

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Ballyhaunis Community School Yearbook 2024. Once again, a committed band of brave volunteers were enlisted to chronicle the events of the past academic year and place them into a bright, engaging publication. I think you will agree that they have done an excellent job and I hope you enjoy the fruits of their labour.

Although teaching and learning are the most important functions within the school, BCS would be a much poorer place were it not for 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.

An outstanding example of this was the wonderful production of "High School, The Musical" which was staged in the school gym last October. Over three sold out nights we were transported to Albuquerque, New Mexico and to a High School filled with drama and intrigue. The whole event created a real "feel good" atmosphere around the school which raised everyone's spirits on those long dark evenings. The students involved onstage, backstage and side of stage learnt the value of teamwork, commitment and self-sacrifice as they brought the production to life. I have no doubt that these qualities will stand them in good stead as they navigate their way through their personal and professional lives. As always with an event such as this it was a whole school effort and I wish to thank and congratulate all involved. A special word however for both Ms. Glavey and Mrs. Henry who were the creative forces behind the whole production.

It was truly a memorable year on the sports field where three Connacht Titles were captured. The Senior ladies Camogie Team, the Junior and Senior Boys Gaelic Football Teams all triumphed and brought glory to themselves and the school. Ms. Morley, Ms. Coyne, Mr. Freeley, Mr. Mitchell and David Delaney did huge work with the teams to ensure ultimate success. I'd also like to recognise the role of the local clubs who do so much to assist the school in the preparation of players.

There was a great buzz of excitement around the school in February when we won the Boys Senior Connacht Title, our first at senior level in over two decades. Our boys gave a great performance and displayed their never say die attitude with two late goals in a stunning win over Gortnor Abbey in the final. A quick turnaround meant we were out just a week later in the All-Ireland semi-final against St. Malachy's, Castlewellan in Cavan. After another thrilling performance we narrowly missed out on an All-Ireland final appearance after a defeat in extra-time. The All-Ireland final subsequently went to extra-time just to illustrate how close we were to ultimate success. In any case it was a wonderful journey and it will live in the memory of many for years to come. I want to congratulate the players on their great commitment with training, which was done primarily out of school, and the effort they gave throughout the year.

The talents within the school are not confined to the stage or the sports arena. Mrs Mulroy, Ms. Hegarty and Ms. Coyne identified that there was a rich seam of talent in the school when it came to creative writing. These teachers decided that it was important to foster this talent and give these students a platform. Enlisting the expertise of Mr. Liam Horan, a number of creative writing workshops were organised which nurtured and refined the undeniable skills on show. The results of these workshops were so impressive that it was felt that it would be wrong to hide this light under a bushel. That is how "Ink before Imagination" came about which is a wonderful collection of the creative writing of some of our talented students. It is a wonderful achievement to be a published author; something that these students can now all stake claim to. Huge congratulations to all involved.

All the forgoing is just a taste of what goes on in our school on an everyday basis. It is not possible to mention all activities in these few lines but you will find further evidence within the next number of pages. Our teachers give selflessly of their time to ensure that school life is enjoyable and rewarding for our students. I believe it was the famous author Michael Morpurgo who stated that "It's the teacher that makes the difference, not the classroom". I want to thank the many teachers who make this a reality for our school.

I would like to thank our generous sponsors throughout the year. It is a challenging time for all businesses and we sincerely appreciate their assistance and I would ask our readers to support them where and when possible.

I want to pay tribute to Mr. Ginty for his hard work in compiling this excellent publication. This is no easy task but, as always, he rose to the challenge and I wish to commend him for his efforts once again. He was 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 who is responsible for most, if not all, of the pictures in the magazine.

Finally, I would like to extend my best wishes to our Leaving Certificate students who will be starting their own life journeys next year. We wish them health and happiness in whatever path they ultimately find themselves on. I sincerely hope the values and wisdom they have acquired here will sustain them in whatever challenges they may face in the years ahead.



## **Senior management Team:**

*Patrick McGarry (Deputy Principal), David McDonagh (Principal),  
Orla Macken (Deputy Principal)*



## TEACHING STAFF 2024



**Back row l-r:** Ms Caroline McGuire, Mr Séan Folan, Mr Michael Murray, Ms Ciara Hunt, Mr Colin Quinn, Mr David Mitchell, Mr Jack Coyne, Mr Declan McManamon, Ms Mairead Quinn, Mr Micháel Ginty, Mr Conor Fitzmaurice, Mr Declan Hurley, Mr Paul Lawless, Ms Shannon O'Connor, Ms Aoife Keane, Mr Padraic Shannon.

**3rd row l-r:** Mr Raymond Woolley, Ms Gillian Madden, Ms Aoife Hegarty, Ms Caoimhe O'Grady, Ms Karen Moran, Ms Shannon McDonagh, Ms Marie Murphy, Ms Aishling O'Brien, Ms Nicola O'Donnell, Ms Claire Lawless, Ms Niamh Morley, Ms Anne Marie O'Reilly, Ms Ann Varden, Ms Mairead Conway, Mr Colm Caulfield.

**2nd row l-r:** Mr Francis Gormally, Ms Josephine Loftus, Ms. Jade Moyles, Ms Carmel Cox, Ms Caroline Burns, Ms Gráinne Glavey, Ms Marian Phelan, Ms Nicola Nolan, Ms Danielle Coyne, Ms Geraldine Cuniffe, Ms Siobhán Manix, Ms Sinead Donegan, Ms Siobhán Garvey, Ms Catriona Murphy, Ms Anna Henry,

**Front row l-r:** Ms Patricia Hargaden- Whyte, Ms Marie Flaherty, Ms Antionette Lennon, Ms Bernie Osgood, Ms Sharon Mulroy, Ms Orla Macken, Mr David McDonagh, Mr Patrick McGarry, Mr Patrick Noone, Ms Mary Mooney, Ms Orla Philips,

**Missing from photo:** Mr Conor Freeley, Ms Olive Lyons, Ms Catherine Monaghan, Mr Paul Ryan, Ms Geraldine O'Loughlinn, Ms Bernadine Waldron, Ms Caroline Burns, Ms Colleen Hayes, Mr Brian Waters

## OFFICE STAFF



**Left to Right:** Justina Lyons, Kamila Nesen, Sharon Gibbons

## SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANTS



**Left to Right:** Michelle Delaney, Ann-Marie Walsh, Louise Joyce, Sharon Swanick, Geraldine Donnellan

**Missing from Photo:** Michele Kavanagh



## WEDDING PHOTOS



Congratulations to Ciara Hunt on her marriage to John Macken in April.



Congratulations to Declan McManamon on his marriage to Hannah Gordon in February.

## BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS



### **'What a Wonderful World' - beginning of the school year Masses**

Sometimes it is important to pause our daily work routine and reflect on life's big questions and mysteries. On Wednesday October 4th, BCS staff and students welcomed Fr. Stephen Farragher, Fr. Vincent Sherlock, and Fr. Terence Harrington to our school to celebrate our 'Start of the School Year' Masses. Each Mass was a beautiful, prayerful occasion, with our wonderful students reflecting deeply on the theme, 'What a Wonderful World'. Mentors performed a special mime to the hymn 'Here I Am Lord' and everyone who took part was a real credit to our school. Amazing posters were created by our students and all classes contributed to the beautiful display: BCS Blooms with Grace'. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the day. A fabulous example of the BCS spirit at its best!



# A WORD FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

As another year rolls around and we see the changing of the seasons from winter to spring, we can notice nature bursting into life: flowers bloom, trees come into leaf, and the sun begins to warm our skin and boost our spirits. It's a time of optimism: looking forward to the future with hope and excitement; a time of anticipation. What will the summer bring? Will I enjoy the holidays? Who will I meet? Where will I go? What will I do? The evenings get brighter and the breeze becomes warmer. What a time to be alive!

Here in BCS, we have experienced so much over the past year: sporting success, academic challenges, musical performances, charity fundraisers, and many social events. The list seems endless. No doubt about it, our school is a very busy place with lots going on every day. One of the greatest things we can do is to take care of ourselves and others by being kind. Kindness is a beautiful gift, a treasure that will reward you and the person you are helping in the most amazing way. Have you ever noticed that special glow of happiness you feel after you have been kind to someone? It's a special feeling that every one of us can experience if we take the time to care for each other. If we spot someone who is struggling, think about ways you can help them – even if it's sharing a smile, a kind word, or something small which improves their situation. It might be a tiny thing to you, but it could mean the world to that person, and in doing these small deeds of kindness, you can transform your own life and reach your true potential as a valued member of our school community.

In my role as chaplain, I see many examples of people being kind to one another: encouraging, supporting, and helping each other. It's beautiful to see and hear about how we are kind, but on the other hand, it's sad to learn of the times when unkindness causes members of our school to feel upset, afraid, or alienated. Just as the gift of kindness blesses both the giver and the receiver, so the act of unkindness causes unhappiness to both parties. Think about how you can make a conscious choice about being a kind person. How many small ways can you help others? Would you even try to help those you don't usually get on well with? That's a very big challenge and one which takes a great deal of courage and humility, but the rewards for doing that will be so amazing in your life and the life of the person who receives your kindness, as to be almost miraculous.

BCS is known for its special spirit. This spirit drives us all forward. Sometimes, the choices we face are tough, and we need help from our parents, family, friends, and teachers. Sometimes, the example of others shows the way forward. Will we become people who are inspirational and a force for good in the world? Think of Charlie Bird (RIP), his battles with illness, and his inspirational climb up Croagh Patrick. Charlie united many people in hope and kindness and his words hold a lasting wisdom: "My motor neurone disease was devastating but I have been overwhelmed by the support I have received from the general public. It's been a huge source of strength for me and my family. I want to use the outpouring of support to help other people...." Charlie made a choice to be kind, despite his own personal suffering. We too can make a daily choice to help others. But remember: be kind to yourself too!

## How can I be kind to myself?

- Talk kindly to yourself. Think about how you speak to your loved ones and use that voice on yourself. Let your inner voice be a friend to you, not a harsh and unkind critic.
- Be grateful. Notice things in your life that you are thankful for and focus on these positives each day.
- Be kind to others. It boosts your own wellbeing too! It brightens everyone's day!

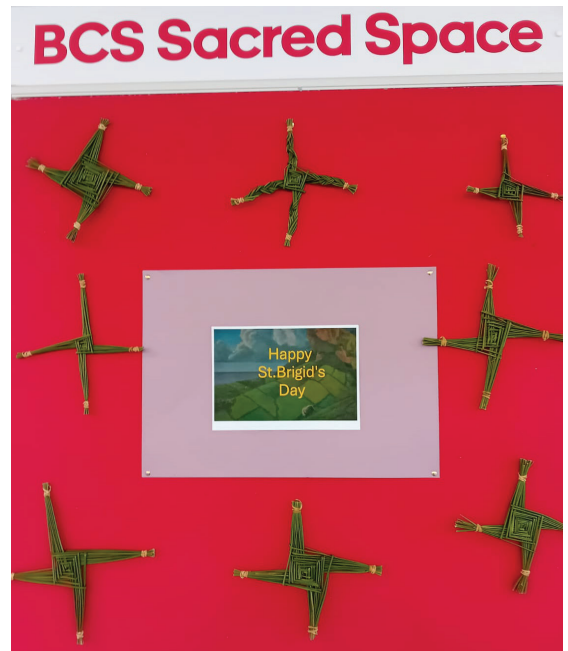
## **'Kind Hearts are the Gardens'**

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Kind hearts are the gardens,  
Kind thoughts are the roots,  
Kind words are the flowers,  
Kind deeds are the fruits.  
Take care of your garden,  
And keep out the weeds,  
Fill it with sunshine;  
Kind words and kind deeds.

Together, we find strength. Together, we encounter life with courage and resilience. At BCS, we love to learn and learn to love together. Thank you to everyone who showed kindness and support to others this year in our school. Have a wonderful, joyful summer and may your future be filled with kindness and fun.

Ms Burns





# ST BRIGID'S DAY CROSSES

May Brigid bless the house wherein we dwell.  
Bless every fireside, every wall and door.  
Bless every heart that beats beneath its roof.  
Bless every hand that toils to bring its joy.

This year, at BCS, we celebrated St Brigid's Day, the first day of spring, by making St Brigid's crosses in the school. Students were terrific in bringing in rushes from the fields at home. BCS was a sea of green and much joy was shared.

Teachers supervised and assisted the students as they made the crosses while a video played with instructions. Demonstrators in the room showed how it should be done and some beautiful crosses were produced!

It was a special time to reflect on St Brigid and the coming of spring. We appreciated everything that we have and what we can look forward to with hope and optimism as the natural world begins to reawaken after winter.

## Prayer to St. Brigid

*You were a voice for the wounded and the weary.  
Strengthen what is weak within us.  
Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.  
May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind,  
body,  
and spirit.  
Amen.*

Some crosses were presented to special members of the school community as gifts. As you'll see from the photos, a great day was had by everyone involved!

Ms Burns



## 1A



**Back Row from left to right:** Seán Coneally, Dylan Carty, Seán Freyne, Abdul Godwill Agyebiah, Seamus Comer, Shay Guilfoyle, Alfie Carrol

**Middle row from left to right:** Lauren Henry, Kevins Laureckis, Sarah Gorman, Roisin Farrell, Lauren Gallagher, Jack Cleary, Emmanuel Godwill Agyebiah, Simon Bartos

**Front row from left to right:** Kayleigh Devaney, Ella Gavin, Ella Gallagher, Jovana Cancarevic, Ava Caulfield  
**Missing from Photo:** Alfie Carroll, Viktor Fucik, Bradán Glavey, Kevins Laureckis



## 1B



**Back Row from left to right:** David Buliga, Brandán Glavey(1A), Seán Donnellan, Ian Heneghan, James Waldron, Tomás Picarra, David Wewe

**Middle row from left to right:** Jana Gaziova, Chloe Kenny, Maria McHugh, Nicole Byrne, Minki Roos, Samuel Balik-Nowak, Terry Collins

**Front row from left to right:** Lily-Mae Regan, Nicole Urbanova, Anum Sharif, Ciara Davis, Sarah Bree Brennan, Dalaa Habib  
**Missing from Photo:** Lena Ilczuk, Diarmuid Kelly, Lucy Monaghan, Allan Sampaio, Yousuf Talpur

## 1C



**Back Row from left to right:** Christian De Souza Mendes, James Daniels, Cathal Conlon, Bakri Cherba, Kelvin Anaman, Alex Tighe, Pdraig Fleming

**Middle row from left to right:** Scarlet Kelésova, Nicoletta Kelésova, Maria Da Silva Brito, Rian Kelly, Darragh Keane, Edwards Patrick Allen, Daniel Redlich, Matas Kucinskas

**Front row from left to right:** Abbie Gildea, Sarah Ryan, Skaiste Aleksiaunaite, Auguste Armonaviciute, Alice Curran, Sofia Dragomir  
**Missing from Photo:** Gabriely Ferreira, Erin Higgins, Caitriona Jennings, Sara Surmacz



## 1D



**Back Row from left to right:** Eoin Higgins, Denis Mudimbi Kabadi, Conall McCartin, Arúnas Vaitiekus, Jakub Sarrisky  
**Middle row from left to right:** Ódhran Kelly, Hussian Ali Chaudry, Caio Gabriel Silva, Peter Urbaniok, Dylan Kelly, Karl Patrick Rattigan  
**Front row from left to right:** Leen Kezze, Anna Kelly, Caoimhe McDonagh, Abbi Rose Norrby, Isobel Neary, Isabella Mustapha,  
**Missing from Photo:** Ariana Cervenakova, Declan Daly, Rober Gallagher, Willow Hannan, Saoirse Lynskey, Lucy McGuire, Marat Shokarieva, Viktorija Turi

## 1E



**Back Row from left to right:** Conor Healy, Conor Taylor, Alfie Carroll(1A), Mark Regan, James Michael Jennings, Jake McNamara, Jas Singh  
**Middle row from left to right:** Sadhbh Nolan, Vilte Zauga, Fiona Earls, Aaron Reidy, Harry Elwood, Ryan Stephens, Jeffery Nolan, Maaz Maqsood, Joshua Jordan Hickey, Patrick Cuddy  
**Front row from left to right:** Iryna Yevtushenko, Amanda Heloisa Basios Dias da Silva, Nawal Mujtaba, Megan Keadin, Mary Ronayne, Erin Payne, Éabha Murphy



# FIRST YEAR BONDING DAY

Our marvellous first year students had a wonderful time on their Bonding Day retreat at Knock. Sincere thanks to Knock Pastoral Care Team for their much-appreciated support on the days. The students played trust and friendship games and enjoyed a tour of Knock. In addition, they took part in a quiz. Mairead and Aoife were inspirational team leaders, and everyone should be applauded for their impressive behaviour. The students also had the opportunity to collect holy water for their grans and grandads. Thanks to Ms. McGuire, Ms. Hargaden-Whyte, and Ms. Burns for supporting the students. Well done to all of our fabulous first years!

*Ms Burns*



## AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our first-year students experienced a world of fun at the 'After School Club'. From competitive games of soccer and badminton to culinary adventures, creative wood crafts, intense chess matches and engaging board games, there was something for everyone. These activities were a big hit among our first-year members, fostering friendships and unforgettable memories.





# TALENT SHOW

Transition Year students took center stage as they hosted a spectacular First-Year Talent Show. Emceed by Fionn Kilbride Grant and Chloe Fitzmaurice, the event showcased a diverse array of talents from our youngest students. Judges Ms. Varden and Mr. Quinn, along with student representatives Sinead O' Neill and Adam Walsh, had the challenging task of evaluating the incredible performances. From electrifying guitar solos to captivating Irish dancing, lively 'Just Dance' routines and soulful singing, the talent on display was truly remarkable. The event was a celebration of creativity and skill, demonstrating the vibrant spirit of our school community.

Congratulations to the winners:

**1st place** - Ella Gallagher & Ciara Davis who danced a reel.

**Joint 2nd place** - Abbi Norrby who sang 'Linger' & Megan Keadin who danced a hornpipe.

**Joint 3rd place** - Jana & Lena who sang 'Riptide' & Sarah Gorman who played the piano.



## Wood Technology

Pictured are Mr. Caulfield's first-year Wood Technology class who completed a boat project.



## Ice-cream

After a successful transition to secondary school, management treated first-year students and their mentors to an ice-cream, marking the end of their second week as valued members of the school community. Students had a well-earned break from class and enjoyed the sunshine with their new classmates.





## FIRST YEAR SOCCER

This year, our BCS first-year soccer team was coached by Mr. Noone. With high hopes they entered the season facing two matches, both of which they were very unfortunate not to win. On the 23rd of November, the team travelled to Athlone to play their first match against Presentation Athenry. Despite their efforts, they succumbed to a 2-0 defeat. It was a disappointing result; however, the young lads displayed a tremendous effort, which was evident when they all came off the pitch panting.

Their next challenge took place on the 6th of December in Milebush against a school from Galway. It was a close game; the opposing team took an early lead of 1-0. However, the first-years managed to level the score to 1-1 with a goal from Seamus Comer. Victory seemed within their grasp, but a deflected goal dashed their hopes. Despite the efforts of James Michael to keep them out, they ultimately fell short, losing 3-1.

Although their season was short, it was not one easily forgotten, marking their first time playing together as a team.



**Back Row left to right:** James Michael Jennings, Christian De Souza Mendes, Dennis Mudmbi Kabadi, Bradán Glavey, Dylan Carty, Connor Taylor, Conall McCartin, Cathal Conlon, Ian Heneghan, Tomás Picarra  
**Front Row left to right:** Allan Sampaio, Shay Guilfoyle, Diarmuid Kelly, Seamas Comer, Bobby Gallagher, Emmanuel Godwill Agyebiah, Ódhran Kelly, Seán Donnellan, Harry Elwood, David Wewe, Bakri Cherba, Conor Healy, Alfie Carroll

## The Cheeseburger

In a sizzling world of savory delight,  
Where beef and cheese unite  
Burgers dance on the grill with such grace  
Their aroma filling the space.

Cheese the golden cloak of creamy embrace,  
Melts upon the patty with gentle grace.  
Juicy and succulent, they proudly stand in a symphony of flavours hand in hand.

Each bite tells a tale of indulgent bliss  
As if the burgers themselves crave the kiss of eager,  
Their savory song echoing through the air, all day long

Oh cheeseburger, king of the plate,  
Personified perfection, we celebrate.  
With every bite a taste of heaven above,  
In the realm of cheeseburger love.

By Viktor

## LEGO CLUB

Lego club was established this year and is held each Monday and Wednesday in H2. This club is facilitated by teachers Ms. Madden, Ms. McDonagh and Ms. McGuire.

Our students have had fun constructing wonderful themed pieces using Lego throughout the year.

Each term, a new theme gives students a new challenge and this is enjoyed by all. There was recently a prize giving for the most creatively built Easter Piece!





## JAMES JENNINGS



After completing his first season in goal for Ballyhaunis Town FC, James Michael Jennings (1st Year) earned an invitation to trials with Longford Town. James Michael then proudly signed with Longford as one of their goalkeepers. Congratulations and best of luck to James-Michael on his exciting new journey!

## PATRICK CUDDY



Congratulations to 1st Year student Patrick Cuddy, who participated in the Mayo indoor athletics competition at Technical University Athlone. Patrick secured gold in both the boys U15 60-meter sprint and U15 long jump event and progressed to the Connacht final. Well done, Patrick!

## 1ST YEAR BOYS BASKETBALL



Our First year basketball team had a good year learning how to play Basketball matches on a full court. They trained well and competed well in all their games. Unfortunately, we came out the wrong side of the results but we were very competitive and lost in a few tight games. The lads will have learned from their experience and got great enjoyment out of their 1st year in BCS basketball. I have no doubt that they will improve next year and be even more competitive.

**(Top L-R)** Shay Guilfoyle, Kelvin Anaman, Emmanuel Godwill, David Wewe, Conall McCartin, Cathal Conlon, James Jennings, Ian Heneghan.

**(Bottom L-R)** Jake McNamara, Karl Rattigan, Seamus Comer, Sean Donnellan, Ódhrán Kelly, Bobby Gallagher.

## BCS COMPUTER SCIENCE CLUB

Mr. Ginty led the way for the BCS Computer Science Club throughout the year. Held during lunchtimes, the club provided an opportunity for Junior and TY students to dive into the realms of coding and computer science. With Mr. Ginty's expert guidance, members explored block coding, Python, and Micro:bit boards, unlocking new avenues of technological creativity.

### **Pictured Left to right:**

Fionn Kilbride, Ellena Coffey, Sara Kaczmarek, Lily Harrington, Jake McNamara, Denis Mudimbi Kabadi, Karl Rattigan, Eoin Higgins, Isabella Mustapha





## 1ST YEAR BOYS GAELIC

The boys kicked off the year with impressive victories against Foxford and Summerhill, setting a promising tone. However, a defeat to Balla halted their winning streak. After a couple tough losses, they crossed paths with Balla again. Although it was a fiercely contested match, victory eluded them, marking it as the final game of the year.



**Back row left to right :** James Waldron, Jeffery Nolan, Bradán Glavey, Alex Tighe, Ian Heneghan, Cathal Conlon, James Michael Jennings, Conal McCartin, Conor Taylor, Ryan Stephens, Alfie Carrol, Yaz Singh, Shay Guilfoyle  
**Front row left to right:** Diarmuid Kelly, Dylan Kelly, Conor Healy, Bobby Gallagher, Odhran Kelly, Dylan Carty, Harry Elwood, Sean Donnellan, Seamus Comer, Mark Regan

## 1ST YEAR BOYS HURLING

Ballyhaunis First Year hurlers, led by Mr. Lawless, have had a remarkable year on the hurling field. Skillful displays were evident throughout the season, with the players surpassing their own expectations by securing victories in two out of three games. There were notable performances from strong players like Cathal Conlan and Sean Donnellan who showcased their skills with impressive scores of 5 goals and 10 points and 4 goals and 4 points in one match, respectively. Further victories against Roscommon CBS and Summerhill Sligo underscored the team's dedication and talent.



**Top Row:** Shay Guilfoyle, Alex Tighe, Patrick Cuddy, Bradán Glavey, Ryan Stephens, Alfie Carrol, Ian Heneghan, Conor Taylor, Cathal Conlon, Sean Freyne, Conal McCartin, James Michael Jennings, Jas Singh.

**Bottom Row:** Harry Elwood, Bobby Gallagher, Odhran Kelly, Conor Healy, Mark Regan, Sean Conneally, Jeffery Nolan.

**Missing from photo:** Sean Donnellan, Seamus Comer, Diarmuid Kelly, Allan Sampaio

## ANIME CLUB



Anime Club are a group of students across all years who meet up weekly to watch an Anime. Votes are taken each week on what to watch in order to have had a good mix of viewings.

This year Jujutsu Kaisen has been the favourite. Among others Dragon Ball Z, My Love Story and Jojo have also been viewed by members of this club.



## FIRST YEAR GIRLS BASKETBALL

We had a successful season with the girls this year. Our campaign started with a win away to Davitt College, Castlebar. The girls followed up with another great win away to St. Joseph's College Charlestown, with a scoreline of 31-14. We maintained our momentum with another win at home against Claremorris which set up a top-of-the-table clash against a strong Ballinrobe side. The game was highly defensive and played at a great pace and intensity, with Ballyhaunis edging a thrilling victory, 13-9. This left us at the top of the table and secured our spot in the Semi-final. Unfortunately, the semi-final was the end of the road for us as we fell to a very strong Athenry Presentation College side. The girls showed great commitment all year and the excellent results reflected this. A special thank you to Danielle Byrne who was excellent all year in helping to train the girls.



**Back row from left to right:** Sarah Gorman, Lauren Gallagher, Minki Roos, Maria McHugh, Nicole Byrne, Lilly Mae Regan, Vilte Zauga, Robyn Keane,

**Front row from left to right:** Alice Curran, Erin Higgins, Abbie Gildea, Sarah Ryan, Auguste Armonaviciute, Lucy Monaghan, Lauren Henry

**Missing from Photo:** Sarah Bree Byrne, Dalaa Habib, Caoimhe McDonagh, Anna Kelly, Sara Surmacz, Nicole Urbanova, Skaiste Aleksunaite, Isobel Neary

## UNDER 14 GIRLS FOOTBALL

This year, the U-14 Girls were managed by Ms. Morley, Ms. Coyne, and Ms. Gallagher, along with the assistance of Transition Year students Aoibhín Grealley, Amy Clancy, and Jack Mulligan. The team participated in a total of five group games, securing victories in three matches and facing defeat in two. Amy Waldron served as the team captain for the season. The first game was a well fought win against Glenamaddy. Next, the girls achieved an impressive win over Claregalway with a scoreline of 8:14 to 3:02. Despite falling short against a tough Carrick-On-Shannon side with a scoreline of 4:07 to 8:14, the girls didn't let this defeat affect their morale. They bounced back with a win over Mountbellew with a score of 3:07. The final game was against High Cross College. Although it wasn't enough to advance out of the group, the girls ended the season on a high, defeating High Cross College 12:13 to 3-4. Congratulations to all the girls for their excellent season. The future looks bright for BCS!

-Amy, Aoibhín, Jack



**Back row from left to right:** Lauren Gallagher, Lily Mae Regan, Lauren Henry, Lucy McGuire, Abbie Norrby, Kyrar Jordan, Ella Gavin, Caoimhe McDonagh, Meabh Scally, Amy Waldron, Alice Curran, Sarah Gorman, Isabella Mustapha

**Front row from left to right:** Abbie Gildea, Erin Higgins, Minki Roos, Roisin Heneghan, Nicole Urbanova, Ella Gallagher, Isobel Neary, Sarah Ryan, Tara Delaney, Ruby Coggins, Lilly Thompson, Megan Keadin, Robyn Keane

**Missing From photo:** Emily Duffy, Holly Cunningham, Anna Kelly, Ava Caulfield, Éabha Murphy, Sarah-Bree Byrne, Maria McHugh, Aoife Burke



# Nolan's SuperValu



Home  
Delivery



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**Moo'd**  
IRISH ICE CREAM



“we are very proud to include many past and present students as part of the SuperValu Ballyhaunis team and look forward to continuing to offer local employment and work experience opportunities in the coming years”

Mary Nolan

Ph: (094) 9630359



## 2A



**Back row left to right:** Pavel Cervenak, Liam Coggins, Ewan Coggins, Arshamm Asim, Mark Clancy, Jamie Brennan  
**Middle left to right:** Pavel Cobzarw, Nathan Coyne, Jack Buckley, Muhammad Haatim Amin, Guyvanie Kisungu, Muazzama Asif  
**Front left to right:** Brihanna Cooper, Elizabeth Burke, Maisie Collins, Ruby Coggins, Leanna Burke, Aoife Burke  
**Missing from photo:** Tiernan Cox, Imaan Ejaz, Valeriia Litovchenko, Joshua Maughan

## 2B



**Back Left to right:** Dermot Fagan, Conor Doran, Jack Culliney, Eoin Crinigan, Thomas Curran, Arthur De Sousa Gomes  
**Middle Left to right:** Martin Sarissky, Seán Flanagan, Lauren Feeney, Conn Delaney, Alex Dunkers, Dion Sturdy, Ruby Duffy  
**Front Left to right:** Rachel Felming, Emily Duffy, Holly Cunningham, Ruth Cunnane, Tara Delaney, Amy Fitzmaurice  
**Missing from photo:** James Croghan McCarrick, Oran Fagan, Hellen Silva Nunes



## 2C



**Back left to right:** Terry Maughan, Adam Kinnarney, Ciaran Jennings, Isaac Greally, Hiago Henrique Godoi De Assi  
**Middle left to right:** Eoin Lecky, Jayden Glavey, Emmanuela Mensah, Zack Sinclair, Dylan Greally, Patrick Polhos, Benjie Hopkins  
**Front left to right:** Kayla Gannon, Kyrah Jordan, Emily Gormley, Vivienne Gannon, Roisin Heneghan, Sarah Keane  
**Missing from photo:** Grace Gallagher, Senan Heaney, Ipek Ismailova, Renat Shokariev

## 2D



**Back left to right:** Dominic Manke, Seamus Mongon, Craig Moylan, WJ Van Djik, Daniel Lupinek, Ather Munir  
**Middle left to right:** Lukas Muzik, Cathal Lyons, Adam Loftus, Hugo Marques, Fahad Mehmood, Gabriela Dragomir  
**Front left to right:** Maya Murphy, Ema Mesnjak, Emily Moore, Ava Maloney, Ciara Mc Dowell, Teodora Dragomir  
**Missing from photo:** Rani Jan, Leah Lyons, Sabina Paradiova, Oisín Heneghan, Adam Rahmani



## 2E



**Back left to right:** Liam Nolan, Robert Saunders, Conor Osgood Daly, Finlay Morton, Ali Sakkar

**Middle left to right:** Ellie Teresa McDonagh, Conor O'Shaughnessy, TJ Peake, Sebastian Scaszni, Rían Kilbride, Hannah Milanzie, Emily O'Reilly

**Front left to right:** Maebh Scally, Erica Owens, Houda Rahmani, Bridget Barbara McDonagh

**Missing from photo:** Arthur Da Silva Oliveira, Ciara Morley, Tomás Ó Laighin, Charlotte Plunkett, Bobby Roche, CJ Roos

## 2F



**Back row left to right:** Austin Waldron, Zack Smith, Nikodem Zborowski, Matei Pyrcarea, Jozo Spajic

**Middle row:** Yashfa Shahzadi, Bogdan Vuia, Charlie Swanick, Alan Smith, Nathan Tighe, Edgaras Zajanckauskas

**Front row:** Ayesha Shabbir, Laiba Tayyab, Amy Clancy, Lilly Thompson, Molly Squires

**Missing from photo:** Sergey Babak, Hannah Skeffington, Lochlan Waldron



## JUNIOR CAMOGIE

The junior girls camogie team was managed by Ms. Morley and Ms. Coyne. The girls had an unlucky year, But the scoreboards did not reflect the way the team and the girls played in every match. Their first match was away to Spiddal. It was a close game with the final score of Spiddal 6-5 to BCS 6-2.

A Few weeks later the girls played a home game against Roscommon CC. The score was level at full time, so the match proceeded to extra time. Unfortunately the girls lost by a point.

It was a short and tough year for the girls and management with a young team, but we hope to see our team improve and grow next year.



**Back row left to right:** Ciara Dooney, Síofra Forde, Katie Damron, Grace Heneghan, Kyrach Jordan, Emily Moore, Sarah-Jane Keadin, Alice Curran, Leanne Burke, Vivienne Gannon, Emily Gormely, Abbie Gildea, Éala Greally

**Front row left to right:** Lauren Groarke, Molly Squires, Tara Delaney, Aoibhínn Greally, Amy Waldron, Lilly Thompson, Ella Gallagher, Isobel Neary, Lauren Henry, Erin Higgins, Sarah Gorman

## U15S SOCCER

In the realm of soccer, the 2023-2024 season has been nothing short of exhilarating for Ballyhaunis Community School. Under the guidance of Mr. Lawless, the under 15 soccer squad has showcased their prowess on the field.

The journey commenced with the group stage draw pitting Ballyhaunis against formidable neighbors, Ballinrobe and Kiltimagh. Despite the stiff competition, our talented squad displayed resilience and determination, securing qualification for the shield phase in what was undoubtedly a fiercely contested group.

As the stakes heightened in the semi-final encounter against St. Clare's of Manorhamilton, the true grit of our team was revealed. Despite initially trailing 3-1, our boys refused to concede defeat. In a breathtaking display of skill and determination, they staged a remarkable comeback, sealing a dramatic 4-3 victory and securing their place in the Connaught Shield Final.

Now, with hearts filled with anticipation and determination, the under 15 soccer squad stands on the brink of glory as they prepare to face Claregalway in the final showdown. Their journey has been marked by moments of triumph, resilience, and unwavering team spirit.

Congratulations to our under 15 soccer squad for a season filled with unforgettable moments and inspiring performances. And good luck in the Connaught Shield Final!



**Back row:** Dylan Greally , Joshua Maughan, Craig Moylen, Eoin Cringan, Kealan Flynn, Hugo Marques.

**Front row:** Conn Delaney, John Jennings, Pavel Cobzarw, Liam Nolan, Conor O'Shaughnessy



# JUVENILE BOYS GAELIC FOOTBALL

The Juvenile boys kicked off their O'Haire Cup campaign with a comprehensive win against St. Louis Kiltimagh. St Tiernan's proved to be the biggest challenge for the BCS. However, that didn't faze Mr. Coyne's side as they showed an excellent display of football against Dunmore in the first round of the championship. After this, in a close contest, the lads lost out to a strong St. Jarlath's side. The group bounced back and in a must win game against Abbey CC they performed admirably and got the result. The lads have gone from strength to strength and at the time of writing are preparing for a Connacht championship final. They also have an O'Heir cup final to look forward to. All members of the panel demonstrated excellent leadership and ability throughout the season. Their attitude and willingness to learn was remarkable and this bodes well for their future in both sport and other aspects of life.

## Panel Members

- |                                       |                  |                 |                       |                   |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| • Charlie Swanick                     | • Dylan Grealley | • Liam Nolan    | • Conor O'Shaughnessy | • Tomas O'Laighin |
| • Conor Osgood Daly<br>- Senan Heaney | • Issac Grealley | • Dylan Hunt    | • Adam Loftus         | • Liam Coggins    |
| • Jamie Nolan<br>- Zack Smith         | • Ewan Coggins   | • Keelan Fylnn  | • Hugo Marques        | • Eoin Crinigan   |
| • Conn Delaney                        | • Craig Moylan   | • John Jennings | • Alan Smith          | • Jason Power     |
|                                       | • Jack Nolan     | • Zack Smyth    | • Thomas Curren       | • Mark Clancy     |



**Back row left to right:** Craig Moylan, Mark Clancy, Dylan Grealley, Jack Culliney, Eoin Crinigan, Liam Nolan, Jack Nolan, Zack Smith, John Jennings, Thomas Curran, Zack Grealley, Jamie Nolan, Jamie Brennan, Dylan Hunt, Darren Quinn (TY HELPER)

**Front row left to right:** Ewan Coggins, Liam Coggins, Jayden Glavey, Pavel Cobzarw, Jason Powers, Conor O'Shaughnessy, Adam Loftus, Conn Delaney, Alan Smith, Cian Moran, Hugo Marques, Kealan Flynn.

# SECOND YEAR BASKETBALL

The lads started their campaign off away to Westport. In an entertaining game Ballyhaunis prevailed on a scoreline of 43-38 with Pavel Cobzarw scoring 23 points. Unfortunately for the lads, the next two outings were disappointing ones with a 14-point loss to Boyle and a comprehensive defeat against a very strong Ballinrobe outfit. While the end result was disappointing the group showcased flashes of potential and will look forward to competing again next year.



**Top Row (L-R):** Dominic Manke, Eoin Crinigan, Thomas Curran, Liam Coggins, Craig Moylen, Isaac Grealley, Adam Kinnarney, Nikodem Zborowski, Patrick Polhos.

**Bottom Row (L-R):** Pavel Cervenak, Ewan Coggins, CJ Roos, Conn Delaney, Pavel Cobzarw, Sean Donnellan, Thomas McDonagh, James Jennings.



## 2ND YEAR RETREAT TO KNOCK

Our amazing 2nd Year students had an enjoyable retreat in Knock with Ms Phelan, Ms McGuire, and Ms Burns. All students were a credit to the school with a mature attitude and acts of kindness. They explored questions about life's challenges and what their faith means to them. Everyone had a wonderful day and we enjoyed each other's company. Special thanks to Knock Retreat Team, Mairead and Aoife for a great day! Well done 2nd Years, we are all very proud of you!

Ms Burns



## 2ND YEAR WOOD TECHNOLOGY



Mr. Caulfield's 2nd year Wood Technology class completed pencil boxes.



Mr. Caulfield's 2nd year Wood Technology students are photographed proudly displaying their recently completed project.

### TJ PEAKE



Congratulations to TJ Peake, (2nd year) who was crowned Mayo Schoolboy Champion at 45kg in Westport.

### BETHANY WARD



Congratulations to Bethany Ward who was recently crowned, National Irish Champion at 75kg, in the National Stadium in Dublin

### CARLAGH PEAKE



Congratulations to Leaving cert student Carlagh Peake, on representing Ireland at the European Youth Boxing Championships in Croatia recently.



## SECOND YEAR GIRLS BASKETBALL



Amy Fitzmaurice, Rachel Fleming, Emily Gormley, Hannah Milanze, Leah Lyons, Jovana Cancarevic, Emily Moore, Lauren Feeney.

Leanna Burke, Vivienne Gannon, Lily Thompson, Holly Cunningham, Ruby Coggins, Meabh Scally, Erica Owens

The girls had a successful year, reaching a regional semi-final. We first played Davitt College Castlebar, where we prevailed with a scoreline of 40-26. Our next trip was away to St. Joseph's Community College, Charlestown, in what proved to be a very close affair. However, the girls showed great perseverance and won 25-22. We then played against Claremorris, resulting in another victory. After three consecutive victories, the girls were hoping to top the group against a strong Ballinrobe side. The game was intense and closely contested throughout. Unfortunately, the result did not go our way, with Ballinrobe emerging as the winners in a 22-17 victory. Despite this, the results from the group allowed us to progress to a regional semi-final against Athenry Presentation College. Against a very strong team in the semi-final, the girls showed great resolve and skill. Unfortunately, we came up just short, losing 37-24. Overall, the year was a success, with many players getting the opportunity to play and reaching a semi-final in the process. A special thank you to Ms. O' Donnell and Danielle Byrne for training the girls and organizing the matches

## BOOK CLUB

Throughout the school year, our lunchtime book club has been a hub of literary exploration and lively discussions. Led by Ms. Mulroy, Ms. Hegarty and Ms. Coyne, the book club has provided a haven for both avid bookworms and budding readers alike.

Every month, we delved into a diverse selection of novels, ranging from timeless classics to contemporary best sellers. Each book was carefully chosen to ignite imaginations, spark thought provoking conversations and foster a love of reading within our students.

Our meetings were more than mere discussions, they were lively sessions where students unpacked themes, debated character motivations and freely shared their opinions, all while forging new friendships. To reward their commitment to the club, students were treated to a trip to Galway for a film screening and some shopping. A great day was had by all!

As the school year draws to a close, we reflect on the memories we've created and the new friendships we've formed through a shared love of literature. The book club has not only enriched students' reading experiences but has also demonstrated the profound power of literature to connect, inspire and unite.

Well done to all our book club members! We look forward to welcoming you back next year for many more chapters of exploration and discovery.





# FOOD *for* SCHOOL

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Email: [info@foodforschool.ie](mailto:info@foodforschool.ie) Web: [www.foodforschool.ie](http://www.foodforschool.ie)



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*We stand for food you can feel good about because our kids deserve nothing less.*



## Healthy Meals & Snacks

*Food for School delivers a customised food catering and school canteen service to secondary colleges and schools.*

We focus on making our meals and snacks nutritious and healthy in line with dietary requirements for growing bodies and minds.



## 3A



**Back row left to right:** Conor Smith, Seamus Pearson, Aun Asghar, Lukas Bacys, James Flanagan, Brandan Casey  
**Middle row left to right:** Isaac Walsh, George Richards, Rahan Alom, Cian Moran, Amara Njeri, Viktoria Balik-Nowak, Olivia Zota, Nicole Forde  
**Front row left to right:** Molly Collins, Kate Colleran, Sara Brennan, Rebecca Clancy, Bridget Allen, Melissa Devaney.  
**Missing from photo:** Jennifer Bednarikova, Lamar Rahmani, Connor Reynolds

## 3B



**Back:** Tadhg Farrell, Oliver Cunniffe, Aaron Finnegan, Liam Fleming, Ross Ruane Dalton, Fionn Conlon, Kealan Flynn, Usman Zahoor  
**Middle:** Eoin McLoughlin, Tom Donnellan, Michael Dee, Lauren Groarke, Melissa Clarke, Fiona Duffy, Méabh Fleming, Aqeel Amjad, Rahim Rizwan  
**Front:** Vieara Panchal, Éala Greally, Lucy Flanagan, Aoibhinn Gallagher, Rhianna Caulfield, Rafah Shawi, Zainib Shaoib.  
**Missing from photo:** John William Burke



## 3C



**Back:** Tomiwa Mustapha, Dylan Hunt, Oisín Keaveney, Cian Carty, Caél Kannan, Youssef Habib, Brandon McGowan, Paddy Vabraepenbusch **Middle:** Mike Kayange, Aaron Jordan, Harry Waldron, Andre, Niall Haldane, Mary Eleanor McDonagh, Shifa Naveed, Meryam Hamze, Erin Hibbit **Front:** Gwen Heneghan, Rachel Lawless, Jorja Hession, Emma McGuire, Nickola Kosteckova, Nicole Greally, Amelia Gryczuk  
**Missing from photo:** Liam Hill

## 3D



**Back:** John Greally, Jack Nolan, John Jennings, Joseph Phelan, Jamie Nolan, Tadgh Kelly,  
**Middle:** Jimmy Whelan, Carlos Kirrane, Grace Heneghan, Saoirse McKermitt, Emily Lyons, Lauren Lyons, Annie Keaveney, Grace Thomson  
**Front:** Caoilagh Kelly, Sarah Jane Keadin, Klaudia Kozłowska Costello, Ben Byrne, Patrick Murphy, Jason Finnegan  
**Missing from photo:** Chloe Hurley, Alex Keane, Kevin Lukac, Gany Maaz, Naoimi McDonagh



## 3E



**Back:** Luka Posaric, Cristiano Manke, Ruairi McWalter, Eamon Monaghan, Cillian Caulfield, Sultan Noor

**Middle:** Rostislav Redlich, Caitlin Cooper, Jason Powers, Talha Rehman, Clodagh Mitchell, Sineád Mannion, Gustas Lukosevicius.

**Front:** Alana Mongan, Camila Caetana de Oliveira, Ana Posaric, Bilqys Obebe, Eva Boyle, Ellen Murphy

**Missing from photo:** Bader Askif, Patryk Manke, Darragh Mulrennan, Darragh Mulrennan, Ava Neary, Hazel Nolan

## 3F



**Back left to right:** Guilherme Cruz, Josh Saunders, Zargham Mohammed Asim, Adam McGowan, Usef Sakkar, Talha Tayyab, Darragh Rogers, Adam Ronan, **Middle middle to right:** Erik Tallosi, Logan Davis, Hudda Maqsood, Kamile Ziziunaite, Emma Caulfield, Ruth Waldron, Cathal Wallace, James Tynan, Darragh Hunt **Front left to right :** Tiffany Obaakpolor, Jessica Urbanova, Emma Swanick, Christina Ruane, Katelyn McLoughlin, Megan Finnegan, Sarah Hussey

**Missing from photo:** Chloe Donohoe



## MATHS QUIZ

16 of our Junior Cycle students took out the shovels and managed to get a bus on the road to NUIG for a maths quiz last December. The questions were tough, but the students worked well together showing great teamwork skills. They had an enjoyable day out and managed to also have a look around the University, including the Dead Zoo and the Kingfisher Gym. Thanks to Kevin Jennings and NUIG for hosting the quiz.



## PI-DAY CHALLENGE

All of our first year students took part in a Pi challenge to see who could recite the most digits of Pi off by heart. Well done to Ciara Davis, Peter Urbaniok, Eoin Higgins, Jas Singh, Emmanuel Godwill Agyebiah, Bakri Cherbatji who represented their classes and Peter as the overall winner with a whopping 68 digits of Pi.



## PI QUIZ

Well done to 15 of our Junior Cycle Students who competed in the IMTA Pi quiz in Pi- Day 3.14 2024. A great day was had by all. Congratulations to the winners of the competition Fiona Duffy, Nicole Greally, Méabh Fleming, and Ana Posaric. A huge achievement. The girls also competed in the national finals in Maynooth in April and performed extremely well.



## MATHS WEEK



Throughout 'Maths Week,' students engaged in challenging quizzes and riddles, honing their problem-solving skills while having fun with their peers. Across the school, the Maths Department sparked curiosity by sharing riddles on TVs, extending the excitement to all students.



# WRITING CLUB

This year marked a significant milestone in BCS with the establishment of the first ever 'Writing Group'. Led by Ms. Mulroy, Ms. Hegarty and Ms. Coyne, this initiative saw the participation of twenty students spanning from first to sixth year. Through a series of workshops, the students analysed short stories, explored the magic of words and exchanged invaluable feedback on each other's work. Liam Horan, a seasoned creative writer and published author, played a pivotal role in this process. Liam gave his time willingly, sharing his expertise with students and instilling in them a profound belief in the power of their words.

During these workshops the quality of the students' work became apparent and left no doubt in our minds that it needed to be shared with a wider audience. Thus, 'Ink and Imagination' was borne. Each story, poem and song within the collection are a testament to the students' unique perspectives, experiences and voices, painting a vivid portrait of the diverse tapestry of our school community.

To celebrate this huge achievement, a launch took place in the school. Emceed by our ever-charismatic Adam Walsh, the book was unveiled to the world by Professor Eoin Devereux from the distinguished 'Creative Writers in the Community' module at the University of Limerick. Eoin spoke of how in the ten years of running the programme at UL, this is the first book to be published. We are immensely proud of our students for this achievement.

The atmosphere at the launch was nothing short of magical. You could hear a pin drop as the students read their work. From heartfelt odes to beloved grandmothers to poignant reflections on the erosion of the Irish language, each piece resonated deeply with the audience.

The event came to a close with a stirring performance by Ethan Henry, accompanied on the piano by Alex Fitzmaurice. Ethan sang a song he composed on a topic very close to his heart. It had a profound effect on us all and there wasn't a dry eye in the audience.

The students in the writing group ended the year on a high. Their exceptional work earned them an invitation from the University of Limerick to showcase their talents before renowned authors Donal Ryan, Sarah Moore Fitzgerald and Fiona Scarlet. Every student exuded confidence and poise as they took to the stage, receiving awestruck commendations from the prestigious authors in the department and a heartfelt letter from the President himself, underscoring the invaluable contribution they had made to the arts. It was a real validation of what the students have achieved this year and their huge smiles on the bus home were a testament to how much it meant to them.

Let's hope this is only the beginning of a long writing career for our wonderful students.

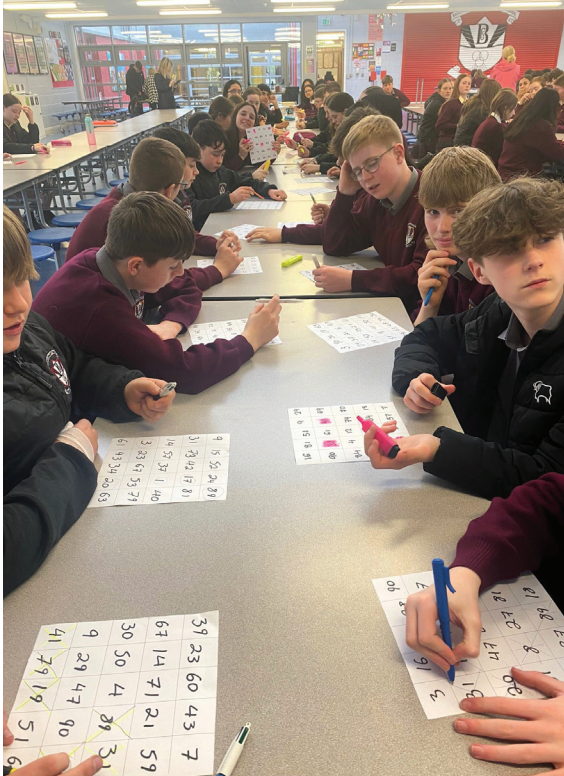




## SEACTAIN NA GAEILGE

I Mí an Mhárta bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge den chéad scoth againn i bPobalscoil Bhéal Átha hAmhnais. Bhí réimse leathan imeachtaí ar siúl le linn na seachtaine. Ina measc, bhí Lá Scannáin, Biongó, Ceol Traidisiúnta agus Tráth na gCeist. Bhí atmaisféar iontach beomhar sa scoil agus bhí sé iontach Gaeilge a chloisteáil sa scoil.

Tá súil ag roinn na gaeilge gur bhain gach duine taineamh agus tairbhe as na himeachtaí agus gníomhachtaí éagsúla a bhí ar siúl le linn na seachtaine seo i mbliana. Ba mhaith linn buíochas a ghabháil leis na scoláirí agus leis na múinteoirí Gaeilge.



## A TASTE OF HOME ECONOMICS IN BCS



## ATHLETICS

On 18th of April, twenty six students from 1st and 2nd Year travelled to Knocknarea Arena ATU Sligo to partake in the North Connacht Post Primary Schools Athletics Qualifiers. All students represented the school and themselves extremely well across a variety of events including javelin, long jump, shot put, long and short distance running. A number of the students involved now qualify for the Connacht Athletic Championship in May. Well done to all!





## JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

The lads had a successful year overall. Ballyhaunis were drawn in a tough group, along with Boyle, Westport and Ballinrobe. Our 1st game of the season was away to Boyle in a nail bitter. The game was very back and forth, with Isaac Owusu hitting a huge 3 pointer to leave Ballyhaunis with a 1-point deficit. Unfortunately, Ballyhaunis couldn't close the gap in the last couple of minutes, with Boyle running out as winners, 42-41. In the next outing Ballyhaunis bounced back fantastically against a strong Westport side on a scoreline of 36-24. In our final group game, Ballyhaunis unfortunately fell to a strong Ballinrobe which knocked us out of the cup competition. The game was very close at half time with Ballinrobe holding a 2-point lead. However, Ballinrobe managed to gain the upper hand in the 2nd half and pull away.



**Back row:** Gustas Lukosevicius, Sultan Noor, Jamie Nolan, Conor Coyne, Cristiano Manke, Johua Saunders, John Jennings, Jack Nolan, Carlos Kirrane  
**Front Row:** Conor Smith, Eamon Monaghan, Cillian Caulfield, Isaac Owusu, Fionn Conlon, Cian O'Shaughnessy

## JUNIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL

Our BCS junior girls had a shorter year than we had all hoped for. We played four rounds in the championship with 2 very big wins against Ballinamore beating them 7:09 to 2:13 followed by St. Nathys where the score was 8:11 to 3:01. The girls never failed to put up big score lines averaging around 6:09 across all 4 games.

They never gave up and always fought to the final whistle, almost achieving an outstanding comeback against Scoil Mhuire Strokestown. In the game we were down 1:12 to 1:03 at half time. In the second half we began to find our feet again and soon with 5 minutes to go we had brought the game within 1 point. Sadly, after the girl's hard work, Strokestown had picked up some momentum and took the win 2:18 to 4:07.

Our players were very consistent with training as well. There was always a big turnout at training and they never failed to train hard. Although having a short season, we got to see the amazing quality of players coming through and we have high hopes for the future to come.

Thank you to Mr Folan and Ms McGuire for their hard work and for taking the time to manage this team. Also, thanks to Brian Greally, Leah Nyland and Luke Duffy as the TY helpers.



**Back row:** Fiona Duffy, Jorja Hession, Rachel Lawless, Emma McLoughlin, Ava Neary, Eva Boyle, Emily Lyons, Katelyn McLoughlin, Niamh Donnellan, Sadhbh Lyons, Aoife Collins, Lucy Flanagan, Keeley Ronane, Sarah Jane Keadin  
**Front Row:** Vivienne Gannon, Caoilagh Kelly, Emily Duffy, Emma McGuire, Sara Brennan, Erin Hibbitt, Aoibhín Greally, Emma Casey, Éala Greally, Emma-Jane Reinhardt



## SENIOR OPTIONS WEEK

The senior options week was a jam-packed week for students. Over the week there were various talks held by teachers about the different options students have for Senior Cycle. Third years have the choice of TY, LCA or straight into fifth year and the traditional leaving cert. Students in 3rd year and TY had to fill out a subject choice form for 5th year no matter which path they were considering. The school held a Senior Cycle Subject Fair. This event provided an excellent opportunity for our students to gain insight into the 17 subjects available in the Senior cycle. They engaged in conversations with teachers and posed questions to students currently enrolled in different subjects. Additionally, students were introduced to two new subjects, Computer Science and Physical Education, which we aspire to include in our curriculum next year. The overall outcome of the day was highly successful, making it a valuable initiative to support students in making well-informed choices for their Senior Cycle. Mr. Caulfield addressed third-year students, providing information on the Transition Year programme and Leaving Cert Applied for the Senior Cycle. Well, done to Amy Clancy and Ian Murray, (Transition Year students), for sharing their experiences. Patrick Culliney then proceeded by offering valuable insights into his decision to pursue the Leaving Cert Applied programme.



## VISIT TO MOSQUE





## FUTURE LEADERS

### Future Leaders National Silver Award

Three members of last year's Transition Year Future Leaders class accepted a National Silver Award in Croke Park on behalf of their class. The TY Class of 2022/23 were chosen to receive this amazing recognition of achievement for their planning and running of events in school last year including the BCS Fittest Family initiative as well as the 1st Year Girls Inter-school's blitz. Ms Garvey and Ms Phillips accompanied the students on the day. The group also visited the National Gallery and Trinity College while in Dublin. Well done and congratulations to all involved



## BADMINTON

1st and 2nd Years had a great day out in Ballina, for the Mayo Badminton competition. The 2nd Year Boys won the cup competition. They beat two strong Louisburg teams in the semi final and final. Pavel, Adam, Conn, Mohammed, and Dylan emerging victorious. All students competed well with the girl's team losing narrowly in the plate semifinal, after a great win in the quarter. The Boys 1st Year team were extremely unlucky. After winning their first two games they came unstuck in the cup quarter final. After drawing 3-3 it went to points scored and they lost by narrowest of margins.

The Junior and senior boys and girls Badminton teams had a successful outing in Ballina in the Connacht schools Badminton competition. Everyone played multiple games with the Senior A team of Muhammad Ismail Naseer, Yuzdhan Ismailov, Adnan Khan and Muhammad Hashir Amin, ending up as runners up and picking up silver medals in the process. Thank you to Mr. Gormally for training the teams throughout the year.





# HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

The atmosphere was being set on a still autumn night in October. The anticipation was building as the stars of our musical were getting ready for night one. Ms. Phelan and Ms. O' Donnell had the stage set for what would be a night to remember. The crowd gathered in the gym, ready to witness the performance of a lifetime. The show was opened by Shauna Finn and Kevin Heelan letting the audience know what was in store for them, the sheer thrill that was 'High School Musical.'

Hazel (the director/choreographer) had done everything she could to prepare the cast for this night. She had taught them everything they needed to know, everything that would lead to an Oscar-worthy performance. Now, it was all down to the cast themselves. Could they deliver, under pressure? Could they perform, when the lights shined brightest?

After more than 5 years without an official school musical being hosted due to Covid, every student was eager to audition and take part while the masses were anticipating the performance of the BCS Senior Students' rendition of High School Musical. Auditions were held in front of Ms. Glavey, Ms. Henry, and Hazel McLynn Lloyd in the May previous. Everyone came fully enthusiastic and full of passion as the fight for a lead role was tough but after a long discussion considering everybody's talents, the final cast had been chosen.

Preparations for the musical were always something to look forward to during the week. It was an intense 8-week block once school resumed in September. Some of the leading cast members had been in over the summer months to get a head-start on line-learning and song prep. Getting past the awkward stage of unprepared dancing and cringy lines was tough but was worth it in the end. Once the cast had every move perfected, every line drilled into their brains, and had finally learned to shed the accents of Irish secondary school students for those of American high schoolers, that was when they knew they were ready to deliver.

As the cast delivered their performances, the audience were left stunned by the quality of the acting and singing on display in front of them. Jacob Flanagan made you think we had travelled back in time, found young Zac Efron, and convinced him to do this, and Isobel Coggins delivered a Vanessa Hudgens-esque performance. The audience were wowed by the performances of all the main cast, from the humorous quips of Ethan Henry to Sinéad O'Neill's performance reminiscent of a stereotypical popular girl in high school. And Adam Walsh. Give him the Oscar. That is all that needs to be said.

As the performance concluded, the audience had no choice but to give a standing ovation for what they had just witnessed. The mind-blowing acting and singing left them no choice. As the audience departed from the gym, discussing with each other how spectacular the show was, the performers looked back on their performances. All the classes missed, all the time spent rehearsing lines and choreography, ended up being more than worth it.

All that was left was to do it two more times.

By Alex Fitzmaurice, Ethan Henry, and Jason Kelly.









## RED DAY

One of the roles of the Student Council is to raise awareness on various issues. This year it was decided by the Student Council to raise awareness against Racism. It was decided to register for the 'Wear Red Day'. This day is an important opportunity for schools and students alike to send out a strong message that they as a community welcome diversity, celebrate it and take a stand against racism in all forms.

Ballyhaunis Community School is a multicultural school with 40+ nationalities. It is diverse, inclusive and welcoming and wants to protect this positive ethos.

At the start of the week the Secretary of the Student Council, Aoibhin Lynskey addressed the school community over the intercom explaining about 'Wear Red Day' and its importance. She also explained by wearing red you were saying you do not stand for Racism, and you give it the red card!

The Council members also delivered a short lesson about the event to their base class and explained how each student was equal and to stop making judgement on others. They decorated the school with red bunting and organised the colour red to appear in various places throughout the school. Thank you to the canteen ladies who assisted with the red plates and napkins and for participating in the 'Wear Red Day'.

The day itself was very well supported by teachers, students and all staff in BCS. There was a great atmosphere on the day and the selfie frame generated an element of fun. The council members priority was to deliver a strong Anti- Racism message. They felt this was achieved but to see all the smiling faces on the day was an added bonus. We hope you spotted yourself on Facebook and you all enjoyed the day. Thank you to all who participated in 'Wear Red Day 2024'.



## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL



Congratulations to Aishat Ashu Egbe, Nessa Ruane Dalton and Ava Brennan who took part in the annual public speaking competition held by Soroptimist International in Castlebar. The aim of this competition is to promote the empowerment and education of young women. The girls spoke on topics such as the importance of volunteering in the community, the plight of people living in direct provision and the role of women in music and how it is changing for the better. Schools from all over the county were represented and the girls displayed superb public speaking skill and talent. These students look forward to competing again next year.



# WELLNESS WEEK



Wellness week commenced with an opening assembly with special guest Cora Staunton. Students of all years participated in a wide range of mindful and sporting activities. Students also attended a variety of presentations and talks from guest speakers throughout the day including Paul Coughlan, Andy Moran and Alcoholics Anonymous.

Day Two was action packed, following on from the opening day of Wellness Week 2023. Some of the activities included a comprehensive presentation on activity and its' impact on your physical & mental wellbeing to students and teachers from Dr. Cathal Cregg. Tracy Cunnane facilitated a fantastic Krav Maga & self-defence class and Brian Morley demonstrated Krav. Our B.C.S. Ireland-Supporters Club travelled to the Aviva Stadium to the Ireland v New Zealand Game. Thank you to all our guests who also included Jenna Walsh and Fergal Boland on this day.



Jenny Glow visited the school to give a talk to our 5th year students on her entrepreneurial journey so far. Jane is a past pupil of BCS and has visited many times before and is always so generous with her time. Jane was like the 'Late Late Show' host and brought something for everyone in the audience!

On the third and fourth days of BCS Wellness Week, students and staff continued to bask in the positive energy and learning that bloomed and echoed in the hallways, classrooms and open spaces of our school. Declan Brown along with Michael Dee McAndrew added to the speakers who held captive audiences this week, before Community Garda Karen Weymouth and her colleagues' educated students on Internet Safety rounding up Wednesdays speakers.

Over the course of these two days wellbeing activities of all sorts continued throughout the school in addition to Thursdays talks and presentations from Dr. Dermot Burns, Jane Buckley, Cenacolo Community, Lizzie Harrison and some Irish music with the great Joe and Paddy Joe.



## WELLNESS WEEK MUSIC

### Masterclass in Traditional Irish Music

Local traditional Irish musicians Joe Byrne and Paddy Joe Tighe joined us during Wellness Week to share a masterclass in traditional Irish music performance, history, and legacy. Both students and teachers were treated to a variety of pieces and in turn complimented the performance with a show of dance and music from their own repertoire.



## TY A



**Top row:** Kyle Burke, Cathal Forde, Conor Morley, Ryan Giblin, Michael Nolan, Daniel Bowen.

**Middle row:** Ellena Marie Coffey, Emma O'Brien, Ciara Dooney, Rowan Johnston, Eoin Heneghan, Sarah Corcoran, Saoirse Higgins.

**Bottom row:** Síofra Forde, Emma Henry, Sadhbh Lyons, Leah Nyland, Ava McCormack, Emma Casey.

**Missing From Photo:** Jason Jennings, Josh Kavanagh

**Inset:** Alisha Forde, Leandra Pesut, Sarah Caulfield

## TY B



**Top row:** Finbarr Regan, Norbert Siemionkowski, Keith Flanagan, Jack Mulligan, Ben Reilly, Conor Coyne, Jake Powers.

**Middle row:** Leah Finnegan, Sara Kaczmarek, Brian Grealley, Calum Kelly, Michael Morley, Cian O'Shaughnessy, Adam Kelly.

**Bottom row:** Princess D. Mensah, Emma McLoughlin, Emma-Jane Reinhardt, Niamh Donnellan, Keeley Ronane, Aoife Collins.

**Missing From Photo:** Viktorija Anisovaite, Katie Damron, Ethan Kilbane, Prince D. Mensah,



## TY ARTICLE

Some people think TY is a doss year but, it is quite the opposite. You find yourself in the middle of the year with jobs from teachers and projects due from classes, running around the school but you love every bit of it. We also really liked it because it was very relaxing, and we got no homework!!

Some of our favourite things about TY is that every day is different, you learn how to adapt and embrace changes in projects, schedules, and plans. We love the difference in the way teachers treat you from 3rd year, but that might just be Blue Jumper Effect.

You get to be creative and 'hands on' in TY, (Our drama teacher might say we were too creative, Spider-Shrek in Shark Boots, if ykyk), With the sheer number of trips and workshops you always are doing something and have something to look forward to. Your learning is not limited to the classroom, or the school at all. Without studying, we could learn about ourselves. We could try out things we did not think about before, become better at hobbies, skills, and sports.

During the year we got to go on a few trips. Our favorites during the year would have been Delphi, Shannon adventure and Croagh Patrick. They were really good craic! In Delphi, we got to stay the night with our friends. We spent the day doing fun activities which included kayaking, ziplining and a mud run. In the evening we had a campfire in the woods where we sang songs. Sadly, the Grub Hub was the only place in the entire resort that had Wi-Fi and it took more than a few attempts to get everyone back to their rooms that night. After a restless night and more activities the next morning, we were back on the bus and on the way home. I wish I could tell you more but what happens in Delphi stays in Delphi...

Shannon Adventure had to be one of the best. Everyone loved the mud slide. We went kayaking as well. It was great craic, people were falling into the water and trying to tip each other out of the boats. It was like a war. (To be honest we've been kayaking more times than we've been in class this year!).

We had our fair share of workshops, including making bodhrans. It's safe to say most of the teachers went home with a headache that day... Especially Ms. Morley. Another one of our favourites is when we got to plan, film and edit our own movies! We probably disrupted more than a few classes with our cameras.

There is one piece of advice I would give to anyone going into TY, try everything. Give everything a chance and who knows you might love it. It will be hard to fight the urge to ask teachers for jobs, whether it be washing the jerseys in the gym all day (don't tell Mr. Woolley), "finishing your wood piece" with Mr. Folan or doing the yearbook for weeks... thanks Mr. Ginty!

And for anyone with doubts, would you rather be studying day and night in 5th year or spend half your year kayaking?

Thats what I thought.

## TY C



**Top row:** Thomas Curtin, Ian Murray, Luke Duffy, James Fitzmaurice, Mark Feeney, Alex Byrne, Eoin Loftus.  
**Middle row:** Maria Vuia, Chloe Fitzmaurice, Darragh Morris, Seán Haldane, Carl Waldron, Edward Henry, Fionn Kilbride.  
**Bottom row:** Aoibhín Greally, Marissa Collins, Emma Ruane, Amy Clancy, Kate McDermott, Violeta Nikolaeva.  
**Missing from photo:** Lily Harrington, Róisín Henry, Ruby Mulhall, Nessa Ruane Dalton.



## TY DELPHI TRIP

One of the best trips we have been on this year is our overnight trip to Delphi. The day started out with us all getting onto the bus for a long journey. We went kayaking in the lake and spent hours in the water playing games and throwing seaweed at each other! That night, we went on a hike through the forest and made ourselves a campfire. We had an early start the next day and after a quick breakfast, we were split into two groups. One group went ziplining and one went on a mud run. We all had a great couple of days!



## JUNK KOUTURE



### Junk Kouture - Shattered Glass

BCS students worked tirelessly designing and making their Junk Couture entry Shattered Glass. This design entry this year was designed & created by Sarah Caulfield, Ellena Maire Coffey & Emma O'Brien who are all students of Transition Year.



### Junk Kouture - The Peacock

BCS students worked tirelessly designing and making their Junk Couture entry The Peacock. This design entry this year was designed & created by Fionn Kilbride, Chloe Fitzmaurice & Violeta Nikolaeva who are all students of Transition Year.

## STUDENT COUNCIL SVDP FUNDRAISER



Thank you to all students and staff for supporting this years Student Council Christmas cake sale. A total of €465 was raised for the society of Saint Vincent De Paul and raised €1750 in total by the student council.



## BODHRAN WORKSHOP

In January, the Transition Year students got the opportunity to make their own bodhráns. The workshop was facilitated by Michael Vignoles. Michael showed the students how to make and decorate their own bodhráns step by step. Michael then showed the students how to play the bodhráns using the tipper. The students thoroughly enjoyed this workshop.



## MOVIE WORKSHOP

On the 13th and 14th of December the TY's participated in the Movie Magic Workshop facilitated by Lavinia Darby and Susan McGrath who have over 25 years experience. Students were given iPads to film and edit their own movies. Lavinia and Susan gave students the freedom of creating their own storylines and plots for movies but were always there to help when needed. Students had a lot of fun filming their movies with their friends whilst gaining experience of film making.



## CSI WORKSHOP

Transition Year students participated in a CSI workshop trying to find out who assassinated JFK. After first learning about all the clues of the case, they went on a scavenger hunt around the classroom to come to their conclusion. The workshop had exciting and interesting activities like boardgames and VR animations to help the students find the assassin.





## TY TRIP TO BRIGIT'S GARDEN

Transition Year Students visited Brigit's Garden in Galway where they participated in the Global Goals Challenge; a workshop based on the United Nation's Global Goals. The students were divided into teams and role-played a family in a developing country seeking refuge and had to work together to overcome obstacles and find solutions to a series of challenges. Each challenge was linked to one or more of the UN Sustainable Development Goals relating to food scarcity, water issues, energy, the effects of climate change and the experience of migration. The day was a hugely valuable learning experience in the great outdoors for our students.



## BT YOUNG SCIENTIST

In January the Transition years travelled to the RDS Dublin, to attend the BT young Scientist Competition. The students were given the opportunity to explore the RDS and take inspiration from a variety of experiments. This was a very insightful day for the Transition years as it helped prepare them for their own Scifest competition organised by Mrs O'Brien.



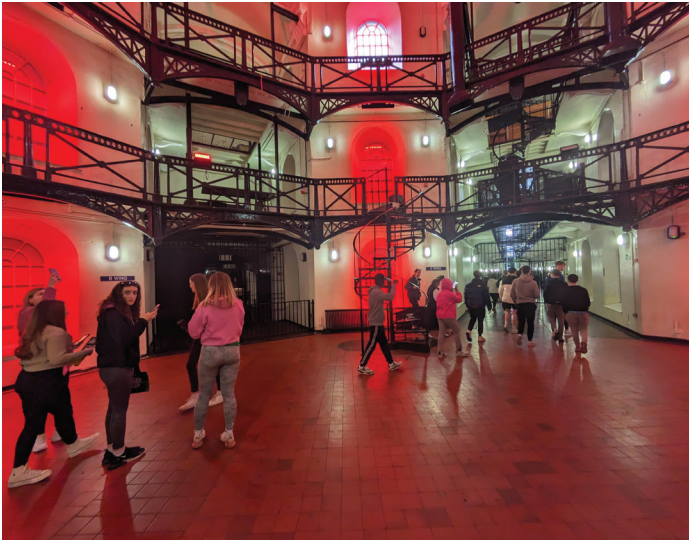
## BARISTA WORKSHOP

Our TY's got the chance to complete a barista workshop with the help of two employees from Dublin's Barista School on the 14th of March. They were taught how to make different types of coffee with modern espresso machines. The TY's really enjoyed the day and had a lot of fun making and handing out the coffees.

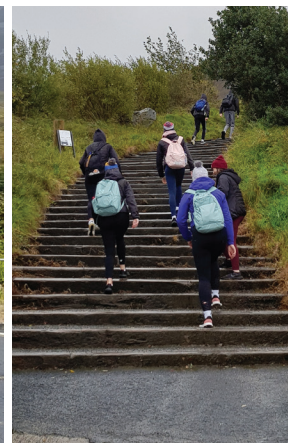




## BELFAST AND CARLINGFORD TRIP



## CROAGH PATRICK



On the 5th of October the TY's travelled to Westport to climb Croagh Patrick. Even though the weather was not the best, they made the most of the day out and had a great time.

## MAKEUP WORKSHOP

On March 7th, the TY's took part in a Makeup Workshop and were taught useful skills by makeup artist Cian Macken. They had a lot of fun learning new techniques and trying out the tips themselves.





# SHANNON ADVENTURE

Transition Year Students enjoyed an action-packed bonding day in Shannon River Adventure Centre in Roscommon as part of their TY program. Students enjoyed a range of activities, varying from archery to canoeing, climbing walls to mud sliding. Great fun was had by all involved!



## ART COMPETITION

Congratulations to our students Violetta Nikolaeva and Ellena Coffey who were shortlisted to the top 10 in the Thea Pharma Mayo school's art competition. Students were invited to the award ceremony held at Thea Pharma Castlebar premises. The students were commended for their exceptional talent.



## GREEN FLAG



Transition Year Group C students were examining the schools water system with Gerry Glavey our Caretaker recently, as part of the Water Flag for Green Schools process. Students hope to raise awareness within the school and at home on how to save water and hope in doing so to reduce water consumption within the school and in all of our homes.



BCS Green-Schools Water Ambassadors attended a seminar in Athlone on water conservation and how to implement it in our school. The day included meeting engineers from Uisce Éireann, beach clean-up advocates as well as discussion around media and its influence on young people and the environment. The Water Ambassadors will be sharing the information with students in the school.



# JUNIOR FOOTBALL- CONNACHT CHAMPIONS

This year our junior football team was remarkably successful. Training began in September with huge numbers showing interest. This large panel would be a key part in the success of the team all year.

We started off our competitive year with a hard-fought draw against Gortnor Abbey on a scoreline of 2-12 to 2-12. We then beat Balla in the next game of our group stage with a tight scoreline of 3-7 to 1-8. After a bye in our final group game, we topped the group and moved onto the Connacht quarter final.

In the quarter final we came up against a very tough and resilient Holy Rosary College team from Mountbellew. The game was played in tough conditions in Glenamaddy. At half time we had a narrow lead but we started the second half excellently and stretched our lead out. In the end it was a comfortable win on a scoreline of 3-11 to 2-5.

In the semi-final we were drawn against St Clare's Comprehensive School, Manorhamilton. This was sure to be our toughest test to date. The game was played in Tubbercurry and again the conditions were very tough. St Clare's proved to be a formidable outfit and we found ourselves struggling in the early stages of the game. We were 9 points to 3 down after 20 minutes. A Brian Greally hat-trick in the space of 10 minutes gave us a lifeline and we went in at half time leading 3-05 to 0-10. The second half was a tense affair with both teams going for the win. Again, goals were our saviour and we thankfully came out on the right side of the result on a scoreline of 5-7 to 1-14.

The big day came on the 18th of December. The final would be a rematch against old rivals Gortnor Abbey who we had drawn with, in the first round of the group stages. This was sure to be a very tough test in the Connacht GAA Centre of Excellence, but conditions were ideal for a game. Both teams had large numbers of supporters, and this led to an excellent atmosphere for the final. The lads definitely saved their best performance for the final and from the first whistle everyone worked hard for the team and tried their best. At half time we held a good lead over Gortnor Abbey. In the second half we did not relent and kept the pressure on. The final score was Ballyhaunis 6-14 to Gortnor Abbey's 7 points. The goals came from Fionn Conlon, Jake Powers, Oisín Kelly, Mark Feeney and Cian O'Shaughnessy. Captain Derry Og Cox lifted the trophy after the final whistle and that would draw a close to a very successful year of Junior football.

Thanks to Mr. Freeley and David Delaney for their hard work all year. Also, special mention to our T.Y helpers Aoibhín Greally, Sadbh Lyons and Kate McDermott.



**Back Row:** Ben Byrne, Cillian Caulfield, Cameron Costello, Adam Kelly, Matthew Delaney, Bradley Lynch-Burke, Mark Feeney, Derry Og Cox, Mr. Connor Freeley, Michael Dee, Eamonn Monaghan, Cian Carty, Conor Coyne, Carlos Korrane, Liam Fleming, Sean Gormley  
**Front Row:** Ethan Kilbane, Cian O'Shaughnessy, David Delaney, Conor Grogan, Oisín Kelly, Fionn Delaney, Rowan Johnston, Jake Powers, Fionn Conlon, Oisín Keaveney, Conor Coyne

## 5A



**Back Row (L-R):** Yuzdzhan Ismailov, Casper Dorosz, Ethan Henry, James Hussy, Jarlath Concannon, Issac Owousu,  
**Middle Row (L-R):** Sam Tynan, Seán Wallace, Ella Morely, Orlaith Regan, Keeva Hunt, Alifa Jabeen,  
**Front Row (L-R):** Orla Smith, Ciara Gill, Kate Tener, Sarah Gill, Leah Rodgers, Lucy Phillips  
**Missing from Photo:** Oleksandz Babak, Jack Kelly, Nicholine Mensah, Muhammad Bilal Shoaib.



## 5B



**Back Row (L-R):** Rayn Sharif, Shoaib Ahmad, Erik Moisin, Ausrius Vaitickus, Shane Flanagan, Dylan Groarke, Jason Kelly,  
**Middle Row (L-R):** Fatima Kezze, Theodora Obakpolar, Iqra Tahir Mahmood, Muhammad Ismail Naseer, Niamh Murphy, Maeve Caulfield, Alicia Aylward,  
**Front Row (L-R):** Julie Lecky, Jovanna Drobic, Ena Mrden, Cora Hurley, Greta Ciutaite, Basma Shawi.  
**Missing from Photo:** Bassel Kezze, Sophia Marques, Eva McDonagh, Yameena Parveen, Amar Sakkar.

## 5C



**Back Row (L-R):** Alex Paluba, Micheál Fleming, Charlie Johnston, Darragh Ganley, Reliance Arku.  
**Middle Row (L-R):** Callum Lyons, Jamie McGuire, David Lupinek, Yusuf Kezze, Thomas Hayden, Shane Clarke, Darragh Ronayne.  
**Front Row (L-R):** Eva Casey, Cathy Greally, Edel Flemming, Aishat Ashu Egbe, Ruth Greally, Gráinne Waldron, Elizabeth Burcovschi.  
**Missing from Photo:** Jason Burke, PJ Greally, Pehmeen Sohail.



## 5D



**Back Row (L-R):** Siam Raihan, Aaron Thomas-Caulfield, Sean Gormley, Mathew Elwood, Aaron McWalter, Oisín Kelly, Adnan Khan.

**Middle Row (L-R):** Fatima Shawi, Saule Mimaite, Believe Mudimbi, Lubna Marwa, Amelia Cherbatji, Amel cherbatji, Hana Rahmani.

**Front Row (L-R):** Arfa Nawaz, Shahd Kezze, Ava Brennan, Lauren Clancy, Vejune Blozyte, Ava Padfield.

**Missing from Photo:** Harry Coyle, Shane Flanagan, Shane Gallagher, Bilal Hussain, Lana Spajic.

## 5E



**Back Row (L-R):** Bradley Lynch Burke, Arnas Krizka, Joshua Cunnane, Oisín Casey, Oskar Dorosz, Emmanuel Fasanmi.

**Middle Row (L-R):** Madison Glavey, Chaitiwa Boatametse, Cameron Costello, David Delaney, Cullen Glavey, Alex Fitzmaurice, Muhammad Hashir Amin, Connor Grogan, Fionn Delaney.

**Front Row (L-R):** Éabha Delaney, Laoise Greally, Laura Flanagan, Sinéad O'Neill, Shannon Moylan, Lydia Gannon.

**Missing From Photo:** Nikas Aravicius, Clara Byrne, Derry óg Cox.



## BROOKVALE CAROL SERVICE

5th and 6th year students from BCS prepared a hamper full of Christmas goodies for the residents of Brookvale Nursing Home. BCS Folk Choir visited Brookvale to sing songs and spread some Christmas cheer.



## EPS APPRENTICESHIP TALK



Many thanks to EPS who made a visit to BCS, to talk to all the senior students about apprenticeships and their future careers.

## ERASMUS TEACHER EXCHANGE



We were delighted to welcome Benedicte Leduc & Maud Haslé to BCS in March. The two ladies are Mathematics teachers from Guer (France) and were visiting BCS as part of an Erasmus 'Teacher Shadowing' project. Throughout the week Benedicte and Maud observed a wide variety of Maths & French classes from all year groups.



## 5TH YEAR ACHILL BONDING TRIP

Our 5th Year students enjoyed a three day bonding trip to Achill Adventure Centre in September. The students participated in a diverse range of outdoor activities during the three day action filled trip.



## 5TH YEAR CAREER CONFERENCE

5th year and LCA1 students enjoyed a busy day at the "Pathways Education and Career Conference" in the Galmont Hotel, Galway. Afterwards, students were brought on campus tour of ATU Galway. An insightful and valuable experience for students exploring their future options.



## EU MOCK PARLIAMENT DEBATE



Students from Ballyhaunis Community School represented Spain at the Model Council of the European Union debate for secondary schools which took place in Dublin Castle on March 1st. The students used passionate and articulate arguments to defend the interests of their adopted Member State. Congratulations and well done to all the students involved.

Pictured are Basmali Shawi and Sam Tynan BCS, Paul Ryan, teacher BCS; Dr Concha Julian, education adviser at the Spanish Embassy; Barbara Nolan, head of the European Commission Representation in Ireland; Peter Burke TD, Minister of State for European Affairs and Fionnuala Croker, acting Head of the European Parliament Liaison Office.



## WESTERN CARE CAROL SERVICE

Well done to our talented carol singers and musicians who performed for the service users and carers of Western Care in December. Thank you for bringing the Christmas spirit to all who attended.



## WESTERN CARE ART

LCA 2 Art class enjoyed having Kevin, Mary and Denise from Western Care join them for Art class.



## 5TH YEAR WOODWORK

Mr Caulfield's 5th year Construction studies class after completing their foot stool project just in time for Christmas.





## LCA 1



**Back Row:** Alan Felipe Lima Da Silva, Darren Quinn, Wayne Maughan, Thierry De Mello, James Hayden, Simon Reilly,  
**Front row:** Brenda da Silva, Heidi Belen Morel Galeano, Kelly Ronan, Amanda Hamane, Samira Cuevas Aguilera  
**Missing:** Adam Raftery, Chantelle McDonagh, Magdalene Manke, Valentina Pesut

## CATERING AND TOURISM





## EASTER RAFFLE

Thank you to all who supported the Easter raffle in aid of the 'Make a Wish Foundation.' Thank you, all the main sponsors- McWilliam Hotel, Eddie Murphys, Finn's footwear, Collerans, Curleys, Aldi, Duffys Pharmacy, Phillips, McHugh's, Moran's, iclinic and Mr. Coyne for organising the signed Mayo Jersey. Well done to the LCA1 class and the Student Council members as they raised a very impressive €750.



## LCA WOODWORK





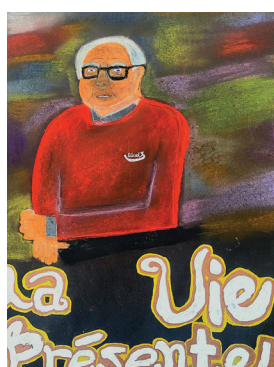
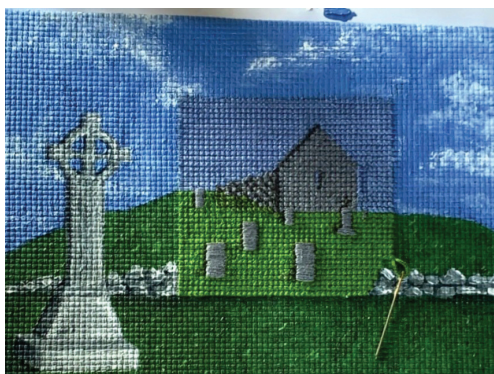
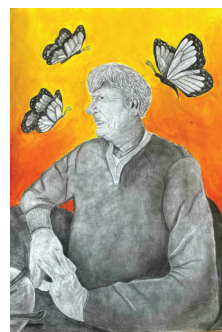
# INTERCULTURAL DAY 2024

On Thursday 2nd May we had our annual Intercultural Day which is the highlight of Diversity week. B.C.S. is privileged to have 44 different cultures in our student community. The gym was transformed into a carnival of colour as students representing their cultures shared stories, food, history and music with the whole school community. Transition year students ensured the day ran smoothly as they organised they collected classes and acted as tour guides throughout the day. Traditional dress and national jerseys replaced uniforms and students from every culture danced and celebrated their unique traditions with pride. This special day in our school calendar really captures the ethos of our school and embraces our school motto: 'Unity in Diversity'.

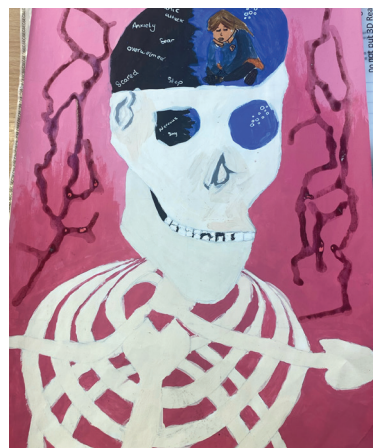
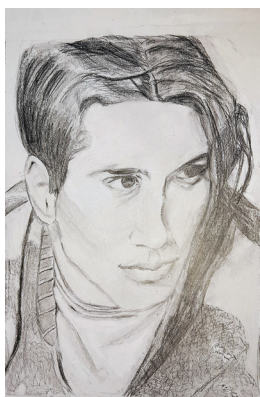




# LEAVING CERT ART 24









## SENIOR BOYS GAA

As members of the Ballyhaunis Community School football team this year, it's been a rollercoaster of emotions. We started off strong in our Flanagan cup league campaign, remaining undefeated and finishing top of the pile, which put us through to the league final. However, we were narrowly defeated in the end, losing out in extra time via the smallest of margins to a strong Balla side. It was tough, but it only fueled our determination to do better for the championship.

And do better we did. Our Connacht championship journey was nothing short of incredible. We got off to a fantastic start, beating both Mountbellew and Glenamaddy in evenly matched contests. We progressed to the quarter final, facing a tough opponent in Athenry. It was a close affair in the early stages, but we

came out on top as the final whistle was blown. Although it was a tough battle, the team was focused on the task ahead in the semi-final versus Foxford. In previous years, we came out the wrong side in numerous battles with them, however the scars of previous years gave the lads even more motivation to overcome this hurdle. Despite a late arriving bus and a Mr Mitchell panic attack we made it to the Centre of Excellence and we overcame Foxford in a memorable game. The lads knew, we were one step away from making school history and in our way of glory was Gortner Abbey of Crossmolina. The Connacht Final was nothing short of incredible. The game looked out of reach for us until late penalties, electric support from the stands, breathtaking goals and one magical super sub got us over the line. The schools first Connacht title in 22 years. History was made

Our All Ireland semi-final clash against St. Malachy's was one of the toughest challenges we faced. The atmosphere was nothing short of spectacular. We fought tooth and nail, but in the end, we narrowly lost out in extra time by 2 single scores. It was heartbreaking, but we held our heads high knowing we gave it everything we had on the day.

Throughout the year, our success wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support from our school and teachers. They shouted us on from the sidelines, pushing us to be the best we could be. And our coaches, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Freeley, and David Delaney, were instrumental in our journey, sacrificing many evenings throughout the year, organizing training sessions and improving not just the team, but each player day by day.

Although we fell short of All Ireland success in the end, it will be a year all the lads will never forget. From the sunny days in September to the rainy nights in December, everybody committed to the team and the hard work paid off and the memories we made will last for many years to come. As our goalkeeper James Flynn would always say, "Its not about the destination, its about the journey."



**Back (L-R):** Mathew Elwood, Rowan Johnston, Seán Keadin, Derry Óg Cox, Daniel Hagney, Jason Burke, Conor Henry, James Flynn, Jake Glavey, Mark Feeney, Senan Guilfoyle, Michéal Finnegan, Adam Noone, Adam Kelly, Charlie Johnston, Jack Kelly, Dylan Groarke.

**Font (L-R):** Oisín Kelly, Jarlath Concannon, Jake Powers, Eamon Monaghan, Shane Clark, Connor Grogan, Fionn Delaney, PJ Grealley, Shane Gallagher, Sean Lynskey, Mathew Delaney, Ethan Kilbane.





## SENIOR LADIES FOOTBALL

We started off our campaign against Presentation College Headford. They proved no match for our team on the day as we came home with our first win of the championship. Unfortunately, that winning feeling didn't last too long as next up was Abbey Community College Boyle. Harsh conditions out in the Centre of Excellence paired with a physical Boyle opposition seen the better of our team. With spirits still high we continued training hard as next to face was St Nathy's Ballaghaderreen. These proved to be a tough opposition and took us by surprise. We narrowly lost the match by a few points. Last but not least was our neighbours Dunmore. With many players on our team being clubmates with some of the Dunmore girls, it was set to be a right battle! We started off with a good first half performance with many well worked scores. However, in the end the stronger Dunmore team, on the day, ran out victors, which sadly seen our championship campaign come to an end. It was an emotional day for many Leaving Cert girls as it was our last time playing together for our school, but nonetheless it was lovely to play as a team one last time. The memories we have made over the years will never be forgotten and we are so grateful to all who have made it so worthwhile. A special word of thanks to Ms. Garvey, Ms. O'Connor and all who helped out throughout the year!



**Back Row:** Abbey Jennings, Katie Madden, Aoife Ruane, Kate Doyle, Sinead O'Neill, Alice Curran, Shauna Finn, Siobhán Greene, Shannon Hibbitt, Edel Fleming, Gráinne Waldron, Orlaith Regan, Isobel Coggins.  
**Front Row:** Shannon Moylan, Sarah Dee, Leah Rogers, Laoise Greally, Cathy Greally, Laura Flanagan, Aoibhín Lynskey, Erica Byrne, Alice Sullivan, Lydia Gannon, Madison Glavey, Orla Smith, Éabha Delaney.

## SENIOR HURLING 2024

The senior hurlers started their campaign against Roscommon community school. This was a very tough encounter between the two sides with many scores coming from Dylan Groarke, David Delaney and Fionn Delaney. The team narrowly lost out in the end by two points, but St Colemans and Rice College conceded in the remaining group games, so the senior hurlers went on to play Coláiste Éinde Salthill in the Connaught semifinal. Once again it was a very intense game where Matthew Delaney, Sean Lynskey and Oisín Casey did their best to pull the team back into the game. Unfortunately, the Coláiste Éinde men were too strong and went on to knock out the senior hurlers and win the Connaught championship. The leaving certs were a real driving force to the senior hurling team of 2024 putting huge effort in from the start of the year unfortunately the senior hurlers fell short but next year is certainly looking bright for the Ballyhaunis C.S hurlers.



- |                 |                 |                  |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 16 Sub          | 17 Fionn conlon | 18 Eoghan conlon |
| 19 Cathal forde | 20 Shane Clarke | 21 Cullen Glavey |
| 22 Oisín Kelly  | 23 Sub          | 24 Sub           |





## SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

The lads started off their campaign with a cup game at home against a strong Belmullet side, who would become the future All- Ireland champions. Unfortunately, the lads were second best on the day but showed great heart throughout the game. In our 1st league game of the season, we faced off against Westport. The lads were excellent throughout the game winning comprehensively in our best performance of the year. Our next trip was away to a physically strong Ballinrobe side. While the BCS lads showed great skill to score and defend, the height and physical difference was too much with Ballyhaunis falling to a defeat on a scoreline of 43-23. In our final game of the season, we once again faced off against Belmullet who ran out winners. Thank you to Mr. Waters who showed great leadership and commitment coaching the team this year.



**Back row:**

David Lupinek,  
Reliance Arku,  
David Owusu,  
John Jennings,  
Jason Jennings,  
Matthew Stevko,  
Sean Moran

**Front row:**

Rhian Keane Higgins,  
Norbert Siemionkowski,  
Trystan Folliard,  
Oskar Chojnacki,  
Yuzdzhan Ismailov,  
Adam Noone

## U17 SOCCER

The U17 Soccer lads played their shield semifinal on Monday against Ballinrobe in Castlebar. We had a great start to the game, getting the first goal 16 minutes into the first half. The goal was scored by Oisin Kelly who hit a brilliant strike into the top corner. The lads played great throughout the match and kept great control and had good chances to extend their lead. Unfortunately 4 minutes from time Ballinrobe equalised. This goal gave Ballinrobe a lot of confidence and they then scored another goal 2 minutes later. A fantastic free kick into the top corner.

The match then ended with a scoreline of 3-1 to Ballinrobe which unfortunately ended the season for our lads. They will no doubt be back next year and hopefully in the final. Great season of football lads well done!!!



Ethan Kilbane, Jason Jennings, Emmanuel Fasanmi,  
Adam Kelly, Ross Ruane-Dalton, Oisin Kelly  
Fionn Conlon, Rahan Alom, Jake Powers, Isaac Owusu,  
Muhammad Ismail Naseer



U17 Squad with their coach Mr. Francis Gormally and Coach from MK Dons Jacques Maghoma who took the team for a training session. Jacques also played professionally for Tottenham Hotspur, Sheffield Wednesday, Birmingham City and Burton as well as being an international with DR Congo.



## SENIOR CAMOGIE

Our season started October 1st 2023, and we knew as a group that we had a huge amount of skill and talent to go all the way this year. We also knew that we needed hard work and determination to get there. Ms Morley, Ms Coyne and Ms Delaney had us out training very early on. We all play together on the same club team so we are well experienced and know each other very well but the managers felt the key to success is trainings as a close unit weekly. The girls put all their effort into making each of these training sessions and giving one hundred percent. Although we had two girls on our team doing the leaving cert, that didn't let it stop them. The girls trainings all paid off when they had a comprehensive win over Headford in the Intermediate semi-final. The match started with a goal and a point from Cathy Greally. We dominated the Headford puckout and forced several turnovers around the middle third in the opening half. Laura Flanagan, Kate Tener, Cathy Greally, Éala Greally, Laoise Greally all contributed points for the score line. A strong half time score of 1.08 to no score but the girls didn't let it get to their heads and they knew it would still be a tough fight to the end. Even though Headford played a strong second half, our girls continued putting relentless pressure on them until the final whistle. We then faced An Spidéal in the Connacht Intermediate Final and the stage was set for the dome on 30th November 2023. The girls never let the pressure get to their head. They trained hard and prepared really well for the match. There was excellent support and encouragement from the whole school community, with many students travelling to support them on the day. The stand was filled with red and black. The three coaches poured their soul into their powerful speech before the match and at half time. Each and every player on the pitch played their very best. An Spidéal were very strong opponents. Great saves from Sarah Dee and strong defending from the whole team won the match for Ballyhaunis. The final score was BCS 5-02 Cois Fharraige 1-06. We're Connacht Intermediate Champions! This is a massive achievement for all the girls and well deserved. This win wouldn't have happened without Ms Morley, Ms Delaney and Ms Coyne. BCS camogie panel will miss our two leaving certs Sarah Dee and Rebekah Monaghan hugely but are looking forward to next year already with a very strong panel remaining and a many younger players to join the squad too.

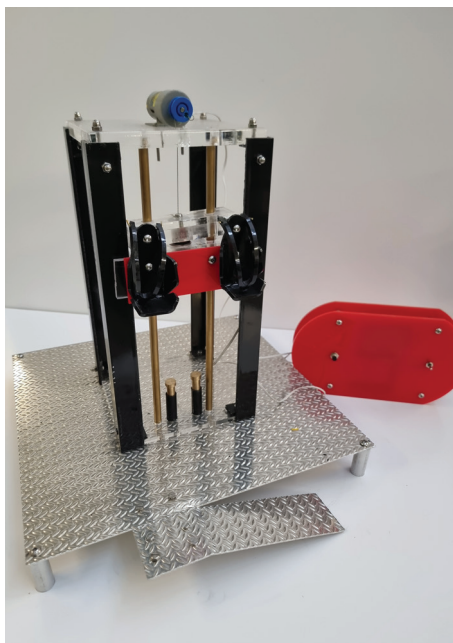
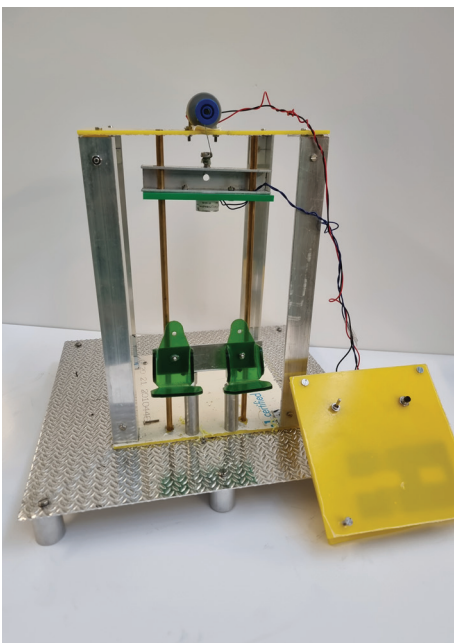
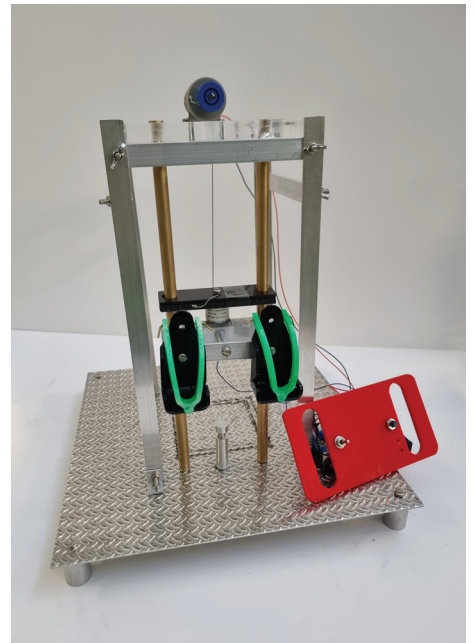
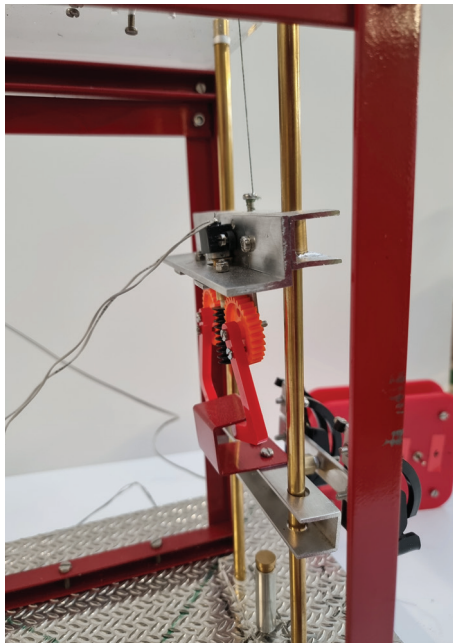
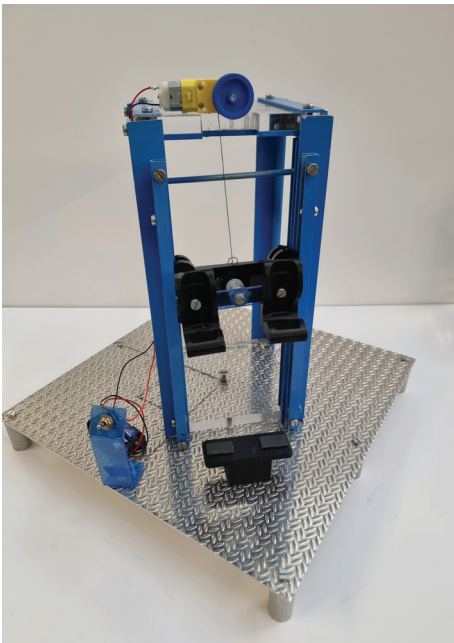
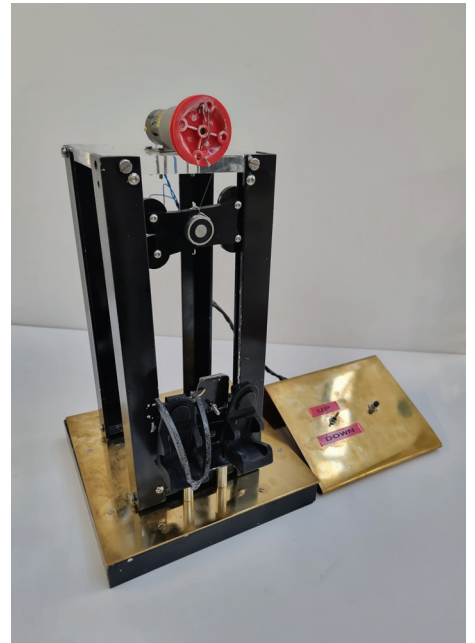
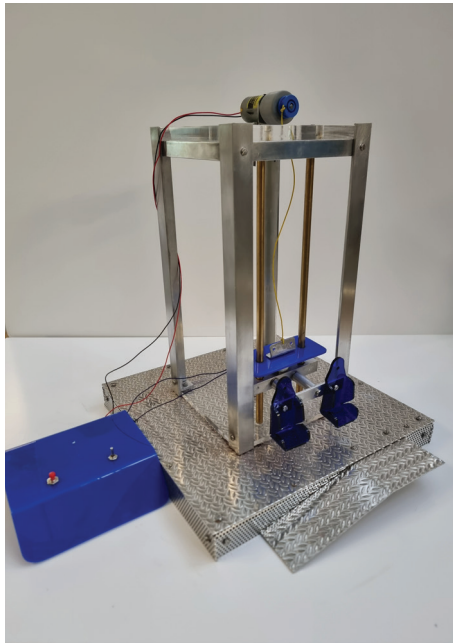
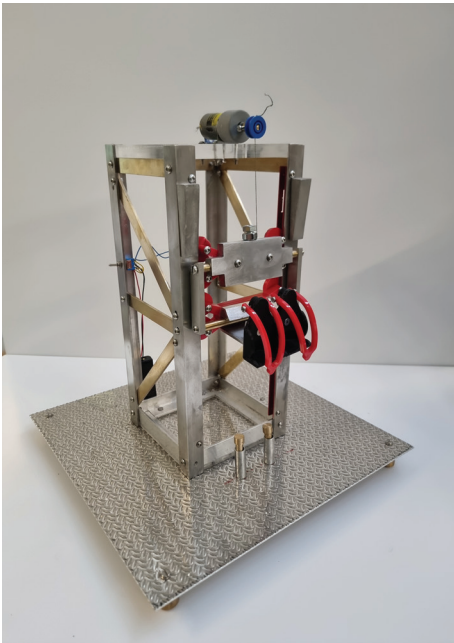


**Back (L-R):** Ms. Morley, Lauren Groarke, Lauren Gallagher, Laoise Greally, Éabha Delaney, Molly Squires, Marissa Collins, Laura Flanagan, Rebekah Monaghan, Kate Tener, Katie Damron, Emily Moore, Aoibhin Greally, Madison Glavey, Ciara Dooney, Síoфра Forde, Ms. Coyne  
**Front Row:** Aoibhinn Gallagher, Éala Greally, Erin Higgins, Ella Gallagher, Tara Delaney, Sarah Dee, Cathy Greally, Abbie Gildea, Amy Waldron, Emma O'Brien, Sarah Caulfield, Ms. Delaney.



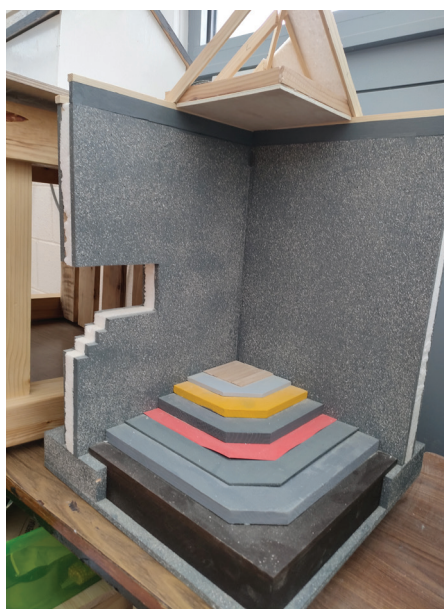
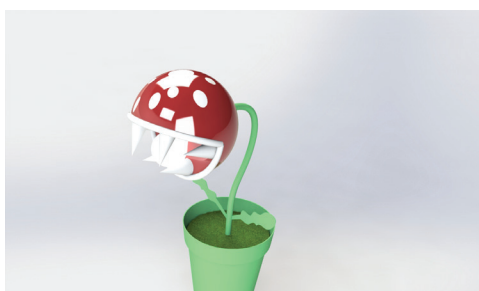
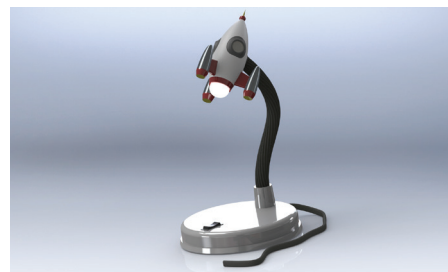
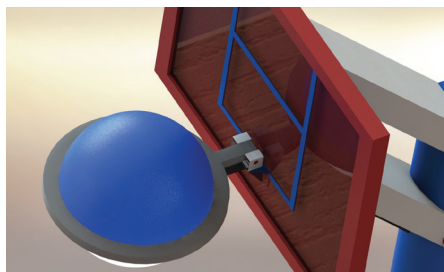


# ENGINEERING AND WOOD TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS





## DCG, CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS



Pictured above is a sample of  
our 2024 Leaving Certificate  
projects in Engineering,  
Construction Studies and DCG.

## HELLO SIGNS

B. C. S. has now 44 different cultures in our school community. As a way of celebrating this in a permanent visual form we now have signs saying 'hello' in all the different languages spoken in our school. These signs are hanging over our front door and it is our hope that all students entering B. C. S. will feel included and welcome. A huge thanks to the Transition Year students who worked hard on this project.





## LC MENTORS

Our inspirational mentors have done a terrific job this year, supporting our first year students by helping them to settle into BCS and offering guidance and advice. A really excellent job everyone!



## LC HIGHER OPTIONS

Our Leaving Certificate students enjoyed a busy and informative day at the Irish Times Higher Options and World Skills event, held in the RDS.

## LC HISTORY

Leaving Cert History students travelled to Dublin where they completed the tour of Revolutionary Dublin and also visited the GPO Witness History Museum.





## LC GRADUATES 2023

We were delighted to welcome back to BCS some of our students who did so well in their recent LC & LCA Exams. Once again, this year our students did exceptionally well, and we congratulate them on their achievements and wish them well in their further studies. These pictures show many of the students who secured over 500 points with a number securing over 600. Our LCA students did exceptionally well also with many securing Distinctions. Well done to all!



## MAHAD MAQSOOD

### Congratulations to Mahad Maqsood

Congratulations to Mahad Maqsood of the class of 2023 who has been awarded an Entrance Scholarship from UCD. This was in recognition of Mahad's outstanding results. Mahad is studying Computer Science and is enjoying college life. He has been elected Class Rep and so has obviously made a positive impression on his classmates. Mahad is wished continued success from all at BCS



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Email: [delaneyshardware@eircom.net](mailto:delaneyshardware@eircom.net)



# LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 2024



Mahommed Ridwaam Alom



Kamille Aleksunaite



Carla Araujo Souza



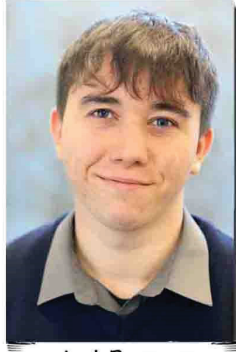
Mahreen Asif



Sofia Balbino Romao



Caolán Boyle



Jack Brennan



Molly Browne



Julia Buczak



Lauren Burke



Erica Byrne



Chloe Byrne



Sara Cancarevic



Katie Carr



Daire Caulfield



Oskar Chojnacki



Alicia Cleary



Isobel Coggins



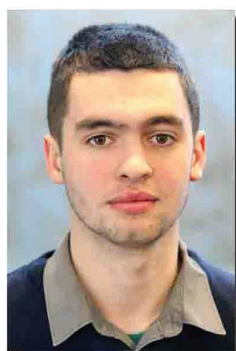
Cillian Coleman



Emma Colleran



Harrison Collins



Eoghan Conlon



Roisín Conway



Eóin Conway



Polly Cox



# LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 2024



Isabelle Cox



Brenda Cruz



Seán Crawley



Aidan Culliney



Patrick Culliney



Alice Curran



Sarah Dee



Matthew Delaney



Jack Delaney



Marcus Denning



Laura Dillon



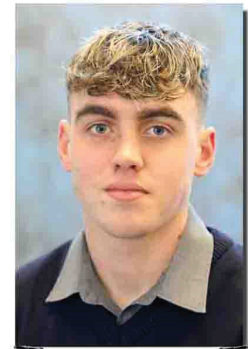
Emma Doran



Kate Doyle



Shauna Finn



Micheál Finnegan



Shane Finnegan



Maeve Flanagan



Jacob Flanagan



James Flynn



Trystan Folliard



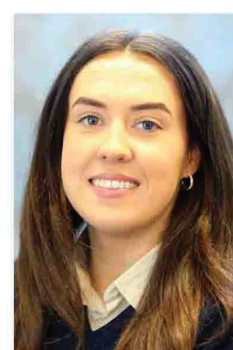
Emer Gill



Jake Glavey



Róisín Glynn



Ella Gormley



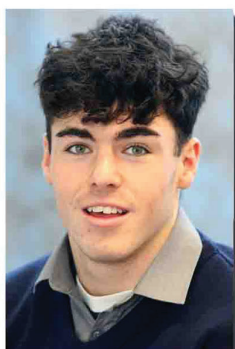
Siobhán Greene



# LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 2024



Senan Guilfoyle



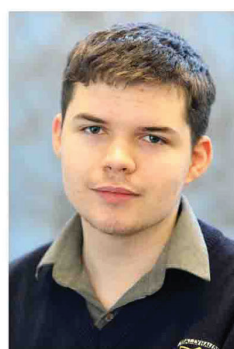
Daniel Hagney



Yazmin Harrison



Katie Hayden



Kevin Heelan



Serena Henry



Isabelle Henry



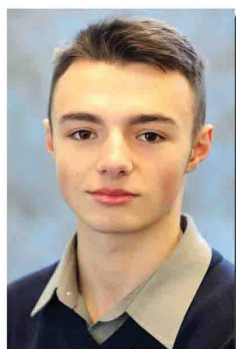
Conor Henry



Chloe Henry



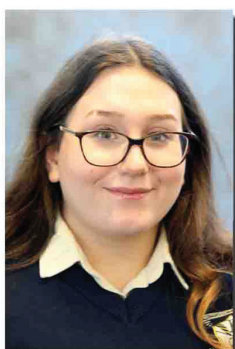
Shannon Hibbit



Edward Hickman



Abbey Jennings



Jessalyn Jennings



Jasmine Jurakova



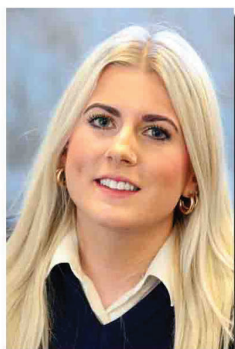
Jason Kavanagh



Seán Keadin



Rhian Keane Higgins



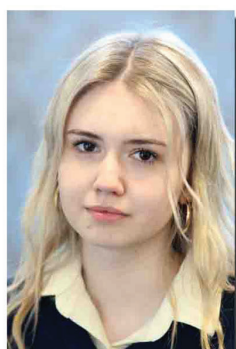
Cara Keaveney



Neil Keaveney



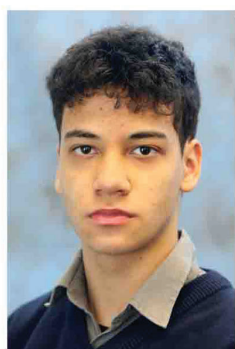
Cilian Kinnarney



Paulina Koralewska



Alex Leva



Carlos Lima Rocha



Seán Lynskey



Aoibhin Lynskey



# LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 2024



Jason Lyons



Katie Madden



Áine Mannion



Otar Margishvili



Leah McDermott



Alesha McGarry



Ryan McGowan Gleeson



Seán McGuire



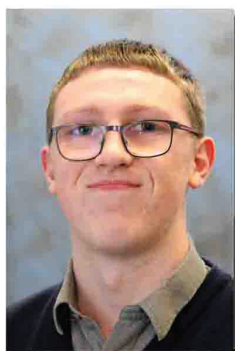
Callum Mitchell



Rebekah Monaghan



Tadhg Moore



Sean Moran



Shannon Morgan



Kian Morley



Fintan Mulrennan



Pdraig Murphy



Anna Murray



Adam Noone



Fernanda Nunes



David Owusu



Carlagh Peake



Emily Pereira Silva



Tara Phillips



Dalla Rahmani



Colm Rattigan



## LEAVING CERTIFICATE CLASS 2024



Dean Reidy



Ciara Reynolds



John Ross Roche



Aoife Ruane



Fiza Shoaib



Evan Small McNamara



Matthew Stevko



Alice Sullivan



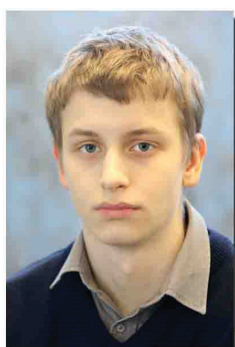
Ethan Taylor



Emanuel Tolic



Noor Uliman



Stas Vaitiekus



Conor Walsh



Adam Walsh



Vanessa Whelan



Daria Zota

## YEARBOOK EDITORS MESSAGE

Another year, another yearbook. This year like all other years passed by swiftly with all the action that is packed into the 2024 edition of the Yearbook. It is always a great journey putting the yearbook together to see the huge variety of events that take place throughout the year, too many to even fit in the Yearbook. I would like to thank all the students, teachers and management of the school for their input into the Yearbook. The students' work this year was particularly impressive and I want to recognise that.

I wish the 3rd year and Leaving Cert students the best of luck in their exams and all the best of luck for whatever comes next.

**Micheal Ginty**





# LEAVING CERT AWARDS 2024

## Couple of the year

- Alice Curran and Sean Crawley

## Babe of the year (male)

- Conor Henry

## Babe of the year (female)

- Emma Colleran

## Flirt of the year (male)

- Micheal Finnegan

## Flirt of the year (female)

- Maeve Flannagan

## Most likely to go on love island (male)

- Trystan Folliard

## Most likely to go on love island (female)

- Molly Browne

## Legend of the year (male)

- Neil Keaveney

## Legend of the year (female)

- Jasmine Jurakova

## Rear of the year (male)

- Daniel Hagney

## Rear of the year (female)

- Shannon Hibbitt

## Biggest glow-up (male)

- Sean Crawley

## Biggest glow-up (female)

- Erica Bryne

## Drama King

- Eoghan Conlon

## Drama Queen

- Kamile Aleksiaunaite

## Most likely to be ID at 30 (male)

- Eoin Conway

## Most likely to be ID at 30 (female)

- Alesha McGarry

## Biggest Lightweight (male)

- James Flynn

## Biggest lightweight (female)

- Ella Gormley

## Yapanese (male)

- Adam Walsh

## Yapanese (female)

- Alice Sullivan

## Distinctive Laugh (male)

- David Owusu

## Distinctive Laugh (Female)

- Isabelle Henry

## Class Clown (male)

- Rhian Keane-Higgins

## Class Clown (female)

- Vanessa Whelan

## Bromance

- Caolan Boyle and Conor Henry

## Sister-Act

- Róisín Glynn and Alicia Cleary

## Never pass driving test (male)

- Rhian Keane-Higgins

## Never pass driving test (female)

- Isabelle Cox

## Biggest Ship

- Maeve Flanagan and James Flynn

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# LEAVING CERTIFICATE BABY PHOTOS



1. Abbey Jennings, 2. Evan McNamara, 3. Roisin Conway, 4. Maeve Flanagan, 5. Sean Crawley, 6. Sara Cancarevic, 7. Shannon Hibbitt, 8. Tara Philips, 9. Kamile Aleksunaite, 10. Aoibhin Lynskey, 11. Matthew Stevko, 12. Dallah Rahmani, 13. Sofia Balbino Romao, 14. Serena Henry, 15. Aoife Ruane, 16. John Ross Roche, 17. Ciara Reynolds, 18. Erica Byrne, 19. Isabelle Cox, 20. Marcus Denning, 21. Rebekah Monaghan, 22. Shauna Finn, 23. Mahreen Asif, 24. Adam Walsh, 25. Vanessa Whelan, 26. Lauren Burke-Flatley, 27. Katie Hayden, 28. Sean Lynskey, 29. Matthew Delaney, 30. Sean McGuire, 31. Yazmin Harrison, 32. Leah McDermott, 33. Polly Cox, 34. Sarah Dee, 35. Rhian Keane, 36. Jason Lyons



# LEAVING CERTIFICATE BABY PHOTOS



37. Kate Doyle, 38. James Flynn, 39. Ethan Taylor, 40. Laura Dillon, 41. Micheal Finnegan, 42. Jessalyn Jennings, 43. Jacob Flanagan, 44. Molly Browne, 45. Isabelle Cox and Ciara Reynolds, 46. Isobel Coggins, 47. Harrison Collins, 48. Paulina Koralewska, 49. Carlagh Mullarney, 50. Alex Leva, 51. Alice Curran, 52. Chloe Byrne, 53. Jake Glavey, 54. Emma Doran, 55. Sean Moran, 56. Emma Colleran, 57. Daria Zota, 58. Conor Henry, 59. Caolan Boyle and Alicia Cleary, 60. Anna Murray, 61. Emer Gill, 62. Stas Vaitiekus, 63. Eoghan Conlon, 64. Roisin Glynn, 65. Alice Sullivan, 66. Cara Keavney, 67. Emanuel Tolic, 68. Daire Caulfield, 69. Dean Reidy, 70. Alesha McGarry, 71. Cillian Kinnarney, 72. Trystan Folliard, 73. Ella Gormley.



# MEMORY LANE 2018-2024

In the blink of an eye, for the class of 2024 our time here at BCS has come to an end. Although the time has flown, these years have proved incredibly valuable with the opportunities we have received, experiences we'll never forget and most importantly the friends we have made along the way.

All those years ago when we first came through these doors, we sat in the canteen for the most part as strangers. As Mr. McDonagh addressed us on that very first day he assured us how quickly the years would fly but of course as first years we all thought we knew better. Although we hate to admit on that occasion he was completely right. First year was a blur of which highlights included our retreat and school tour. Of course, coming in from primary school we were daunted having to do "so much" homework, but Huzefa provided light entertainment through Coldest Gaming.

Second year started out strong as we all came back ready to run the show. We came back with a bang as the lads proved their newfound maturity getting in the biggest trouble, they ever have to this day for the unforgivable crime of jumping in puddles. On the flip side the second-year girls basketball team were on the up before covid came along and put a stop to it all (rumour has it we were shoe ins for the All-Ireland). From then on, we all worked incredibly hard in online classes especially, Rhian, who once spent 7 hours tuned in to a maths call. Our teachers put their all into keeping us tuned in with teams calls, well some more than others but we won't name names.

When we came back to school in 3rd year talks of whether or not we would have to sit the Junior Cycle exams were as uncertain as ever. We all grew remarkably close as class groups as covid measures left us in our base classrooms for the majority of our days. Of course, we found many ways to keep ourselves entertained once we discovered the power of hand sanitiser as a weapon in battle. Those of us who did TY were lucky enough to not sit the Junior Cycle. Our usual semester tests formed part of our predicted grades. Although the cohort of us who sat the Junior Cycle might have felt hard done by at the time, they proved their worth as we arrived into 5th year with at least some recollection of what we learned over those three years.

As always, TY was undoubtedly the main highlight of our school career. With restrictions easing we made sure to make the absolute most of every single day of TY (oftentimes to the annoyance of our teachers). Our prefabs were our home for the year, and we found many ways to keep ourselves entertained, with Daniel making a few quick escapes and the air quality monitors giving us 2-minute breaks at suspiciously convenient moments. We were incredibly lucky to get so many great opportunities in TY with highlights such as Killary, Roosky, St. Brigid's Gardens, Tayto Park, Croagh Patrick, and Knocknarea. One of the standouts from our TY year was of course our TY Musical. We were shocked by the effort that was put in by all involved in the end. Of course, there were a few slip ups on stage - most notably when Neil showed us his true feeling towards Aoibhin's Norma Foley but, we'll let you look on the YouTube yourself if you want to find out what they were. We were incredibly lucky to take part in an Erasmus exchange programme with trips to France, Italy, and in case you somehow managed to forget Réunion Island. Rumour has it our TY year were so rambunctious Mr. McGarry hasn't set foot in a classroom since but not before a bit of intercontinental travel.

5th year was the first time we came together as our graduating year group. Although it was a bit of a shock having to get back to the books our bonding trip to Achill helped to ease us back in. The "new kid" Cillian made sure to make himself known managing to break his leg before setting foot out of the sleeping quarters. The days were filled with incredible activities such as surfing, paddleboarding, kayaking, and hillwalking but, the most memorable part was most definitely our last night. Spirits were high starting the evening off with a makeshift rave until it was stopped by an ill-timed fire alarm, followed by an incredibly wholesome singsong greatly appreciated by our teachers but not so much by the staff. Another standout was our Italy trip. We had the opportunity to visit a plethora of sites such as Lake Garda, Venice, and Verona. Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Murray had to put their security skills to use in order to fight off a group of Italians but, differences were put aside when BCS took on the Italians in an incredibly serious soccer game refereed with an iron fist by Mr. Mitchell. As the year came to a close, we were terribly busy keeping ourselves entertained with Kamile "losing" her phone, Emma losing her bag and the rest of us losing our patience at last year's Grad. Our last week of school was one of our best. Despite semester tests, we spent most of our time on the astro or in the fishbowl enjoying in the words of David the "Tropical" weather.

We have had quite the busy Leaving Cert year, starting off with our trip to Dublin for higher options in hopes of finding our future careers, which for Alice Curran definitely won't include anything that resembles a self-service checkout. Now with our careers chosen it was time to get our heads in the game and hit the books but, before that there was the small matter of the Musical. Whether we were jocks, cheerleaders, brainiacs, skaters or of course the two lovebirds (we're looking at you, Jacob and Isobel) almost all of us were involved in one way or another. It was a great production and a fabulous addition to our leaving cert year. Stormy weather left a lot of us without electricity in the days leading up to our leaving cert photos so apologies if we're not looking our best. In no time at all the mocks were upon us and in truth we were nothing but cool calm and collected, that is until the Friday after when the lads decided to enlist the withholding of their speaker in a new form of cruel and unusual punishment. The senior boys team ended their school football career on a high taking home a Connaught championship and instilling immense pride in the school community. As we approach exams, graduation and our lives ahead of us it's key to stay focused on what's important, namely who will win in the ongoing rivalry between Mr. Ginty and Mr. Gormally's maths classes. Of course, we mean making the most of the time we have left here in BCS and appreciating all our lasts before moving onto to all the firsts that are to come.

It goes without saying that each and every one of our teachers are owed a huge thank you for putting up with us throughout our time here. Most notably our year heads over the years; Ms. O'Reilly, Ms O'Loughlin, Mr. Noone, Mr. McGarry, and Ms. Mooney. We are incredibly grateful for everything that has been done for us and the care we have been afforded in this school.

It has often been commented that we are remarkably close as a year group and we have no doubt in the truth behind this sentiment. As said earlier we entered the school for the most part as strangers but we can confidently say we are leaving as true friends.

## MEMORY LANE





# MEMORY LANE







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