

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Ballyhaunis Community School Yearbook 2019. Once again Mr. Ginty has assembled a crack squad of students and teachers to chronicle the more memorable events of the past academic year. This is indeed a mammoth task given the scope and number of activities that have occurred since last September. But once again they have all risen to the task and I sincerely hope you enjoy browsing through the pages of this year's publication.



What promised to be one of the most exciting year's in the School's history unfortunately turned out to be one of the darkest. On a foggy morning in January our dear colleague Anne Grogan was involved in a serious car accident that would ultimately lead to her life being cut tragically short. Her untimely passing had a profound effect on the whole school community which reflected the high regard in which Anne was held by all. Anne was an excellent teacher and a wonderful colleague. We miss her good humour, her wonderful sense of fun but above all we miss her friendship. Our loss is huge but pales into insignificance when compared to that of the Grogan and Keane family's. They are all in our prayers and we ask that God sustains them in the days and years ahead.

Although Anne may be gone her spirit lives on in BCS. It lives on through the dedication and professionalism of the teaching staff. It lives on through the kindness and generosity of the student body. These are all qualities that were synonymous with Anne and we honour her by living up to these on a day to day basis. I once again wish to express the sympathies of the whole school community to Ciaran, Oisín, Odhrán and Aine and her extended family.

Ar Dheis De go raibh a anam dílis.

Much of the Yearbook catalogues the range of extra and co-curricular activities on offer to our students. Many of these activities hone skills and characteristics that may not be cultivated through merely academic pursuits. The promotion of these activities is an affirmation of our Mission Statement which commits us to the holistic development of all our students. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Board of Management of the school I wish to thank all teachers and the increasing number of local volunteers who assist us in fulfilling this commitment.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Macken on a very successful first year as Deputy Principal. Those of you who know Ms. Macken over the years will be aware of her commitment and affection for BCS. Needless to say she has brought those qualities in abundance to her new role. Combining that with her legendary organisational skills and attention to detail I have no doubt that Ms. Macken will ensure that BCS remains a school that we can all be proud of for many years to come. I wish her continued success in her role.

Of course the vacancy for DP arose following Ms. Morrison's appointment as Principal of the Sacred Heart School in Westport. Although only with us for three short years Ms. Morrison made a very significant contribution to our school in that time. Her work-rate and depth of knowledge of all things educational were second to none. But it was her empathy with people that most allowed her to make a lasting contribution to the school community. Our loss is of course Sacred Heart's gain and I want to wish her every success in her new role.

I want to pay tribute to Mr. Ginty for his hard work in compiling this excellent publication. He is as always ably assisted by a terrific team of students who can also take great pride from being involved in such a wonderful project. A special thanks to Fr. Farragher and Mr. McGarry who are responsible for most, if not all, of the pictures in the magazine.



ANNE GROGAN TRIBUTE

By David McDonagh

A great sadness descended on the school some weeks ago when news filtered through that our dear colleague Anne Grogan had passed away following a horrific car crash. Our thoughts turned immediately to her beloved family; husband Ciaran, and her beautiful children Oisin, Odhran and Aine. As a school we mourn Anne but this is only a shadow of the grief borne by both the Grogan and Keane families at this difficult time.

Anne was a past pupil of BCS and I first got to know her when she returned to BCS as a trainee teacher. I was struck by her down to earth approach to all matters and her very obvious fondness and affinity to BCS. Even at this stage of her career she displayed a high level of professionalism and a real dedication to her chosen career. It was therefore no great surprise when she returned the following year as a full time member of staff. Anne quickly established herself as a key player in both the Mathematic and Geography Departments. As a fellow Geography teacher I worked closely with her and she was the ultimate team player. But I think Anne herself would concede that Maths was the subject she enjoyed teaching most. Anne had that wonderful ability to make even the most difficult concepts accessible for her students. She had a sharp intellect that allowed her to be comfortable with the most complex topics on the syllabus and this assuredness inspired confidence in her students. However, it was her qualities as a person that ensured that she was a teacher much loved by all. Her kindness, her patience and her generosity of time and spirit endeared her to countless students and many reached, and perhaps exceeded, their potential thanks to Anne's gentle guidance.



Outside of school Anne was greatly involved with the GAA and she also brought those talents to bear in BCS. Anne enjoyed playing football and was very committed to ensuring students could also enjoy the benefits of being involved in team sports. For many years Anne coached teams and in doing so forged even closer links with the students in her care. Like all of us who have trained teams over the years Anne had more disappointing days out than successful ones but this did not dull her enthusiasm. Her motivation was not just to win but to imbue in her charges the qualities of teamwork, personal responsibility and self-discipline that would stand to them in their future lives and careers. That is not to say Anne was blasé about winning. Like all good Roscommon folk, she enjoyed being the underdog and recorded many famous victories. Her smile and good humour masked a steely determination that brought out the best in those around her and ensured that her teams always gave a good account of themselves.

There is no doubt that Anne had great affection for BCS but that pales in comparison to the love she had for her family. Her face would light up when she talked about her children and I know she felt incredibly blest when baby Aine arrived just last October. Above all things Anne was a loving mother and devoted wife and her family was her main priority. As in her professional life Anne was selfless when it came to her family and their needs were always attended to before her own. Even though caring for young children can be somewhat challenging at times, particularly when you are working, but Anne never got bogged down with the difficulties parenting presents but got on with in the practical, down to earth way she approached all matters. Anne and I became first time parent's around the same time and we would regularly compare notes on the children's progress. We shared many a laugh as we licked our wounds following another sleep deprived night and her good humour would always lift your spirits. It is hugely tragic for Ciaran, Oisin, Odhran and Aine that they must go on without her but I have no doubt that she is watching over them and will care for them in a special way in the years to come.

As I said earlier I worked with Anne for some time; 13 years in total. In all senses she was a wonderful colleague. Indeed, I would regard her as a good friend. She was always supportive of me but particularly so following my appointment as Principal in 2013. On the rare occasions she called into the office it was generally to put in place some supports for the students. This could be extra classes after school for exam years or permission to organise some extra or co-curricular activity. Either which way she never added to my workload and I was privileged to have her on the BCS team.

Anne has left a significant legacy in BCS. It is a legacy of a life well lived which exists as an example for us all to follow. As teachers we can seek to live up to her professionalism as an educator, to the kindness shown to her students and to her dedication and selflessness in promoting extra and co-curricular activities. Students can look to her commitment to her studies, her spirit of volunteerism and her loyalty and benevolence as a true friend. I once again extend the deepest sympathies to the Keane and Grogan families and ask God to sustain them at this difficult time. We miss Anne greatly and we will be sure to honour her memory in a suitable manner.

Ni bheidh a leitheid ann arís. Ar dheis De a raibh a anam dílis. May she rest in peace.

STAFF TRIBUTES TO ANNE GROGAN

Anne was an inspirational teacher and colleague. Her attitude to teaching and school life are an example to any young aspiring teacher. She loved teaching Maths and interacting with her students. Countless students that passed through her door benefited greatly from her knowledge of Maths and her enthusiasm for helping them achieve their potential. Those of us who taught alongside Anne in the Maths department were also inspired by her work ethic, her approaches to teaching and her general positivity.

Anne was an integral part of the Maths Department in BCS for 13 years. She was head of the department on more than one occasion and was a positive driving force in guiding and improving the Maths Department. As well as the personal loss felt by individual members of the department the loss of her professional talent will be immeasurable. Anne had a great passion for Maths and loved teaching the subject. She was very student centred in her approach and always wanted the best for her students. She worked very hard to ensure this would happen quietly putting in extra hours to ensure those in most need achieved their potential. Anne would always greet her students outside F1 with a broad smile and they would leave smiling. Within the department it was that same attitude that made her a wonderful colleague. She was always there if you needed advice on teaching approaches or sharing resources and always loved the challenge of the odd puzzle.

Anne was a great teacher, colleague and friend and will be dearly missed by all in the Maths Department.

Maths Department

It is with great sadness that we remember our dear friend and colleague Anne Grogan. Anne was a past pupil of Ballyhaunis Community School where she attended from 1996 until 2001. Anne always wanted to be a teacher and she returned to B.C.S to do her teaching practice in 2005. She took up a full time teaching position in the school in 2006. In total Anne spent twenty three years of her life in Ballyhaunis Community school.

Anne loved Geography and she was a dedicated, conscientious and inspirational teacher. She took her teaching duties very seriously and headed this department for a number of years. She always succeeded in getting the best out of her students and she did this in an even mannered and kind way and often threw in a bit of humour for good measure. We in the Geography department have commented that we never ever heard her raise her voice to a student. Anne had no problem giving up her lunchtime or staying back after school to give extra help to those who needed it.

Anne was a wonderful colleague who was never selfish with her time when it came to drawing up faculty plans and schemes of work and her attention to detail was exemplary. She was also very patient with those of us in the Geography Department who were less skilled in the field of mathematics and would take time to show us how to construct graphs and charts.

It was always a pleasure to accompany Anne on Geography trips. The long journey to Derrygonnelly in Co. Fermanagh for Leaving Cert field studies was always shortened by her many funny tales and jokes. On a trip to Arigna mines with a group of Transition year students Anne and her colleague were so engrossed in conversation that they didn't notice the tour guide and the students exiting the mine. They were lost in a labyrinth of tunnels for quite some time and were greeted to an applause from the students when they eventually made it out!

Anne was totally professional in every aspect of her teaching career and no words can express what a loss she is to this department and to the whole school community.

"Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-Anam dilis"

Geography Department

It is with heavy, broken hearts that we remember Anne (with an 'e') Grogan. The old F area consisted of four 'luxurious' prefab classrooms. Anne Grogan was assigned to F1 where she created a busy yet caring space of learning for students in Maths and Geography to both Junior and Leaving cert exam level. The F area was often too cold in the winter, too hot in the summer and was located outside of the school building. Sun, rain, hail, sleet or snow Anne always greeted both teacher and student with a welcoming smile. Anne was such a gifted and talented teacher and also acted as that one special adult in the lives of so many past and present students in BCS. Anne showed great respect and care to each of her students both inside and outside of her classroom. One thing we all recall about Anne was how she made the most of every minute of class time. No time was wasted. Every moment was focused on giving students as much help as she could. We were the privileged neighbouring teachers to Anne Grogan -Ann Varden (F2), Catherine Monaghan (F3) and Catriona Murphy (F4). We were extremely blessed to have developed a professional and personal relationship with Anne. We would describe Anne as a beautiful, kind, generous, co-operative and above all a supportive colleague and friend. You were always guaranteed precious solid advice and belly aching laughs from our beloved Anne Grogan. The friendships that we formed are irreplaceable and the memories made we will cherish forever. Not a day goes by without a thought of Anne. She will always remain in our prayers and will live forever in our hearts. Rest in peace our special teacher, colleague and most important of all our treasured friend. RIP Anne Grogan.

The old F Area Colleagues

As we all know Anne's passion for Gaelic was second to none. From an early age she graced the fields of Dermot Early Memorial Park in her beloved Michael Glaveys as well as playing for Granlahan NS. Her first trophy was Player of the Year for Glaveys U12s presented to her by Roscommon Minor County star, a young Mr. Ciaran Grogan! She continued playing at underage in Michael Glaveys, and when she arrived into First Year in BCS, she joined the GAA team where she played on the school teams at all levels. Indeed, she went on to represent her beloved county Roscommon at minor level 2001/2002. Anne as a player led by her professional approach to training and matches alike, she was always encouraging to her teammates and in later years to the young players that she coached. Anne's work rate was immense and we can definitely say when she gave it her all this dedication shone through in her later teaching and coaching career both for club and school. Anne had countless admirable attributes. She is fondly remembered for being loyal, ambitious, driven, focused with a super beaming smile and above everything her kindness and compassion for all the players under her guidance. She gave her time freely and really enjoyed getting to know the girls outside the classroom environment. Over her time Anne has managed every team in the school LGFA, while also encouraging new teachers to become involved. Anne's love for the sport was matched with her love for friendship and always encouraged this in her players. She believed that celebrations were very important, win lose or draw always included a good sing song and hearty laughter on the way home. So Anne, we your friends in BCS LGFA & all of your players down through the years will be forever indebted to you for your dedication and positive influence on and off the field. We miss you dearly, your beautiful glowing smile, your sage advice, your steadfast loyalty, your abundant love of life and ability to always look at challenges with positivity. The continuation of LGFA in BCS is your legacy Anne, this will be passed on from generation to generation by us the girls you inspired.



Anne pictured here presenting a new set of Football Jerseys to the BCS Ladies GAA

BCS Ladies GAA

A SHINING LIGHT

Patricia Hargaden White – Anne's, colleague teacher and GAA coach

I was honoured and blessed to have known Anne Grogan. Anne was an inspirational student, an exceptional teacher, a talented gaelic footballer and, a coach extraordinaire. As a student, Anne was enthusiastic, warm hearted, respectful, inspirational, honest, helpful and caring. In her early days at Ballyhaunis Community School, I was privileged to assist Mr. Tom Grogan in coaching the Girls' Gaelic Football team that Anne was a member of. Anne always turned in her usual impressive performances and, by showing leadership and determination, empowered the team to succeed. Anne believed that if you gave it one hundred percent every time you tied your boot laces, winning would take care of itself. As a Ladies G.A.A coach, she taught her football teams skills for life. She gave so much back to something she was passionate about. She shared her wisdom, talent, time and, had a very positive influence on so many young students' lives here, in B.C.S. and beyond. She was an extraordinary teacher who will never be forgotten by her students as she left an indelible impression on all. Anne was very innovative, devoted teacher who was very determined that the students in her care should get the maximum returns in exams which they duly did. She was truly gifted in the act of delivering knowledge to a huge variety of students. Anne was very supportive of all her colleagues. Her infectious smile endeared her to everyone, students and staff alike. On Monday, January 14th, a light was extinguished with the sudden and untimely passing of our wonderful friend and colleague Anne. "Our time spent with you Anne was priceless and our memories of you are timeless" Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.



Anne pictured as part of the Ladies soccer U-15 Connacht Title winners 1999



Anne pictured here with her nephew Diarmuid on his graduation from BCS

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF ANNE GROGAN

There was something special about Anne. Something that you noticed whenever you thought of her, caught the mention of her name, saw her face smiling out from a photograph, or when you recalled a cherished memory you have of her. Each and every time you did any of those things, you could not help but smile. And that would be a deep, meaningful smile. It would be a smile that stemmed from your heart. You might have even feel a tear form in the corner of your eye when you remembered that Anne really was so very special. Why is that so?

Anne's beauty, her energy, her radiance, her joy continue to shine brightly in the corridors of our school and the passageways of every heart that connected with hers. Anne Grogan is, and will always be, so much more than a precious, unforgettable memory. You see, Anne is special. Anne's spirit is alive, in our hearts and minds, and with God in heaven where, undoubtedly, she looks on us with great love and peace. When someone as special as Anne enters your life, she stays there, shining inside you and lighting your way forward. If we can be certain of anything, it is this: although Anne's body has gone from this world, she is still here with us in spirit. She is alive in a way that is just amazing, just so beautifully wonderful that we can hardly comprehend it with our minds, yet we know it to be true in our hearts. Never forget the power of your heart to understand things you cannot grasp with your mind. In life, there are some things we know for certain. These are some of them... Anne was beautiful. So are you. She was loved and cherished and always will be. So are you. She lit up the lives of those she met in so many magical ways. So do you. Anne's legacy goes on, and it always will because the power of her spirit cannot be ended. So will yours. Her life encapsulated the very essence of the spirit of BCS. So can yours. For all of these reasons, and so many more, we can surely say with great confidence: there was something special about Anne. I am sure that Anne would be the first person to say that there is also something special about you. Her life was dedicated to bringing out that something special in others, whether that was in a Maths class, on the football pitch, or just in an informal conversation. How can you make a difference in the world in your own special way? How can you bring out what is special in other people? Big questions and big challenges? Maybe, but we can start by doing something small, like smiling from the heart at the thought of Anne and then sharing that smile with the next person that we meet on the road of life.

Caroline Burns

Prayer for Anne Grogan, RIP

Lord God, thank you for the time we spent with Anne. She lit up our school and our lives with her joy, her beautiful smile, her inspirational teaching, and her wonderful sense of fun. Anne dedicated her life to helping others to be the best they could be. A life lived for the sake of others is a life well lived. Anne embodied that saying. We are proud to have known her and to count her as our friend, colleague, and teacher. Our hearts, minds, and spirits are joined with yours, Lord, and with Anne's. We are together: united in hope and faith that you, Lord God will hold us all in the palm of your hand and look upon us with everlasting love. Thank you for Anne, who was an inspiration to us. We cherish her memory and live better lives because of her wonderful example.

AMEN

John 15: 12-14

My command is this: love each other as I have loved you.

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

MAJELLA

The role of Deputy Principal in a thriving, bustling school is demanding and challenging. To carry out such a role one must be committed and highly organised. However, you would be mistaken if you believed that to possess commitment and organisational skills on their own would be sufficient to qualify someone for such a position. The key ingredient, in my opinion, is the ability to empathise with people, particularly students, as this allows meaningful bonds to be created. These bonds ensure that the school is then a community and not just a well-oiled machine. It is difficult to find a person with the right combination of these qualities but Majella Morrison more than met this job description.

Ms. Morrison came to the school after spending some years in the Inspectorate of the Department of Education and skills – a type of Gamekeeper turned Poacher career move if you will! During her time in the Inspectorate Ms. Morrison had gained a significant reputation for her professionalism and her fair minded approach to school inspections. It was this reputation that allowed her to move seamlessly into the role of DP in BCS. Majella quickly rolled up her sleeves and set about her work with an energy few possess. At the same time, she began forging important bonds with the various stakeholders within the school; students, staff, parents, which ensured that her role had a compassion that allowed the school to grow and flourish.



One of the most arduous tasks in any school is the annual construction of the timetable. This is a task not for the faint-hearted but of course Majella took it in her stride. Sheer hard-work and determination ensured that in each year of her tenure the timetable was produced in record time and each year it was modernised to meet the evolving demands of our students and the specifications of the new Junior Cycle. I think it is fair to say that Majella oversaw the greatest modernisation of the timetable since the school's foundation. The provision of IT for all students was secured, 200 hours of wellbeing were provided for all Junior Cert students and our subject "Taster" system in 1st Year was streamlined and improved. All of this at the same time as the number of class periods per week went from 45 to 42 and the school was in the midst of a major construction project that greatly impacted on resources! However, one underlying principle was not up for revision; the timetable was constructed with the student at the centre of the process. I have no doubt that students will continue to reap the rewards of Majella's strategic planning and vision for many years to come.

Majella's influence was also strongly felt outside the classroom. She was pivotal in the development of Wellness Week, the end of year Student Awards and the reintroduction of the Gaisce Programme. All of these initiatives added to what was already a substantial workload but Majella never grumbled. Majella derived immense satisfaction from observing student's reaching their potential and worked tirelessly to give them a platform to do so.

Majella also drew on her vast experience in the Inspectorate to modernise Teaching and Learning in the school. She was always available to Heads of Departments to assist with the revising of subject plans, she encouraged and provided space for increased teacher collaboration and advised on the implementation of School Self Evaluation across all faculties. She did in a manner that was supportive and collegial at all times and I know her assistance was greatly appreciated by the teaching staff.

As a member of senior management in a school you are often privy to information about families that may be having some issues or difficulties. I know at first hand of interventions that Majella made to assist these people to ensure that people were cared for and that they were looked after. These acts of kindness and generosity were done in a way that didn't attract any attention and Majella would have it no other way.

On a personal level I enjoyed working with Majella immensely. Her bright personality and good sense of humour brightened many a difficult situation and her loyalty and support were unwavering. As alluded to previously Majella's time in BCS corresponded with the school's extension and refurbishment. This was indeed a busy time for all and the project took up much of my time. With Majella's support I was able to give the works my undivided attention and I can safely say that Majella deserves as much credit as anyone for the state of the art facilities that we all enjoy.

We were all disappointed to see Majella depart for pastures new but she left with the good wishes of all at BCS. I have no doubt she will bring the same dynamism to Sacred Heart Westport, and our loss is their gain. On behalf of all at BCS I wish Majella the very best in the next chapter of what is already a very impressive career.

TEACHING STAFF



Back row (l-r): Ann Varden, Padraig Shannon, Paul Ryan, Paul Lawless, Michael Murray, Patrick Noone, Micheal Ginty, Colin Quinn.
2nd from back(l-r): Ann-Marie Walsh, Raymond Woolley, Eadaoin Flynn, Claire Lawless, Ciara Staunton, Gillian Madden, Siobhan Garvey, Gillian Rattigan, Siobhan Mannix, David Mitchell, Lynette Duffy, Josephine Loftus.
2nd from front(l-r): Áine Fallon, Mairead Conway, Anne-Marie O'Reilly, Kirsty Phillips, Sharon Mulroy, Genevieve Murray, Antoinette Lennon, Aisling O'Brien, Geraldine Cuniffe, Nicola Nolan, Mairead Quinn, Aoife Keane, Carmel Cox.
Front row (l-r): Patrick McGarry, Orla Phillips, Anna Henry, Sean McHugh, Orla Macken, David McDonagh, Caroline Burns, Catriona Murphy, Bernadine Waldron, Patricia Hargaden-Whyte.
Missing from photo: Anne Grogan (R.I.P.), Bernie Osgood, Carmel Stakem, Colleen Hayes, Catherine Monaghan, Eva Brogan, Grainne Glavey, Geraldine O'Loughlinn, Mary Mooney, Olive Lyons.

TRAINEE TEACHERS



(l-r): Eoghan Collins, Sinead Niland, Lynette Duffy, Amy Mannion.
Missing from photo: Laura Culkeen, Gerard Comer, Lorna Egan, Niamh McManus, Rebecca Harney, Dean Feeney.

OFFICE STAFF



(l-r): Ms. Sharon Gibbons, Ms. Patricia Gaughan, Ms. Justina Lyons

CONGRATS!



Aine Grogan



Darcie Stakem



Cillian McDonagh



Jack Daily



Daniel Tarpey
(Mooney)



Gráinne and Con Murphy
on their Wedding
22 december 2018

A WORD FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

Ms Burns

Do you have a good imagination? Let's try it out.

Imagine, for a moment, that you have the job of your dreams and every single day it fills you with such joy that you often have to pinch yourself to believe that it's really true. You wake up every morning and the first thing you do is smile and give thanks before throwing off the duvet and rushing to work. You cannot wait to get there. Every single day you are there, you meet the most beautiful, sincere, genuine people who share their precious time, their hopes and dreams, and even their worries and fears with you. They come to you with laughter, with exciting plans, with concerns, with sorrows, with how they honestly feel that day. They come to you because you can help them, but also because they trust you. Imagine how happy that would make you feel. You share their beautiful lives with them; you support them in times of trial and success; you're with them when the going gets tough, and you celebrate when life is joyous. Every single day you feel so lucky to be part of their lives because you are enriched by every single encounter. This community of people you meet each day are so amazing that they inspire you to be the best you can be and they show you, in their honesty and integrity, their care for each other, and that life can be the most incredible gift. Imagine having a wonderful job, a wonderful life, like that! Imagine feeling encouraged, affirmed, challenged, and valued every day by the adults and children who surround you. You would think yourself rich - richer than you could ever have dreamed you would be: richer than a billionaire, a king, or a queen. You would feel truly blessed. How would I know this? Well, let's just say that I don't have to imagine it anymore and I hope and pray that, as a valued member of BCS, neither do you.



The Tapestry of Life at BCS

You and I are connected in a special way. We are connected together like threads in a beautiful tapestry. On our own, we are just individual threads. We might break easily if stretched and we are so fragile and delicate that we may go completely unnoticed. However, if we are joined together with other threads - if we are woven together with love, care, creativity, and hard work - we can become part of something so strong, so wonderfully beautiful that it stands out and causes others to gasp in awe and amazement. How could all of these fragile, delicate threads make something so powerfully beautiful? The answer lies in the skill of the Weaver and the readiness for the threads to be woven. You and I are connected because we are threads which are woven into the tapestry of life. Together, with all of the other threads, we make something so incredibly lovely, so far beyond what we could be on our own, that all we can do is feel blessed to be part of this beautiful tapestry, to feel secure and joyous at our interweaving with others, to feel the hands of the Weaver move us, threading us though the other strands, making us into one wonderful work of art.

You and I are connected in a special way, with bonds that cannot be broken. We are part of the tapestry of life at BCS, and we always will be. Each year, new threads are woven into our lives, making the tapestry richer and more colourful. The Weaver works in ways we cannot fully understand, but what we can do is look in amazed wonder at the beauty of His work.



A Friendship Blessing

May you be blessed with good friends.
May you learn to be a good friend to yourself.
May you be able to journey to that place in your soul where
there is great love, warmth, feeling, and forgiveness.
May this change you.
May it transfigure that which is negative, distant, or cold in you.
May you be brought in to the real passion, kinship, and affinity of belonging.
May you treasure your friends.
May you be good to them and may you be there for them;
may they bring you all the blessing, challenges, truth,
and light that you need for your journey.
May you never be isolated.
May you always be in the gentle nest of belonging with your anam cara.

By John O'Donohue

A Special Word of Thanks

This academic year has flown by so fast, and been so full of amazing experiences, that it is hard to believe it is now almost over. Since succeeding Ms Macken in the role of chaplain, I have come to appreciate more fully the very special job that she has done for the school. Dedicating her energy, time, and expertise, to providing such wonderful support to so many people is a truly enriching responsibility. Ms Macken, you established the role of chaplain at BCS with such composure and professionalism - a feat worthy of much respect. On behalf of the thousands of pupils, staff, parents, and visitors to the school who you have supported, encouraged, and inspired, and especially from me, who now has the exciting task of stepping into the role you so wonderfully filled, a heartfelt thank you. I pray that you enjoy many more years providing leadership and care in your role as Deputy Principal.

A special word of thanks must go to Fr Stephen, who has been so very kind in all of his visits to the school this year. He has supported the work of the chaplain in so many wonderful ways and is a truly valued and cherished member of our school community. Thank you, Fr Stephen, for making such a difference in the lives of the staff, students, and parents of BCS. You are an inspiration to us and a true witness of God's love. To all of the staff at BCS, how can words be adequate to thank you for your support and inspiration over the year? You have made me feel so welcome and, to work alongside you each day has been a true privilege. It is so clear that, to you, what you do here at BCS is so much more than a job. It is, I think, a mission – a calling – which requires great drive, dedication, and love. Every day you have demonstrated these traits in your care and motivation of the students. Thank you sincerely for bringing such inspiration and positive energy to the school.

Under the strong leadership of Mr McDonagh, we are all heading in the right direction! His integrity, warmth, modesty, and fairness are there for all to see and these values are transmitted to everyone connected with the school. His guidance, support, and encouragement have been very much appreciated. I pray for him and all the staff of the school. May we continue to grow and work together on our special mission, supporting and inspiring each other.

Finally, a word about our wonderful students. You are the reason! You are the reason our school exists. You are the reason we all go there. You are the reason we work so hard together to achieve success, to overcome problems, and to form our special community. You are at the heart of our school. You are the reason, and you are our hope for the future. Whatever life throws at you – good and bad times, success, failure, joy and sorrow, never forget that you are the reason why we are here. You are our dreams and aspirations for a better tomorrow. Meeting you all this year has filled me with joy, humility, and wonder. I urge you to make a difference in our school, at home, in the community, and in the world. You are the reason. You have the power and the purpose to make a difference. Do it with confidence, faith, and joy, and pass these attributes on to others as you do. Thank you sincerely for your companionship this year. I pray that you know how truly special you all are.

EASTER CONFESSIONS

By Maia Phillips, Tara Phillips and Alice Sullivan

On Monday the 8th of April all of 1st year gathered in the study hall to celebrate the Easter confessions. The room had been decorated beautifully to create a welcoming atmosphere. When everyone



was seated Father Stephen Farragher gave a run through of how the confessions would go. After that Ms. Burns gave a wonderful prayer service beginning with a beautiful opening prayer. Following that she reflected with us on our behaviour at home, at school and our relationship with God. When the prayer service was finished everyone went to confess to the various priests who were taking part. All of the priests were very welcoming and encouraging. After everyone had finished their confessions, we said a beautiful prayer that teenagers worldwide could relate to. A special thanks to; Ms Burns, Fr. John Walsh, Fr. Stephen Farragher, Fr. Eamon Concannon, Fr. Liam Divine, Fr. Terence Harrington Fr. Kieran Waldron, Fr. Joe Feeney, Fr. Gerry Burns and Fr. Anthaiah. It was a great opportunity for first years to make their confessions as well as reflect on the past year of school and how they've become valuable member of the school community.



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1ST YEAR



1A

Back Row(l-r): Matej Stevko , Alicia Cleary, Chloe Kate Byrne, Caolán Boyle, Adam Noone, Katie Carr.

Middle Row(l-r): Isobel Coggins, Emma Colleran, Austėja Armonaviciute, Daire Caulfield, Caoilynn Ashe, Maryam Ashraf, Maheen Amjad.

Front Row(l-r): Erica Byrne, Kamile Aleksiunaite, Roisin Conway, Niki Nikolaev, Abdullah Ashraf.

Missing from photo: Lauramay Allen, Polly Cox, Brian Sweeney.



1B

Back Row(l-r): Vanesa Graciova, Jacob Flanagan, Sean Crawley, Eoghan Conlon, Shauna Finn, Rianna Prendergast, Isabelle Cox, Kate Doyle

Middle Row (l-r): Kate Flanagan, Micheal Finnegan, Michaela Fitzmaurice, Jack Delaney, Katelyn Coyne, Michael Maughan, Maeve Flanagan, Alice Curran.

Front Row(l-r): Harrison Collins, Trystan Folliard, Eoin Conway, Marcus Denning, Laura Dillon, Jessalyn Jennings, Andrea Doherty.



1C

Back Row (l-r): James Flynn, Senan Guilfoyle, Daniel Hagney, Ella Gormley, Aimee Kerrigan, Claire Ruane, Siobhán Greene.

Middle Row (l-r): Jake Glavey, Róisín Glynn, Katie Hayden, Shannon Hibbitt, Isabelle Henry, Chloe Henry, Stella Gale.

Front Row (l-r): Evan McNamara, Eduards Hámanis, Leah Grealley, Yazmin Harrison, Emer Gill, Kevin Heelan, Neil Keaveney.

Missing from photo: Annie McDonagh.



1D

Back Row (l-r): Tara Phillips, Aoibhin Lynskey, Rhián Keane Higgins, Conor Henry, Seán Keadin, Cillian Kinnarney, Nicole Madoda.

Middle Row (l-r): Maia Phillips, Emma Lenehan, Cara Keaveney, Treasa McDermott, Leah McDermott, Andrea Lackova, Sedra Shawi.

Front Row (l-r): Nicole Kirrane, Seán Lynskey, Jack Brennan, Ali Kezze, Mahad Maqsood.

Missing from photo: Jason Lyons, Huzefa Malik.



1E

Back Row(l-r): Younes Milouah, Ríain Murphy- Maitland, Jessica Holmoková, Sean Moran, Aoife Ruane, Shannon Morgan, John Ross Roche.

Middle Row (l-r): James Ronan, Anna Murray, Ahmad Naveed, Rayan Rahmani, Rawan Rahmani, Victoria Fasanmi, Nikita Cleary.

Front Row(l-r): Colm Rattigan, Simon Morley, Kian Morley, Ciara Reynolds, Keleigh Roddy- Cullen, Kerry Niland.

Missing from photo: Moon Shabbir, Ghena Shawi.



1F

Back Row(l-r): Adam Walsh, Anyssa Abiose, Tehreem Sohail, Alyssa Abiosa, Katarina Strapkova, Daria Zota.

Middle Row(l-r): Daniel Sharman, Deimantas Uzkuras, Ahmad Zahoor, Shanice Sturdy, Vanessa Whelan, Serena Squire Keane.

Front Row(l-r): Conor Walsh, Ljubo Spajic, Dobrinka Ivanova, Noor Sharif, Alice Sullivan, Isha Younas

Missing from Photo: Aicha Sakkar, Ethan Taylor, Patrick Ward.

1ST YEAR BOYS BASKETBALL

Our first year boys had a successful year getting through to the Regional Semi-Finals after comprehensively beating Ballinrobe CS on a score line of 23-8. They were unfortunate to lose to a strong Our Lady's Belmullet team in the regional semi-final. They rounded off the year nicely by defeating our Second year team in a challenge game. A huge number of first year boys took part in Basketball this year and they showed great potential. We can look forward to seeing them next year in the second year competition.



Back row(l-r): Sean Keadin, Daniel Hagney, Sean Crawley, Daniel Sharman, Micheal Finnegan

Front row(l-r): Caolan Boyle, Conor Henry, Jake Glavey, Sean Lynskey, Senan Guilfoyle

1ST YEAR GIRLS BASKETBALL

By Claire Fleming and Hannah Burke

When we started 1st year girl's basketball we had a great turn out with over 50 girls coming out to our first training session. Many of the girls had never played basketball before. To make the training sessions easier, we split the girls into groups with training sessions on different days. We also enrolled the help of Daniel Murray, Nathan McGarry and Ms Niland. Our first match we played was against Foxford. This was the girls first match in front of a crowd. Aoibhinn Lynskey and Emma Colleran were our top scorers of the day scoring 5 baskets between them. Unfortunately Foxford got the better of us winning by 2 baskets. It was an outstanding performance by BCS for their first match. The girls had grown in confidence by their second match against Westport. Their skills had improved immensely. Isobel Coggins played an amazing game but had an unlucky shot that rolled around the basket twice then fell out in the final 10 seconds!! Kate Doyle and Shannon Hibbitt also played a fantastic game. Sadly the girls lost by only one basket {28-26}. On the 30th of April we travelled to Ballinrobe with 2 teams for a basketball blitz. By this time the girls were extremely confident handling the ball. The girls came up against Westport, Ballinrobe and Claremorris. Their success saw them meet Claremorris again in the semi-final winning by an outstanding 14-4. Unfortunately we were not as successful in the final losing out to Headford. We thoroughly enjoyed training the girls and getting to know them through out the year and we hope they continue to play basketball in the years to come! Thanks to all the girls for their participation throughout the year and to their coaches Ms Lawless and Ms Niland. The girls would also like to thank Claire and Hannah for all they did throughout the year!



Pictured modelling our new basketball Jerseys

Back row (l-r): Daniel Murray, Kate Doyle, Daria Zota, Nathan McGarry.

Front row(l-r): Leah McDermott, Emma Colleran, Keleigh Roddy- Cullen, Roisin Glynn.

Back row (l-r) Austėja Armonaviciute, Aoibhinn Lynskey, Kate Doyle, Aoife Ruane, Shannon Hibbitt, Alice Curran, Aoife Carr.

Front row (l-r): Isobel Coggins, Nicole Kirrane, Emma Colleran, Erica Byrne, Mia Phillips.

1ST YEAR BONDING DAY

By Isobel, Emma, and Caolan

A bonding retreat day was organised for all first year students to get to know and mix with their companions. We took two buses to Esker and, when we arrived, Carmel and the team welcomed us. Then we were split into two even groups of girls and boys so we had an opportunity to interact with people we didn't usually talk to on a daily basis. We then completed a number of activities to encourage us to communicate with the members of our group. The games we completed helped our socialising skills. After a while, they treated us to some tea and biscuits. After our bonding time, the two groups split into four smaller groups. We went into a room, talked about our hobbies and ourselves, and played more games that were enjoyable. We then went into another room, met up with our friends again, ate our packed lunches, and talked about our day. We arrived home at approximately 4:30. After the day, we felt we knew more people from our year and had more confidence to speak with the people in our class and other classes. We think it is fair to say this retreat was very successful and beneficial to all students who attended. We recommend this retreat to all students who are new to this school and want to bond in an enjoyable way. A big thank you goes to the teachers who attended the trip with us: Ms Burns, Mr Noone, Ms O'Reilly and Ms Walsh



1ST YEAR GIRLS GAELIC BLITZ

On the first of May we held the first annual, first year girls blitz. Salerno, Merlin college, Mount Saint Michael's, Balla and Dunmore were the schools that joined our two Ballyhaunis teams. The teams were split into two groups playing two or three matches to see who got to the semi-finals. Every Ty was assigned a different job including lines men, umpires, logistics, minders, shop keepers and managers. Luckily the day ran smoothly. Ballyhaunis made it to a semi-final narrowly beating Mount Saint Michael's. Merlin college and Salerno played the second semi-final with Salerno coming out on top. Luckily for the losers in the semi-final they got to play for the shield. It was Mount Saint Michael against Merlin college with Mount Saint Michael taking home the shield. The cup final was Ballyhaunis against Salerno. It was a close match with both teams' neck and neck. Unfortunately, ballyhaunis marginally missed out on the cup. It was a great day out and thanks the all the teams for coming.



THE CUBE



1ST YEARS & THEIR MENTORS

Ms Caroline Burns, Chaplain

"A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself." — Oprah Winfrey

The 'Peer Mentoring Programme' in our school is special. It is special for those who are mentored and it is special for those who are mentors. That's because being a positive role model for others is just as rewarding, as energizing, and as affirming as having a positive role model in your life. Our senior student mentors have enriched the lives of the whole school community this year with their dedication to helping the first year students settle into life at BCS. Under the wonderful guidance and expert leadership of Ms Macken and Ms O'Reilly, the student mentors have demonstrated maturity, empathy, motivation skills, and commitment – all very valuable attributes that will no doubt be of huge benefit to them in the future. Special thanks go to you all, for your consistent support of others, for your contribution to the training day facilitated by Pat Murphy, for your work at the 'Meet and Greet' evening last March, and for your consistently excellent contribution to the school in so many ways, including organizing lockers, lunchtime supervision, and helping with 'Induction day' and 'Bonding Day'. You have been powerful role models and, undoubtedly, you will be inspirational, empathetic, and great leaders in the future.

"We're here for a reason. I believe a bit of the reason is to throw little torches out to lead people through the dark." — Whoopi Goldberg

Congratulations to our mentors of 2018-19!

Sahar Arshad, Jack Cloney, Aoife Conway, Juliane Gardiner, Kristyn O'Reilly, Courtney Sturdy, Fizzah Tahir, Soheab Arshad, Niamh Fitzpatrick, Saim Gulzar, Sarah Hopkova, Stephanie Jennings, Rafah Shawi, Nadeeha Jugoo, James Colleran, Aaron Dee, Michelle Grogan, Laura O'Boyle, Katie Ronayne, Rebecca Reynolds, Aislinn Tighe, Patrick Carr, India Costello, Aoife Davis, Gillian Donnellan, Megan Greenwood, Eimear Murray, Grace O'Gara, Kevin McHugh, Ronan Swannick, Holly Browne, Vanessa Henry, Chloe Kirrane, Shauna Lyons, Deirbhile Finn Richardson, Oliwia Klimczyk, Shauna Rogers, Roisin Ruane, Mattheu Mullarkey, Abdullah Noor, Rebecca Vahey-Brennan



1A and their Mentors



1B and their Mentors



1C and their Mentors



1D and their Mentors



1E and their Mentors



1F and their Mentors

POETRY CORNER

“Clouds”

One day there is sadness,
One day there is joy,
One day there is madness
That others can't endure.

Someday you go on walking,
Transcending the clouds,
And one day you will look back,
To see the clouds are gone.

Love is like falling,
Falling through the sky,
And have your arms wide open,
To save me another night

1ST YEAR TALENT SHOW

By Emma Lenehan
and Keleigh Cullen

On the 11th of March 2019 Ms Glavey and the TY's held a 1st year Talent Show for all 1st years and the 2nd year Music Class. The judges were Mr McHugh, Mr Lawless, Kate Delaney and Clare Fleming. There were 16 acts in total which were all amazing. There were solo singers and group performers on the day. Our judges had a very tough decision to make. We can't forget our amazing MC's Roisin Murphy and Diarmuid Phillips who kept us entertained during breaks and decision making with some great puns! Finally our judges came to a decision. In third place we had Serena Squire singing and Shannon Morgan playing 'Riptide' on Ukulele. We had the 1st year trad group made up of Maia Phillips, Isobel Coggins, Emma Colleran, Treasa McDermott, Alice Curran, Maeve Flanagan, Kate Doyle and Shannon Hibbitt playing a selection of traditional Irish music. In first place we had Leah Grealley with the Birdy classic "Not About Angels". Every student had to pay €2 to watch the talent show and the money was given to Longford's Donkey Sanctuary who were very happy to receive the donation.



1ST YEAR BOYS FOOTBALL

Our first year footballers started off their season with a blitz in the COE consisting of local Mayo teams. We took on two strong sides in St Louis of Kiltimagh and Foxford. Both games were tightly contested but unfortunately we came out second best on both occasions. However, it was a good first run out for our boys who had never played together before. Our league campaign was a short one, only playing one game, with the other two being cancelled due to inclement weather and unplayable pitches. The only game the boys played was against St Louis of Kiltimagh which proved fruitful. Kiltimagh were not to get the better of us on this occasion as we emerged 9-4 to 4-9 victors. The game was well contested despite the shocking weather conditions in Ballyhaunis. In the opening round of the Connacht Championship we were drawn to play against Calasanctius College Oranmore in the COE. In the first half we played with the wind at our backs but unfortunately we came in at half time trailing a few points behind. The second half was always going to be struggle, with wind playing a major factor. Despite their valiant efforts and two goals from Evan McNamara, our boys could not overturn the deficit and ended up losing well in the end. Conor Henry and Sean Keadin put in brilliant performances on the day. After the Easter Break, our boys have the Campbell cup against Castlerea and the Tarmey Cup against St Louis to look forward to. We wish them the best of luck in their pursuit of silverware. Special thanks to managers Mr McHugh and Mr Collins for their efforts throughout the year.



Back row(l-r): Riain Murphy Maitland, Micheal Finnegan, Caolan Boyle, Sean Moran, Rhian Keane- Higgins, Jake Glavey, Senan Guilfoyle, John Ross- Roche, Sean Keadin, Sean Crawley, Daniel Hagney, Ahmad Naveed, Conor Henry, James Flynn, Cillian Kinnarney, Eoghan Conlon, Jack Delaney.

Front row(l-r): Abdullah Ashraf, Marcus Denning, Daire Caulfield, Eoin Conway, Colm Rattigan, Simon Morley, Huzefa Malik, Harrison Collins, Sean Lynskey, Adam Noone, Eimhin McNamara, Jason Lyons, Kian Morley.

SKIP OFF



WOMEN IN SPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2020 CAMPAIGN



MAYO PINK RIBBON

This is the 10th year of students in BCS making pink ribbons to line the cycle routes for Mayo Pink Ribbon. Almost €1 million has been raised for breast cancer research. On this the 10th anniversary we hope to break the €1 million barrier.



Knock Shrine Art competition celebrating 140 years



EARTH HOUR

On Saturday March 30th from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm millions of people around the planet took part in Earth Hour by turning off non-essential lights for one hour.



Top row, L to R: Mr. Lawless, Daniel Hagney (c), Sean Keadin, Cillian Kinnarney, Mich  l Finnegan, Sean Crawley, James Flynn, Adam Noone, Marcus Denning, Caolan Boyle, Conor Henry, Rian Murphy, Senan Guilfoyle, **Bottom row, L to R:** Daire Caulfield, Evan McNamara, Edwards Hamanis, Colm Rattigan, Harrison Collins, Sean Lynskey, Eoin Conway, Tristian Folliard, Jake Glavey, Cian Morley, Simon Morley.



1ST YEAR SOCCER

The first-year soccer team entered the FAI Schools Connacht Championship for our first season together under the management of former professional footballer Mr. Lawless. We had a good start to our season with great preparation for our first game. Our opening game of the season was a tough battle against St. Gerald's in Castlebar. We played some brilliant football at the earlier stages of the match. They got the opening goal mid-way through the first half, and after that it was an uphill battle. In the later stages of the game our captain Senan Guilfoyle netted our first of the game but it was too little too late, and Gerald's came away with the win. We had equally good preparation to our 2nd match of the season against Rice College, Westport which was another tough battle for us. We got off to a poor start and Rice College had the upper hand going into the second half. In the early stages of the second half, Sean Keadin made a darting run and was brought down just outside the box. He stepped up to take the free kick and he fired a rocket into the top corner which brought us back into the game. We had the momentum with us when Dara Caulfield and Senan Guilfoyle combined to score two goals, bringing us within a goal of Rice. We

battled hard in the dying moments of the game but unfortunately, we came out the wrong side of the result. In our final game of the season we had yet another tough game against Summerhill of Sligo, it was neck and neck in the first half but the chances we created didn't go our way. Until our midfielder, and captain for the day, Daniel Hagney bagged us two stunning goals which gave us the hope we all needed. Despite a great start, Summerhill

came out on top with a score line of 4-2. Overall, the whole school were extremely proud of all the lads who participated throughout the year as they put in a lot of hard work and effort. All the lads who got a chance to play, represented Ballyhaunis Community School very well and a special thanks to their coach Mr. Lawless.

POETRY CORNER

"Romeo and Juliet" Acrostic Poems

"Romeo"
Romantic
Odious
Moody
Eager
Obsessive

"Juliet"
Judicious
Ubiquitous
Lamentable
Idealistic
Effervescent
Tantalising

2ND YEAR



2A

Back Row(l-r): Enda Cleary, Phillip Costello, Dean Coyne, Kian Burke, Nathan Byrne, Ethan Cooke, Josh Cleary.

Middle Row(l-r): Jack Fleming, Noah Walsh, John McDonagh, Darren Concannon, Dagne Kalainaitė, Mia Fitzmaurice, Lily Duffy.

Front Row(l-r): Chloe Kirrane, Niamh Coyne, Emer Delaney, Saoirse Delaney, Caoimhe Delaney, Ciara Fitzmaurice, Rebecca Klien. **Missing from photo:** Evan Cleary, Harry Fagan.



2B

Back Row(l-r): Waleed Sakkar, Cathal Greally, Ali Ahmad, Aadal Ashraf, James Dooney, Mark Doran, Pijus Bloze, Martyna Ubych.

Middle Row(l-r): Fiachra Glavey, Shauna McNamara, Jade Groake, Rebecca Gavin, Aoife Gill, Eva Henry, Emily Coffey, Malaaz Hamze.

Front Row(l-r): James Greally, Conor Donnellan, Leigh Fitzpatrick, Amy Fleming, Brendan Cullen, Oisín Collins, Eoin Ryan. **Missing from photo:** Hornica Ambokawa, Michael Burke.



2C

Back Row(l-r): Ryan Finn, Matthew Johnston, Bader Kezze, Ivan Iliev, Philip Morris, Darren Keadin, Martin McDonagh, Eoghan Duffy.

Middle Row(l-r): Megan McGuire, Lorna Higgins, Dylan Golden, Sofia Hopkova, Shauna Jennings, Geri-Maye Henry, Scott Jennings, Simona Polhosova.

Front Row(l-r): Aaron Kelly, Mark Jordan, Michael Finn Richardson, Bisma Maqsood, Iqra Afzal, Victoria Lavrovcová. **Missing from photo:** Chanel Marques.



2D

Back Row(l-r): Yordan Kirchev, Dáire McDermott-Cunningham, Rory Regan, Muhammad Saad Asif, Conor McGuire, Cillian McDermott-Cunningham, Brian McHugh.

Middle Row(l-r): Evan McLoughlin, Darragh Madden, Alex Coffey, Ahmed Tayyab, Nikita Tighe, Alannah Morley, Kate Tynan, Aadil Rizwan.

Front Row(l-r): Nia Murphy, Rosie Ganley, Darragh Tarmey, Meadhb Monaghan, Rebecca Mulligan, Mia Ronane.

Missing from photo: Matthew Folliard, John McDonagh, Asad Munir.



2E

Back Row(l-r): Mohid Shahid, Sean Brehony, Luke Ruane, Clayton Nolan, Aoife Loftus, Jessica Gannon, Michelle Ryan.

Middle Row(l-r): David Smith, Roisin Lynskey, Holly Gallagher, Cicely Costello, Kaitlyn Maughan, Vakaris Vaitiekus, Zahir Sattar.

Front Row(l-r): Aidan Sloyan, Yazan Rahmani, Conor Ruane, Ava Walsh, Madina Zamir, Darius Valciukas, Mike Wiktor.

Missing from photo: Patrick McDonagh, Sarah Ronayne.

U-14 GIRLS FOOTBALL

By Aoibheann Crawley and Laura Madden

It was another good year for the under 14 girls football team. Impressive numbers turned up for each training session with over 30 footballers each time. A large amount of interest from first year girls this year helped to boost the numbers also. There was a variety of first time footballers and more experienced players. Our first match was away to Dunmore where the girls got off to a great start and were clear winners on the day. Next up was Tuam where the girls put up a good battle to come out with a draw. Then we faced a strong Roscommon side where the girls were unlucky not to come out with the win. We then faced St. Nathys in our final group match. The girls went out onto the pitch with a good attitude and ended the game with a comprehensive win. As a result of all their hard work we landed a place in the Connacht semi-final against Claregalway. However, the Claregalway side proved to be too strong and it was the end of the road for the B.C.S girls. A big thanks to Ms. Philips and all the girls for the huge effort put in all year, showing great potential for the future.



Back row (l-r): Shauna Jennings, Kate Tynan, Alannah Morley, Jessica Gannon, Rosie Ganley, Jade Groarke, Emer Delaney, Rebecca Mulligan, Niamh Coyne, Eva Henry, Megan McGuire, Emer Gill, Katie Carr, Shannon Hibbitt.

Front row (l-r): Chloe Kirrane, Isobel Coggins, Sarah Ronayne, Ciara Fitzmaurice, Saoirse Delaney, Caoimhe Delaney, Geri-Maye Henry, Nikita Tighe, Amy Fleming, Mia Ronane, Keleigh Roddy- Cullen, Anna Murray.

2ND YEAR RETREAT TO KNOCK

By Ciara Fitzmaurice, Caoimhe Delaney, Saoirse Delaney,
Émer Delaney and Amy Fleming.

At the end of February, 2nd year Religion classes went on a retreat to Knock. We were greeted by the very welcoming retreat leaders. First we gathered round in a circle to introduce ourselves. Once the leaders got to know us, we were split into groups to bond and do activities such as role plays, taken from the Bible. They were then turned into real life situations. We felt more comfortable in each other's presence after this activity. We were then asked questions about God and how we felt about him, which we answered anonymously. After our lunch break we proceeded with the second half of the day's events. This included a tour of Knock Museum, where we found out about how people used to live and the visits of Pope John Paul II and Pope Francis. Next, we got a tour of the Basilica and Knock grounds. We were told about the apparition of Our Lady and were shown the beautiful mosaic that depicted the story of the apparition. At the end of the day we felt that we had a better understanding of God and our religion. Overall, we had a great day and bonded with everyone. A big thank you goes to Ms Burns and Ms Mulroy for going on the retreat with us.



2ND YEAR BOYS BASKETBALL

Our second year boys were quite successful this year, winning 2 out of their 3 matches. They were unfortunate to lose to a good St Brendans of Belmullet side in the Regional Semi Final. To get to the Semi Final they first had to beat Ballinrobe CS and St Colmans College. They won both of these games on score lines of 16-9 and 29-21. We had a large number of players this year who have improved immensely from last year and there is good potential for this team going forward into Cadet Basketball next year.



Back row(l-r): Conor McGuire, Fiachra Glavey, Kian Burke, Clayton Nolan, Eoghan Duffy, Luke Ruane, John McDonagh, Darragh Madden.

Front Row(l-r): Muhammad Asif, Conor Donnellan, Matthew Johnston, Darren Concannon, Darren Keadin, Aidan Sloyan, Conor Ruane.

JUVENILE BOYS

With a Mayo title under our boys' belts, they ventured out to Ballina to play St. Muredach's in a group game of the Connacht League. The boys were promoted to 'B' Connacht League last year after some serious performances against tough oppositions. They played very well against the strong Ballina side but unfortunately did not come away with a win. They kept their heads held high heading into their next match. They played out the rest of the league unfortunately not securing a win but playing very well against incredibly strong sides such as Nathy's and St. Louis from Kiltimagh. . After a short break over Christmas we headed into the championship. The lads moved into the championship where they gave a great performance. They were ahead at half-time by a goal but unfortunately a strong wind picked up against them in the second half which resulted in them losing out narrowly by full time. The score line did not reflect the match and the boys put in a great performance to end the year.

POETRY CORNER

"The Forest"

*Frosted fingers of the magnificent oak
Cloaked in darkness, a secret place,
The crunch of the leaves beneath my feet,
The whispers of the birds, their song, their cry.*

*The warmth of my breath, the smoky cloud.
Surrounded by the scene of the winter ground.*

TABLE TENNIS

This year the Connacht championship for table tennis was held in St Louis Kiltimagh. Four Schools Qualified for the All Ireland finals in Dublin on Thursday May 2nd, St. Louis, Ballymote, Balla and Ballyhaunis. This year we had a very successful table tennis campaign, winning medals in almost every competition we entered.

U-13 - The U-13 girl's final was played by both Ballyhaunis A and B (Anyssa Abiose, Alyssa Abiose, Emma Colleran, Nicole Madoda, Victoria Fasanmi, Austeja Arnaviciute, Ella Isobelle, Vanessa Whelan, Malaaz Hamze Shannon Hibbit and Treasa McDermott.) The A team came out victorious to win Gold and the B team picking up a silver. The U-13 boy's final was another B.C.S Vs B.C.S Final consisting of the A and B teams (Mahad Maqsood, Ahmad Naweed, Abdullah Ashraf, Eduards Hamanis, Ali Kezze, Ahmad Zahoor, Riain Keane Higgins, Trystan Folliard, Matthew Stevko, Evan McNamara, Jake Glavey and Ljubo Spajic.) The B.C.S A Team came out bictorious and the B team collected another second. Having two all Ballyhaunis finals in boys and girls U-13 shows the possibility for another strong position in next year's competition when they move up to the next age group U-15

U-15 - The U-15 girls (Helena Cala, Martynka Ubych, Jade Graorke, Medina Zumir, Bisma Maqsood and Rebecca Gavin) won gold winning the final for a second year in a row without losing a match in the final against Balla. The U-15 boys had two teams consisting of (Mohammad Asif, Mohid Shahid, Adaal Ashraf, Auredas Arnaviciute, Umar Tayyab Igor Posaric, Riain Keane Higgins, Kelan Henry, Naweed Jugo, Badder Kezze Jordan Tan and Trystan Folliard.)

U-19 - The U19 girls (Helena cala, Opi Fabunmi, Martynka Ubych, Joy Abiose, Medina Zamir, Bisma Maqsood) winning silver only losing the final 5-4 to ballymote in the deciding set of the deciding match. Which would have meant that B.C.S would have had a clean sweep in all the girl's competitions. The U-19 boys (Adel Habib, Mohammad Kezze, Mohammad Ibrahim, James Frayne, Tom Mahlis, Ray Benkhalifa) were unlucky not to win a medal but performed very well in a tough group.



Congratulations to second year student Clayton Nolan on becoming All Ireland U13 74kg boxing champion. It is a fantastic achievement. Well done Clayton.



All-Ireland Table Tennis U-13 runners up



All-Ireland Table Tennis U-15 runners up

B.C.S. IRELAND SUPPORTERS CLUB



All-Ireland Table Tennis U-15 runners up



B.C.S. CHESS CLUB

The B.C.S chess club takes place in B2 on Tuesdays and Thursdays at lunch time. It is organised by Mr. Ryan and Ms. Cox. There, people have games of chess, draughts and cards, and can listen to music. There have been two tournaments. The first took place in Sligo City Hotel. There were six games there. The overall winners were Dunmore Community School. The next tournament took place in The Ardilaun Hotel, Galway. This time, there was seven games, five qualifiers and two final matches. The qualifiers put the top six teams into a cup, and the rest into a shield. Ballyhaunis had two teams, named Ballyhaunis and Tooreen. Each team had six players, and there were two floaters. Both teams were in the shield. Out of the two, Tooreen ranked highest, finishing in sixth place in the shield, twelfth in total. Thanks to Mr. Ryan and Ms. Cox for organising and supervising our team.



BADMINTON

Connaught Champions!

Well done to all the badminton students who competed today in the Connacht Championships. The U14 team played a blinder and came 1st place and the U16 team followed in 2nd place. It was a superb achievement and a credit to everyone involved. Special mention to Ms Rattigan for coaching the squad throughout the year.



Back row(l-r): Badar Keeze, John McDonagh, Mohid Shahid, Mahad Maqsood.

Front row(l-r): Abdullah Ashraf, Ahmed Tayyab, Moon Shabbir, Ahmed Naveed.



Back row(l-r): Sohaeb Arashad, Mohammad Ibriham, Hassan Naseer, Umar Tayyab.

Front row(l-r): Aadil Rizwan, Asad Mumir, Aadal Ashraf, Mohammad Saad.



Back row(l-r): Hassan Naseer, Tom Malhis, Jack Madden, Conor Keane, Matthue Mullarkey

Front row(l-r): Mohammad Ibriham, Sain Galzar, Dean McGarry, Sohaeb Arshad, Michael Gostkowski.

3RD YEAR



3A

Back Row(l-r): Sean Caulfield, Raif Costello, James Duffy, Páidi Murphy, Auredas Armonavicius, Colin Cooper, Nathan Dee, Maeve Donnellan.

Middle Row(l-r): Orlaith Coffey, Niamh Duffy, Claire Flanagan, Eliza Kepale, Ushna Amhad, Zara Akbar, Lorna Davis, Victoria Burcovski, Louise Cox, Cian Coyne.

Front Row(l-r): Hannah Clarke, Roísín Denning, Rebecca Osgood-Daly, Rachel Cleary, Matthew Frayne, Helena Cala, Darragh Flynn, Deirbhile Boland, Lana Biesty. **Missing from photo:** Arooj Azhar.



3B

Back Row(l-r): Matthew Lynch, Kelan Henry, Shane Gavin, James Lyons, Jack Jennings, Ciarán Kerrigan, Kyah Legg, Caragh Kilcoyne Burke, Áine Glynn.

Middle Row(l-r): Lilian Keane, Mark Gavin, Adam Keane, Edward Groarke, Ciara Hosty, Naweed Jugoo, Julia Grabiasz, Jessica Henry, Jayke Beauchamp.

Front Row(l-r): Grace Grealley, Sabina Illichova, Marwa Zamir, Caoimhe Hagney, Niamh Grealley, Leah Guilfoyle, Rebecca Lyons. **Missing from photo:** Oisín Kelly, Erin Kilbride



3C

Back Row(l-r): Chloe McDonagh, Chantelle Maughan, Karen Morgan, Jack Madden, Sarah Morris, Erin Murray, Niamh Mannion, Mark Mulkeen.

Middle Row(l-r): Denicka Cooper Sturdy, Pearce McDermott, Padraic McHugh, Jourdan Guan Yuan Tan, Matthew O'Reilly, Caoimhe Moran, Hassan Naseer.

Front Row(l-r): Daniyal Gul, Chloe Mulrennan, Elizabeth Lloyd, Nikki Hickman, Annie Naveed, Dominyka Maselskyte. **Missing from photo:** Shaun Morley, Nathan Noone.



3D

Back Row(l-r): Prince Owusu, Guilherme Rodrigues, Jack Sullivan, Mikey Regan, Cian Rogers, Dan Sheridan, Umar Tayyab, Niall Regan.

Middle Row(l-r): Massa Rahmani, Kinza Tahir Mahmood, Kym O'Reilly, Eilís O'Brien, Igor Posaric, James McCormack, Bernadette Staunton.

Front Row(l-r): Shane Reidy, Mujtaba Rehman, Daniel Regan, Sean Pearson, Ellen Tener, Megan Ronane. **Missing from photo:** Tenisa Lundolo

CAMOGIE IN BCS

It was a historic year for camogie in BCS. It was our first time in the Connacht C competition and we have never before competed at this high standard. We entered a Junior team consisting of 1st to 5th years. Our first match took place in late October against Presentation Tuam Secondary School. The girl's ability and resilience wasn't 100% known until this game when their skill and determination made them clear winners on the day with a score line of 7-16 to 1-0. This proved the girl's continuous ability to perform throughout the competition as the girls went on to beat Ballinasloe and Salthill with Solerno Salthill pulling out of the competition. These excellent performances meant the girls topped the group and ended up playing Roscommon CBS in the semi-final. This thrilling encounter was our toughest competition but the girls pulled through another determination on the day with a score line of 6-8 to 3-2. We were through to the All-Ireland semi-final but first up was the Connacht final against Athenry B. Athenry were clearly better on the day but our girls battled hard to the end. Athenry's skill level proved too much. A four-hour bus journey up to Ballinascreen, Derry and we were ready for our All-Ireland semi-final against St. Colms High School Draperstown. An intense heart stopping game had a fast-flowing pace throughout. Both team's skill levels were evenly-matched. Directly after half time, St Colms came at us hard but our girls came back strong leaving us four points down with 32 minutes to go. One of our half forwards buried the ball into the back of the net. Despite our new-found hope our girls were defeated and with the narrowest of score lines: 1-11 to 3-04. Hopefully next year we will continue with this success at senior level. We would like to thank Ms O' Reilly, Mr Woolley, Gerry Glavey, Fergal, Geraldine, Claire Delaney, Elaine Tener and Frankie Burke for their continuous support throughout the year. Also thank you to everybody that travelled to Derry to support us in our all Ireland Semi Final, we really appreciated it. Finally, thank you to Durkin Electrics for sponsoring our new camogie jerseys.



Top Row-Alice Curran, Aoibhinn Lynskey, Kate Doyle, Geri-Maye Henry, Caragh Burke, Roisin Lynskey, Aoibheann Crawley, Aoife Doherty, Dearbhla Glavey, Emily Coffey, Lilian Keane, Niamh Duffy, Hannah Tener.

Bottom Row-Ellis Duffy, Caoimhe Delaney, Emer Delaney, Laura Madden, Ellen Tener, Niamh Greally, Claire Flanagan, Meabh Delaney, Erin Murray, Saoirse Delaney.

CADET AND SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

It was a successful year for our Cadets who reached the Regional Semi Finals, defeating Ballinrobe along the way 21-12. They were unfortunate to lose to a strong St Joseph's Foxford team in the Semi Final. A good number of players performed well throughout the year and we can look forward to seeing them on the senior panel. Our Senior team had a less successful year losing to both Ballinrobe and St Colmans, this was a very young Senior team so we look forward to seeing an improvement next year.



Back row(l-r): Nathan Noone, Kealan Henry, Auredas Armonavicius, Shaun Morley, Guilherme Rodrigues, Jack Jennings, Nathan Colleran, Mikey Regan.

Front Row(l-r): Prince Owusa, Jack Madden, Edward Graorke, Darren Groarke, Jack Sullivan, Niall Regan, Nathan Dee.

POETRY CORNER

"Water"

*Ripples and swirls, the gentle curl,
It walks and spits and dances
and runs,
Skipping speed, lapping the shore,
Comfortably cold, its icy freshness
Catches my breath and makes me
feel alive..*

3RD YEAR BALLINTUBBER ABBEY RETREAT

By Chloe Mulrennan, Caoimhe Moran and Karen Morgan

Ballintubber Abbey facilitated the third year students' retreat. On Wednesday the 3rd of October, 3A and 3C travelled with Ms. Fallon and on Thursday the 4th of October 3B and 3D travelled with Ms. Flynn. The atmosphere on the bus to Ballintubber was filled with excitement. When we first arrived, we were greeted at the entrance and given a warm welcome. As we approached the altar, we genuflected as a sign of respect. We met Father Frank and he led us up some stairs to a small room above the altar. We introduced ourselves and played some games to get to know each other better and create a comfortable atmosphere. Father Frank informed us about the history of the abbey. An Irish king founded it in 1216. It was burnt in the 1600s, which was the second attempt to destroy the abbey. Father Tom Egan ordered the restoration and new roofing of the abbey in the 1960s. We split into groups, put on wellies and prepared for our walk. On the walk, we observed the beautiful grounds of Ballintubber Abbey and got some fresh air. When we returned, we reflected on the day and our experiences. We came back feeling refreshed, more confident, and closer as classmates and friends. Overall, we all had a fantastic day and we would recommend this experience to other years.

CSPE ACTION PROJECTS



JUNIOR CERT HOME ECONOMICS PRACTICALS



LANA BIESTY

Congratulations to Lana Biesty, who won another gold medal and once again became a Karate National Champion in the U-16 47Kg category. Lana also won a silver medal in her open weight category. Well done Lana!!!



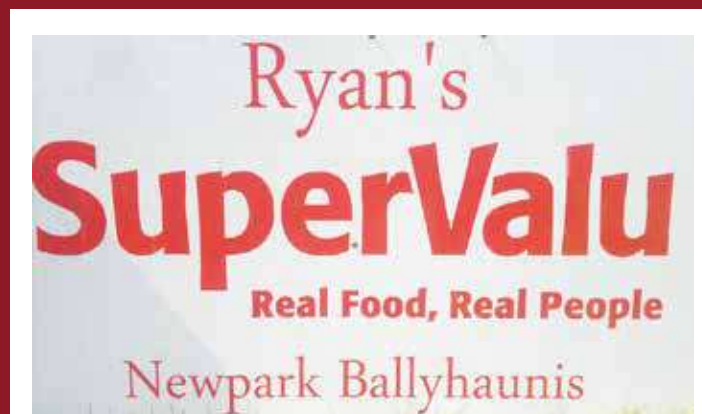
GIRL'S BADMINTON



U16 Girls BR: Rosie Ganley, Kate Tynan, Tensia, Lundolo, Maria Zamir, kinza Tahir Mahmood, Joy Abiose. **FR:** Madina Zamir, Bisma Maqsood, Alannah Morley, Ushna Ahmad, Helena Cala, Kyah Legg.



2nd place in the Connacht championship.
Alannah Morley, kinza Tahir Mahmood, Jou Abiose, Helena Cala.



Ryan's SuperValu Ballyhaunis

T: 094 9630359 F: 094 9630617

**Email: ryanballyhaunis@supervalu.ie
ryansballyhaunis@supervalu.ie**

FUNDRAISING & FESTIVE CHEER

Carol Singing - Ms. Burns

Carol singing took place before Christmas in the Square in Ballyhaunis Town. Well done to Sarah Kane Higgins, who led the singing, the school choir, and the TY students for providing wonderful music to celebrate the festive period and sharing the joy of the Christmas message with other members of the wider Ballyhaunis community. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event.



Daffodil Day - Aoife Doherty



Daffodil day is an annual event that takes place during March which makes people aware of the fight against cancer. This year it took place on Friday 22nd March. Daffodil Day gives people an opportunity to donate to and support the Irish Cancer Society. Cáit Webb from the Irish Cancer Society supplied the school with daffodil badges, tea towels, travel mugs, children's activity books, and pens. Anna, Hannah & Aoife set up a stall at lunchtime on Friday 22nd in the Assembly area where these items were available to purchase. We raised an amazing amount of €185.00. We'd like to thank everyone that generously donated money to this worthy cause. We would also like to thank our chaplain, Ms Burns, for organising this event.

Make it happen

Over the past week TY students and their Geography teacher Ms. Varden were busy fundraising for #letsmakeithappen, a campaign organised by Ms. Nicole Loughlin. Nicole is fundraising to build a two classroom post primary school in Malawi. TY students sold candy canes and 'guess the number of sweets in the jar' competition. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to such a worthy cause. Winners of the competition were Matthw Lynch, Adam Walsh and Róna Hosty. Many thanks to Ms Varden for all her hard work organising this most worthwhile fundraising event.



FUNDRAISING & FESTIVE CHEER

Simon Community Christmas Jumper Day

Brian Hickey, from the Galway Simon Community, is pictured receiving a cheque from TY students Daniel Hill, Jack Deegan, James Doyle, Kieran O'Gara & Caitlin Coll. The TY students raised a grand total of €695 from their Christmas Jumper Day event. It was a fantastic achievement and much appreciated by the Simon Community. Many thanks to all who contributed. Thanks also to Brian for his insightful talk on the work of the Simon Community in Ireland.



Western Care Christmas Party

Ms Burns

In December, the TY students with the help of Ms Murphy organised a special party for everyone at Western Care. The event was held in Ballyhaunis Community School and much festive fun ensued. The theme of the celebration was 'Christmas Spirit in the Community'. A wonderful atmosphere was created by the TY students, who decked the halls with balloons and Christmas decorations. The service users who attended were made most welcome at the party. The TY students were dressed up in Christmas jumpers and hats and they sang carols and danced with gusto and great joy. A huge thank you goes to all the students who took part in this special event and to Ms Murphy who made it so special for everyone. It was a lovely afternoon, much appreciated by the staff and service users of Western Care.

Regina Duffy - Fight for Life

BCS had a coffee morning and non-uniform day to raise funds for Regina Duffy as she continues her fight against cancer. The school raised over €1000 for this great cause. Well done to the TY students for their effort on the day.



WELLNESS ART COMPETITION



OPEN EVENING



SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE I BPOBALScoil BÉAL ÁTHA HAMHNAIS

By Daithí Ó Mistéil (Múinteoir Gaeilge)

Ar tús na bliana, bhuaileamar le chéile mar Roinn Gaeilge. Beartaíodh go mbeadh iarrachtaí ollmhóra déanta againn i mbliana chun Seachtain na Gaeilge a chur chun cinn. Le cúpla bliain anuas bhí próiséis athchóirithe i bhfeidhm sa scoil seo agus bhí sé beagnach dodhéanta aon rud a heagrú. Ach anois tá ceann de na méanscoileanna is fearr i gConnacht againn agus teastaíonn uainn ár scoil iontach nua a léiriú i gceart. Tá sceideal forleathan eagraithe againn don tSeachtain. Ar an chéad dul síos, beidh an tobar eolais ó thaobh Gaeilge de, Colmán Ó Raghallaidh, ag teacht isteach dúinn mar aoichainteoir. Labhróidh sé lena daltaí sinsearacha maidir le stádas na Gaeilge sa lá atá inniú ann agus na feadarachtaí fostaíochta a bhaineann le Gaeilge chomh maith. I dteannta le sin beidh tráth na gceist, biongó as Gaeilge, Céilí, Lá Scannán dona daltaí sa Cúigú bliain, agus Lá Glas i gcomhair gach dalta agus múinteoir freisin de Aoine. Le linn na seachtaine beidh tionscnaimh eile ag oibriú i dteannta lena imeachtaí atá luaite cheanna, mar shampla beidh focal an lae, seanfhocail an lae agus dushlán an lae craolaithe ar an teilifís sa ceantán. Fógrófar iad ar an idirchum ag tús an lae. Beidh cleachtaí idirgníomhacha agus roinnt maith de na seanfhocail coitianta crochta ar na mballaí. Meastar go spreagfaidh agus go cruthóidh na himeachtaí seo comhshaol Gaeilge sa scoil. Mar is eol do chách, is pobail ilchultúrtha i bPobalscoil Béal Átha hAmhnais. Is rud iontach é sin agus is cúis ceiliúradh dúinn. É sin ráite, áfach, tá an tóir le Gaeilge dona daltaí go léir as tíortha éagsúla ón domhain. Údar mór misnigh dom go bhfuil an teanga fós labhartha agus go bhfuil suim fós ann. Táimid in am cinniúnach le Gaeilge. Caithfaimid mar múinteoirí Gaeilge agus mar gníomhairí Gaeilge ár gcur chuige a hathrú – mar shampla, modheolaíochta nuálacha a húsáid, chun ár dteanga agus ár n-oidreacht a chothú. Ach, dar liom, ní leor caomhnú. Caithfaimid atmaisféar Ghaelach a cruthú agus a fhorbairt don scoil ar fad, go háirithe ó thaobh Gaeilge labhartha de. Seo é an t-aon bealach chun cinn, go mbeadh Gaeilge fheidhmeach agus taitneamhach do chách.

Caoimhe Ní Dubhslaine (Dara Bliain)

Is mise Caoimhe Dubhslaine. Táim sa dara bhliain agus táim ag fréastáil ar Phobalscoil Béal Átha hAmhnais. Is rud iontach é seachtain na gaeilge mar uaireanta bíonn an t-ábhar leadránach. Ní bhíonn gach daoine ag caint Gaeilge gach lá freisin. Le haghaidh Seachtain na Gaeilge beidh sceidil idirgníomhach spraoiúil againn. Is seans iontach é chomh maith dona páistí chun a bheith ag caint níos mó Gaeilge. Is teanga álainn í agus níl go leor páistí agus daoine fhásta ag caint í. Beinn díoma orm má tagann meath don Gaeilge in Eirinn.

Molly Curran (Cúigú Bliain)

Molly Ni Churáin is ainm dom. Tá me seacht mbliana deag d'aois agus táim sa cuigú bliain i Phobalscoil Beal Átha hAmhnais. Tá mé féin agus mo rang ag obair go dian gach lá i nGaeilge, ag foghlaim na dánta agus na prós éagsúla. Tá se tábhachtach gan amhras ach uaireanta, ba mhaith linn rudaí difriúla suimúil á dhéanamh. Tugann Seachtain na Gaeilge deis orainn ár neolas in ár dteanga a húsáid i mbealach praiticiúil. Tá sé níos éasca grá a bheith in ár dtír agus ár dteanga nuair atáimid ag caint agus ag idirghníomhú le chéile. Caithfadh mé a rá go cruthaíonn seachtain na gaeilge níos mó muinín agus comhrá i nGaeilge. Creidim go láidir go bhfuil se níos tábhachtaí ag caint le chéile seachas ag scríobh síos rudaí. Cúpla rudaí a beidh ar siúl sa scoil i dtíre Seachtain na Gaeilge ná céilí, scannán, aoichainteoir - níl aon peann nó cóipleabhar ar bith le feiceáil. Béimid ag smaoineamh as Gaeilge, ag caint as Gaeilge, ag maireachtáil as Gaeilge.

Mohid Shahid (Dara Bliain)

Is mise Mohid. Táim sa dara bliain. Freastalaim me ar Phobalscoil Béal Átha hAmhnais. Is maith liom Gaeilge mar tá sé suimúil. Deanaim iarracht í a labhairt comh minic is féidir. Ceapaim go bhfuil smaoineamh iontach é seachtain na gaeilge. Cabhraíonn sé do stór focal agus cabhraíonn sé chun a bheith ag smaoineamh i nGaeilge. Tugann sé beatha do gaeilge. Is rud maith é mar creideann a lán daoine go bhfuil Gaeilge i dtírioblóid.

Clodagh Conway: (Cúigiú Bliain)

Is mise Clodagh Conway. Táim sa cuigiú bliain i phobalscoil Béal Átha hAmhnais. Tá seachtain na gaeilge an tábhachtach i scoileanna timpeall na tíre. Bíonn daoine ag caint an teanga agus is cinnte nach bhfuil sé leadránach. Cruthaíonn sé suim i nGaeilge. Bíonn a lán rudaí idirgníomhach ar siúl i mo scoile. Cúpla rudaí a beidh ar siúl ná céilí, tráth na gceist, pop up ghaeltacht, srl. Beidh gach duine páirteach. Táim ag tnúth go mór leis agus is deis iontach seo chun mo cuid gaeilge a úsáid agus a feabhsú. Ní úsáidtear go minic í agus cabhróidh na himeachtaí seo chun fíric seo a athrú.



Mr Mitchell is pictured presenting a cheque for €700 to Dee Walsh, Fundraising Manager of Western Alzheimers. The money was raised during 'Green and Denim Day'. Many thanks to Mr Mitchell, Ms Niland and all the TY students who organised this event. Thanks

Merlin Pearson: (Cúigiú Bliain)

Is mise Merlin Pearson. Táim ag freastail ar scoil phobail Béal Átha hAmhnais agus táim sa cúigiú bliain. Ceapaim go bhfuil tionchar an-dearfach le Seachtain na Gaeilge. Sa scoil, agus sa saol, ní bhíonn daoine ag caint as Gaeilge go minic sa lá atá inniú ann, cé go bhfuil sí an-tabhachtach í lenár gcuid n-oidhreacht. Cabhraíonn Seachtain na Gaeilge í a chur chun cinn mar theanga bheo in ionad abhar acadúil. I rith na seachtaine, beidh imeachtaí as Gaeilge ar siúl, mar shampla, beidh dúshláin socraithe againn a bheith ag caint níos mó as Gaeilge, agus beidh focal agus seanfhocal thaispeánithe sa halla scoile. Taispeánann na himeachtaí ar fad go mbeadh Ghaeilge an teanga a bhaintear úsáid as go minic agus go laethúil inár saol, má theastaíonn uainn é. Is í Ghaeilge 'croí ábhar' sa curiculam, tá ar béagnach gach duine í a staidéar ar scoil, ach, ag an am céanna, ní labhrítar í den chuid is mó, seachas sna Ghaeltachtaí. Dar liom, táim ag tnúth go mór le Seachtain na Gaeilge.



TRAD GROUP

By Ella Gormley and Alice Curran

In the BCS Trad Group, students from all years get together once a week to play a wide variety of instruments from mandolins to whistles, fiddles to flutes. This year we had many highlights. We played in our canteen for Seachtain na Gaeilge and performed some lively tunes that even had the teachers dancing! We entertained the French students that visited our school during Seachtain na Gaeilge and they got a feel for Traditional Irish Music. Emma Colleran showed off a few steps too! When St. Patrick's Day came around we had a session full of jigs, reels and hornpipes inside the main entrance to the school. Emily Coffey, James Freyne and Beth Lloyd danced along to the tunes. The group has been lead all year by Vanessa Henry in 6th year and the whole group made our transition into 1st year a lot easier.



MACRA NE FEIRME SCHOOL SHIELD

By Merlin Pearson

On 21 November 2018 twelve students from BCS represented our school in the Macra na Feirme School Shield Quiz in Castlebar. The students were: Raymond Benkhelifa, Eimhin Conboy, Oisín Greally, Jakub Jurak, Roisín Kerrigan, Conor Kinnarney, Tom Mahlis, Dean McGarry, Abdullah Noor, Merlin Pearson, Joshua Webb, and Luke Walsh. We were separated into three teams and each competed separately for the top place. There were about eight other schools competing in the quiz, and two other teams fielded, as we did, multiple teams. The team comprising of Conor, Joshua, Merlin, and Roisín came highest of the individual teams we submitted, taking third place in the team competition, and losing out on the gold by the tiny margin of only two points. Overall, though, our three teams achieved the highest aggregate score, out of the eight schools competing. This meant that we took home the Shield once again. Many thanks to Ms. Osgood and Mr. Mitchell, who organised the teams and trained us in readiness for the quiz. It was a highly enjoyable day and we all wish the best of luck to next year's contestants.



WELLNESS WEEK

Sometimes, it can seem that wellness" or "well-being" has become the newest educational fad. However, there is overwhelming evidence that students learn more effectively, including their academic subjects, if they are happy in their work, believe in themselves, have a good relationship with teachers and feel school is supporting them (Weare, 2000).

Our 3rd Annual Wellness Week took place from Monday 19th –Friday 23rd November. It was the culmination of many weeks of planning by a large committee of staff and students. As always, our aim was to develop a programme that would help students cope with the challenges they had identified – not fitting in, poor body image, exam stress, coping with rejection, anxiety, bullying and social media. Following many conversations and a lot of creative artwork, BCS Wellness Week began with a whole school assembly led by guest speakers Angelina Nugent and Tom Parsons. Their personal stories and insights made a deep impact on staff and students alike. Other highlights included Ms. Burns's morning reflections and a variety of presentations on self-esteem, overcoming anxiety, coping with stress, unlocking one's potential, friendship, stereotyping and cyber-bullying/ internet safety training. During the week students also enjoyed a whole-school 5km run and a wide range of wellness activities including social dancing, zumba, yoga, self-defence, ukulele, art workshops, games workshops, soccer, football, basketball and hurling. The week ended on a high-note with a very enjoyable class-room based quiz and the Cube. Special thanks to the Committee, Management, staff and students who planned and facilitated the week. As the following student diary indicates, it was an enjoyable experience.

WELLNESS WEEK DIARY

By Claire Fleming and Hannah Burke (TY students, Ballyhaunis Community School)

Monday 19th November 2018 – Day 1 of wellness week

Dear Diary,
So today was the 1st day of wellness week and it was soooooo GOOD!!!

9:30am- Ms. Byrnes' morning reflection was so inspiring! She spoke about being a kind friend and complementing others.

10am- we had a FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY!! It was led by 5 main people – Aislinn Tighe and Aaron Dee, two leaving cert students, Mr McDonagh, Angelina Nugent and the legendary Mayo footballer TOM PARSONS!!!!!! Angelina's speech was very moving as she spoke about her father's passing and how weight training was her outlet in life. Tom's speech was also really good. One of the things he spoke about is how visualisation and makes things easier for him!

12:20pm- We had a talk with Tom Parson and he spoke about 9 boxes. These represent balance in life. He told us not to put your focus in only one box. He also spoke about setbacks and resilience.

2:00PM- We did activities for the rest of the day, these included self-defence with Tracy Cunnane, social dancing with Mary Kathleen Henry, ukulele lessons with Sarah Keane Higgins and Gillian Donnellan, basketball with Yvonne Duffy and games with Mr. Ryan.

Overall it was an AMAZING DAY!!!!!! And I cannot wait until tomorrow.



Tuesday 20th November 2018 – Day 2 of wellness week

Dear Diary,
Second day of my favourite week!! I wonder what I will be doing today? Well I'll just have to wait and find out.

9am: We were all told to go to the study hall for a Panic station talk by Peter Devers.

9:50am: Ms Byrne's in-class reflection/meditation, I always enjoy her words of wisdom!!!! Time to stop!!

10am: "I am" A Self-esteem and Positive Thinking talk was next on our activities list. Her name was Elaine Browne, she related people to a butterfly "a butterfly never sees its own wings" in other words people never see the beauty in themselves. How true is that!!!! She put the boys and girls in two different groups and we had to write about the things that affect your life negatively and positively in life. Then we played a game where we had to follow our friends hand. It was soooo hard to keep up with it. That is what it is like o try to be someone who you're not. I really really enjoyed that talk omg it was so interesting!!!

11:20am: Diversity, inclusion and new communities. That was about the different nationalities. Coming to new communities, not knowing the language, new skills, new people. How hard would that be!! To learn a brand new language- I don't think I'd be able to. There are 10% of the Irish population living outside of Ireland. I never knew that!!! Some people in different counties have to flee their county to avoid war and violence. We are so lucky in our country. I am so grateful for everything I have after that talk!!!

2pm: It was finally time for my favourite part of the day!!!! FUN RUN! we are all togged out and waiting to get our numbers for our 5k. Anyway that was my second day in wellness week and I had sooo much fun. I better go to sleep now and get ready for my third day. See you tomorrow!!



Wednesday 21st November 2018 –Day 3 of wellness week

Dear Diary,
Today was day 3 of wellness week. We had a really interesting day today, it started with Mrs Byrnes' reflection.

9:30am- Ms Byrnes' morning reflection was about social wellness. She talked about balancing school and family, balancing romantic relationships and life, being comfortable in social settings, boundaries, enhancing personal relationships and how to be social by joining clubs, reflecting, keeping contact and active listening.

12:00pm- we then had a talk about 'internet safety' by Trisha O' Sullivan. She had a lot to say and it was very interesting. She talked about social media and gaming apps, addiction and cyber bullying. She said that we have 2 realities, a real one where we go to school and a cyber-one where adults don't exist. She told us about a 3-point rule: 1. Does it need to be said?
2. Does it need to be said by me?
3. Does it need to be said by me now?

12:20pm- we then did more activities which included social dancing, football, Zumba, basketball and games. It was a very exciting and interesting day!!



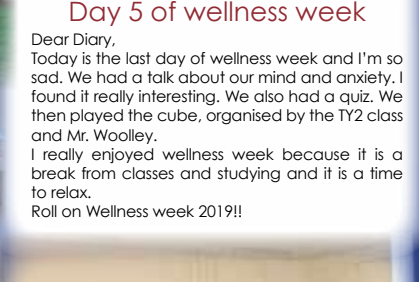
Thursday 22nd November 2018 -Day 4 of wellness week

Dear diary,

Day 4 of wellness week. Its nearly over. Only two more days. Let's hope today will be as fun as the last few days.

9am: 'How ya Buddy?' I loved this talk by Frank Browne, the Dublin Senior Camogie manager. I learned a lot. There are 3I's - truth, trust, team. Work your friendship with your friends. Most things are better face to face. Be yourself and look after each other. The humble you are the better u are. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger. My favourite quote!!!!

10am: Yesssss!!!! Activities!!!! My favourite. Its time for zuummbbaaaa. I'll talk to you later. OMG Zumba was SO FUN!!! We danced for so long and I was so out of breath. I reallyyyy want to do it again. Tomorrow is the last day. Will catch up with you tomorrow.



Friday 23rd November 2018 – Day 5 of wellness week

Dear Diary,

Today is the last day of wellness week and I'm so sad. We had a talk about our mind and anxiety. I found it really interesting. We also had a quiz. We then played the cube, organised by the TY2 class and Mr. Woolley.

I really enjoyed wellness week because it is a break from classes and studying and it is a time to relax.

Roll on Wellness week 2019!!



THE SOUND OF MUSIC

By Aislinn Tighe

After a three year hiatus from hosting a musical during the school's refurbishment, the senior students of BCS greatly anticipated the announcement of the 2018 musical last May. While many made their own predictions of possible contenders, I think it's safe to say that everyone was surprised to hear that we would be recreating Rodgers' and

Hammertein's "The Sound of Music". Many were speculative as to how we could realistically portray a family of seven young children as 16, 17 and 18 year olds however, you would be surprised what a few pigtails and sailor costumes could achieve!

Auditions were held in front of Mrs. Henry and Ms. Glavey, our own Louis Walsh and Simon Cowell (I'll let you decide who's who!) and after much deliberation, the multiple lead roles were assigned. We had to part from our bad "habits" of speaking like the country folk we are as Mrs. Henry and Ms. Glavey were having "nun" of it and instead, had to acquire (or at least try to) the aristocratic accents of the infamous Von Trapps.

Over the Summer, lines were learned,

yodelling was perfected and tea with jam and bread was

most certainly had! By September, the hills of Ballyhaunis were most certainly alive with the sound of music and bi-weekly rehearsals Wednesdays and Fridays commenced promptly. A huge amount of dedication was shown from students and teachers alike in the lead up to the 24th of October, our premier show. However, we still had a few more mountains to climb as we tackled the choreography alongside the talented Hazel Lloyd and in no time our Landler and leapfrogging was perfected.

The weeks preceding the musical came and went in a flash and in no time, the dress rehearsal was upon us. Our newly renovated gym was successfully transformed into our own theatre accommodating over 300 spectators and the impeccable set displays created by many of the art and construction classes set the scene of Salzburg, Austria. The dress rehearsal went relatively well but we were still left with a few problems to solve, realising we definitely needed to pull our white knee-high socks up further in order to reach our full potential for the real shows!

A few do-re-mis later, we were finally ready to display our hard work to the studentbody. We were very pleased with our performance but knew we could excel further still. Our first evening show on Thursday, the 25th of October was a huge success as we received a tremendous amount of praise for our three part nun chorus, to the joie de vivre of our Von Trapps, and, the outstanding performances of Niamh O'Neill and Aaron Dee portraying Maria and The Captain. With each night came more confidence and therefore even better performances. By Saturday night we were simultaneously elated as we performed with great finesse and, devastated to have to say "So Long Farewell" to what was a huge part of our lives for nearly six months. What we all missed most of all after wrapping up was the craic and new found friendships formed backstage. From our tribute performances of Backstreet Boys' "I Want It That Way" during the pre-show mic checks to what for me was my favourite moment as I was surprised with chocolate cake backstage to celebrate my eighteenth birthday, the cast ensemble really had become a family. However, we also learned some valuable lessons about ourselves as some people, *cough* Eimear *cough* discovered that the glitz and glamour of life as a nun is not for the faint hearted. Literally!

Overall, our production of "The Sound of Music" was a huge success, beyond what we could have imagined six months prior and was also a hugely enriching experience for all those involved. It goes without saying that none of this could ever have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of: Ms. Nolan and Ms. O'Reilly who guided the backstage crew, Ms. Keane who was in charge of costumes, our own live band consisting of past and present students, the third year pit chorus and of course, last but not least, Mrs. Henry and Ms. Glavey who spent countless hours of their own time to make the show the best that it could be!

THE SOUND OF MUSIC





TY



TY1

Back Row(l-r): Sarah Keane- Higgins, Wiktor Siemionkowski, Henry Concannon, Jason Reinhardt, Conal Hession, Cian Walsh, Patrick Mannion.

Middle Row(l-r): Anna Tigue, Hannah Tener, Anna Cunnane, Laura Madden, Aoife Doherty, Aaron Keaveney, Daniel Fagan, Daniel Murray.

Front Row(l-r): Claire Fleming, Megan Henry, Hannah Burke, Courtney Clifford, Dara Rattigan, Dominic Parr.

Missing from photo: Jack Grealy, Nathan McGarry



TY2

Back Row(l-r): Kieran O'Gara, Jamie Allen, Oisin Duffy, Diarmuid Phillips, Nathan Colleran, Jack Deegan, Daniel Hill.

Middle Row(l-r): Dylan Lyons, Stephen Cannon, Kevin Durkan, Jack Harrington, Caitlin Coll, Kate Mannion.

Front Row(l-r): Aoibheann Crawley, Laura Godfrey, Dearbhla Glavey, Roisin Murphy, Kate Delaney

Missing from photo: James Doyle, Peter Morris.

KILLARY

TY

It was just nine months ago we were all sitting in the new canteen eager to get the "doss year" started. Little did we know we would be using the line "we have a job" quite often. As of every other year of TY, the first aid course was first up on our to-do list. We all learned how to approach serious situations like choking, burns and broken bones. We also learned how to preform CPR. For our first trip away, we were off to Killary. It was three days full of excitement, fun and muck! From starting a rivalry with another school to Dylan "stealing" their clothes, it was an eventful trip. We were split into 7 different groups and all took on the challenges one by one. But of course the turf challenge was the highlight for most of us. Yet we enjoyed all the other activities that faced us. We were all left voiceless after the big swing and even jumping off the cliff, well maybe just Roisin. At night, for those who stayed in the girl's room we were left scraping pot noodles off the bathroom floor with a fork. Not to be confused with shenanigans that happened on the kitchen floor later in the year. No lad was safe when the wax pads were whipped out.

Of course we had the yearly trip to psycho spaghetti and a day out at Bridget's garden. Next up was our visit to the Dublin on the 23rd of October. First stop off was for a quick glimpse into our futures selves up at Trinity college. Then off to the Dáil to see how things work in our country. Of course we got some shopping in on Grafton street before we headed home again. Then it was time for the dreaded awkwardness of swimming but after we all jumped into the pool we quickly got over it and we realised we needed Kate to help us. Except for that one time Aoibheann claims she "bet" her in a race. Mr Shannon, our very own Sherlock Holmes, organised a C.S.I day. A day full of learning how to take finger prints, footprints and trying to solve our own crime cases.

In the lead up to Christmas, we went ice skating in Castlebar. It's safe to say the majority of us went home with sore bums... especially Nathan! After Christmas we participated in a movie making workshop where we learned to make our own movies. Dominic stepped up to the plate and gave us his best impersonation of getting crushed by a cable car. Some of our movies even made it through to The Fresh Film Festival, won't be long 'till we hit Hollywood! We went to the RSA roadshow. It was a very eye-opening show with presentations from fire fighters, Gardaí, and doctors who have encountered many road accidents in the careers. It was very hard hitting and really touched home. Some found it more traumatic than others *cough* *cough* Jason. Then the girls got a little treat. The lovely Haley Coleman came in and gave us some tips on how to improve our makeup skills and Dearbhla even got a makeover. When March rolled around we had some very special guests, the Frenchie's! We hosted 16 French students and 4 French teachers for 3 days. Over their stay we brought them to the Cliffs of Moher, taught them Gaelic football and hurling and we even got to brush up on our French. We had a great time and made lots of new friends.

Our lovely teacher Ms Glavey helped the TY2'S in organising the 1st year talent show. Some of us got the chance to MC and judge alongside Councillor Lawless and builder McHugh. We all had a great time organising especially getting the prizes downtown. Throughout the year we've been up to lots more from improving our computer skill with ECDL, even though it took some of us few tries', to many a guest speaker thanks to Ms Osgood. Of course we all headed off to work experience on Fridays and had our Wednesday morning chats on the way to community care. Another workshop we had was the amnesty international workshop. This took place over 3 weeks. We all benefited very greatly from this. The girls also gave junk kouture an attempt this year. After many phone chargers and cans of spray paint only one group got through, "wood" you believe that. It was our first year being allowed down town at lunch but some of us weren't watching the clock and found themselves still in Nico's at three o'clock, "you hardly thought you'd get away with that". April started out with a bang, no not Laura falling its was Dylan arriving in, in a leg brace. Meaning he couldn't take part in the driving course or the cycle for suicide. Unfortunately, these days out and our big trip to Paris won't make the yearbook deadlines but I'm sure you'll see many a VSCO.

RSA WORKSHOP



COMMUNITY CARE

By Diarmuid Phillips and Kevin Durkan

Community care is a programme ran by B.C.S. where Transition Years students go out into the local community to volunteer and help certain organisations. It is ran during the religion class times which is from 9am to 11am each Wednesday morning as part of the TY programme. It started at September and ran until December for TY1 and from January until May for the TY2 class. Each student gets 3 placements in 3 different organisations. Each student spent 4-5 weeks at each of the 3 placements. The different placements are MSPCA, Rita London, Little Acorns Brickens, Western Care, Scoil Iosa, Meals on Wheels, Family Resource Centre, Computer class, Music class Greater tomorrow Creche, Charity shop Hospice, Clare Court and Retirement Village. From 1st to 3rd year we do religion exams whereas in TY we volunteer to practice living the Christian values and helping others. As Western Care was such a popular option for the community care where we took part in social dancing classes with the western care users. T.Y. students were very keen to be part of this experience. It was referred to as a "buddy up class" in which we would partner up with the services users and dance with different partners for each song. These enjoyable classes ran from late October until early January with a total of 10 classes overall the duration. Sandra Ganley (former Mayo Rose 2017) taught the lessons to us and made the whole experience very inclusive and enjoyable. The people we danced with were David, Andrew, Padraig, Rose Mary, Michael, Karen and Delia who struck up a romance with our own dancer Jack Harrington who was reminiscent of a young Patrick Swayze. From 1:30 until 2:30 pm every Monday in F1 we danced to songs such as "Hold onto your hat" and the group favourite "Tommy K" which was sang by David each time. The Social dancing classes were a very enjoyable and memorable class for all the T.Y. students who took part and all the western care residents. We made many memories such as David's laugh, love triangles and Jack (nearly) got a girlfriend which was the biggest spectacle. We'd like to thank Sandra Ganley for teaching us and making it so enjoyable, Ms Murphy for allowing us to part take in the activity and hosting and organising the event and last but not least Mrs Burns for singing and adding life to the Christmas party.



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Transition Year students took part in three Amnesty International workshops on 'Stories of refugees' and 'Stories of welcome'. Celesta Creative and Faithi shared their own personal stories of their journeys to Ireland with the students and the TY students shared different elements of Irish culture from Camogie to Irish Dancing with them. The workshops were a powerful learning experience for all involved. Many thanks to Mrs Murray for organising these workshops.



CSI WORKSHOP



ERICSSON

25 TY students travelled to Ericsson's Software Engineering campus in Athlone earlier this year. The giant multinational company allow select schools to visit their hi-tech campus and take a snapshot of life as a software engineer. Students had a plant tour and a hackatron as well as learning about the many routes into the industry. A big 'thank you' to the staff (Sinead and Kevin) for facilitating this informative event and looking after the students so well. Thanks also to Mr Woolley and Mrs Waldron for organising this trip.



JUNIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL

By Kate Delaney and Daniel Murray

We started off our league campaign with a trip to Tourmakeady. They proved no match for our team on the day as we ran out comfortable winners. Friendships were put aside when it came to playing Mount Saint Michael of Claremorris. These proved to be a tough opposition and took us by surprise. We narrowly came out of this match with a 1-point win. We made the trip to Louisburg with two wins under our belt looking to secure a third. Yet again we ran out comprehensive winners assuring us of our place in the next round. During the Christmas holidays we trained hard and played two challenge matches against strong oppositions. These included the Mayo u16s and Glenamaddy who were through to the 'B' Connacht semi-final. Both games were very tight and they were great learning curves moving forward. The time came around for us to play our Connacht semi-final. We had drawn St Enda's of Galway city. This was a fantastic game of football played in a true sporting spirit from two fairly evenly matched sides, though on paper Enda's were probably the more fancied side boasting a number of county players. We fought hard and were narrowly leading at half time. It was touch and go in the second half with Enda's fighting strong and scoring two much needed goals for them. This boosted their confidence. Down to 13 players we fought to the end but unfortunately lost out on securing our Connacht final place. It was heart breaking to fall short by the narrowest of margins but this does not in any way take away from a brilliant performance from our girls. Thanks to Ms. Garvey, Ms. Phillips, David Delaney and Frank Burke for their support and dedication throughout the year.



Back row from left to right- Claire Fleming, Eva Henry, Caoimhe Delaney, Niamh Coyne, Amy Fleming, Claire Flanagan, Niamh Duffy, Maeve Donnellan, Caragh Burke, Dearbhla Glavey, Kate Delaney, Aoife Doherty, Lilian Keane
Front row from right to left- Méabh Delaney, Hannah Burke, Emer Delaney, Nikita Tigue, Erin Murray, Leah Johnston, Laura Madden, Rachel Cleary, Hannah Clarke, Beth Lloyd, Róisín Denning

THE CLIFFS OF MOHER/ FRENCH STUDENTS

At the start of March, we hosted 16 French students and 4 of their teachers for 3 days. We got to show them lots about our Irish culture, and what kind of things we get up to at Ballyhaunis Community School. They got to trial all the different types of activities over their days here , such as Woodwork, Metalwork, Gaelic , Hurling and Music, which they all really enjoyed. We also brought them on a trip to the Cliffs of Moher. We all had a very enjoyable day and all of us got to bond with the Frenchies before they headed home. Overall we had a great time hosting them, as we not only got to brush up on our French skills, but we also made great friends.



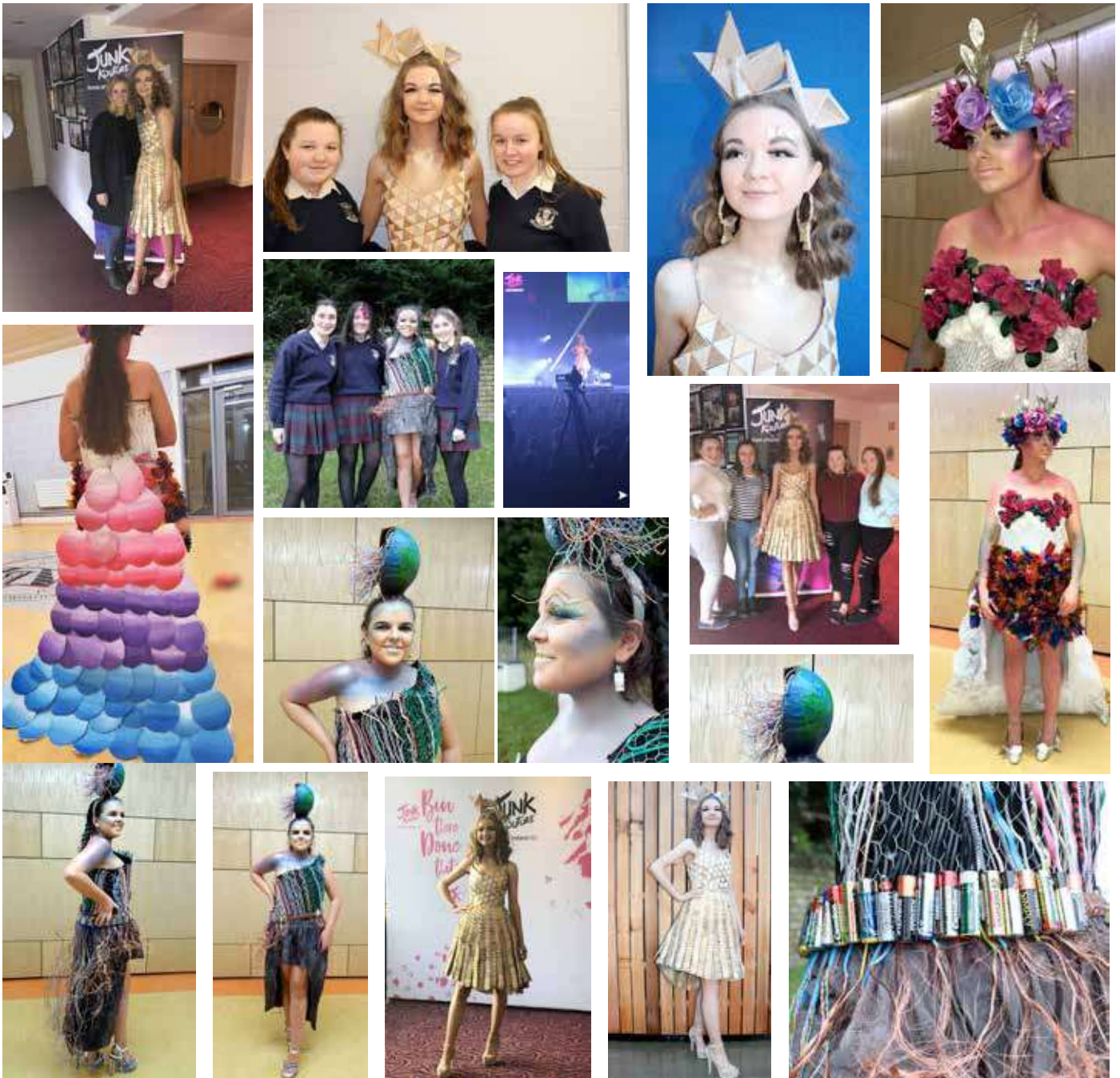
CYCLE AGAINST SUICIDE



JUNK KOUTURE 2019

By Claire Fleming

This year 14 Ty girls took part in the Bank of Ireland Junk Kouture competition. We split into 3 different groups. The 1st group was called 'Through The Woodwork' and the dress was made out of old pieces of 5mm wood that was spray painted gold and hot glued onto a dress that was bought in the charity shop. The shoes were covered in sawdust and glitter. The model for this group was Claire Fleming and the other members of the group were Hannah Tener, Anna Tighe, Aoife Doherty and Sarah Keane Higgins. The 2nd group was called 'Settle Petal' and this dress was made from white rope, quality street wrappers and cardboard. The model for this group was Laura Madden and the other members of the group were Megan Henry, Anna Cunnane, Hannah Burke and Courtney Clifford. The last group was called 'UnPlugged' and was made from old batteries and wires. The model for this group was Roisin Murphy and the other members of the group were Kate Mannion, Laura Godfrey and Dearbhla Glavey. We all entered our pictures on the Junk Kouture website as part of the 1st round. On the 7th of February the 'Through The Woodwork' team found out that they had reached the Western Regional finals!!! Unfortunately for 'Settle Petal' and 'UnPlugged' they didn't get through to the final. On the 7th of March 2019 the 'Through The Woodwork' team along with Ms Rattigan made their way to the TF in Castlebar for the Western Regional finals. They had a great day getting ready for the live performance in the evening. The other 2 teams along with Ms Garvey and Ms Phillips came to support along with family and friends. Unfortunately for the 'Through The Woodwork' team they didn't get the final stage of the competition which was the National Finals in Dublin. Everyone enjoyed making their outfits and the overall Junk Kouture experience and they would definitely recommend it to TYs in the future!!



FIRST AID



Congratulations to our Transition Year students who successfully completed an Emergency First Aid and CPR/AED Training Course provided by 'Lifeline Training'. The students were commended for their excellent attention and participation throughout the course.



LEINSTER HOUSE VISIT

Our TY students had a great day of culture in our capital city when visiting both Leinster House and Trinity College. The students got to meet and converse with politicians Denis Naughton, Michelle Mulherin, Eugene Murphy and Senator David Norris. Many thanks to Mrs Osgood for organising this trip.



FILM MAKING



On the 10th of January the Transition Years made their own movies. The 'Movie Magic' company came into our school and showed us how to use the

equipment and the different requirements of making a good movie. We used I-Pads, tripods, green screens and our acting skills. They showed us clips from movies where you can see the different camera angles, emotions, costumes and settings. We were split up into groups and we set out to make our own short films. Our movies were about everything from the girls touring Paris to a peeping Tom roaming the streets of Ballyhaunis. Four of our movies got through to the Connacht Fresh Film Festivals in Galway. We organised a bus for the winners that got through to the Connacht final. We got to watch all the film entries and our chance of winning was looking likely.

To our surprise we left without claiming any prize. After a heavy defeat we went into Eyre Square and then realised that one person was missing; Dominic. Fifteen minutes later Dom decided to make an appearance and we were off on our way home. The way home was full of surprises as the lads had visited a joke shop in the mist of their shopping journey. Thanks to Movie Magic for visiting our school and Ms Rattigan for helping make our acting careers possible.

GLOBAL GOALS WORKSHOP IN ST. BRIGID'S GARDENS



JUNIOR BOYS GAELIC

Our Junior boys football team started off their season with a blitz consisting of local Mayo teams in the Connacht Centre of Excellence, Began, in late September. The lads lost two of their three games, drawing the other to a strong St Louis team. Our coach Mr. Lawless utilized the entire squad in preparation for the season ahead, but it was evident a lot of work was needed if we were to have a successful season. The league was always going to be a struggle as we were put into a very strong group consisting of St Muredachs, and Balla.

Our first game was a trip to Balla and with a couple of our stronger players suffering from injuries, it wasn't going to be an easy outing. Unfortunately, we were out played on the day and found ourselves on the receiving end of a bad beating. The following game which saw host St Muredachs proved to be equally as difficult. Again, we were second best on the day, however there were encouraging signs as we managed to rack up a much higher score than in our previous game. With championship fast approaching, Mr. Lawless kept working with the team and spirits were high. We were drawn to play Garbally College in the first round. We were heavy underdogs going in to the game as Garbally had previously hammered Balla, a team that previously got the better of us. The fact that Garbally also won the league just added to their favorite status. Prior to the game Mr Lawless knew some defensive tactics would need to be implemented if we were to stand any chance.

We travelled to Glenamaddy not quite sure what to expect from our opponents, but with our tactics in place, we were confident we wouldn't be easily beaten. We got off to a flying start with Dean Lyons and Oisin Duffy netting goals in the opening exchanges. With 3 sweepers deployed, our boys didn't give the Garbally forwards an inch to breath. By half time we had cruised into a 7-point lead. As the second half started, we picked up from where we left off. Garbally began to mount a revival before Conal Hession netted his second goal of the day to restore our comfortable lead. In the end we ran out comprehensive winners by an 11-point margin. It's safe to say nobody, not even we could've foreseen this result. On our boys marched to the Connacht quarter final where we faced another very strong side in Ballinrobe CS. Yet again we flew out of the blocks and into an early lead. Dean Lyons and Oisin Duffy yet again netting goals to give us the lead. It was clear from early on we were facing a much stronger opposition than in our previous game. At half time we were narrowly in front, but with midfielder Jack Jennings forced off with a nasty cut on his hand, the second half was going to be a battle. Ballinrobe, with the wind at their backs, controlled the majority of the second half. Coming into the last 15 minutes with the game all square, wing back Kevin Durkan was also forced off through injury which proved another huge loss for us. Ballinrobe began to completely take control in the latter stages of the game, scoring a number of quick-fire goals to put the game to bed and see them through the Connacht semi-final.

Overall, it was a very enjoyable season for our junior boys. A special thanks to our manager Mr Lawless for his dedication and commitment throughout the year.



Back row (l-r): Aaron Keaveney, Dara Rattigan, Niall Regan, Matthew Frayne, Nathan Dee, Mikey Regan, Páidí Murphy, Darren Groarke, Oisín Duffy, Joshua Webb, Jack Jennings, Stephen Cannon, Conor Morley, Jack Madden, Daniel Fagan, Cian Walsh, Edward Groarke, James Doyle, Kian Burke, Danny Hill, Shaun Morley.

Front row(l-r): Darragh Flynn, Jack Harrington, Jack Sullivan, Declan Henry, Jason Reinhardt, Conal Hession, Kevin Durkan, Callum Casey, Daniel Murray, Dean Lyons, Nathan Colleran, Mr. Paul Lawless

BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AWARDS

By Kieran O'Gara and Anna Cunnane

We entered the Mayo Student Enterprise Awards for our business course. This is a national competition which allows students to create their own mini companies. The companies could be for anything the students wanted be it hairbands or eggs. The competition was split into county divisions. We were split into groups to work in and had to submit business plans. The groups started selling their products in school and after a few weeks two groups from each school in Mayo got through to the regional finals in Breaffy House in Castlebar. The two groups that got through were BC Music and Chalom Charms. Kieran O'Gara and Dominic Parr were behind BC Music and Claire Fleming, Laura Madden, Anna Cunnane, Megan Henry and Hannah Burke were behind Chalom Charms. On Thursday the 21st March, both groups went to Breaffy with Mrs Osgood and set up stands in a big hall to present their business ideas. There were over 90 other businesses there. There were four judges that came around at different times looking at the stalls and asking questions. We were given lunch at around midday. After lunch we had time to wander around to the other stalls. There were nutrition books and they had a raffle and samples of their food from the book. We all tried this thing they had called a 'protein ball'. Megan took a bite of it and immediately regretted her decision as she suffered from a severe peanut allergy!! Mrs Osgood was quick to the scene and rushed Megan to the nearest pharmacy to get medicine for her situation. Megan made her grand entrance in all her glory right before the winners were announced. After the lunch, we were all seated and they announced winners from the different categories and also prizes for set up and presentation etc. Unfortunately, none of our groups got through to the national finals, but it was a thoroughly enjoyable experience. We would definitely recommend the Enterprise Awards to all upcoming TY year groups.

TY BUSINESS - PAST PUPIL VISIT

By Kieran O'Gara and Anna Cunnane

Many thanks to past pupil and hugely successful local entrepreneur Jane Buckley, of JROC RONOCO Import & Distribution Company, (exclusive distributors in Ireland for: Bellamianta Tan, Iconic Bronze, Jenny Glow Fragrances, BH Cosmetics, JustJack) who came in to talk our TY business class recently. We learned of the dynamic world of the cosmetic industry and her journey from being a BCS student to the successful entrepreneur she is today, regularly striking deals with household retail giants such as Penney's & Boots. Jane went into detail of the changing world of marketing and the use of influencers in brand promotion. She also spoke about the organ donation Ireland Facebook page that she has been running for the past 4 years and now has 20,000 followers who bravely share their emotional stories and tributes regarding organ transplants in Ireland. She also divulged her love of rallying while finding time to balance it all with her busy family life with 3 young children at home. Thank you so much for coming in to see us Jane, and best of luck with everything in the future



GAA FUTURE LEADERS

By James Doyle and Kate Delaney

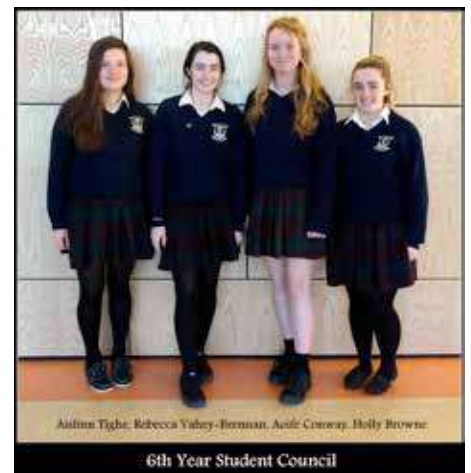
TY's embarked on a journey where we got the chance to do the GAA Future Leaders Programme accompanied by Ms Phillips, Mrs Lawless and Mr Woolley as our trusty companions. This was the first year the school had brought this concept in for our TY's. There were five modules to complete including journalism, performance analysis, refereeing, coaching, event organisation, nutrition, wellbeing, event management and administration. It was a different course that all of us were very excited to embark on. In the journalism module we got the chance to interview some of our idols and commentate on some of the best GAA moments of all time. In the Performance Analysis module, we analysed iconic GAA matches. I organised my interview with two of the best female footballers in Mayo, Niamh and Grace Kelly. I found that this boosted my confidence and overall improved my organisation skills. And I got the chance to interview Liam Óg McGovern, a Wexford hurler. I also commentated on a clip from an All-Ireland Final. Ms Phillips and Mrs. Lawless helped us enter some of the competitions. Some of the prizes included the chance to be in the commentary box with Marty Morrissey on All-Ireland semi-final day and spending a day with a performance analysis. It's fair to say everyone thoroughly enjoyed participating in this project and would happily do it again.

B.C.S. ARTWORK



STUDENT COUNCIL

A Student Council, comprising of a number of elected students from each year serves to represent student views, organise cultural activities within the school and affords all, especially the students involved, the opportunity of developing leadership skills. Well done to all involved this year and we thank them for their valuable contribution to our school throughout the year. Many thanks to Mrs Hayes for coordinating the Student Council. .



Back row (l-r): Aoife Conway, James Frayne, Fiona Crowley, Aislinn Tighe, Rebecca Vahey-Brennan, Holly Browne, Wiktor Siemionkowski, Dean McGarry
Middle row (l-r): Isobel Coggins, Julia Grabiasz, Evan McLoughlin, Aoibhe Coggins, Roisin Murphy, Elizabeth Lloyd, Alice Curran, Raif Costello
Front row(l-r): Amy Fleming, Vanessa Whelan, Shannon Hibbitt, Huzefa Malik, Niki Nikolaev, Megan McGuire, Aiden Sloyne, Ms. Hayes.

5K



5TH YEAR



5A

Back Row(l-r): Joel Grennan, Fiona Crawley, Eimhín Conboy, Ethan Conneely, Jacob Jurak, Peter Maughan, Adel Habib.

Middle Row(l-r): Angela Killeen, Leah Fallon, Aoibhinn Kelly, Bothina Kazzeh, Houda Kezze, Gabriella Cervenak, Salwa Rahmani.

Front Row(l-r): Eliska Victhova, Brianna Casey, Hala Kezze, Barbara McDonagh, Kamile Pasukeviciute, Erin Raleigh.

Missing from photo: Dylan Caulfield, Janna Maaz, Kiran Muqadas, Leanne Cornwall, Martina Kureyova.



5B

Back Row(l-r): Zeeshan Khan, Modesta Kucinskaite, Sheena Roddy, James Cormac Frayne, Egis Aravicius, Mohamad Kezze, Roisin Kerrigan.

Middle Row(l-r): Mohammad Ibrahim, Nathan Coll, Rona Hosty, Tamara Squire Keane, Tanzilla Chaudry, Sarah Gavin, Tamzin Whelan- Manning, Maham Asif.

Front Row(l-r): Darren Groarke, Opeyemi Fabunmi, Lena Kudimati, Sara Althobhaney, Mila Maciukaite, Lorna Donnellan. **Missing from photo:** Teresa Cleary, Sally Maaz, Emily Sharman.



5C

Back Row(l-r): Daniel Coyne, Declan Henry, Stephen Dooney, Luke Walsh, Ronan Moran, Tony Aylward, Liam Lavin, Shane Flanagan, Conor Morley, Thomas Keane.

Middle Row(l-r): Aisling Regan, Niamh O'Neill, Gráinne Collins, Ruth Henry, Niamh Smith, Amy Keane, Áine Phillips, Hannah Waldron, Ciara Loftus, Tara Coyne, Jamie McGowan, Dean Lyons.

Front Row(l-r): Rebecca Reynolds, Clodagh Conway, Megan Morley, Rida Naseer, Joy Abiose, Aoibhe Coggins, Gráinne Byrne, Aoife Carney, Ray Benkhelifa.



5D

Back Row(l-r): Jack McGoldrick, Ruairi Delaney, Niall Flanagan, Emmet Flanagan, Dean McGarry, Shane Glynn, Oisín Grealley, Tom Mahlis, Conor Kinnarney, Ethan Keane.

Middle Row(l-r): Joshua Webb, Aidan Cooper, Merlin Pearson, Ryan Keadin, Molly Curran, Méabh Delaney, Mary Carr, Rachel Dillon, Clodagh Byrne, Jasmin Glavey.

Front Row(l-r): Anna Lyons, Ella Dunleavy, Amy Waldron, Eilís Duffy, Leah Johnston, Lauryn Golden, Callum Casey, Gráinne Delaney, Lorna Gormley. **Missing from photo:** Amy Gildea, Conor Keane.

NIAMH O'NEILL

Brilliant news from Glasgow....The Irish School team of which Niamh O'Neill is a member, finished 2nd behind England with Scotland 3rd. Niamh gave brilliant performances in all her events. 1.53 high jump; 8.2 in 60m hurdles. 5.38 long jump. Well done Niamh from all at BCS!



C.A.S. AWARD

Aaron Dee (6th year) and Caragh Kilcoyne Burke (3rd year) are pictured receiving the Cycle Against Suicide wall plaque from Minister of State Helen McEntee. This awards ceremony took place in the Honorable Society of Kings Inns in Dublin recently. Aaron and Carragh were accompanied by teachers Ms Phillips and Mr. Shannon. All four are members of the Amber Flag Committee in BCS, which organises initiatives to promote positive mental health in the school. Minister McEntee served as Minister of State for Mental Health last year when the Cycle Against Suicide was organised in BCS. Our Transition Year students cycled to Knock and back to promote awareness for this most worthy cause. Well done to all involved.



ACHILL

We went to Achill from the 19th to the 21st of September. The trip was almost cancelled as the bumper was blown off the bus by the treacherous wind conditions before it had left the school grounds. Some laugh. We eventually got going and arrived in a luxurious hospitality setting in the heart of the island. The first activity was a hike. There was beautiful scenery and the weather had picked up meaning we got a perfect view of Achill. In the evening we played some games and then went for a moonlight stroll to the beach. The second day we went surfing in the morning. Luke Walsh proved he was the best surfer this side of the Shannon when he carved some gnarly barrels. We went kayaking in the afternoon across a lake. When we reached the far side of the lake we did some bog jumping. It was mighty craic. Then in the evening time we made up stories about eggs. They were egg-cellent. The final day in Achill, we had a choice to go cliff diving or rock climbing and archery. The people who went cliff jumping went on a bus to the cliffs and then had to walk another 10 minutes across the cliffs through the wet and very windy conditions until they finally got to the point where it was safe to jump. It was very cold and the rough tidal conditions made it very difficult to swim back onto the rocks. Overall it was a great trip and everyone bonded very well.



ROME

On the 9th of May 2018 we left school on the bus at half twelve at night. We had our suitcases packed, and we were so excited the day had finally come - we were off to Rome! We arrived at the airport. We were all wrecked but the excitement kept us going. Most of us had a well-deserved sleep on the plane to prepare us for the busy day ahead. When we left the airport, we got on our bus that would practically be our home for the next three days. Our driver was called Giovanni. We went to the Vatican first. In the Vatican there were paintings from floor to ceiling. We saw the Sistine Chapel there, which is absolutely amazing. After spending a few hours in the Vatican, and losing a few people, we headed out to the bus again to go to our hotel. On the second day, we got on the bus and headed into the city once more. We saw the Trevi Fountains first. These were spectacular, and a really nice place to get pictures. Then we went to the Colosseum. Here, we learned a lot about the history of the city which we found surprisingly interesting! Then we headed to the Spanish steps, which were hard to climb up in the dead heat of the day. When we got to the top, we met an interesting character, and decided to go down again fairly quickly. We then walked to the bus, and went to the pizzeria. We had been looking forward to this so much, and it did not disappoint. The pizza was delicious, and the opera singers were very good. To make the day even better, we then went to the Olympic Stadium for a look. We couldn't get in, even though some of us tried hard enough, but we got some pictures and went back to the hotel. The last day was sad, as nobody wanted to leave. We left the hotel at 9:30, and went to Rainbow Magic Land Theme Park. Here, we had a great time. We went shopping for a while, and bought some last minute gifts, but we were all itching to get back to the thrills of the roller coasters. This made for an unforgettable end to an amazing holiday!! We arrived to the airport. Our flight was delayed an hour, so we decided to entertain the crowd by displaying our talent and Irish charm. When our plane finally was ready to leave, we were heartbroken. We went on a bus back to Ballyhaunis, and arrived at around 3:30 on the 12th of May. Going to Rome was definitely the highlight of TY. We'll never forget it!!



PASSION OF CHRIST PLAY

On Good Friday 2019 the Passion Play was held in Ballinlough Church. It was directed by Rena Burke former teacher at Ballyhaunis Community School, and students Jack Cloney played Jesus Christ, and Patrick Carr played Judas. A brilliant night was had by all. A special word of thank to Rena Burke, Fr Joe Feeney, Michael Neary for the sound, Fr Stephen Farragher for the photos and all involved with the production.



Good Friday Liturgy, St. Patrick's church, Ballyhaunis, broadcast on MWR, BCS students who are part of the JP2 Merit Awards Programme who took part in the Good Friday Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord. L-R: James Doyle, Claire Fleming, Hannah Waldron, Megan Henry, Kate Delaney, Gerry Glennon MWR, Hannah Burke, Anna Cunnane, Róisín Murphy



Passion Play Ballinlough (Parish of Kiltullagh), Good Friday, April 19th, 2019 Jack Cloney plays the part of Jesus in the Passion Play that was staged in the grounds of Ballinlough church on Good Friday.



Filling of Easter Holy Water bottles: L-R: Hannah Waldron, James Doyle, Megan Henry, Anna Cunnane.

DAWN MASS



Dawn Mass on the shores of Lake O Flynn, Ballinlough, Easter Sunday, April 21st 2019
Readers: Grace O'Gara, Roisin Ruane, Claire Fleming and Thomas Coffey.

JP2 AWARDS



TRIP TO LOURDES

On the 19th of July, five senior students will give up their time to volunteer in Lourdes in aid of The Irish Pilgrimage Trust. Amy Waldron, Vanessa Henry, Gillian Donnellan, Clodagh Waldron and Aaron Dee have organised multiple fundraisers in the school for this worthy cause. In early April we had a non-uniform day and Easter raffle. Along with the help of Ms. Macken and the religion departments, the students also organised a leg wax. Surprisingly many of the male students and teachers, including one brave Mr McDonagh, were very willing to sacrifice their precious dignity (and leg hair!). Gillian was able to pull a few strings in Midwest and the very witty Gerry Glennon agreed to act as the MC on the day. It was a great success and raised money for this truly worthwhile cause. Thanks to all who helped out in any way



5TH YEAR RETREAT

By Lorna, Roisin, and Emily

On 27th March our 5th Year group travelled down town to the parochial hall. It was a long and tiring journey, so we were exhausted – oh that 10-minute walk! However, when we arrived, we were woken up by the sheer enthusiasm and creative energy projected by these three individuals: Andrew, Elizabeth, and Em from An Tobar Nua Retreat Team. They had travelled from Dominick Street, Galway to meet us. We started the day off by splitting into eight groups. We were told that, if we conquered our challenges, we would be rewarded with points that would win us cookies! We started off by playing a game which involved passing along plastic cups on straws and placing them upright in a bucket. This got the points rolling for the teams – especially teams one and five! Next, we watched a video and gave our opinions on God and what religion meant. This led us to our 11 o'clock break, when we were all delighted to smell coffee and tea, served by the best waitresses of all time. Thank you Ms Burns for the tea, coffee and biscuits! They kept us going. When we arrived back, we went into another game - the quiz. Next, the leaders told us their personal stories and about how their experiences with God and their faith had helped to shape their lives. After this, we played more games, which led us up to lunch, when we were allowed to go out and enjoy the delights of Ballyhaunis town. We arrived back at 2 o'clock and went straight into another quiz. After another incredibly interesting lecture about faith and beliefs, we left the hall and walked back to school. Overall, the day was life-changing for everyone in different ways. The leaders had great energy, so they deserve an A grade!

GUITAR CLUB

This year, under the guidance of Mr. Lawless and the talented Jack Deegan, we established a guitar club. The club provides students with a great opportunity to learn and sharpen their guitar skills, while making new friends. We played a broad range of songs from genres including Pop, Rock, Country and everything in between. Regardless of your music taste, there's something for everyone. All students welcome!



POETRY CORNER

"My Place"

*Long, twisting road,
Aligned with swaying trees,
Steps crunch with autumn
leaves.*

*A dreamy blue sky met
With beautiful colours
Fading into a sunset.*

This will be my place of escape.

ELMA WALSH

Donal Walsh was a young Kerry teenager who gave great hope and inspiration to countless young people before dying from cancer in 2013. His mother Elma gave an inspirational talk to L.Certs, 5th years and 3rd Years earlier this year on the theme of "LiveLife". Elma & her husband Finbarr travel the length and breadth of Ireland talking to young people and encouraging them to live life to the full as Donal did in the face of insurmountable odds. After the talk students expressed their gratitude to Elma for making the 3 hour trip from Tralee to BCS to deliver an inspirational talk. They also made her a presentation of a bouquet of flowers and a signed 'Thank You' card.



JC BUSINESS AWARDS

Well done to Aoife Doherty & Hannah Waldron, last year's Junior Certificate students, who were presented with the National University J.E. Cairns School of Business & Economics Junior Certificate Business 2018 Award at a ceremony in NUIG. The award is granted in association with the BSTAI for achieving an A grade in Business Studies as part of their Junior Certificate examinations. The girls are pictured with their Business Studies teacher Bernie Osgood & Prof. John McHale, Dean of Business & Economics NUIG, BSTAI President Margaret McDonnell, Prof. Alan Ahearne, NUIG. Over 320 students from 75 schools across Connacht were recognised on the night for their outstanding achievement



GYM CLUB



Gym clubs takes place every before School Tuesday and Thursday at 8am in our new state of the art gym. Gym club focuses on strength and condition training; the clubs aims to help our students reach their potential and develop into strong, fit and agile athletes in their chosen discipline. The club is run under the watchful eye of Mr Lawless. All senior cycle students are welcome to join. Margaret McDonnell, Prof. Alan Ahearne, NUIG. Over 320 students from 75 schools across Connacht were recognised on the night for their outstanding achievement

EQUESTRIAN CLUB



This year we entered the Connaught Inter-School Equestrian Competition, where schools competed from all over Connaught. We had four members competing on our team Clodagh Waldron riding a 15.2hh bay gelding called Little Joe, Holly Gallagher was riding her own 14.2hh bay mare Nova, Isabelle Henry was riding her own 14.2hh grey gelding Loxely and Andrea Doherty was riding her 13.2hh grey gelding Betsy. Each person had to go for two rounds of the course. The score is got by adding up the best 3 scores. They had a few ups and downs but pulled through to claim third

place out of six teams. They lost first place to St. Louis community school and second to St. Joseph's Secondary School. Holly on Nova competed in the 80cm individuals, they had a clear first round but had one down in the second round putting her in to sixth place out of a class of thirty. Clodagh on Little Joe competed in the 90cm individual qualifier, she competed excellently but it was a tough class and unfortunately had one pole down. The four girls enjoyed the day and the training they did coming up to the event. The four girls that jumped did a very good job at representing the school. We are all extremely proud of how well these girls competed!

U-17 SOCCER



Back row(l-r): Stephen Cannon, Jason Reinhardt, Conor Morley, Dean Lyons, Daniel Murray, Peter Morris, Aj Hamza.

Front Row(l-r): Conal Hession, Joshua Webb, Daniel Fagan, Jack Sullivan, Darren Groarke, Prince Owusa, Jack Harrington.

6TH YEAR RETREAT

Ms. Burns

In November, 6th Year students enjoyed a day out of their busy schedule in the Parochial Hall with retreat co-ordinator, Declan Browne. The feedback from the students was extremely positive, with many saying that it was the best day of their lives! The students felt empowered to live the rest of their lives with confidence and grace and they highly recommended the experience. There was a mixture of emotions during the day – laughter, tears, reflection, and deep thinking. Students were encouraged to speak honestly and sincerely to each other and to share their feelings in a profound and meaningful way. Well done to everyone involved and a very big thank you to Ms Waldron and Ms Osgood, the Year Heads, who joined us for tea. It was lovely to see them and to share special time with them on the day. Special thanks to Declan Browne for sharing his amazing gift with us. We truly appreciate it!



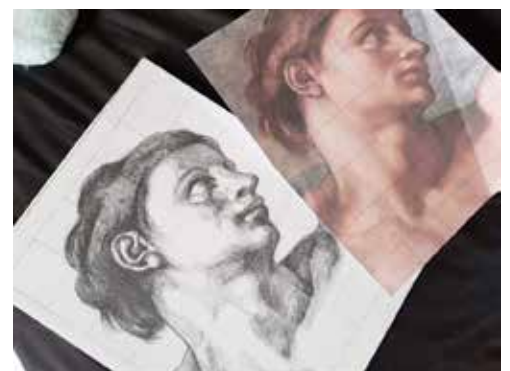
NATIONAL GALLERY VISIT



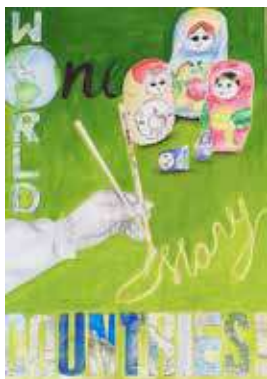
ANDREEA MOISIN ARTWORK

Please enjoy the amazing artwork from our supremely talented 6th year student Andreea Moisin. Andreea came to Ireland from Romania two years ago. Andreea loves art and when asked what it means to her, she replied:

".....I draw because for me, art and colour are freedom. There is no right or wrong when speaking about art. I get inspiration from everywhere, people, nature, things that surround me everyday. The most thing I enjoy is painting portraits, I think the human face is the most interesting and hard topic to draw. I love to capture peoples features, emotions and expressions. Things that make a person unique. My favourite media is oil paint as I like the way the colours blend together on the canvas. I prefer to paint instead of drawing, because I love colour and I cannot imagine a world without colour....."



LEAVING CERT ARTWORK



SENIOR LADIES GAEILIC

When the senior ladies started their football season we had high hopes for this team as they had a strong core selection of players. Their season started with a loss to Scoil Mhuire Strokestown as the team had failed to gel. The team began to improve when they faced a strong Dunmore outfit with a weakened team. They began to work as a team and played well throughout but lost in the lateral stages to a number of late scores meaning they were in a tough situation to qualify. They began to play well together and this showed during their game against Ballygar. A bright start from Ballyhaunis gave us the advantage but Ballygar battled back. Ballygar went in at half time with a 1 point lead. In the second half super sub Laura Godfrey scored 2-1 to give Ballyhaunis a comprehensive victory despite Ballygar scoring 2 goals at the death. The final game of the season came against Ballinasloe. The game was competitive and Ballyhaunis were only a point down at half time. Ballinasloe pulled away in the second half but a late comeback including a chip by Erin Murray secured Ballyhaunis a draw. Although we did not win any titles this year Ballyhaunis have shown they have a great young talented team who will have a good chance to challenge the Connacht competition in the coming years. Thanks to Ms Garvey for her hard work throughout the year and to her extremely hard working helpers Jack Harrington, Conal Hession, Diarmuid Phillips and Daniel Fagan.



Back row(l-r): Erin Murray, Kate Delaney, Laura Godfrey, Grainne Delaney, Niamh Smith, Ciara O'Grady, Kate Mannion, Anna Lyons, Dearbhla Glavey.
Front row(l-r): Rachel Cleary, Meabh Delaney, Vanessa Henry, Shauna Rogers, Holly Browne, Hannah Clarke, Leah Johnston, Lauren Walshe.

SENIOR BOYS GAEILIC

Our BCS Senior Football team had a rocky start to their year. They started the year with a trip to Castlebar to play the Flannagan Cup. Sadly, though they lost to both Balla and Louisburgh in the group stage and were knocked out early. However, this did not dampen their spirits as they pulled up their socks and began training hard for what was going to be a difficult league campaign. They were wrongly placed in Division B rather than Division C where they would have felt a lot more comfortable. The league opener was against a strong St. Muredach's side, who made the journey down to Aghamore to face our determined footballers. Unfortunately, the lads were beaten handsomely but went home with their heads held high. The next match was against St. Nathy's College, but without many Transition Year players, this tough task was only going to get tougher. Once again, the team struggled to make an impact and lost to a well-polished Nathy's team. After this defeat, the boys regrouped, worked hard and prepared themselves for the upcoming derby against neighbouring school St. Louis. A quick start for BCS saw them edge ahead early on, but Louis clawed their way back into the match and were not going to go down without a fight. It was a close fought



encounter throughout the entire match but when the final whistle went, BCS emerged victorious. The first game of championship turned out to be the last game of the year as BCS faced St. Enda's. The game ended in a narrow defeat against our valiant team and drew a strenuous season to a close. A special thanks to Mr. Mitchell for his commitment to this team throughout the footballing year.

Back row (l-r): Jack McGoldrick, Tony Aylward, Jack Higgins, Patrick Caulfield, Eimhin Conboy, Shane Glynn, Dean McGarry, Conor Morley, Daniel Murray, Luke Walsh, Niall Flanagan, Diarmuid Phillips, Henry Concannon.

Front row (l-r): Daniel Coyne, Dean Lyons, Oisín Gredly, James Frayne, Ryan Keadin, Stephen Cannon, Oisín Duffy, Kevin Durkin, Liam Lavin, Conor Keane

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Online application will be available shortly on www.ballyhauniscs.ie

PLC GRADUATION



LCA CONSTRUCTION



LCA OUTING

Our LCA2 students enjoyed a fun day out at Pallas Go-Karting track in Loughrea. Many thanks to Ms Phillips for accompanying the students.



LEAVING CERT PHOTOS



Sahar Arshad



Soheab Arshad



Aistis Asadauskas



Oisín Boland



Holly Browne



Patrick Carr



Matthew Caulfield



Jack Cloney



Niall Coffey



Thomas Coffey



James Colleran



Aoife Conway



Kyle Cooke



India Costello



Aoife Davis



Aaron Dee



Gillian Donnellan



Deirbhle Finn Richardson



Niamh Fitzpatrick



Sophie Flannery



Juliane Gardiner



Chantelle Glynn



Michael Gostkowski



Emanuele Graciosa



Megan Greenwood



Michelle Grogan



Samia Gul



Saim Gulzar



AJ Hamze



Vanessa Henry



Sarah Hopkova



Martin Hutman



Stephanie Jennings



Nadeeha Jugoo



Damien Kilkenny



Chloe Kirrane



Oliwia Kilmczyk



Rama Kudimati



Ben Lynskey



Jennifer Lyons



Shauna Lyons



Kevin McHugh



Christopher Metcalfe



Andrea Maria Moisin



Matthue Mullarkey



Eimear Murray



Laura Niland



Abdullah Noor



Kristyn O Reilly



Laura O Boyle



Grace O Gara



Lauren Osgood-Daly



Martynas Pleckaitis



Ibrahim Rahmani



Irtaza Rehman



Shauna Rogers



Jack Ronayne



Katie Ronayne



Roisín Ruane



Abdullah Sakkar



Ali Sakkar



Haroon Shabbir



Rafah Shawi



Patricia Solovyova



Courtney Sturdy



Ronan Swanick



Fizzah Tahir



Rojina Tamang



Sinéad Tarmey



Aislinn Tighe



Jacob Ubych



Rebecca Vahey-Brennan



Clodagh Waldron



Matthew Walsh

REPEATS



Back row (l-r): Jack Higgins, Aaron Rattigan, Jack Coyne, Barry Cribbin, Patrick Caulfield, Daragh Mulkeen. Front row (l-r): Luran Walshe, Ciara O'Grady. Missing from photo: Rory Bowen.

DEBS COMMITTEE



Oisin Boland, Deirbhile Finn Richardson, Vanessa Henry, Jack Ronayne, Holly Browne, Aoife Conway, Shauna Lyons

GRAD COMMITTEE



Damien Kilkenny, Aislinn Tighe, Clodagh Waldron, Chloe Korrane, Laura O'Boyle, James Colleran.

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EXAM PRAYER

Lord, I know you are with me and love me.
Give me peace of mind as I prepare for this time of study.
Help me to focus on my books and notes.
Keep me from all distractions so that I will make
the best use of this time that is available to me.
Give me insight that I might understand what I am studying,
and help me to remember it when the time comes.
Above all, I thank you for the ability to be able to study
and for the many gifts and talents you have given me.
Help me always to use them in such a way
that they honour you and do justice to myself.
Amen



Prayer Before an Examination

Dear Lord, as I take this exam, I thank you that my value
Is not based on my performance, but on your great love for me.
Come into my heart so that we can walk through this time together.
Help me, not only with this test, but the many tests of life
that are sure to come my way.
As I take this exam, bring back to my mind everything I studied
and be gracious with what I have overlooked.
Help me to remain focussed and clam, confident in the facts and in my ability,
and firm in the knowledge that no matter what happens today you are there with me.
Amen

AWARDS

Couple Of The Year

Stephanie Jennings and James Colleran

Beoir/ Babe of the Year

Jack Ronayne and Megan Greenwood

Rear Of the Year

Thomas Coffey and Shauna Rogers

Soundest

Damien Kilkenny and Shauna Lyons

Drama King/ Queen

Rebecca Vahey-Brennan and Jack Cloney

Comedian

Damien Kilkenny and Deirbhile Finn-Richardson

Most likely to become president

Aaron Dee and India Costello

First to make a million

Martin Hutman and Sahar Arshad

Win lotto, lose ticket

Soheab Arshad and Laura O' Boyle

Most likely to not return from the Debs

Kyle Cooke and Aislinn Tighe

Scans of the year

Jack Ronayne, Damien Kilkenny, Oisín Boland
and Matthew Walsh, Roisin Ruane

Nerd of the Year

Patrick Carr and Aislinn Tighe

Lightweight of the year

Ben Lynskey and Aislinn Tighe

Most distinctive laugh

Oisín Boland and Vanessa Henry

Musician of the year

Niall Coffey and Vanessa Henry

Jeremy Kyle Guest

Kyle Cooke and Julianne Gardiner

Best Hair

Jack Ronayne and Shauna Rogers

Most likely to go on 'Love Island'

Aaron Dee and Niamh Fitzpatrick

Sportsperson

Jack Ronayne and Holly Browne

Best Smile

Oisín Boland and Holly Browne

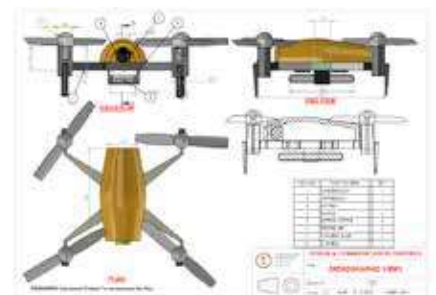
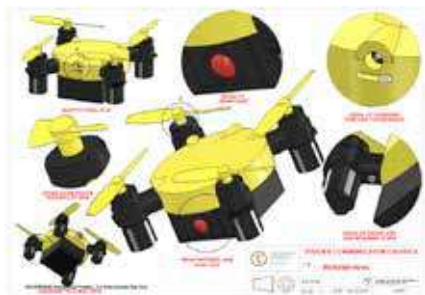
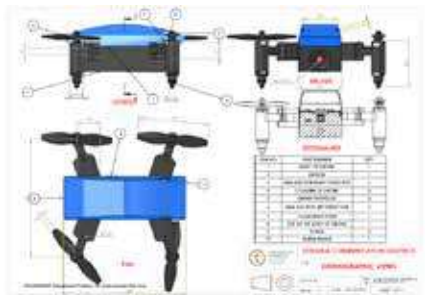
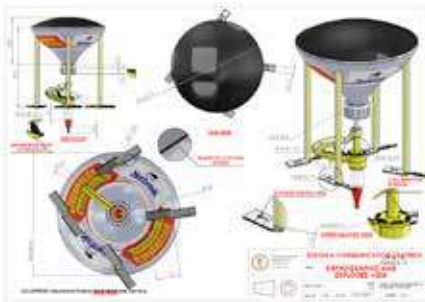
Bromance

Patrick Carr and Dara Mulkeen
Ronan Swanick and Matthue Mullarkey

Sister Act

Shauna Lyons and Deirbhile Finn Richardson

DCG



WOODWORK



METALWORK



PAST PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

We were delighted to welcome our former student, Barry Forde, to our school today. Barry recently won the 2019 National 'Electrical Apprentice of the Year' award. Barry will represent Ireland at the World Skills competition in Russia this summer and we wish him the best of luck. Barry spoke to a number of our senior students about his award and his apprenticeship experiences thus far. Barry is pictured alongside his Engineering & DCG teachers Mr McGarry and Mr Noone.



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

We welcomed back our recent 3rd Level Scholarship Award winners to BCS. The students; Thomas Doherty, Evan Henry, Roisin Cassidy, Orna Hession, Zeba Younas, Aine Duffy and Alan Glynn received their scholarships in recognition of their excellent results in their Leaving Certificate. The students are pictured alongside their respective Year-heads, Ms O'Loughlin, Mrs Monaghan, Mr Noone, Mrs O'Reilly, Orla Macken (vice Principal) and David McDonagh (Principal). We wish them continued success in their future studies.



YEARBOOK EDITORS MESSAGE

M. Ginty

Another year, another yearbook but that is all that remains the same as our school evolves at such a rapid pace. The yearbook does its part in chronicling this evolution which gives the editor a huge responsibility. The addition of Ms. K Phillips to the team this year to assist Ms. Garvey and myself has made this task much more manageable. Unfortunately, this year we had to say goodbye to one of our beloved colleagues, Anne Grogan. It is with a heavy heart that we do our best to pay tribute to Anne through this yearbook and all that we do in our school community daily. This publication would not be possible if it wasn't for this great school community. The biggest thank you has to go to Fr. Farragher. The time he gives up and the effort he puts in to ensure we have a high standard of photography in the yearbook is astounding. He has also given an enormous amount of guidance to the students and I along the way which is greatly appreciated. I would like to thank all members of the TY year group, Ms. Garvey and Ms. K. Phillips for their incredible effort in ensuring this publication is a success. I would like to thank all of the staff and students who contributed in any way to the publication. I would particularly like to thank Mr. Patrick McGarry, Ms. Orla Macken, Mr. David McDonagh, Kate Mannion and Jack Deegan. I would also like to thank Berry print for their hard work and professionalism in putting together this publication. Sean McCormack and Michelle Murphy deserve great praise for making this publication look so well. Finally, I would like to wish all the Junior Cert and Leaving Cert students the best in their exams in June.

BABY PHOTOS



1. Vanessa Henry 2. Thomas Coffey 3. Stephanie Jennings 4. Sarah Hopkova 5. Sinead Tarmey 6. Shauna Rogers 7. Shauna Lyons 8. Andreaa Moisin 9. Sahar and Soheab Arshad 10. Niamh Fitzpatrick 11. Rebecca Vahey Brennan 12. Patrick Carr 13. Courtney Study 14. Aj Hamze 15. Sahar and Soheab Arshad 16. Michelle Grogan and Eimear Murray 17. Lauren Osgood 18. Aoife Davis 19. Julie Gardiner 20. Olivia Klimczk 21. Matthew Walsh 22. Matthew Walsh and India Costello 23. Jack and Katie Ronayne 24. Aoife Conway 25. Jack Cloney 26. India Costello 27. Deirbhile Finn-Richardson Roisin Lyons Aoife Conway Shauna Lyons and Michelle Grogan 28. Holly Browne 29. Rojina Tamang 30. Roisin Ruane 31. Rama Kudamati 32. James Colleran 33. Clodagh Waldron 34. Irtaza Rehman 35. Jennifer Lyons 36. Gillian Donellan 37. James Colleran and Aislinn Tighe 38. Aislinn Tighe



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MEMORY LANE

Well class of 2019, we've finally come to the end of our dreaded six year sentence, five for those with good behaviour! Some would say that the years have flown by, not poor Mrs. Brogan though who spent the last two years looking down at her "sods of turf". The theme we have chosen for our graduation is: "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened". However, we suspect that on the night it might be a case of "Don't smile because it's over, cry because it happened!" Although this might be the end of our B.C.S. journey, it also heralds the beginning of the next exciting chapter. So, let us take you through what have been the best and worst times of our lives. We came into first year with non-existent eyebrows, kitted out head to toe in Hollister with school bags bigger than our egos after being the big dogs in national school. However, our egos were bruised faster than Rebecca's knees after allegedly falling off the bus! New friendships formed and relationships blossomed, some still going strong five years on. We would like to congratulate Aaron Dee and Niamh Fitzpatrick standing the test of time recently being awarded "Most likely to go on 'Love Island'".

We were clearly a "special" year from the get-go which was shown in our First Year Talent Show. From Thomas' touching rendition of "Happy" to Jack's pitch perfect cover of "Wagonwheel", he would give Nathan Carter a run for his money. However, it was clear that the true talent of the year was our very own Laura O'Boyle for her ball handling skills on the pitch where she won the prestigious "Player of the Year 2014". This is still her proudest achievement today and doesn't have a problem reminding us all! Along came second year as we moved up the social ranks (or so we thought), however only some actually grew in height *cough* legs 11 Katie Ronayne. Second year's equivalence for the CAO was carefully choosing our subjects for the oh so important Junior Cert. The pressure proved too much for poor Deirbhile who couldn't hack the fame and fortune of being one of Ms. Devine's music students and instead chose to do Home Ec, a decision she still regrets to this day! We proved to be an accident prone year, not to point blame, but some say Aoife Conway has really put a dent on the school's no claims insurance bonus as well as denting poor Ms. Varden's cabinet after getting stuck between it and her chair! The dreaded JC was looming, no, not you James Colleran! Our bubbles of doing the bare minimum in first and second year were quickly burst just as the blood vessels in Vanessa's eye were burst after an unfortunate encounter with James Colleran. No doubt there'll be a few applications for veterinary in our year as it was evident from the early days that we had close connections with animals.

Some embraced this as can be seen with Sinead Tarmey heroically saving a bird from Ms. Monaghan's mighty wrath. The same however can't be said for Rebecca who nearly needed counselling after her "near death experience" with a pigeon that wasn't half the size of the bee that terrorised the Gaisce bus! We managed to fit in a few study sessions however it's unsure whether there were more sessions in the library or at Cartown in all honesty. Twenty four of us decided to take a well deserved break from the books after the big JC as we embarked on our eventful (to say the least), TY journey. While the third years were settling down for a year of study with Justina in the study hall, we headed off to Killary for a weekend of bonding with our TY group. However, some members of the group ended up bonding more with the lads from Bellmullet. "Show me the way to Aran's room" soon became the anthem of the weekend! After her weekend in Killary, Shauna found her true passion and decided to swap the free taking for bottle flipping. Unfortunately, Shauna was forced to go into early retirement after sustaining a severe hamstringing injury as a result of falling into a ditch, trying to catch a poor pass from Deirbhile I'd imagine. TY also marked the year of our beloved MCG finally hitting the big 21 which he got to celebrate with his TY "dorks". Although he insists that he didn't enjoy being serenaded by an Italian opera quartet, we'd beg to differ that he in fact lapped up the attention even growing an inch taller. As Ty came to a close, so did Aoife's riding career after her three foot fall from what she claimed was a stallion. The reality of fifth year and actually having to do work came tumbling down like Deirbhile falling down the new stairs. We soon felt like we were drowning in our new and more complex subjects particularly Jack Cloney who had a close encounter with death almost becoming one with the Wild Atlantic.

The bonding exercises between the former Tys and third years were taken a little too seriously by some especially Shauna Rogers who suffered a nasty braces to the eyebrow incident as her and Aoife Conway clashed horns! However, Shauna's eyebrow apparently tasted better than the food served up to us in Achill. New friendships were formed and relationships blossomed particularly the bromance between the scans! A new member joined the year after a surprisingly extravagant Secret Santa gift costing a whole 3euro. Unfortunately, the fish managed to live longer in Aislinn's locker than Eimear's house although if you ask Deirbhile she'll say she's not one bit bitter about the death of Tadhg. While some of us were busy studying hard for our IT semester tests, others jetted off to Munich but nearly didn't make it home after following Aaron "Google Maps" Dee. Ms. Henry wouldn't have noticed however as she was too busy researching a few of her "Favourite Things" for next year's musical. "The Sound of Music" sounded a lot more appealing than the unfortunate "Sound of Silence" of our Leaving Cert social lives so the lads joined the Nazis and the girls joined the nunary. It's still unclear which party was more out of place? The work had to be done and the months flew by. To quote the selfless Mr. Ginty: "I feel sorry for myself, but I also feel sorry for you". Soon the orals and practicals were upon us and the Music Class felt it was necessary to thank Ms. Glavey for all of her hardwork. We decided to surprise her in her room with gifts and a balloon. It's safe to say Ms. Glavey will never believe Shauna again after claiming to have dramatically fallen down the stairs as a distraction! An interesting game of countdown game was played in music where an infamous "Father Ted" quote was to be found in the conundrum: HBOGESTI..... if you know you know! As a way to celebrate the end of the orals, Vanessa, Aislinn and Shauna attempted the viral "Traingle dance" resulting in three casualties and jokes for weeks. And here we are, at the end of what are apparently the best days of our lives placing the finishing touches on our memory lane and still trying to cram in the final few chapters. Without doubt, these have been some of the most formative and rewarding years of our lives and I for one am in no rush to forget them any time soon!

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Don't cry because it's over, Smile because it happened!



Under 16 BCS Badminton Squad

