Marla-Tait Bacon



# SPORTS DAY



April 28th 2023



# Drama Club

In addition to all the extracurricular activities that St. Patrick's has to offer, was the formation of a drama club this year. Headed and run by both Ms. Mcfadden and Ms. Mc Mahon, it offered an opportunity for those of us who were interested to have a taste of the acting world. The group that met on Mondays (initially after school, but later during lunches) were an eclectic bunch of enthusiasts, all bound by a collective interest in performing in the thespian arena.

In first year, Isabella Seliger participated in the group, in second year Johanna Hutchinson Poppema, Naa Effah Assampong, Roman Carters and Summer Sheridan all joined in and in third year the group was further supported by Darragh Balkir, Julia Fox, Sean Whelan, and Laila NiMhaoilearca. It was indeed a talented bunch of amateurs that met weekly.

The drama club was essentially great fun. Not taking ourselves too seriously we ventured into the area of improvisation and other acting-related games and activities. Games such as 'Honey if you love me,



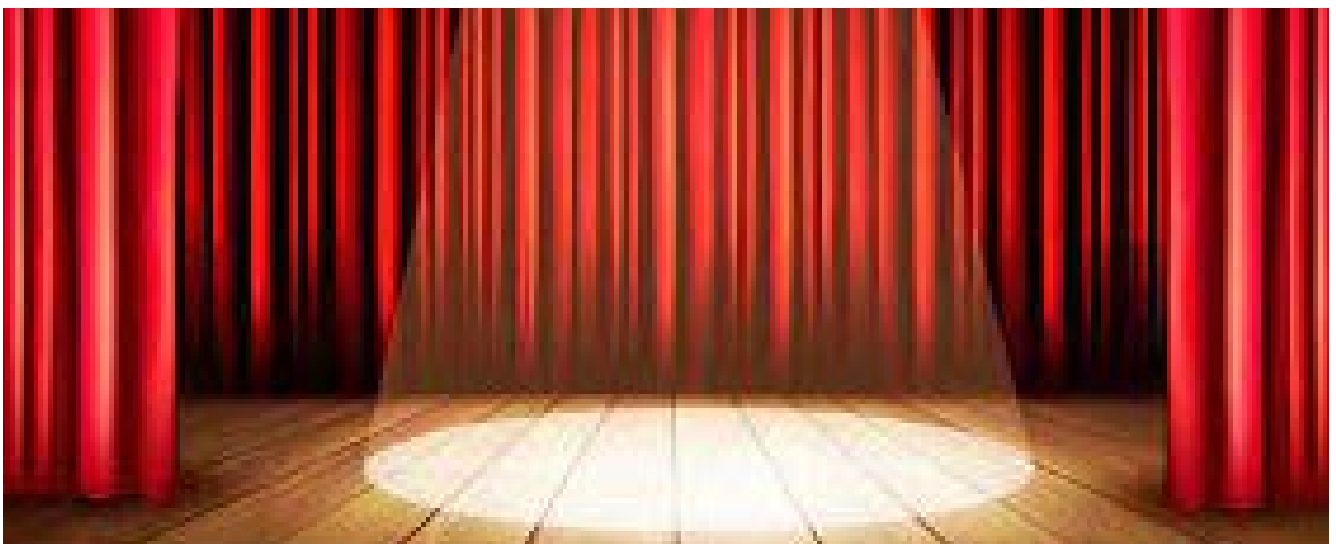
would you give me a smile' where one person must go up to another and say just that and the respondent must, without smiling or giggling simply reply 'Honey, I love you, but I just can't smile.' This proved extremely difficult to do, and most of the time people just burst out laughing.

There were lots of other games and improvisations where we had to create and speak for a character in a small performance. Given a title or situation

we then created the scene and acted it for our peers and teachers in the group.

Overall, the drama club was an enormous success and I truly hope it continues to thrive next year, when hopefully most promising performers will participate and further develop its success in St. Patrick's. A big thankyou to Ms. McFadden and Ms. McMahan for giving up their time and expertise to run the drama club.

Johanna Poppema



# Debating

This year I joined the senior debate team and from September-March this year, we participated in the Concern debates and progressed to the knock out stages. We had a team of six River, Alexandra, Aimee, Siri, Luke and myself. However, the debate team was limited to four members, therefore, for each debate we would rotate our roles. For each debate, there was four speakers, one of whom acted as the captain. They are responsible for defining the motion in the beginning and have 4 minutes and 30 seconds to do so. The other 3 speakers would then each further expand for 4 minutes 30 seconds. Finally, the captain speaks again at the end for another 4 minutes and 30 seconds to close the debate and add any further rebuttals. We also had a chairperson who would introduce the team and outline the rules, and a timekeeper who would ensure everyone was under the time limit. If the time limited was exceeded, penalties would incur.

Our first motion was “GMO’s are necessary in the fight to end world hunger.” For this we were the proposing team meaning we were in favour of the motion. We won this debate, and we were all delighted as it was the first time any of us had participated in a debate. Our next motion was “climate activists must give up eating meat” which we were opposing, which was a slightly harder debate and unfortunately we lost. Our final motion in the first round was “HIV and AIDS in the global south is the forgotten pandemic” and we were opposing, which we all had thought would be the hardest but we ended up winning. We were then through to the knock out round. Our final motion was “SDG’s are a waste of time” and we were proposing the motion, we unfortunately lost and were knocked out of the Concern debates. The margin was very small, and we ended up losing

Researching for the debates was very interesting as we learned about topics and ideas we otherwise wouldn’t have thought about. During our research we learned a lot about the work Concern does across the world and how important their work is. When researching the debate motions Concern also released a podcast on each motion to help both sides form there arguments. We found these podcasts immensely useful when writing our speeches.

We would all meet once a week with Ms Cullen and Ms McFadden to discuss and work on our speeches. They would help us add or edit our speeches if needed, they also organised all of our debates. Taking part in debate this year helped us all learn new skills such a persuasive language, public speaking and team work.

Additionally, joining debate led to other opportunities such as meeting Roberta Metsola who is the President of the European Parliament and we got to take part in Model Council of the European Union debate where we represented Lithuania. All of these opportunities wouldn’t have been possible with out Ms Burke, Ms McFadden and Ms Cullen, so thank you so much to them on behalf of the senior debate team.

Molly Nevin



# HEALTH AND HAPPINESS WEEK

Health and Happiness Week took place on January 16th, 2023. There were plenty of fun activities and informative classes that helped raise awareness among students about how to be healthier and happier in 2023.

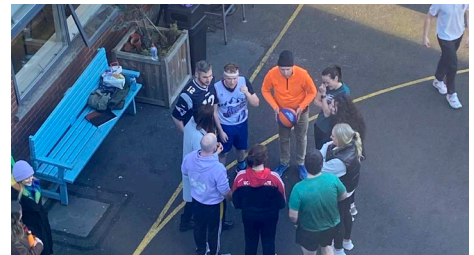
A breakfast club was held for a different year group every day, organized by Jigsaw, a charity that deals with teenagers' mental health.

On Wednesday, students had the opportunity to sign up for "Bodhran Buzz," which taught them how to play the Bodhran.

Yoga was provided on Thursday morning, followed by teacher-led workshops in the afternoon. Students could sign up for different workshops, including:

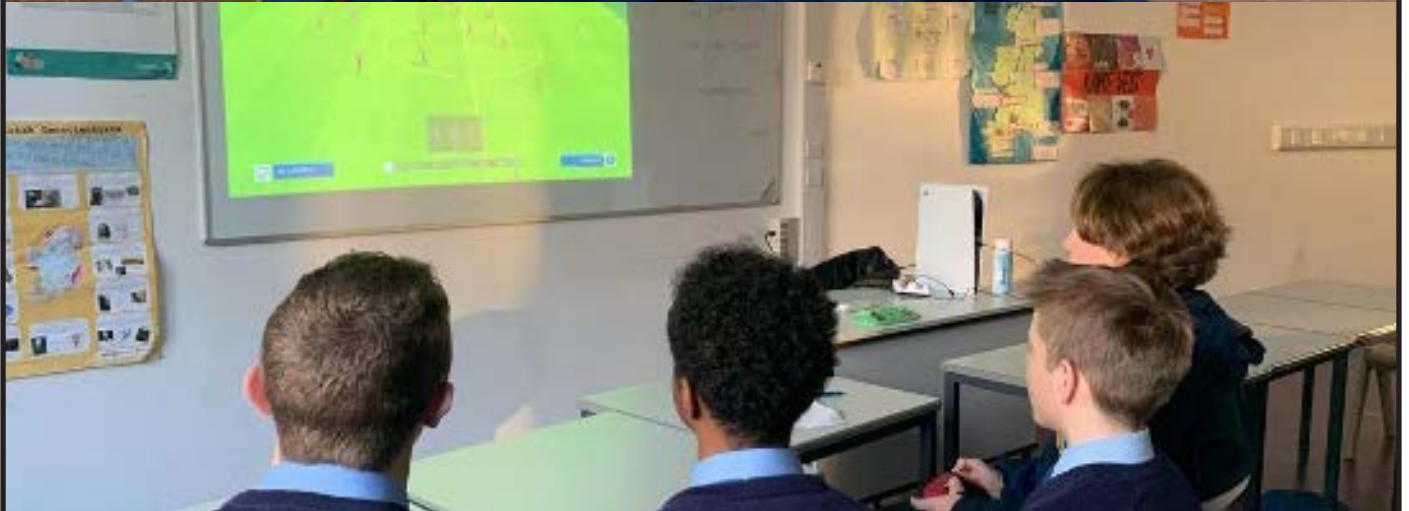


Ceili Dancing  
Upcycling Tote Bag  
Knitting  
Rubik's Cube  
FIFA Workshop  
Nail Art  
Strength & Conditioning  
Space Exploration  
Mindfulness  
Flamenco Dancing



On the last day of Health and Happiness Week, there was a teacher vs. student match, where the 6th years competed against the teachers. It was a very close game, but the 6th years ended up with a "controversial win," securing a one-point victory of 33-32.





# EPAS PROGRAMME



Our TY business class participated in the EPAS Programme, which stands for European Parliament Ambassador School Programme. This was the first time our school had the opportunity to engage in this program. Under the guidance of our business teacher, Ms. Burke, we delved into a student workbook that covered various topics related to the European Union. These topics included EU Member States, EU History and Facts, The EU in our daily lives, EU values, and Media Literacy.

Many students volunteered to be junior ambassadors, and Ms. Burke selected individuals to take on this role. We were presented with badges, which made us very happy. As ambassadors we had many responsibilities.

Firstly, we had to create an EU Info Point, a designated area in the school where students could access information about the countries, fun facts, the purpose of the EU, its benefits for individuals, details about the Eurozone, and information about MEPs (Members of the European Parliament) in Ireland. Secondly, we were tasked with organising Europe Day, an event that aimed to celebrate the diversity and cultures of EU member countries.

Ms. Burke also arranged for MEP Ciarán Cuffe, who is a member of the Green Party, to visit and speak to all the TYs. He shared his journey of becoming an MEP, discussed his various roles and responsibilities, environmental laws he aims to pass, significant decisions he has made, and milestones in his life.

Following that, we began organising Europe Day. Each TY student was assigned a country in the EU, either individually or in pairs. They had to create a poster and present facts about the country. Additionally, they were tasked with bringing in food from their assigned country for the 1st and 2nd years to enjoy.

Being an ambassador has been incredibly enjoyable, and I am thrilled that I volunteered to participate in this program.

Isabella Ungurasu



# EUROPE DAY CELEBRATIONS!



# MODEL COUNCIL OF THE EU

The Model Council of the EU debate is a simulation of a meeting of the Council of the European Union. Each of the 27 EU Member States is represented by a team of two students from a secondary school. This year, I had the pleasure to be representing Lithuania, alongside River Sweeney. The theme of this year's debate was Energy, having participating students debate a mock legislative proposal to set the EU renewable energy target to 45% by 2030.

Upon beginning our research process, we had the idea to get in touch with Lithuania's ambassador for Ireland, Marijus Gudynas, in hopes for arranging a meeting to get information directly from a diplomat. Luckily, Mr. Gudynas' assistant reached out to organise a meeting shortly after our enquiry. Ms. Burke, River, Aimee, Molly and I travelled to the Lithuanian embassy, where we were greeted by Mr. Gudynas himself after our arrival. He gave us a brief history of Lithuania, which helped us massively in the contextualisation of Lithuania's current energetic state. Afterwards, the ambassador's secretary, Ieva Nurmien gave us all of Lithuania's energy figures, which aided us in the preparation for the upcoming debate.

On the day of the debate, we arrived at City Hall, where we were greeted with refreshments. Here, countries were expected to network and form alliances. Luckily, Lithuania has some excellent credentials when it comes to green energy, thus, we were able to form alliances with 24/27 EU countries.

The debate itself was broken down into 3 sections- the introductory speeches (where each country gave their stance on the motion), the open debate (where countries could refute others points), and the closing speeches (where conclusions were made).

The debate judges were; Noelle O'Connell- CEO of European Movement Ireland, Mary McCaughey- Head of Information and Communication at Eurofound, and Seán Murphy- Senior Manager, Public Affairs, ESB.

Unfortunately for us we didn't win, however it was a great experience overall, and it's safe to say we gained some insightful experience from the other participants!

Alexandra Pugna





# MEP VISITS



We had an extraordinary opportunity to attend a youth dialogue event with European Parliament President Roberta Metsola. As an EPAS school, we were selected to participate in this special occasion, which allowed us to learn about Metsola's background, ask questions, and have our photo taken with her.

Roberta Metsola, the President of the European Parliament, is known for her outstanding leadership and dedication. Her presence at the event provided us with a unique chance to gain insights into her experiences and accomplishments.

During the event, students from all over Ireland actively participated in a Q&A session with Metsola, where we had the opportunity to inquire about her role, the European Parliament, and pressing issues affecting our generation. Additionally, we were able to have our photographs taken with Metsola and other MEP's.

The youth dialogue event was a remarkable experience for us. Engaging with a prominent leader not only broadened our knowledge of European politics but also inspired us to become active participants in shaping our own future. This memorable encounter will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on our educational journey and aspirations for years to come.



On Thursday afternoon, May 4th, the TY class and a few 5th-year students had the pleasure of engaging in a discussion with Ciarán Cuffe, a visiting MEP Irish representative. Cuffe, a local Dublin man, frequently travels between meetings in Strasbourg, the headquarters of the EP, and his home in Stoney Batter. Interestingly, Cuffe shared with us that he hadn't always been a member of the Green Party; in fact, he initially pursued a career in architecture. It was only later in his professional journey that he decided to venture into politics, eventually becoming an MEP. He provided us with valuable insights into his life as a politician and promptly addressed our numerous questions.

Siri Basani



MEP CIARAN CUFFE WITH TY STUDENTS

Interview with Roberta  
Metsola



Luke, Siri, River,  
Alexandra, Molly and  
Aimee at the Smock  
Alley Theatre

# EU SCHOLARSHIPS

*“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” By Edward Hale*

On January 26th, our school launched the 5 school scholarships as part of our EU Careers and MYEU 50 Initiative, open to all students by our Guest Speaker-Patrick O’Riordan Head of Public Affairs, European Parliament, and Margaret Francois, EPAS Liaison Officer.

These scholarships would allow students to attend various summer programmes in languages, sports and activities while building aspirations for EU Careers and as part of our college going culture. Our Senior Cycle students were given the opportunity to apply for Further Education Scholarships both in Ireland and in conjunction with Eunicas.

These initiatives were an incubator since 2020, when we first launched our school scholarship with Luke O’Neill and our Form 6 class of 2021.

Each student had to apply using a specific application form requested, and using 150 words max, explain why they should be picked while using their initiative and motivation-to meet the deadlines and place it in Ms. Harrington’s post box. The criteria and conditions were drive, attendance, enthusiasm, and passion for their applications. The competition was very tough with over 120 applications.

On Wednesday, 8th of March as part of SNAG week, our language scholarships were awarded to Ben Walsh who completes a Summer Programme in a Gaeltacht, Leena May who will complete an intensive summer programme in French and Denis Ryan who will attend the British School of Barcelona’s Language Summer Camp and Sporting activities in Olympic settings. We look forward to hearing about all the experiences on return!!!

On Wednesday 3rd of May, Guy Flouch from Eunicas and Ross Munnelly from DCU, in conjunction with Ms. Harrington presented the senior scholars with the studying in the EU scholarship and further education scholarships. We wish Usna Brennan every success as he embarks his study of Life Sciences in the Netherlands and Elvin Lucaci in DCU.

A special token was presented to the close runner ups. A designed hurley and a GAA Football with signatures from famous GAA stars was presented to Harry Leech, Tom English and a crested Medical Coat to Rachel Akpotor for her passion in healthcare. We wish continued success to all our Form 6 of 2023.





Elvin Lucaci



Usna Brennan

CONGRATULATIONS TO FORM 6 WINNING STUDENTS!



Rachel Akpator



Tom English

# AMBER FLAG

## THE AMBER FLAG

*PROMOTING POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH*

The Amber Flag Committee has been instrumental in creating a vibrant and inclusive school community throughout the academic year. With a range of engaging activities, including a “Decorate Your Door” Christmas competition and candy cane deliveries, the committee has successfully promoted a sense of belonging and brought festive joy to both students and staff.

One of the standout initiatives organised by the Amber Flag Committee was the eagerly anticipated “Decorate Your Door” competition for form classes. This spirited contest encouraged students to showcase their artistic talents and deck their classroom doors in a festive manner.

In our endeavor to spread joy and uplift spirits, the Amber Flag Committee delivered candy canes to both students and staff members. We went from classroom to classroom, sharing these sweet treats as tokens of appreciation. The simple act of distributing candy canes reminded everyone of the importance of kindness and connection during the holiday season.

The Amber Flag Committee’s dedication to fostering community spirit and spreading festive joy has left an indelible mark on our school this year. Through the “Decorate Your Door” Christmas competition, students unleashed their creativity, transforming the corridors into a festive wonderland. The candy cane deliveries served as delightful reminders of the importance of compassion and togetherness. The Amber Flag Committee’s efforts have strengthened the sense of belonging and inclusivity within the school community, leaving a lasting impact on the memories of all involved.

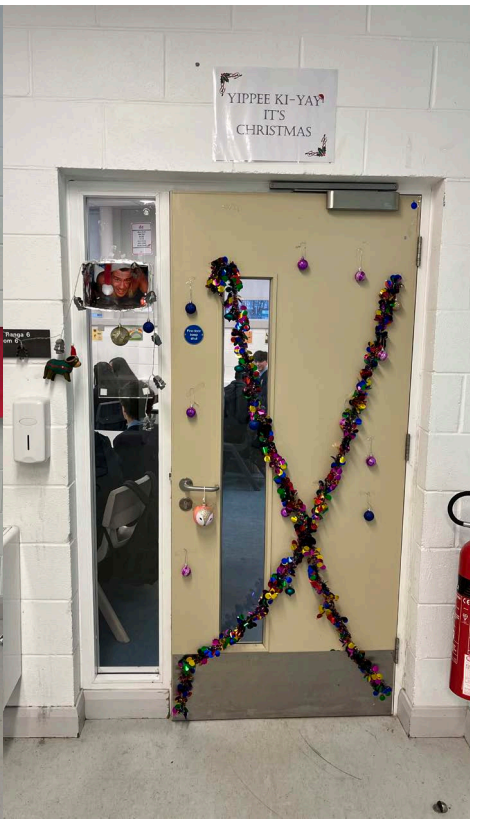




2K



5K



5P

3P

Form 6  
Winners!

1K



# Christmas Decorate-Your-Door Competition Entries!

# CYCLE AGAINST SUICIDE



The Cycle Against Suicide is a movement that aims to raise awareness and end the stigma surrounding mental health. As part of this initiative, a group of students recently completed Shona's Bathroom Challenge, which involved decorating the girls' bathroom with positivity posters using Shona's stencil.

The students who participated in the challenge worked together to create inspiring posters featuring messages such as "You never lose, you either win or you learn," and "Never be ashamed of scars, it means that you were stronger than what hurt you." We used Shona's stencil to create colourful designs and add a positive touch to the bathrooms.

The completion of the challenge was a collaborative effort, with students from different classes and year groups coming together to create the posters. The project not only helped to promote mental health awareness and positivity but also strengthened the community and connection among students.

Amina, Naa, Honor, Nawal, Leah and Angelina are pictured below completing Shona's Bathroom Challenge!



# PEER MENTOR PROGRAMME



This year, I had the greatest privilege of being chosen as a peer mentor in my school. This job was incredibly fun and joyful, allowing me and my fellow mentors to develop leadership and teamwork skills. I started the year by welcoming the new first-year students and helping them fit in. We began the process in TY by participating in the Friends for Life training and welcoming the students to the school for their CAT testing on a Saturday. We provided a tour and offered some healthy snacks.

During the first term of the year, we engaged in various activities, such as playing team-building games with the first-year students, to ensure they were settling in well at this big and wonderful school. The second term was quite different, as there was less for us to do since the first-year students had all settled in extremely fast. As a result, they did not need us as often. It was a bittersweet moment, but also a proud one, as it showed that we had all done our jobs perfectly. To wrap up the year, my fellow peer mentors and I threw a party for the students to celebrate their completion of the first year of school, which was an extremely important accomplishment for them all.

Will Donovan

# ANTI-BULLYING TEAM

I joined the anti-bullying team with the intention of making a difference in our school by actively working to prevent bullying. As an ambassador for the team, I also became involved in the webwise youth panel.

Our first webwise meeting took place in one of the buildings in Dublin city. During the meeting, we had engaging discussions on cyber safety and had the opportunity to share our individual opinions. The best part, in my opinion, was hearing different viewpoints from students aged 13 to 19. It opened my eyes to various perspectives on topics that I had never considered before. Moreover, I had the chance to meet and connect with new people.

We had several other meetings as well, some conducted online and others in person at the Google building in Dublin city center.

Our most recent and final meeting was held in one of the Dublin City Council buildings. During this session, we recapped everything we had covered throughout the year. It was fulfilling to look back at all the valuable information we had learned.

Overall, my experience on the youth panel was extremely enjoyable, and I am enthusiastic about participating again next year.

Jubran Mallak



# SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION

Our school made significant strides in three key areas to enhance college progression. Firstly, we focused on improving teaching and learning practices through the development of digital media and coding skills, recognising the importance of these skills in the 21st century. Secondly, we implemented a mentoring program that extended beyond the classroom, fostering collaboration between our school community, local businesses, and students. This holistic approach aimed to provide comprehensive support for students. Lastly, we ensured that targets were met, fostered a college-going culture, and offered a wide range of experiences and opportunities to our students.

Our efforts to promote college awareness began in October with College Awareness Week. During this week, we implemented a school-wide approach to study skills, facilitated mentor-mentee conversations, set targets, and provided stress relief strategies for exams. We organised a tour of Trinity College and the Book of Kells with a focus on literacy and classics, showcasing the achievements of our past pupils and teachers. Additionally, we explored careers in mental health through a cultural experience at Saint Patrick's Hospital. STEM workshops on forensics and coding were conducted at Technological University Dublin, and a campus outing to University College Dublin for our F5 students was organised, where they had the opportunity to view the new athletics track. Work experience opportunities and a Careers Afternoon were provided in our school yard, offering options beyond the Central Applications Office (CAO) for all years.

Our induction program was further strengthened through the involvement of our Open Day 1st Year Tour guides and mentors during the 1st year CAT testing. We also provided a preparation pack and a guide for our F3 students to build connections with local colleges and businesses for their Transition Year (TY) work experience, while empowering them to make informed decisions about their career goals and aspirations.



# STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council held its first meeting of the school year after the annual elections in September 2022. One boy and one girl were elected from each class group by secret ballot, giving a total of 22 members. This year, the Student Council voted to include a representative from the 6th year prefects to join the Student Council. The role of the student council is to represent students' views to management, to be consulted prior to the implementation of new policies, to contribute to developing new and existing policies in the school, to be a resource working in partnership with the management of the school, to improve the school atmosphere, conditions and facilities, and to generate good relations between students, staff and management. The student council are consulted on policy changes or reviews and provide the students with a voice on these matters. The Student Council and their Liaison teacher - Ms. Balfe met twelve times between September and December.

At the start of the year, Student Council asked Mr. Gill to change the batteries in the classroom clocks, the discussed the length of assemblies and in a bid to keep them shorter it was agreed that extracurricular announcements would be made during Pastoral Care on Tuesdays. Student Council also made inquiries about sourcing jerseys for the girls football team. The long debate over the school hoodies was tackled again and Senior Management explained that they are only permitted on P.E days. Discussions also took place that the proposed 'pods' for junior and senior basketball and football at break-times. It was agreed that the pods are no longer required as both activities are able to run concurrently with junior and senior students playing. It was also agreed that those playing sports should be mindful of students standing around the courts eating their lunch and interact in their sporting activity as safely as possible. Members of the Student Council moved the picnic benches to create more space for all students in the yard.

Members of the Student Council were consulted and reviewed the Attendance & Punctuality policy. The Student Council Liaison teacher Ms. Balfe assembled the Extra-Curricular booklet sent this onto Staff and the Parents Association. Other members of the Student Council updated the extra-curricular activities board with information on the extra-curricular activities running in the school. Members from the Student Council hosted a stand at Open Day.

The Student Council ran a Bake sale on Thursday 10th of November in aid of Cycle Against Suicide and raised €150 and on Friday 19th of November, they organised the Stand Up Awareness Day. Students wore a jumper from a colour in the rainbow and each student donated 2euro. €150 was raised and donated to the organisation Belong To.

In the new year, the student council met again under a new liaison teacher. This term a main focus of the student council was making changes to the school P.E uniform. Members of the council had received many requests from classmates to add shorts to the uniform in the summer months. This was voted on unanimously by the council and was accepted by Mr. Gill, who also agreed that the council could choose the new shorts from a range of samples. Grants sent samples to the school and the student council voted on their favourite option.

A second priority of the council was consulting and reviewing the school's new LGBT+ policy. The council reviewed the document during the meeting and in their own time and made suggestions as to how they thought it could be improved upon. Overall, the students were happy with the policy and were happy to be included in its creation.

Ms. Balfe Student Council Liaison Teacher (September – December 2022)

Ms. McFadden Student Council Liaison Teacher (January- May 2023)



## Student Council Members 2022-23

Form 1K:	Conor Shevlin & Sienna Stones
Form 1P:	Grace Maguire & Manus O' Baoighill
Form 2K:	Éabha McElwaine & Roman Carters
Form 2P:	Denis Ryan & Angelina Morales Espana
Form 3K:	Laila Ní Mhaolearca & Luke Donaghy
Form 3P:	Nathalie King & Gabriel Mihoc
Form 4K:	Charlie Casey Carney & Isabella Ungarasu
Form 4P:	Grace Buckley & Seamus Kelly
Form 5K:	Aoife Kennedy & Taylor McGillivary
Form 5P:	Aoife Power & Reece Boylan
Form 6:	Alibhe Dé Burca & Jack Quinn
Form 6 Prefect:	Tom Brunel

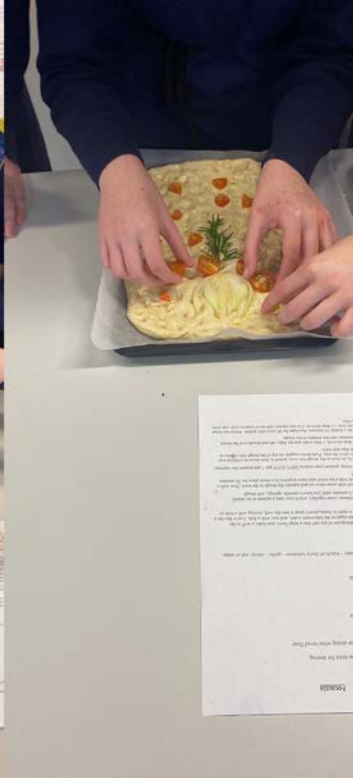


# SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE





# COOKING CORNER





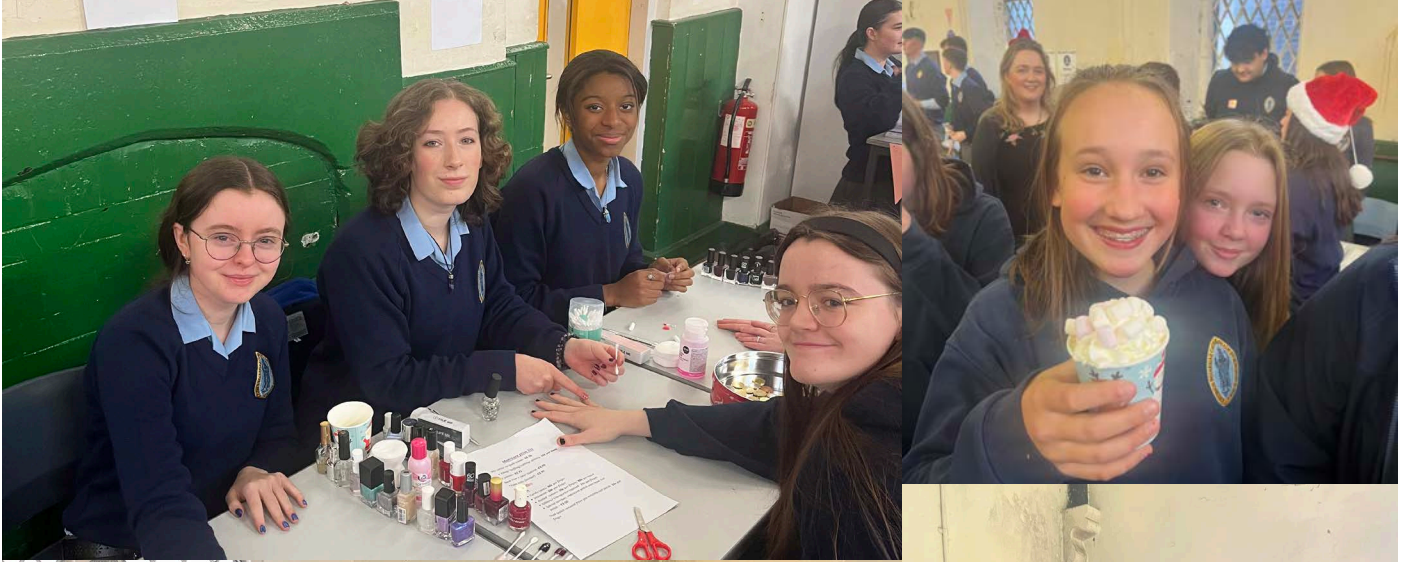
SOME OF THE BEAUTIFUL DISHES OUR STUDENTS CREATED THIS YEAR!

# CHRISTMAS BAKE-OFF





# TY CHRISTMAS TRADE FAIR





# JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT IRELAND

Sarah O'Connor is a solicitor with a wealth of expertise working for KPMG Ireland. She also volunteers with Junior Achievement Ireland and visited our second-year business class for 6 weeks to complete the Economics for Success programme.

Junior Achievement Ireland is one of the biggest nonprofits dedicated to educating and assisting in the future preparation of young people. The organisation's main areas of interest include STEM education, employability, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. Sarah's work with Junior Achievement Ireland demonstrates her love of learning and dedication to giving young people the tools they need to succeed in their chosen careers.

Sarah offered insightful information to our class on the numerous work opportunities accessible throughout her six-week course with our business class. She outlined essential stages, such as quitting a certain job, going to college, and getting a degree, to help students reach their preferred employment.

Students learned the value of making payments and managing funds in real life through the course's entertaining and informative Monopoly game. The game gave pupils the opportunity to practice real-world situations, including paying insurance, receiving payment, and paying bills. The pupils learned important lessons about the financial management portion of their future employment while playing the game.

Overall, our class's six weeks with Sarah O'Connor was a fantastic learning opportunity. Students enjoyed themselves while learning important information about prospective career choices. Sarah was the ideal mentor for the class because of her love of learning and her in-depth expertise in law and business.

Victor Oxley



# RDS SKILLS SHOW



On the 15th of September, the 5th and 6th years from our school had the valuable opportunity to attend a careers skill show held at the RDS. The event was filled with interactive demonstrations and various engaging activities. It provided us with a firsthand experience of different career paths and allowed us to explore our interests and passions.

Throughout the day, we were able to witness and even participate in live demonstrations of various skills, such as cooking, carpentry, makeup, hair styling, and more. These demonstrations not only showcased the practical aspects of these professions but also gave us a glimpse into the level of expertise and creativity required in each field.

One of the highlights of the event was the chance to have conversations with professionals from different industries. We were able to engage with experts and gain insights into the specific careers that piqued our interest. The range of careers represented at the event was diverse, including construction, creative arts, manufacturing and engineering, hospitality and tourism, automotive and heavy vehicle technology, and information technology.

What made this event particularly valuable was the exposure to careers that we may have never considered before. It broadened our horizons and opened our minds to the vast array of possibilities available to us. By interacting with professionals and learning about their experiences, we gained a deeper understanding of the skills, qualifications, and pathways required for different careers.



# CAREERS TRIPS!

In November 2022, my class went on a day trip to TUD (Technological University Dublin). I thoroughly enjoyed the trip as we learned about computers, including how to create a secret file on Notepad and edit websites. Unfortunately, the website edits could only be seen from our end of the computer. Moreover, there were even prizes awarded for the most creatively edited websites. Overall, it was an incredibly interesting trip, and I would certainly consider studying there in the future.



Roman Carters



In October, 4p and 4k visited Trinity College for a day trip. We arrived at the campus and were divided into groups with our assigned tour guide. In my group, we explored the student accommodation, witnessing where some students lived. We also visited the sports grounds, learning about the variety of sports played at Trinity, including tennis, football, Gaelic football, and track athletics.

One notable highlight was entering the newly remodeled business building, which stood out as the newest addition to the campus. As we walked around, we caught a glimpse of the Samuel Beckett theatre, where student productions and other performances take place each school year.

The tour continued with a visit to the library, where we had the opportunity to see the Book of Kells—an awe-inspiring manuscript adorned with beautiful illustrations. We proceeded upstairs to the old library, which dates back to 1592 and became my favorite part of the tour. Inside, we marveled at ancient manuscripts from Greece, Ireland, and England, including one of the rare copies of the 1916 proclamation. The library also housed old statues of ancient Greek philosophers along its walls.

To conclude our day, we enjoyed a meal at the canteen. Overall, the trip provided us with a great experience, offering insights into campus life and giving us a taste of what college might be like.

Eve McElhatton

On the 18th of November of 2022 our school was lucky enough to be able to attend the University College Dublin open day.

This was no doubt a brilliant opportunity for students who plan to go to college to see what life at UCD is all about.

We departed the school on a private bus at approximately 9:45 and arrived at the Campus at about 10:45 where we were told about their amazing facilities that host a wide range of sport activities and student societies, there's something for everyone. We had Students of UCD give us an informative tour around the vast campus where we were shown some of the lecture halls, campus accommodation and some of the many campus facilities.

We ended the day in the Campus canteen/restaurant before we took the bus back to school at around 2 pm.



Trinity  
College  
Dublin

The University of Dublin

# STEMettes

STEMettes is a program that inspires young women to pursue careers in science, technology, arts, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). STEMettes offers various intersectional cohort programs, impactful events, and inspirational content platforms. Students from Form 5 and Form 6 had the chance to participate in an inspiring STEMettes event where we learned HTML coding and received advice on pursuing STEM courses in college or in the future. This event allowed us to meet new people, ask women in STEM about their careers, enjoy fun games, and snacks. It was an empowering experience for young women to ask questions and challenge stereotypes.

My favorite part of the STEMettes program was the speed networking session with STEM role models. It provided insights into different professions within the STEM field, showcasing the wide range of opportunities available. This diversity of careers was encouraging and made me realize the vast possibilities within STEM.

As a team, we had the opportunity to compete against 10 other schools, and we proudly secured the first position. We would like to express our gratitude to our wonderful teachers, Ms. Harrington, Engineers Ireland, and Aoibhinn Ni Shuilleabhain for providing us with this amazing opportunity.

Bianca Akpator



# Paris

The morning of Wednesday 19th of April proved to be an early one for the French students in first and second year of St. Patrick's Cathedral Grammar school. It was the morning of our trip to Paris, and we had to be all assembled at Dublin Airport by 4.10 that morning. Thankfully we all made it, most of us sleepy but excited and eager to get going. Ms Corkery, Ms McFadden, the Reverend Oxley and Chrissie were to accompany us on our tour to the famous capital of France.

We arrived at Beauvais Airport safely and promptly at 8.20am and were met by Gert our coach driver and makeshift shopkeeper. He, as well as being our driver, also presented us with a variety of small snacks and drinks at very reasonable prices. He then proceeded to take us right into the centre of the city of Paris. The day was bright and sunny, the April showers that the capital is famous for, keeping well away, thankfully. We were taken to the Champs – Elysées. There, we had lunch, the choice being either dining at McDonalds or at Quick Burger (a sort of French Supermacs). We were then introduced to many of the famous sights, including the enormous 'Arc de Triomphe' the 'Place de la Concorde' and the famous cathedral 'Notre Dame'.

That evening we dined at the Crêperie Beaubourg, where we ate delicious sweet and savoury crêpes. After that we took a leisurely cruise down the River Seine, from where we got to view the many beautiful and historical sights of the city.

That evening when we finally arrived at our hotel (Hotel Stay city Aparthotels, Marne La Vallee) it was an exhausted group of us that made our way to our rooms and settled down for the night.

Next morning, it was up and at it for everyone. Breakfast was served at 8.00am and it was a tasty and continental affair, with pancakes (make your own), cheeses, sausages, yogurts, juices and of course the French staple, delicious croissants. After breakfast, at 9.00am, we made our way to the coach which was to bring us to the highlight of the trip for many of us, namely Disneyland Paris.

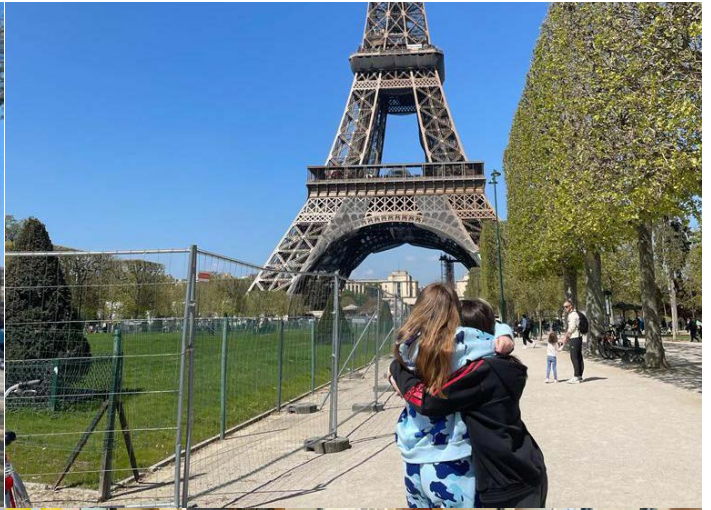
We spent the whole day there, most of us daring to go on rides such as the 'Big Thunder Mountain' and 'Pirates of the Caribbean' and 'Indiana Jones'. It was once again a lovely sunny day, and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. We ate there too, most of us opting for the many fast food outlets available to us there. It was a long, but thoroughly enjoyable day and that evening we made our way back to the hotel for some rest. (And sometime in the hotel arcade).

The next morning, we checked out of our hotel after having a lovely and filling breakfast. Our coach then took us to Montmartre where the famous Sacré Coeur Cathedral lies at the top of many exhausting steps. Art and artist were everywhere. We were then escorted to the Montparnasse Tower where a lift took us up to the 56th floor. The view of Paris from there was spectacular.

At 1.30pm we had lunch at Flam's Montparnasse, following which we were then taken to the Musée D'Orsay. The fabulous art works of Van Gogh, Renoir, Manet, Rodin and Monet, including many others were there for us to view and marvel at.

Finally, at 6.15pm that evening we arrived at 'Le Jeu de Paume Shopping Centre' where we spent some time buying souvenirs and tokens from our trip to bring back to Dublin. From there, we left for the airport and 7.45pm and awaited our flight home, which was delayed slightly. It was closer to midnight when a tired and weary bunch of students, and their accompanying adults arrived back at Dublin Airport. However, overall, the trip had been a huge success and a thoroughly enjoyable one for everyone. A big thanks all the staff who organised it and who came with us on a truly unforgettable experience. Merci Beaucoup!!!

Johanna Poppema





# BARCELONA

Our school trip to Barcelona was filled with excitement and memorable experiences from start to finish.

On the first day, we gathered at the airport bright and early, ready to embark on our adventure. Luckily, the airport procedures were smooth, and we didn't have to wait around for long. Upon our arrival in Spain, we eagerly awaited our bus, which would take us to our first destination: Tarragona. We had a few hours to explore the city, and a group of us decided to visit the historical ruins, enjoy some live music, and soak up the sun on the beach. It was a delightful experience, and we even found shops selling water for just 70 cents!

After our Tarragona exploration, we headed to Barcelona for a bus tour. As we traversed the city, we were mesmerized by the unique architecture and iconic landmarks. We even caught a glimpse of a magnificent stadium that added to the excitement. Later, we parked at a mountain location and took a leisurely stroll, reveling in the breathtaking views surrounding us. The beauty of Barcelona was truly captivating. Before heading to the hotel, we made a quick stop at a petrol station to grab some sweets and snacks, fueling our excitement for the days ahead. After checking in and enjoying dinner, we were given some free time to explore the hotel. We discovered a games room, which provided us with fun before going to bed.

Day two began we had and breakfast before boarding the bus once again, this time heading to Port Aventura. Although we had to wait a little for the park to open, the sunny weather made the anticipation bearable. Once inside, the park proved to be a paradise of thrilling rides and stunning themed sections. Every step felt like entering a different world.

As screams echoed through the park from the Dragon Khan and Shambhala roller coasters, I decided to challenge myself and conquer my fear. I opted for Shambhala, a roller coaster known for its height and speed but lacking any upside parts. We waited in line for 45 minutes, my nerves grew, but I was determined to see it through. The moment I stepped into the seat, I realized only a lap bar held me in place, intensifying my anxiety. As the ride started, the initial drop took my breath away, and the ups and downs that followed left me feeling exhilarated yet slightly dizzy. It was an unforgettable experience, and I felt a sense of pride for facing my fears head-on. Afterward, we embarked on a water ride where we ended up getting completely drenched. We met up at the designated spot and made our way back to the hotel. Dinner that evening was great. There were delicious kebabs. Following dinner, we ventured to The House of Illusions, where we were entertained by various acts and performances.

Day three marked the final day of our adventure. We woke up, packed our belongings, and checked out of the hotel. Our next stop was the tram that would take us up to the mountains. The scenery was simply breathtaking, resembling an idyllic town tucked away in nature's embrace. Next, we visited a shopping centre. Inside, my friends and I found ourselves lost in the shop. We could find where everyone had gone. We eventually met up with a few others who experienced the same problem. Despite the minor setback, we enjoyed a few hours of shopping before reuniting with everyone at the designated meeting point.

Finally, we boarded the bus and made our way to the airport. Time was tight, and the airport staff seemed overwhelmed with the large group. After a hurried passport check, we barely had a moment to grab snacks or water before heading to our gate. Amid discussions about the strange architecture of the airport and reminiscing about our time at PortAventura, Mr Lynch realised we were at the wrong gate and had to run to the correct one, reminding me of a scene from Home Alone. Luckily, we made it just in time.

As we settled into our seats on the plane, the flight back home felt surprisingly short, filled with laughter and conversations among friends. Upon landing, we went through the final checks and bid farewell to Barcelona, with memories and experiences that would last a lifetime.

Leah Brady

# BELFAST

In February 2023, the third-year students took an overnight history trip to Belfast to improve their knowledge about life during the troubles. The bus left early in the morning to make it to our first activity, a black cabs tour around Belfast. We were given a tour of the Shankill and Falls Road areas, focusing on the peace wall between the two communities, by those who grew up in the area and experienced the troubles firsthand. We visited murals of historical figures, such as William of Orange, Stevie McKeag and Bobby Sands. We even left a written message on the peace wall. It was excellent to get an insight into the troubles from those who grew up during that time.

We then got back on the bus and drove to Stormont to visit the Northern Ireland Assembly. Here we learned about the history of the government in Northern Ireland and the current system under the Good Friday Agreement. We even held a debate and a vote about the voting age in the Assembly Chamber.

After a long day of tours, we walked to the Stormont Hotel where we were given our rooms before dinner. After our dinner we took Belfast public transport to go bowling. Everyone had a brilliant time, despite some suspect bowling techniques. We took the public transport back to our hotel before returning to our rooms for bedtime.

We rose early for breakfast the next day so we could get back on the bus. Then we travelled to Belfast City Centre, where we were split into two groups. One group took a tour of City Hall, where we tried on mayoral robes, admired the collection of historical artworks, and learned about the historical significance of the building. The other group were given some free time to buy some lunch and to explore some of the city and its shops. Most of us headed straight for Victoria Square, the biggest (and only) outdoor shopping centre in Ireland. After the City Hall tour was finished the groups swapped activities.

Our final tour gave us the opportunity to tour the Crumlin Road Gaol, which housed many prisoners during the troubles. We toured the different cells and learned about how prison practices have changed over the years. One of the most interesting parts of the tour were reliving the journey of a prisoner condemned to death. We even visited the execution chamber where several prisoners were killed over the prison's history. The tour concluded with a visit to the graves of executed prisoners before we were back on the bus for the journey home.

We travelled home on the bus which was spent sleeping for most after the long and exciting weekend. It was an excellent trip filled with interesting opportunities to learn about the history of Belfast and lots of fun was had too. Thank you to Ms.McFadden for organising the trip and to Ms.Corkery, Ms.McMahon and Mr.Lynch for supervising!

Luke Donaghy



# GLENDALOUGH



On Tuesday, 21st March, our school participated in an event organised by Green Schools in conjunction with Uisce Éireann at Glendalough National Park. Ms. McFadden and Ms. O'Neill took us to Glendalough by coach early in the morning. We arrived and met all the other schools at the upper lake and were told what we would be doing. We collected water bottles and containers from the Green Schools team and filled them with water at Glendalough Lake. We then loaded up our bags with the water and started our six-kilometre hike up a steep, hilly trail. We went through woods, up steps, along a boardwalk, and saw lots of gorgeous views.

At times, the walk was difficult, with the water on our backs weighing us down. At the end of our hike, we returned to the lake and emptied our water. We had lunch and then attended a talk with a wildlife lady who told us all about the different animals, birds, insects, and plants in the area. The day was great fun, and we learned so much about the area. We walked with the water in solidarity with children in less fortunate places who must walk for miles every day to find clean, drinkable water and carry it back to their families. Sometimes they must do this multiple times a day.

The walk was organised to spread awareness and show how lucky we are to live in a country like Ireland, with ample access to clean, safe drinking water. Throughout the walk, we reflected on how grateful we are to have fresh drinking water in our homes and schools. We were sponsored by friends and family on our walk, and we raised €410. This money was donated to GOAL, a charity which helps those in need in various countries all over the world. We all loved our day in the fresh air at Glendalough and were happy we could raise money for such a well-deserving charity based here in Dublin. We can't wait to make more progress as a committee next year.

Niamh Laidlaw

# TRANSITION YEAR

As part of our TY experience, on May 5th, we had the opportunity to participate in a comedy workshop. The workshop took place in school and was led by two instructors named Quinton and Colin. They taught us about improv and comedy techniques.

The workshop lasted approximately 3 hours, making it quite lengthy. However, the workshop was well-structured, and we were engaged throughout the entire duration. We began with a series of enjoyable mini-games that helped us warm up and feel comfortable with each other. Then, we progressed to larger group games to enhance our teamwork and team-building skills. Some of these games were new to us, but they proved to be excellent warm-ups for our subsequent activities.

The main focus of the workshop was improv. Through demonstrations and performances by both ourselves and Quinton and Colin, we learned various techniques and concepts related to improv. We engaged in a wide range of activities, one of which involved acting out scenes spontaneously using only numbers to communicate and express emotions. It was entertaining to witness the fast and humorous responses that emerged from this activity, making it my personal favorite. After a few more significant activities, we concluded the workshop with feedback and a discussion on the benefits of improv.

Overall, I found this experience to be exceptional and one of the highlights of my TY journey. I highly recommend it to future TY students as it was incredibly enjoyable and offers benefits beyond acting.

Thomas Kelleher



## Comedy Workshop



## Look into Law Work Experience

For the first two days, the programme was online. Loads of Barristers, solicitors, judges and law students came on the call to tell us all about the different aspects of their jobs, and how they started working in the law.

For the next two days, we went to the Bar of Ireland. We got sorted into groups and each group had a lawyer bring us around the Criminal Courts and the Four Courts. We got to go into the court rooms and see some of the cases. The lawyer explained all the different roles people have in the court room and how the prosecution works.

We also did mock trials in our groups so we could really see all the different jobs in the Courts and how a trial works.

“Tír gan teanga, tír gan Anam”

This seanfhocal stuck with me throughout Seachtain na Gaeilge. It translates to, a country without a language is a country without a soul. For three weeks all the TY's organised and planned Seachtain na Gaeilge for the whole school. We started by making posters and putting them up around the school. Then for the next two weeks we all learned and practiced three different Irish céile dances with Mr Whyte and Ms McCormick.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge

Once we had all the dances down all we had to do was spread the word around the school. During Wednesdays assembly I announced that there would be a talent show and a céile the following Thursday the day before St Patrick's day.

Every year bar the TY's performed an act in Irish in between the dances, for example the first years made up their own Haka and used Irish terms and the third year preformed a sketch about St Patrick coming to Ireland and done it in Irish. In between all the sketches we lined up everyone in the school to do all the dances we were taught.

To conclude, our céile we danced to the song an dreóilín. It was a really good day for the school and everyone really enjoyed it including all the teachers that took part.

Seán Mc Loughlin



## Christmas-Trade Fair

For this year's business fair, we were divided into groups consisting of 2-5 people. Each group was tasked with developing a product or service to market and sell to the rest of the school. To better understand our target audience and identify specific needs or desires, we conducted surveys.

The fair was set up in the school hall, and there was a wide variety of food stalls offering gingerbread men, pick'n'mix candies, waffles, hot chocolate, donuts, as well as stalls selling hot sauce and jam. In addition to the food stalls, there were also attractions such as a tattoo stall, Mario Kart, virtual reality experiences, and a photo booth.

Overall, the fair was a tremendous success, with all the groups generating profits, and most products and services selling out before the event concluded.

Ella Mullins

# TY MUSICAL- ALL SHOOK UP!

Our transition year musical was one of the most significant moments for us. It began in September with auditions, followed by callbacks, and a few weeks later, everyone received their roles. Every Friday, our choreographer, Georgiana, joined us to rehearse dance moves. We also had sessions with Ms. Balfe to practice the different songs, and we learned our lines in our own time.

Additionally, we were assigned to different groups to assist with various aspects of the musical production. There were groups for props, set design, costumes, construction, and more. We created comprehensive lists of everything we needed, from paint and wood to clothes.

We also approached local businesses to seek sponsorship for our musical. Each of us had to secure three sponsors, and we included all the businesses in the leaflet. We also organized practice sessions to refine any dances we were less confident in.

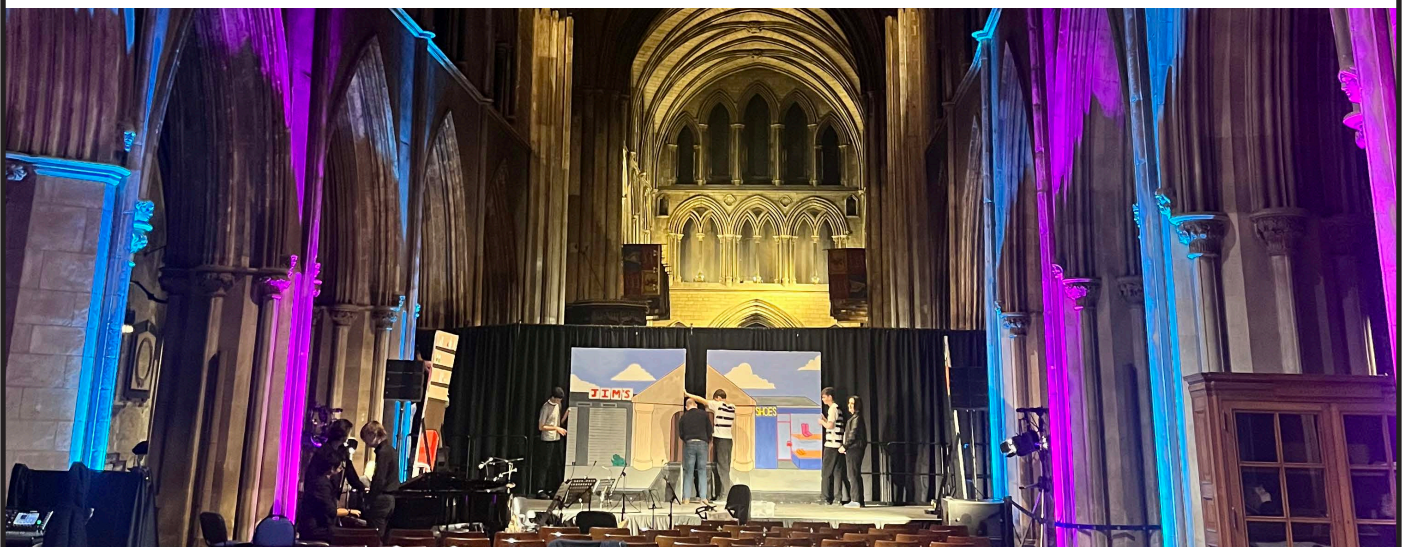
A week before the musical, we held a dress rehearsal in the cathedral, providing us with a glimpse of the performance setting. Then, on the following Tuesday, the day before opening night, we had a full rehearsal with microphones, costumes, and the stage fully set up.

Wednesday was the big night. We arrived at the school a few hours beforehand to prepare everything. The show went relatively smoothly, and we all felt proud of our accomplishments. We returned home to get some much-needed rest.

The focus for Thursday's performance was to avoid complacency and not assume we had it all figured out just because we had done it before. We went out and gave it our all once again, and it's safe to say that Thursday's performance was even better, thanks to our increased experience. After the show, we brought everything back to the school and cleaned up the cathedral. Then we went home and had the sleep of a lifetime.

The musical was an incredible experience. It not only taught us valuable lessons but also provided plenty of enjoyment. I don't think I would be mistaken in saying that it was one of the highlights, if not the highlight, of most people's fourth year.

Luca O'Shaughnessy-Ward





# WORK EXPERIENCE & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

In March, I did a week of work experience in the Marine Institute in Oranmore, Co. Galway. I really enjoyed the week, and I learned a lot about the many different areas of work in the maritime industry. There was a group of about twenty TY students taking part in the programme from all over the country. We got a tour of the building and we got to see lots of labs and equipment.

One interesting thing I learned about was how to tell the age of a fish. Fish have small bones in their inner ear called otoliths, which allow fish to hear and sense vibrations in the water and they provide a sense of balance. A new layer grows around the otolith each year which creates rings when it is sliced open. Scientists can count these rings to age a fish, similar to how you would find the age of a tree.



During the week we had some presentations about ocean currents, oceanographic services, research vessels, life at sea, seafloor mapping, shellfish testing, maritime economics, marine chemistry and more. We even got to dissect a fish. Overall, I really enjoyed my work experience in the Marine Institute and I learned a lot of new things. I think work experience is one of the best parts of TY.

Freya Reddington



For one of my work experience placements, I did the “Walk in my Shoes” Experience. It started at St. Patrick’s University Hospital, where I met other TY students from across Ireland. We were given a tour of the hospital, which was really interesting. During the tour, we saw the different activity rooms available for patients, including music, art and craft, reading, and a gaming room for younger patients.

After that, we had a lecture from the CEO, Paul Gillgan, who seemed very enthusiastic about the hospital. He talked about Jonathan Swift’s reasons for founding the hospital and then engaged us in debates about how patients are treated. We had the opportunity to listen to mental health professionals’ experiences, which I found really interesting. My favorite part was hearing about a past patient’s experience in the hospital and her struggle with mental health. She was very honest and down to earth.

Overall, it was one of my favorite parts of TY, and I would recommend it to everyone.

Caodan Connolly



I was lucky enough to do my work experience in the National Library. When I first arrived, I was given a tour around the beautiful building and introduced to all the different departments.

On Tuesday I spent the morning in the National Photographic Archive in Templebar and took part in their photoshoot for their new exhibition 'People and Places'. I got to meet the people who worked on it and get an early look at the exhibition.

On Wednesday I spent the morning with the library's family history services. I was shown the work they do, and the resources they use. I got to use my own family as an example, and they worked through the steps of researching with me.

I also got to spend time with the librarian on duty in the reading room. Here I got to see the book store and collect a requested book from it. It was a huge room and so packed full of books, you could easily get lost in there!

On my last day I went on a tour of MOLI which is connected to the NLI. The tour was brilliant, and the exhibition was curated in such a creative and innovative way. Their main exhibition was on James Joyce, but they also had ones on Peg Sayers, young adult books, and banned books.

I really loved spending time in the library. It was such an amazing opportunity to see behind the scenes and to meet so many lovely and interesting people.

Róisín Farrelly



On the 25th of March, I went to Valencia, Spain to do work experience with my uncle. My uncle is a web developer, so he let me observe how he manages his different developed websites, and I had the opportunity to see him working on websites he was currently developing.

I got to witness many aspects of a web developer's work, but I also had the chance to explore Valencia, which was definitely a fun experience. I rented a bike and cycled around the city, exploring different places. One day, I even took the bus to the beach and had a great time walking along the pier. The language barrier was occasionally challenging since I had thought they would speak Spanish in Valencia, but they actually speak their own language, Valencian.

On some days, if I finished assisting my uncle early, I would go outside and join in the festival that was taking place. In Valencia, from the end of March until the end of April, they have a massive festival where statues are burnt while everyone dances around them and there are numerous fireworks. This happened every day.

By the end of my trip, I was able to set up a website and learn how to code it. It was truly fascinating to learn from my uncle's job and see how he can leverage his web development experience to create his own websites and generate passive income. It was all very intriguing, and I'm glad I went.



Max Brady

# WORK EXPERIENCE

My work experience in the Air Corps was one of the best experiences I've ever had. It provided me with a real opportunity to see what it is like to work in the Irish Air Corps and the Irish Army, and helped me make a more informed decision about whether I want to pursue a career in the Irish Air Corps or Irish Army in the future.

The great thing about the Air Corps was that they had the entire week planned out for us, unlike other work experience placements where you could be left standing around for hours with nothing to do. Therefore, I would highly recommend seeking a job that has the week planned out for you or a job where you know you will be engaged in fun and different activities every day to keep your mind occupied.

During my time in the Irish Air Corps, I had the opportunity to sit in every different type of aircraft and learn about their respective operations. I gained insights into the various jobs available in the Air Corps, such as air traffic controller, fixed-wing pilot, military police, engineer, and flight trainer. Not many people can say they have sat in the presidential plane.

One of the coolest things about the Air Corps was walking from place to place, as each time we did, different aircraft would be flying just meters away from us, giving us a real sense of the adrenaline and excitement of working there.

Overall, the Irish Air Corps provided me with one of the most enjoyable weeks I have ever had. I would encourage future TY students to make the most of the weeks allocated for work experience, as it truly opens your mind to different career paths you may want to pursue in the future.



Charlie Casey Carney



As part of our TY program, we had to participate in a week of community involvement at the beginning of the year. I decided to work at St Vincent de Paul's, a charity shop located around the corner from my house. The manager, Jordi, was very kind and taught me about the operations of the shop. I thoroughly enjoyed my time working there, and it turned out to be a fantastic week for me. It was my first experience in customer service and retail, and I gained valuable knowledge about the field. Later in the year, I made the decision to return and work there again because of the immense enjoyment I had during my first experience.

Robyn McElwaine

For my community involvement, I worked at Frontline Bikes in Inchicore.

On Monday, I had an interview for the job, and after a successful conversation, I was informed that I could start the following day. I began my work at 10 o'clock on Tuesday, and I made sure to arrive 5-10 minutes early to make a good impression on my boss, Ger. During the first few hours, I was assigned tasks to clean and sweep around the shop. Towards the end of my first day, I received instruction on how to replace a tube in a bike wheel. My shift ended around 5 o'clock.



Thursday was particularly busy, and for the first 3 or 4 hours, I was continuously replacing tubes, from mountain bikes to racers. As business slowed down with the darkness setting in, I was allowed to leave early due to my hard work. On Friday, I started at 9 o'clock instead and was permitted to leave at 3 o'clock. It was less busy compared to the previous day, but I assisted with bike gears and brakes, with only a few tubes to replace.

Overall, I had a fantastic time and gained valuable experience.

Tomas Lavelle



Day 1: On my first day, I arrived at the IBTS center early in the morning, and I was welcomed by the staff. They gave me a brief introduction to the organization, its mission, and how it operates. We were assigned to the laboratory department, where I would be spending most of my time during the week.

The laboratory was a busy and highly organized space with a team of experienced and highly trained scientists and technicians working efficiently to carry out various blood tests and analyses. My mentor introduced me to the laboratory team and showed me around the different sections of the laboratory, explaining the processes and procedures involved in the analysis of blood samples. I was fascinated by the complexity and precision of the equipment and techniques used in the laboratory.

Day 2-3: Over the next couple of days, We learnt more in the laboratory's activities. The staff were incredibly friendly and helpful, answering my questions and explaining procedures and processes to me. I learned how the IBTS screens for transfusion-transmissible infections, such as HIV, Hepatitis B and C, and Syphilis. I also learned about the different techniques used in blood processing and how blood components are separated into different components such as red blood cells, plasma, and platelets.

Day 4-5: During the next couple of days, I had the opportunity to observe and participate in blood donation sessions. I was amazed by the organization and efficiency of the donation process, from the initial screening to the collection of the blood samples.

Day 5:

The logo for giveblood.ie, featuring the text "giveblood.ie" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font on a red rectangular background.

I observed how donors are screened for eligibility, including their age, weight, and health status, and how their blood pressure and iron levels are measured before donating. The staff explained to me the importance of ensuring that the donor's blood is safe and suitable for transfusion to the patient.

# EES ACTIVITIES

On the 22nd of September, the whole of TY went to The National Ploughing Championships 2022. We had to go early to beat the traffic and have enough time to see everything in the Ploughing, so we left at 8 AM. The bus ride was only about an hour, but when we got there, it was lashing. This made me glad I wore my more heavy-duty shoes as the mud would've torn through my runners.

The whole day, we were allowed to wander off by ourselves, and so I went off with my good friend, Ervin.

We first went to see the sheep, which was where we met many sheep farmers who were all extremely passionate about their sheep. Next, we stopped at the RTÉ tent where you could do a weather announcement. Ervin and I did this, and it was great craic. We even got applauded afterwards from the people outside of the studio.



We were at a point where we seemed to be walking endlessly, looking for something to do when we saw a familiar face in the crowd. Simon Harris was casually walking in the crowd, so I went up and shook his hand and remarked on how he had played table tennis with the 6th years back in January of 2022. Ervin and I took a picture with him and went on our way, but unfortunately for him, his presence seemed to attract attention, and soon everyone was getting a picture with him.

Ervin and I, after hours of doing loads of things in the Ploughing, needed to finally get our “white whale,” the thing we had been searching for but with little success... The Funfair. It took us an hour and a half of searching, but we finally came across it. With 50 minutes before we would have to meet up to go back to the school, we decided to risk getting on the most chilling ride we could see. The ride was basically 2 pairs of seats that you would sit on, and you'd get spun around 50 meters in the air and be thrown back down. We paid for the ride and waited in line for 30 minutes. Each minute we were getting more and more nervous that something “Final Destination”-esque would happen when on it. When we finally got on, it was terrifying, so Ervin and I were giving our last goodbyes to each other as we were being flung around.

Once off, we realized we only had 10 minutes till we had to meet up with the class. We ran and ended up still getting to the meeting place about 15 minutes late, but it wasn't exactly for a bad reason. Overall, the day was really fun, and I didn't actually end up seeing any Ploughing. 10/10.

Max Brady



We visited the EPIC museum, which featured interactive exhibits about Irish emigration and the diaspora. I was amazed by the detailed information provided on the most significant aspects of Irish immigration. The museum had many displays that allowed visitors to engage with and explore the history of Irish emigration. We learned about the struggles and achievements of Irish people around the world. It was fascinating to hear the stories of those who left Ireland and how they made a significant impact in other countries.

Peter Reid

On Friday, January 27th, we went on a school trip to the criminal courts up at the Phoenix Park. We left after our first class and arrived at the courts around 1 pm. If we had any liquids, we would have to pour them out as they are not allowed in the courts. We then had to put our bags in a tray so they could check for any liquids or prohibited items. When we got in, we took our belongings and formed groups with our friends. We were allowed to enter the courtrooms on our own.

We started on the bottom floor and worked our way up.

The bottom floor had the least dangerous trials, while the top floor had the most dangerous ones. We worked our way up from the first floor, and there were some interesting cases, but not many. In one court room, we witnessed a case involving a man who was drunk. He had shown up at his ex-girlfriend's house and attempted to light his shirt on fire. The girl quickly put it in the sink, extinguishing the fire. However, he tried to light it on fire again, so the girl took his lighter and ran downstairs. The man followed her and began smashing cups. In the process, he injured the girl's niece, who ran outside to call her sister for help. Unfortunately, the man blocked his ex-girlfriend from reaching her niece.



By Kate Crowe



On Tuesday, May 9th, we had a full-day first aid course. At the beginning of the day, we went through a PowerPoint presentation that covered all the essential information about emergency services, including the number to call for an ambulance. We watched instructional videos on how to perform CPR and learned valuable skills on how to act in case of an emergency.

Throughout the course, we learned about the signs and symptoms to look out for to recognize a stroke, heart attack, or asthma attack. We also learned how to treat burns and what to do if someone is choking. We were taught how to perform CPR on both adults and children. For adults, we learned

to use two hands for chest compressions, while for babies or children, we were instructed to use two fingers.

One of the highlights of the course was getting hands-on experience with mannequins and the defibrillator (AED). The defibrillator is used for cardiac arrest and delivers an electric shock to help the heart reestablish an effective rhythm. We learned the proper way to perform chest compressions and had the opportunity to practice it on the mannequins.

Overall, this course provided us with a lot of useful knowledge and resources. It is important to be prepared and know first aid because you never know when you might need to help someone in need.

Saoirse Reardon and Eve McElhatton



The Transition Years were brought ice skating in Dundrum on January 23rd, accompanied by Mr. Macari, Ms. Tyrell, Ms. McCormack, and Mr. Hussain. We took the Luas from St. Stephen's Green to Dundrum. Upon arrival, we lined up to get our skates and headed for the rink, which we had all to ourselves. It was a great day with everyone having fun together, skating and attempting tricks on the ice. Naturally, there were some collisions and crashes, but overall, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and had a fantastic day.

Cherry McAuley Pratt and Sarah O'Sullivan



On our Friday afternoon activity, we were fortunate to have an expert on the John F. Kennedy assassination explain all the key factors that make the case interesting. Our speaker began by going through the official narrative of the murder, providing details about the times and events before, during, and after the incident. Once we understood the official White House release story, he delved into the inconsistencies and discrepancies that emerged, such as the timing between gunshots and the suspicion of there being two shooters.

The most captivating part was when he presented a decommissioned version of the Carcano Italian rifle, demonstrating how challenging it was to rack the bolt back and forth, especially when targeting a small moving object from a considerable distance. The speaker also set up a display with informative banners that provided detailed information about various aspects of the assassination. This experience was a highlight for me as it encouraged real-time reflection on each factor as the speaker explained it.

By Oran McDonagh



One Friday, as our afternoon activity, our year visited the National Archaeology Museum. We were guided into the museum and then given the freedom to explore on our own. We wandered around and examined the various artifacts. Initially, I wasn't overly excited about the idea, but to my surprise, I ended up thoroughly enjoying it. I came across a wide range of fascinating objects and learned about their origins. Time seemed to fly by, and before I knew it, Mr. Brady announced that it was time to leave, and we began heading back.

Overall, it was an educational and enjoyable trip.

By David Lindsay



For our Friday activity, our TY class participated in an Urban Orienteering challenge in the city center. We divided into groups of three and received a sheet with 10 clues that corresponded to specific shops or places in the city. Our task was to visit each location, take a photo of all three group members with the place in the background, and move on to the next clue.

As we made our way through the city, we noticed another group near the final location, which made us realize it was a close competition. Determined to win, we quickly ran to the last spot and back, managing to secure victory by a single point!

The Urban Orienteering challenge was an excellent experience overall, providing us with an engaging and active Friday activity. It allowed us to explore the city center while working together in teams, and the thrill of the competition made it even more exciting.

By Oran McDonagh

# KILLARY

For our big trip this year, we went to Killary Adventure Center in Galway for five days. This is a main highlight of Transition year, and it is something every 4th year should experience! Even though the weather was rainy for all the days we were there, we made the most of it.

On the first day, we were meant to do our first activity, but it was too rainy. So instead, we took a walk around the area and learned what the schedule for the days would be and saw the rooms.

For the next few days, the routine was the same. We would get up, go to breakfast, have our first activity, come back for lunch, then go to our next activity. We did several different activities like high ropes, archery, kayaking, gorge walking, bushcraft, and the big Turf Challenge. After that, we had chill-out time where we would have showers (which we needed after all the rain) or just play pool and relax in the pool room.

We had dinner, then had evening activities which consisted of one hour indoors and one in the dome outside. The indoor activities were more relaxed. We did things like shadow puppets, games, and challenges. Outside, we did activities like dodgeball, circus tricks, trad band, and a céilí on our last night, and karaoke after.

After the evening activities were done, we sat in the dining area and had hot chocolate and biscuits. Almost everyone was exhausted after the day, so after this, we would go back to our rooms and go to bed.

We really enjoyed this trip because we got to try things that some of us had never tried before. Some people faced their fears, like fears of heights or water, and I think trying all these together brought us altogether as a year and memories that we'll have for years to come.

By: Grace, Hannah, and Scarlett



# GAISCE

Gaisce is a commitment program. Gaisce has bronze, silver, and gold awards. You need to pick an activity for 3 different challenge areas: personal skills, physical activity, and community involvement. You need to do an hour of each for a certain period; bronze is 13 weeks, silver is 26 weeks, and gold is 52 weeks. At the end of your journey, you get to go on an adventure journey.

My own experience of Gaisce has been great. For community involvement, I have chosen to pick up litter from the park close to my house. Teenagers and irresponsible people throw rubbish on the ground. The common litter that I have picked up were cans and bottles of alcohol and energy drinks, plastic, vapes and cigarettes, and sweet wrappers. Mainly, dog owners had trouble with the rubbish around the park because dogs often sniffed and ate them, causing them to get sick.

My personal skill was baking. I love to bake, although I would love to improve it. So each week, I chose one recipe to do that I haven't baked before. Soups, hot food, and mainly desserts were my recipes, and they have turned out delicious. Whenever I make a dessert that we can't eat all of, I bring it to school to share with my friends, and they love it.

For physical activity, I have chosen to do yoga at home. It has multiple benefits like relaxation of the muscles, mindfulness, and meditation.

All the Gaisce participants are going on an adventure journey to Glendalough for 2 days. We must complete a 22km hike during our stay for the bronze award.

I would recommend everyone to sign up for Gaisce. Next year, I will be signing up for the silver award.

By Esma Balkir



# TY 2022/2023

Transition year 2022/23, wow, what a year. It felt like yesterday that Mr. Brady gave us his beautiful ty introduction speech to us. Personally, and others have said Ty was a year of new learnings and new friendships; barriers of awkwardness were broken, everyone was brought closer as a group, not only the students were brought closer, but the teachers were brought closer to the students as well. Ty is known to be stereotyped as a doss year but, I feel like this was different for our year. We were all taken out of our comfort zone and have personally grown and matured in so many ways. For instance, I feel like I have gained way more confidence in talking to people and how I approach tasks given to me.

This year, we all got the opportunity to experience loads of different types of jobs with our 3 weeks' work experience. There was such a variety of placements, with people working in places such as, The Irish Defence Forces, St. James's Hospital, the Air Corps and the Bar of Ireland; and some people even went abroad! We also did a week of community involvement, which gave us the chance to give back to our communities. This, along with our work experience, was a great opportunity to figure out what we're interested (and not so interested) in pursuing in our futures.

Transition year wasn't only all about the trips, workshops, and work experience, it was more holistic. For example, each subject and the classes within were enjoyable and fun to participate in. Mr. Kirwan introduced us to a new subject which was philosophy, some would disagree but, I found it interesting even though sometimes I wouldn't have a clue what half the terminology was about that Mr. Kirwan was saying. Coming to the end of the year, our abstract notions have thoroughly expanded and I'm sure Mr. Kirwan would be proud. Ty was well planned out for us, there was something different to do every week, from trips, work placements, orienteering, workshops, comedy shows and way more. I could pick so many highlights of TY but my favorite one of all must be our trip to Killary, and I'm sure many would agree with me. Why Killary, may you ask?

Well, I have no recollection of having as many funny moments as I did in Killary and not only this, all our phones were taken off us and were given back once every day for an hour, I thought this was one of the best things to happen to us, I know it might sound bad as if we did have our phones, but everyone engaged more with each other in a conversation, fun, jokes, pranks, activities and so on.

My favorite parts of Killary were the Bog Run getting covered from head to toe in pure muck, I even got to swallow a mouthful of the filthy bog water, and the bunk bed chats where I got my famous nickname Jiggy. Killary really brought our relationship closer with each other and with the teachers that were there, for example, Mr. Brady's competitive pool playing that he wouldn't give up against us.

We also had our TY musical: All Shook Up. It was a mostly student-driven production with us all working in different prep and backstage teams. Working together on the musical really brought us all closer together, and in the end, we had two very successful nights.

Sports was also a huge thing in Transition year, from P.E. football, basketball, and volleyball. All the teams were really successful, with the girl football teams reaching semifinals in the Leinster league and the boys getting to the final of the Dublin League which we actually played today and sadly lost, it felt like we were playing against the ref rather than a team. Mr. Lynch's motivational speeches were extremely inspiring and had a huge role in where our team got today.

Transition year has prepared us for the years ahead in so many positive ways, and we're so sad that it has to come to an end.

So with that, we'd like to thank all of our classmates for making the year so much fun; and all of our teachers, but especially Ms. Sweeney, Mr. Lynch and Mr. Brady for making this year as memorable and enjoyable as possible.

Charlie Casey Carney & Ella Mullins

# SCIFEST

Every year, all the TY students do a project of their own. This year's SciFest will be on May 22nd. We are looking forward to it. My project is about people judging fruit and veg from their looks and how different ages vary. The most important thing about this project is to come up with a question that you can experiment on, and you can explore your hypothesis and prove it scientifically.

SciFest is one of my favourite events as a science lover. I enjoy observing and seeing different projects each year. On the event day, there will be judges and an examiner to pick the top 3 best projects. We are going to have our own stalls, and our projects displayed for the other years to observe.

The projects from previous years were very interesting, but also there are very interesting projects this year. Some projects are social experiments like mine. One group is questioning if coloured soda or flavoured soda will make a difference. One group is questioning if people would be honest to tell if salted lemonade were given to them to drink. Another group is researching the effects of rosemary oil on hair.

SciFest is an enjoyable event. I enjoyed making my project and analyzing the results to present to the judges. What I would recommend to the next TY's of the school is to enjoy the process of making a project and have fun while experimenting with it.

Esma Balkir



# BT YOUNG SCIENTIST



Etienne Doyle, Form 5, entered the Young Scientist competition held at the RDS this year. Her project, “Mermaid Purses and Shark/Ray Populations in Irish Waters,” delved into the captivating realm of marine life, shedding light on the populations of these mesmerizing creatures in the waters surrounding Ireland.

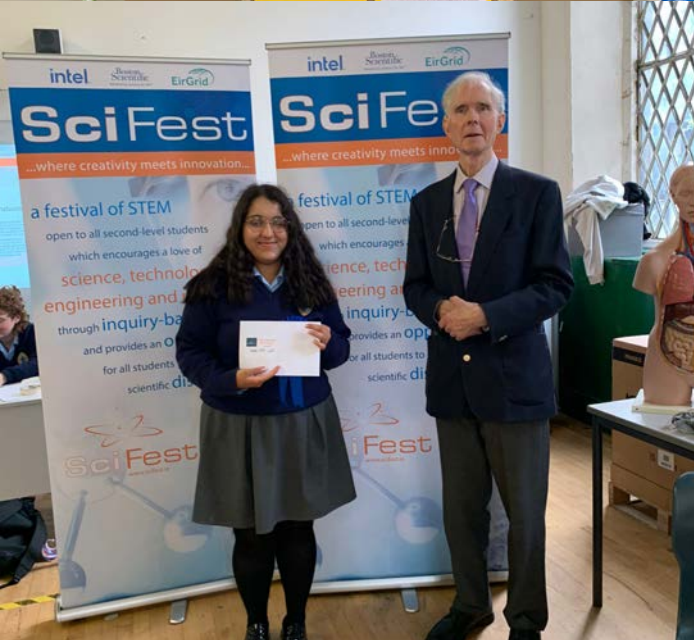
Etienne’s project focused on the study of “mermaid purses,” which are the egg cases of sharks and rays found along the Irish coastline. With meticulous care, she collected and analyzed these unique structures to gain invaluable insights into the diversity and populations of sharks and rays inhabiting Irish waters. Her research not only highlighted the ecological significance of these species but also provided vital data for their conservation and protection.

Etienne’s exceptional project garnered well-deserved recognition and admiration at the Young Scientist competition. Her meticulous research methodology, scientific approach, and unwavering passion for marine conservation impressed both the judges and fellow participants. By shedding light on the populations of sharks and rays in Irish waters, Etienne’s project raised awareness about the importance of preserving these crucial ecosystems and inspired others to take an active interest in marine life conservation.



**BT YOUNG SCIENTIST  
& TECHNOLOGY Exhibition**

# SCIENCE







### 1K

B: Jessica Limbeck, Lubomir Kubas, Seamus Smart, James Duggan, Luan Da Silveira Germano, Ema Omar, Shahariar Miah,

M: Emily Stevenson, Allie Ormond, Cassie Pineda, Abby Carroll, Chloe Li, Isabella Seliger

F : Alex Kennedy, Fardin Alam, Ellie Murphy, Matilda Reddington, Kayn Burke, Grace Maguire, Arno Urich

Absent from photo : David Olar, Ella-Saoirse Dempsey, Manus O’Baighill, Niamh Moore, Sophie O’Regan



### 1P

B : Patrick Nevin, Conor Shevlin, Fintan Casey, Sean Murphy, Thomas Olwill, Cody Dowler, Richard McCann, Shams Mallak

M : Shane O’Donoghue, Joe Janota, Amina Mohamed, Alina Kvasyvchak, Emma Kerrigan, Fionnuala Kelly, Melody Malubay, Cuan Kelly

F : Siena Stokes, Ellie-May Geraghty, Gracie Mae Kinch Howe, Ella Mustafa, Valentyn Stryzhak, Killian O’Reilly, Beatriz Huertas, Roxana Lucaci

Absent from photo : Rosaleen Dinneen



## 2K

B : Max Searight-Coleman, Reuben McCormick, Jim English, Isaac McGovern, Kai Chambers, Tom Carey,  
 Marcus Holoimov

M : Ross Cassidy, Johanna Poppema, Anna He , Eabha McElwaine, Maisie Hannon-Young, Ruby Bailey,  
 Niamh Laidlaw, Rachel Bass

F : Victor Oxley, Marla-Tait Bacon, Naa Akaabi Effah, Ryan Whelan, Esme Brady, Roman Carters, Mia Go-  
 rey-Roche

Absent from photo : Hayleigh Bone, Ryan O'Regan, Nicole Crilly



## 2P

B : Colin O'Sullivan, Michael Li, Edward Harte, Bobby Casey-Carney, Daniel Obeimhen, Harvey Con-  
 rad-Jones, Christopher Roe-Dwyer, Denis Ryan

M : Ben Walsh, Mateo Quinio, Jamie Kirwan, Samuel Clancy, Stella Shearer, Nawel Huseen, Honor Farrelly,  
 Eimear Dunne, Paddy Kennedy

F : Leah Brady, Angelina Morales Espana, Rosalyn Comerford, Daisy-May Reynolds, Roxanna Enasoia,  
 Chloe Keane, Summer Sheridan, Noah Meredith, Danann Moger-Byrne



### 3K

B : Daniel Fair-Brennan, Aaron Healy, Caelum Irwin-Gowran, Jack Diamond, Ben McEnroe, Liam McLoughlin, Raul Imbrisca,  
 M : Oskar Urich, Euan Deering-Kidd, Kalina Kubas, Amelia Cyfert, Allie Forde, Alistair Morgan Lawson, Philip Naessens, Cassia Owens  
 F : Luke Donaghy, Cameron Curran, Sarah Gallagher, Kaitlyn Murphy, Hannah May, Laila Ni Mhaolearch, Holly Corrigan  
 Absent from photo : Chloe Dardis, Renata Kullivea



### 3P

B : Art Wrixon, Rosalind Shevlin, Andrii Pavlenko, Jude Rogers, Darragh Hannon-McCabe, Mason Sarsfield, Harvey Murtagh  
 M : Julia Fox, Derya Balkir, Marta Schwitzer, Henry Morgan Lawson, Gabriel Mihoc, Cian Reilly, Mohamed Huseen  
 F : Sean Whelan, Lucy Cruickshank, Niamh Dwyer, Iona Akroyd, Nathalie King, Lucy Kavanagh, Lacey Warren  
 Absent from photo : Abdulla Hasan



#### 4K

B : Tomas Lavelle, Oran McDonagh, Jubran Mallak, Charlie Casey-Carney, David Lindsay, Thomas Kelleher, Matthew Ryder

M : Chioma Ugwu, Sienna Byrne, Sean Mac Lochlainn, Aoibh Crowley, Max Brady, Victoria Ogbata, Ervin Szinte, Ben McCaffrey Bryne

F : Kayley Phelan, Isabella Ungurasu, Sarah O'Sullivan, Cherry McAuley Pratt, Freya Reddington, Robyn McElwaine, Ella Mullins

Absent from photo : Michael Fallon-Murray



#### 4P

B : Eve McElhatton, Isaac Adeniji, Seamus Kelly, Elliot Conrad Jones, Caodan Connolly, Ryan McKenna, Peter Reid

M : Finn Vaughn- Buckley, Luca O'Shaughnessy Ward, Callie-May Byrne, Saoirse Reardon, David Zubarevs, Matthew Antochi,

F : Kate Crowe, Grace Buckley, Hannah Burke, Alessandro Stoppani, Millie NiCholmain, Roisin Farrelly, Esma Balkir

Absent from photo : Emily Tobin, Nicolas Buzgure, Sarah Batt, Scarlett Shearer



5K

B : Cameron Marr, Tadhg Moynihan, Daniel McNally, Oisin Stokes, Luke Yurchenko, Kevin Honer  
 M : Lilas Bailey, Marsha Kane-Duffy, Patricia Imbrisca, Patrick Casey, Luke Cruickshank, Cristian Rubino,  
 Andrew Morales Espana  
 F : Mia Crotty, Joanna Garland, Lilac Carters, Alexandra Medves, Sasha Danylenko, Siri Basani  
 Absent from photo : Aoife Power, Brandon Bowes, River Sweeney, Sara Dooley, Troy Dowler



5P

B : Angelo Morales Espana, Will Donovan, Taylor McGillivray, Luke Graham, David Cooney, Richard Cadar,  
 Oliver Guy  
 M : Alexandra Pugna, Aisling King, Matthew McElligott, Cormac McGarry, Meadhbh Killian, Ira Schwitzer,  
 Bianca Akpotor, Zac O'Neill  
 F : Molly Nevin, Etienne Doyle, Maia Ghiurcuta, Aoife Kennedy, Dara Moynihan, Leena May, Saoirse Gra-  
 ham  
 Absent from photo : Daniel Lawless, Matthew Parminter, Aimee Mulligan



### Form 6

B : Tom Mustafa, Luke Collier, Usna Brennan, Padraig O Nuadhain, Harry Leech, Tom English, Tom Brunel

M : Dara Mac Giolla Chomhgaill, Jools McAuley Pratt, Sofia Fox, Kevish Arjoon, Jason Gaynor, Callum O'Connor

M : Jack Quinn, Colin Carey, Harry Wood, Josh Farrell, Shalom Ogbata, Oda Dineen, Roisin Murphy

F : Ailbhe DeBurca, Rosa Downey, Sarah Moore, Rachel Akpotor, Tara Byrne, Joanna Yusuf

Absent from photo : Elvin Lucaci, Michelle Amgalanbaatar



## GOOD LUCK CLASS OF 2023!



Rachel Akpator



Tom Mustafa



Kevish Arjoon



Usna Brennan



Tom Brunel



Tara Byrne



Colin Carey



Luke Collier



Ailbhe De Búrca



Oda Dineen



Rosa Downey



Tom English



Josh Farrell



Sofia Fox



Jason Gaynor



Dara Coyle



Harry Leech



Elvin Lucaci



Jools McAuley Pratt



Sarah Moore



Roisin Murphy



Pádraig Ó Nuadháin



Callum O'Connor



Shalom Ogbata



Jack Quinn



Harry Wood



Joanna Yusuf



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