

THE

PATRICIAN

2017-2018



SAINT PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Maths

Escape Rooms

An escape room is an adventure game in which players are locked in a room and have to use elements of the room to solve a series of puzzles and escape the room within a set time limit. Form 4 students were required to create a miniature escape room game and came up with logic puzzles and Maths riddles. Students worked hard to come up with a theme and original puzzles to confuse and baffle the participants.

"In Maths class, we were given a task to make our own escape box. We had around two weeks to make it. We decided to go with the theme of a jail cell. The story behind it was that the participant was accused of a murder they did not do and they had to try and escape from the cell. Our group won the best escape box in the class. The members of our group were Jessica, Heather, Alice, Emma and Julia."

By Emma Byrne and Julia Melut (Form 4)

"As part of our Maths class we did a project 'Escape using Maths'. Since we weren't focusing on exams we had the chance to do something more creative instead of working on questions. We were put to the test having to make escape room boxes with riddles and clues. We decided to use a laboratory scenario. The player would be a monkey which was being tested on and wanted to escape. Other groups chose jails, cities and more as their scenarios. We researched about Bohr chemical equations, the periodic table and drawing atoms. After placing relevant and irrelevant clues in the box, we added our puzzles. The player would have to complete a word equation, fill in an atom and solve other problems to unlock the escape door. We had a lot of fun coming up with the clues and riddles as well as designing the interior of the box to look like a testing lab. We enjoyed having the freedom of fourth year to work on various fun projects throughout the year."

By Eleanor Fox and Caoimhe Griffin-Hayes (Form 4)



Irish Mathematical Olympiad

The Irish Mathematical Olympiad (IrMO) is a national mathematics contest for secondary school students. Round 1 took place during the week of 13-17 November 2017. The problems are designed for students in Senior Cycle particularly those who have an interest in maths. Students are given 30 minutes to work on six problem questions without the use of a calculator. Successful students are invited to Mathematics Enrichment Classes being offered in Universities around the country.

The primary aim of the enrichment classes is to cultivate a love and appreciation for mathematics among talented students. This is achieved by giving such students exposure to deeper, more challenging and more interesting mathematical problems than those encountered on the school syllabus. The performance of students in the IrMO is used to identify a team of up to six students who will represent Ireland at the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), a prestigious international mathematics competition. The 2018 IMO competition will take place in Cluj-Napoca, Romania from 3 - 14 July 2018.

Congratulations to all Form 4 students who put in a great effort in Round 1 this year!

One of this year's questions:

Problem 5. Integers like 121 and 4004 are called palindromic, because they are the same when read backwards. Find a three-digit palindromic number such that, if you add 2017 to it, you get another palindromic number.

Possible Answer: 535

Junior Mathematics Competition

The Junior Maths Competition is held every year for 1st year students. It consists of a school round where multiple choice brain teasers are answered by students in a forty minute period. The highest scoring students are then invited to participate in the regional final.

Congratulations to Oda Dineen who qualified to represent St Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School in the Regional Final, held in Castleknock College on Friday, 12 May 2018.

Maths



Maths Clinic

The school is continuing to provide a weekly Maths Clinic held every Thursday at lunchtime in the Lab 2. The Maths Clinic is available to all students from 1st year to 6th year who would like to receive extra assistance with Maths topics. The Maths Clinic is being run by Ms. Kavanagh. All students are welcome to attend whenever they wish.



Maths Week 2017

The 14th to the 22nd October was Maths Week and again this year there were lots of Maths related activities and games. Maths Week Ireland promotes awareness, appreciation and understanding of maths through a huge variety of events and activities.



Class	Activity	Winners
Form 1	Manga High	Davide Antochi, Mark McDonnell, Joshua Farrell
Form 2	Maths Challenge	Gavin Dunphy, Megan O'Brien, Avnie Tyagi, Aideen Kelly
Form 3	PRISM Competition	Nicole Farrell, Breic Ó Glasáin, Dylan Woods
Form 5	PRISM Competition	Jake Lalor Zakrzewski
Teachers	Problem-Solving Competition	Ms. Mulhern

All the students who took part in the activities enjoyed it.



Overall the week was a massive success and we are all looking forward to next year's events.

Manga High

Manga High was launched in 2010 and is one of the world's first games-based-learning sites. On this site students learn Mathematics by casual games that balance fun and learning.

For Maths week our Form 1 students battled it out working their way through Maths Quests to win the Maths Ninja Challenge. After a week of intense competition, the winners were announced.

First Place: Davide Antochi,

Second Place: Mark McDonnell,

Third Place: Joshua Farrell.

Congratulations to the well-deserved winners and to all the participants

Form 2 Maths Challenge

Every day during Maths Week, Form 2 students took on various problem-solving challenges. Students were awarded points for each challenge successfully solved and battled their way to reach the top of the Maths Leader Board.



After a week of highs and lows, there was a four-way tie at the top of the leader board. The winners were Gavin Dunphy, Megan O' Brien, Avnie Tyagi and Aideen Kelly.

Congratulations to our winners and all of Form 2 who put in a great effort during the challenge.

PRISM Competition



PRISM is an annual contest for second level maths students. It is run with the aim of encouraging students to develop their interest in mathematical problem solving and in mathematics in general. The contest takes the form of a one hour exam paper that is invigilated by each participating school.

This year, on Friday 20th of October, twenty-five of our Form 3 students and seventeen of our Form 5 students took part in the contest. Big congratulations to Jake Lalor-Zakrzewski who received a certificate for Senior School Champion. Also to Nicole Farrell, Breic Ó Gliasáin and Dylan Woods who received certificates for Junior School Champions. Well done to all participants.

Science

This has been a very significant year for the science department as for the first time there are now two labs in the school. The old Irish room and the former Principal's office were combined and refurbished to create a new biology lab. The old prep room was also reconfigured resulting in a much larger preparation area for both labs. While there have been a number of teething problems, the addition of the new lab is certainly very welcome. One of the main benefits of the second lab is that all science classes can now take place in a dedicated science classroom.

Form 3 Ecology Trip.

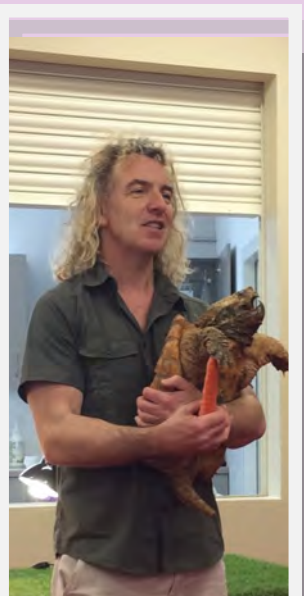
In September Form 3 science pupils went on their annual ecology field trip to Marley Park. As always the trip was very successful and benefited from good weather on the day. Lots of interesting sample of varying species were collected and analysed.

Dave's Jungle

On the 22nd of March, a man by the name of Dave who specialises in reptiles and animals came to our school to teach us more about some of the more feared creatures in the animal kingdom, in hopes of people getting over any phobias they might have as well as educating us on nature that can seem frightening, such as tarantulas, snakes and scorpions.

Each class gathered in the GP room throughout the day to sit in for Dave's talks, which included people being given the opportunity to hold the animals he talked about!

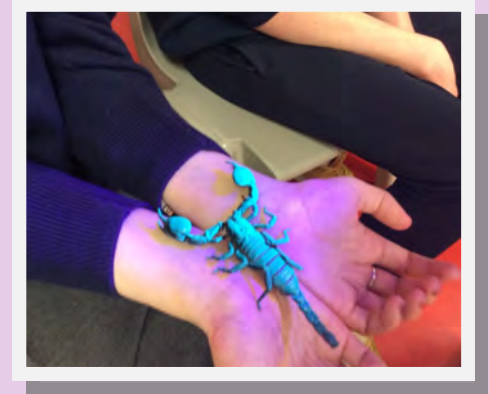
He first showed us an albino Burmese python called Brian and talked to us about how they eat and move around. These snakes can grow up to 3 metres in length and 50 kg in weight. They can dislocate their jaws and expand their skin and ribs to accommodate food much larger than them. Burmese pythons are known as gentle giants of the snake world despite being seen as a threat. They do not identify humans as food and would find it difficult to swallow us because of our shoulders, as they do not have the muscles to open their mouths to such a degree. We got to feel Brian's scales and I found that they were a lot smoother and colder than I anticipated.





Up next, Dave brought along and showed us a tarantula he had raised called Charlotte, who was a Chilean Rose Tarantula. While he held her, Dave told us about the common misconceptions about tarantulas and that they're actually quite shy creatures and would rarely ever bite a human. The hair on their bodies is used to pick up vibrations from around their bodies, as well as the two legs right at the spider's mouth which allows it to feel, grab, touch and taste.

After Charlotte, we were introduced to Stingy the scorpion. Dave showed us an amazing trick where she and her babies glowed a luminous blue under a black light! This happens to all scorpions due to a substance found in a very thin but super tough coating in a part of the scorpion's exoskeleton. We got to hold Stingy as well and I found her as delicate as Charlotte, and once again not at all scary.



Next we were introduced to an animal of which I already had knowledge! Dave brought out Spike the alligator snapping turtle, a very gnarly looking turtle that has an incredibly powerful bite force. Dave demonstrated how Spike would use this to his advantage in the wild by bringing a carrot to his mouth and showing us just how quickly he could bite down on his prey. We weren't allowed to pet Spike for obvious reasons, but it was still amazing to see such an incredible creature in real life

One of our last guests was very much unexpected for me at least - Dave introduced us to Kevin, a juvenile crocodile! Dave taught us the difference between an alligator and a crocodile, and also told us more information about crocodiles that I didn't know about.

At the end of the session, we were able to meet the two last visitors who were behind Dave the whole time; an iguana and a bearded dragon.

Overall, Dave's Jungle was an amazing experience and I was so glad to be able to enjoy these creatures in person and learn more about them.

By Holly Urwin

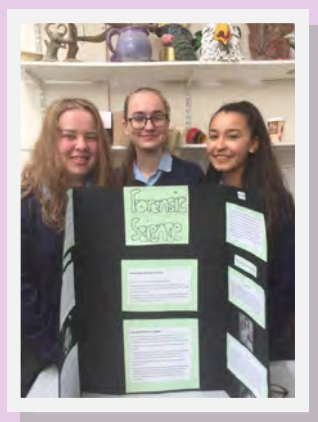


Science



SciFest

SciFest was also a new event in our science calendar this year. Form 4 students worked on various projects for a number of weeks and displayed their results at the festival. Projects ranged from a small wind tunnel to test aero-dynamics to an experiment to test methods of preserving sausages. The variety of the projects certainly made the exhibition a very interesting and informative event. We are looking forward to next years SciFest already.



5th Year Ecology Field Trip

On Thursday the 10th May the 5th year Biology class undertook their annual field trip to Portrane to complete their Study of an Ecosystem section for their Leaving Certificate course. The habitat they studied consisted of rocks, rock pools, seaweed and sand. Students identified different organisms including sea anemones, periwinkles and limpets as well as a number of different seaweeds. We were lucky with the weather again this year, conditions were perfect and the tide was well out so we could explore the rock pools easily.

2nd Year Science Trip to Blackrock Observatory

On the 9th of February First and Third year science students went to visit Blackrock Observatory just outside Cork city. We were greeted on arrival and our group was split in two, the 1st years going to get a tour of the castle while the 3rd years began their workshop.

The Third year workshop focused on space flight, aero-dynamics and forces. Students were split into groups of 3 and given simple instructions on how to design their rockets and a brief introduction to aero-dynamics. Once they had got something resembling a rocket together they powered it using their lungs and fired it across the floor. The furthest distance achieved by each team was marked on the floor and they were given a time limit to get their rocket to fly the furthest. The significance of this was that the distance each team's rocket travelled was used to determine the "project budget" for the second activity; i.e. the team whose rocket went furthest got the largest budget.

The second activity involved designing a landing craft for an "eggs-tronaut" (their astronaut passenger was in fact an egg which they had to prevent from breaking). Materials provided for the creation of the landing craft included bubble wrap, egg cartons, plastic bags and straws which each group purchased with their respective budgets. They again had a time limit in which to construct their landing craft, which for the most part resembled parachutes.

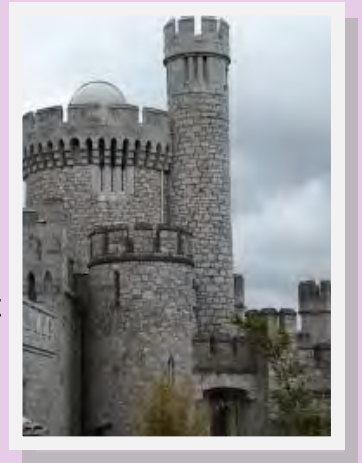
Once time was up a nominated member of each group walked up to the lower level of the observatory tower to launch their eggs-tronaut. Each team had varying levels of success... some eggs-tronauts did not survive the landing...

The 1st years workshop tied in well with the "Comparing earth with other planets and moons in the solar system" section of the new Junior Cycle course. They investigated the relative mass of the sun, moon and earth by building a model of each, using modelling clay, and scaled their size by comparison to each other. They also investigated the varying distances between the earth and the sun in a similar fashion.

Both groups also got a tour of the castle, research tower and gunnery. We were told about the history of the castle, how it was originally built in the 16th century to protect Cork Harbour from pirates. Since then it has had varying functions as an ammunitions store, a venue for banquets and as a private residence. It was reacquired by Cork City Council in 2001 and in co-operation with Cork Institute of Technology it was developed into the observatory (with a radio telescope), museum and labs for astronomical researchers that is there today.

After this, students were invited to study the stars in the night sky by stepping inside an inflatable planetarium. Seated on the ground they could look up at projections of the night sky as they were displayed on the interior of the dome. They were introduced to the configuration of different constellations and the history of some of their names; and shown what the night sky looks like from different locations around the world.

All in all it was a successful trip and we all made it back to Dublin by Friday evening ready to start mid-term break; thanks to Mr. Macari, Ms Staunton, Ms Gillan and Ms Kennington for accompanying.



Business

2nd year Business Classroom Based Assessments

Classroom Based Assessments are part of the new Junior Cycle programme and are currently completed in English, Science and Business – other subjects will follow as the Junior Cycle is expanded to all subjects.

The Business in Action Second Year CBA provides students with the opportunity to actively engage in a practical and authentic learning experience that reflects activities undertaken regularly in the business environment. Students will act as consumers, entrepreneurs, managers and decision-makers as they plan and conduct research, analyse data and information, problem-solve and make decisions, use digital technology to manage information, and take action. They will learn about, and make informed decisions about, their own resources and issues of social, cultural and global importance.

Amelia, Eoin M, Renee, Travis and I recently completed our CBAs for the new Junior Cycle Business course. For our CBA we chose 'Enterprise in Action' and created a business called Bizi Brownies. We created the brand name 'Bizi Brownies' and baked 64 brownies in total to be sold at lunch time in school. We sold out in four minutes which was amazing. Eoin Moynihan baked the brownies and the rest of us in the group worked on the business plan. We designed branded packaging with the nutritional information on the back of the brownies package. We wanted our logo to be eye catching and used logomaker.com to help us create it. I really enjoyed the project because it gave us a sense of independence. The fact that we made 64 brownies and sold them all and made a legitimate business was an empowering feeling. As a group we worked really well together and we got to know each other a lot more in doing it. Overall I enjoyed this project a lot and I would love to do it again.

Aideen Kelly



Christine, Jacob, Dylan and I created the company M3LT and we own 'The Red Carpet Theatre'. We created this company for our 2nd year CBA. The RCT is a Luxury state of the art cinema which is guaranteed to give you an abundance of once in a lifetime experiences. (!) It is a single screen cinema with the highest quality speakers. It has 42 Italian leather seats, and.....drumroll.....two Italian buffets! You can eat hot food inside the cinema screen. At RCT you can rent out the screen for parties and request personalised decorations.

We have several packages on offer which include:

"The Basic Bundle: Popcorn, 2 Drinks and recliner seats for €20"

"The Whole Nine Yards Bundle: everything above, free refills and all you can eat Italian Buffet for €35"

We really enjoyed this project, because it allowed us to experience what it would be like to start up our own business. We also liked it because we got to learn along the way. While it was a bit difficult getting everything together, it looked pretty good in the end, and we were all happy with how it turned out.

Avnie Tyagi and Christine Lin

Gaisce Hike 2018

On Friday the 22nd of April, students from Fifth and Sixth Year travelled to the Boyne Valley to complete their Bronze and Silver Gaisce (The President's Award).

Everyone met at the school at 8:45am for a quick roll call and shortly afterwards departed on the bus. At around 10:00am we all arrived at Newgrange Lodge, the hostel we would be staying in. Bags were quickly dropped into the hostel and we immediately began the hike. The weather was perfect for the hike as it was warm and sunny but not too hot or smothering. The first part of the hike was the most difficult

as we had to walk through a mountain of mud for about 40 minutes. When everyone was deemed sufficiently muddy we set off through fields and over hills. We passed through the site of the Battle of the Boyne and walked along the banks of the River Boyne. At around 1pm we stopped for lunch in Drogheda Park. Then we continued walking through Drogheda after lunch and made our way back to the hostel. Yet again we had to walk through the mud but this time it was a lot more fun as everyone was already filthy and had no fears of falling in.

We got to the hostel around 4pm, showered and began preparations for dinner. Head chef for the night was Jake Lalor Zakrzewski. Laura Gaynor, Julia Melut, Heather Nicholson and myself helped out in the kitchen. We were serving Spaghetti Bolognese for 30 people so it was quite a hefty task. There was a lot of steam, screaming, chopping and stirring but eventually after blood, sweat and tears (most of them from me), dinner was ready. It was served up and everyone ate. After everyone was fed and watered we all retired to the common area to watch the Pixar classic 'The Incredibles'. After the movie everyone (completely exhausted) went straight to bed. I don't know about everyone else but that night I slept like a baby.

On the morning of the 2nd day everyone (reluctantly) got up at 8am for breakfast. We all ate and we all set out for Newgrange. After about an hour we arrived at the fabled monument. We took a rest, took a few pictures and continued walking. When we got back to the hostel the Bronze medalists got ready to leave while the Silver medal candidates

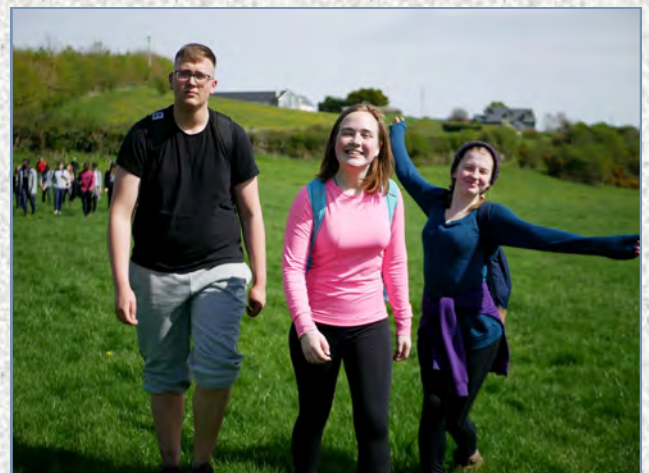


ate some lunch. When the Bronze had left (As they'd now finished their 25k) the Silver stayed to finish their remaining 22k but for the Saturday afternoon we did some activities such as archery, paintball and an obstacle course. After the activities I was in charge of making the dinner (Chicken curry). Although there were still tears (a lot less than the previous night which I suppose is a good thing) the dinner went down well. After dinner we gave Conor Neylon from Form 5 two home baked birthday cakes for his 17th and then we all watched 'Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them' and played a rather competitive game of Trivial Pursuit, and all went to bed to prepare for the final day of the hike.

We all woke up on the Sunday with swollen feet and tired faces but nevertheless carried on with the final day of the walk. We took the muddy route from the first day but this time we knew what was coming so we were much more prepared. When we finished all the walking we got back to the hostel, finished packing and got on the bus home. We arrived back at school at 3:30pm, said our goodbyes and went home for a sleep in our own beds.

The Gaisce hike was an amazing experience, enjoyed by all who participated. Huge thanks to Ms McCarthy, Mr O'Morain and Ms Corkery who gave up their time to come with us and ensure we all had a great time. I would highly recommend that everyone who has the opportunity do Gaisce takes up the opportunity as it is such a fun, rewarding experience.

C Martin



Photography: Jake Lalor-Zakrzewski.

Junk Kouture



Bank of Ireland Junk Kouture is a national contest which encourages young designers in second level education to create striking couture designs and impressive works of wearable art from everyday junk that would normally find its way into the bin. Bank of Ireland Junk Kouture aims to inspire and ignite passion in these

teenagers while at the same time subtly educating them about the importance of recycling and reusing waste. Over the last seven years, Bank of Ireland Junk Kouture has established itself as the premier recycled fashion competition for teenagers throughout Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland. There were 1,600 entries and St Patrick's made it through to the final 80. Jack Halpin should be credited for performing and modelling the costume which was designed by James Freeman and Jake Lalor Zakrzewski, ably assisted by the art teacher Mr Kirwan.

As the idea of the competition was to use recycled materials, the group decided to use bike parts as we like cycling and luckily James's dad has a bike shop from which we could source our materials. The outfit itself was mostly made from old worn out bike tyres and tubes but also consisted of half a bike wheel, a wetsuit, and an old pair of welly boots. To add a bit of colour we spray painted parts of the suit electric blue which worked great. Overall, we are all very proud of our creation and also that we made it all the way to the national final.

Article and photography: Jake Lalor-Zakrzewski



Debating

This year, Nicole Farrell, Lola Ryan, Angel Akpotor and I competed in debating competitions in UCD. In September, Ms Cullen suggested to our year about participating in a debating competition. None of us had ever done debating before but we thought it could be interesting. First of all, Ms Cullen organised for us four girls to go to a debate workshop in Belvedere College. The workshop was helpful, but we still had a lot of research and preparation to do.



When Ms Cullen announced the first motion we would be debating I think all our stomachs jumped a little because we realized that we would actually have to perform a speech in front of a crowd. The four of us were split into two teams, Nicole and I; Angel and Lola. The first motion we had was 'Strikes do more harm than good for the causes they support'. We did most of the writing at home and then



The Junior Girls Debating Team in UCD

brought it in for Ms Cullen to read over and check. On the day of the debate we were all nervous, but also excited. Just before I had to perform the speech I was so worried that I would mess up but once I got up in front of people, I was fine. It was such a relief when I sat back down, but I was proud of myself for accomplishing it. It was also cool to see Nicole go up and do her speech and see how good she was. A few of our other motions included 'That this house would

legalise the sale of human organs.'; 'That this house would introduce a fine for not voting in major elections' and 'That this house would introduce a sugar tax in Ireland'. Our team managed to get into the next round of the competition! The hardest part about debating isn't the actual writing of the speech, but the performance. Debating is all about performing to the best of your ability and thinking on your feet. Members of the opposite side are allowed to ask for 'Points of Information' and interrupt you as you speak. Even though doing the debating this year pushed me out of my comfort zone, I'm so glad I did it because it helped me become more confident in myself, and I think it helped the other girls too. I'm excited to carry on doing it next year. R Guy

Dublin Culture Connects - The National Neighbourhood

Poet Enda Wyley on writing ghost stories in Marsh's Library with second year students from St Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School, Dublin 8, as part of Dublin's Culture Connects' The National Neighbourhood on Dublin's southside.

On a cold day at the end of January this year, I meet with a group of Second Year students in the foyer of St Patrick's C.G.S – a secondary school wonderfully situated, nestled as it is in one of the most historic parts of the city and opposite the cathedral. But it is also close to the oldest public library in Dublin – one perfectly preserved since the early eighteenth century, with over 25,000 rare and riveting books. I have a bag of pens and papers on my back and an idea burning in my head. We will cross the road and spend the afternoon writing in Marsh's Library. There, sprawled on the floor by the beautiful oak bookcases and beside the ancient cages – originally built to house books and to allow the citizens of Dublin to read but not steal them! – we will write.... ghost stories!

My task as a poet working on The National Neighbourhood is to connect young people with the cultural gems of our city and to inspire them to write – and the atmospheric setting of Marsh's Library seems the perfect place to do this. For here is no ordinary library. It is a haunted one!



First off, we meet with Julie Burke, the Education and Outreach Officer with Marsh's Library. She gives us all a spooky guide through the library explaining how the founder of the library, Archbishop Narcissus Marsh, is said to haunt it in search of a letter sent to him by his niece Grace. She had been living with her uncle but when she eloped to Castleknock, he was outraged. A letter she sent to him, begging for forgiveness, was lost and Narcissus is said to walk the library from that day to this, searching forever for the letter from his beloved Grace. A touching end to this story is that Narcissus and his niece can be found buried side by side in the graveyard close to the library.

The afternoon light is now falling in strips of gold through the ancient windows and a gasp of air exhales around the old cages. To inspire the group further, I show a short film which has poet Peter Sirr speaking about the many layers of history in the city, the people who have moved through its streets and the possibility that the gentle presence of their ghosts may brush against us every day, without us even knowing it. This is an imaginative idea and one which gets us thinking about the many stories – ghostly and otherwise – that make up the city we live in.

By now, everyone feels ready to begin writing. But wait a minute...Was that a clink of a cage bar? Did a shadow just swiftly move passed us? We shiver a little but the writing begins, speeded on by everything the class has seen and heard.

I put music on to add more atmosphere to the ghost writing session and soon the students are a group of concentrating writers. *There are no rules to writing, I say, let it flow.*

And after a while, the pages all around begin to fill up fast – the new, chilling, spine-tingling stories asserting themselves on paper. And then comes the most inspiring part of our ghost writing afternoon. Everyone puts their pens down and we relax, listening to some of the stories that have, remarkably, just been written. Time stands still for these few minutes as we all bend closer to hear. In fact, if Narcissus Marsh really does haunt the library, it feels now as if even *he* has stopped to listen too.

Tales of ghostly shivers and floorboards creaking, of creepy clocks ticking in the dead of night, of dropping temperatures, of chills running down our backs, sweat trickling down our spines...

And later, when I get home and read through the rest of the work, I find even more haunting tales to be moved, inspired – *terrified* by!

But above all, I feel very privileged to be the very first reader of the impressive ghost stories written by the students of St Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School, one cold January day in the oldest library in Dublin, the ghost of its founder a friendly spirit close by, listening.

A key clinks, a cage rattles, a page rustles, a book closes – and Narcissus Marsh is gone, the letter forever unfound.

Enda Wyley, 2018.

With the National Neighbourhood, we want every neighbourhood to know and “own” their city’s cultural resources so we build cultural projects in community settings. We connect artists, groups and villages with libraries, museums and creative places to deepen their understanding of each other and themselves. The National Neighbourhood spans the Dublin City Council region, and brings together Dublin City Council’s City Library & Archive, the area offices, the City Arts Office and Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, in partnership with National Cultural Institutions (The Abbey Theatre, The National Museum of Ireland, The National Library of Ireland, The National Gallery of Ireland, The National Concert Hall, The Chester Beatty Library, The National Archives and The Irish Museum of Modern Art).



Chess Club



This year the school participated in an inter schools chess competition for the first time. We entered two teams from first year and a number of individual entries as well. Each team had to battle against a range of different players from schools like Drogheda Grammar and Mount Temple. All the individual scores were added up to make the team score with students having to play against the clock in addition to their opponents. There was great drama when students were forced to think quickly with only seconds remaining. We were delighted that all the participants won at least one game and our team of first years placed second overall. There was a spectacular victory in the individual novice section with Richard Walshe accumulating the most wins to take the first place trophy. It was a great reward for Richard who set up a chess club in fourth year and also helped to coach some of the first year students.



Cuairt ar Phriosún Chill Mhaighneann



Thugamar cuairt ar Phriosún Chill Mhaighneann ar an 26ú Eanáir. Bhí suim agam i stair an phriosúin. Chuamar in éineacht le Ms. Mulhern agus Ms. McNamara. Chonaiceamar an seanphriosún agus an phriosún nua. Léamar faoi Éirí Amach na Cásca. Cheapamar go raibh sé an-suimiúil. D'fhoghlaimíomar faoin nGorta Mór. Ní raibh a fhios agam go raibh fonn ar dhaoine dul chuig phriosún. Ghlacamar grianghraif den phriosún nua. Thaitin an turas go mór linn mar bhí sé an-suimiúil agus mar bhí an aimsir go hálainn

le Eleanor Fox agus Amy McDonnell



Student Council

According to the Education Act (1998), a student council is a representative structure involved in the affairs of the school. It is an opportunity for students to engage in a structured partnership with the teachers, parents and management of the school, and research even indicates that a Student Council can not only improve academic standards but also even reduce the dropout rates in schools. The student council is compiled of a group of students, two in each year, elected by their peers, to address any issues of concern and organize events and activities.

These students include:

- First year** – Sophia Fox, Davide Antochi
- Second year** – Avnie Tyagi, Rory McElligott
- Third year** – Ruby Guy, Charlie Dineen
- Fourth year** - Ryan Dwyer, Faye Reddington
- Fifth year** – Conor Neylon, Eleanor Sweeney
- Sixth year** – Brandon Kearney, Richard Walshe

With many new additions to the school, the new building for example, this year has been a busy one for those on the student council. Such big changes are not always welcomed, for instance, the infamous new phone policy, and it is our job as members to report in meetings certain things that our year groups feel are not satisfactory, or suggestions for situations that could be improved on.

Frequent topics include the current state of the boys' bathrooms, negotiations regarding non-uniform days, as well as the avid struggle still persisting in the fight for permission to wear hoodies in class, because who knows at this stage when our next snow day may be.

With many subject matters going on at once, we feel we have been moving forward on many things that may seem simple, such as the wish for clocks in every room, bigger lockers – 'cause let's face it, you can fit a log book and a calculator in the current one and that's about it- along with better coat racks and more sixth year privileges, although even these small, seemingly insignificant details require a certain amount of time and discussion. From meetings where we voiced opinions on viable new crest options, to meetings where, in my opinion, I have learned far too much about the boys' bathrooms, we have made progress on many fronts.

One accomplishment we are particularly proud of is one concerning the mobile phone policy. When the new rule was introduced it is fair to say it brought with it a fair amount of tension, but thankfully a very important and relevant point, made by us at the student council, was taken on board and executed. In the original draft, if a student's phone were to be confiscated on a Friday it would not be returned to them until the end of the following Monday. We agreed this was highly impractical and argued for the two-day confiscation to be carried over into the following school week instead of affecting the student's weekends.

So, while it may seem we at the student council just get together and sit and chat, wearing our fancy badges, we like to believe that we do make quite an impact on the things that make up the everyday life in St Patricks Cathedral Grammar School.

E Sweeney



SPORTS DAY



Photography: Callum Martin



Darkness Into Light 2018

Darkness Into Light is a 5K walk in aid of **PIETA HOUSE** Suicide & Self-harm Crisis Centre and Suicide Bereavement Services. It was held in many places around Ireland on 12th May at 4:15am. There were over 200,000 people all around the nation taking part this year. It was really dark when I arrived there and



to see so many people involved so early in the morning and participating was a really powerful experience. Once you're in the crowd of people who are all wearing the yellow shirt provided by DIL, it's like a sea of courage to be with people who are there for the same purpose you are there. The sad part of it is seeing many people with posters and banners of their loved ones lost to Suicide. It's such a serious issue and it's overwhelming and amazing to see so many people spread awareness of the issues. The walk itself was not that far and there was food, drinks and music at the end of the walk. As we reached the end of the walk, there was a sign that read "Hope starts here". I did something really good and beneficial not only for me but for thousands of others across the nation. I felt very proud and would 100% recommend anyone to do it, it's really fun and motivating.

Sadiyah Moussa, Form 3



Speech and Drama Communication Certificate Transition Year



When my class was told we were to do a Speech and Drama presentation for the Irish Board of Speech and Drama Transition Year Communication Certificate, I was very interested to learn more about it. During the exam it is important to:

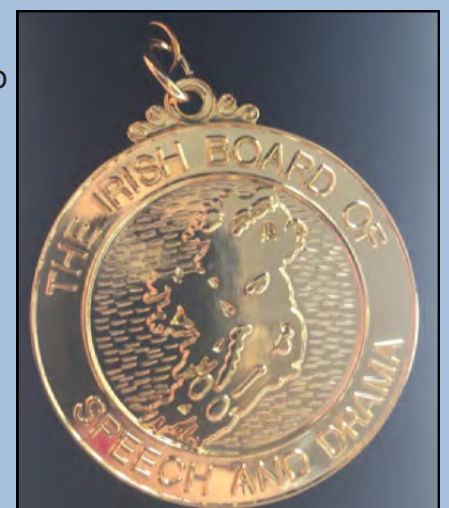
- Speak clearly and fluently.
- Interpret a text with appropriate expression (and movement/gesture, if the drama option is chosen).
- Use practical conversation and speaking skills.
- Show use of imagination and confidence to explore a topic, either in speech or dramatic form.

We all had to pick a poem with a minimum of 16 lines, learn it off and present it slowly and clearly with feeling expression and dynamics, as if telling a story. The poem that I chose was *Dover Beach* by Matthew Arnold. I chose it because of the emotion of the poem and the imagery it displayed. I think that it's important to choose a poem you like and will enjoy reciting. We also had to write and present a speech on either 'A Person I Admire', 'Fashion Victims' or 'Cyber Bullying'. I chose to speak about Maya Angelou as the person I admire. My favourite quote of hers comes from a speech in which she says, "*Prepare yourself so that you can be a rainbow in somebody else's cloud*" which are hugely inspiring words that, from my perspective, are about being kind and accepting towards others whether they are different to you or not.



All the Transition year students did really well and especially well done to Heather Nicholson who won the Gold Medal for her performance.

E Fox



Transition Year trip to Killary

The Transition Year class went to Killary Adventure Centre in Leenane, Co Galway, last October 2017.

We got the train to Westport on Monday morning, everyone was so excited. The week was jam packed and sure to be full of excitement.

We arrived at the centre and were divided into three groups for the daily activities. This encouraged people from different friend groups to mix and make new friends. Soon afterwards we settled into our rooms and we headed to our first activity. It was the high room course - a really good team building exercise. We put on harnesses and the challenge was to put four people on a small wooden platform high up in the air.



The next day we geared up for the Ringo Rides. This was one of everyone's favourite activities. We walked down to the pier with the instructor and got our wetsuits. The instructor drove the boat out to the middle of the fjord. There were two donuts to sit in. Once we were comfortable the boat picked up speed and dragged the donuts behind. Even though not everyone took part, they enjoyed the boat trip and the views.

Another favourite activity was the turf challenge. The turf challenge consists of an obstacle course in a bog. The course consists of rope swings, slides and walking in thick bogs and getting stuck. Everyone enjoyed the turf challenge due to the fact that we got to experience something we probably will never get to do again. Afterwards we got to swim in the sea.

Overall it was a great week and everyone enjoyed themselves. Many thanks to Mr Brady and Ms Kennington for bringing us.

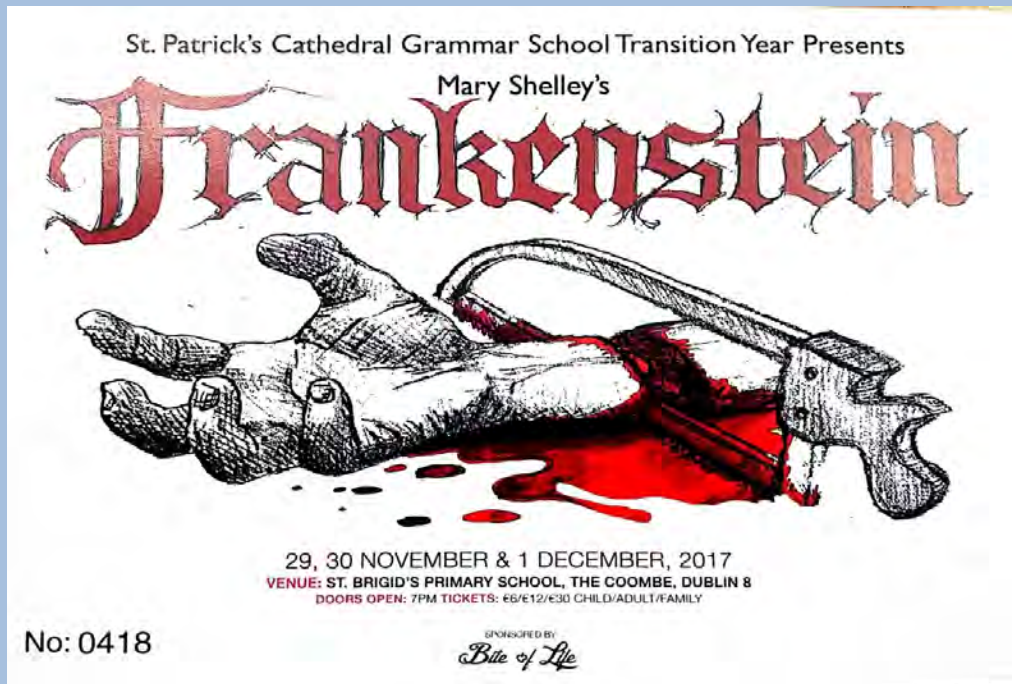


By Faye Reddington and Emma Byrne





Transition Year Drama



Our Transition Year Production went slightly differently than usual, with the main cause of this being the fact that we took off our tap dancing shoes, ditched the jazz hands, and channelled our inner SPOOKY. The teachers in charge were Mr. Lynch and Ms Sweeney, and our Form Teacher, Mr. Kirwan. The whole class were very hesitant to do a dark play, since usually the musical is a bit of craic, but with no time for debate we just leapt right into the production. We did our auditions in the second week of September, but didn't get our roles until mid-October, because we were all out on Community Involvement and then we went to Killary.

We played the main roles of Victor Frankenstein (Joey) and The Creature (Sammy), and the female lead was Caoimhe, as Elizabeth, the Fiancée of Victor. Overall there were 18 roles available, mainly consisting of Victor's family, beggars, Scotsmen, and an occasional townsman. Once everyone had their roles we dedicated our Fridays (and any free classes we had) to practice. It was awkward at the beginning, especially since Sammy had to moan at everyone and get things thrown at him, but eventually we eased into the sensation of being true actors, and all systems were go. The next big thing was the set.

While everyone contributed to set making and design, most of the creativity was down to our amazing art teacher and his main art team, Caoimhe and Cora, and of course they needed something to paint on, so wooden panels were made by Dave, Charley and our friend Milo. Most of the others were doing basic painting and sent to nearby shops to get costumes and props.

A big part of the play was finding somewhere to put it on, as our hall was all art room'd out, so we needed help from some short, loud, friends; Primary school students. More specifically the Principal of these students, who gave us permission to use the hall in St. Brigid's National School, across the road. This was a blessing, but also a curse, as we needed to bring enough props to re-sink the Titanic across to their hall.

The first night was the easiest and most enjoyable for everyone involved. Nothing went wrong, nobody made a show of themselves (apart from Sammy, but that was scripted), and everybody had a laugh. It didn't last though, because the second night was more difficult. The props weren't used in the right scenes, lines were forgotten, the set fell down, and Joey dropped Jessica like she was part of a Snoop Dog song.

The third night brought the play to a close and it was a roaring success. Everybody was in form and our determination as a class really showed through. Afterwards we did a little flower gifting to the three teachers and gave chocolates to Miss McCarthy for helping on all three nights. Then we went over to the Home Economics room and ate more pizzas than a small Italian boy and his pet donkey named Raul, drank lots of coke, and watched a slideshow of all our pictures taken by fan favourite, Mr. Gill.

It was a fantastic experience, and we learnt quickly why it is such a big part of TY, as the amount of work needed is massive, but the enjoyment you get is twice as big.

S Barsoum & J Andrews



The Creature – Sammy Barsoum

Victor Frankenstein (a scientist) – Joey Andrews

Gretel (A Prostitute) – Lily Timmins

Mildred (A Beggar) – Alannah Pitts

Dynpna (A Beggar) – Jessica Sweeney

De Lacey (A Blind Woman) – Faye Reddington

Agatha His daughter-in law) – Alice Jack / Laura Gaynor

Felix(Her son) – Amy McDonnell

The Female Creature – Jessica Sweeney

Elizabeth Lavenza (Victor's fiancée) – Caoimhe Griffin –Hayes

Clarice (Her maid) – Heather Nicholson

William Frankenstein (Victor's brother) – Dylan Brothers

Monsieur Frankenstein (Victor's father)– Charley Tyndall

Ewan(An Orkney Islander) – Eleanor Fox / Ryan Dwyer

Rab (His Nephew) – Max Dundon-Hanan

A Constable – Milo Moynihan

Townsppeople of Ingolstadt – Darragh Cole, Zak McConnell , Sean Ryan, David Ajisafe

Servants – Emma Byrne, Zak McConnell

Work Experience with INIS at Dublin Airport

For my second lot of work experience, I went out to Dublin Airport to work in Immigration. I was working in Immigration for the majority of my time while I did join up with other students from the Airport Search Unit. My first day wasn't actually a Monday. I started my work experience on Wednesday 31st January at one in the afternoon. It was slightly disorientating to start a work day at that time but I didn't mind as I was too excited. I got a lift out to the airport with my uncle, Jimmy. He has worked in Immigration for the past 3 years and he constantly talks about how much he loves his job so it made me really excited to share his experience. To get into the airport or what is called Airside, I needed an ID. I had to bring my passport with me to get one. The ID was issued by a Garda and I had to have three escorts listed on it so I didn't wander off.

On my first day, I shadowed Jimmy's team, Team D. He and Shane are supervisors over Team D and both work immensely hard each shift. I also met other officers from other teams too like Orla, Emma, Hannah and Wendy. They were all so excited to have me work with them and even though I wasn't nervous about starting to work with my uncle, it made me feel relaxed as they were so welcoming. I was out on the floor within minutes of arriving and was overwhelmed by how busy Terminal 1 was. I listened in on an interview between an officer and a passenger that was being conducted in Portuguese. Pedro, who is a member of Team D, was conducting the interview with the supervision of Jimmy who had severe suspicions about the passenger. Pedro was born in Lisbon and speaks fluent Portuguese which was extremely useful in a situation such as this where a passenger doesn't speak English. I quickly realised how beneficial it is to know multiple languages when working in this field. Pedro exercised his right to look through the passenger's phone and asked him questions about what he was doing here in Ireland. I really enjoyed listening in on the interview. Pedro talked me through everything he was doing and why he was doing it so I could understand his job better. Pedro refused the passenger leave to land in Ireland under Section 4, Subsection 3, Parts b, h, and k of the Immigration Act 2004 highlighting that the passenger intended to take up employment illegally, intended to travel to Northern Ireland or Great Britain and/or intended to enter the State for purposes other than expressed so he was deported on the next flight back to Portugal. When working in a job such as this, it's extremely important to know your legislation well and be able to apply it to your job efficiently and correctly. Jimmy printed me out some revised sections of the Immigration Act 2004, which you can see at the end, so I could know what the officers were talking about when discussing what to do with passengers.



My second day was quite unusual. I went to Platinum Services with Jimmy to immigrate Caitlyn Jenner and her personal assistant. Just like everyone else, anyone who comes through the VIP Platinum Services must be immigrated and screened before entering the country. Caitlyn was very polite and extremely cooperative when asked questions. We had a short chat about my experience so far and it was quite refreshing to talk to her.

The same day when I was on my way to lunch, I bumped into the Irish Rugby Team. Jimmy was with me and stopped to have a chat with a few of the players as they recognise him as they travel a lot for their job. They were extremely nice and laughed when I said I'd never watched rugby before. Meeting celebrities is definitely a perk of the job and adds a certain aspect of excitement to it but at the end of the day, everyone is treated exactly the same and it was great to see that there are no exceptions. After lunch I went on something called a Doorstep. Jimmy and a few members of his team were

checking Luftansa flights for people with false documents after they allowed over twenty people to travel with false documents in one week. Doorsteps are conducted to search for false documents and also not to waste the airline's time so they crack down on the issue. Aircrafts rent their space on the tarmac for a certain amount of time and if they're still there after their time slot has ended they pay more. Jimmy announced that Immigration were now in charge of the aircraft and that all crew and passengers must comply. No passenger was allowed to disembark the aircraft without having their passport checked and their name checked off on the flight manifest. The flight manifest is a list of all the passengers on the flight. The officers use these lists to make sure that the people who are checked are supposed to be on the flight. Everyone on the aircraft was cleared and allowed to enter the airport. They would still have to go through Immigration itself to have their passports scanned and to talk to an officer. It was a very interesting experience as I never knew that Immigration officers could do that and how truly rude people can be when they're held up by more than five minutes.



I had a day off on Friday as I had worked close to twenty-four hours in the previous two days. I didn't mind the twelve hour shifts as I always had something to do whether it be to listen to an interview or print something off for an officer.

My next week started again early on Monday. I met with two officers from the Airport Search Unit, Pat and Andy. This was also when I met the rest of the students that were on work experience at the airport. One other student, Scott, would be spending his time with me in Immigration as my superior was his uncle, Neville. Pat and Andy took us on a full tour of the airport where we got to use the ETD machine that scans inside your bag and metal detectors on our own belongings. They explained to us how they are divided into teams to work at each machine and only do a task for twenty minutes before rotating. It was very interesting to learn how alert they have to be at all times to do their jobs. They can't let anything cloud their judgement and if they have even one doubt, they must act as if they have ten. We also got to talk to Ian Barry who is a Duty Supervisor at Dublin Airport. He talked to us about how to work your way up through all the different types of jobs in the airport. It was really great getting to chat with him as he shared his experience of working his way up to duty supervisor with us and mentioned that you get nowhere without hard work.

We then headed to Immigration again where all the other students were able to meet some of the people I already had. Neville explained Immigration to all the other students and asked me to help him explain too as I had a week's experience already. We all received a badge and lanyard.

After Immigration we went on to meet a Behaviour Detection Officer. Gareth is one of twelve people in the world trained to read people's behaviour and body language the way the team of officers do. There are currently eight BDO's in Ireland and four in the UK. The team use their highly specific skill set to determine if a passenger may have any contraband, illegal substances or excessive amounts of cash in their luggage or on their person. Gareth answered any questions we had for him and told us everything he could about his job and it's safe to say we were stunned by his intelligence and his skills.

On Tuesday we spent some of our time with customs and a few of their dog handlers. While the handlers prepared their dogs for a training exercise, we were all taken to the drug toilet. It's quite self-explanatory and we all agreed that we would hate to have to clean it even if we were paid the standard fee of thirty euro. Two of the ASU students, Dylan and Jason, took part in the training exercise with the dog handlers and their dogs. Each dog was trained to identify one or two specific things like food, tobacco, drugs and cash. Dylan took a suitcase filled with twenty-five thousand cigarettes and Jason took a box filled with seventy-five thousand euro. We spread ourselves out at a few different gates and the handlers brought the dogs around to sniff all the passengers' bags. They were extremely quick to find the contraband and it was quite funny to see the looks of other passengers as the boys were led away by customs. It was really amazing to watch something like that happen even if it was just training. The handlers work so hard each day with the dogs to keep them alert and always at the top of their game. All the handlers told us that their job was very rewarding as their dog is their partner and they work so well together that it makes their job fun.

On Wednesday morning we went to the coast guard aircraft Rescue 116 and its crew. Mick and Nick talked us through their tracking systems and how their jobs are never the same each day. They mentioned that it could be very hard at times as they do lose people on their way to hospital and sometimes have to pull bodies out of the sea. They also took the time to tell us more about their friends, Captain Dara Fitzpatrick, Captain Mark Duffy, Winchman Ciarán Smith and Winch Operator Paul Ormsby who passed away when the previous Rescue 116 crashed. Meeting Mick and Nick was definitely one of the highlights of the second week for me. It was hard for them to talk about their friends who lost their lives but they made sure they told us exactly what they were like. It was heartbreaking to hear that both of them had been chatting to the crew before they left on what was to be their final call. They didn't sugar-coat any part of their job description and it was a lovely day.

On Thursday, Scott and I left ASU for the morning to go and work on the E-Gates with Paula, another Immigration Supervisor and a good friend of my uncle. The E-Gates are electronic gates that use facial recognition software and three different light types to match the picture on a passport to a live face in front of the camera. They can be used by EU citizen who are eighteen and over as a faster alternative to talking to an officer. Scott and I were doing tests on the next ten gates to open in Terminal 2 as the gates in the first terminal were already functional. We used passports that didn't belong to us to test the facial recognition system as well as our own to test the scanning system. We ran these tests for most of the morning before we opened five gates to give the officers a test run. Two officers sat at the monitoring booth to make sure things were running smoothly while Scott and I showed passengers how to use the gates and directed them through the process. Some passengers cooperated when you asked them to step out and go to a referral officer as their passport didn't work but others would not listen. I really enjoyed working on the gates and doing the tests. The technology is quite advanced and it was really interesting to hear about the training courses and participate in the tests.



That afternoon we met up with everyone from ASU again and began working on a power point presentation to present to some of the department heads on the Friday afternoon. We were all given tasks to write about and had time to work together as a group which I really enjoyed. The presentation helped us gel together even more as a group and it was great fun to have some time to really stop and reflect on the week we had had at the airport.

Friday was a very bittersweet day for me. Scott and I worked the E-Gates again that morning and at one in the afternoon, we began practicing our presentation. A lot of people in the group were quite nervous to speak in front of our superiors but everyone really supported and encouraged each other which helped to calm us all down. The presentation was a huge success and everyone in attendance really enjoyed it. We all shared so many fun jokes and had a lovely time talking about all of the interest-

ing and fun experiences that we got to take part in during the week.

It was very difficult to say goodbye to the people from ASU. Pat and Andy had taught me so much and always encouraged me to pursue a career of my choice and to push myself to do well. Shauna and Megan were the only other girls on the course with me and we became good friends really quickly so I was really upset when we had to go. Scott and I then went to sit down with Orla and Neville about our time in the airport. We spoke about Immigration and how much the both of us really enjoyed it. Both Scott and I have an interest in pursuing the job in the future and it was great to have the support from Orla and Neville who have encouraged us greatly. Orla and I also had a small chat about how women can work their way up through the airport equally with men. Orla had gone to a convention the day before with Paula that was for women in powerful positions. She really encouraged me to work hard at what I love and I really enjoyed getting to talk to her about it.

I decided to stay at the airport until my uncle's shift ended at six o'clock so we still had three hours to spare. Scott and I took a trip up to The Pod to see how they choose where the aircrafts can park up at the gates. It's a very meticulous job as they have to make sure everything they enter onto their system is correct so that no two planes go to the same gate.

We ended the day by watching the sun set on top of the Terminal 1. It was an area only staff could access and was absolutely stunning. I stayed on to work at the gates some more and sit with some other officers in the booths as my work experience came to a close. I had the most incredible time at Dublin Airport and couldn't have asked to have more fun. One of the highlights was definitely getting work with my uncle, Jimmy. We're quite similar in personality and have the same opinion on most things so it was really lovely for us to get to work together on something we both love.

I learned so much during my two weeks there. The experience was better than I ever could have imagined. It was really amazing to meet so many intelligent and kind people who work so hard each day. Each person I met while there really inspired me and I thank them for giving me such a great experience. *By Alice Jack*

Junior Achievement Programme



Graduating from Transition Year Junior Achievement 'Enterprise in Action' Programme in TY Business

TRANSITION YEAR DIARY

ESS Trips

Date

12th January
National Gallery of
Ireland, Merrion
Square West

Date

19th January
Pearse Museum
and St Enda's Park

Date

26th January
Kilmainhaim Gaol
and Collins
Barracks

Date

23rd February
Cinema trip

Date

9th March
JumpZone,
Sandyford

Date

13th April
National Botanic
Gardens of Ireland,
Glasnevin

Date

20th April
Chester Beatty Li-
brary and Exhibi-
tion.

Date

11th May
Hairdressing
lecture

Date

18th May
Glasnevin Ceme-
tery guided histori-
cal tour

Environmental Social Studies Project

Transition year students undertook a cross-curricular project with their choice of topic. The project includes aspects of History, Geography, Business, Mathematics and is presented in I.T. format. Students worked on the project over a 3-week period with classes in each subject designated to their projects. The project was delivered to a panel and included a presentation and accompanying poster. Students were split into groups and were assessed on their presentation, poster, planning, communication and teamwork skills.

The topics this year included Disney, Olympics, The Grammys, LGBT, Artificial Intelligence, Game Consoles and Cinema.



“As part of the geography, maths, history and business courses we had to do a large project on whatever we wanted as long as we included factors from each subject. When we had our chosen topic we had to do research on it. For example, for history we had to discuss the history of the topic. For geography we had to discuss the region where the topic is popular. For business we had to look at the statistics of the topic and for maths we had to look at the numbers involved. After we had prepared our topic we had to present our project to the panel of teachers, Ms. McNamara, Ms. Kavanagh, Mr. Brady and Mr. Lynch using PowerPoint and display our information on a poster. Our project was on Disney so we researched about Walt Disney and the Disney theme parks. We enjoyed doing this project and relived a few of our childhood Disney memories!”



By Dylan Brothers and Zak McConnell.



Transition Year Graphic Design Competition - Business

Our design was based on a 1960s style logo. The main focus for our group was the logo because we decided that it should be the most important feature of the carton. We drew the logo using rounded letters to represent the fluidity of the milk which is also the reason we left the brand name white. The logo is in front of a brown band representing the contrast between the chocolate and the milk mixed together. The word protein is written in block capitals to represent the masculine aspects of this product. This product would have a wide target market because the 'protein' attracts adults, the illustration of the cow attracts children and the mooju logo isn't directed at a specific group of people. One group also wrote a slogan 'get your mooju back' – this is a pun on get your mojo back and this means get motivated – all linking back to Mooju Protein Milk.

Faye Reddington, Sammy Barsoum, Eleanor Fox, Caoimhe Griffin Hayes—winners of the cinema ticket prize.





Faye Reddington, Jessica Sweeny, Eleanor Fox, Caoimhe Griffin Hayes—winners of Certificates for Best Interview, Best Work Experience, Best Portfolio, and Student of the Year



Caoimhe Griffin Hayes—self portrait

First Aid Certificates



Every year Transition Year students part-take in a one-day Emergency First Aid training day. This is a day which is always enjoyed by the students as it provides a hands on opportunity for students to learn some of the key skills required to administer first-aid. The instructors from the Order of Malta were very impressed with the attitude of the students and their level of participation in the training. Congratulations to all who took part.

Senior Art Trip to London

In December of 2017, the 5th and 6th year art students went on a trip to London. We travelled on the 16th of December and arrived back in Dublin late the following night.

We all met in terminal 1 early on Saturday morning and flew straight to London. Our first day was very busy as we visited two art museums.

Our first museum was the Tate Museum. The Tate holds the National Collection of British Art from 1900 to the present day and a wonderful collection of international modern and contemporary art. This exhibition was amazing and very interesting. For example, Impressionism is a 19th-century art movement. Impressionism originated with a group of Paris-based artists whose independent exhibitions brought them fame during the 1870s and 1880s. A



very popular painting was the painting “Ophelia” which was painted by Sir John Everett Millais. This painting is beautiful with a quite tragic story behind it.



The second museum we visited was The National Portrait Gallery. This museum houses a collection of portraits of historically important and famous British people. It was the first portrait gallery in the world when it opened in 1856. This museum was

very big and was close to impossible to go around the whole museum in one day. The sculptures in this museum were breathtaking and amazing.

Our day ended with a carnival and it was a great night going around all the rides with everyone.

At the start of the second day we went straight to The National Gallery. The National Gallery was overall my favourite museum which we visited. We visited the Monet exhibition which was full of wonderful pictures by this famous artist.

We flew back later that day very tired. Over all the trip was very good and we all learned a lot seeing the paintings we had studied throughout the year.

By Hanora Pitts

Choir Trip To Prague

On Friday the 23rd of February 2018, forty-six members of the School Choir from first-sixth year accompanied by Ms. Sweeney, Mr. O'Morain, Ms. Mulhern and Ms. Balfe set off on a plane to Prague, Czech Republic.



After lost suitcases, excessive amounts of Subway and Starbucks and fighting over seats on the plane, we finally arrived in Prague. As our rooms were delayed in our hotel, everyone moaned and groaned while some attempted to play chess with the very little energy they had left. Nearly falling asleep on my suitcase was definitely a highlight of the trip.

That first night, we decided to explore Prague to see what it had to offer at night time. The city was, as anticipated, beautiful at night. From buskers with a piano strung with fairy lights to the expertly lit up buildings, it really was a sight for sore eyes! To add to that fun, we also went out on a ghost tour. Our tour guide Iva took us around to different buildings around where we were staying, telling us all sorts of tales about different murders and events that had happened there. Let's just say, that night was an experience.

On Saturday, after being woken up at the crack of dawn by the teachers, we went on a walking sight-seeing tour of the city. We saw many beautiful monuments and buildings and even had a few interesting photo opportunities. Our tour guide was brilliant, telling us everything we needed to know about the city and how to get the best out of our short trip. We drank many cups of tea, coffee and hot chocolate to keep warm in the crisp sub zero temperatures. We visited the Czech Museum of Music and even gave a pop up performance of the spirituals Amazing Grace and Deep River.

By far the best thing we did during the trip was our lunchtime concert in St. Martin's in the Wall, which was exactly what you'd expect: a church built into a brick wall. Ioana Matei, our head girl, performed a piece by Debussy to introduce the choir which was phenomenal. We were accepted well by the locals who came to our performance and we had a large audience. We are grateful to the Irish Czech Business Association and Irish embassy in Prague for promoting the concert and Ms. Sweeney who encouraged visiting tourists to attend. Ms. Mulhern accompanied on piano, Ms. Balfe conducted the choir which featured a wide variety of music including popular, spiritual, Irish and folk music. It was an honour to sing in such a beautiful location in the city. After the concert, we had time to relax on a boat trip along the Vltava before dining at the Hard Rock Café.



On Sunday morning, we participated in a workshop at the Choco Museum, then we went to Wenceslas Square, the Strahov Monastery, Prague Castle and even had some time for shopping. After dinner, we went to a very interesting, Black Light Theatre Show called Déjà vu where some of the students had an opportunity to participate in it. We finished off the trip with a quiz hosted by Mr. O' Morain.

Our trip to Prague is hard to fit into one short article as we did so many amazing things and had so many wonderful experiences there, but it is definitely a trip that none of us will be able to forget!

By Oonagh O' Malley



Every year a group of Form 1 students accompanied by three tutors go on a pedagogic and interactive excursion to the world-renowned 'City of Lights', Paris.

Jour 1

mercredi, le 21 mars

To kick off this magnificent trip each student assembled with their teachers (Ms. Corkery, Mr. Lynch and Rev. Oxley in this case) inside Terminal 2, Dublin Airport at the time of 4:30 a.m. We swiftly made our way through security and boarded an Aer Lingus flight directly to Charles de Gaulle (CDG), Paris. After our arrival in Paris a coach destined to take us to central Paris picked us up. First stop, the Champs Elysées!

On the Champs Elysées we had a scrumptious lunch in McDonald's while admiring the most prestigious avenue in the world, home to cafes, luxury specialty shops and to put the icing on the cake, as an eye –catching finale, the Arc de Triomphe. Afterwards we got a very informative 1.5 hour guided tour around the iconic sights such as l'Arc de Triomphe, la Cathédral de Notre Dame, la Tour Eiffel, le Palais Royal and le Louvre.

When done with the guided tour, we headed for one of the most superior examples of French gothic architecture, la Cathédral de Notre Dame!

After all the tourist work, most of us were pretty much gone with the fairies. We were all exhausted and definitely needed to make our way somewhere to dine. Luckily we were to find out that the next thing on our schedule was dining in an authentic Crêperie known as Crepêrie Beaubourg. For most of my class eating buckwheat crepes was a first but one way or another both the main courses and desserts were mouth-watering.

Subsequently my class and its supervisors enjoyed a relaxing cruise down the Seine on the Bateaux Mouches taking in all the magnificent Parisian sights illuminated by night.

After a long day out visiting, our coach took us to our hotel, Explorers Hotel Disneyland, where we checked in. We had a bit of free time before curfew which most of us spent in a lovely swimming pool next to our rooms. While others decided to hang out with some friends. Then we had a well deserved early night's sleep.

Jour 2

jeudi, le 22 mars

Shortly after waking up, breakfast was served. Some of the finest French pastries such as croissants, pain au chocolates, crêpes and hot chocolates were the main attractions for my class. Then we made our way back to central Paris only that this time we went down to the magnificent Montmartre area.

Students explored the Montmartre area with its bustling, cobbled streets and went up 304 steps to reach the lovely cathedral, known as the Sacre Coeur. The Sacre Coeur was really beautiful with all its colourful stained glass windows but at the same time very crowded.

After visiting the Sacre Coeur, we had a good bit of free time where some of us wandered off around the Montmartre area either buying souvenirs for family or going a little further down to Place de Tetre where we purchased a caricature drawing from one of the many experienced artists.

Later on we ate lunch in Gigi's restaurant where we were served a very appetizing chicken breast, chips and a delicious salad. Most of the class also tried a refreshing Orangina as a trip to Paris would not be complete without one.

In the afternoon, we visited the Musée d'Orsay where we admired the major impressionist's works and sculptures of Rodin, Monet, Renoir, Manet, Van Gogh and many, many other talented artists. We also got to see the famous La Nuit Etoilée and Portrait de l'Artiste both by Vincent Van Gogh.

The group also travelled across the city to the La Défense region for an amazing afternoon of shopping at the Quatre Temps Shopping Centre where we got a close-up of President Mitterrand's project 'la Grande Arche' which stretches 106 metres in length and is a 21st century of l'Arc de Triomphe.

We also visited the 210 meter skyscraper, la Tour Montparnasse where we took Europe's fastest elevator which brings you up to the observation deck in just 38 seconds. The observation deck was the top of the Montparnasse tower and the panoramic view was just impeccable. The even better thing was that the sky was getting dark and the Parisian lights were opening to illuminate the sky.

The coach transferred us back to our hotel and everybody quickly fell asleep because the next day we were going to Disneyland Paris!

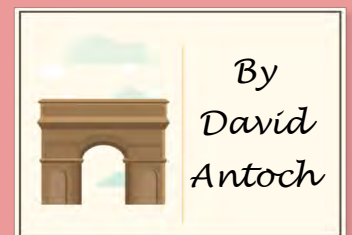
Jour 3

vendredi, le 23 mars

Everyone woke up, had breakfast, got their bags ready and set off to our next destination, Disneyland Paris! Of course no trip to Paris would be complete without a visit to Disneyland. At the beginning the weather was holding up for us but later on it started raining, but no one cared. Students spent time exploring the four zones of the park which play host to lots of big rides such as Indiana Jones and Hyper-space Mountain. Sadly Big Thunder Mountain was closed for renovation but everyone still had a fantastic time. Everyone met their favourite Disney characters, had great food, spent time in the Disney shops and saw magnificent street parades.

Unfortunately the day ended and the students and teachers boarded an Aer Lingus plane returning them back to their friends and family in Dublin Airport.

Overall it was a very good experience for me and the trip was a great success.



Sport



School Rugby

The school continued its partnership with Leinster Rugby this year running an introduction to the sport for the younger years on a Thursday. The more experienced Senior Team took part in a number of development games which took place at Donnybrook Stadium. The skills development of both groups was great this year and super potential was shown in particular by the first years who finished the year being able to carry out difficult techniques like side-stepping and kicking. The most important thing were the numbers present for training each week which was fantastic. In order to build on the enthusiasm of this group we have begun to arrange fixtures for next year already.

Older age groups showed incredible skill during the games which they played at Donnybrook. These days out were very interesting as there was great prowess shown by the students both during the games and in the training beforehand. Incredibly, most of our fifth years were able to carry out conversions and penalties from all angles. They were able to do this due to their dedication to soccer and rugby with skills being transferred well between both sports. This proves that playing multiple sports during school ultimately benefits the student when they choose to specialise. Some spectacular tries were scored by our fifth and sixth years that were of a really high level. There is no doubt that if any of these students decided to continue the sport after school they would be able to progress to a high level by joining any of the Dublin clubs.

In order to stay in the game we encourage players to join clubs near where they live in order to be able to practice more. This year we were delighted to have players active at Landsdowne, Terenure, Coolmine and Clondalkin. The school currently has one player training with Leinster and we are confident of having more representative players in the future.



School Football

Football in the Grammar School continues to grow in popularity with students from all years participating in football. Training is held every Wednesday at the Cabbage Patch facility.

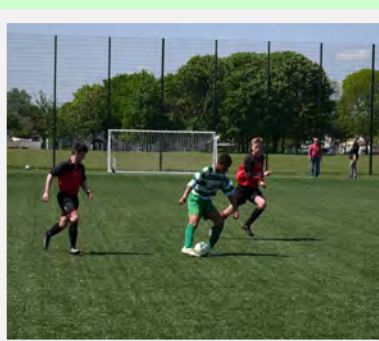
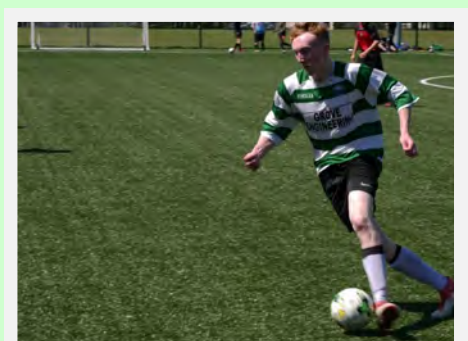
The boys participated in five competitions during the 2017-2018 season and played competitive games in the Senior, Junior and Minor cup competitions that were held in November and December. These competitions were run by the FAI in conjunction with the Leinster Schools Football Branch. The senior boys entered the very competitive Leinster School League



and put in some fine performances against schools with a larger pick of students due to higher roll numbers. They can be very proud of the competitiveness and sportsmanship shown in these games.

The boys entered the Dublin Inner City School football tournament in January. This is a tournament confined to 8 inner city schools that have a smaller pick of players than the larger suburban Dublin and Leinster schools. The tournament takes the format of two groups of four with each school playing three games. The top two from each group progress to cup semi-finals while the bottom two progress to the shield semi-finals. The lads played against Rosary College, Ringsend College and Synge Street in the group stage and finished with two victories and a loss. This left them sitting in second place in the group and meant the lads progressed to the semi-final of the cup against CBS James Street. The team consisted of a mix of boys from third to sixth year and they displayed excellent comradery between the different age groups. They beat CBS James Street on a score line of 9-2 to reach the eagerly anticipated cup final. It was a superb team performance and a brace of goals from man of the match Ameer Abdul sealed the win.

The team then had to face St. Paul's CBS, Brunswick Street also known as 'The Brunner' in the final. It was a fantastic achievement for the lads to reach the final. The Brunner have won this competition for the past three years and we entered the final as underdogs. Unfortunately on this occasion the opposition proved to be too strong for St Patrick's. Nevertheless it was a wonderful achievement to reach the final . Congratulations to the team and coaches Mr Brady and Mr Lynch.





Hockey

The hockey players this year played in all conditions and varying environments. To those who stuck with it this year and continued to show enthusiasm, I want to thank them and hopefully we can build on this going forward.

This year was the first time we had a senior team in the school and also the first time boys trained alongside the girls. We had a mixed team primarily made up of Transition Year students, some of whom had taken it up to complete the physical recreation requirement of their Gaisce award.



When the school year began the Iveagh Grounds was changing hands to Trinity College Sports, so it was well into the season before we managed to get training properly and therefore we could not enter the Leinster Junior Hockey League.

We started back with our more experienced players, with our first years starting a little later. Soon after maintenance on the hockey pitch surface at the Iveagh Grounds had to take place. This meant that training was interrupted for some time until we could find an alternative location. In the new year we began training on the small astro turf in Brickfields Park. The senior team being eager to get back to hockey, trained here for a number of weeks, until the works on the pitch had been completed and we could return back to our usual training arrangements. We continued to train into the summer term and enjoyed better weather for training as a result.





Hockey Blitz

To finish off the year we had our first ever “Mixed Hockey Blitz” on the 16th May. Students from first to sixth year signed up and teams were drafted endeavouring to make matches and teams reasonably fair, but also competitive. The day was sunny and warm and playing conditions were perfect.



Each team played three rounds, after which we were to have four finalists. However, with two teams tied we had to have a tie-break match to decide who would take the fourth spot and go into the final. Following this, the four best teams at the end of these rounds went through to a semi-final. The teams worked well together with senior players encouraging younger players and first year players getting stuck in despite their inexperience.

Winning team (pictured above) Megan O'Brien, Lavinia Stoppani, Darragh Cole, Max-Dundon Hanan, David Adeniji & Jake Lalor Zakrzewski

Sports Day Cup Winners—May 2018





National Choral Singing Week

National Choral Singing Week, in association with Mental Health Ireland, took place between 8th and 15th of October. The entire School Choir with over 75 choristers all descended upon the Hewson room to participate in a choral workshop with Dr. Róisín Blunnie of DCU. Later in the year, Dr. Lynsey Callaghan gave a choral workshop to our third year choir class. They worked on breathing, warm-ups and even sang some cool rounds in three parts!



Sligo International Choral Festival

On Friday November 17th, two bus loads of choristers with over seventy students set out on their journey to Sligo for the annual International Choral Festival. Upon arrival the choir immediately got stuck into a choral workshop with former chorus master of the RTÉ Philharmonic Choir Mr. Mark Duley. He worked extensively on breathing and the importance of singing with good tone and expression. After a quick bite to eat the choir made their way to the Clayton Hotel, Sligo to warm up their vocal chords and polish off the competition repertoire. Next, the choir headed to the venue for the secondary school choir competitions- to Knocknarena.



First up was the Tony Mc Connell competition. The School Choir started with a memorising performance of *Loch Lomond* by Jonathan Quick which featured soloist Callum Martin. Next up was *Lully, Lulla, Lullay* by Philip Stopford which saw first year boy chorister Davide Antochi soar above the choir with his outstanding solo. The adjudicators Blánaid Murphy and Mark Duley gave a special mention to the 'two superb soloists!'.
Ready for action the Chamber Choir prepared for the second competition of the day- the Maura Butler Cup. The School Choir wowed the judges with their chosen pieces. The adjudicator Blánaid Murphy remarked that *Bogoroditse Devo* by Rachmaninov was 'well prepared and musically sung. Some lovely shapely phrases with singers listening and tone balancing'. The second choice piece was the intricate *Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel* by Moses Hogan. The adjudicator Mark Duley remarked 'confident, great rhythm and energy'. There was stiff competition from the other competing choirs making the adjudicators decision very difficult indeed but the Chamber Choir were delighted to receive 2nd prize of a framed certificate. Mc Donalds in Athlone was the final stop of the day on the journey back to Dublin where the choir celebrated with some food!





Educational Trips to the National Concert Hall

On Monday November 20th 2017 Form 3 music class walked to the National Concert Hall to attend a concert entitled 'A Junior Certificate Music Guide' including the set works: G.F Handel's *Water Music Suite* in D major and *The William Tell Overture* by Rossini and the orchestra also surprised the students with other works, such as *Star Wars* by John Williams, *Symphony Fantastique* by Berlioz and *Rodeo* by Aaron Copland. The RTÉ National Symphony orchestra played many more classic works, which were a wonderful treat. A narrator Tom Redmond guided the students through the concert giving them helpful tips to remember specific parts of each work. He even played the French Horn solo with orchestra in the Haydn Concerto for *French Horn and Orchestra*. Schools from all over the country attended this amazing concert.



On Tuesday November 21st 2017 form 6 music class went to the National Concert Hall. The inter-

nationally praised music educationalist Tom Redmond and the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Robert Houlihan presented a step by step guide to Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture*, highlighting key themes and sections and concluding with a full performance. It was presented with full symphonic forces and a big screen for musical illustrations. After the concert, the students met Catriona Ryan, principal flautist with the orchestra, and she spoke to them about the life of a professional musician.





Feis Ceoil

Feis Ceoil started on a high note on Tuesday March 13 2018 with the annual Choir Day. Post-primary choirs travelled from the length and breadth of the country to participate in this wonderful celebration of choral music. The St. Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School Choir competed in the Alice Yoakley Quirk Cup, the C oir Iarbhunskoile Tr  n  Ceithre Ph irt and the Sacred Music competitions. The Alice Yoakley Quirk and Sacred Music competitions took place on the main stage of the RDS. St. Patricks set the bar high with a beautiful performance of John Rutter's *For the beauty of the Earth* and the contrasting Russian setting of Ave Maria *Bogoroditse Devo*. The renowned choral conductor Neil Ferris remarked 'Well done! This is a tricky piece to perform well and you managed to keep a lovely spin on the sound throughout. The ending was beautiful and well done with maintaining the pitch'. The standard of all choirs competing was exceptionally high. The choir received a Highly Commended and were delighted with this placing. For the Alice Yoakley Quirk cup the choir give a super performance of Stuart Nicholson's challenging arrangement of *Lord of the Dance* and Philip Stopford's fabulous *Lully, Lulla, Lullay*. St. Bartholomews church was the venue for the C oir Iarbhunskoile competition. The choir performed *Mo Ghile Mear* with soloist Callum Martin taking the lead and a newly commissioned work *Port N  Gl r* by the Derry born composer S an Doherty. The choir gave lovely performances but unfortunately were not placed this time. After months of hard work the students enjoyed their day out to the Feis Ceoil and even made an appearance on the RT  news that evening.





Junior Musician Perpetual Cup

A new initiative for 2017, the Junior Musician Perpetual Cup was awarded to Jessica Sweeney. This cup is awarded to a student in form 4 who has contributed to all aspects of extra-curricular performing activities in years 1-3 of school. Jessica made a valuable contribution to both choir and orchestra. Jessica showed commitment and leadership in her attendance at all rehearsals, contributed to many solo and group performances on both the clarinet and piano and inspires her fellow musicians with her musicality.



Senior Musician Perpetual Cup

A new initiative for 2017, the Senior Musician Perpetual Cup was awarded to Orla Bruce. The cup is awarded to a student in the previous form 6 who has contributed to all aspects of extra-curricular life at the Grammar School. Orla consistently strived for excellence in every performance. She made a valuable contribution to orchestra and all choirs in the school and the Cathedral Girls' Choir as head chorister. She showed commitment to all rehearsals and made a valuable contribution to group performances over the years at school services, concerts, and external competitions while inspiring those around her with her virtuosic solo and engaging performances. She is thoroughly deserving of this award. In September 2017, Orla commenced a Bachelor of Music Degree at the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama and hopes to pursue a lifelong career in music.

Á Balfe





School Orchestra

If you've heard any loud noises coming from the music room recently, it's either the builders, the bats in the ceiling or the school orchestra. Made up of "talented" members, all the way from first to sixth year, of all different levels.

First Year

Sophia Fox - Violin

Second Year

Rory McElligott – Flute

Gavin Dunphy - Guitar

Third Year

Dylan Woods - Trumpet

Fourth Year

Eleanor Fox - Harp

Jessica Sweeney – Everything!

Alice Jack - Flute

Fifth Year

Eleanor Sweeney - Trumpet

Callum Martin – Alto Saxophone

Oonagh O Malley - Piano

Sixth Years

Unfortunately we have to say goodbye to some of our members in sixth year for example our bass player Sam-The-Babe-Magnet-Urwin, Rosanna West-Side, Our Lord Emanuel Dascalu, Denny-Sax-Machine-Stupakov and Paddy-Sesh-King-McNally.



Over the course of this academic year, the school orchestra has accomplished many things, for instance playing in important school events such as the school Open Day as well as the Christmas Carol Service. We made a recording for the school website. In addition, the school orchestra has also recently taken part in the Junior Orchestra Examination for the Royal Irish Academy of Music. For this we played three pieces, *The Great Escape* by Elmer Bernstein, *Summertime* by Gershwin and *Pompeii* by Bastille. Unfortunately Wesley Interschools Music Festival was cancelled this year due to the treacherous conditions of the Beast from the East (and no that's not Ms McNamara, she's from the West) and we are disappointed that we could not compete, but regardless, we would have won anyways. We are looking forward to kidnapping some of the new first years, and even some of the students



St. Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School Sing into Christmas!

RTÉ Lyric FM Choirs for Christmas Competition

The Christmas season was once again an incredibly busy time for the school choir. Just before the Christmas exams the school choir recorded for the RTÉ Lyric Fm Choirs for Christmas competition. Now in its 19th year, the competition has gone from strength to strength. This year, the competition entries exceeded all expectations. St Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School for the fourth year in a row was chosen for airplay with a beautiful performance of *Lully, Lulla, Lullay* by Philip Stopford.



Carolling for the Simon Community

A whole school effort from teachers' and students' ensured a wonderful afternoon of carolling outside the G.P.O. With Santa hats and t-shirts on the students' sang their hearts out treating the passer-by's, parents and friends to some Christmas songs. The choir raised €1320.00 in just over an hour!!

Carols For All

On Sunday December 10 the Cathedral Choir and the choir of St. Patrick's Cathedral Grammar School joined forces for the annual Carols for All service in St Patrick's cathedral. The service consisted of congregational hymns, prayers, readings and various anthems sung by both the Cathedral Choir and the school choir. The grammar school choir sang *Lully, Lulla, Lullay* by Philip Stopford and *Bogoroditse Devo* by Sergei Rachmaninov. The Cathedral was packed to maximum capacity with friends and family in attendance who all enjoyed the service very much. This is the third year that the Grammar School Choir have invited to take part in the Carols For All. It is a wonderful honour and the choir greatly enjoy doing it.





Cathedral Girls' Choir

The Cathedral Girls' Choir is comprised of the girls students from the Grammar School and is directed by Mr. David Leigh, the assistant organist at St. Patrick's Cathedral. This choir has played a huge part in the lives of many students past and present. The current members are Rosanna West, Ioana Matei, Hanora Pitts, Oonagh O' Malley, Caoimhe Griffin Hayes, Vereesha Bundhoo, Lola-Blue Ryan and Angel Akpotor. Past Pupils Órla Bruce and Eabha Harper McKeever are choral scholars currently studying at university who also sing in the choir.



The girls are very dedicated with rehearsals every Monday and Thursday morning at 8am before school and sung service (evensong) every Monday afternoon and every second Thursday. They also sing on one Sunday per month often performing famous or more challenging pieces at these services. For example on the 25th of March we performed 'St. John's Passion' by J.S. Bach. Ioana Matei sang a solo aria Rosanna West sang the part of the 'young maiden'. In the past, the girls have also performed at the National Concert Hall and travelled to Oxford and Chester for a concert tour. This summer the choir are travelling to Chichester for another tour. On the 11th of March, the most senior members of the choir Ioana Matei and Rosanna West received the Friends Medal for their work and dedication.

I have been in the Cathedral Girls' Choir for nearly ten years. It has been a life changing experience in which I have really learned to love and appreciate choral music as well as become a better musician. I've been able to meet countless amazing musicians and made great friends along the way. My confidence as a singer has also been greatly helped by my participation in the choir. I hope to return to the choir as a choral scholar after the Leaving Certificate. If you have any interest in music or singing, it's a great way to get involved and experience so many great opportunities!

By Rosanna West

Cathedral Girls' Junior Choir

The St. Patrick's Junior Girls' Choir is a small choir consisting of girls from 3rd class in the Choir school to 1st year in the Grammar School. We have matins in the cathedral every Tuesday morning from 8.30am to 9.30am and practise beforehand. We practise after school on a Wednesday and on Thursday morning.

We get a hot dinner every Wednesday, have time to do homework and go to our instrumental lessons- I take piano lessons. Mr. Stuart Nicholson runs the choir. Being in the choir is great fun and gives us loads of amazing opportunities. I would definitely recommend joining. We sing at Easter and Christmas services and at lots of concerts.

By Roisín Murphy



Spring Concert

A snapshot of the wonderful performers and their repertoire choices from our annual Spring Concert which took place on Thursday 22nd March in the Lady Chapel of the St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Performer(s)	Instrument/ Ensemble	Repertoire Choice
School Choir		<i>Mo Ghile Mear</i> (arr. Desmond Early)
Prague Choir		<i>Down by the Sally Gardens</i> (arr. Sean Doherty) <i>Puttin' on the Ritz</i> (Irving Berlin)
Travis Yusuf	Piano	<i>Howell's Moving Castle</i> (Joe Hisaishi)
Rory Mc Elligott	Flute	<i>Irish Washerwoman</i> (Traditional)
Saibh Fitzgerald	Voice	<i>Yours</i> (Ella Henderson)
Rian Middleton	Guitar	<i>Ragatelle</i> by (Vincent Lindsay Clark)
Veerasha Bundhoo & Angel Akpotor	Vocal Duet	<i>Caro Mio Ben</i> (Giuseppe Giordani)
Dylan Woods	Trumpet	<i>Handel's March</i> (from the opera Scipio)
Jenny Yusuf	Voice	<i>Jealous</i> (Labrynth)
Caoimhe Griffin-Hayes	Piano	<i>Russian Piece</i> (Traditional)
Eleanor Fox	Irish Harp	<i>Study #13</i> (Grossi)
Jessica Sweeney	Clarinet	<i>Summer</i> (from Victoria's Kitchen Garden Suite)
Cameron Lally	Voice	<i>Vergin Tutto Amor</i> 'Virgin, Fount of Love' (Durante)
Hanora Pitts & Oonagh O'Malley	Vocal Duet	<i>Bacarolle</i> (Jacques Offenbach)
Eleanor Sweeney	Trumpet	<i>As Time Goes By</i> (Herman Hupfield)
Callum Martin	Voice	<i>Bring Him Home, Les Misérables</i> (Claude Michel-Schoenberg)
Cathedral Girls' Choir		<i>Song of Wisdom</i> (Stanford)
Ciarán Gartland	Voice	<i>Litanei</i> (Schubert)
Emanuel Dascalu	Classical Guitar	<i>Maria Luisa</i> (Julio Salvador Sagreras)
Patrick Mc Nally	French Horn	<i>Reverie</i> by Glazunov
Ioana Matei	Voice	<i>Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man of Mine</i> from Showboat (Jerome kern)
Philip Moreau	Piano	<i>The River Flows Through You</i> (Yirumi)
Grace O' Brien	Voice & Ukulele	<i>Breezeblocks</i> (Alt Jay)
Chamber Orchestra		<i>Pompeii</i> (Bastille) <i>The Great Escape</i> (Elmer Bernstein)
Denny Stupakov & Sam Urwin	Saxophone & Bass Guitar	<i>Can't Stop</i> (Red Hot Chilli Peppers)



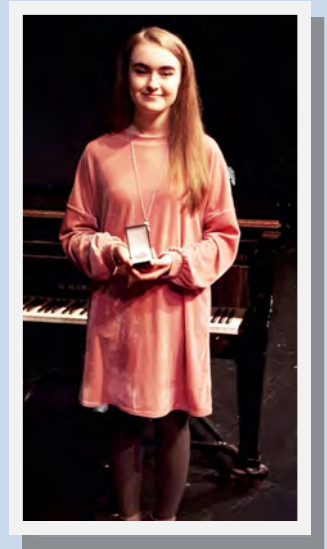
Music on Open Day





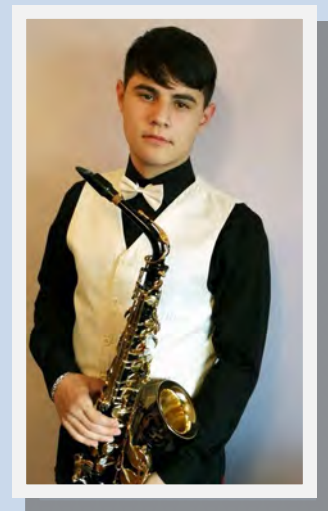
Oonagh O' Malley

Last May 2017 I sat my grade 8 Piano Exam with the Royal Irish Academy of Music for which I received a distinction. Subsequently, I was awarded a High Achiever's Award from the RIAM. In November, I attended the ceremony hosted by winners of this award from various different age groups and ranging from violinists to singers performed in a short concert before the prize giving. Receiving this award was a huge honour and incredibly rewarding for me following years of hard work. It was an enjoyable ceremony and a very memorable achievement.



Denny Stupakov

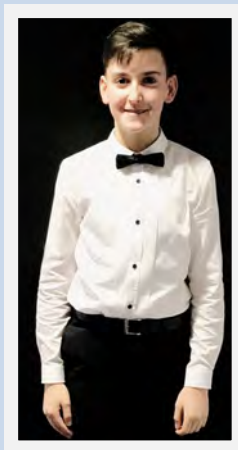
I recently completed my grade 8 in Alto Saxophone and received a mark of 90%. I played three pieces. 'Samba Trieste' by Richard Rodney Bennett, 'Cinq Danses Exotiques' by Jean Françaix and 'Etude no 20' by Franz Wilhelm Ferling. I received a higher achievers award for my distinction result of 90% in my grade 7. Over the years I have played many gigs in venues such as the Sugar Club and The Workmans Club. I will also be performing at Electric Picnic this summer with a band.





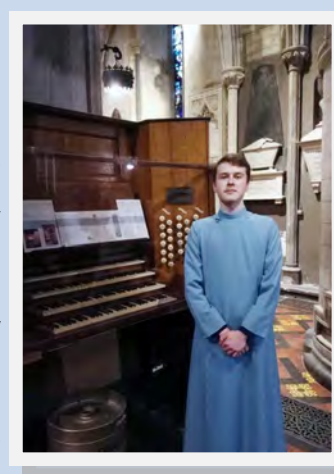
Daide Antochi

On the 17th of January I had an audition in DIT Rathmines. Although there were a few little nerves, I was confident in my abilities and I knew the hours of practice were going to show. The audition went really well and all that was left was for Mr. Brophy to give our results. One week later I was thrilled to find out that from 41 boys who had auditioned for the role I was the successful candidate! On St. Patrick's Day I sang in the National Concert Hall with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, the DIT Choral Society and the much esteemed conductor David Brophy. The moment I had been waiting for my whole musical career had finally come- a one hour long concert in the National Concert Hall singing 'OSSA' a World Premiere by the amazing composer Neil Martin.. The DIT Choral Society was really good and the orchestra was unbelievable! I felt a little pressure because I knew I had to balance up with the choir and orchestra but after a short while I managed. I was really happy to hear that some of Mr. Martin's friends had come all the way from The States, just for this premiere. Rita Connolly and many other famous Irish singers like Iarla Ó Lionáird and Stephen Rhea had also congratulated me in the backstage. Overall it was a fabulous experience and the best day of my life! (so far!)



Emanuel Dascalu (Martins Scholar)

Back in 2016 I re-joined the Cathedral Choir, this time as a Martin Scholar as part of the men's choir. It has offered me a wide range of opportunities. These include singing lessons provided by the Cathedral and taking part in evensong with the Choir every Tuesday and Friday evening. The past two school years have been long but I have always enjoyed Evensong, whether I was learning a new piece or singing a well-known anthem. The men of the Cathedral Choir are some of the most talented singers I've met and I'm grateful for having had the chance to sing alongside them. Overall I feel that my singing ability has greatly improved since Transition Year and this has been a memorable experience.



Principal's Prize Day Speech

Throughout its long history, the number of pupils enrolled at the grammar school has risen and fallen; today we are experiencing greater demand for places than ever before. Typically, this means that we have about 5 applicants for each place that we can offer. In response to this demand we have increased our enrolment for 2018 and 2019 so that each year group will have two classes with 24 pupils in each class. We have also changed our admissions policy to one that addresses the demand for places in a more equitable way while still maintaining the characteristic spirit of the school and, in particular the close relationship between the Grammar School and the Choir school.

If current trends continue, and we can manage to fit everyone in, we could have 250 pupils in the school by 2023. All of this means that even when we move into our new classroom building we must continue to think carefully about our use of space, about the deployment of teachers and teaching resources, and about the allocation of financial resources.

A new building brings extra space but also brings increased overheads and requires additional resources. We continue to rely on the generosity of parents and guardians in making voluntary contributions to help with the running of the school in particular for financing extra-curricular activities. These contributions are vital if we are to continue to provide the quality of education that the school is so proud of.

Financial support is not the only way that parents can help the activities of the school and I would like to thank the growing number of parents who have got involved in the Parents Association this year. I would encourage all parents to get involved in whatever way they can. The PA have been involved in a number of fundraising activities this year including the book and uniform sale and have also been involved in meetings about the future use of school buildings. I would also like to thank the PA for their practical support with catering for events such as the recent TY play.

National Level

At a national level, there has been much talk about the new junior cycle and after many years of negotiations this year has finally seen an end to the Junior Certificate as we know it. Our current 4th year students will very soon be presented not with a junior certificate but with a Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement to be known at the JCPA. Instead of getting A's B's and C's for their English exam the JCPA gives them grade descriptors such as Merit, Higher Merit and Distinction. The JCPA also includes for reporting on other areas of learning which gives official recognition to the many things that students do outside of mainstream subjects including all of their extra-curricular activities and will also allow for reporting on Classroom based assessments carried out in second and third year. Although there is still a long way to go with the implementation of this new system it does at least take some of the focus away from the high stakes terminal exam. And, at the Grammar School we are currently exploring new ways to develop the new Junior Cycle programme.

School Activities

Our pupils have had a very busy year of extra-curricular activities. At the start of the Easter Holidays students from first year went on the annual educational tour to Paris. In April the second years went on a science/history cross-curricular educational tour to Belfast taking in both the Titanic and W5 science exhibition centres. In the coming months we have planned a senior Art trip to London and a choir trip to Prague.

Music/Choir

The choir itself has had a very busy year competing and winning awards in the Feis Ceoil, The Wesley College Music Festival, The Navan Choral Festival and the Sligo international Choral Festival.

Once again this year, we will have a recording of their singing played on Lyric FM at Christmas, they sang at Carols for all here last Sunday and next Thursday they will be carol singing in aid of the Simon Community outside the GPO.

Charities

The school continues to be involved in a variety of other fundraising activities for charities like the Hospice Coffee Morning, The Alzheimers Tea Day, a bake sale in aid of the Simon Community and the Darkness into Light run in aid of Pieta House.

Sports

The number of students getting involved in sport at the Grammar school continues to grow with children taking part in Hockey, football and rugby training and playing in competitive matches on a regular basis. Our annual sports day returned to The Iveagh grounds in Crumlin this year and was organised in such a way that there was a very high level of participation from students in all age groups.

It is such a pleasure for us to see members of the class of 2017 here today.

At the end of the summer term we organised a barbeque for them and their teachers. We were fortunate to have great weather again this year and the event was a great success and a most enjoyable end to the academic year. The summer barbeque also marked the retirement of Breandain O'Morain after almost 30 years at the grammar school during which time he performed many roles including Irish teacher, TY co-ordinator and most recently Deputy Principal. Mr. O'Morain was always dedicated to his job and was incredibly popular with staff and pupils alike. He was very helpful to me when I took up the role of Principal and we wish him well in his retirement.

All of the activities that I have described have been going on at a time during which the school could, perhaps, be best described as being in turmoil. Turmoil in the sense that virtually every aspect of school life has been affected to a greater or lesser extent by the ongoing works in the new and existing buildings. Although this has been going on for more than a year in recent months the impact on normal school life has been even more acute. To accommodate ongoing works we had to change the timetable, move classrooms and alter the timing of the school day. We have been without access to lockers, access to the yard, access to the hall. We have been without broadband, without phonelines, without heating. Teachers have been without data projectors, whiteboards and sometimes without pupils who can't seem to find what room they're were supposed to be in!

It has been an extremely difficult, and at times stressful, experience for everyone in the school community. And what has our response been? Well, when the choir, which this year has reached a new peak in membership with over 70 students involved had no space to rehearse in, they found space, by asking the Cathedral very nicely if we could rehearse in here on Wednesday afternoons.

Just over a week ago our TY students received a standing ovation at the end of a three night run of their drama production "Frankenstein". Throughout rehearsals they never even had a stage to rehearse on. The performance had to take place in a neighbouring school hall which none of the performers got to see until the afternoon of the opening night and which the stage hands had to set up with only hours before curtain up.

These are just two examples of the adaptations that we have made in recent weeks that are typical of the way that teachers, pupils and parents have responded to the many challenges that we have faced over the last year or so and It is difficult to fully explain how this all happened because it could easily have gone the other way. I like to think that what has sustained us is not just the promise of a nice new building but that it is perhaps also something to do with the spirit of the school which has enabled it to endure through many crises far worse than those we have experienced in recent times.

There is sometimes an assumption that because an institution has been around for a long time its future is somehow guaranteed but, of course this is not the case. In the not too distant past the future of the Grammar school was very much hanging in the balance but, thankfully we are now in very healthy state and about to embark on very exciting new chapter in the history of the school.

We understand that while the built environment is not the most important thing in a school it is nonetheless a major influence on the learning experience. And in this sense we essentially have a shared vision of the future. Which, in itself will present all of us with new challenges. New challenges that I am confident we will once again rise to meet.

Before I finish

Before I finish, I would really like to give a special word of thanks to all of the teachers of the Grammar school. With each new problem that we encountered this year, a new solution was found, teachers improvised to make the best use of whatever was available, worked together and shared ideas and resources to make sure that the core activity of the school, teaching and learning did not suffer.

Their commitment, to pastoral care and to extra-curricular activities is exemplary. They display great enthusiasm for what they do and despite all the distractions of recent months they have remained focussed on the interests of the pupils in their care. So, I would like to thank them all. I would like to thank the administrative staff Avril, Heather and David for all that they give to the school and I would like to thank Siyka and Milena for tolerating the continuous stream of builders who seem intent on undoing all their good cleaning work.

I am also very glad to be able to welcome Professor Donal O'Shea here today to present the prizes. Professor O'Shea is a consultant endocrinologist and physician based in St. Vincent's University Hospital and St. Columcille's Hospital He is a regular commentator on the importance of preventing weight problems and obesity. He has been described as "a modern day hero taking on the sugar giants" and I am very much looking forward to what he has to say to us this afternoon.



Prize List 2017

Class Prizes: (€100, 60,40)

Leaving Certificate 2017:

First and Larminie Prize	Nathan Ó Maoilearca
Second:	Ruairi O'Toole White
Third:	Liam Dunne

In the other forms there are prizes for the 1st and 2nd placed students and a 'Special Prize' awarded to those students who made the most progress, over the course of the year, according to their teachers.

Fifth Year 2015/16

First:	Emanuel Dascalu
Second:	Ioana Matei
Special mention:	Kevin Gociu

Fourth Year 2015/16

First:	Jake Lalor Zakrewski
Second:	Ameer Abdul
Special mention:	Hanora Pitts

Third Year 2015/16

First:	Amy McDonnell
Second:	Jessica Sweeney
Special mention:	Heather Nicholson

Second Year 2015/16

First:	James Parminter
Second:	Dylan Woods
Special mention:	Joshua Bartschi

First Year 2014/15

First :	Avnie Tyagi & Rory McElligott
Second:	Lavinia Stoppani
Special mention:	Christine Lin

Special Prizes donated to the Grammar School: (€30)

Ristead O Glaisne Memorial Prize for L.C. Irish	Nathan Ó Maoilearca
Earnest Buchanan (<i>English Essay Form 6</i>)	Amy Logan
Arnold L. Horner Prize (Leaving Certificate Maths.)	Nathan Ó Maoilearca
Arthur Wisdom Memorial Prize: (Senior Chemistry):	Michael Pitts
Walter Scott Memorial Prize: Leaving Cert Music:	Nathan Ó Maoilearca
O'Russ Prize for Leaving Certificate French	Nathan Ó Maoilearca

Scott Prize (Junior Cert Maths)	Amy McDonnell
O’Russ Prize (Junior Cert French)	Amy McDonnell
Ristead O Glaisne Memorial Prize for J.C. Irish	Joseph Andrews
Ovenden Bursary (Junior Cert Music)	Caoimhe Griffin Hayes
Miss Ellis Prize (J. Certificate English)	Amy McDonnell
John Lynch Memorial Prize for J.C. Art	Caoimhe Griffin Hayes
Arthur Wisdom Memorial Prize (J.C. Science)	Julia Melut

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

(€30 for seniors and €20 for juniors)

Form 5 Biology	Ioana Matei
Form 5 Physics	Emanuel Dascalu
Form 5 Geography	Adam Quinn
Form 5 Music	Ioana Matei
Senior P.E.	Adam Quinn
Form 2 Music	Dylan Woods
Form 2 French:	James Parminter
Form 2 English	Ruby Guy
Form 2 Art	Sadiyah Moussa
Form 1 Irish	Skye Meany
Form 1 Business	Avnie Tyagi
Junior P.E.	Rian Middleton

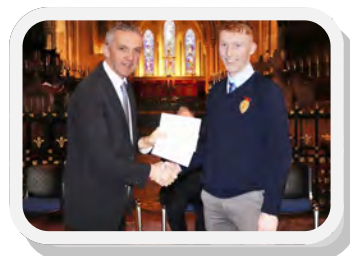
Design Awards

The ***Patrician Design Award*** is presented to the winner of the competition to design the cover of the school year book, The Patrician. This years’ winner is **Kevin Gociu**.

The ***Promotional Design Award*** is presented to the designer of the posters, tickets and programme for TY musical. This years’ winner is **Caoimhe Griffin Hayes**.

Attendance Prizes: (25) Prizes for full attendance throughout the year 2016/17 (167 days)

Form 1: Ben Ryder Gavin Dunphy Jade Andrews	Form 2: Sadiyah Moussa
Form 5: Kevin Gociu Emanuel Dascalu Ivan Janota	Form 6: Lee Cleary Robert Ahern



Sports Day, 2017 (trophies)

These winners were presented with the perpetual trophies in May.

Overall Winners:

Junior Boy	Craig Maguire
Junior Girl	Lola Blue Ryan
Intermediate Boy	Brad Hennessy
Intermediate Girl	Hanora Pitts
Senior Boy	Ciaran Gartland
Senior Girl	Orla Bruce

An Gaisce: Bronze medal winners: *(Medals and certificates awarded at TY Graduation Ceremony in May)*

James Freeman, Cameron Lally, Jake Lalor-Zakrzewski, Callum Martin, Hannah McCann, Ross McGinley, Conor Neylon, Emma Nicholson, Hanora Pitts, Luke Stanley & Eleanor Sweeney

Gaisce Silver medal winners: *(Medals and certificates to be given)*

Esra Balkir, Ciaran Gartland, Kevin Gociu, Joshua Hughes, Ivan Janota, Ioana Matei, Philip Moreau, Grace O'Brien, Alanah O'Byrne, Bradley Walsh, Richard Walshe, Rosanna West.

Student of the Year 2016-17 (Trophy)

This award is given to the student in the previous year's form six who contributed to every area of school life – academic, musical & pastoral. This year's winner has been described as wonderful singer, completely committed to the School Choirs during his time at the school. He is also a fantastic Classical Guitarist who was always willing to perform at the drop of a hat for all musical events including the School Musical, Carol services, Spring and Summer Concerts and he also achieved many successes at the Feis Ceoil and Interschools Music Festival.

He set an example to others in terms of his work ethic, his focus and commitment to his music and to his school work. He is a polite, helpful and respectful young man.

The winner of the overall Grammar School Student of the Year Award for 2016-17 is :

Nathan O'Maoilearca



FORM 1

Back Row: O Dineen, J McAuley-Pratt, T Brunel, S Fox, L Collier, M McDonnell, R Akpotor, S Ogbata, T Byrne
 Middle Row: I MacDiarmada, D Antochi, C O'Connor, D O'Sullivan, J McCann, J Farrell, C Carey, S Gleason, A Darcy, J Yusuf
 Front Row: R Murphy, J Quinn, G Caprani Monahan, R Downey, S Moore, J Gaynor, S Maxamuud, A De Búrca, H Woods
 Absent: M Tyndall



FORM 2

Back Row: M O'Brien, A Tyagi, C Lin, A Mallak, E Moynihan, E Byrne, T West, T Yusuf, D Meenan, B Ryder
 Middle Row: L Bass, S Brothers, L Stoppani, S Butler, M Abdul, G Dunphy, L McDonagh, S Fitzgerald, T Graham, R McElligott
 Front Row: A S Pitts, R Ryan, A J Andrews, R Botas, A Keery, J Magahy Malone, N Graham, B O'Brien
 Absent: S Meaney



FORM 3

Back Row: B Ó Glasáin, J Bartschi, C Maguire, R Middleton, J Roe Dwyer, C Whittaker, A Akpotor, E Grgeta,
 Middle Row: J Partminter, S Learat, L Donohoe, K Kennedy, R Guy, M Bulow-McCormick, O Mullen
 Front Row: L Ryan, S Ní Cheirigh, C Dineen, Z Janota, N Farrell, J Yusuf, R O'Connor, S Moussa
 Absent: V Bundhoo, E Botas, L Doyle, K Honer, A O'Shaughnessy-Ward, E Roberts Hill, D Woods



FORM 4

Back Row: M Moynihan, M Dundon-Hanon, S Barsoum, S Ryan, C Kennedy, P Ogbata, L Timmins, D Walsh, J Andrews
 Middle Row: R Dwyer, D Cole, M Robinson, Z McConnell, D Brothers, J Sweeney, E Fox, D Ajisafe
 Front Row: L Gaynor, E Byrne, A Pitts, H Urwin, A McDonnell, H Nicholson, F Reddington, C Griffin Hayes, J Melut
 Absent: A Jack, C Byrne, B Hennessy, C Tyndall



FORM 5

Back Row: J Lalor Zakrzewski, C Martin, C lally, C Neylon, L McGaughran, R McGinley, A Abdul,
 Front Row: D Carey, J Keogh, O O'Malley, T Walsh, S Byrne, D Adeniji
 Absent: N Bass, M Delany, K Dunne, J Freeman, D Freeman, L Gaffney Muxidin, J Halpin, K Honer, M Keery, H McCann,
 E Nicholson, H Pitts, P Ryder, E Sweeney



FORM 6

Back Row: C Gartland, K Gociu, M Byrne, J Burke, I Janota, E Dascalu
 Middle Row: P Moreau, E Balkir, G O'Brien, J Hughes, P McNally
 Front Row: S Carey, R Walshe, M Byrne, R West, I Matei
 Absent: D Byrne, C Honer, T Kane-Duffy, O O'Reilly, A Quinn, D Stupakov, E Tucker, S Urwin, B Walsh.



Head Boy, Ciarán Gartland and Head Girl, Ioana Matei



Sixth Year as they were in 2012

Front cover design: Caoimhe Griffin-Hayes

Back cover design: Dylan Woods and Sadiyah Moussa

