

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

"Help of the helpless. O abide with me"

As I reflect on the last academic year the words of this wonderful hymn sung so beautifully by the choir in Cloonfad Church on the sad occasion of the funeral of James Daniels continuously comes to mind. We have all struggled to comprehend the events of the evening of Friday, 27th September that led to the loss of two young people which led to such sadness and devastation in the school and wider community. We have all had to rely on each other and perhaps a higher power to sustain us through what was a very difficult period.

The whole school community was devastated by the tragic deaths of James Daniels and Harry Fagan. James and Harry had bright personalities and their presence greatly enhanced the school community. We mourn their loss and the happy memories we have of them will never be forgotten. May their gentle souls rest in peace.

In the face of such tragedy much fades into insignificance. But life goes on nonetheless and that is especially true for school life. It has been humbling and indeed heartening to witness the way the school community came together to offer support and consolation in what was a very difficult year.

This togetherness got us through the year and allowed us to navigate the ups and downs of the last number of months.



*David McDonagh,
Principal of Ballyhaunis
Community School*

Since the publication of the last edition of the Yearbook Mrs. Josephine Loftus made the decision to retire as a teacher of Accounting and Business in BCS. This drew the curtain on an association with the school that spanned 31 years. During that time Mrs. Loftus made a huge contribution to the school and the education of all the students in her care. Mrs. Loftus was diligent and conscientious and always went the extra mile to secure positive outcomes for her students.

As a colleague Mrs. Loftus was much admired for her integrity and her sincerity and she is greatly missed within the staffroom. From my own perspective I always got the sense that you were in safe hands with Josephine and I never had to worry that matters would be anything other than ship shape under her supervision.

I know Josephine is not idle in retirement as she has a lot of irons in the fire. However, I sincerely hope that the pace of life has relaxed somewhat for her so that she can enjoy the pleasures of retirement. I would like to wish Josephine and her husband Pat many years of health and happiness in retirement.

Mr. Ryan also decided to turn to a new chapter in his life and transferred to Davitt College, Castlebar last October. Mr. Ryan made a significant contribution to our school both as a SNA and a teacher of English & History. Mr. Ryan's pleasant personality ensured he was popular with both students and staff alike. His initiatives with the Table Tennis Club, the Irish Supporters Club and the European Youth Parliament ensured that he made a huge contribution to the holistic development of the students in his care. I want to thank Paul for his contribution to BCS and wish him well in his new role in Davitt College.

One of the major talking points of the year was the election of Mr. Lawless to the thirty fourth Dáil. This is an outstanding and proud achievement for Mr. Lawless and his family. Of course, Leinster House's gain is our loss. Mr. Lawless was a popular member of staff and we will miss his good humour and pleasant personality. On behalf of the whole school community, I wish to congratulate Paul on his wonderful achievement and I wish him well in the years to come.

The town of Ballyhaunis has long been recognised as an example of inclusion and integration. This is also true for the Community School. We are very conscious that we are a melting pot of many cultures and traditions. Our ambition is to ensure everyone feels welcome here and feels a sense of belonging. Some years ago we revised the School Motto to "Unity in Diversity" to reflect our commitment to ensuring all students feel comfortable here irrespective of their background.

To underline this commitment this year we applied to be recognised as a "School of Sanctuary". "School of Sanctuary" is a concept which through a framework called Learn/Action/Share, schools work to strengthen their identity as a place of welcome and inclusion in their community, becoming a beacon of sanctuary for those who are vulnerable to marginalisation or isolation. Early in March members of the "School of Sanctuary" committee visited BCS to assess the school's approach to inclusion. I am delighted to report that the committee gave us a glowing review and were more than happy to bestow the title "Champion School of Sanctuary" on BCS. We are now just one of a handful of schools across the country with such an accolade and we are very proud of the achievement. A huge thanks to Mrs. Murphy and her committee for leading the charge on this wonderful initiative.

The last year has seen record numbers attend our school. 751 students were enrolled in September 2024 which is the highest number since the school's foundation. This is a wonderful vote of confidence in the school by the locality and it is something we greatly appreciate and do not take for granted. We are constantly looking to improve so that we continue to serve the local community to the best of our ability. To that end, we introduced two new subjects at Leaving Certificate level last September. Physical Education and Computer Science are now on the curriculum and these were very well subscribed. It is important that the School remains agile and ready to evolve to ensure our students graduate with the skills necessary to contribute to modern society.

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 our 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.

A very real example of this is the School Tour which took place over the Easter Break. Fifty 5th Year students packed their bags and headed for the beautiful city of Barcelona. This was a wonderful opportunity for these students to go abroad with their friends and get a flavour of the culture and traditions of another European country. The tour took in some elements of history, architecture and science alongside a considerable amount of fun. I want to thank Mrs. Henry, the tour co-ordinator and her colleagues Mr. Noone, Mr. Murray and Mrs. Keane for facilitating this wonderful endeavour. I want to pay tribute to Mr. Ginty and Mr. Gormally for their hard work in compiling this excellent publication. This is no easy task but, as always, they rose to the challenge and I wish to commend them for their efforts this year. They were ably assisted by a terrific team of students who can also take great pride from being involved in such a wonderful project. Also, 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.

TEACHING STAFF 2025



Backrow (L-R): Ms. Patricia Hargaden-Whyte, Ms. Maria Flaherty, Mr. Colin Quinn, Mr. Séan Folan, Mr. David Mitchell, Mr. Brian Waters, Mr. Colm Caulfield, Mr. Marcus Bradshaw, Mr. Declan McManamon, Mr. Micheál Ginty, Ms. Mairéad Conway, Ms. Shannon O'Connor.

3rd Row(L-R): Ms. Bernadine Waldron, Ms. Caroline McGuire, Mr. Francis Gormally, Ms. Caoimhe O'Grady, Ms. Antoinette Lennon, Ms. Ciara Hunt, Ms. Karen Moran, Ms. Lauren Casey, Ms. Shannon McDonagh, Ms. Mairead Quinn, Ms. Nicola O'Donnell, Ms. Marlena Staszczuk, Ms. Claire Lawless, Ms. Aoife Keane, Ms. Niamh Morley, Ms. Ann Varden.

2nd Row(L-R): Ms. Mary Mooney, Ms. Sharon Mulroy, Ms. Geraldine Cunneiffe, Ms. Carmel Cox, Ms. Aishling O'Brien, Ms. Siobhán Mannix, Ms. Caroline Burns, Ms. Nicola Nolan, Ms. Marian Phelan, Ms. Gráinne Glavey, Ms. Siobhán Garvey, Ms. Sineád Donegan, Ms. Danielle Coyne, Mr. Jack Coyne.

Front Row(L-R): Ms. Anne Marie O'Reilly, Ms. Orla Phillips, Mr. Michael Murray, Ms. Emer McNally, Mr. Raymond Woolley, Mr. Patrick Noone, Ms. Orla Macken, Mr. David McDonagh, Mr. Patrick McGarry, Mr. Padraic Shannon, Ms. Catríona Murphy, Ms. Bernie Osgood, Mr. Martin Carr.

Missing from photo: Ms. Deirbhle Ross, Ms. Anna Henry, Ms. Aoife Hegarty, Ms. Colleen Hayes, Ms Catherine Monaghan, Mr. Connor Freeley, Ms. Gillian Madden, Ms. Genevieve Murray, Ms. Geraldine O'Loughlin, Ms. Olive Lyons

CARETAKERS



Pictured: L-R: Michael O'Shaughnessy and Gerry Glavey.
(Missing from Photo: Zuzanna Stevkova)

OFFICE STAFF



Pictured: L-R: Ms. Justina Lyons, Ms. Sharon Gibbons, Ms. Kamila Nesen

SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANTS



Pictured: L-R: Ms. Annmarie Walsh, Ms. Louise Joyce, Ms. Geraldine Donnellan, Ms. Sharon Lyons, Ms. Michelle Kavanagh, Ms. Michelle Delaney.

STAFF NEWS

Babies

Welcome to the World...



Cillian

Congratulations to Colm Caulfield and his wife Ciara on the birth of their baby boy Cillian



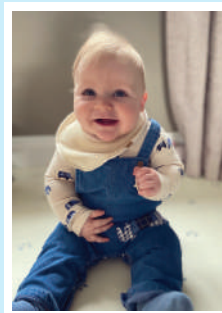
Caelan

Congratulations to Francis Gormally and his wife Marita on the birth of their baby boy Caelan



Rose

Congratulations to Deirbhle Ross and her partner Kevin on the birth of their baby girl Rose

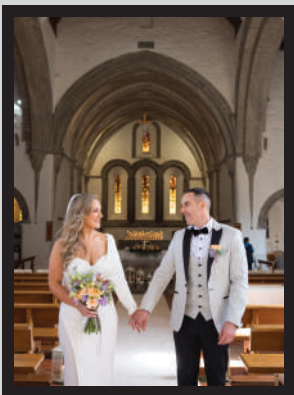


Eanna

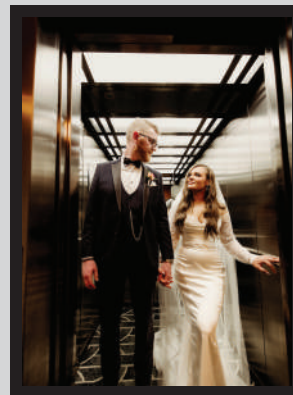
Congratulations to Aoife Hegarty and her husband Enda on the birth of their baby boy Eanna

Weddings

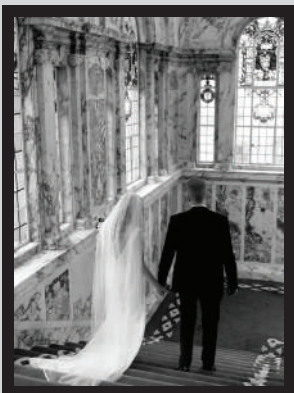
Congratulations to these couples on their recent marriages...



Niamh & Richie



Brian & Greta



David & Caitlin



Connor & Angela

A Word from Our Chaplain

As we close another school year, I find myself reflecting on what has truly made this year special—not just the achievements or events, but the quiet, powerful moments of kindness, the friendships formed and the strength we've found in our diversity.

BCS is more than a school—it's a community made up of individuals from many different backgrounds, cultures and walks of life. That diversity is one of our greatest strengths. It teaches us to listen, to learn from one another and to grow into more compassionate, open-hearted people. When we choose to see our differences not as obstacles but as opportunities to connect, we build something truly beautiful: unity.

Throughout the year, I've witnessed countless acts of kindness—students helping one another through challenges, staff offering support with patience and care and friendships blossoming in the most unexpected places. These moments remind us that we all belong and that every small act of compassion contributes to a greater sense of togetherness.

True friendship is found when we look beyond ourselves, when we choose empathy over judgment and when we lift one another up. This kind of connection builds the foundation of a strong inclusive community—one where everyone is seen and valued.

As we move into summer and beyond, may we carry with us the lessons of this year: that kindness matters, that friendships make us stronger and that in our diversity, we are united. Thank you for being part of this journey, for showing up for one another and for making BCS a place where love, respect and unity truly thrive.

Wishing you a joyful, restful and kind summer.

Ms. Burns
Chaplain



Confessions at BCS



Continuing a cherished tradition at our school the Sacrament of Confession was made available to all students during Advent 2024. We were delighted to welcome Fr Stephen and a number of visiting priests to BCS for this important occasion.

Each year, their presence brings something truly meaningful to our school community in the lead-up to both Christmas and Easter. Fr Stephen regularly shares the positive feedback he receives from his fellow priests after their visits. They consistently speak of the warm welcome extended to them by Mr. McDonagh, our staff and students and always express how much they enjoy returning to BCS.

The priests are deeply moved by the openness and sincerity of our students, as well as their willingness to reflect and make a fresh start. It is without doubt a special and uplifting experience for all involved.

Sincere thanks to all the staff who helped support these visits.

Ms. Burns

Prayer to St. Brigid for Students



*St. Brigid, woman of wisdom and kindness,
Be with us today as we learn and grow.
Help us to be curious, focused and strong,
To use our gifts wisely and to treat others with respect.*

*You cared for the poor and welcomed everyone —
Teach us to be generous with our time and hearts.
When school feels hard or overwhelming,
Give us courage and calm.*

*Guide our thoughts, our words and our actions,
That we may become people of hope, just like you.*

St. Brigid, pray for us and help us to shine with God's love.



Amen.

Retirements

Josephine, Sadie, and Catherine

As you each retire from our school, we acknowledge your dedicated service with sincere appreciation. Thank you for the commitment, care and professionalism you have brought to our community over the years. Your contributions have made a meaningful and lasting difference.

In recognition of this moment, we share a reflection from the poet and philosopher John O'Donohue. His words express our hopes and best wishes as you begin this next chapter.



The Christmas holiday brought more than just an end of term, it also heralded the end of an era in BCS. We bade a fond farewell to our two wonderful cleaning ladies - Sadie Egan and Catherine Ruane, as they celebrated their retirement. Apart from doing an exceptional job keeping our school in pristine condition for nearly 20 years, Sadie and Catherine could always be relied upon for a friendly chat and good humour.

We wish them both much happiness in the next chapter of their lives.

Josephine

Josephine has been a most treasured member of the Ballyhaunis Community School staff for over 30 years. Josephine taught many subjects over the years from Junior Cycle, Leaving Certificate, LCA, Transition Year and FETAC (Post Leaving Certificate). As head of Business for many years she was so supportive of all colleagues in the Business department and indeed in all departments.

She is perhaps best known by the student body as LCVP and accounting teacher who always went above and beyond for her students – working through breaks and after school organising trips and helping students who maybe struggling a little. The consummate professional who went about her day in a calm collective manner. She gave great guidance and showed compassion to each and every student in her care and always helped them to reach their potential in exams and also through their personal development. She did this through her modelling of professional manner, preparation and interactions with all the people in our school with students, staff and parents. She is an example to us all.

As a friend Josephine would be the one we would confide in for solid pragmatic advice. She had an exceptional talent for numbers and statistics and we treasured her knowledge and brilliant mind which will be missed among colleagues in the school. Her sense of fun and good humour shone bright each and every day and she really enriched staff outings away from the school. You'd always look forward to a chat with Josephine and you always left her company feeling better about yourself and your day. You have left a wonderful legacy in the school. It is a testament to your dedication and commitment that so many students go on to study Business and indeed to go onto their careers in business after school. As a staff we certainly do miss you, but we are also delighted that you now have chosen to retire to a point where you can enjoy the next phase of your life with all the family, friendships, community and fun. We wish you the very best of health and enjoyment in your retirement. Sending every good wish to you, Pat and all the family for many years. Blessings on your retirement.

Bernie Osgood, Patricia Hargaden-Whyte and Mairead Conway

A Reflection

by John O'Donohue

This is where your life has arrived,
After all the years of effort and toil;
Look back with graciousness and thanks
On all your great and quiet achievements.
You stand on the shore of new invitation
To open your life to what is left undone;
Let your heart enjoy a different rhythm
When drawn to the wonder of other horizons.
Have the courage for a new approach to time;
Allow it to slow until you find freedom
To draw alongside the mystery you hold
And befriend your own beauty of soul.
Now is the time to enjoy your heart's desire,
To live the dreams you've waited for,
To awaken the depths beyond your work
And enter your infinite source.

Ode to Jolo

In halls where wisdom's light once shone so bright,
A star named Josephine now bids goodnight.

Her brilliance, unmatched, her kindness, so true,
A teacher of fairness, in all that she'd do.

Accounting, business, IT, and LCVP,
In each she taught with integrity.

Her students inspired, her colleagues admired,
In every challenge, she never tired.

Gaelic football and super fast cars brought her cheer,
And Bruce Springsteen's tunes always near.

Now retired, unexpectedly, we wish her well,
In this new chapter, where happiness will swell.

With family close, she'll savour each day,
Spoiling them more in her gentle way.

Josephine, you'll be missed more than you know,
In our hearts, your legacy will always grow.

May health and joy in your life now abound,
In the love of your family, forever surround.

Anonymous



BCS Parents' Association - 2024-2025 Committee Update

We are pleased to introduce the following members:

- **Aaliya Shakoor**
- **Anna Patterson (Secretary)**
- **Emer Gallagher**
- **Evelyn O'Connor (Chair)**
- **Fiona Cassidy**
- **Kamaldeep Singh**
- **Mary Hickey**
- **Md Muniruzzaman**
- **Rami Rahmani**



The committee meets approximately every two months and this year, we started with our first meeting in October 2024.

Typically, Parents' Associations take part in a variety of activities including organising events for new parents, providing support for school events, providing input on school policy, helping with extracurricular activities, and organising fundraising events. For the 2024/25 academic year, the committee focused on the following key areas: **Student Welfare, Parental Input on School Policy and Talks for Parents on Topics of Interest.**

Focus Areas and Outcomes

The areas the committee focused on so far this year are as follows:

1. **Communication with Parents.**
2. **School Uniform and Comfort**
3. **Supporting Incoming First Year Parents**
4. **Wellbeing and Parent Talks**

Looking Ahead: Future Activities

Looking ahead, the committee will continue to support key school events, including the **First-Year Parents' Evening and Leaving Cert Graduation**, both in May. In addition, a talk with the local library is scheduled for the near future where parents will learn about additional resources available for children with additional needs.

We have also had a request for more information and perhaps a talk for parents on drug use, so this is being looked at for the future. One key takeaway from the **2024 Parent Survey** was that many parents would like to know more about what the Parents' Association does. Going forward, we hope to make improvements in communication and raise the profile of the committee's work, ensuring more parents feel informed and engaged.

Get Involved – We Need You!

Looking back, it's been a productive year, with many of our proposals already being put into action by school management. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank school management for their continued support.

However, we also know there's still much more to do and we would love to see more parents getting involved in the work of the Parents' Association.

If you're interested in joining or would like more information about the committee's work, please reach out. We'd be delighted to have you on board!

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Email: delaneyshardware@eircom.net

Paul Lawless TD

During the last week approaching Christmas break there is always a buzz of excitement around the corridors of BCS. This was added to on the last day with our Christmas concert, but added into the mix, the return of our newly elected TD for Mayo Paul Lawless. The excitement was palpable. This really shone through when Paul walked into the assembly area and the students spontaneously cheered and applauded his triumphant return.

It was truly a remarkable achievement for a candidate from a smaller party to break through, in a constituency where the traditionally bigger parties had such a strong presence. When Paul returned, he spoke to the assembled students and teachers of how many people had written him off and some to the point of ridicule. He encouraged the students to take from his example and not let what people say get you down and to fight for your dreams and what you believe in.

Everyone at BCS is very proud of his achievement and wishes Paul the best in his time in Dail Éireann.



50 Years Later



Above: Aerial photographs taken in 1973-74 of St. Patrick's College, Vocational School and Mercy Convent Secondary School

Below: A 2024 aerial view of Ballyhaunis Community School.



Ballyhaunis Community School was founded in 1977 when St. Patrick's College, Vocational School and the Mercy Convent, amalgamated. Many thanks to Fr. Stephen Farragher for the photographs.

1A



Back row: L/R: Kallis Hlongwane, Kleon Furesz, Izaias Bitencourt Jesuina, Ethan Folliard, Tomasz Makulski, Michael Coggins, Kevin Heneghan

Middle row: L/R: Leo Forkan, Victor Gabriel De Oliveira Rodrigués, Daniel Babatunde, Teya Bediwy, Emer McLoughlin, Cara Walsh, Marc McCafferty

Front row: L/R: Nicole Hickey, Erin Casey, Niamh Delaney, Róisín Murphy, Michaela Kavanagh, Saoirse Hession
Missing: Lily Ruane, Kate Monaghan

1B



Back row: L/R: Alexia Medesan, Andrea Ward, James Ó Laighin, Noah Damron, Charlie Finn, Darryn Collins

Middle row: L/R: Nahuel Emmanuel Stelatto Cuevas, Leah Moss, Munteha Sohail, Oisín Finnegan, Eric Lee Ó Reily, Cian Murphy

Front row: L/R: Leanne Power, Amelie Morley, Lauren Finn, Annabelle McGowan, Nika Pesut, Andrea Lupinkova
Missing: Emmanuella Fasanmi, Karim Habib, Ismail Jan

1C



Back row: L/R: Zuzanna Toporowska, Shane Nolan, Senan Lawless, Luke Ruane, Evan Feeney, Noah Maughan, Victory Ezech

Middle row: L/R: Aoife Canny, Emily Gannon, Casey Swanick, Henzio Neves, Seán Cassidy, Graham Casey, Dáire Scally, Nathan Byrne, Cathal Morris

Front row: L/R: Molly Thompson, Madalena De Castro Goncalves, Kate Squires, Shannon McLoughlin, Ava Murphy, Lily Gallagher

Missing: Osman Azizi

1D



Back row: L/R: Ben Gallagher, Matus Lorincik, João Vitor Ribeiro De Araujo, Adnam Hamze, Connor McGuire, Sayid Abdul Raihan, Kevin Dunkurs

Middle row: L/R: David Kuca, Finley James Mills, Cian Fleming, Zara Waldron, Sirat Maqsood, Catherine Sakar, Umar Fayaaz

Front row: L/R: Hannah Fagan, Katie Conlon, Aibhe Donnellan, Anna Hibbitt, Lily Murphy, Niamh Skeffington

Missing: Simon McDonagh, Andras Penzes

1E



Back row: L/R: Megan Swanick, Seán Young, Jonathan Hawkshaw (Hickey), Muhammad Yahya Kashif, Ash Kilbride Grant

Middle row: L/R: Emilis Ziziunas, Patrick De Sá Resende, Cian Warde, Theo Ronane, Pj Moran, Sidra Alkhalaf

Front row: L/R: Nikol Udovic, Sarah Doran, Saoirse McWalter, Sadbh McDowell, Maeve Healy

Missing: Bella Mae Goulding, Aimy Liju, Nikolas Lukac, Luka Polhos, Nikita Webb

1F



Back row: L/R: Lukas Barcanec, Daniel Coyle, David Bison, Connor Bann, Adam Bailey, Patrick Brennan

Middle row: L/R: Miguel Resende Dos Santos, Jamie Doyle, Jake Conway, Frankie Burke, Isabel Allen, Estela Balbino Romao, Karina Bilinskaite

Front row: L/R: Tarek Alkhalaf, Marrienne Carroll, Kayla Cussens, Abigail Dixon, Charlotte Burke, Zaima Amin

Missing: Victor Lima Rocha, Nina Mizigaruva

First Year Bonding Day

Our fantastic first-year students had a memorable and uplifting experience during their Bonding Day retreat to Knock. A heartfelt thank you to the Knock Pastoral Care Team for their generous support and inspiring leadership throughout the day.

Students took part in trust and friendship-building games, enjoyed a guided tour of Knock and had fun competing in a lively quiz. They also had the meaningful opportunity to collect holy water for their grandparents, a gesture that was deeply appreciated.

A huge thank you to Ms. McGuire, Ms. Hargaden-Whyte, Ms. Mooney, and Ms. Mulroy for their support on the day. The behaviour of our students was outstanding and they represented themselves and BCS with pride.

Well done to all of our wonderful first years!

Ms. Burns



First Year Book Club



Our first years had a great year of reading. We look forward to lots more reading adventures over the coming years!

First Year Skip Off 2025



Congrats to Lily Gallagher 1C and Victor de Oliveria 1A who were the best skippers in first year. We held this charity fundraiser out in the sunshine and everyone had great fun.

First & Second Year Camogie

BCS 1st & 2nd Year Camogie teams travelled to sunny Lisnamult in Roscommon earlier in the year to participate in a Camogie blitz. Both teams played four games reaching the finals. Our 1st years were beaten in their final by Colaiste Mhuire Ballygar. Our 2nd years won their final against Roscommon Community College in a thrilling game. A big thank you to Roscommon Community College for hosting the event.



Back row: L/R: Ella Gallagher, Lauren Gallagher, Sarah Gorman, Sarah Ryan, Abbie Gildea, Erin Higgins, Alice Curran, Robyn Keane, Sadhbh McDowell

Front row: L/R: Aoife Canny, Katie Conlon, Aibhe Donnellan, Niamh Delaney, Lauren Henry, Molly Thomson

Camogie Blitz

36 players from 1st, 2nd & 3rd year in BCS attended a camogie blitz in McHale Park, Castlebar earlier this year.

The girls played 3 to 4 games & thoroughly enjoyed the day. The future is bright for these young players. Many thanks to Mayo Camogie for organising the day.

First Year Boys Soccer

The lads came up against a strong Rice College team played in Cloonfad soccer pitch. The lads played a great first half with players such as two of cloonfads own Theo Ronane and Cian Warde having outstanding performances. BCS lead at the half time whistle, but Rice college came out and showed up for the second half and it finished 5-2 to Rice College.

The boys had a trip to Athlone to face a tough encounter with a strong Coláiste Chiaráin side. They gave a strong performance in the first half with Shane Nolan and Noah Maughan holding it together at the back. The second half didn't go Ballyhaunis' way, The boys worked hard but with the Athlone side coming out with the victory.

In the final game of the first year's season, it was the first time the school soccer pitch was used in years. It was a big occasion for the school. Unfortunately, the boys didn't get the result they were looking for despite two late consolation goals from Izaías at number 9.

It was a very competitive year, and the results didn't go our way, there is plenty of positives to build on for next year.



Back row: L/R: Evan Feeney, Noah Maughan, Shane Nolan, Ben Gallagher, Kevin Heneghan, Michael Coggins

Front row: L/R: Theo Ronane, Charlie Finn, Daire Scally, Izaías Bittencourt, Marc McCafferty

Games Club



Games club took place in A2 on Mondays at 1:20 lunch for 1st years, 3rd years and leaving Cert Students, Wednesdays at 12:40 lunch for 2nd years, 5th years, LCA1s and TY's. Games include Chess, Draughts, Ludo, Jenga, Connect 4, Uno and other card games. We have added darts and hope to add more games.

All students are welcome. Come listen to music, play the board games and relax. Many thanks to Ms. Cox for running the club.

First Year Basketball

The first year basketball season began in early January away to Abbey Community College, Boyle. Unfortunately they didn't come away with a win despite a big effort from the whole team. Next up was a game at home against a strong Rice College side, unluckily in the fourth quarter Rice College pulled away for a win after the Ballyhaunis lads put up a good fight. Lastly, the final game was at home to Ballinrobe, after a tightly contested game it was the end of the road for the lads.

Despite it being most people's first time playing basketball they hugely improved as the season went on and we hope they continue to bring that skill into second year basketball next year. Many thanks to Mr. Waters for training the lads throughout the year and encouraging them at every match.



Back row: L/R: Lukas Barcanec, Shane Nolan, Michael Coggins, Henzio Neves, Theo Ronane, Cian Warde
Front row: L/R: Nathan Byrne, Cian Murphy, Jamie Doyle, Evan Feeney, Jonathan Hickey, Connor Bann, Muhammad Yahya Kashif

Autism Awareness Month

As part of Autism Awareness Month, Amanda McGuinness (Autism advocate) visited BCS in April. She delivered a wonderful presentation to our students, explaining the key characteristics of autism. Amanda spoke about areas of challenge including social communication and sensory overload, whilst highlighting the amazing strengths of a neurodivergent brain. She challenged our students to think about how we can best support autistic students in post primary schools.

In BCS we celebrate diversity - thank you, Amanda, for imparting your experience and expertise.

We look forward to welcoming you back for more insights in the future



First Year Football



Back row: L/R: Cathal Morris, Kevin Heneghan, Noah Maughan, Shane Nolan, James Lyons, Luke Ruane, Evan Feeney, Charlie Finn, Conor McGuire, Ben Gallagher, Micheal Coggins, Theo Ronane, Adam Bailey
Front row: L/R: Patrick Brennan, Senan Lawless, Mark McCafferty, Frankie Burke, Cian Fleming, Cian Murphy, Graham Casey, Oisín Finnegan, Jamie Doyle, Daire Scally

The first year lads started the year with a big defeat to Foxford in their opening game of the league. They then had to travel away to Summerhill, needing a win to get to the league final. They beat them well, to advance to the league final against Foxford. They then took on Foxford for the second time in the league final. They were very unlucky to lose by a late point from Foxford, with the game ending 4-10 to 5-8.

Our first year boys played Balla in the Connaught Championship, after a long 2 month break. They played Balla in the COE and came out with a big 6-8 to 3-7 victory in their first game in the championship. Meeting Foxford again, now in the second round of championship, they narrowly lost 2-10 to 1-9.

After that they had to travel down to St Tiernans of Crossmolina. They beat them well to advance to a Connaught quarter final against Boyle in Frenchpark. They had a rough start being down 0-1 to 2-9 at half time but they fought hard in the second half. Unfortunately, Boyle pulled away winning 3-15 to 0-6.

First Year Hurling

The first-year hurling team showed great energy and enthusiasm representing the school together for the first time. The players gave it their all throughout and gained invaluable experience that will benefit them immensely going forward. Many of the players are hurling with local clubs which is essential for their continued development. The future of hurling in BCS is bright!

Back row: L/R: James Ó Laighin, Darryn Collins, Noah Damron, Shane Nolan, Evan Feeney, Frankie Burke, Conor McGuire, Charlie Finn, Ben Gallagher, Kevin Heneghan, Ethan Folliard, Darryn Collins

Front row: L/R: Cian Murphy, Theo Ronane, Cian Fleming, Oisín Finnegan, Daire Scally, Luke Ruane



First Year Wood Technology



Pictured are Mr. Calfields First Year Wood Technology Class proudly displaying Projects they completed this year

First Year Girls Basketball

The first year girls basketball season began with a game away to Ballinrobe. It was a tightly contested game with two evenly matched teams. Although it was their first game the girls worked well as a team together but unfortunately came out the wrong side with a score of 17 to 19. Next up was a game away to Davitt College. This game really showed how much the girls improved since the start and the scoreline reflected this with a score of 29 to 19. It was away to St. Brendan's College Belmullet for their next game. After a slow start the girls fought back to pull away with a win 25 to 16. This win made them top the group and they had at least one more match left. It was in Ballinrobe for their final game. However, it wasn't the girls' day coming out the wrong side of the result. Considering most had never played before, the girls put in some super performance throughout the season. A huge thanks to Danielle Byrne and Ms. Staszczuk for managing the team all year.



Back row: L/R: Cara Walsh, Kayla Cussens, Hannah Fagan, Niamh Delaney, Aibhe Donnellan, Erin Casey
Front row: L/R: Kate Squires, Estela Balbino Romao, Bella Mae Goulding, Katie Conlon

U-14 Girls Football



Back row: L/R: Maria McHugh, Shannon McLoughlin, Anna Hibbit, Sarah Gorman, Emily Gannon, Bella Mae Goulding, Niamh Delaney, Abbie Gildea, Casey Swanick, Lily Mae Regan, Anna Kelly, Lauren Henry, Roisin Murphy, Ava Caulfield, Lauren Gallagher
Front row: L/R: Ella Gavin, Ella Gallagher, Aibhe Donnellan, Erin Casey, Katie Conlon, Isobel Neary, Robyn Keane, Lily Ruane, Michaela Kavanagh, Cara Walsh

Our Under 14's had a great season with a large panel of footballers training every week. We started off with a challenge against St. Ann's in Tubbercurry which prepared us for our group games. We began with a narrow loss away against Coláiste Chiaráin Athlone. Next, we played Holy Rosary College Mountbellew at home. The girls displayed great skills and teamwork which resulted in a great win. We then played Carrick on Shannon Community School where the girls put up a great battle, but fell short at the end. Unfortunately, we didn't qualify from the group but a great season was enjoyed by all.

In Loving Memory of James and Harry

This year, we hold in our hearts the memory of James, a beloved student and Harry, a past student whose lives were tragically cut short in September. Their presence touched many within our school community—through their friendships, spirit and the moments we shared.

Though words can never fully express the depth of loss, we offer this reflection as a tribute to their lives and to the light they brought to those around them.



Harry Fagan



James Daniels

‘Something Beautiful Remains’

by Martha Vashti Pearson

The tide recedes but leaves behind
Bright seashells on the sand.
The sun goes down, but gentle warmth
Still lingers on the land.
The music stops, and yet it echoes
On in sweet refrains...
For every joy that passes,
Something beautiful remains.

You were here, and it mattered.
You laughed, you changed people,
You made things brighter.
And now, you live on—in stories, in hearts,
in the quiet moments between.

In memory of all former members of our school community who passed away this year.
Their presence will always be with us. May they all rest in peace.

2A



Back row: L/R: Seán Conneally, Seán Freyne, Shay Guilfoyle, Dylan Carty, Abdul Rehman Amjad, Lauren Gallagher
Middle row: L/R: Roisin Farrell, Kayleigh Devaney, Seamus Comer, Bradán Glavey, Alfie Carroll, Viktor Fucik, Emmanuel Goodwill Agyebiah, Ella Gavin
Front row: L/R: Robyn Keane, Sarah Gorman, Jovana Cancarevic, Ava Caulfield, Lauren Henry, Ella Gallagher
Missing: Jack Cleary, Meeka-Bella Harrison, Kevins Laureckis

2B



Back row: L/R: Lucy Monaghan, David Buliga, Safwan Safwanuzzaman, James Waldron, Allan Sampaio, Ian Heneghan, Samuel Balik-Nowak, Terry Collins, Tomás Picarra
Middle row: L/R: Yousuf Talpur, Anum Sharif, Conor O'Hare, Lena Ilczuk, Chloe Kenny, Analia Morales Aguilera, Minki Roos, Maria McHugh, Seán Donnellan
Front row: L/R: Diarmuid Kelly, Dalaa Habib, Sarah Bree Byrne, Ciara Davis, Jana Gaziova, Nicole Urbanova, Lily-Mae Regan

2C



Back row: L/R: Alex Tighe, Christian De Souza Mendes, Cathal Conlon, Kelvin Anaman, Matas Kucinskas

Middle row: L/R: Maria Da Silva Brito, Gabriely Ferreira, Sofia Dragomir, Sara Surmacz, Darragh Keane, Padraig Fleming, Edward Allen

Front row: L/R: Abbie Gildea, Sarah Ryan, Skaiste Aleksiaunaite, Auguste Armonaviciute, Erin Higgins, Alice Curran

Missing: Bakri Cherbatji, Rian Kelly, Scarlet Kelésová, Nicoletta Kelisova, Caitriona Jennings, Daniel Redlich

2D



Back row: L/R: Qais Al Shamali, Peter Urbaniok, Tawsif Tanin Chowdhury, Conall McCartin, Declan Daly, Denis Mudimbi Kabadi, Arúnas Vaitiekus

Middle row: L/R: Caio Gabriel Silva, Willow Hannan, Robert Gallagher, Ódhran Kelly, Eoin Higgins, Karl Patrick Rattigan, Dylan Kelly

Front row: L/R: Viktorija Turi, Abbi Norrby, Caoimhe McDonagh, Anna Kelly, Isobel Neary, Lucy McGuire

Missing: Leen Kezze, Saoirse Lynskey, Jakub Sarrisky, Marat Shokarieva



Back row: L/R: Maximillian Kaczmarek, Erin Payne, James Michael Jennings, Jas Singh, Jeffrey Nolan, Conor Taylor, Conor Healy, Patrick Cuddy

Middle row: L/R: Éabha Murphy, Fiona Earls, Andrii Kovalenko, Maaz Maqsood, Mark Regan, Harry Elwood, Aaron Reidy, Jake McNamara, Joshua Jordan Hickey

Front row: L/R: Megan Keadin, Mary Ronayne, Nawal Mujtaba, Sadhbh Nolan, Vilte Zauga, Amanda Heloisa Basios Dias da Silva
Missing: Ryan Stephens



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U-15 Boys Soccer

The U15 Boys Soccer team started their season off with a 7-2 win over Gortnor Abbey, Crossmolina. They then headed into their next game against Coláiste Chiaráin, Athlone, which they unfortunately lost. The final game of the cup was against St Gerald's, Castlebar in the round of 16. Unfortunately, the lads were beaten well and that marked the end of the U15 Soccer season. The lads put in a great effort all year and will hope to progress further next year.



Back row: L/R: Kealan Flynn, T.J Peake, Terry Collins, Terry Maughan, Ryan Stephens, Alan Smith, Sean Donnellan, Dennis Mudimbi-Kabadi, Emmanuel Goodwill Agyebiah, Cathal Conlon, Kelvin Anaman, Muhammed Haatim Amin, Shay Guilfoyle, Ian Heneghan, Dylan Carthy, Conor Healy, Oran Fagan, Jayden Glavey, Isaac Greally, Sean Conneally, Conor Taylor, Tawsif Chowdhury

Front row: L/R: Conall McCartin, Jeff Nolan, Diarmuid Kelly, Jack Buckley, Bradán Glavey, Bobby Gallagher, Tomas Picarra, Conor O' Shaugnessy, Ódhrán Kelly, Seamus Comer, Bakri Cherbatji, Mark Regan, Harry Elwood, Alfie Carroll

Junior Camogie



The junior girls had a shortened season this year. After receiving a bye in the first round, they faced a must-win situation in their second match to advance further in the competition. The team travelled to Boyle for what proved to be a tough and hard-fought game. Despite their strong performance and determination, the girls narrowly missed out on victory. Although disappointed with the early end to their season, they can be proud of the effort and spirit they showed throughout the match.

Back row: L/R: Alice Curran, Lauren Groarke, Éala Greally, Lauren Gallagher, Tara Delaney, Sarah Jane Keadin, Aoibhínn Gallagher, Molly Squires, Ella Gallagher, Emily Moore, Kyrá Jordan, Roisín Heneghan, Robyn Keane, Lauren Henry

Front row: L/R: Lily Gallagher, Sarah Gorman, Aibhe Donnellan, Erin Casey, Niamh Delaney, Katie Conlon, Amy Waldron, Sarah Ryan, Sara Keane, Erin Higgins

Second Year Retreat to Knock



Our wonderful 2nd Year students had a meaningful and enjoyable retreat in Knock, accompanied by Ms. Hargaden-Whyte, Ms. McGuire, and Ms. Burns. Each student displayed maturity and kindness, making us all proud. During the retreat, they reflected on life's challenges and explored what their faith means to them. It was a day filled with thoughtful discussions and great company.

A special thank you to the Knock Retreat Team for making the day so memorable! Well done, 2nd Years – we are incredibly proud of you!

Ms. Burns

Juvenile Boys Gaelic

The Juvenile Boys Gaelic Football team had a strong and spirited season. The level of improvement from each member of the group throughout the year is a testament to the attitude and work rate of the lads. From the first training session, the boys showed great enthusiasm and a willingness to learn, which translated into solid performances on the pitch. The highlight of the season was winning the O'Hehir League for the second year in a row after a convincing victory over a strong St. Tierhan's College. Unfortunately, the group exited the championship at the quarter final stage. There are very promising signs for this group who will continue to improve and learn as they continue on in their footballing journey.

Back row: L/R: Jas Singh, Oran Fagan, Alfie Carroll, Conor Taylor, Conall McCartin, Ian Heneghan, Conor Healy, Isacc Grealley, Muhammed Haatim Amin, Jack Buckley, Jeff Nolan, Shay Guilfoyle, Sean Conneally, James Michael Jennings

Front row: L/R: Dylan Kelly, Dylan Carty, Bradan Glavey, Sean Donnellan, Odhran Kelly, Bobby Gallagher, Seamus Comer, Alan Smith, Harry Elwood, Mark Regan, Conor O'Shaughnessy, Diarmuid Kelly



Juvenile Hurling

The Juvenile Ballyhaunis Community School lads had a very successful season. The juvenile u15 team entered the first ever juvenile entry level Connacht competition with 4 other opposing teams in their group, with a round robin at the end leading straight through to the Connacht Final. The lads started out training in February and the interest and focus shown was outstanding from the very start. The talent and teamwork was unmatched, which was proven in a very exciting season.

The competition was kick started in a very thrilling match against St. Gerald's, Castlebar. This match was played in the COE. The lads fought hard from start to finish. After being down at half time, the lads made a victorious comeback securing the win, BCS: 6:11 to Castlebar 6:05.

Our next encounter was against the Galway team St. Jarlath's, Tuam. The stakes were high going into the match so we knew it would be a battle travelling to Tuam. The work rate was at an all-time high from the lads and the skills that were shown were incredible. They fought hard and came out on top with an excellent result which really proved their determination to win, BCS: 6:12 to Jarlath's: 2:08.

The next match against Roscommon Community College was the round robin to qualify the Juveniles into the Connacht Final. The panel travelled to their home grounds ready for the challenge. We could see that the whole panel was determined to secure their spot in the Final, and that they did! Just 3 days after Jarlath's match the lads went out yet again showing their talent and winning their spot in the Connacht Final.

The Connacht Final was played in Creggs GAA, yet again against Roscommon Community College. The lads got in from the start, scoring 3 points in the first few minutes. At half time we had the team leading 3:14 to 0:03. From this on the lads never stopped, the back line performing outstanding saving the team on many occasions. All the way up to the forwards every single player gave it their all, not giving up once along the way. The capability of the team really showed and therefore came out victorious, winning the first ever shield of this competition. Our captain Cathal Conlon scoring 2:04 accepted the shield on behalf of Ballyhaunis Community School. This ending the season on a high, looking forward to next year.



Back row: L/R: Mr Freyne, Conor O'Shaughnessy, Shay Guilfoyle, James Michael Jennings, Seán Freyne, Isaac Grealley, Ben Gallagher, Jack Buckley, Alan Smith, Shane Nolan, Conor Healy, Seamus Comer, Conor McGuire, Seán Conneally, Jas Singh, Mr Woolley

Front row: L/R: Dylan Carty, Charlie Finn, Bobby Gallagher, Bradan Glavey, Jeff Nolan, Evan Feeney, Patrick Cuddy, Cathal Conlon, Odhran Kelly, Sean Donnellan, Ian Heneghan, Harry Elwood, Mark Regan

Schools Of Sanctuary

The Schools of Sanctuary is an initiative to celebrate the good practice of schools that welcome asylum seeking and refugee families into their school community and foster a culture of welcome and inclusion for all. Schools of Sanctuary offers a way to engage sanctuary seekers and families with their local communities and educate children and teachers about the human right to sanctuary. The aim is to create a safe environment that includes everybody in a school, regardless of people's background, ethnicity, faith, or gender.

BCS is committed to being a safe and welcoming space for all. It is a school demonstrating a whole-school approach to support and understand those who may be seeking sanctuary. A School of Sanctuary is a school helping its students, staff and wider community understand what it means to be seeking sanctuary and to extend a welcome to everyone as equal, valued members of the school community. It is a school that is proud to be a place of safety and inclusion for all. To be awarded Schools of Sanctuary status the students had to present a portfolio of activities and events that highlighted diversity, inclusion, and respect.

The BCS Schools of Sanctuary Committee had their monitoring day in March. They had been on this journey for the last year and a half. Their task was to earn the prestigious title of "Champion School of Sanctuary" and they got it! They had their inspection day and wow did they impress.... The seven visiting judges met with management, staff, and students. They received a warm welcome and had a tour of their beautiful modern school. The students then presented them with personal accounts of attending such a diverse school. They also displayed their talents through dance, sign language display, poetry, and song. They presented a PowerPoint to the judges to showcase the work being carried out in BCS to include respect, equality, inclusion, integration, and kindness. One judge stated, "The experience in BCS was so impressive, inspiring and heart-warming and a true example of a Champion School of Sanctuary." Congratulations and well done to all the students involved in the presentation and the hardworking Schools of Sanctuary Committee.



Second Year Boys Basketball

The second year boys basketball season began early in January away to Abbey Community College, Boyle. Although we lost, we already started to see huge potential with the team which they brought into their next match against Sancta Maria College, Louisburgh. At half time there was nothing between the teams, but after some excellent scores from Sean Donnellan and James Michael Jennings, they pulled away with a 36-29 scoreline. They carried on this great form in their next match at home to St. Colmans, Claremorris.

The result didn't reflect the effort put in by the Ballyhaunis lads with a final score of 25-30 to St. Colmans. Next up was a home game against Rice college, it was a tough game between two evenly matched teams and after a few fast breaks from Cathal Conlon, Ballyhaunis led into the third quarter. Unfortunately, Westport fought back and got the better of them in the end.

The final game was against Ballinrobe at home. Although they lost Odhran Kelly scored a three pointer to give the team a lift.

Even though the season was over the team had hugely improved and it seemed to be an enjoyable year for everyone. We hope they continue playing in the years to come. Thank you to Mr. Ginty for his hard work and for managing the team.



Back row: L/R: James Michael Jennings, Karl Rattigan, Eoin Higgins, Jake McNamara, Jeff Nolan, Sean Donnellan
Front row: L/R: Conall McCartin, Seamus Comer, Odhran Kelly, Cathal Conlon, Ian Heneghan, Bobby Gallagher

Second Year Girls Basketball

The second year girls' basketball season began away to Ballinrobe. Unfortunately, it wasn't their day. However, the scoreline didn't reflect the effort put in by everyone, losing 12 to 22.

Next up was a game away to Davitt College. We could see a change in the girls already as their hard work was paying off. The final score was 19 to 24 to Davitt College. Next up was a game away to Charlestown.

After a fantastic performance from the girls they deservingly won well in the end. It was away to St. Brendan's College Belmullet for their last game. They came up against a strong Belmullet side and lost 30 to 17. A huge thanks to Danielle Byrne and Ms. Staszczuk for managing the girls throughout the year.



Back row: L/R: Anna Kelly, Willow Hannon, Alice Curran, Sarah Gorman, Lily Mae Regan, Abbi Norby, Caoimhe McDonagh
Front row: L/R: Nawl Mujtaba, Auguste Armonaviciute, Sarah Ryan, Abbie Gildea, Erin Higgins

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3A



Back row: L/R: Mark Clancy, Liam Coggins, Jack Buckley, Joshua Maughan, Arshaam Asim, Marcos Gabriel Luiz De Moraes

Middle row: L/R: Valeriia Litovchenko, Leanna Burke, Tiernan Cox, Nathan Coyne, Muhammed Haatim Amin, Ewan Coggins, Jamie Brennan, Pavel Cobzarw

Front row: L/R: Imaan Ejaz, Ruby Coggins, Muazzama Asif, Aoife Burke, Maisie Collins, Elizabeth Burke

Missing: Pavel Cervenak, Brihanna Cooper, Guyvanie Kisungu

3B



Back row: L/R: Oran Fagan, Conor Doran, James Crohan-Mccarrick, Eoin Crinnigan, Thomas Curran, Jack Culliney, Sean Flanagan

Middle row: L/R: Alex Dunkirs, Helen da Silva Nunes, Ruth Cunnane, Dion Sturdy, Conn Delaney, Lauren Feeney, Holly Cunningham

Front row: L/R: Tara Delaney, Rachel Fleming, Charlotte Lannon, Ruby Duffy, Amy Fitzmaurice, Emily Duffy

Missing: Dermot Fagan

3C



Back row: L/R: Jayden Glavey, Isaac Greally, Senan Heaney, Adam Kinnarney
Middle row: L/R: Kyrak Jordan, Roisin Heneghan, Kayla Gannon, Eoin Lecky, Zach Sinclair, Benji Hopkins
Front row: L/R: Vivienne Gannon, Sara Keane, Emmanuela Mensah, Ipek Ismailov, Grace Gallagher
Missing: Emily Gormley, Dylan Greally, Hiago Henrique Godoi De Assis, Kieran Jennings, Terry Maughan, Thamyres Nathyelly Lima Dos Santos, Patrick Polhos, Renat Shokariev

3D



Back row: L/R: Adam Loftus, Seamus Mongan, Dominic Manke, Cathal Lyons, Ather Munir, Elton Junior De Sousa Sandrini
Middle row: L/R: Craig Moylan, Ema Mesnjak, Maya Murphy, Adam Rahmani, Lukas Muzik, Naveed Ali
Front row: L/R: Ciara McDowell, Emily Moore, Ava Maloney, Leah Lyons, Gabriella Dragomir, Theodora Dragomir
Missing: Rani Jan, Daniel Lupinek, Hugo Marques

3E



Back row: L/R: CJ Roos, Robert Saunders, Tomas O’Laighin, Liam Nolan, Finlay Morton
Middle row: L/R: Ali Sakkar, TJ Peake, Arthur Da Silva Oliveira, Conor O’Shaughnessy, Conor Osgood-Daly, Rian Kilbride
Front row: L/R: Inara Gabryelly da silva, Charlotte Plunkett, Meabh Scally, Erica Owens, Ciara Morley, Houda Rahmani
Missing: Bridget Barbara McDonagh, Ellie Teresa McDonagh, Emily O’ Reilly, Bobby Roche, Sebastian Scsaszni

3F



Back row: L/R: Austin Waldron, Nikodem Zborowski, Jozo Spajic, Matei Pyrcarea, Maksym Kudriavstev
Middle row: L/R: Molly Squires, Zack Smith, Charlie Swanick, Edgaras Zajackauskas, Bogdan Vuia, Yashfa Shahzati, Bethany Ward
Front row: L/R: Amy Waldron, Hannah Skeffington, Lily Thompson, Laiba Tayaab, Ayesha Shabbir
Missing: Alan Smith, Sergey Babak, Thomas McDonagh, Nathan Tighe, Lochlan Waldron

Pi Quiz

Well done to 12 of our third-year students who made the trip to Castlebar to compete in the annual IMTA Pi Quiz on Pi day 3/14/ 2025. Unfortunately, we did not win the competition, but it was a fantastic opportunity to compete against their peers. The students had a great day out.

Pi Day Challenge

All of our first-year students took part in a Pi day challenge to see who could recite the most digits of Pi off by heart. Well done to all of the students who represented their base classes. This year's competition was our most competitive yet. First place was Neo Vasiljevic with an astonishing 253 digits, followed by Aimy Liju with 106.



Pi Quiz Participants



Maths Week

Throughout maths week our students engaged in challenging quizzes, riddles and puzzles, working on their problem solving skills whilst also having fun with their peers. This year we held our maths week a little closer to Christmas so there was a couple of Christmas themed maths activities.



Cadet Basketball

The Cadet basketball season took off with a great start at home against St. Colmans Claremorris. It was a tightly contested game throughout with quick exchanges of scores from both teams. There was nothing between them at half time but after some excellent team scores from Ballyhaunis they pulled away with a 36 to 29 win. It was down to Ballinrobe for the next game but unfortunately Ballinrobe proved too much for the boys on the day. However, with a 51 to 30 loss this did not reflect the effort and skill the lads showed throughout the match. Next up were two games at home against Rice College and Sancta Marie College Louisburgh.

They played Rice College first, which proved to be a thrilling contest between two very evenly matched teams. Ballyhaunis gave it their all with scores throughout from John and Pavel which proved the difference in the end. Ballyhaunis ran away winners, 48 to 43 in the end. On the same day it was another game against Sancta Maria College. Despite it being the second game of the day, it didn't affect Ballyhaunis at all who won 46 to 22. The season ended there and with three wins out of four they were very unlucky not to get any further. A big thanks to Mr. Ginty for training and coaching the lads throughout the year.



Back row: L/R: Dominic Manke, Nikodem Zborowski, Jack Nolan, Thomas Curran, Dylan Hunt, Zack Smith, Jamie Nolan, Isaac Greally, Liam Coggins, Eoin Crinnigan, Craig Moylan, Terry Maughan, Liam Nolan, Kealan Flynn, Robert Saunders
Front row: L/R: Bogdan Vuia, Pavel Cervenak, Matei Pycarea, Dylan Greally, Patrick Polhos, John Jennings, Muhammad Haatim Amin, Niall Haldane, Senan Heaney, Ewan Coggins

Ethan Henry - Lost In Space

In April, 6th Year student Ethan Henry debuted his original song "Lost in Space" at the launch of Ink and Imagination. The song is about someone close to Ethan who is living with dementia. Following the launch, Ethan's song won the national Night and Day Fest competition, earning him the opportunity to record it professionally. He then formed a band, 'MacHenry and The Dog Roses,' with former BCS student Victoria Burcovschi and current BCS student Elizabeth Burcovschi. "Lost in Space" was officially released on November 1st and is now available on all streaming platforms. We wish Ethan and 'MacHenry and The Dog Roses' every success and extend our heartfelt congratulations from everyone in BCS.

You can listen to "Lost in Space" on Spotify

Nessa Ruane Dalton

Well done to 5th Year student Nessa Ruane Dalton, who debuted her Christmas single this year! You can enjoy "Love is All Around (At Christmas Time)" on Spotify. BCS wishes Nessa all the best in her musical career.



North Connacht Athletics – ATU Sligo

This year, a group of our students travelled to ATU Sligo to take part in the North Connacht Athletics event. With sunshine and perfect weather all day, it was the ideal setting for a fantastic day of sport.

Our students gave their best in both track and field events, showing great effort, teamwork, and school pride. A number of students performed especially well and qualified for the Connacht Finals – a brilliant achievement!

Well done to everyone who competed and represented the school so proudly.



Badminton

The annual Mayo Badminton League took place in Ballina across two weeks, with B.C.S. emerging as one of the most successful schools, securing medal placements across various age groups. The level of play from B.C.S. was impressive, with many matches coming down to the wire on point calculations. BCS were commended for their skill and sportsmanship throughout the competition, with several students playing in the age group above and volunteering to score games across different age groups.



Back row: L/R: Kate Colleran, Holly Cunningham, Melissa Devaney, Amelia Gryczuk, Viktorija Turi, Vilte Zauga, Gabriely Ferreira, Sara Surmacz, Kayleigh Devaney

Front row: L/R: Guyvanie Kisungu, Emmanuela Mensah, Brihanna Cooper



Back row: L/R: Talha Tayyab, Aun Asghar, Usman Zahoor, Talha Rehman, Hashir Amin, Rahim Rizwan, Yousuf Talpur, Abdul Rehman Amjad, Haatim Amin, Aqeel Amjad, Adam Loftus, Samuel Balik Novak, Jaz Singh, Elton Junior Souza

Front row: L/R: Pavel Cervanak, Sayid Abdul, Maaz Maqsood, Tawsif Chowdhary, Pavel Cobsarw, Sean Donellan, Cathal Conlon, Adnan Khan, Bilal Hussain, Shoaib Ahmad, Ismail Naseer

Junior Girls Football

The Junior girls began training very soon after we came back to school. Everyone knew this team had potential just missing out on winning the Connacht final at under 14 level in 2022. It soon became clear from the commitment and determination of the girls and the managers, Mr Folan and Ms McGuire, that this year was going to be different.

We started training hard early September in preparation for our first match against Mount St Michael's Claremorris on the 17th of September. The girls sailed over their first hurdle on a convincing score of 5-14 to 4-4.

Their second game was against St Joseph's of Foxford. Yet again, the girls won convincingly only conceding two points to St Joseph's in the game. By this stage it was clear that the girls could go far in this competition and with two wins under their belts momentum and confidence was building within the squad as they headed into their third game of the season.

The girls had a big test ahead of them against Davitt College, Castlebar but the girl's perseverance and steely determination helped them to finish the game in a draw, securing a crucial point in their bid for the Connacht final. We now had one game between us and a Connacht semi-final. The girls played a competitive Balla team, but their victory was never in doubt scoring an impressive display of eight goals and thirteen points in comparison to Balla's two goals and twelve points.

There were many gruelling winter training sessions in less than ideal weather conditions (many thanks to Ballyhaunis GAA Club, The Centre Of Excellence and Ballyhaunis Rugby Club for letting us use their facilities for our out of school training sessions) before our next game against St Nathy's Ballaghaderreen on the 21st of January. We can only commend the girls commitment and dedication to the team to train even during their school holidays and throughout their mock exams. But the extra sessions paid off in the end. St Nathy's put up a fierce battle in bitterly cold conditions in The Centre of Excellence with the game going to extra time, but the girls emerged victorious winning by a goal and a point to continue their march to the Connacht final.

The sun shone brightly on what turned out to be a perfect Connacht Final day. It looked like it was about to be another easy win for the girls with Ballyhaunis scoring three goals early in the first half, but Glenamaddy weren't going to let the trophy go that easily. They equalised the game with ten minutes to go. But out of sheer determination the girls managed to score a late goal with minutes remaining on the clock to secure a historic win for Ballyhaunis Community School. Wild celebrations ensued but the girls weren't finished yet as they now progressed to the All-Ireland semi-final in early March.

The match was set for the 7th of March 2025 versus Scoil Mhuire Agus Íde from Limerick. The girls took a long winding journey to St Rynagh's GAA Club in Offaly. Both teams started slow, and they went in level at half-time. Despite the girls putting in a valiant effort in the second half, a few near misses and injuries meant the girls were narrowly beaten by a strong Scoil Mhuire outfit.

The girls represented Ballyhaunis Community school extremely well throughout this season showing incredible resolve and commitment to the team. They are a credit to the school and their achievements this year will no doubt inspire future girls gaelic teams in the school for many years to come. The school community cannot wait for these talented girl's bright futures.

A massive thanks to Ms McGuire and Mr Folan and all the additional T.Y. Coaches Ava Neary, Meabh Flemming and Fiona Duffy who looked after the teams every need. Also a special word of thanks to Mr. Coyne and Ms. Ellis Ronayne for giving some great pointers and training sessions. Their commitment and motivation no doubt brought this outstanding team to new heights.



Back row: L/R: Ruby Duffy, Roisin Heneghan, Rachel Fleming, Emily Gormley, Leanna Burke, Vivienne Gannon, Ruby Coggins, Emily Duffy, Jorja Hession, Kyras Jordan, Chloe Hurley, Lily Thompson, Ava Neary

Middle row: L/R: Ms Caroline McGuire, Robyn Keane, Erin Higgins, Aibhinn Gallagher, Éala Greally, Lucy Flannagan, Emily Lyons, Lauren Feeney, Katelyn McLoughlin, Amy Waldron, Sara Brennan, Emma Swanick, Caoilagh Kelly, Fiona Duffy, Mr. Folan

Front row: L/R: Alice Curran, Sarah Ryan, Nicole Urbanova, Caoimhe McDonagh, Grace Heneghan, Sarah Jane Keadin, Erin Hibbitt, Gwen Heneghan, Emma McGuire, Rachel Lawless, Eva Boyle, Aoife Burke, Meabh Scally, Meabh Fleming

Senior Cycle Subject Fair - A Valuable Experience!

On Thursday, January 30th, as part of Senior Options Week, our 3rd Year and Transition Year students explored the 17 subjects available in Senior Cycle at BCS during the Senior Cycle Subject Fair.

Students had the chance to chat with teachers, hear first-hand experiences from senior students, and gain valuable insights into their subject choices. This event provided a fantastic opportunity to make well-informed decisions about their future studies!

A big thank you to everyone who made the day a huge success!



Show Racism the Red Card

BCS students and staff wore red on December 5th in support of 'show racism the red card' initiative. Wear Red Day serves as an important opportunity for our school community to send a clear message that we embrace diversity, embrace it, and stand united against all forms of racism. 'unity in diversity'



Music Department

What a wonderful year it was for the Music Department! We had various performances throughout the year- Brookvale Nursing Home to name one. The Folk Choir called over at Christmas time to entertain the residents with a few tunes and some dancing. Shortly afterwards, our carol singers went to Supervalu to help spread Christmas cheer and we also managed to raise over €600 for SVP.

There was no time to rest as next we were turning our attention to putting on a Christmas concert for the school. We had a wealth of talent on display as our students showcased a variety of talents.

The Trad Group set the tone for the new year nuair a sheinn said ceol ar seactain na Gaeilge. Bhí ceol álainn Gaelach le cloisteáil í gceantín na scoile. Without a doubt we have had a great year so far, and we still have the Graduation Ceremony to look forward to! A special thanks to Ms. Glavey and Ms. O'Donnell who lead the musical proceedings throughout the year.



Intercultural Day

B.C.S. hosted our annual Intercultural Day, where forty-four different cultures showcased their diversity through music, dance, and food. Our school gym was transformed into a vibrant carnival celebration, where 180 students shared their language, their food, and their stories with the rest of the school community.

The Intercultural Day provides numerous benefits for students, fostering pride in their cultural identities, as well as promoting teamwork and communication skills. This event highlights the importance of embracing and celebrating cultural diversity in an educational and fun environment.

A huge thank you to Ms. Murray and her TY helpers for once again coordinating this spectacular event, which is truly one of the highlights of the school calendar.



Wellness Week

Wellness week was held from the 2nd to the 5th of December and the theme this year was “Minding Me and You”. The week was packed with engaging activities for all year groups, featuring a diverse line up of guest speakers and presenters who explored various aspects of well-being in today's world. Everyone embraced the week and enjoyed the experience to the fullest.



TYA



Back row: L/R: Ava Neary, Mike Kayange, Tadhg Kelly, Ruairí McWalter, Caél Hannan, Adeel Ibrahim

Middle row: L/R: Sara Brennan, Rebecca Clancy, Viktoria Balik-Nowak, Grace Thomson, Fiona Duffy, Hazel Nolan, Molly Collins

Front row: L/R: Gwen Heneghan, Rachel Lawless, Emma McGuire, Ruth Waldron, Rhianna Caulfield, Annie Keaveney

TYB



Back row: L/R: Ben Byrne, Jason Powers, George Richards, Paddy Vanraepenbusch, Tom Donnellan, Conor Smith, Cian Moran

Middle row: L/R: Emily Lyons, Melissa Clarke, Lucy Flanagan, Grace Heneghan, Lauren Lyons, Melissa Devaney, Kate Colleran

Front row: L/R: Katelyn McLoughlin, Saoirse McKermitt, Megan Finnegan, Sarah Hussey, Caoilfhinn Baxter, Amelia Gryczuk

TYC



Back row: L/R: Niall Haldane, Kealan Flynn, John Jennings, Logan Davis, James Tynan, Cathal Wallace, Lauren Groarke

Middle row: L/R: Sinéad Mannion, Klaudia Kozłowska, Olivia Zota, Kamile Ziziunaite, Christina Ruane, Ellen Murphy, Erin Hibbitt, Éala Greally

Front row: L/R: Clodagh Mitchell, Eva Boyle, Caoilagh Kelly, Chloe Hurley, Jorja Hession, Aoibhinn Gallagher

TY 2025

You may hear that TY is a year where no work gets done, but that couldn't be any further from the truth. Even though you may not have to sit through all those boring lectures, you still learn something new every day, between workshops, trips and the jobs given by teachers all TY's learn new skills that some may not have even expected to learn!

Every day was fun, new and different, and even some of the teachers seemed to act as unserious as the students did during these classes. Fun games were a regular during presentations!

During TY you grow in ways you never could have imagined, you get a taste of the working world through work experience, become the next Tik Tok star thanks to Media classes or even understand the work of a CSI investigator through Forensics classes! Without all this studying we were able to learn more about ourselves, what we enjoy, what we hate, or even what we want to be in the future (which is coming up faster than any of us ever wanted). We realise learning doesn't stop once we leave the doors of BCS, that we can learn outside the school walls, through trips, talks, or even jumping into the smelliest mud in Delphi.

We absolutely cannot wait for our trip to London, where we'll go shopping, watch a West End Production, and educate ourselves in the local museums!

We experienced many workshops, some more serious, like the First-Aid or RSA road safety workshops, and some, more fun, like the Drama workshop with Alan Divine, or the Bodhran workshop where...of course Peter Griffin got in the mix of designs...

Overall, the TY's had a very enjoyable experience, and if you're planning on joining you shouldn't be worried, as this is some of the best fun you'll have, socialising, smiling and laughing the whole way (just make sure to not ask for too many jobs along the way!).

And for anyone wondering "Is TY for me?", ask yourself, a year of study and tests, or a year of making a ruckus around the school? (We do not condone causing ruckus around the school, but having fun is perfectly fine!).

TY First Aid - CPR/AED Training

In September, Transition Year students completed an intensive Emergency First Aid - CPR/AED training course. This is an invaluable set of skills that the students have learnt where they can now respond quickly to emergency situations and potentially save lives. Many thanks to Jackie & Eamon from Lifeline Training for once again facilitating this valuable course.



TY Junk Kouture



This years entries to Junk Kouture were Blazing Beauty and Maid of Honour

Delphi

Delphi was one of our favourite trips of the year. We stayed overnight and had two great days. The first day we were split into two groups. We all took part in activities such as ziplining, kayaking and a mud run. After the busy day we all celebrated our junior cert results after receiving them here. That night we went on a walk through the forest, and we took a quick break to stargaze. We had an early start the next morning after a busy day and both groups took part in more exciting activities. It was a great bonding trip as no devices were allowed.



Movie Workshop

TY's had fun producing their own movies on tablets, editing them by themselves, and then watching them all together! We'll never forget the kidnappings and music videos (including the Gangnam Style) we got to watch TY's create!



Bodhran

TY students took part in a bodhran workshop in March. We enjoyed learning about the different materials used and how to make a bodhran ourselves. We were then given all the materials and we all got to make our own bodhran. We also got to choose our own design for the top of the bodhran either by using stencils or tracing an image. It was a very enjoyable experience for all students.



St. Brigit's Gardens

Transition year students visited St. Brigit's Gardens in Galway where they took part in a global goals challenge. They got to learn first hand about emigrating to a country, even making their own families that were trying to emigrate!



Barista Workshop

TY's got the chance to complete a barista workshop with two employees from Dublin's Barista school. We were taught how to use a coffee machine and make different kinds of coffee. We really enjoyed the day and had great fun making different coffees for teachers!



RSA Roadshow

Transition Year students attended the AXA RSA Roadshow in the TF Royal Theatre, in Castlebar today. The event was organised by the RSA, Gardaí, and the Ambulance services. These roadshows bring road safety education to life in an engaging, interactive and memorable way.



Shannon Adventure

Transition year students enjoyed a great bonding day in Shannon Adventure, Co. Roscommon. We took part in a range of different activities such as climbing walls, an obstacle course, kayaking and our favorite part was the mud slide. It was a great day despite the weather.



Knocknarea

The TYs enjoyed a great trip to sligo this year to climb Knocknarea. On a lovely day the climb was enjoyed by one and all.



Driving School

Our yearly Driving school visit was enjoyed by the TYs this year involving a great hands on workshop enjoyed by all.

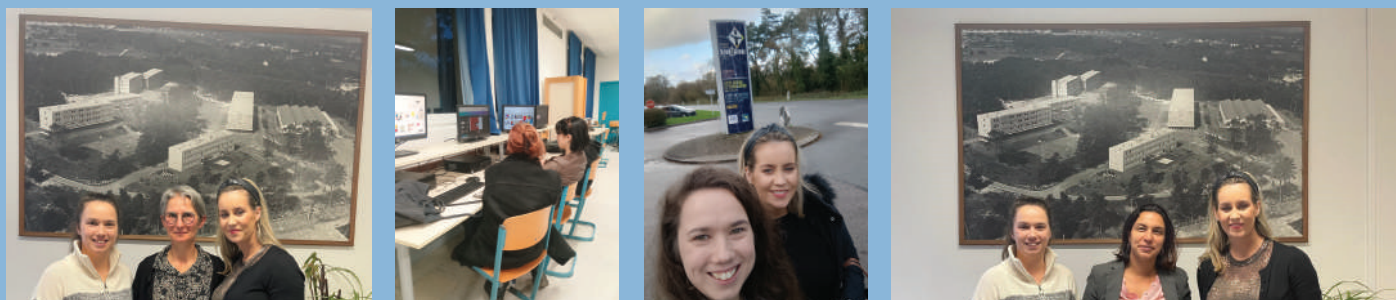


Erasmus+ Programme

On the week of the 25th to the 29th of November, Ms. O'Grady and Ms. Garvey travelled to France as part of the Erasmus+ programme. During their time there, they observed a number of classes at Cité Brocéliande Scolaire, Guer, France.

Both teachers had the opportunity to learn from the teaching methods of French teachers, which provided valuable insights into different educational approaches. Ms. O'Grady and Ms. Garvey were impressed by the emphasis on active learning where students were encouraged to participate in discussions, collaborate on projects, and engage critically with the material.

This experience allowed them to reflect on their own teaching practices and gave them fresh ideas to incorporate into their lessons, enriching the learning environment for their own students.



Brussels Trip

On Thursday, 1st May, 10 TY students and their teachers departed BCS for Brussels. These students visited the EU parliament as well as taking in the sights of the city on a walking tour and a visit to the Atomium and Mini Europe. A quick pitstop at the Chocolate museum was much needed after all the touring! These students participated in a number of activities related to the EU throughout the year and culminated with this tour of Brussels.



Back row: L/R: Ms Marian Phelan, Fiona Duffy, Ruth Waldron, Nicole Greally, Viktoria Balik-Nowak, JMs. Patricia Hargaden-Whyte

Front row: L/R: Meabh Fleming, Eva Boyle, Jorja Hession, Erin Hibbit

Missing: Christina Ruane, Molly Collins

John William Burke

John William Burke had an excellent year on the golf course which began with a win at the Munster u16 Championship. He also picked up the 2024 Western People Mayo sports star award for golf. After representing his country on numerous occasions, he came tied second place in the Flogas Irish Amateur Open Championship. Congratulations to John William on a hugely successful year, it is testament to all his hard work and dedication.



Junior Football

After a hugely successful season last year the Junior football team moved up to the 'B' Championship. The team started their season off with two challenge matches against St Colman's Claremorris and Roscommon CBS which they won. The lads were unlucky as they faced the two eventual Connacht finalists, Calasanctius Oranmore and St Joseph's Galway (The Bish) in their Championship group. They unfortunately lost both of these games but they managed to pick up a win against Presentation College Athenry. However, this was not enough to put them through to the quarter final.

In March, the Collieran Cup started and the lads started off with a narrow loss against St Tiernan's Crossmolina. A win against Balla meant that if the lads won their last game against St Attracta's Tubbercurry they would be in the final. Unfortunately, with a few players missing the lads couldn't get over the line. Overall, the lads were unlucky this year but will hope to bounce back again next year.



Back row: L/R: Dylan Hunt, Tomás Ó Lyons, Michael Dee, Jamie Nolan, Aaron Finnegan, Jack Nolan, Zach Smith, Conor Coyne, Carlos Korrane, Eamon Monaghan, Cian Carty, Conor Smith, Kealan Flynn, Adam Kelly, Michael Morley, James Fitzmaurice, Liam Coggins

Front row: L/R: Aqeel Amjad, Dylan Greally, Ewan Coggins, Liam Fleming, Conn Delaney, Oisín Keaveney, John Jennings, Liam Nolan, Cillian Caulfield, Fionn Conlon, Conor Osgood Daly, Cian O'Shaughnessy

Scifest School Fair

On 10th May 2024 Ballyhaunis had its first Scifest School Fair, where transition year students under the guidance of Ms O'Brien, presented their 28 projects to Judges Colette Keane from Homecare Medical, Kenneth Hora and Kevin Curley from Dawn Meats Group and Claire Atkinson from Scifest.

Scifest is an all-inclusive STEM initiative which fosters active, collaborative and inquiry-based learning among second level students. The event enabled the students to engage with businesses within our community and enhance their experience of STEM education.

Winners on the day included:

1st Prize: Niamh Donnellan, Keeley Ronane and Aoife Collins "Which painkiller works the fastest?"

2nd Prize: Lily Harrington and Fionn Kilbride "Pest or Pal".

Eirgrid Award: Luke Duffy and Darragh Morris "Biodegradable AI Glove"

Scifest Communication Award: Cian O'Shaughnessy and Jake Powers "Are they worth it?"

Scifest Science Communication Award: Alisha Forde and Leandra Pesut "School versus Germs.....who's winning?"

Teachers choice: Emma Casey and Sarah Corcoran "Am I worth it?"



5A



Back row: L/R: Sean Haldane, Darragh Hunt, Guilherme Cruz, James Fitzmaurice, Mark Feeney, Michael Dee
Middle row: L/R: Stacy Nsafoah, Sarah Caulfield, Ellena Maire Coffey, Conor Coyne, Brian Greally, Aqeel Amjad, Rowan Johnston, Katie Damron
Front row: L/R: Emma O'Brien, Síofra Forde, Niam Donnellan, Leah Finnegan, Marissa Collins, Emma McLoughlin
Missing: Luke Duffy, Liudmyla Riepina

5B



Back row: L/R: Erik Tallosi, Brandon Casey, Cristiano Manke, Usef Sakkar, Dylan Hunt, Talha Tayyab, Luka Posaric
Middle row: L/R: Shifa Naveed, Jennifer Bednarikova, Jessica Urbanova, Fionn Kilbride, Jamie Nolan, John William Burke, Cian O'Shaughnessy
Front row: L/R: Sara Kaczmarek, Camilla Caetano de Oliveira, Emma Henry, Laura Killeen, Emma-Jane Reinhardt, Ava McCormack
Missing: Gabriela Valkanova, Princess D. Mensah

5C



Back row: L/R: Oisin Keaveney, Daniel Bowen, Eoin Loftus, Cathal Forde, Keith Flanagan, Cian Carty
Middle row: L/R: Eoin Heneghan, Seamus Pearson, Ryan Giblin, Edward Henry, Alex Byrne, Rahim Rizwan
Front row: L/R: Norbert Siemionkowski, Saima Azizi, Alex Keane, Amy Clancy, Aoife Collins, Tadgh Farrell
Missing: Thomas Curtin, Roisin Henry, Jason Jennings, Emma Ruane

5D



Back row: L/R: Talha Rehman, Josh Kavanagh, Carl Waldron, Adam Kelly, Zargham Asim
Middle row: L/R: Carlos Korrane, Gustas Lukosevicius, Brandon McGowan, Michael Nolan, Maria Vuia, Rafah Shawi, Vieara Panchal
Front row: L/R: Hudda Maqsood, Isha Faisal, Alisha Forde, Ana Posaric, Sarah Corcoran, Chloe Fitzmaurice
Missing: Sultan Noor

5E



Back row: L/R: Usman Zahoor, Aun Ashgar, Darragh Morris, Darragh Mulrennan, Eoin McLoughlin

Middle row: L/R: Lily Harrington, Kyle Burke, Jake Powers, Emma Swanick, Leandra Pesut

Front row: L/R: Chloe Donohue, Meryam Hamze, Emma Casey, Amara Njeri

Missing: Nessa Ruane Dalton, Youssef Habib, Kevin Lukac, Gany Maaz, Viktorija Anisoaite

5F



Back row: L/R: Joshua Saunders, Conor Morley, Aaron Finnegan, Ross Ruane Dalton, Daragh Rogers

Middle row: L/R: Ciara Dooney, Harry Waldron, Michael Morley, Ian Murray, Ethan Kilbane, Andrei Cristian Istrate, Violeta Nikolaeva

Front row: L/R: Leah Nyland, Aoibhin Greally, Ruby Mulhall, Sadbh Lyons, Keeley Ronane, Agapelame Laone Thobogang

Missing: Prince D. Mensah, Jack Mulligan, Kate McDermott

Barcelona Trip

Our first day began with an early flight out of Knock at 8:55. After arriving, we headed out on a bus to Barcelona city. We had some time in the city and afterwards got a tour of all the major landmarks. There were some great views of the city. Later in the evening, we went to our hotel and spent the evening relaxing.

The next morning we woke up early and left for Montserrat. Once the fog cleared off, we could see the beautiful views from the top of the mountain. We all went on cable cars up and down the side of the mountain and spent a while walking around the village. We visited the CosmoCaixa Science museum in the afternoon, where there were lots of exhibits and displays to look at. That evening, we all went shopping in the Gran Via shopping centre and spent plenty of money!

On our final day in Barcelona, we headed off for Port Aventura Theme Park which was definitely the highlight of the trip. We spent most of the day exploring the park and trying out all the rides. We finished off the day at the bowling alley and headed back to our hotel. For our last night in Barcelona, we all walked down to one of the nearby shops and then headed to bed to catch our flight home the next morning.



Leaving Certificate & LCA Graduates 2024

Congratulations to the Leaving Certificate Class of 2024, who achieved outstanding results last year. Once again, our students did exceptionally well, and we congratulate them on their achievements and wish them well in their further studies. In this photo we were delighted to welcome back to BCS many of our Leaving Certificate & Leaving Cert Applied Graduates. The students pictured secured over 500 points with a number securing over 600. Our LCA students pictured did exceptionally well also, with many securing Distinctions. Well done and congratulations to all!



Empowerment Day for Girls at ATU

A selection of our TY and 5th year girls enjoyed a day out at ATU Castlebar. The event focused on how girls can reach their full potential. Several speakers shared compelling stories on volunteerism and overcoming adversity. The stand out speaker was Geraldine Lavelle, a disability advocate, whose courage and resilience was truly inspirational. We look forward to attending this event next year.



Christina Ruane

Each November the annual Soroptimist Public Speaking Competition takes place. This year three of our TY students competed - Jorja Hession, Eva Boyle and Christina Ruane. Schools compete to deliver a speech on a topic that relates to the empowerment of young women.

The speech is a minimum of 6 minutes, and the topics range from human rights to democracy. The competition was intense, but Christina was chosen as the winner. Christina then went on to win a regional competition in Ballinasloe in January which meant she qualified for the national finals. Unfortunately, Christina did not win the competition but gave a tremendous account of herself and represented BCS with distinction



All-Ireland Soroptimist finalist - Christina Ruane

U-17 Boys Soccer

This year, the Boys Soccer Team has worked hard throughout the season with a huge commitment to training. Under the leadership of Mr Gormally the team started the season off in Athenry where they lost 4 2 against Pres Athenry. Although they lost the lads put in a great effort. The Pres ended up reaching the All-Ireland final showing the lads could mix it with the best. They then went on to play Colaiste Chiaran. This match resulted in them losing but this wasn't the end of the road for them. The lads then continued to the shield where they played St Louis in the quarter final in Castlebar. They put in a strong performance which ended in 3-1 win. In the semi final they played Sligo Grammar in Sligo. After a tight game ending in 2 2 it went onto extra time and then penalties where the lads came out on top. It was a great performance which has now put them in a shield final. It has been a very successful year for the lads so far and they are hoping that they will add a bit of silverware at the end of year to top it off. The lads are pictured here with their new set of jerseys kindly sponsored by Castle Catering.



Back row: L/R: Adam Kelly, Ross Ruane-Dalton, Carlos Kirrane, Eamon Og Monaghan, Marcos Luiz De Moraes, Emmanuel Fasanmi
Front row: L/R: Hugo Marques, Isaac Owusu, Keelan Flynn, Cian O'Shaughnessy, Fionn Conlon

5th Year Construction Studies

Mr. Caulfield's Construction Studies class completed their corner tables with laser engagement, just in time for Christmas.



LCA1



Back row: L/R: Liam Fleming, Adam Ronan, Jason Finnegan
Middle row: L/R: Finbarr Regan, Lukas Bacys, Patryk Manke, Ben Reilly, Jack Nolan, Oliver Cuniffiee, Liam Hill
Front row: L/R: Patrick Murphy, Calum Kelly, Isaac Walsh, Emma Caulfield, Nikola Kosteckova, Rostislav Redlich
Missing: James Flanagan, Caitlin Cooper

LCA WOOD



LCA students proudly displaying their Woodwork projects.

Paintball



The LCA students had a great outing earlier in the year and the Paintball shooting was a big hit.

Go-Karting



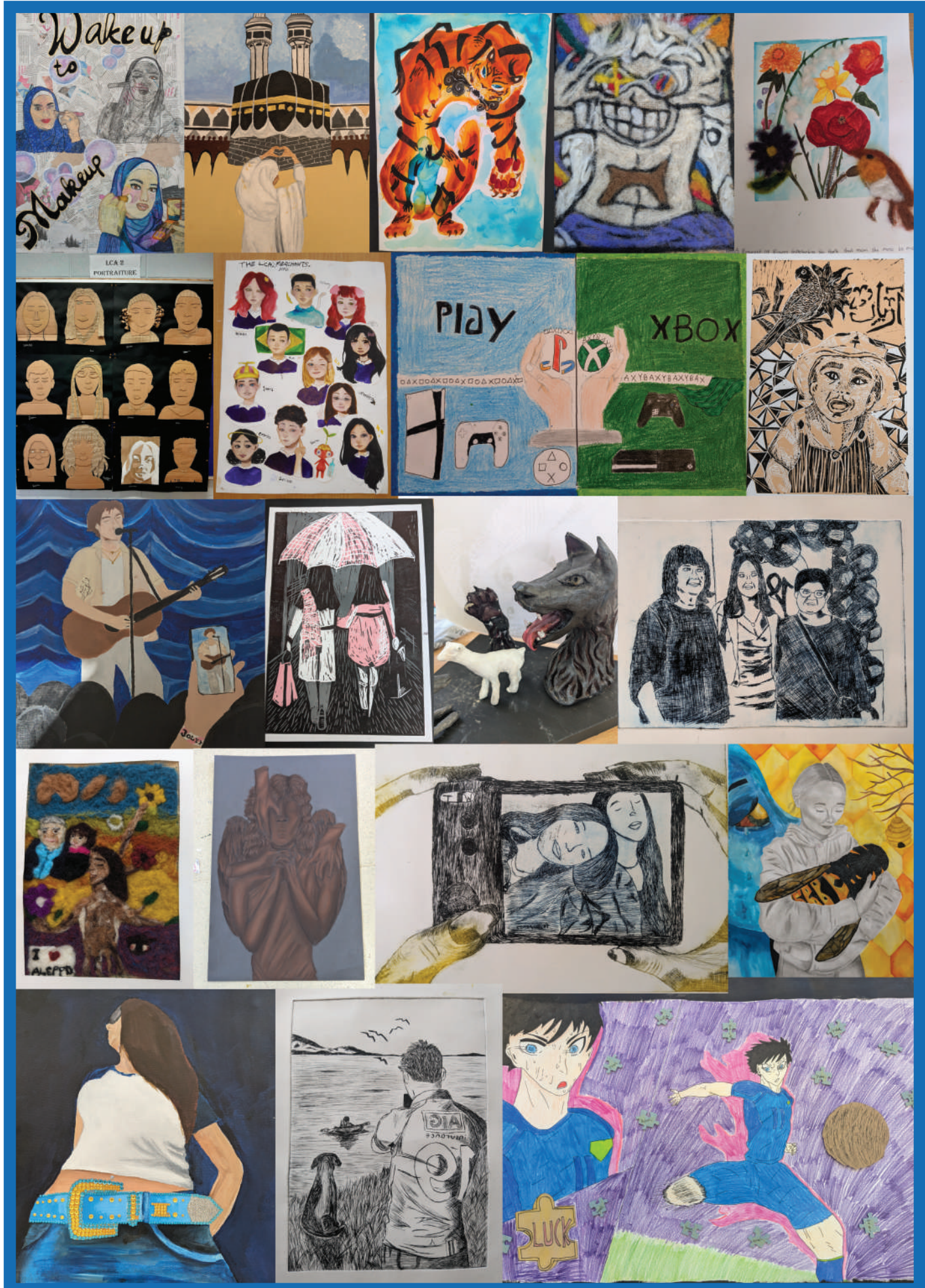
As is tradition LCAs enjoyed a trip to go Go Karting and as is usual it was greatly enjoyed by all.

Ice Skating

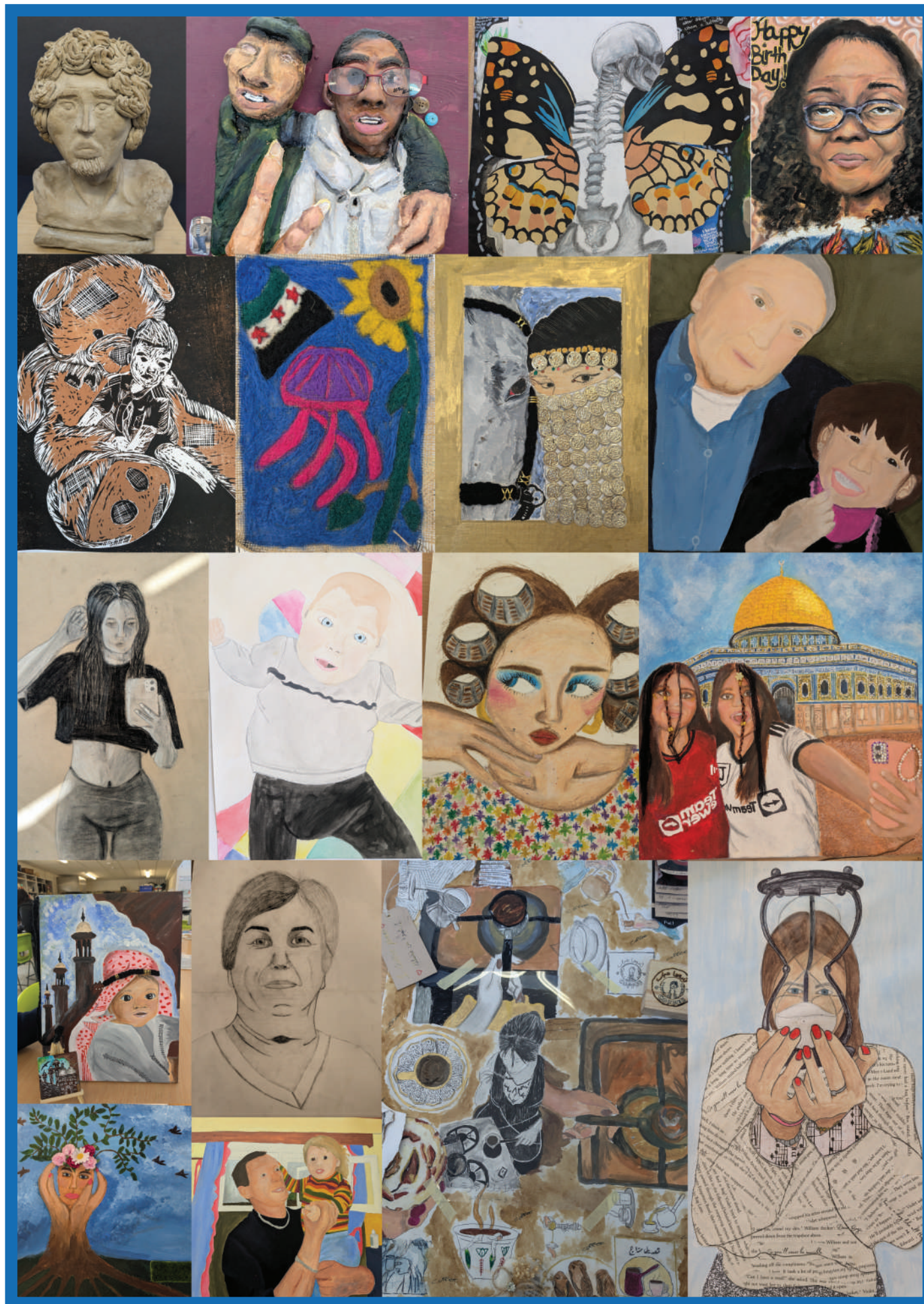


TY and LCAs enjoyed our Ice skating again this year somehow managing to escape injury.

Art



Art



Senior Football

A year of hard work and dedication from all involved didn't quite end with the prize it could have but the lads still ended the season as Flanagan Cup champions a trophy well deserved. We knew from the off that this team was hungry to go all the way this year and definitely had the potential for it. The campaign started off in Kiltimagh in the first round of the Flanagan Cup which ended in a very convincing Ballyhaunis victory. This game was followed up by two narrow wins, at home to St Tierhan's and in Tubbercurry against St Attracta's. This left us top of the group facing a strong Balla side in a semi-final. We travelled to the Centre of excellence where after a tight first half a few crucial goals opened up the gap between the teams the final awaited the lads.

Due to the Connaught championship coming round the corner this final was temporarily moved aside while the lads put focus on St Attracta's and St Josephs (Bish). In the first round the lads travelled to a very hostile Tubbercurry where despite all the noise Ballyhaunis came out 2-15 to 1-5 winners. Two weeks later the Bish arrived to Ballyhaunis needing a win but aside from early shooting problems the lads came out comfortable winners.

Top of the group and into the quarter finals team's confidence was sky-high and coming into the Christmas period the lads were very set on committing to training and playing challenge matches to continue to push towards their goal of Connaught glory once again.

After two successful challenge matches and numerous successful training sessions the lads were ready for Headford in the quarter final. After a rough start the lads regrouped at half time to come out 1-5 to 1-16 winners.

A semifinal followed against a tough organized Strokestown team. Scores were hard to find in this game and the lads trailed 4 points to 2 at half time. The boys had gone up 9 points to 8 in the dying moments of injury time when we won a free and thought that was surely the end but a few decisions later the ball ended up over the bar for Strokestown and we were heading to extra time. Despite tired minds and bodies, the lads worked hard and opened a 4 point lead in the last few minutes but just could not hold on and was fought back level again and it headed to penalties. It wasn't to be for our lads' small margins had swung against them and all their hard work had come up just short in the Connaught semifinal.

After a big break to get over the heartbreak the lads still had a final to play against local rivals Kiltimagh. After a great start the lads saw it out all the way and ended up 3-point winners to win the Flanagan cup, a trophy that their dedication warranted.

Throughout the year the success would not have been possible without the incredible dedication from Mr. Mitchell and David Delaney to train the team on rainy evenings throughout the whole year. Overall, it was a great year full of memories and it will always be remembered that we were 'there on merit'.



Back row: L/R:

Cian Carty, Mark Feeney, Shane Gallagher, Eamon Monaghan, Adam Kelly, Jason Burke, Jack Kelly, Derry Óg Cox, Ethan Kilbane, PJ Greally, Kyle Burke, Dylan Groarke, Seán Gormley, Ian Murray

Front row: L/R:

Oisín Kelly, Bradley Lynch Burke, Josh Kavanagh, Brian Greally, John Jennings, Charlie Johnston, Shane Clarke, Connor Grogan, Oisín Casey, Jarlath Concannon, Jake Powers, David Delaney, Fionn Delaney

U-19 Soccer

The U19 soccer team started off their campaign with a hard-fought, underdog win against the Bish from Galway. They secured a 4-3 win on their home ground in Cloonfad. It was an incredible performance from the lads.

They were then away to Ballinasloe where after a tough game they drew with Garbally College. The results from these games meant that they topped the group!

They beat Calasanctus College in the last 16 with a commanding 3-1 win in Cloonfad. After this great performance they went on to play Pres Athenry in a quarter final. The lads played well but unfortunately missed out on the win. Overall, the lads had a good year. They put in great effort with big numbers out at training and it showed. The highlight of the year was beating the Bish who went on to reach the final.

Back row: L/R:

Darragh Morris, Carl Waldron, Kyle Burke, Emmanuel Fasamni, Ismail Naseer, Mark Feeney, Cameron Costello, Jason Burke, PJ Greally, Eamon Monaghan, Ross Ruane Dalton, Adam Kelly, Ethan Kilbane, Sean Gormley, Sean Haldane, Jack Kelly

Front row: L/R:

Jason Jennings, Jake Powers, Shane Clarke, Oisín Kelly, Jarlath Concannon, Oisín Casey, Connor Grogan, Isaac Owusu, Brian Greally



Senior Hurling

The Senior hurlers had a very impressive year with Mr Woolley, with many tough battles, victories and losses. The team was undoubtedly one of the biggest talents in the school and the skill level of the hurlers was second to none. The season began in November with many out training, showing great interest among the hurlers, with a huge panel from the start.

They started out strong travelling to Roscommon. They secured their first win against Roscommon Community College on a scoreline of 3:21 to 5:05.

The next challenge they faced was against St. Gerald's, Castlebar. Yet again the lads proved victorious with another brilliant high scoring win. The match ended on a score line of 0:21 to 2:05. This took the lads straight through to the Connacht Semi Final topping the table.

The Connacht Semi-Final was a thrilling game against Coláiste Chroí Mhuire gan Smal, Spiddal. The match started out tough from the beginning and the lads realised they would have to fight hard for their spot in the Connacht Final. Which they did, till the very end to secure the impressive win yet again! Final score BCS 3:14, Spiddal 0:13. The game was action packed with huge skill and composure shown throughout the panel, this got them over the line to the Connacht Final.

The lead up to the Connacht Final was intense and exciting with many high intensity trainings to prepare properly. The final was against a strong Woodford team. The lads travelled to Ballygar to face the Galway team in the Connacht Final. This was an excellent game that the lads fought hard for from start to the end. The intensity of the game was unmatched leaving it right down the wire. Unfortunately in the end they didn't get the result they were aiming for. Despite the result, the lads did themselves and the school proud, proving to be massive role models for the younger hurlers of the school exceeding the expectations of everyone massively. A special word has to go out to the Leaving Certs who were great leaders on and off the pitch and will certainly be missed.



Back row: L/R: Charlie Swanick, Senan Heaney, Bradley Lynch Burke, Derry Óg Cox, Michael Dee, Zack Smith, Cathal Forde, Cullen Glavey, Darragh Ganley, PJ Greally, Shane Gallagher, Jake Powers, Jack Nolan, Dylan Hunt

Front row: L/R: Fionn Delaney, Ian Murray, Brian Greally, David Delaney, Oisín Casey, Conn Delaney, Dylan Greally, Fionn Conlon, Fionn Conlon, Dylan Groarke, Tom Donnellan, Mike Kayange

Congratulations

Ella Morley



Congratulations to Ella Morley 6th Yr, on winning All Scotland Championship and Champion of Champions in Irish Dancing.

Oisín Kelly



Congratulations to 6th Year student Oisín Kelly, who was selected for the Republic of Ireland U18 Schools international squad for the upcoming season after an impressive performance in the interprovincial tournament and a series of trials. The 18-player squad faced Australia in a friendly and then competed in the Centenary shield against Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and England.

Oisín played a significant part in all the games and represented BCS with distinction. Well done Oisín we are extremely proud of you.

Senior Boys Basketball

The senior basketball season began at home against St Colman's. Unfortunately, the match didn't go their way with the boys losing. Colman's were a strong side to play against for their first game, but the boys improved throughout the match working together finishing with a few brilliant scores. The next game was away to Ballinrobe. It was a tough game against a very physical and skillful Ballinrobe side. Ballinrobe won well in the end. Their season finished with a game at home against Rice College. The teams were very evenly matched and the score was close throughout the game. It ended with a 45 to 42 win for Ballyhaunis. This was by far their best game and showed how much they had improved since the beginning of the year. Thanks to Mr. Waters for managing the team throughout the year.



Back row: L/R: Seamus Pearson, Jack Nolan, John Jennings, Oisín Kelly, Jamie Nolan, Jason Jennings, Gustas Lukosevicius, Reliance Arku, Emmanuel Fasanmi
Front row: L/R: Oisín Casey, Jason Burke, Jarlath Concannon, Isaac Owusu, Norbert Siemionkowski

Today FM - Everyone is welcome in Ballyhaunis

Congratulations to our amazing students who were featured on Alison Curtis's *Everyone is Welcome in Ballyhaunis* on Today FM. They discussed what life is like for young people living in Ballyhaunis in 2025. They did an outstanding job representing our school!



Senior Camogie

The Senior girls kicked off their season with a strong performance against Tuam in Ballyhaunis. In what was a highly physical encounter, the team rose to the challenge and secured an impressive win. This victory earned them a direct place in the semi-final, where they faced Clarin College, Athenry—once again in Ballyhaunis. Battling tough weather conditions and a resilient opposition, the girls dug deep and showed great composure. On a day when it truly counted, the Leaving Cert girls led by example, stepping up when their team needed them most and helping secure a well-earned place in the Connacht Final.

In the final, they faced a well-known rival, Westport, at the Centre of Excellence. With many of the players familiar with each other, it was always going to be a closely contested match. Despite their best efforts, the girls came up just short on the day, with Westport narrowly taking the win. While the final result wasn't what they had hoped for, the girls can look back with pride on an excellent season filled with grit, teamwork, and great performances.

Looking ahead, a new Senior team will rise next year. But before we turn the page, a heartfelt thank you goes to six exceptional players who have been the backbone of our Senior team in recent years. Their commitment, leadership, and heart have left a lasting impact on BCS. We wish the very best to Cathy Greally, Kate Tener, Laura Flanagan, Laoise Greally, Éabha Delaney, and Madison Glavey as they move on to their next chapter. You've done your school proud.



Back row: L/R: Aoibhinn Gallagher, Sara Keane, Kyrah Jordan, Lauren Gallagher, Amy Waldron, Emma O'Brien, Sarah Caulfield, Sarah Jane Keadin, Madison Glavey, Katie Damron, Éabha Delaney, Aoibhin Greally, Sarah Ryan
Front row: L/R: Lauren Groarke, Molly Squires, Tara Delaney, Erin Higgins, Ella Gallagher, Abbie Gildea, Kate Tener, Laura Flanagan, Laoise Greally, Éala Greally, Marissa Collins, Cathy Greally

Senior Girls Football

The Senior Girls began their season with training sessions in September, showing commitment and determination from the outset. Throughout the year, they competed against Strokestown, Headford, and Glenamaddy, delivering strong performances in each match. The team displayed great skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship across the season, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts and progress. A special word of thanks to Ms. Coyne and Ms. Garvey for their dedication and support throughout the year.

We extend our best wishes to the Leaving Certificate students as they move on to the next chapter in their lives. Their leadership and passion for the game will be greatly missed.



Back row: L/R: Agapelame Laone Thobogang, Kate Collieran, Leah Finnegan, Kate McDermott, Emma McLoughlin, Lydia Gannon, Laura Flanagan, Orla Smith, Katelyn McLoughlin, Orlaith Regan, Fiona Duffy, Emma Henry, Melissa Clarke, Lucy Flanagan.
Front row: L/R: Éabha Delaney, Niamh Donnellan, Madison Glavey, Ava Neary, Sara Brennan, Shannon Moylan, Cathy Greally, Laoise Greally, Caoilagh Kelly, Jorja Hession, Sinéad O'Neill

Inter-School Debate

BCS played host to an inter-school debate friendly on Friday, April 4th. Debaters from Glenamaddy CS and Castlerea CS and their teachers joined us for a day of heated debate and discussion.

There were three rounds of debate, covering motions such as "This House Believes that AI is a Force for Good" and "This House would Emigrate".

Eight teams battled it out, each attempting to sway the adjudicators with thoughtful, persuasive arguments. It was great to see the teams thinking on their feet, offering insightful points-of-information and putting forward skilful rebuttals. The adjudicators, Mr. Pat McHugh (former principal at BCS) and Ms. Kirsty Phillips, commented on the high standard of the debates and the difficulty arriving at a decision.

BCS ultimately claimed the top spot, after Aqeel Amjad and Eva Boyle successfully argued that they would vote for a United Ireland in the final round.

The competition was organised by Ms. Marian Phelan and Mr. Marcus Bradshaw. It was the first time that Ballyhaunis CS had hosted a debating competition. The feedback from all of the participating schools was excellent and we look forward to establishing the Inter-school Debate as an annual event in BCS.



"Beyond The Surface"

She wakes up to the rush of a world that won't wait,
Where clocks tick loud, and hands navigate.
Her mind is filled with dreams too bright,
So heavy, So hazy, ready to take flight.

They say there's a ladder, a peak to ascend, A race to the top, a means to an end.
Success is a trophy, a thing you possess, But what if it's more than a contest to impress?

She stands in the chaos, the masks that they wear,
Wondering if her soul is really their's to compare.
Should she follow their path, just to belong, Or find her own rhythm, her own quiet song?

Her hands are unsteady, her heart filled with doubt,
As the deadline to their questions leaves no room to come out
What if her value's not bound to what they think
What they see, what they hear or what she writes down in ink

They say, "Do more, be more, never let go,"
As if worth is measured in what we can show.
But what if success isn't captured or sold, But a truth we uncover, a story untold?

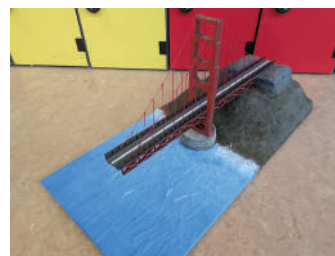
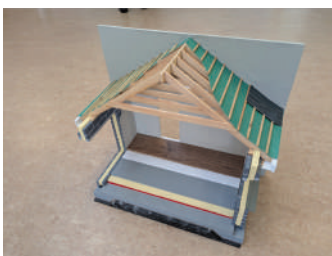
She longs not for fame or a world full of praise,
But to breathe through the noise, to step from the maze.
To know that her worth isn't bound by their race, But by learning to stand in her own quiet space.

So she stares at the future, not seeking a map, But releasing the weight of opinionated gaps.
Her path may be blurry, uncertain and slow,
But she'll trust in the journey and let herself grow.

For success isn't trophies or titles or gold, But the courage to live by a truth she'll uphold.
To walk through the world, not to chase, but to roam, And finally, to know that true love starts from home.

-Aishat Ashu Egbe

LC Engineering & Construction Projects



Mentors

Our amazing mentors have gone above and beyond this year, providing invaluable support to our first-year students. From helping them settle into life at BCS to offering thoughtful guidance and advice, your efforts have truly made a difference. Fantastic work, everyone!

Ms Burns



Caith Amach É

Leaving Certificate students studying Irish recently visited Ballina Arts Centre to attend a performance of 'Caith Amach É', a comedic sketch inspired by Irish oral picture sequences. The students greatly enjoyed the performance and found it to be an enriching and valuable learning experience.



King Lear



6th Year English students attended a performance of Shakespeare's King Lear at the Dean Crowe Theatre in Athlone in November.

6th Year Retreat

In December 2024, our 6th Year students took a welcome break from their intense study schedules with a retreat led by coordinator Declan Browne. The feedback from the students was overwhelmingly positive, with many describing it as a truly enriching experience!

The retreat provided an opportunity for students to reflect on the future with optimism, self-confidence, and hope. They found the experience both valuable and enjoyable, with many recommending it to others. Throughout the day, students had several moments to reflect deeply and express their emotions, all while enjoying moments of fun and connection. They were encouraged to share their thoughts and feelings openly, while also listening to each other with respect and empathy.

Congratulations to all who participated in this meaningful day. A special thank you to Declan Browne for generously sharing his talents with us. Once again, he expressed his appreciation for the warm and heartfelt welcome he received from everyone at BCS.

Ms. Burns

Scholarships

Anna Murray



Comhghairdeas to past pupil, Anna Murray, on being recognised at the University of Galway Excellence Scholarships 2024 awards ceremony! This prestigious achievement highlights her outstanding academic success in her Leaving cert results. Wishing Anna continued success as she pursues her studies.

Isabelle Henry



Huge congratulations to Isabelle Henry on being awarded the prestigious UCD Entrance Scholars Award in recognition of her outstanding Leaving Certificate results

Jack Delaney



Congratulations to Jack Delaney, Class of 2024, who received an Entrance Scholarship Award from Trinity College Dublin in recognition of his outstanding LC results. Best of luck with your studies Jack!

Exam Prayer

A Traditional Prayer for Success in Exams

Heavenly Father,
I come before You with a heart full of hope and a mind full of questions.
Grant me wisdom, understanding, and clarity as I prepare for these exams.
Help me to recall all that I have studied, to remain calm under pressure,
and to trust in the work I have done.
Let Your peace fill me, and may Your guidance be with me through every moment.
Amen.

Yearbook Editors Message

This is the 10th edition of my yearbook involvement and every year it gets harder to squeeze everything in. This school year unfortunately started with a terrible tragedy. In September we lost James Daniels and Harry Fagan in a tragic accident. This shook the school and the wider community but also showed the great community spirit that exists in the school. Staff and students looked out for each other and helped each other through this difficult time.

As is often the case it is activities that help us through difficult times and as usual there was no shortage this year. There were more extra-curricular activities than ever before giving students great opportunities to excel outside the classroom. From Hurling to Lego club, Soccer to Chess and Debating to Badminton to name but a few. There is always something for all tastes.

It is these pursuits that always create a vibrant Yearbook, and I hope you enjoy flicking through the pages. A huge thank you to Fr Stephen Farragher for his wonderful photography dotted throughout this edition and to Mr. Francis Gormally for all his efforts in co-editing this edition. I would also like to thank Danielle Coyne and Nicola O'Donnell for their help in this edition. I would like to thank staff and students who contributed to this edition. It truly is a whole school effort.

I would like to wish the Leaving Certificate and LCA2 the best of luck in their exams and in all their future endeavours.

Leaving Certificate Class 2024



Shoaib Ahmad



Muhammad Hashir Amin



Nikas Aravicius



Reliance Arku



Aishat Ashu Egbe



Alicia Aylward



Vejune Blozys



Chaitiwa Boatametsa



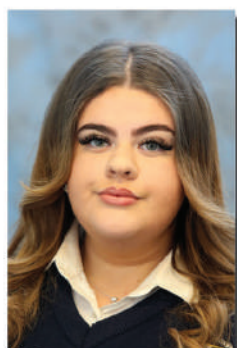
Ava Brennan



Elizabeth Burcovski



Jason Burke



Clara Byrne



Oisín Casey



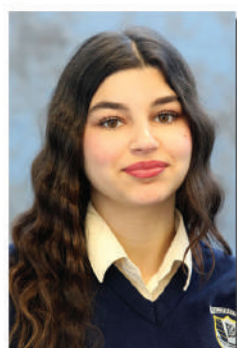
Eva Casey



Maeve Caulfield



Amelia Cherbatji



Amel Cherbatji



Najifa Tanjim Chowdhury



Greta Ciutaitė



Lauren Clancy



Shane Clarke



Jarlath Concannon



Cameron Costello



Derry óg Cox



Harry Coyle

Leaving Certificate Class 2024



Samira Ceivas Aguilera



Joshua Cunnane



Brenda Da Silva



David Delaney



Éabha Delaney



Fionn Delaney



Thierry De Mello



Casper Dorosz



Oskar Dorosz



Jovana Drobic



Matthew Elwood



Emmanuel Fasanmi



Alex Fitzmaurice



Laura Flanagan



Shane Flanagan



Shane Flanagan



Edel Fleming



Micheál Fleming



Shane Gallagher



Darragh Ganley



Lydia Gannon



Sarah Gill



Ciara Gill

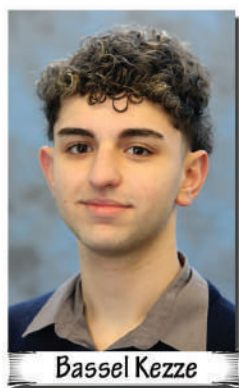


Cullen Glavey



Madison Glavey

Leaving Certificate Class 2024



Leaving Certificate Class 2024



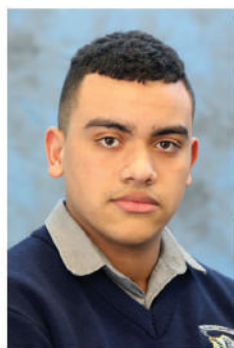
Adnan Khan



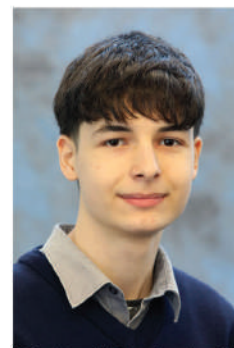
Arnas Krizka



Julie Lecky



Alan Felipe Lima Da Silva



David Lupinek



Bradley Lynch Burke



Callum Lyons



Magdalena Manke



Sophia Marques



Lubna Marwa



Eva McDonagh



Jamie McGuire



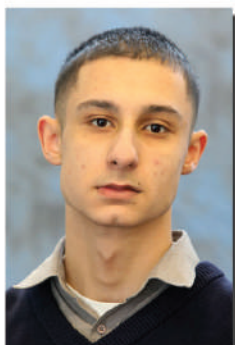
Aaron McWalter



Nicholine Mensah



Saule Mimaite



Erik Moisin



Heidi Belen Morel Galeano



Ella Morley



Shannon Moylan



Ena Mrden



Believe Mudimbi



Niamh Murphy



Alishba Naeem

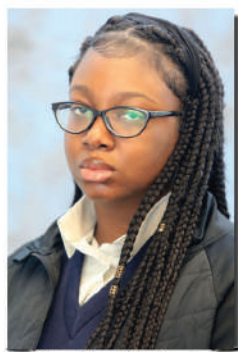


Muhammad Ismail Naseer



Arfa Nawaz

Leaving Certificate Class 2024



Theodora Obakpolar



Sinéad O'Neill



Isaac Owusu



Ava Padfield



Alex Paluba



Yameena Parveen



Valentina Pesut



Darren Quinn



Hana Rahmani



Siam Raihan



Orláith Regan



Simon Reilly



Leah Rogers



Kelly Ronan



Darragh Ronayne



Amar Sakkar



Rayn Sharif



Basmali Shawi



Fatema Shawi



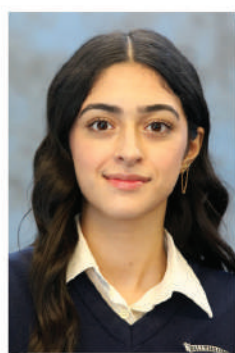
Orla Smith



Rehmeen Sohail



Lana Spajic



Iqra Tahir Mahmood

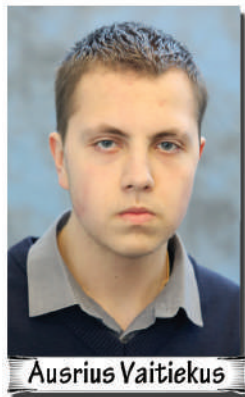


Kate Tener



Aaron Thomas Caulfield

Leaving Certificate Class 2024



Leaving Cert Awards 2025!!!

Award

Nominee

Couple of the Year	Shane Gallagher & Kate Tener
Rear of the Year (Male)	Derry Og Cox
Rear of the Year (Female)	Leah Rogers
Drama King (Male)	Basel Kezze
Drama Queen (Female)	Edel Fleming
Sister Act	Keeva Hunt & Edel Fleming
Bromance	Darragh Ronayne & Alex Fitzmaurice
Biggest Glow Up (Male)	Reliance Arku
Biggest Glow Up (Female)	Alicia Aylward
Class Clown (Male)	Cullen Glavey
Class Clown (Female)	Shannon Moylan
Future Pro Athlete	Oisin Kelly
The Social Butterfly	Cathy Greally
The Next Taoiseach	Sam Tynan
Biggest Ship	Alicia Aylward & Reliance Arku
Most likely to be heard before they're seen	Basmali Shawi
Most likely to get lost on a school trip	Theodora Obakpolar
Too cool for school	Adnan Khan
Flirt of the Year	Ethan Henry
The Sign-Out Superstar	Lana Spajic
DJ of the Year	Darragh Ganley
Biggest Lightweight	Kelley Ronan
Fashion Icon	Lydia Gannon
Most likely to be on Reality TV	Aishat Ashu Egbe
Most likely to remind the Teacher of homework	Elizabeth Burcovschi
Best Laugh	Orlaith Regan
Most likely to be ID at 30 (Male)	David Delaney
Most likely to be ID at 30 (Female)	Clara Gill

Leaving Certificate Baby Photos



1. Callum Lyons 2. Lubna Marwa 3. Matthew Elwood 4. David Delaney 5. Cameron Costello 6. Sean Gormally
7. Derry Og Cox 8. Grannie Waldron 9. Lydia Gannon 10. Yusuf Kezze 11. David Lupinek 12. Jason Kelly
13. Yuzdzhan Ismailov 14. Shannon Moylan 15. Saule Mimaite 16. Oisin Casey 17. Eva Casey 18. James Hussey
19. Shane Flanagan 20. Alex Fitzmaurice 21. Muhammed Hashir Amin 22. Rehmeen Sohail 23. Shane Clark
24. Bassel & Fatima Kezze 25. Amel & Amelia Cherbatji 26. Jack Kelly 27. Shane T Flanagan 28. Iqra Mahmood
29. Eva McDonagh 30. Dylan Groarke 31. Sophia Marques 32. Orla Smith 33. Leah Rogers 34. Arfa Nawaz
35. Jarlath Concannon & Charlie Johnston 36. Jamie McGuire 37. Fatima Shawi 38. Yameena Parveen 39. Clara Byrne
40. Amar Sakkar 41. Elizabeth Burcovschi 42. Madison Glavey 43. Laoise Greally 44. Niamh Murphy

Leaving Certificate Baby Photos



45. Cora Hurley 46. Shahd Kezze 47. Connor Grogan 48. Sarah Gill 49. Cathy Greally 50. Ethan Henry
 51. Believe Mudimbi 52. Edel Fleming 53. Julie Lecky 54. Bradley Lynch Burke 55. PJ Greally 56. Nicholine Mensah
 57. Aishat Ashu Egbe 58. Ena Mrden 59. Ella Morley 60. Orlaith Regan 61. Ruth Greally 62. Darragh Ronayne
 63. Basmali Shawi 64. Ava Brennan 65. Jovana Drobic 66. Greta Ciutaite 67. Lauren Clancy 68. Aaron Thomas Caulfield
 69. Eabha Delaney 70. Laura Flanagan 71. Ava Padfield 72. Keeva Hunt 73. Maeve Caulfield 74. Lana Spajic
 75. Fionn Delaney 76. Darragh Ganley 77. Simon Reilly 78. Oisin Kelly 79. Kelley Ronan 80. Michael Fleming
 81. Alicia Aylward 82. Sinead O'Neill 83. Kate Tenner 84. James Hayden 85. Theodora Obakpolar 86. Rayn Sharif
 87. Chaitiwa Boatametse 88. Ciara Gill

Memory Lane

Well class of 2025, our time has come to say goodbye to this school. 6th class us were equally as excited and nervous to begin. Coming out the other side, we now know maybe there wasn't so much to be scared of. We have learnt so much here but most importantly we have gained forever friendships. Our time in the school has grown us extremely close as a year group and we can't imagine a better school atmosphere than the one we have built here together.

Taking us right back to the start, we sat in the canteen as little first years, looking around for a familiar face, but it didn't take long until no one there was a stranger to us. Miss Mooney and Miss Waldron had their work cut out for them from the word go, with incidents happening as soon as we were in the door, we'll say no more about that. Looking at the leaving certs back then it was hard to imagine ourselves in their place, but no words of advice could have ever prepared us for how quickly we found ourselves here. Between stressing for the first times in our lives over those semester tests and many bonding trips to get the friendships flowing, it didn't take us long to get right into the BCS community. However, we were barely in the door before we were sent home again to navigate online classes, making our adjustment to this school that little bit more difficult. Between zoom calls and teams deadlines you would think we should have been stressed but with many assignments left unturned in, it was nothing a few cycles couldn't fix. We were together in spirit as we took on many a TikTok challenge, the most challenging part of our life back then. Maybe the fact we never properly finished first year back then is part of the reason we still don't feel ready to finish sixth year now.

Second year was some may say irrelevant but it was the year we really secured those friendships we had begun in first year. We sat in our base classes for most of the day with the B area becoming our new home. Our masks, hand sanitizer and dodgy haircuts getting us through each day. We were all just glad to be back in school, yet not happy the forgoie discos never made their return. We may have missed out on some of the trips and fun in this earlier time in school but we never felt hard done by and school became our safe place. Either way we certainly made up for those lost times later on in our school journey.

After the year before us slipped through the junior cycle without a sweat we were keen to follow that path but it wasn't going to be the case for us. At the time we were a mix of stress and carelessness, depends who you ask. We didn't know it at the time but that week of the junior cert would turn out to be one of our best weeks in school, with a close second being the week prior which was meant to be spent studying. To experience the stress together along with the walks downtown in between and topping it off with a well deserved night out, really showed us we had friends there for us through it all. We all found ourselves going separate ways after this, some bravely deciding to take on fifth year, but for the rest of us taking the easy way out with a nice TY year ahead, which if you asked us then we thought would last forever.

TY rolled around with a new sense of maturity with our blue jumpers, for some people anyway. TY was filled with outfits that were made of junk (as well as the upstairs gym...sorry), attempts of doing donuts in west drives whips, bodhráns that are still being thumped and some barista training along the way.

We spent the first few weeks awkwardly bonding, looking for jobs and hearing the same dingdong "you get out of it what you put into it".

A few weeks on, the awkwardness had left our system, but the "permission to leave class" notes mysteriously disappeared as well. The most important day of our whole year came around- the list that assigned people to our rooms in Killary. Here there was a lot of dirt, mud but also laughs and some might say a little too much bonding. Safe to say, after that trip Mr. Caulfield and Mr. McGarry were rethinking their new responsibilities.

TY came and went, and we headed straight back to the books with some newfound faces along the way fresh from the big JC. Our heads being in books suddenly came to a halt when Ballyhaunis went Broadway with "High School Musical". Our long hard hours of dancing most certainly paid off for our 30 seconds of fame in the fifth-year chorus. While some were busy at dance rehearsals, the junior and senior boys as well as camogie were ploughing their way to the Connaught finals. The yearly trip to Achill was one to remember, certainly for Miss Hunt and Mr. Coyne who enjoyed "hitting the waves" on Keel beach. The party really kicked off when Ms. Phillips had a late surprise arrival that night. It was safe to say bonding was done and no sleep was had, as we talked through early hours of the morning across bunk beds and laughed until we fell off. We created new friendships with the headstrong former third years who came into our year with huge personalities.

18ths, festivals and summer came and went, and we became the top dogs of the school in leaving cert. No more being trampled on for us! This year was the beginning of the Celtic Tiger of the Golfs and Focuses parked outside school. Driving licenses spread like covid and soon there was no parking. By September of this year, we had all become close and continued to do so as the year progressed. Our friendships became strong but the urge to finish school did too as we neared the finish line (as did Mr. McDonaghs). This year our friendships, bromances and of course romances became as strong as ever as we entered the home stretch. Unlike the few broken bones, crutches and tore ACLs along the way.

Our time in Ballyhaunis has been unforgettable to say the least, for students and teachers, some for different reasons. So, class of 2025, I think we can all agree, these past six entire years have been filled with memories and people to cherish and last a lifetime. Here's to us.

By Lydia Gannon and Shannon Moylan



Memory Lane



Memory Lane

