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THE RATOATH COLLEGE YEARBOOK 2020



# Fáilte



This school year has been like no other in the history of Ratoath College. We are living through tumultuous and unprecedented times. Never in our history have we faced a threat as deadly as the Covid-19 virus. Our very way of life has been changed and we have all had to adapt our everyday practices. We are working our way through one of the greatest disasters ever to befall mankind but we will endure, survive and become stronger.

To this end we want to commend you for your resilience and adaptability during the crisis. The very best of the Ratoath College spirit has come to the surface during these challenging times. The sense of community, respect for each other and the importance of family and friends has really come to the fore. Throughout the Covid -19 pandemic we have stayed resolute and united.

We speak to you with immense pride in the way you have conducted yourselves throughout the crisis. Your engagement with social distancing and online learning is a credit to you and your parents. We are immensely proud of all your teachers who adapted their work practices to ensure your needs were being met. At all times teachers have kept their students' needs to the fore and endeavoured to do their job to the best of their abilities despite having to work through extremely difficult circumstances.

We want to commend our Leaving Cert students for the way they have conducted themselves throughout the crisis. They, more than anyone else, have suffered during these challenging times but have acted with the utmost maturity and resolve. We will all support you in any way we can over the coming months. As you come to the completion of your second level schooling, we would like to thank you for the contribution you have made to Ratoath College and we wish you every success in your future careers.

Despite our year being cut short we still managed to pack in a massive array of events and activities. We never cease to be amazed by the talent within the College. Looking back on the past year, some of the highlights would be the amazing "Addams Family" musical, the wonderful Talent Show, the amazing Christmas Village, the work of our Transition Year students in painting our corridors and the many sporting activities we have partaken in throughout the year, particularly the efforts of our U19 soccer team who represented us so well.

As the school year ends, we want you to reflect on what is important within our school community. We want you to focus on the positive aspects that have emerged from this crisis. We want to build on the sense of community and the importance of continuing to take care of each other. Things that may have been important to us in the past such as social media presence or online activity may now have been surpassed by the importance of our family, friends and being part of a wider community.

The coming academic year sets a record for the biggest ever intake of First year students into Ratoath College. Our school community continues to grow and prosper. The completion of our new extension and continued upgrading of the existing building will make for a more comfortable working environment for us all. We want Ratoath College to be the school of choice for every single student within our catchment area

Our school motto of "Mol an Oige" has never been more important. We must stand together as a community supporting and praising each another and protecting the most vulnerable members of our school community.

A very big thank you to Mr. Toner, Ms S O'Neill, Ms Flynn, Ella Hussey, Abby Hesse-Mason, SORCHA Broe-Brady, Callum Browne, the rest of the Yearbook team and our Transition Year students, who have done an excellent job to produce a yearbook of the highest of standards. We are sure you will agree they have done a wonderful job. This publication is a wonderful endorsement of the school and all we achieve.....Well Done everyone!

We want the next year in Ratoath College to be one of solidarity, friendship and community spirit. The 2020-2021 academic year will bring its challenges but also its opportunities. We will face them together head-on.

*Mr. Meehan*

*Ms. Kelly*

*Mr. Connolly*

*Mr. McCarthy*

*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



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**Editor's Note:** What a mental year? Although we didn't get all the time together that we should have, hopefully this Yearbook will bring back memories of the good times we did have throughout the year. I couldn't have done this without the help of Ella Hussey, Abby Hesse-Mason, Sorcha Broe-Brady & Callum Browne. A massive thank you to Ms. Donnellan who, at the 11th hour, saved me from madness. The Yearbook couldn't have gone ahead without her and if I ever hear the phrases "aspect ratio" or "inconsistent font" it'll be too soon. Much credit and many thanks go to all of the teachers and students of Ratoath College who contributed their talents. While every effort has been made to include as many students as possible, we apologise for any errors or omissions. Stay safe, look after yourselves & each other - Mr Toner.



# *The Graduating Class of 2020*

*"All that is gold does not glitter,  
Not all those who wander are lost."*

J.R.R. Tolkien





# Beannachtaí ó Mr. Connolly

Dear Class of 2020,

We have come to the end of the school year and the end of your time here in Ratoath College. I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you the very best of luck with whatever path you choose in life. I would like to remind you to have faith in yourselves and to trust that the hard work and effort you have put in will serve you well in the coming weeks. We are living in strange times and I have no doubt that the Leaving Certificate Class of 2020 will go down in history!

On a personal note it has been an honour and privilege for me to be your Moltóir over the last five years of your secondary schooling. It is a lovely experience to see you grow into wonderful ladies and gentleman whom, no doubt, we are all going to miss dearly. I have enjoyed every minute of working with you and I am immensely proud as I have watched you grow and mature into fantastic young adults. I would like to remind you that we are always here if you ever need us at Ratoath College. I hope that in general your time here has been an exciting, enjoyable and successful one. I'm sure you have had good days and bad days but I hope that you will treasure the memories and friendships that you have made forever.

The class of 2020 have certainly made a lasting impression on the school which we as a staff will remember forever and I hope that you will leave here with fond memories that you will never forget.

I would like to sincerely thank the fabulous Caomhnóirí that have looked out for you and looked after you over the last five/six years. Their support to you and to their Moltóir has been extraordinary.

I have every confidence that you will continue to thrive and I wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

Look back with a smile, go forward with courage and may many wishes for all that is good go with you.

Best of luck, remember to stay in touch and mind yourselves,

*Colm Connolly*

Moltóir, Class of 2020

*'Your education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead'*

- Nora Ephron -



# Focal ó na hArd-Chinnirí

The past years in Ratoath College have been filled with ups and downs but we wouldn't have changed any of it for the world. From our Junior years to our later Senior years, we've been on one hell of a journey. We've met amazing students, staff and teachers and made unforgettable memories. Somehow, along the way, we found ourselves lucky enough to be your Ard-Chinnirí. We never could have planned it and although our time has been cut short, we wouldn't change it and these memories will stay with us for a lifetime.

To the unsung heroes of RC, our teachers. When the times were unclear, you were able to guide us through the uncertainty and brought the classroom to our homes. There aren't words to describe how grateful we are for what you have done for us. Through the laughs, the chats and countless memories, we will never take your classes for granted again. We have to mention our school Mams and Dads, our Caomhnóirí. You have always listened to our random stories and put up with our antics but have never failed to be a shoulder to cry on and fill us with your words of wisdom. But most importantly to thank our amazing moltoir, Mr. Connolly. Although it has not been easy, (especially been woken up by Schoology posts of pictures coming home from Longitude) you've stuck by us for the last two years. We have never come across such a hard working all-round exceptional person, always so caring and never failing to delight us with your iconic punch lines. As our time ends and the Leaving Cert fast approaches, you've taught us key advice to power through and that "the show must go on".

We would also like to say a massive thank you to the other two Vice Principals, Ms. Kelly and



Mr. McCarthy and also our principal, Mr. Meehan. You were thrown into the deep end at the start of the year and have taken the role of principal in your stride. We can tell you will make a lasting mark on the school as you epitomise everything "Mol an Óige" is.

Before our time comes to a close, we would like to give some advice to the remaining students in Ratoath College that we have learnt along the way. Enjoy every minute you spend here because believe us it truly does fly by. In the blink of an eye, you end up from one side of the hall to another and seem to take it all for granted. So be yourself, take all the opportunities that come your way and most importantly create as many memories as you can. As cliché as it may seem, Ratoath College really is a family so remember there is always someone there to steer you in the right direction.

And lastly, of course, the Class of 2020. You are such an amazing group of people and we can honestly say our time here would have been so different without each and every one of you. Although our final year isn't what we all expected, we can only make the best out of a bad situation and hope there is only good things coming our way. As we walk out of the doors of Ratoath College for one last time, we wish you all every success in the future in whatever you choose to do and hopefully one day, if we're lucky, we will cross each other's paths again.

Your Ard-Chinnirí always,

*Jack & Ella*



## Na Cinnirí - Class of 2020



## Ard-Cinnirí

Ella Hussey

Jack Lanigan

Mark Lehane

Lauren Kelly



## Rang Donohoe



It has been my absolute pleasure to be Caomhnóir to Rang Donohoe. You are a fantastic group of students and I could not have asked for a better bunch to have in my rang.

Thank you for your positive attitude, witty banter and kindness that you demonstrated over the past two years. I wish you all the best in your exams, and for whatever you plan to do in the future.

I hope you leave Ratoath College with fond and life long memories and please keep in touch.

*Ms Donoghue*



## Rang Hynes



It seems like yesterday when Mr Connolly called me up to ask me would I take over from the wonderful Ms Daly as your new Caomhnóir. Taking over from such an amazing teacher and Caomhnóir was not an easy task but one I was very excited and a little nervous about. Excited because I had always hugely admired you all as a year group and so it was my privilege to be part of the 6th year team. You welcomed me in and made me feel part of the rang instantly.

Once we got our little classroom kettle and a few biscuits it was like I knew you all for years and how could there be any awkward silences with Mr. Feldman around anyway! We worked together during our tutorial class every Wednesday until we were rudely interrupted by some unwanted visitors on occasion. However, thanks to the very mature and brave young gentlemen in our class, the overly friendly visitors weren't long hanging around our classroom!

Working with you since September this year has been an absolute pleasure and I just know your futures will be incredibly bright. I couldn't have asked for a nicer, more mature and fun group to work with, I honestly wish you everything wonderful you deserve.

*Ms Hynes*

# Rang Kelly



Where do I begin?! You are my second Rang Kelly to see through the halls of Ratoath College. Although you did not win Sports Day like my 1st Rang Kelly (I'm still not over it ) you definitely won my heart (good recovery!). I really don't want to write a list of clichés so here goes with some of my thoughts.

Although I could not get you to line up in alphabetical order in assembly, I will never understand why, it really did start my day right by having a chat and a word or just a simple hello each morning. Caomhnóir time every Wednesday was fun, you all sitting there (with your phones away of course) keeping me entertained with stories, gossip, opinions and TikToks. (Sorry there were no phones, I repeat no phones). I really feel that I have gotten to know you all as individuals over the past 5 or 2 years. What a fantastic group you are, mannerly, respectful, engaging, intelligent, interesting , helpful, obliging, and the list goes on.

I hope you have enjoyed your years in Ratoath College. I hope they have helped shape you for the future you want . Remember you are at a point in your life that you can be anything you want to be. May your lives be full of happiness, love and laughter.

*Ms Kelly*



## Rang Martin



I have found it very difficult to write this piece. It feels like I am saying goodbye but I am not ready to say goodbye to you all. Rang Martin you have been a dream class. It has been an absolute pleasure to be your caomhnóir. I will cherish the memories we've made over the years between tutorial catch ups, Game of Thrones updates, the occasional yummy breakfasts and of course the talent and commitment you've given to our 'legendary Christmas doors', created by such a legendary group of individuals.

Greeting you at assembly daily has been a great way to start my day in a positive way. You are such a positive group of people. Stay positive. You are stronger and more capable than you realise. It's going to be a big change for me next year without the colour you've added to my day.

As a dream class I hope you dream big. I really hope you go forth and make your mark in the world. I wish you the very best in your exams and I wish that whatever path in life you take it leads you to fulfilment and adventure. Spread kindness and positivity wherever you go. So as I come to the end of this piece I will not say goodbye, instead I would like to say sincerely how much I look forward to seeing you all again.

*Ms Martin*

# Rang McGarron



Over the last five years (or two), it has really been my honour to get to know you all. From the very beginning you were all so genuine, kind and enthusiastic and I really looked forward to our English lessons. I was so pleased when Mr Connolly asked if I would take over as your caomhnóir at the end of your 1st year.

During our years together, each of you have impressed me with your optimism and thoughtfulness, your integrity and desire to do your best. Every Wednesday morning, as we counted up stickers or, later, chatted about the Leaving Cert, you brightened up my week. Even during the times you came to me not feeling your best, or perhaps needing some advice, I was happy to see you.

Over your time at RC, you have grown into remarkable young men and women. Part of this has been due to your friendships, which, during ordinary, exciting or trying times, have been wonderful to see. As you enter this next stage of your lives, and experience adulthood, trust in yourselves and each other; be patient, loving and kind. Be with people who make you happy and love you for who you truly are. Remember: we're all human.

Although our current circumstances are certainly not what we expected for the end of 6th year, I hope you are feeling positive about what the future holds. You have all put in so much hard work since you first stepped through our doors and I am so proud of you. I look forward to hearing about your future endeavours as you build on what you have already created for yourselves.

Ratoath College will be very different without you.

I wish you the very best of luck.

*Ms McGarron*



## Rang Munnelly



Rang Munnelly,

It's hard to believe how quickly these past two years have flown by, when I first met Rang Munnelly I didn't know what to expect... I quickly found out that I had been gifted with best bunch of LCA students to ever grace the corridors of Ratoath College! I am so thankful to have had the privilege of watching you grow, flourish and develop into young adults ready to take on the world and all it's adventures. Times have changed these last few weeks, and I hope to see you all again before your time in Ratoath draws to a close.

Time waits for no-one but the memories will never fade! As your caomhnóir and teacher I wish every success in your futures endeavours. I hope that I may have had some small impact on your development to adulthood. You are an amazing group of people who are kind-hearted and caring. Thank you for making me feel welcome, the next Rang Munnelly will have very big boots to fill. My final quote to you:

*"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."* - Arthur Ashe

*Mr Munnelly*

## Rang Nissar



And now the end is near. I actually can't believe time has gone so quick for Rang Nissar. It is with a very heavy heart that I am saying goodbye, my Rang Nissar. It will be so different for me next year without all of you. Who will I chat to about movies to watch? Who will I chat to about the Man U and their woes or rugby?

We were a big family, we had our disagreements, however I will remember all the times you guys made each other, and me, laugh. I hope I have played a small part in your development as young, talented, mature citizens of this world. All of you have huge potential.

Remember your dreams and fight for them. You must know what you want from life. There is just one thing that makes your dream become impossible: the fear of failure. Don't be afraid of failure. Embrace it, don't let it defeat you.

The world awaits you Rang Nissar. Go and embrace it.

*Mr Nissar*



# Rang Witter



For the last five years it has been my pleasure to be Caomhnóir to Rang Witter. I have had the opportunity to get to know the lovely, talented students which made up Rang Witter; some of you for the whole five years and some of you joined us after TY for the last two years. You have all shared so much together over the past five/six years – worries, struggles and tears, as well as fun times, laughter and joy. I thank you for the privilege, you have positively enriched my life. I have been very fortunate to share this journey with you towards the end of your secondary school life and now I am both proud and sad to see you go! However, it is time for you to experience the big exciting world out there.

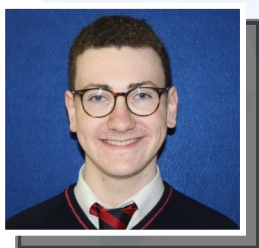
Although we are ending the year in these extraordinary, difficult times, I hope that you are leaving with fond memories. One of the most precious gifts you will leave here with is the friendships you have developed and nurtured, friends you have laughed and cried with, and friends you trust.

I wish you every success and happiness as you journey through life, with lots of adventures along the way. And remember to dream big! Be true to yourself! Find your passion in life, pursue it and be the best that you can be!

*Ms Witter*

# Graduate Profiles

## Rang Hynes



**Oisín Brioscú**

**Likes:** The fact we're going to college soon

**Dislikes:** Not knowing how, if, or when that will be (thanks Corona)

**Will miss:** The extension

**Quote:** "As long as you're drawing breath, stay curious and keep going" - Michael D. Higgins



**Melissa Clarke**  
"Melly"

**Likes:** Irish with Cara

**Dislikes:** Monday morning P.E.

**Will miss:** Killian asking me to do the wave in geography

**Quote:** "Hahah Cara I didn't hear you"



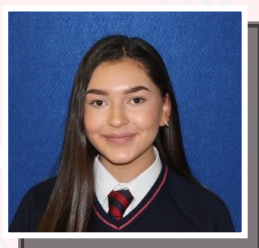
**Sarah Ashmore**  
"Ashmore"

**Likes:** Coke, naps, being right, P.E.

**Dislikes:** Being wrong, rain, assembly, fire

**Will miss:** The canteen, annoying Ciaran

**Quote:** "Look at this pic of my dog"



**Mia Cunningham**  
"Mia Bia/Maya"

**Likes:** Aran

**Dislikes:** Aran

**Will miss:** Pain au chocolat's from the canteen

**Quote:** "Who? What? Who? What are we talking about?"



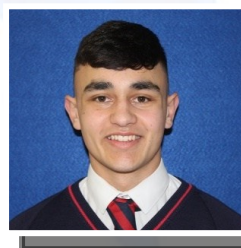
**Samantha Brady**

**Likes:** Lie ins and coming in late to school

**Dislikes:** Assembly

**Mill miss:** Chats with Janice Conlon

**Quote:** "How Rude"



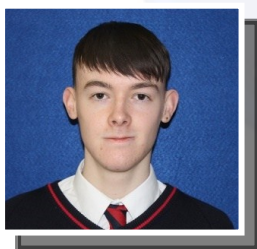
**Harry Dalchan**  
"Haz"

**Likes:** Away days

**Dislikes:** 6 years of being mistaken for Anto

**Will miss:** PMac's Dream Team.

**Quote:** "Yeah I'll take a penalty no bother..."



**Leigh Dooley**  
"Doolerson"

**Likes:** Being early for school

**Will Miss:** The Prayer Room

**Quote:** "So you've joined the gang, have you?"



**Emma Dorney**

**Likes:** Lunch with the girls

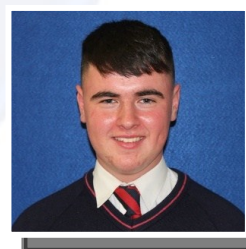
**Dislikes:** Ciaran Feldman

**Will miss:** The girls

**Quote:** "Do you watch Brooklyn Nine-Nine?"



**Conor Eiffe**



**Ciaran Feldman**

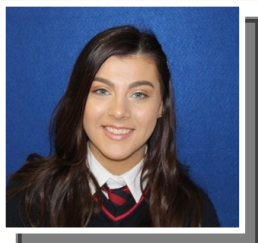
**Likes:** Ms Hynes complimenting me on my punctuality

**Dislikes:** Harry

**Will miss:** The constant free supply of garlic mayonnaise

**Quote:** "Just give up, it's the Boyle way"





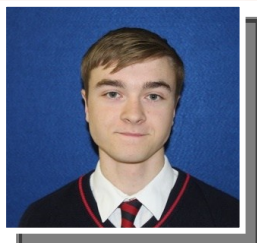
**Sophie Hartnett**

**Likes:** Not doing my Irish orals

**Dislikes:** Nevik

**Will miss:** Fighting with the girls at lunch

**Quote:** "Love that for me"



**Finn Huonder**

*"Huonda Civic/Huonderwall"*

**Likes:** Coffee and eating in Mr. Nissar's Lab

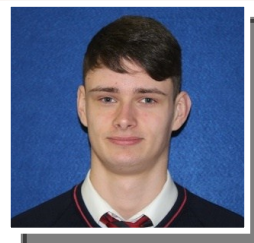
**Dislikes:** Drinking that Hydroxylic acid

**Will miss:** interpret this section

**Quote:** "Good Morning"



**Morgan Kearney**



**Dean Lacey**



**Jordan Lynn**  
*"Jords"*

**Likes:** Chicken Fillet Rolls

**Dislikes:** Supervised Study

**Will miss:** French class with the boos



**Niamh Madden**  
*"Niamhy"*

**Likes:** Being dramatic, my Dad's bank account

**Dislikes:** Not getting attention, getting told I won't graduate if I don't do PE

**Will miss:** Lunch with the girls, musicals with Debbie

**Quote:** "Do I have to sing at another award ceremony?"



**Sam Magee**  
*"Speng"*

**Likes:** Eating lunch at the 'spot'

**Dislikes:** Being told to leave.

**Will miss:** Taking a break from P.E



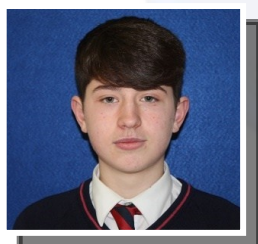
**Cian Quigley**  
*"Quigs"*

**Likes:** Studying and doing homework, not trying to get dirty comments into my Graduate Profile

**Dislikes:** Slow walkers, the mob mentality

**Will miss:** Liam Moreton, TY Lilliput, going to Rockets in TY

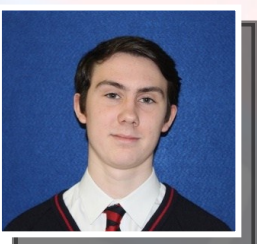
**Quote:** "I'm no bettin man, but I'm bettin you didn't do your homework" - Mr Giblin 2014-2016



**Liam Reynolds**

**Likes:** Sleeping in

**Will miss:** Not doing PE



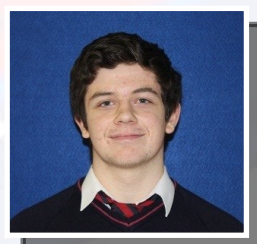
**Mathieu Sevestre**  
*"Mathchoo (like a sneeze)"*

**Likes:** Most people

**Dislikes:** Any other language other than English

**Will miss:** After school DCG

**Quote:** "This class went really fast by" -Finn Huonder"



**Diarmuid Stoney**  
*"Diarmo"*

**Likes:** Sleeping

**Dislikes:** Geography

**Will miss:** the Leaving Cert, apparently

**Quote:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQw4w9WgXcQ>



**Kristen Tarpey**



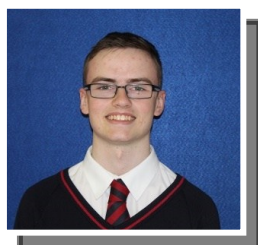
**Clodagh Thomas**  
"Clo"

**Likes:** Eating Gluten  
**Dislikes:** Having a gluten intolerance  
**Will miss:** Lunch with the girls  
**Quote:** "Here for a good time not a long time"



**Cara Thornton**

**Likes:** Embarrassing myself supposedly  
**Dislikes:** Presenting (Ty Dolphins)  
**Will miss:** Irish on Wednesdays with Melissa  
**Quote:** "'I am the greatest' - 2nd Year study seminar"



**Mark Webster**  
"Webby"

**Likes:** Music  
**Dislikes:** Online classes  
**Will miss:** My 9 classes with Bernie every week....  
**Quote:** "Master has given Webby a graduation cert. Webby is freeee!"



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## Rang Donohoe



**Bogdan Baturov**  
"Bogdan Baturovianovich"

**Likes:** Sleeping  
**Dislikes:** Not sleeping  
**Will miss:** High Fives from the JC boys  
**Quote:** "Cheryl by Yung Gravy"



**Eva Beedall**  
"I'm too basic to have one"

**Likes:** Quokkas (look them up please)  
**Dislikes:** Beans  
**Will miss:** My non-existent music practical  
**Quote:** "Someone give me a funny quote"



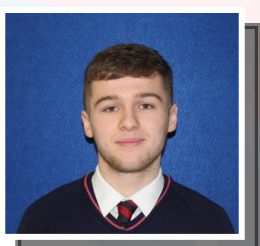
**Amy Beirnes**  
"Sugarpuff"

**Likes:** Not going to assembly  
**Dislikes:** Frogs, quarantine  
**Will miss:** Mr McAuley dancing on the tables in Classics  
**Quote:** "Get in the bin"



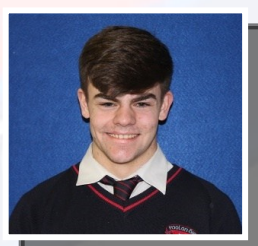
**Fergus Bobbett**  
"Bobby"

**Likes:** A nice cup of tea with my friends  
**Dislikes:** Missing class  
**Will miss:** Being an ultra of Mr McAuleys soccer team  
**Quote:** "I look better in person"



**Callum Browne**

**Likes:** Caffeine, Gym, Massey's  
**Dislikes:** A significant lack of caffeine, Israel  
**Will miss:** Peace treaties and the Farmers Party in History  
**Quote:** "But it produces a different compound in your liver called..."



**Adam Byrne**  
"Byrnsey/Adz"

**Likes:** Team of the group stage Lautaro Martinez  
**Dislikes:** Custom tactics  
**Will miss:** Caelan teaching me everything about Everton  
**Quote:** "Insert quote about a nightclub"



**Cathal Byrne**





**Abby Carroll**  
"Carroller"

**Likes:** The gym and chicken dinner x  
**Dislikes:** School and pasta  
**Will miss:** Getting the table first at lunch for the girls  
**Quote:** "Food is fuel."



**Adam Carroll**  
"Adz"

**Likes:** Break  
**Dislikes:** Assembly  
**Will miss:** interpret this section  
**Quote:** "Good Morning"



**Aaron Chan**



**Emma Coroner**

**Likes:** Not being called Masie Williams  
**Dislikes:** Nevik  
**Will miss:** Bathroom break with Katie/ HAP with the girls and Darragh  
**Quote:** "Was gonna say something but now I can't remember"



**Terry Crawley**  
"Tezza"

**Likes:** School  
**Dislikes:** Not being in school  
**Will miss:** Conor singing in Irish  
**Quote:** "Hardly"



**Aoife Dardis**

**Likes:** When Killian brings the car to school  
**Dislikes:** When we have to walk home  
**Will miss:** Trying to sit beside Emma in maths  
**Quote:** "I cant see I don't have my glasses"



**Arianna de Luca**



**Rachel Doherty**  
"Rach"

**Likes:** Food  
**Dislikes:** Healthy food  
**Will miss:** Eating everyone else's lunch  
**Quote:** "I'm smart but I just say dumb things"



**Ryan Doherty**

**Likes:** Sleeping in English  
**Dislikes:** Being woken in English  
**Will miss:** Cian and Dean in Irish  
**Quote:** "Free my boy Roy"



**Kya Donegan**

**Likes:** My Ma's ham sambos  
**Dislikes:** Conor Eiffe  
**Will miss:** The craic with Mr. Connolly  
**Quote:** "I will ya scooby"



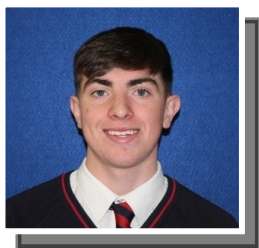
**Oisín Fay**

**Likes:** Jack Lanigan's speeches and admiring Jacks fit in his blazer  
**Dislikes:** Adam Goggin's hair-cut and the simp pass  
**Will miss:** Making it in for History on a Monday fresh & ready to go  
**Quote:** "What happened in the shower?"



**Clara Feeney**

**Likes:** Eating lunch at the table with the girls  
**Dislikes:** When TYs steal our table  
**Will miss:** Mr McCarthy's dramatic pauses in Assembly  
**Quote:** "Surprise I actually came in today"



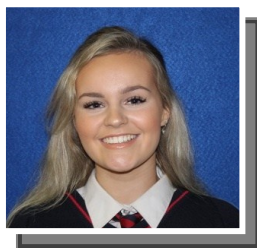
**Sean Graydon**  
*"Penalty Bottler"*

**Likes:** Eating Fergus's lunch

**Dislikes:** Cats

**Will miss:** Chats on walk home with Samantha

**Quote:** "Cormac, will the world ever stop spinning?"



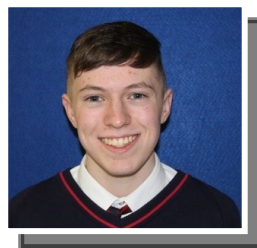
**Rebecca Healy**  
*"Double Helix Healy"*

**Likes:** Crisps

**Dislikes:** Not having crisps

**Will miss:** Irish with the gals

**Quote:** "Sure look, be grand"



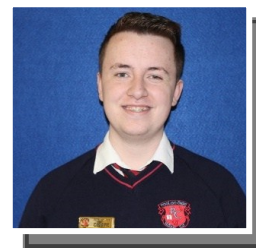
**James Hennessy**  
*"Henno"*

**Likes:** Aubameyang

**Dislikes:** Biology

**Will miss:** Mukbangs in Irish

**Quote:** "Wanna see me do it again?"



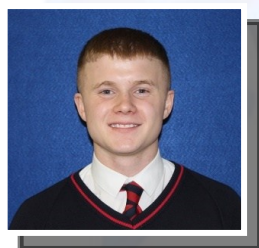
**Ben Moran**  
*"Benji"*

**Likes:** Parties, the Angelus, Crossfit

**Dislikes:** Social Distancing, Blasphemy, Video Games

**Will miss:** Screwing up titrations in Chemistry

**Quote:** "I came, I saw, I made it awkward"



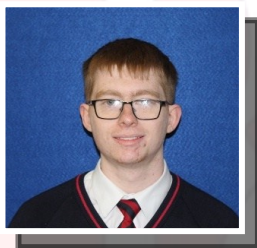
**Luke Newe**  
*"Nanny Anne"*

**Likes:** Jake Peralta

**Dislikes:** The Gulag

**Will miss:** Destroying teams in City Jet Park

**Quote:** "Eat it Derek!" - Step Brothers



**Frankie Read**

**Likes:** Ice cream

**Dislikes:** Talking to people

**Quote:** "The Leaving Cert: sponsored by Raid Shadow Legends"



**Abbie Smyth**  
*"Abigail"*

**Likes:** Getting my hair done

**Dislikes:** People who box dye their hair

**Will miss:** Lunch with the girls on OUR table

**Quote:** "Other European countries like Mexico"



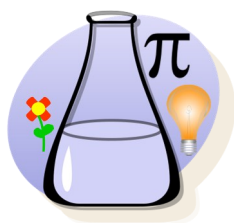
**Cian Temple**

**Likes:** Regular functioning members of society

**Dislikes:** People from D4

**Will miss:** Dean and Ryans mukbangs in Irish

**Rang Kelly**

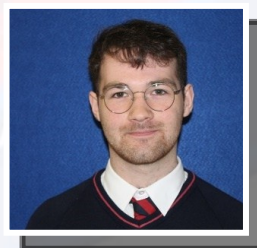


**Emer Brady**

**Likes:** Kilo sales

**Dislikes:** Being called small

**Will miss:** Doing my Leaving Cert orals



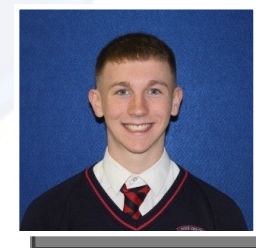
**Matthew Buckley**

**Likes:** Mr Horan roasting everyone

**Dislikes:** Eucharistic Congress essays

**Will miss:** Staying back for the DCG project

**Quote:** "bonk"



**Luke Carroll**

**Likes:** Football

**Dislikes:** When people eat loudly with their mouth open

**Will miss:** 19s football outings

**Quote:** "Shhhh" - Ms Donna Kelly in assembly





**Daragh Casey**

**Likes:** Athletics

**Dislikes:** Getting up early

**Will miss:** Seeing my friends every day

**Quote:** "It doesn't matter how slowly you go as long as you don't stop."



**Adam Clarke**  
"Clarkie"

**Likes:** Taking videos in the gym.

**Dislikes:** Not letting people know I'm at the gym.

**Will miss:** Standing in a freezing hall every morning, listening intently to the announcements.

**Quote:** "I can't play the school match, I've maths class."



**Aaron Davis**  
"Davis"

**Likes:** 5 a side in PE

**Dislikes:** Monday mornings

**Will miss:** Miss Canny's Economics, school footy with McAuley

**Quote:** "Right, are we going Room 1?"



**Grace Doherty**  
"Grace"

**Likes:** Being blonde

**Dislikes:** Paying €200 every 6 weeks to stay blonde

**Quote:** "I've been to non-exam Religion twice all year"



**Shaun Donnelly**  
"Donno the Young God TYG"

**Likes:** Folk clubs

**Dislikes:** Weak handshakes and soft hands

**Will miss:** Mr Toner and Mr Cullen

**Quote:** "For what's done is done and what's won is won, and what's lost is lost and gone forever I can only pray for a bright, brand new day In the town I loved so well" - Luke Kelly "



**Killian Griffin**  
"2024 Heisman Winner"

**Likes:** Gary

**Dislikes:** Being on time

**Will miss:** Skipping supervised study.

**Quote:** "Bro not a chance I'm going to Clash Royale class"



**Lauren Kelly**  
"Ginge"

**Likes:** Being leas ard so I can escape the blazer, missing class to do jobs

**Dislikes:** Getting caught while eating crackers in class

**Will miss:** Being roped in to play rugby by Mr. Nissar

**Quote:** "Gomez adores me, he never ignores me"



**Aaron Kinlan**

**Likes:** Long walks on the beach

**Dislikes:** Short walks in school

**Will miss:** Their chance

**Quote:** "We're free" - 1865



**Aideen Lanigan**

**Likes:** A trip to Spoons

**Dislikes:** The lack of Cinnire room

**Will miss:** Quarantine

**Quote:** "My entire life is quote worthy"



**Niamh Larkin**  
"Nia, Nev "

**Likes:** Concerts

**Dislikes:** Not being at concerts

**Will miss:** Annoying my friends about P.E.

**Quote:** "Don't be surprised if I'm at a concert "



**Andrew Maguire**

**Likes:** Having lunch upstairs

**Dislikes:** Getting kicked downstairs

**Will miss:** French Bros

**Quote:** "Life is like a party and I'm the piñata."



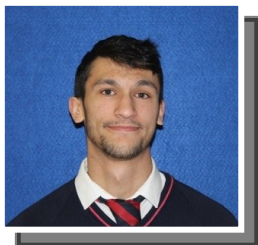
**Adam McCabe**  
"Macker"

**Likes:** Football

**Dislikes:** Eiff

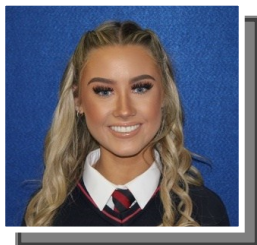
**Will miss:** Eiff

**Quote:** "Ye niceee"



**Rafael McCaffrey**  
"Rafa the Jaffa cake"

**Likes:** Mr.Toner roasting people  
**Dislikes:** Mr Toner roasting me  
**Will miss:** Good fun in class and Mr.Munnelly's reaction to our stories  
**Quote:** "Why fall in love when you can fall asleep?"



**Amy McDermott**  
"Amz"

**Likes:** Skittles  
**Dislikes:** Anything that's not skittles  
**Will miss:** Running for a table at lunch  
**Quote:** "Can anyone do Dutch plaits?"



**Aidan McLarnon**  
"D stig"

**Likes:** The bench, Toher's hurling, ink, A85budz  
**Dislikes:** Barry White, D15  
**Will miss:** The bench  
**Quote:** "86 gang Coolock Finglas Ballymun"



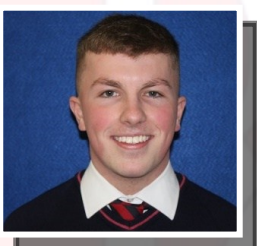
**Charlie McSweeney**

**Likes:** Wrapping Tom's phone up extra safe  
**Dislikes:** The mess  
**Will miss:** Classes with Mr. Toner  
**Quote:** "I can't wait to leave school ASAP as possible"



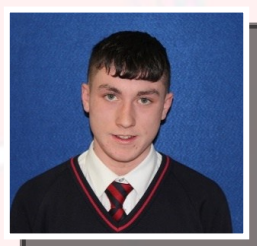
**Cian Murphy**

**Dislikes:** Chads  
**Will miss:** The daily battle to get our lunch bench  
**Quote:** "Part of the journey is the end"



**Lewis Nolan**

**Likes:** Being attentive in school  
**Dislikes:** School  
**Will miss:** Economics with Ms Canny  
**Quote:** "Leaving school is the hardest part of my day"



**Eric Nulty**  
"Nulty"

**Likes:** Junior B football and motorbike racing  
**Dislikes:** Assembly, full forwards and lazy referees  
**Will miss:** Half days on a Friday  
**Quote:** "I stopped understanding math when the alphabet decided to get involved"



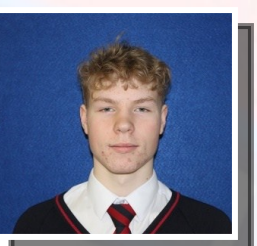
**Aoibh O'Shea**

**Likes:** My cat  
**Dislikes:** Actually doing work in Mr. Jordan's History class  
**Will miss:** Getting to wear crap €5 Penney's pumps everyday  
**Quote:** "You can't spell quarantine without u r a q t"



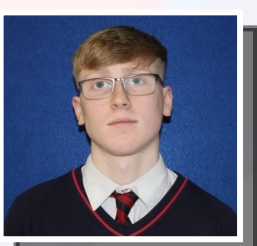
**Louise Reilly**  
"Kinpín Big Lou"

**Likes:** Bean (my guinea)  
**Dislikes:** Dad jokes  
**Will miss:** Eve and Laura (bet they wish they didn't do TY now hahahahah right I'm out)  
**Quote:** "Hey guys can I come in?" - a lil' Lou



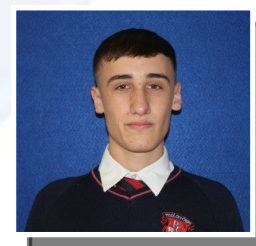
**Tomas Sarapas**  
"Chickenwraps"

**Likes:** Chicken wraps  
**Dislikes:** People who think pigeons are real  
**Will miss:** Replacing the pigeon's batteries with Mr Munnelly  
**Quote:** "Is gravity pulling us all down? Or does the Earth just suck?"



**John Sheehy**  
"Sheehy"

**Likes:** Sleeping in  
**Dislikes:** Education  
**Will miss:** Should I be missing something?



**Matthew Webb**  
"ماتى ويب"

**Likes:** Spins in the i30  
**Dislikes:** Reversing  
**Will miss:** Apple squares  
**Quote:** "On the beach-York"





**Leah Whelan**  
"Whelo"

**Likes:** Turning into a parkour pro on nights out  
**Dislikes:** Shepard's pie  
**Will miss:** Ms T.Kelly  
**Quote:** "I have a 13% curve in my spine."



**Sean Williams**

**Rang**  
**Martin**



**Aaron Barnes-Fassnidge**  
"Aaron"

**Likes:** Food  
**Dislikes:** Assembly  
**Will miss:** Lunch time  
**Quote:** "You've got the wrong guy"



**Emma Brady**

**Likes:** Chats with the girls in Irish  
**Dislikes:** Organic Chemistry  
**Will miss:** Sneaking out of PE to 'help' Rachel and Tara with LCPE  
**Quote:** "Ah it doesn't matter"



**Colm Connolly**

**Likes:** Being a very proud Moltóir to an amazing group of students  
**Dislikes:** The pressure on my year group over the current times  
**Will miss:** The relationships that I have built with my year group  
**Quote:** "The show must go on"



**Saoirse Fanning**  
"Ginger"

**Likes:** Eating  
**Dislikes:** Forgetting my lunch 99% of the time  
**Will miss:** Lunch with the girls  
**Quote:** "Wait, Navan isn't a county?"



**Tom Fleming**  
"Bossman"

**Likes:** 808's and Heart-break  
**Dislikes:** Luke and Mark making me uncomfortable in English  
**Will miss:** Charlie's mild hot takes  
**Quote:** "I've always had a philosophiae doctor"



**Jennifer Fowler**  
"Jenni"

**Likes:** Losing a stone from LC stress  
**Dislikes:** Losing my hair-line from LC stress  
**Will miss:** Lunch with the girls  
**Quote:** "Oops, missed Assembly again"



**Rachel Fraughen**



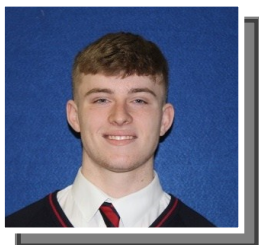
**Aoife Freeman**

**Likes:** Annoying the girls in Irish  
**Dislikes:** Sprints in P.E.  
**Will miss:** Lunch with the girls  
**Quote:** "I'm so full"



**Ciara Gilhooly**  
"Gilhoolahoops"

**Likes:** Napping  
**Dislikes:** Having 18th in quarantine  
**Will miss:** My 18th party  
**Quote:** "Social distancing has been annoying but can't say I've missed certain people"



**Darragh Harte**  
*"Something Inappropriate"*

**Likes:** Marios  
**Dislikes:** Statues  
**Will miss:** HAP



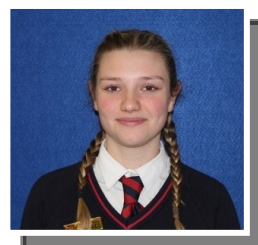
**Ella Hussey**  
*"Ela"*

**Likes:** Moist Superchef spicebags  
**Dislikes:** My blazer being 3 sizes too big for me  
**Will miss:** Crying in Ms.Donnellan's room & AA  
**Quote:** "Sorry I just had a 4 hour nap"



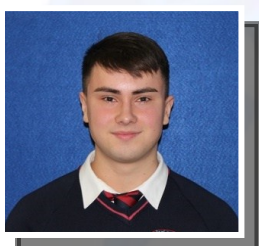
**Cian Keller**  
*"Ciano"*

**Likes:** Monster  
**Dislikes:** Jack winning all the GTA playlists  
**Will miss:** Lunch time with the boys  
**Quote:** "Gewannn Ronaldo"



**Tara Kellett**  
*"Tarannosaurus Rex"*

**Likes:** Nandos  
**Dislikes:** The prefabs  
**Will miss:** English with Mooney  
**Quote:** "Money can't buy happiness, but it can buy Nando's, which is basically the same thing"



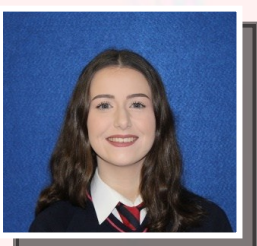
**Darragh Kelly**  
*"Daz"*

**Likes:** Doing impressions of any famous person to a tea  
**Dislikes:** Going red at least twice a day  
**Will miss:** Any class that Gilna minds us  
**Quote:** "Keep it skinny"



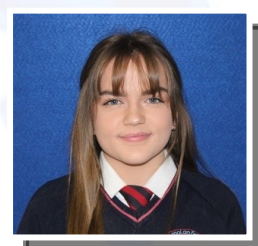
**Luke Kiernan**

**Likes:** Metallica  
**Dislikes:** Wasting time  
**Quote:** "Per posta?"



**Ella McCabe**  
*"Smellamcbabe"*

**Likes:** Making tik toks in class  
**Dislikes:** Doing work  
**Will miss:** Mr moo moo  
**Quote:** "How does Moses make tea??? Hebrews!"



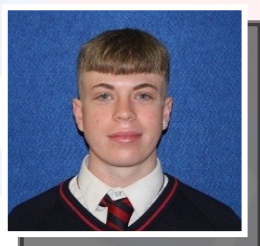
**Sarah McCarry**  
*"The Midget"*

**Likes:** Being extremely tall , cereal time with the boys  
**Dislikes:** Not being able to sit down at lunch with the girls  
**Will miss:** Ms Martin in general , Mr Mooney saying legend, injures in Construction and Saoirse and I being clueless



**Regina McDonnell**  
*"Reg"*

**Likes:** Maths with Mr O'Dwyer x  
**Will miss:** English :(



**Max McNally**  
*"Sean Kingston"*

**Likes:** Watching people in the canteen  
**Will miss:** Mooney  
**Quote:** "Paypal"



**Brian Moore**  
*"Bruno"*

**Likes:** You x  
**Dislikes:** Tom Roddy  
**Will miss:** You x  
**Quote:** "I just want to be respectful to everyone I meet"



**Emma Moore**  
*"Rosie"*

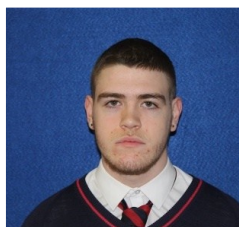
**Likes:** Being tan  
**Dislikes:** Being pale  
**Will miss:** The lunch table with the girls:(  
**Quote:** "Oh I'm actually scarlet"





**Emily Nannery**  
"Nanners"

**Likes:** Curry Thursdays  
**Dislikes:** Anyone who doesn't like curry Thursdays  
**Will miss:** Lunch with my girls  
**Quote:** "Can I have ends?"



**Harry Patten**

**Likes:** One singular bean  
**Dislikes:** Properly constructed lunches  
**Will miss:** Yeah bro probably I'd say so  
**Quote:** "Yeah not a chance am I going to Clash Royale Class"



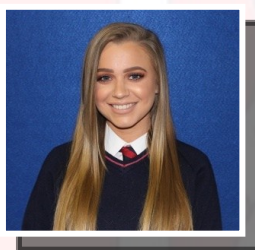
**Mark Purcell**  
"Blind"



**Hannah Roddy**  
"Hansko"

**Likes:** Being "sick" any day between Monday and Friday  
**Dislikes:** Being here  
**Will miss:** Ms Reilly's cups of tea during a mental breakdown  
**Quote:** "I'm a big star, I don't need to be dealing with you peasants anymore"-Scott Disick

## Rang McGarron



**Leah Barniville**  
"Barniballs"

**Likes:** Hand sanitiser  
**Dislikes:** Anything that isn't sanitised  
**Will miss:** Whelo falling in the bin  
**Quote:** "Have you ever heard of Britain's Got Talent?"



**Ben Colgan**  
"Big Ben"

**Likes:** Something I can't say in this  
**Dislikes:** People that kill vibes  
**Will miss:** Telling people how old Mr. Jordan is and their reaction to it  
**Quote:** "Life is a bag of cans not cant's"



**Matthew Collins**

**Likes:** Playing video games  
**Dislikes:** Homework  
**Will miss:** The boys  
**Quote:** "https://youtu.be/5KFsQnonC1M"



**Kate Corcoran**  
"K8"

**Likes:** Coming in late  
**Dislikes:** Assembly  
**Will miss:** 7:30 AM Maths class on a Friday  
**Quote:** "Yeah he's cute but have you seen his dad?"



**Darragh Cunningham**  
"Cunno"

**Likes:** The weekend  
**Dislikes:** Last orders  
**Will miss:** The wall  
**Quote:** "I'll do it on the night"



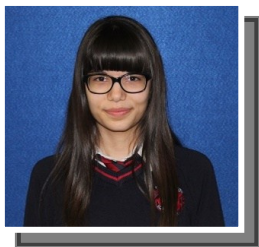
**Simona Dargevicius**  
"Sim"

**Likes:** Taking naps 24/7  
**Dislikes:** Doing P.E  
**Will miss:** The chats with the girls  
**Quote:** "Think I might go home early"



**Katelyn Dunne**  
"Kat"

**Likes:** Classics with Mr McCauley  
**Dislikes:** Slow walkers  
**Will miss:** The girls  
**Quote:** "Life isn't perfect, but my makeup can be."



**Rebecca Fit**  
"Rebs"

**Likes:** Having a nice fringe

**Dislikes:** When the wind messes my fringe

**Will miss:** Always having the same excuse to not do P.E

**Quote:** "People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing all day."



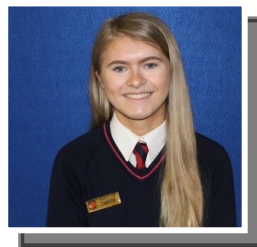
**Karen Hayes**

**Likes:** The colour yellow

**Dislikes:** Quarantine

**Will miss:** My Irish oral that never happened

**Quote:** \*Crying with laughter\*



**Orla Hayes**  
"Stress Head"

**Likes:** Playing Rugby

**Dislikes:** When the rugby season gets cancelled :(

**Will miss:** Lunch time goss with the girls

**Quote:** "Everything is stressing me out"



**Sarah Healy**  
"Forreh"

**Likes:** Food

**Dislikes:** School

**Will miss:** Cookies out of the canteen

**Quote:** "I'll miss this place"



**Darragh Keavy**  
"Don"

**Likes:** Relaxing with a good book after a long week

**Dislikes:** "The long week"

**Will miss:** Canny's eco, McGarrons phone calls and Toher's hurling

**Quote:** "Not built for speed built for comfort"



**Katie Kelly**

**Likes:** Teachers calling me Katie

**Dislikes:** Teachers calling me Katherine

**Will miss:** Correcting teachers about my name

**Quote:** "Oh it's Katie, not Katherine"



**Aran Lyons**  
"Skadoosh"

**Likes:** Jelly burgers

**Will miss:** Class with Bernie

**Quote:** "Do you have Revolot"



**Grace Mahon**

**Likes:** Social distancing from studying

**Dislikes:** Never getting to see the new building

**Will miss:** Slagging Mr. Jordan's height

**Quote:** "What's for you, won't pass you!"



**Cormac McCarthy**  
"Cormuck"

**Likes:** Eating food

**Dislikes:** Not eating food

**Will miss:** Getting told to get to assembly because you're late

**Quote:** "Hard and low Cormac, hard and low"



**Adam McKane**

**Likes:** Not messing

**Dislikes:** Messing

**Will miss:** The prayer room

**Quote:** "Aw I wouldn't do that, would I?"



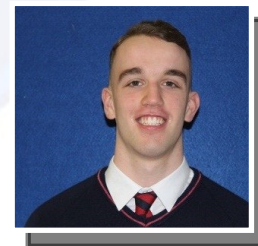
**Rachel McPartlin**

**Likes:** Jimmy Chungs

**Dislikes:** Being reminded Jimmy Chungs closed down

**Will miss:** Seeing my friends everyday

**Quote:** "Nah I'm getting a lift"



**Sean Murphy**  
"Lennie"

**Likes:** Hurling

**Dislikes:** Mr Nissar's pink tea

**Will miss:** Playing soccer in PE

**Quote:** "Minimum effort, maximum satisfaction"





**Lorna Nolan**



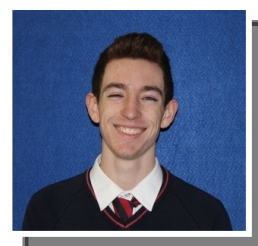
**Emer O'Neill**  
*"Ginny"*

**Likes:** Harry Potter, Hamilton and Hippos  
**Will miss:** History class and Katelyn feeding us all on school trips  
**Quote:** "Shy, bi and ready to cry"

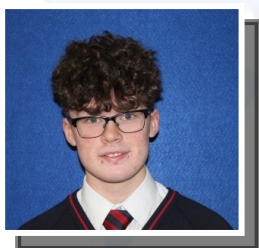


**Conor Phelan**  
*"Phelo"*

**Likes:** Bernie's dog  
**Dislikes:** Assembly  
**Will miss:** Mr Horan roasting everyone  
**Quote:** "Beep boop"



**Evan Phelan**



**Sam Phillips**  
*"Specs"*

**Likes:** River Island & Green Bay, Wisconsin  
**Dislikes:** Assembly & inability to smile properly  
**Will miss:** Mr. Horan's lack of emotion & The Liberator



**Kurt Scott**  
*"PaRdloAnPiUsS"*

**Likes:** Peppers.  
**Dislikes:** Donald Trump.  
**Will miss:** Le Français!  
**Quote:** "NOT TODAY, SATAN. NOT TODAY."



**Luke Tynan**

**Likes:** Caffeine  
**Dislikes:** Myself  
**Will miss:** After school DCG  
**Quote:** "Guys it's different this time, I swear"



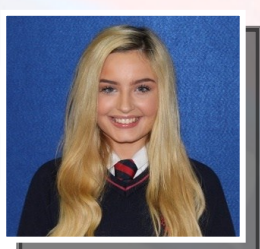
**Conor Wardick**  
*"Mo"*

**Likes:** Saturday nights  
**Dislikes:** Last orders  
**Will miss:** Ms McGarron's phone calls home  
**Quote:** "Giwan Ronaldo"



**Cody Woods**

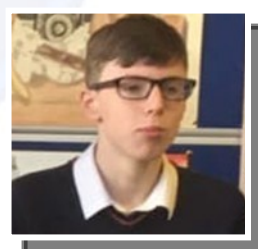
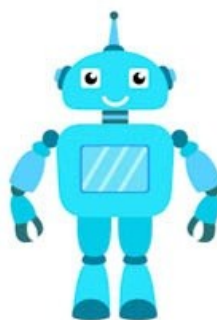
**Likes:** Having lunch with the girls  
**Dislikes:** The bleepiest  
**Will miss:** Irish with the girls and Ms Gilna  
**Quote:** "Eye will see yous all next year"



**Sophia Wyer**  
*"Sofa"*

**Likes:** Roasting my mates  
**Dislikes:** Being roasted by my mates  
**Will miss:** Canteen mini rolls <3  
**Quote:** "Keep your heels, head & standards high xo"

**Rang Munnelly**



**Kyle Bernes**  
*"Squiggels"*

**Likes:** Monster, 3:30pm  
**Dislikes:** People  
**Will miss:** The school & the people in it  
**Quote:** "I can't read"



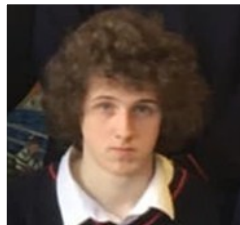
**Kotryna Bulatovaite**  
"Sweeney"

**Likes:** The fact I made it to 6th Year

**Dislikes:** Getting told to take off my hoodie every class

**Will miss:** Being called cat tri onaaa in the roll every pe class by Ms Casey

**Quote:** "She was a wild one."



**Ciaran Connell**



**Sophie Devine**  
"Trigger"

**Likes:** Reading, Photography, Baking and Cooking

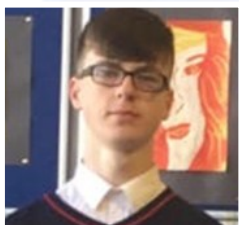
**Dislikes:** Any physical workout

**Will miss:** Having banter with Mr. Connolly

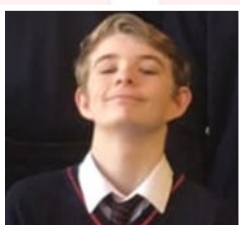
**Quote:** "Give the gift of your absence to those who do not deserve your presence"



**Eric Grant**



**Mathew Haslam**  
Mannering



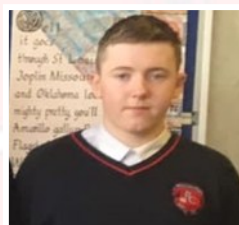
**Nathan Kinlan**

**Likes:** Music and TY

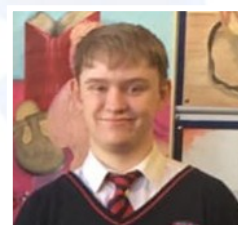
**Dislikes:** Reading

**Will miss:** Everything

**Quote:** "Life is an experience worth its discovery"



**Dale O'Riordan**



**Samuel Pigeon**

**Likes:** Art

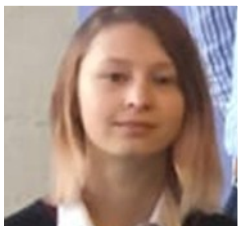
**Dislikes:** Bullies

**Will miss:** Ms. Moran & classmates

**Quote:** "Live every moment like it's your last"



**Colleen Russell**



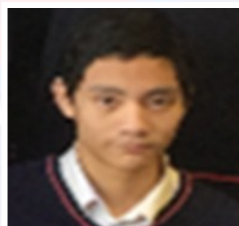
**Justine Salimonova**  
"Koda"

**Likes:** Daydreaming

**Dislikes:** Being told to stop daydreaming

**Will miss:** Mr Connolly asking every maths class "Are we winning?!"

**Quote:** "Stupidity is a talent for misconception"

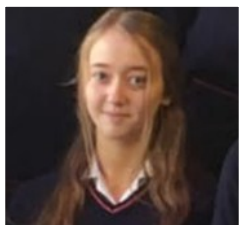


**Desmond Santillan**



**Joao Paulo Santos Souza**





**Alice Staunton**



**Nathalie Sturzel**

**Rang  
Nissar**



**Daniel Barker**

**Likes:** Setting off fire alarms with my mixtape

**Dislikes:** My chronic toasty addiction during quarantine

**Will miss:** The cringe of Emmet in geography.

**Quote:** "OMG Daniel, you have such big muscles and your the king of hip-hop"-Everyone 2018-20



**Hannah Byas  
"Hannah"**

**Likes:** Sitting at our table at lunch

**Dislikes:** TY's sitting at our table at lunch

**Will miss:** Canteen muffins

**Quote:** "Wait sorry what? Can you repeat that I wasn't listening"  
- Me 24/7 because I am incapable of paying attention for more than 10 seconds



**Cian Byrne  
"Bobby"**

**Likes:** Freedom

**Dislikes:** Quarantine

**Will miss:** Bullying Sean

**Quote:** "Getting to school on time is the hardest thing for me in the morning"



**Caelan Donegan**

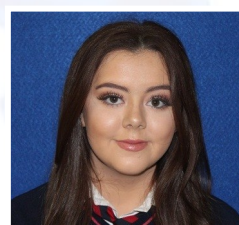
"Caeliano Donegano/ Romelu Done-

**Likes:** Carlo Fantastico

**Dislikes:** Sand

**Will miss:** Teaching Adam about Everton

**Quote:** "It's coarse and rough and irritating and it gets everywhere"



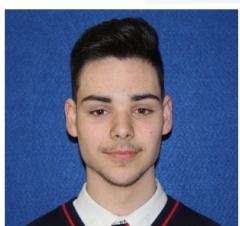
**Rebecca Doyle  
"Becky"**

**Likes:** Dropping out

**Dislikes:** Slow walkers

**Will miss:** Derry Girls in Maths

**Quote:** "GUESS WHO'S BACK"



**Gerard Dromey  
"Dromey"**

**Likes:** Cars

**Dislikes:** Maths

**Will miss:** Bio class

**Quote:** "I don't always graduate, but when I do, I barely graduate"



**Caoilinn Eiffe**

**Likes:** When teachers pronounce my name right

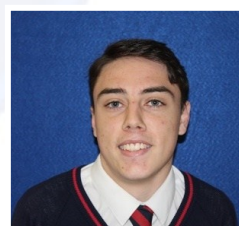
**Dislikes:** When teachers butcher by name

**Will miss:** Lunch with the girls

**Quote:** "It's pronounced 'kee-linn'"



**Aaron Farrell  
"Farrell"**



**Jack Farrell**

**Likes:** P.E. football

**Dislikes:** People taking our bench

**Will miss:** Lunch at the bench

**Quote:** "I haven't failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that don't work."



**Adam Fitzgibbon**  
*"Fitzy/Lank/Fitz"*

**Likes:** Saturday nights  
**Dislikes:** Sunday mornings  
**Will miss:** 2nd, 3rd and 4th year  
**Quote:** *"The best system is a sound system"*



**Isabelle Fitzpatrick**  
*"Isabrows"*

**Likes:** Annoying Mr. Nissar on his lunch break  
**Dislikes:** When Mr. Nissar rings home  
**Will miss:** Curry on a Thursday  
**Quote:** *"Oh my god, you actually came in"*



**Adam Goggin**  
*"Gogs"*

**Likes:** Gerry Adams, The Lads, Maths  
**Dislikes:** Getting "baited" in GTA, Rocket League  
**Will miss:** Toner's History Class  
**Quote:** *"Can ya see me?" - Gerry Adams*



**Abby Hesse-Mason**  
*"Abs"*

**Likes:** Anything edible  
**Dislikes:** Quarantine  
**Will miss:** Lunch with the gals  
**Quote:** *"I'll do it later"*



**Adam Jackson**  
*"Jacko"*

**Likes:** 1:30pm on a Friday  
**Dislikes:** Gangsta Sean  
**Will miss:** Engineering  
**Quote:** *"During a test people look up for inspiration down for depression and left and right for information"*



**Neil Joyce**  
*"Joyce"*

**Likes:** Animals  
**Dislikes:** People who don't like dogs  
**Will miss:** Ms Donnellan



**Sean Lynch**  
*"Lynchy"*

**Likes:** Lunchtime  
**Dislikes:** Waking up for school  
**Will miss:** Being told to be on time by Mr Nissar  
**Quote:** *"Live life like you're the hero in your own movie"*



**Eoghan Mangan**  
*"Mango"*

**Likes:** Telling Katie she can't sing.  
**Dislikes:** Katie's singing.  
**Will miss:** Adam Goggin wishing he was Cinnire.  
**Quote:** *"GTA is such a bad game"*



**Katie Manley**

**Likes:** Singing for Eoghan Mangan and Adam Goggin in class  
**Dislikes:** Eoghan and Adam telling me I can't sing  
**Will miss:** Walking to school with Emma and Sophie  
**Quote:** *"They don't know that we know they know we know"*



**Emmet Murphy**  
*"Barry"*

**Likes:** Fire  
**Dislikes:** Fire Extinguisher  
**Will miss:** Mr Nissar  
**Quote:** *"Tough times never last only tough people last mlewmmwnmanamd"- @baba.mosia.9*



**Ava Nolan**

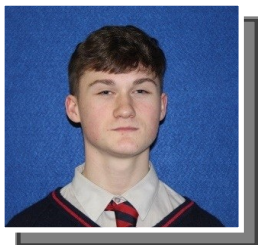
**Likes:** Telling everyone about what happened in my sleep paralysis  
**Dislikes:** Sleep paralysis  
**Quote:** *"You haven't seen Avatar??"*



**Victoria Nugent**  
*"Tori"*

**Likes:** Sports day  
**Dislikes:** Taking part in sports day  
**Will miss:** Lunch with the girls outside Mr. Connolly's office  
**Quote:** *"Imperfection is beauty, madness is genius and it's better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring."*





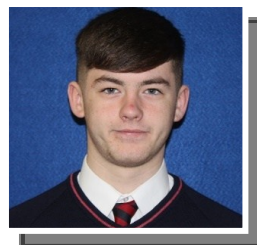
**Oisín O'Farrell**  
"Ois"

**Likes:** Learning  
**Dislikes:** Cold  
**Will miss:** The boys  
**Quote:** "Thank you so much to all my teachers"



**Mark O'Reilly**

**Likes:** The JC  
**Dislikes:** The LC  
**Will miss:** Rang Donnellan...  
**Quote:** "Merry Christmas"

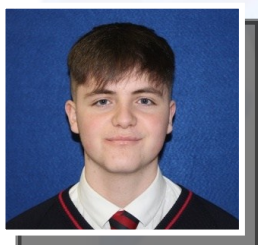


**Cian O'Sullivan**  
"Ciano"

**Likes:** Pink Lady sticker collection  
**Dislikes:** When pink lady stickers are removed  
**Will miss:** The bench  
**Quote:** "they got rid of the pink lady collection again"



**Laura Pawinski**



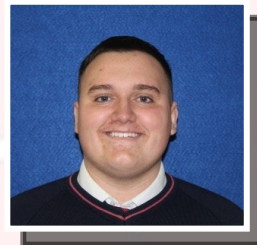
**Tom Roddy**  
"Rom Toddy"

**Likes:** Predicted Grades and being an ultra for the U19's soccer team  
**Dislikes:** PE last 2 on a Monday  
**Will miss:** Economics with the lads  
**Quote:** "Brian stop barking at 1st years"



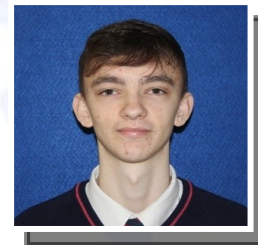
**Cathal Sherlock**  
"Fitzzy"

**Likes:** School  
**Dislikes:** Not being at school  
**Will miss:** School  
**Quote:** "Nice"



**Dylan Stears**

**Likes:** Being respectful to everyone I meet  
**Dislikes:** Liverpool, early nights and P.E.  
**Will miss:** Ordinary level English with the boys  
**Quote:** "Anyone want a haircut, add me on snapchat @dylanstears"



**Conor Wills**  
"Willisy"

**Likes:** Our sense of humour  
**Will miss:** Struggling to get out of Division 9 on Pro Clubs  
**Will miss:** Double Geography  
**Quote:** "Conor stop acting like a dipstick" - Mr.Nissar 2015

**Rang**  
**Witter**



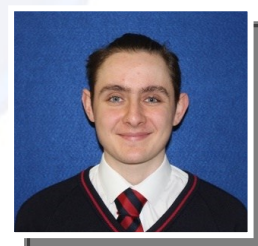
**Brandon Barnes-Fassnidge**  
"Barnsey"

**Likes:** The bench  
**Will miss:** Ordinary English class



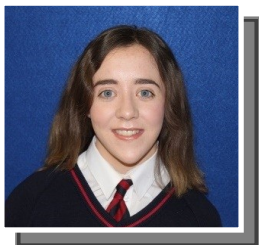
**Shannen Conroy**  
"Shanban"

**Likes:** When Amy turns up for construction  
**Dislikes:** When Ms. Jackson tells me to turn around in English  
**Will miss:** Chats with Erin in assembly  
**Quote:** "I'd kill for a McDonald's right now"



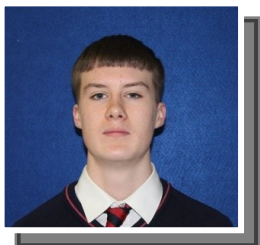
**Christopher Devine**  
"Jesus"

**Likes:** Cycling  
**Dislikes:** Assembly in an overcrowded hall  
**Will miss:** Lunch with the boys  
**Quote:** "14 years later, I still can't speak Irish"



**Erin Donnelly**

**Likes:** Organised stationary  
**Dislikes:** People who "borrow" my pens  
**Will miss:** Art class with Eve and Nicole  
**Quote:** "When I die, I want everyone I ever did a group project with to lower me into the grave, so they can let me down one last time."



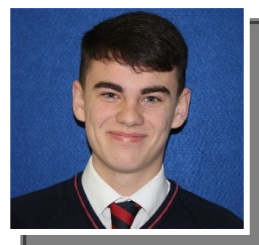
**Daniel Doody**

**Likes:** Walking the fun way to school  
**Dislikes:** Trying to stay awake in class  
**Will miss:** Being forced to stand outside in the freezing cold  
**Quote:** "The effort of that"

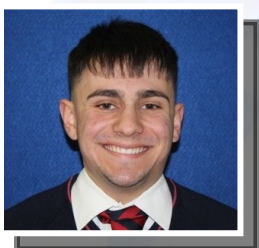


**Emily Dooley**

**Likes:** Getting a stinker of a bad note  
**Dislikes:** Stephen stealing the bench  
**Will miss:** The chats in Room 9  
**Quote:** "Clear eyes, full hearts, can't lose."

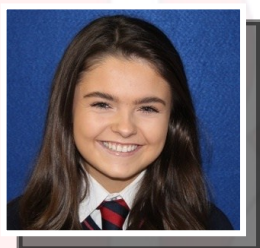


**Jonah Fogarty**  
*"Crinja"*



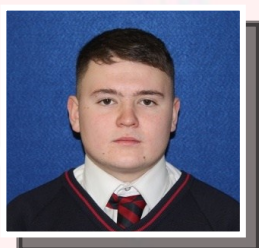
**Antonio Gogioman**

**Likes:** Being tall  
**Dislikes:** Being small  
**Will miss:** The swimming pool on the third floor  
**Quote:** "Stay Frosty"



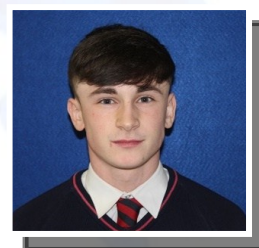
**Amy Gray**  
*"Sleeping"*

**Likes:** Sleeping  
**Dislikes:** Being Pale  
**Will miss:** Stinking up classrooms with my fresh tan x  
**Quote:** "'I don't even have a pla...' -Phoebe Buffay (Friends S1 Ep4)"



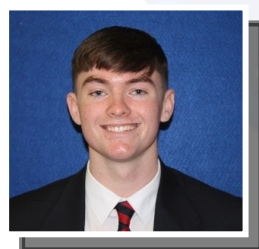
**Jude Hyland**  
*"Jude"*

**Likes:** Football  
**Dislikes:** School  
**Will miss:** My friends



**Aaron Kelly**  
*"Kellier"*

**Disikes:** Getting caught upstairs at lunch  
**Will miss:** Mr McAuley, Room 1, Tunnel  
**Quote:** "Get that up on the wall"



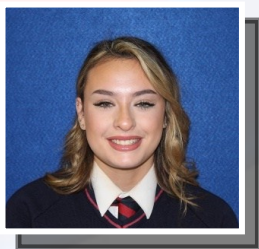
**Jack Lanigan**  
*"Lano"*

**Likes:** Fifth Years  
**Dislikes:** Wearing a blazer 24/7  
**Will miss:** Religion with the boys  
**Quote:** "My stomach is in a jocker"



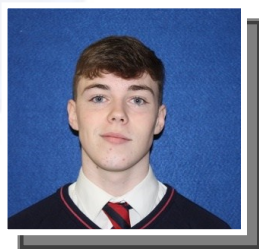
**Mark Lehane**

**Likes:** Eve  
**Dislikes:** Not having a cinnire room  
**Will miss:** Nizzie's pink tea x  
**Quote:** "Had a nap in accounting"



**Saoirse Lennon-Fitzgerald**  
*"Lemons"*

**Likes:** Lunch with the girls  
**Dislikes:** When there's no tables for lunch  
**Will miss:** Avoiding P.E  
**Quote:** "Here girls"

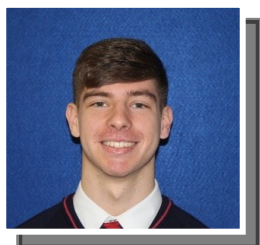


**Jamie Lewis-Cullinan**





**Sam Malone**



**Dante Mancini Macari**

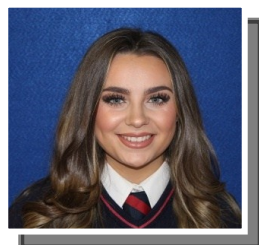
*"N'golo Dante"*

**Likes:** Late night Xbox sessions

**Dislikes:** Being responsible

**Will miss:** Chilling with the boys at lunch

**Quote:** *"Contrary to popular belief, I know exactly what I'm doing"*



**Rebecca McCormack**

*"Becks"*

**Likes:** Clapping in people's faces

**Dislikes:** PE

**Will miss:** English with Ms Kelly

**Quote:** *"Get out of my face"*



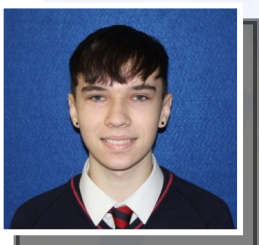
**Amy McDonnell**

**Likes:** Going home early

**Dislikes:** When 5th Years take our lunch table

**Will miss:** Sitting at the lunch table

**Quote:** *"I'd actually kill for a Chinese right now"*



**Scott McEvoy**

*"Who?"*

**Likes:** Being absent

**Dislikes:** Having no idea what's going on because I was absent

**Will miss:** Coming in late every Monday to avoid P.E.

**Quote:** *"I didn't do this for fame, I did it for impact."*



**Shauna Minch**

**Likes:** Escaping P.E

**Dislikes:** Staying for P.E

**Will miss:** Eve being late for her Junior Cert oral

**Quote:** *"I'd actually kill for a chicken roll right now"*



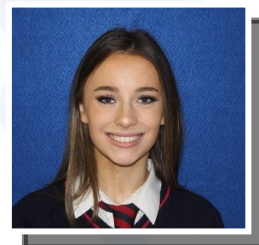
**Eve O'Haire**

**Likes:** Jesus

**Dislikes:** Mark

**Will miss:** All my friends in business

**Quote:** *"I don't know who that is"*



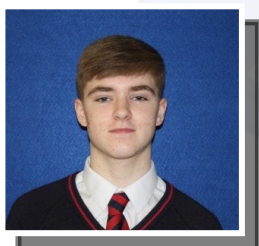
**Nicole Preece**

*"CO"*

**Likes:** Catchup with Ms Gilna

**Dislikes:** Not being able to open my own locker after 5 years

**Will miss:** Never doing a full week



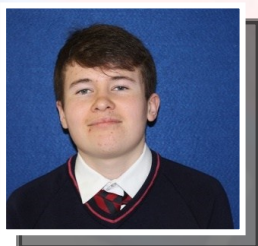
**David Reid**

*"Reidser"*

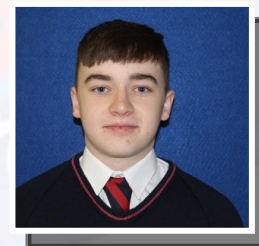
**Likes:** Ireland

**Will miss:** Room 1

**Quote:** *"That's fine thank you class"*



**Cian Reynolds**



**Samuel Smullen**

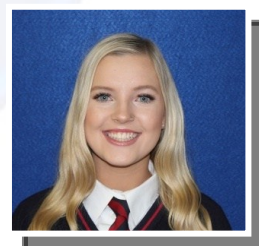
*"Smully"*

**Likes:** Football

**Dislikes:** Being 6 foot

**Will miss:** The school

**Quote:** *"Yeah fresh"*



**Ellen Thompson**

*"Bruno"*

**Likes:** Staying in for lunch

**Dislikes:** Going out for lunch

**Will miss:** Not much

**Quote:** *"Not what I meant when I asked for Corona"*





*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# RC Awards

## **Fearless**

Ben Colgan  
Ella Hussey  
Shaun Donnelly

## **Life of the Party**

Arianna de Luca  
Dylan Stears  
Shaun Donnelly  
Leah Whelan  
Adam Fitzgibbon

## **Pack Leader**

Ella Hussey  
Jack Lanigan  
Leah Whelan  
Katie Manley

## **Comedian**

Louise Reilly  
Cormac McCarthy  
Darragh Kelly  
Dylan Stears  
Callum Browne

## **Teacher's Pet**

Jack Lanigan  
Leah Whelan  
Leah Barniville  
Aideen Lanigan



## **Memelord**

Matthew Buckley  
Luke Tynan  
Mr Toner  
(Thanks!)



## **Chatterbox**

Leah Whelan  
Saoirse Lennon-Fitzgerald  
Arianna de Luca

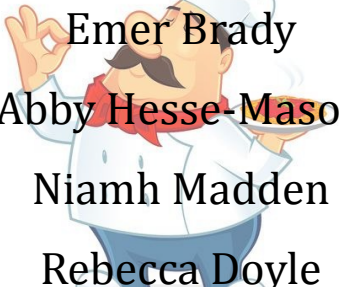
## **Class Clown**

Shaun Donnelly  
Cathal Sherlock  
Aaron Davis



## **Head Chef**

Emer Brady  
Abby Hesse-Mason  
Niamh Madden  
Rebecca Doyle



# RC Awards

## Gentle Giant

Sean Murphy  
Charlie McSweeney  
Bogdan Baturuv  
Darragh Harte



## Drama Queen

Aideen Lanigan  
Katie Manley  
Rebecca McCormack



## Smartest

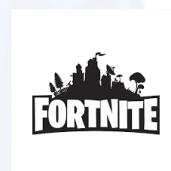
Karen Hayes  
Aran Lyons  
Tomas Sarapas

## Best Dressed

Leah Whelan  
Jack Lanigan  
Amy McDermott

## Fortnite King

Adam Goggin



## FIFA POTY

Caelan Donegan  
Cian Temple (no one can  
actually beat me so I can  
vote for myself)



## Best Hair

Ava Nolan  
Adam Clarke  
Simona Dargevicius  
Victoria Nugent  
All the lads that shaved their  
heads in quarantine

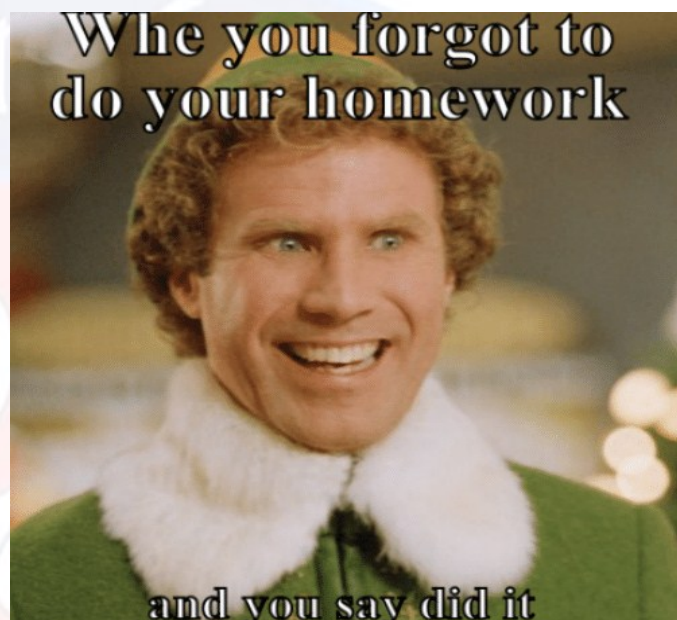
## Kindest

Emer Brady  
Kate Corcoran  
Eric Nulty  
Sam Pigeon



# Best No Homework Excuse

- "My dog ate it" - (Tara Kellett 's dog actually ate her homework)
- The lads convincing the teacher there was no homework
- "It was snowing" - (Ellen Thompson to Ms. Donnellan in second year because she was out playing in the snow)
- Coronavirus
- "Wasn't bothered"
- "went to the gym"
- "I didn't know"
- "I'm only in school to see my friends"
- "I had to do my makeup"
- "I didn't understand"
- "I wasn't well last night"
- "I'll do it on the night"
- "It's nearly done"
- "Sorry Miss I was out last night"
- Anything Abby Carroll says



# Best Late Excuse

- 'I was at the dentist'
- Clara Feeney every Monday morning because she has no gallbladder
- The Coronavirus
- I got kicked out of the teacher's car park and had to re-park outside the gate - Killian Griffin
- "I was with Mr. Connolly" (No one ever questions it)
- "Monday after senior champo what did you expect?"
- "Out laying tarmac"
- "It's raining"
- "I was showing a first year where the pre-fabs are" - Gerard Dromey
- "At the toilet"
- "Slept it out"
- "I went for a walk"
- "I was in the prefabs"
- "Doing the hair"
- "I was taking a shower" - U19s lads football team
- "I was reading my book"
- "Doctors appointment"
- "I was getting my nails done"
- "I was locked in the toilet" - Dante Mancini
- "I LIKE MY SLEEP!" - Seán Lynch



# Most likely to...

## Be the first couple to get married

Aran & Mia  
Brian Moore and whoever he's texting when you're reading this



## Become a priest



Neil Joyce

## Die in a zombie apocalypse



Ciarán Feldman

## Survive a zombie apocalypse

Eoghan Mangan



## Win the Lotto, but lose the ticket

Saoirse Fanning



## Who coped best during the COVID-19 Quarantine?

Caelan Donegan (Doesn't leave his house anyway)

Callum Browne (already a huge introvert)

Max McNally (doesn't leave his house anyway)

## Become a film star

Lauren Kelly

*"Hopefully Hannah Roddy so I don't have to work a day in my life"* - Tom Roddy

## Return here to work as a teacher

Ella Hussey

Adam Goggin

## Become a mad scientist



Tomas Sarapas

Finn Hounder

Christopher Devine



# Most likely to...

## Travel the world

Emer Brady

All of us after  
quarantine

Nobody with this  
corona virus

## Become a Supervillain

Luke Tynan

## Get a 'Yes' from Simon Cowell

Leah Barniville

## Still get ID'd when they're 30

Erin Donnelly

Sarah McCarry

Grace Mahon

## Grow the longest beard



Matthew Buckley

## Go to space



Tara Kellett

## Most likely to be- come TikTok famous

Katie Manley

Matthew Buckley

Aideen Lanigan

## Do a bungee jump

Luke Kiernan

Lewis Nolan

## Become Taoiseach

Kurt Scott

Jack Lanigan

# Most likely to...

## Become a Millionaire



Darragh Keevey  
(lotto)  
Adam Clarke

## Start a fashion trend

Amy Gray

## Become a 'social influencer'



Dylan Stears

## Win gold at the Olympics




Rafa McCaffrey

## Write a bestselling novel

Tom Fleming  
Emer O'Neill

## Win an Oscar



Brian Moore  
(his best role, managing to get onto the U19 soccer team)

## Win a Nobel Peace Prize

Amy Beirnes  
Karen Hayes

## Paint a masterpiece



Sarah McCarry  
Aoibh O'Shea  
Nicole Preece

## Become the world's strongest man/woman

Adam Byrne  
Abby Carroll  
Orla Hayes  
Ben Colgan  
Adam Clarke



# Most likely to...

## Catch all 807

### Pokémon

Tara Kellett  
(already did)

Aaron Chan

## Become the world's biggest Twitch streamer

Sean Lynch aka  
Ninja

Adam Goggin

## Looks like a celebrity

Emma Coroner  
Maisie Williams

Adam Fitzgibbon  
Mesut Ozil

John Sheehy  
Milky Bar Kid

## Become a farmer

Neil Joyce  
(already is one)

Fergus Bobbett

## Get sorted into Gryffindor

Emer O'Neill - which ever house she likes, she probably knows how to the trick the Sorting Hat.

Tara Kellett - she is always there for people

## Get sorted into Hufflepuff

Trigger— puts others before herself

Samantha Brady-  
Kind soul

## Get sorted into Slytherin

Oisín Fay - people would know why  
Eoghan Mangan - Anything said with the boys always gets back to the girls

## Get sorted into Ravenclaw

Amy McDonnell

## More

### Harry Potter

Matthew Buckley  
Looks like Harry Potter









*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# RC Superheroes

## The Hulk

Adam Byrne  
Ben Colgan  
Brian Moore



## Batman

Katelyn Dunne  
Matthew Webb  
Eoghan Mangan-  
(*Always has a  
Robin at his side*)



## Wolverine

Frankie Read  
Tom Roddy



## Captain

### Marvel

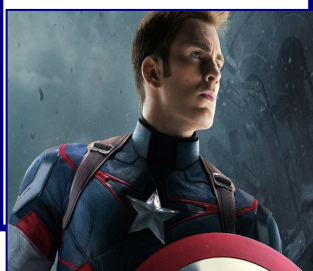
Ciara Gilhooly  
Tara Kellett -  
blonde, boss



## Captain

### America

Daragh Casey  
Adam Clarke



## Superman

Cian Keller



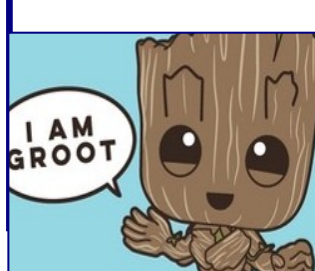
## Iron Man

Liam Reynolds  
Matthew Collins  
Darragh Kelly  
Killian Griffin—  
metal pins in his  
arm



## Groot

Sean Murphy  
Mark Purcell





# RC Superheroes

## Black Widow

Saoirse Fanning/  
Emma Moore/  
Lauren Kelly

Grace Mahon-  
funny, cute and  
doesn't care what  
others think



## The Flash

Cian Keller—Clocked  
a 4:35 40 yard dash in  
preseason

Rafa McCaffrey

Aaron Davis— he's  
first to leave every  
class



## Rocket Raccoon

Shaun

Donnelly



## Doctor Strange

Jordan Lynn - she  
wants to become a  
sorcerer supreme

Tomas Sarapas -  
some of the things  
he comes out with in  
physics is mental



## Wonder Woman

Orla Hayes  
Abby Hesse



## Black Panther

"We are not di-  
verse enough for  
this question"



## Professor X

Oisín Fay

James Hennessy

Adam Goggin

Sam Smullen

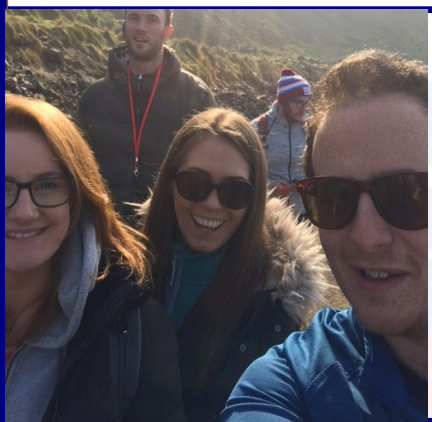


## Ant-Man & the Wasp

Adam Byrne &  
Cormac  
McCarthy



# Teacher Awards



## Best Dressed

Mr de Turbeville  
Ms Lyttle "The Queen"  
Mr Toner (Halloween edition)  
Ms Jackson  
Ms Donnellan (look at her shoes)

## Best Hair

Ms Monerawela  
Mr Jordan  
Ms Doonan  
"The new blonde teacher with short hair and glasses" - It's Ms McCabe

## Scariest

Ms Casey  
Mr Horan  
Mr Connolly  
Ms Lyttle  
(but in a good way)  
Ms D Kelly

## Nicest

Mr Mooney  
Mr Toner  
Mr O'Dwyer "Good ol' Ben"  
Ms Grogan  
Ms Wilson  
Mr Nissar  
Mr. Meehan is a sound man

## Baby Faced

Ms Smyth  
It's Mr Walshe  
Mr Toher  
Mr Toner

## Acts tough but has a heart of gold

Mr. Connolly (big advocate of tough love)  
Ms Witter  
Ms D Kelly

## Best Beard

Mr Jordan  
Mr McCarthy  
Mr O'Dwyer  
Mr. Mooney  
(Mr Winters, Moreton & Leonard are gone so options are thin)



## Best uses "I'm not angry. I'm just disappointed"

Ms T. Kelly  
Ms McKeon  
Ms O'Dwyer  
Mr Hannon  
Ms. Conaty—after our Maths mocks came back  
Mr Toner

## Best Footballer

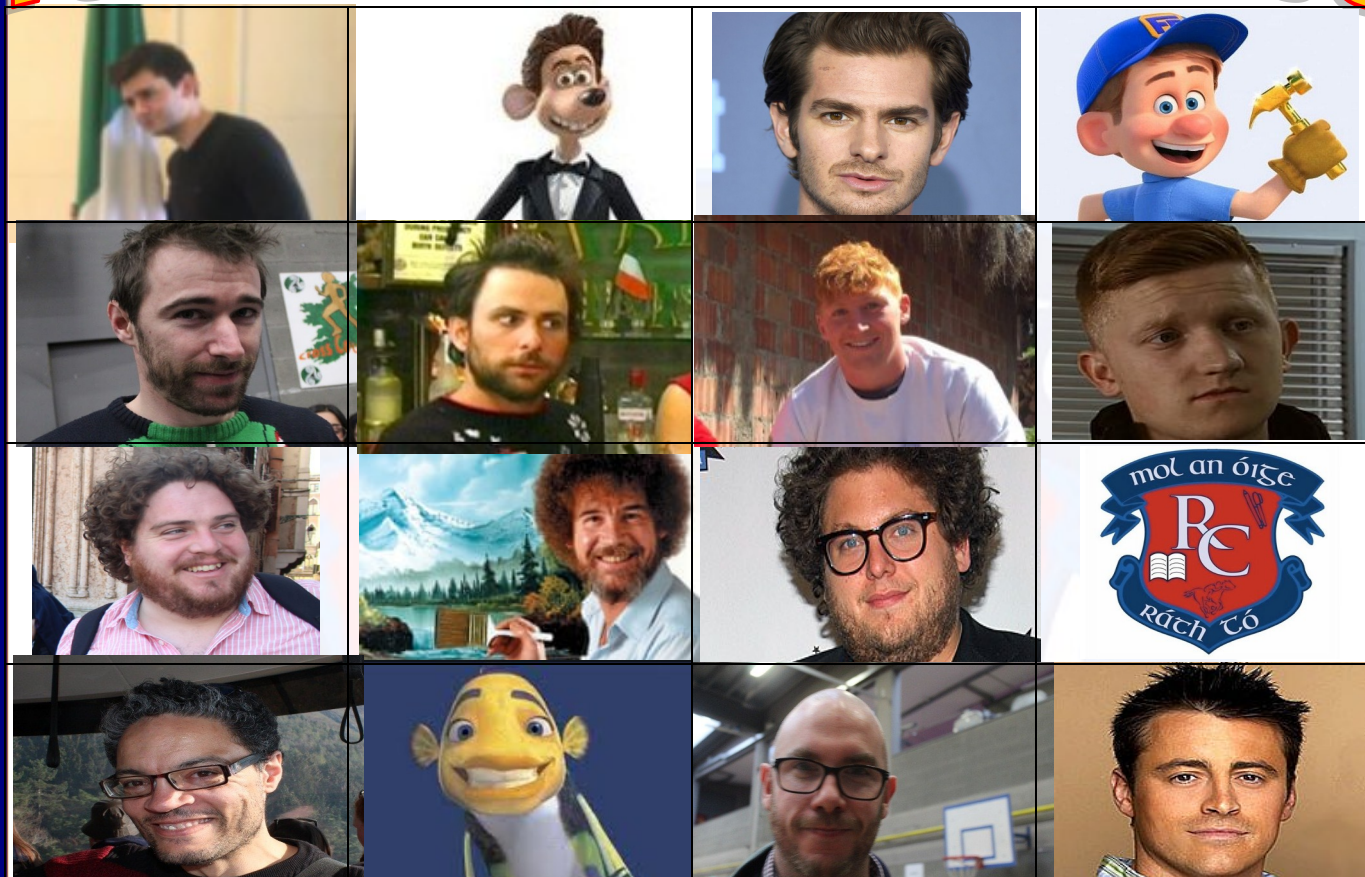
Mr McKenna  
Mr McAuley  
Mr Toher (up Trim)

## Biggest Softie

Mr Mooney (apparently he cried at Brooklyn, who wouldn't?)  
Ms D. Kelly  
Mr Nissar  
Ms Casey



# Teachers & Celebrities



## A Word from the Subs' Bench

As we enter into the final stretch of your time as secondary students, I want to congratulate everyone on getting through five (or six) years in Ratoath College. No doubt there were days (or weeks, months, etc.) when it felt like a prison sentence, but you have prevailed, and are about to come out 'the far side'.

Never again will Mr. Connolly's dulcet tones follow you down the corridor, insisting you remove the hoodie. No more rubbery pizza at little break; and you can file away that Dialann as well - no more notes home. Gone too, the pigeons and crows, scrabbling noisily across the plastic school roof, for reasons best known to themselves.

In the next phase of life, you'll be actively shaping your own reality. Having worked with pretty much every one of you from time to time, I'm 100% confident that you have the potential to succeed. It's a changing world that you are stepping into, that's for sure. As the havoc wreaked by C-19 ably demonstrates, no one has the faintest idea what lies up ahead.

As young adults, you are best placed to deal with whatever tomorrow may bring. You're savvy enough to be aware of important innovations and trends; flexible enough to respond to changes; and energetic enough to pursue your life goals, whatever the challenges.

Best of luck with the whole thing. Thanks so much to each of you for the kind words, the encouragement, the support, the inspiration and the challenges over the past few years.

The relief that finishing school brings is understandable, but remember that the doors of Ratoath College will always be open to you, should you ever need support, or a perspective on anything life throws at you.

School was just the harbour; time now to set out on the open ocean.

Best of luck everyone!

Míle buíochas,

Mr. Cullen





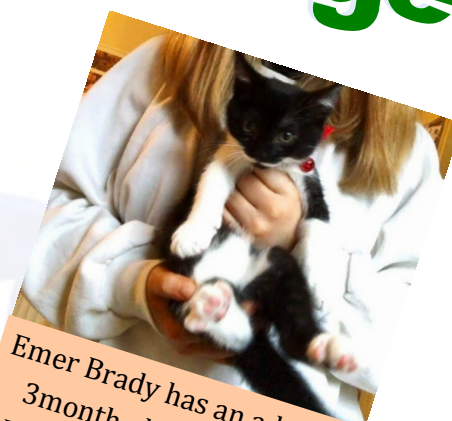
# Pets of Ratoath College



Here we have Leah Whelan and her little sweetie, called Candy. Leah says she loves walking and will bite anyone for food, her looks are deceiving! We assume she was talking about Candy and not herself. Heroes.. 20/10



Aoibh O'Shea has the coolest cat in town with Harry here. Iconic. 14/10



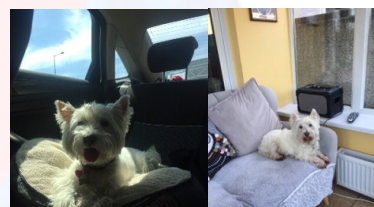
Emer Brady has an adorable 3month old kitten called Baine, cuteness overload 19/10



Clodagh tells that unfortunately Emma's older pooch, Charlie, passed away. We know he's in Doggie Heaven with all of the other good boys. So now Toby is carrying on the legacy of Charlie. Saint. 95/10.



Alfie is a very stylish pooch and his owner, Sarah Ashmore, couldn't be prouder of him. 17/10



Clodagh Thomas has her naps constantly interrupted by Roxy. An absolute rox-star. 18/10



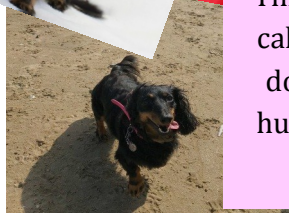
Isabelle Fitzpatrick shares his life with an absolute poser, Lexi, along with a real cool dude with some shades called Daisy. Legends. 25/10



Rua is a top dog with a top owner in Grace Doherty 17/10



This little cutie has been called the "best sausage dog in Ratoath" by her human, Niamh Madden. We agree! 14/10

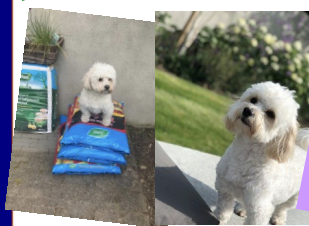


Amy McDonnell's dog, Ollie, is a real party pooch. 15/10

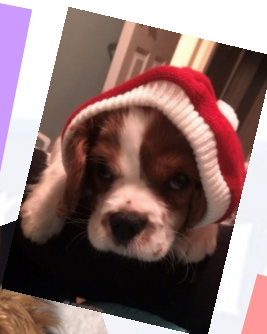




# Pets of Ratoath College



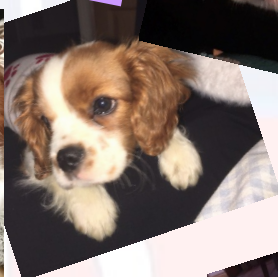
Darragh Kelly wants us to meet Benji, who was nominated for "Best Poser" at by his classmates at Dog College 16/10



"what are you doing to my 'flipping' cat" - Katelyn Dunne on an online Classics Teams class out of nowhere. 14/10

Keeping up with the active life of Archie is a full time job for Kurt Scott. Archie likes watching television, and will only drink bottled water. He also enjoys being a fashion icon, and playing fetch, much like his owner.

#blessed 17/10



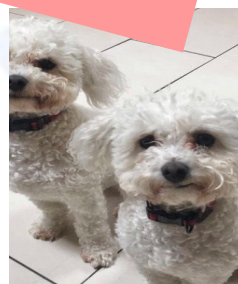
No, you're not looking at some fluffy clouds. These are the fluffy doggos of Clara Feeney, Bella & Kodie, so photogenic 24/10



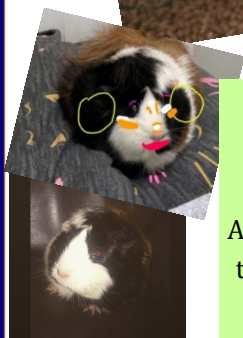
The is Amy Beirnes' kitty Rua, when she got him she thought he was a girl but it turns out he wasn't and only found out when she brought him to get spayed. Also the dog is Cinza, she's just really cute. 27/10

Here we have two doggos from Emma Dormey. The big doggo is Charlie and the little doggo is Toby, two top pooches 24/10

This dynamic duo of Tilly and Koko are constantly causing mischief for Mia Cunningham, 22/10!



Kate Corcoran has this sleepy boy for company. His name is Dano (like in Hawaii Five -O), she swears he doesn't actually hate her. She just woke him up from his nap . Sleepy boy 18/10



This is Louise Reilly's pet guinea pig Queen Bean, but she usually goes by Bean. She has an old soul and is a big AC/DC fan . She also enjoys long walks on the beach, even sometimes trying to run away. 19/10



Tara Kellett has two real mischief makers on her hands with this pair! 20/10



# RC in 10 Years...

- If Mr. Meehan is still be there - fabulous
- Much bigger newer sports facilities
- Sporting powerhouse ( the Mr. Meehan effect)
- The extension will be open and the Leaving Certs will get to actually sit their orals and proper exams
- They will be building the fifth extension to the new school and still not have enough benches in the canteen.
- Mr. Connolly will have a collection of red hoodies in his office
- RC will be colourful and more spacious
- iPads will be back
- Similar to how it is right now, but hopefully with the extension built
- Hopefully not in quarantine
- Ms. Witter will be running the place
- The Big Sad will still live on in Mr. Toner's class room
- With Mr. Meehan even the outside of the school will be painted white
- Much bigger and no uniforms
- Mr. Meehan has everyone wearing trousers
- An Empire under the rule of Mr. Meehan



## "Extension won't be finished" jokes

- The new extension still wont be built
- Still struggling to get that extension up and running
- The extension won't be finished
- The extension still won't be done
- Empty extension
- The extension wont be finished
- More colourful with more annoying students and a yet to be finished extension
- Maybe the whole building will be there - LOL
- Another extension will be built that will take as long as the first one
- Extension incomplete
- Still be waiting on an extension
- Hopefully the extension is finished
- Maybe an extension could be nearly done
- The extension will nearly be finished
- The extension will be open for incoming first years of the 2029/2030 school year.
- Still waiting on the extension
- One functioning building and one now crumbling building site.
- A derelict building overflowing with red jumpers
- The extension might be finished ( x 10 more times, I honestly can't fit the joke in any-more—Mr. Toner)



How long will the extension take













# Favourite Memories of Teachers

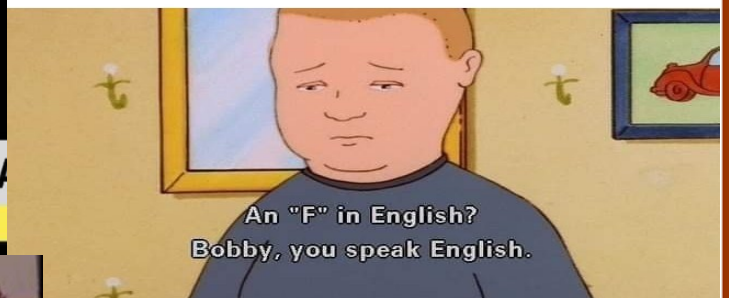
- Leaving Cert chemistry experiment failures with Mr. Nissar
- Mr. Toner's tangents in History
- Mr. Mooney shouting "COME ON" when we don't respond because we don't like poetry. Mr. Jordan stealing the "it's a process" line when we stress out over LC.
- Mr. Meehan helping me sort my life out before CAO closed, forever grateful
- Every Irish class in Junior Cycle with Mr. Ó hEochaidh
- Mr. Moreton having a voice break in the middle of class
- "Ciao Ragazzi" from Ms. Hayes at every award ceremony
- Mr. Mooney cracking the jokes in English.
- Tricking Mr. Mooney into reading Cotton Eyed Joe lyrics on Mentimeter
- When Mr. Toner constantly repeated, "The Leaving Cert is 100% going ahead"
- Prendo saying 'Yo'
- Walking into Mr. Nissar's lab at 8:10 and hearing Biggie Smalls his speakers
- Mr. Connolly calling Aaron Farrell Mr. Positive
- Mr. Nissar drinking his pink tea in chemistry class
- Ms. Hynes having a gossip with her Business class everyday
- Leader-sheep from business with Ms. O'Toole
- Going to New York on the same flight as Mr. Connolly
- Father PJ's ghost stories
- Making a teacher laugh by talking about goose
- Ms. Conlon flipping her marker and dropping it in front of the class
- Mr. Hannon telling is not to touch a work piece cause it was hot and then accidentally touching it himself
- When I sang Time to Say Goodbye with Mr. Ward in first year and we got over 130k views on Facebook
- Any of Mr. Meehan's speeches
- Mr. Mooney breaking his locker because we wouldn't stop talking
- Mr. Connolly's "dance moves" in Economics to help us remember different supply curves
- Mr. Nissar let me light my hands on fire in class
- Mr. Connolly quoting every movie and song in the last 20 years in class, singing in character too was an inspiration
- When Ms. Hayes let us order pizza during Italian
- Chats with old Caomhnóir Ms. Daly
- Chats with Ms. Daly in room 20



# RC Memes



When you only studied Adrienne Rich for the poetry and she doesn't come up



When you'll never go back to school again because of Covid 19 but realise you'll never hear a European fact of the week ever again





# Highs & Lows of RC

- High - Getting a fist bump from Mr. Mooney
- Low - schools closing because of Covid 19
- High - Spending every day with my friends
- Low - When I fainted in assembly on the second day of school
- High - Bottle cap game
- Low? - Kurt falling off the stage in first year
- High - Any time Ms. Flynn danced
- High - Lunchtime in HAP with the girls
- Low - Queuing in the canteen on a Friday
- High - Sam and Aran teaching everyone how to do the "whip" in JC Rang Donnellan
- High - seeing Ms. Donnellan show up at grad last year and having a cute reunited moment
- Low - telling Ms. Monerawela that we couldn't do the Spice Girls dance at awards because we all were too shy
- High - When Katie Manley said "let's bounce"
- Low - Getting in trouble for sneaking out at Lilliput
- High - Cookies on a Friday
- High - Making life long friends
- Low - Ms. Conaty falling over in the obstacle course.
- Low - Missing open goals in soccer.
- High - The fifth year classics and art trip
- Low? - Mark falling over a bench in PE and getting swallowed by the curtain
- High? - Arianna de Luca asking if Mars was on the Moon
- High - Beating Athboy in extra extra time.
- Low - Dislocating my finger in PE
- High - Being fluent enough to get 100% in my orals
- High - Making new friends each year was good.
- Low - Falling on my backside on the muddy hill up to the front pitch was bad.
- High - Mr. Nissar watching us play rugby
- High and low - Finally getting soap in the bathroom but it took a global pandemic for it to happen
- Low - Running out of the school during the selfie challenge in first year
- High - Overnight trip in TY, the extension is just one huge blooper really
- High - Cara Thornton screaming "I am the Greatest" by accident



# Highs & Lows of RC

Low - Ms. Daly left us.

High - "Soak for CF"

High - Italy 2016

High - Cinnire team

High - baking cookies in Religion

High? - Jumping in a river for Geography

Low - Robbing the ball off 5th years and Mr. Toner chasing us around the pitch with loads of books in his hand and a crossbody bag on

High - Bernie O'Dwyer bringing us in every Friday morning at half seven to do some extra Maths work with her Higher Level class

Low - When I broke my ankle ice skating with the school

High - When all of Rang Munnelly fooled Nathan and Mr. Munnelly about making burgers in Home Economics

High - Spending the whole of the bog jumping on the TY bonding trip pulling Katelyn and Nicole out of the first bog

High - Listening to the speech of our lord and saviour Jack Lanigan to win Ard-Chinnire

Low - not being in the amazing Ratoath College because of quarantine

High - the vast amount of in-jokes from my friends

Low - when I pushed Jack into the pole on sports day by accident and a helicopter was called

High - Chicken fillet rolls in the old canteen.

Low - Corona ruining the end of sixth year

Low - Doing a piggy back race in PE and face planting the floor with someone on my back

Low - When myself and two friends got locked in Ms. Savage's English room.

Low - When I fell up the stairs at the prayer room with a stairwell full of people behind me.

High - TY bonding trip, the guy in charge of my group said we could jump in the big if we wanted to and Frankie had cannonballed in before the guy finished his sentence

High - Best memory was the Gaisce trip in TY

Low - Hitting my head on Mr. Mc Kenna's window in front of 6th year class

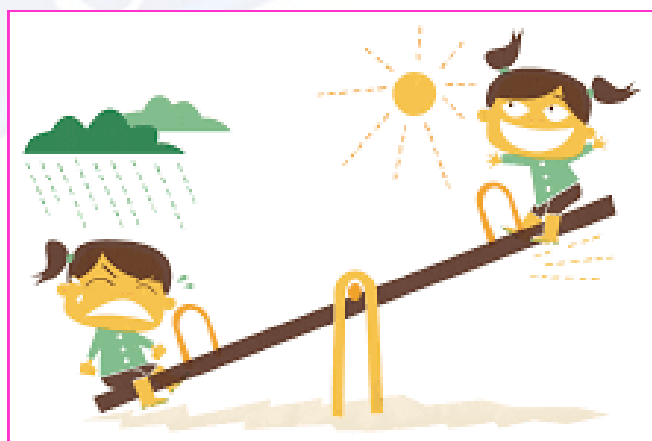
High - Junior Cert years with Rang Donnellan

High - Mr. Munnelly's U18 Gaelic army

High - After school art with Ms. O'Neill in TY

High - Funny Kahoot names

Low - when Leah Whelan fell into the bin in second year





# Messages to Teachers

- ♦ You're all fabulous and will miss you dearly, and I'll be sad that me and Amy won't have a Paddy to say "Kalimera" to every morning and I will dearly miss Mr. Mooney's classic line, "Look I know the language is tough"
- ♦ Dear Mr. Nissar, I cannot thank you enough for everything you have done for me over the last 5 years. From the very first class I had with you in first year till my last in 6th year you have done nothing but show me kindest and support both in the classroom and on the rugby pitch. Can't forget the endless 6 Nations tickets you provide as well. I will miss you dearly as my teacher when I go to college thanks again for everything all you have done for me doesn't go unnoticed. - Orla.
- ♦ To Ms. Grogan I'll miss our chats in Cycle Against Suicide and in the corridors but most of all I'll miss all the little bits of life advice you've given me in the past three years. The support you have given to me and so many others will never be forgotten. Thank you so so much for everything!
- ♦ Ms. O'Toole - any Lidl bags?
- ♦ Miss Flynn constantly goes above and beyond for her music students! An inspiration and a joy to everyone around her!
- ♦ Sorry Mr. Mooney our mics were never broken on the online classes - Rang Martin
- ♦ Ms. Conlon, thanks for helping me get through Junior Cycle and always saying Hi on the corridors, you were the best caomhnóir.
- ♦ Rita and Sarah, it's been real! I'll forever be extremely grateful for you being the best school mother and big sister anyone could have asked for. See you next year for breakfast in Caldwell's for a catch up x You can't get rid of me quite yet! - Ella x
- ♦ Ms. Conaty is too good for Ratoath College. Mr. Nissar I love the man. Mr. Farrell. Ms. Hayes I love the woman
- ♦ Thank you!
- ♦ Thank you all for everything you did for us, especially during the school closures. We never realised how lucky we were to have you all!
- ♦ Mr. McCarthy - helped me a lot and just listened to me , thank you for being there and being so kind from Amy McDermott
- ♦ Yasss Mr. McAuley! Thank you for enjoyable classes and making us reenact scenes from Alexander in the halls. It's been a pleasure!
- ♦ Ms. Witter, she's the only reason I haven't dropped out - Shannen
- ♦ Mr. Nissar just one more question?
- ♦ Ms. Lyttle - Very nice teacher for the time I had her, oui? - Bogdan Baturon
- ♦ Ms. Kelly - I have only known you less than 2 years but I want to thank you for being so supportive and helpful over that time . Your definitely my favourite teacher , You're such a nice person, so understandable , friendly and also have a great sense of humour. Thanks for everything.
- ♦ Mr. Hannon - best teacher I had.



# Messages to Teachers

- ◆ Ms. Donnellan - Thank you for being my school mammy. Lots of love Tom R
- ◆ To every teacher I had thanks for all the effort you put in even though I didn't give that effort back
- ◆ Mr. Nissar - you are my fav
- ◆ I'll miss Mr. Connolly the most because of all his funny jokes
- ◆ Ms. Dinsmore, Thank you for being a mam and teacher to me throughout my school life.
- ◆ Ms. Martin- thank you for making the last 6 years in school a positive and fun experience. I will always remember everything you've done for me.
- ◆ I have a message for a few teachers: Mr. Mooney- thank you for helping me improve drastically in English. Mr. Nissar- thank you for making chemistry class less boring. Ms. Treacy- thank you for making the biology course easy. Mr. Hannon- thank you for being a great help in engineering. Ms. Conaty- thank you for making Maths enjoyable. Ms. Lyttle- thank you for making Learning French easier. Ms. Monerawela- thank you for your help in Irish. - Darragh Harte
- ◆ Toner, thanks for making history the best class
- ◆ Ms. Grogan is my favourite teacher in the entire school she's so kind and actually relates to the people she talks to so much she's the best
- ◆ Mr. Horan, Thank you for always helping me through DCG. You made the experience of the project and theory that little bit easier for all of us. Seldom was a smile but every so often something would trigger one hahahaha. C.
- ◆ Mr. O'Dwyer - the only reason I came in most days
- ◆ Thanks to you all for teaching me
- ◆ To Mr. Mooney you were my fav from Reg
- ◆ Mr. Nissar - You are an absolute legend of a man, humble and kind but also the funniest chemistry teacher I could ask for. Never change the way you teach or your sarcastic wit. You will always be remembered as a great teacher who I can count on. Jack Lanigan :)
- ◆ To all my teachers from the last 2 years, thank you for helping me get through the tough times and making these last two years memorable. - Sophie Devine
- ◆ Thanks for always pushing me to be the best I can be and inspiring me Mr. Munnelly
- ◆ Ms. Flynn you are the mammy of the school and a great person. Really helped me through the years.
- ◆ Mr. Toner- The soundest man I've had the pleasure of knowing and a great person
- ◆ Although I'm not gonna miss the amazing Maths classes I'm gonna miss our rang being asked everyday by Mr. Connolly "Rang Munnelly are we winning ???"





# Teachers' Memories of the Class of 2019/20

- \* The "Chad Mystery" in Rang Kelly's English class.
- \* Getting locked into R34 with Rang Kelly for two hours when Charlie McSweeney broke my door.
- \* My first child was due on Eoghan Mangan's birthday so will never forget his birthday every year!
- \* An unnamed groups of girls crying because we couldn't get into the Sistine Chapel, what a time to be alive.
- \* Competition between the girls for the best eyebrows in Junior Cycle, Caoilinn Eiffe's eyebrows were the envy of everyone!
- \* Brian Moore going to kick Cian O'Sullivan and absolutely booting my ankle out of it in the crossfire. Nothing an ice pack and crutches couldn't fix.
- \* The rowdy debates in 6th Year Classics.
- \* The sing alongs in 6th Year Italian class.
- \* Tom Roddy not happy about Ms. Lyttle going to McDonalds on the Normandy Trip.
- \* Worst Memory: Being forced onto The Raptor in Garda Land during 1st year trip in 2016.
- \* All the students going out onto the pitch and forming a giant AOIFE in memory of Ms. O'Sullivan.
- \* Being sick one day in the whole year, and my 6th year engineering class deciding it was a good idea to jump out the window of one of the prefabs.
- \* 6th years being surprised we have Wifi in Mayo.
- \* Manning the obstacle course on sports day and watching Aaron Davies and Luke Neville take each other out.
- \* I pronounced Joao Paulo's name wrong for a full term and no one told me or corrected me!
- \* Rafa McCaffery's long jump record.
- \* Rang Munnelly convincing Nathan that they had Home Economics after tutorial and that he had forgot his ingredients. At the end of it I was convinced!
- \* Shaun Donnelly singing Luke Kelly songs all day, everyday!
- \* Lewis Nolan getting winded in a GAA match, rolling round on the ground making donkey noises.
- \* Tom Roddy's GAA match speeches.
- \* All the 6th years referring to Mr. Mooney as Mooney or Andy.
- \* Jude getting blamed for breaking the "plug tap" for two years.
- \* Quotes- "Alright Sir" (Aaron Farrell).
- \* I'm really gonna miss kicking the DCG students out every evening because it was 6pm and they forgot they had homes to go to.



# Teachers' Memories of the Class of 2019/20

- \* Emma, Cian and Ciarán rescuing Ms. Hynes in room 29 6th year tutorial from a very lively mouse jumping around in her classroom bin, before bringing it outside and setting it free... All videoed and recorded with much of screaming and jumping from Ciarán!!
- \* Katelyn Dunne shouting "What the \*\*\*\* are you doing to my cat?!" in an online class without realising her mic was on.
- \* Adam Goggin's fish dying in an online History class.
- \* Leah Barniville winning the talent show in first year and Niamh Madden winning the talent show in 6th year.
- \* I've great memories of Rang Conlon's 'secret' ice skating trip in first year when I had a spectacular fall on the ice banging my head against the wall. I still laugh when I think of Lauren Kelly and Clara Feeney's faces, they were in total shock!
- \* Locking Aaron D and Luke N out of my class because they were late (shock) and I hid behind the door and the class just carried on as normal staring at the board. Two lads couldn't for the life of them understand what was going on... then they locked me out.
- \* Luke Carroll scoring what seemed like a goal every 10 minutes consistently over 12 matches.
- \* Ellen Thompson's tips on avoiding Covid 19.

**WHAT IF  
I TOLD YOU**



**LINING UP AT THE  
DOOR DOES NOT  
MAKE THE BELL  
RING FASTER?**

## Our Resolutions for the Future



- ♦ Travel the world
- ♦ Survive
- ♦ To get big muscles
- ♦ Become Tik Tok famous
- ♦ Me and Luke flat out in the gym.
- ♦ Get to wear my hoodies in peace
- ♦ Motorbike road racing,
- ♦ Be successful in life
- ♦ Keep in touch with my friends from school
- ♦ Come back and be a SNA
- ♦ Visit Ms. Martin every week
- ♦ Sneak into the school as a student to see the extension when it's finally built
- ♦ Whatever happens it won't last forever
- ♦ Graduate
- ♦ Work hard in college and always be myself
- ♦ Not getting coronavirus would be nice.
- ♦ Be positive be happy and most of all be your-  
self
- ♦ Try to keep in contact with a lot of my teachers in the years to come and come back for the odd visit to see the new building
- ♦ Sit in isolation, most likely
- ♦ Start fresh and focus on my goals
- ♦ Never say no to opportunity
- ♦ Work for what you want
- ♦ Keep all my houses and organs for at least one year
- ♦ Enjoy the process, not the result
- ♦ To work hard and become the successful person I know I can be
- ♦ Work harder to accomplish things I missed out on in here whether it be academic or sports
- ♦ Live everyday to the absolute fullest.
- ♦ Keep making Mr. Mooney proud



# Teachers' Messages to the Class of 2019/20

- \* I am always inspired by the students who contribute with music to all our ceremonies in the school. I will miss the super talented musicians and singers in 6th year who were so helpful and blew us all away with their performances. I loved seeing them on stage and will miss them all greatly. I got to know many of the 6th years during TY and in teaching throughout the years and they were such a fabulous bunch of students.
- \* I had Rang Nissar for 3 years and I absolutely loved classes with them. They are a super kind group and I know there are great things destined for them. I wish each and every one of them the best for the future. - Ms. Reilly
- \* It has been such a pleasure getting to know you all over the last five or six years, you will be missed! All the best in your future endeavours! - Ms. J Conlon xx
- \* To my 6th Year History weirdos. You are one of the best classes, if not THE best, I have ever had the privilege of teaching. You are such a gifted, kind, quirky, caring & funny bunch, I am really going to miss you. I will never forget the Zoom drama of Adam Goggin's fish dying, your revival of the Farmer's Party, the constant battle with Emily, Ava, Grace & Arianna to try to get them to class on time (a battle I've been losing for two years), Matthew Buckley's flair for memes, relying on Daragh, Diarmuid & Emer for an actual answer to a Q I've asked, Tom constantly asking me history Qs that I have absolutely no idea about and have to bluff an answer, Oisín's bright & cheery attitude and commitment to school every Monday morning, Eoghan giving me a pity laugh even when my joke was crap and eavesdropping on the girls in the back right corner to hear all the gossip when they think I'm not listening. I have always looked forward to coming in to teach you guys and I'm so proud of how far you've all come and how mature you've been throughout the last few weeks. You have done brilliant work and will get your reward for it. Thank you for the last few years and I'm immensely proud to have been your teacher. - "Tdawg"
- \* To the funniest, kind and most good natured group in the school. I wish each and every one of you the best of luck in whatever path lies ahead of you. Over the last 5/6 years you have given me so many laughs and have really enhanced my time in Ratoath College. I am one of few teachers who has had the privilege of knowing each of you and my brief stint as your Moltóir last year was a thoroughly enjoyable experience. And don't worry, I don't take offence to those of you dying for Mr. Connolly to come back but I genuinely didn't enjoy the handing you back part. I really feel for you guys not getting to have your final term in school and getting to enjoy the build up to grad and for us as a school community to wish you well but please know that you will always have a special place in my heart (yes, I do have one) and your absence will certainly be felt about the place next year. Stay in touch and the best of luck and remember.... If you can dream, you can do it! - Ms. Casey



# Teachers' Messages to the Class of 2019/20



\* A fantastic year group-- mature, funny, sporty the school will be a poorer place without The Class of 2020.

\* To Aideen, Mark, Lauren and Niamh I will never forget how much you helped me during the musical, you were the best 'bad cops' I could've asked for! I think the funniest moment was when Aideen told everyone to be more sexy in rehearsals when I couldn't. Wishing you every success in the future - Ms. Monerawela.

\* To the Cinnire team you are all amazing, there was nothing you couldn't achieve in the school and you will all be sorely missed.

\* Thanks to all the sixth years for your good humour, care and concern for one another especially those boys who walked by the window of my office after each class to check if I was ok. Sometimes they made a second or a third or fourth journey just to make sure everything was all right. I will miss your concern. - Fr PJ

\* You are a fantastic year group! I wish you all every success in the future. It's not easy being a Leaving Certificate in 2020 and you have acquitted yourselves impeccably. I'm sure that this year group will go on to many great and inspiring things in Science, Technology, Engineering and Sport to name a few. Keep her lit, - Mr. Munnelly

\* "On y va!" - Miss Lyttle

\* To all of the Class of 2020 that I have had the privilege to teach whether it be during Junior Cycle, Transition Year or my 6th year history group, I just want to thank you for being an A1 bunch. I have been teaching in RC for 6 years now, the same length of time that many of you have been in RC. It really will be very strange to imagine Ratoath College without you guys. Exam results and points are obviously important, but more important is as people, the legacy and memories you leave behind. Your legacy as people and a year group is second to none and RC really will not be the same without you. Again thank you for all the top notch memories you have left me with. - Mr. Jordan

\* Rang Kelly, having you for English for the last two years has been a real pleasure. You have been a super class and I'm delighted I've gotten to know you, some of you from 5th Year and others from TY & 3rd Year. I have really enjoyed teaching you for the last few years, whether it's putting up with Leah Whelan's constant Qs, interrupting some of the lads making "goo-goo eyes" at each other across the classroom, always relying on the girls in the back right corner for a proper answer to a Q, giving out to Grace for eating in every single class, or interrogating you all and throwing a hissy fit for a week because someone wrote "Chad" in a Mentimeter once. I'm really gonna miss you guys and I wish you all the best for the future Best of luck, "Mr. T"













# LC Farmers' Party



By Callum Browne

Prior to Senior Cycle I had heard that Mr. Toner's history classes would be quite enjoyable with many references to pop culture in his powerpoints, to the

videos that would provide a reinforced understanding of the topics at hand. "It's okay", one student was quoted. Another: "Its meh". Riveting descriptions. (Real quotes, by the way. I'm sure they had the right spirit.)

From ballads about Bloody Sunday to brutal, career-devastating debates, the words of praise from previous students rang true in my opinion. However, I don't think any other class would go as far as to form its own political party within the walls of Room 34, and yet such events would unfold as if part of ordinary classroom discourse. I present to you, a brief history of the Farmers' Party.

The year is 2018, or at least early 2019, its sort of a blur at the start. As a class, we are currently learning of the events in Ireland's Pursuit of Sovereignty in the 20th century. Home Rule is a hot topic, alongside 1916 Rising and the IRB. Until a group of four can't help but notice other political parties of that era. Alongside Sinn Féin and Labour, they see a party with such appalling numbers, but with such morally correct standpoints, that one cannot help but feel empowered. The intelligent and cunning Callum Browne (the only one on his table with a shred of knowledge about farming,) seizes the opportunity to pave a path into the wonderful world of politics, by offering to revive the disbanded Farmers' Party, and to restore its former glory, before the eyes of his history class. He requests for bannermen to join him on the rise to success of the new Farmers' Party, and who else would offer support, other than the three others on his table: the Adele singer himself, Oisín Fay, the All-Seeing Eoghan Mangan, and the Blind but Passionate Adam Goggin. Rumour has it, Goggin's memes were so spicy that he burnt his eyes, and after years of hardship, has recently bought glasses. What better men could assist Browne in fighting the tyranny of modern semi-state disparity against the Farmers' of the land, with whom they just barely stand in empathy with...

Throughout the following year and a half, there had just been passing comments referencing the great and powerful regime of the Farmers' Party. There were exiles, and alliances, documents signed, representation in debates. The Farmers' Party also sought to tear down the Partition Wall during the fall of the Cinnirí, deeming the mere existence of such a wall unconstitutional, as it cut us off from true re-unification of the entirety of Room 34 signed away to Cinnirí so many years ago, during the McCarthy times. It was here where the Farmers' Party made that first breakthrough on a long road to freedom. There was even a re-election in the later days of the 2019 school year, with Goggin seizing the throne/paddy cap via totally-not-unfair democratic powers, where popularity was favoured over knowledge and capability (not salty). With Browne disregarded and faded into the lower echelons of the organisation, he still retained the most powerful knowledge of all: actually knowing the difference between tillage and silage, and



knowing that if "she ain't red, keep her in the shed".

Towards Christmas 2019, however, we witnessed the greatest move of all time that was ever attempted by such a

group. For the first time, the Farmer's Party had allied with the neighbouring table of Murphy, Lynch, Temple and Magee, in an act of defiance against the members exiled from the tables. This expansion fuelled prosperity for the party; they had finally come to terms with expansion for the betterment of the paddy cap itself. Through this process, the confirmation of merging was settled with a written clause, The Proclamation of the Lads, signed by each member of the newly formed alliance, moderated and overseen by Mr. Toner himself. This proclamation allowed the land sharing of the entire Partition Walls neighbouring tables, and the unification and re-organisation of such land to join up as one, long, table. This was the most prosperous era of the Farmer's Party, with it being the largest incursion that Room 34 had ever seen. They just kept out-doing their own achievements, and gained notoriety as a result.



The rebuilding of the partition wall saw the signing away of the now-reinstated land back to the clutches of the Administrative Powers of Ratoath College. In a move of blatant tyranny and greed, the Caretakers came, and announced the re-assembly of the Partition, prompting all FP members to be relocated back to their original spots in the classroom. It wasn't the same, being cramped up in one area. Tears were shed, and even to this day those same men at the forefront of protest and defiance, cry out for the change they fought to implement.

Today, the Farmers' Party is still omnipresent in all affairs within Room 34, with proper representation at each point of talk or controversy. Upon that wretched Partition Wall, we hope that whoever reads this in the future, can visit the Proclamation hung upon it in silent defiance by blue tack, or oth-

erwise. As our time as members of the Farmer's Party comes to a close, we would like to thank those of you in our class or in on the joke, for putting up with our unfunny slags and sidebars, and hope that our memory as a powerful, seemingly unstoppable force within Room 34, lives on in succession of class of 2020.....



# My Debut Year in RC

*By Ella Johnson.*

When I was asked to write about first year and my experiences I actually found it difficult to think of one word to describe my experience. I finally settled on saying that it is always changing. Ratoath College focuses on all aspects of life, where it is from the art to sport to music to acting to classes



First year for me changed my view on many things, it gives you a lot of responsibility but there is always someone there to offer help or guid-

ance. You make a lot of new friends that can have a lot of the same interests especially if you do choice subjects with them. I felt like although we are still children, we are treated just a bit more like adults than we were in primary as the school will recognise that you can look after yourself.

My highlights of the year was definitely taking part in the talent show and musical as well as going to the Young Scientists Exhibition. My advice for first year would be to take part in everything that you can because first year is a year where you have the time to do them. I picked Art and Music as my choice subjects because they are what I would do at home anyway and at school I found that it was even more enjoyable now that I could do the things that I do in my spare time at school. My tips for first year is to get involved in the class but also in events and sports, but most of all to enjoy it!



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# An interview with Mr. Meehan

**1. Have you ever been nervous to announce something at assembly?**

*The first time I spoke in Assembly I was petrified, but as time passes you get used to addressing the whole school and it definitely gets easier.*

**2. If you weren't the principal, what job would you be doing and why?**

*If I wasn't a Principal I'd have liked to have been a Pilot. At one stage in my past I started flying lessons and training towards my Private Pilots License.*

**3. How many times did you take your driving test?**

*Thankfully I passed my driving test on my first attempt.*

**4. Did you go on a sixth year holiday?**

*No, straight after my leaving cert I got a summer job to pay for college.*

**5. What's your go-to show at the moment?**

*I love to watch any good crime thriller*

**6. What's your karaoke song ?**

*"Wonderwall" by Oasis.*

**7. What was a funny memory you have from school?**

*The school's Music Teacher trying to teach my year group how to waltz for our debs ball.*

**8. Do you have a nickname ?**

*I've had many nicknames !!!!!*

**9. Any advice for life?**

*Never give up on your dreams, always keep trying, never fear failure, it's part of your learning curve. Visualize where you want to be in 5 years and devise a plan to get there.*

**10. What's the strangest way you've ever injured yourself?**

*I grew up on a farm, while feeding animals I stuck a pitch fork through my big toe.*



# TY Work Experience



*By Julie Lennon*

I went to three different places for my work experience in TY. In November I went to Dublin Port company. Here I got to see what it is like to work in an office and to see how a big company is operated. During this week I observed how different departments in the company work. I went to different departments in the Port Centre and at the Port, for example the finance office and the Marine Operations department. I also spent time at the harbour where I went on a pilot boat and with the security and maintenance crew to observe how a large site is monitored daily.

The second week I spent in Ratoath National school. I helped students and teachers in the classroom by organising books and helping with projects and I helped the secretary Sandra in the office with photocopying and making booklets. I found it interesting to see the amount of work involved in preparing for a class. I enjoyed spending time in the classroom and seeing how the

children interacted with their teacher and each other.

For my final week of work experience in February, I attended the Introduction to Hospital Life programme at the Mater Hospital in Dublin. During this week I followed a timetable with a group of twelve other students and went to different sections of the hospital. I learned what nurses, paramedics, psychologists, physiologists and doctors do during their working day, by attending lectures given by the health care workers involved. I found it interesting to see what happens in hospitals and how they are run. I was surprised at the number of occupations there are, and the amount of people employed in a hospital.

I think doing work experience in TY is fun and beneficial because it helps to show you careers you are interested in. I did find the commuting tiring even though I was given lifts into the city, and I have decided that I would not like to work in an office all day. However, I really enjoyed my work experience weeks because I learned something from all of them and I got to see three different career choices and I thought it was fun.





# TY Gaeltacht

By Éibha O'Toole

In February, the TY's went on an overnight trip to the Gaeltacht in Drumree.

We got the bus early in the morning and were welcome with tea and biscuits when we arrived. Our phones were then taken away for the day. We were then brought to a hall and were split into groups for the activities. We played team games in the hall



against each group. We then had soup and sandwiches for lunch.

In the afternoon we went around stations doing different activities like dancing, karate, drumming and more. It was a lot of fun and they were things we hadn't done before.



We then had dinner and ice cream after. We were then given an hour or so to just sit around on our phones and ring our parents. After that, we all went to the hall for a céilí and then a quiz.

The next day we had breakfast and did a few fun activities before heading home. The Gaeltacht was a lot of fun and definitely helped with our Irish skills.

We really enjoyed it!

# TY-kwondo

By Sean Goggin

In TY 2020 all students got to learn a new skill for three weeks and this new skill was taekwondo.

For 3 weeks during PE the TY students learned a few of the basics from the taekwondo master Keith. We wouldn't have gotten this opportunity to learn without him. We learned some of the kicks and hits such as the superman punch, spin kick and the side kick. It was very enjoyable especially as it was mostly your friends who were holding the pads.

Overall throughout the three weeks all of the students learned new methods of self defense and had a great time.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an áige agus tiocfaidh sí*

# TY Zeminar

By Sorcha Broe-Brady

The TY students had a trip to Zeminar where everything surrounding mental health was talked about. The trip happened on the last day of the event which was the Thursday. The first of the 3 Zeminar talks that we were able to listen to started at 10:30. This talk was started by Jess McCaul talking about her struggles with anorexia. It was titled "Me, Myself and Anorexia" She spoke briefly about her struggles, realising that she did have a mental health disorder and how she has started to manage to cope with it.

Abigail McDonnell spoke next, her speech focused on the stigma surrounding mental health and was very informative of the pressures placed on people with a mental health disorder due to the stigma. The band 'New Rules' played a short concert but also talked about mental health struggles and help in music.

Although there were many more amazing talks throughout the event I found the most impactful and memorable one was by Shane Carthy. He is a Dublin football star who took us on his journey through depression that he battled alongside his incredible sporting achievements showing that everyone can be effected even if their achievements are great and it is the people that are able to support them that are truly needed.



The stalls gave out lots of free pens as well as booklets about what they do. Some of the stalls were mental health based but there was many about other things as well. Each stall was manned by people who were happy to tell you all about why they were there. The stalls were easy enough to get through and get all the free things available be for getting some food from the food trucks outside.



Overall the experience was very good, I as well as my friends greatly enjoyed walking around chatting while looking at the stalls. All the talks had great knowledge to impart and was worth the day trip.





# RCSI

By Holly Blink



I was really lucky and got to take part in the Royal College of Surgeons Mini Med programme for Transition Year students. This was a three day course that I applied for at the start of Transition Year. Places were given out in a lottery draw and I fortunately got one. This was an amazing experience and I think it really

sparked my interest in medicine. Over the three days we had lectures from people in all fields of medicine from a GP and Rheumatologist to a Pathologist and Plastic Surgeon. I learned so much about the lives of these people and the work they do.

I didn't realise how many areas you are able to specialise in after university. We also got to watch live opera-

tions including a Caesarean Section and a Laparoscopic Gallbladder removal. This was a really interesting experience and the surgeons talked us through everything that they were doing. We got to see the simulations and augmented reality experiences in the University. In the simulations we learned how to take someone's blood pressure and how to perform CPR on a patient in cardiac arrest. We had Q&As with surgeons, students and professors.

By talking to the students we got an honest opinion about studying medicine and the experience at RCSI. We had talks with transplant patients and also the doctor for the Irish soccer team. I really enjoyed hearing from the patients and about their experiences. All the lectures were so informative and I learned so much about the life of doctors and also students that are studying medicine. The Mini Med programme was one of my favourite parts of Transition Year and the experience at RCSI was amazing.

# 中文

By Callum Rothwell-Mitchell

As we study a module in Chinese as part of our Transition Year programme Ms. Monerawela and Ms. Flynn organised a day of workshops. It was a four-part activity day for students, who got to enjoy and indulge in a day of culture from another country across the ocean, that country being China. It took place on the 20th of January 2020 and was one of the first exciting activities and experiences that the TY's had this year.

Personally, I thought the day was a great success and most students who took part in it enjoyed it. It was a nice change to our school day, and we got to try some new activities.

Now, let's talk about these activities. Firstly, we learned how to sing some Christmas songs and happy birthday. We found we couldn't pronounce the words properly and to tell the truth ended up butchering the songs, but it was really fun.



Next was the Chinese language class where we learned how to say basic phrases like hello and good-bye and we also learned how to count and say how old we were.

We then took part in the writing class which was fun beside again we weren't used to using brushes and ink to write so our drawings came out like nowhere near like what they should have looked like.

Last, but not least was the Tai Chi class which was fun and a good way to exercise. We were all given fans to use during it and we all learned how to a routine using Tai-Chi moves.

That's all from me, thanks for reading.



# A Trip to Remember

By Stephen Kiernan

For many of this years TY group we had been greatly anticipating the bonding trip at Lilliput, thinking of our fond memories from our previous visit in first year. We were once more travelling to the home of Jonathon Swift (the author of Gulliver) but this time with those of our friends who had decided to go to Italy instead.



The day opened with our arrival and a greeting from the councillors and the dogs, then we were split up into groups for the different rooms. We were all happy with our groups for our rooms, but the most of the girls were probably

slightly unhappy about being put in the shop since all of the lads were hogging all of the proper bedrooms. After we chose our beds and dropped our bags into our rooms we were split into two groups to go on an hour long walk to take in the local countryside. And let me tell you, nothing helps you bond more than being stuck on a walk with nothing to do but talk.

After our walk it was straight into activities as we were split into three separate groups each sent to do a different activity (water sports, games at the house and forest activities), and despite being all in different areas Mr. Toner was there to take our pictures at the most in opportune of moments.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an áige agus tiocfaidh sí*





*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



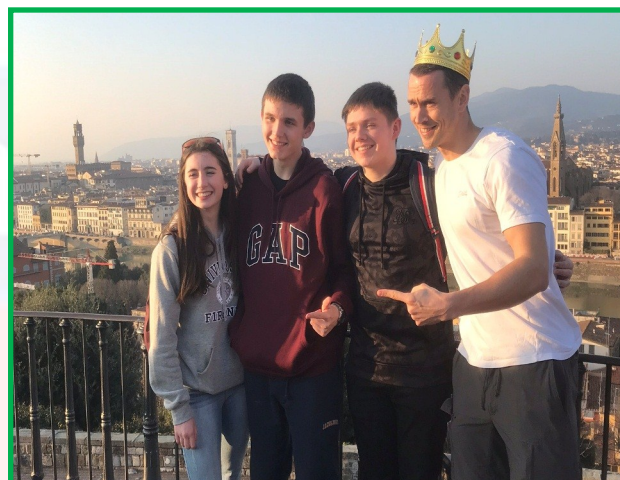
# From TY To 5th Year

By Laoise Murphy

Back in 2018 when I was applying for Transition Year, I found one of the main reasons many decided to move straight into fifth year was a fear of falling behind in their studies and not being able to return to an exam year after, essentially, a year free from the pressures of school. And, I've got to say, those first two weeks of fifth year had me completely agreeing with their view of TY and I was starting to regret ever doing it. It felt as though those of us who did it were already miles behind the "third year" fifth years. However, it is now nearing the end of the school year and I can't believe I ever worried.

Going in, you have to be prepared to do the work. And I don't just mean the schoolwork. Coming into school on time, having your books ready for class, limiting your absences, doing your homework and studying for class tests all influence how well you will succeed. I guarantee it will make all the difference in the long run. Remember the endgame is the Leaving Cert (you are going to get so tired of hearing that quickly). It should always be in the back of your mind. Hopefully, to keep you motivated.

However, your other interests aren't something you should sacrifice to get a "better grade." As someone who is heavily involved in sport and other extra-curricular activities, there was no way I was going from training every day to studying during those times instead. It's actually significant for you to continue with music, art and sport as it will help you learn better. Also, there is no need to spend your whole night doing homework due the next day. I found homework amounts fluctuated every day and some nights I would have little to none. A teacher won't mind if you give them a note and have the work done the next day.



One thing I cannot stress enough is do not panic. It is definitely hard to adjust in those first few weeks believe me, I know. Between the levels of schoolwork and homework to be done as well as being in a new rang and new classes which some of your friends might not be in. Do not be down on yourself if you're struggling in a subject or if you don't do well on your first test. I guarantee a few months in, you'll find you weren't as far behind as you thought.

Looking back, TY didn't put me at a disadvantage. In fact, I think it prepared me better for fifth year because I had matured as a student and was ready to work hard after long break. And don't worry too much, fifth year isn't as bad as you've probably heard. Just concentrate on your subjects and you'll be fine.





# The Wild Rover

By Ms. Kilrane

The Trad Group have been on the go in Ratoath College since 2007 and 2019-20 was another great year for them. New talent is always welcome and many new members joined them from our new First Years in September, as well as new members or returning members from other year groups. Led by Ms. Kilrane and Ms. Gilmartin, this year's Trad Group was the biggest to date, with a mixture of instruments including concertina, fiddle, whistles, flute, guitars, ukuleles, piano and drums. Practice took place on a weekly basis, meeting in the music room at lunch time, to choose and practice new pieces, have the craic and play together as a group.

They also played at many school events this year, the first of which was the First Year Service at the beginning of October. The musicians from rest of the year groups accompanied the newly-joined First Years in a lovely rendition of O'Carolan's Planxty Irwin. They combined music and song at the Christmas Awards Ceremony with an as Gaeilge rendition of Keane's 'Somewhere Only We Know'. Another big performance was at Ceolchoirm Seachtain na Gaeilge, where they performed a



mixture of traditional tunes, songs, solos and group pieces. Well done to the whole group on another hugely successful year!

This year's members included:

*Leo Bergin, Anya Browne, Marc Checkley, Sidney Dehane Edge, Matthew Duff, Bláthnaid Hughes, Elsa Johnson, Meg Johnson, Alix Kane, Evan Murphy, Laoise Murphy, Charlie O'Brien, Lucy O'Kane, Monike Santos, Mia Sherry, Jasmine Singh, Ms. Kilrane and Ms. Gilmartin*

# Snapshots

By Ryan Doherty

The photography club was a new addition to the many extracurricular activities that Ratoath college offers and it showcases the amazing talent that the students of the school have.

At the meetings that were held every Wednesday in room 8 themes were issued and members would take photos according to these themes, some example of themes include Food, Trees and Animals. Members also uploaded photos that they had taken to show off their ability and preferred style of photography.

The members of the photography club proved that

you don't need an expensive camera to take quality photos with a portion of its members using their phones to take magnificent creative photos.



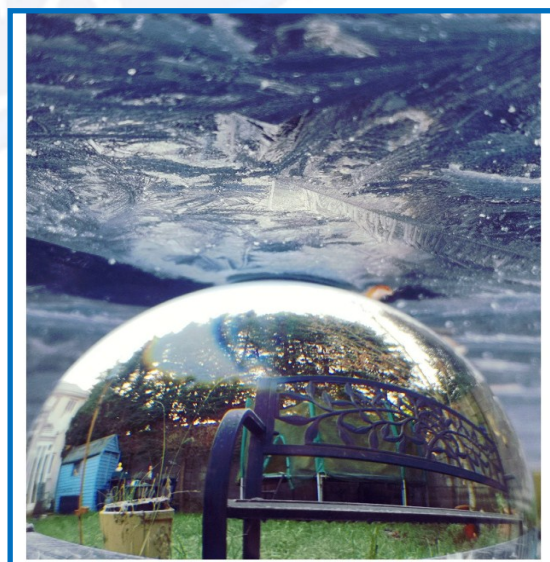
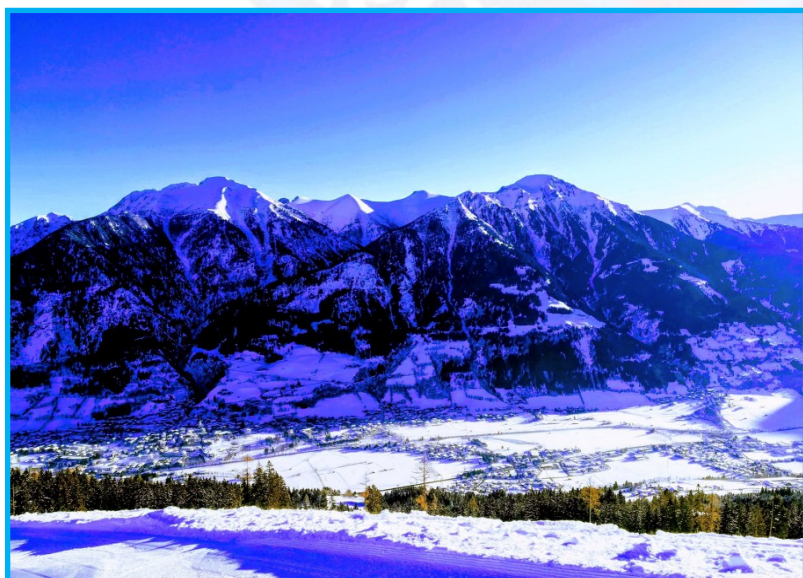


The photography club would not have been created were it not for Ms. O'Neill who pioneered the founding of the photography club and is responsible for the success of the club adding another item to her long list of contributions to the school.

On the 22nd of January the photography club created a presentation showing off what they had done so far and the work that all members had contributed to the club.

All of the work the photography club did was building up to a big display that they had planned nearing the end of the school year that would showcase all of the fabulous photos they had captured, this would further cement the idea that art is not confined to brushes and paint but also one's perspective.

To sum up, the photography club is the newest addition to the clubs here at Ratoath College but will continue to be a very welcome addition to the ever expanding list of talents that Ratoath college offers to new students, with time the photography club will gain more and more members and has taken a well deserved seat in the Ratoath College family.





# Italia '19

By Josh Kavanagh



On Wednesday 2nd of October 2019 over 20 Italian students from Liceo Ulivi Parma came to visit Ratoath College for one week, the students were greeted

by their hosts and given a tour of the school, during the evening students met with friends to let the exchange students explore Ratoath and the areas inside our village. On Thursday students came to school with us to see what Irish school experience was like and they said it was very different, in Italy school ends at 1 so the day was very long.

On the Friday the exchange students only travelled to Dublin to see Trinity College and the Guinness Brewery. Then during the weekend various things happened with every RC student planning an adventure with the exchange students. I went to Dublin to shop and explore Dublin City on Saturday where students had the chance to shop and on Sunday students came with me to Tayto Park and to the Cinema at night to see the Joker.

On Monday we went to school with the Italian students again, and in the evening stayed around the village. On Tuesday the

entire group travelled to Glendalough to hike, it was very cold but students enjoyed the day getting to see the monastery and then travelled to Bray to the beach and surrounding areas. Then on Wednesday was our sad departure, some were happy and some sad but overall students were upset to see their Italian friends return home to Italy.

Many great friendships were made and students were gutted to see them go home.

The hope we could see them in April was dashed when precautions due to Covid-19 was taken but students are still hopeful we will get to travel to complete the second phase of our Trip in the near future!!



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# Student Council

By Cian Agar-Finlay



All over Ireland. Student Councils play a huge role in giving the student body a voice in their school. A school can have such an impact in a student's life which is why it is so important to have a

strong Student Council. It gives students a voice in the decisions within the school that impact them. The better the student council, the louder the voice and here in Ratoath College our student council always makes sure to be involved in matters going on in the school and to keep the student body up-to-date.

Our reps, from all year groups, meet weekly to discuss the issues raised by their friends or classmates. We then bring these thoughts and ideas to management who we meet with regularly. Despite this year's Coronavirus troubles and our year being cut short, we were still busy working on a number of projects that we'd like to share with you now.

A huge focus this year were the new girls' trousers that will be introduced for girls to wear year-round if they wish to. This project was brought to us by our new Principal, Mr. Meehan, who has worked hard to bring it in by the next school year. We were given 6 potential trouser styles and narrowed it down. We also conducted a survey amongst the girls of Ratoath College to gather their thoughts and opinions on them. After meeting with and modeling for the parent's association, we hope they will be ready for September. We spent significant time gathering the student body's thoughts on the canteen who we then met with and reviewed their menu and their queuing system. The outcome of this was very positive as the canteen were very interested to hear the students' thoughts. They have since implemented changes in the hope

of bettering the experience for all students.

At the start of the year we sent representatives to Meath Comhairle Na nÓg GM and we now have 4 members on their committee representing Ratoath, they are Cian Agar, Matthew Hayes, Margarita Baturova and Stephan Kiernan. In January we received a full day training from the Irish Second Level Students Union (ISSU) in Dunshaughlin Community School. This day was invaluable to us as we learned to how better represent students and gave us some new and exciting ideas for the coming years. Watch this space! A huge thank you to all your fabulous representatives who have done an amazing job this year.

## Student Council Members 2019/2020:

Aaron Hannon, Stephan Kiernan, Jack Fennessy Manley, SORCHA Broe-Brady, Lucy O'Kane, Cian Agar Finlay, Cormac Tormey, Matthew Hayes, Monike Santos, Craig Mee, Hannah Muphy, Laoise Murphy, Aoife Hyland, SORCHA Rose McGroarty, Mia Sherry, Margarita Baturova, Jack Tormey, Niamh Larkin, Emma Lynam, Katelyn Dunne, Ben Colgan, Clodagh Thomas,



As a student council we'd like to wish you all well with the Coronavirus crisis and hope you all enjoy your summer despite the change in lifestyle we've all experienced, and we look forward to getting back to normality next year.



# We Are Speed

By Matthew Hayes

Athletics has had a big year in Ratoath College this year despite the competitive calendar being cut short. We've all been training hard and we've seen huge



improvements throughout the year thanks to the guidance of our wonderful teacher/coaches Ms. Delany and Ms. Reid as well as the dedication of each and every athlete who dared to put

their foot on the start line this year.

Though it was a short year we've done Mr. Meehan proud and brought the silverware back to Ratoath College

## Combined Event

Our athletes had a flying start this year with 2 athletes representing us at the Lein-



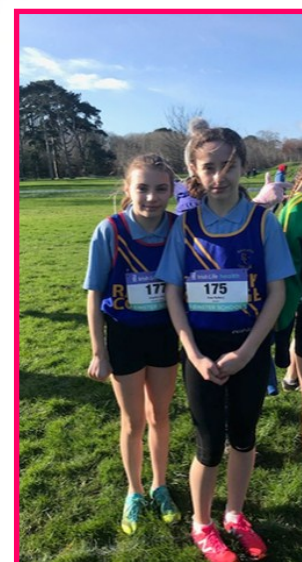
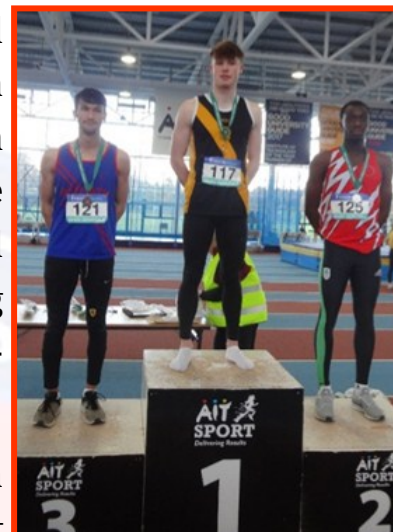
ster Combined event competition in November. Rafa McCaffrey won the senior combined title, storming ahead of the competition.

Rafa then went on to represent

Ratoath College in the All Ireland Combined event placing third and setting 3 new PB in Indoor Long Jump, 60m hurdles and the combined event itself scoring an amazing 2726 points.

Caoimhe Fitzsimmons also competed in the combined event and made huge improvements on last year.

Congrats to both of you, you did the team and the school proud!



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# As the Crow Flies

## Cross Country by Matthew Hayes

This year we had a hugely successful Cross Country season with all athletes giving it their all and many

qualifying for bigger and better events. We started the season as usual at Old Castle. It's a tough course with tougher competition but our athletes proved they could compete with the best. In the junior boys 3rd Year's Kyle Witter placed 1st and 5th

years Matthew Hayes placed 2nd in inter boys. We won 2 team medals minor boys (Fionn Heffernan, James Kelly, Liam Walshe and Jack Kelly) were 3rd and Inter boys (Jed Walshe, Matthew Hayes and Harry Coakley Sheehan) were 4th. The school also placed 4th overall with 16 schools competing. We left feeling confident and in high spirits knowing all the hard work was paying off.

North Leinster Schools was our next event and it was the big event of the season. We had a successful day with 8 athletes qualifying for the Leinster Championships. We had big starts to athletics careers from 4 minors with James Kelly, Kate Rafferty, Sophie Finn and Jack Kelly all making it to Leinsters in their first year in Ratoath College. That's not to say we didn't have success from our veteran athletes with inter girls being represented by Amelia Campbell and Aimee Doherty with 2 seniors qualifying as well through Karen Hayes and Matthew Hayes. All athletes who participated ran extremely well and with your continued effort



you'll improve next year. As usual the one thing we far surpass every other school in is team spirit.

We have kept our reputation as the loudest and most recognizable school through our unmatched passion to support every team mate right up to the finish line. The athletics team is a big believer in the school motto as shown by the constant cheering through the competitions



Our year was cut short here with many athletes being disappointed as cross country season was cut short and Track and Field didn't even begin. We're looking to the future with all our athletes training hard while keeping up social distancing. Next year will be a wildly successful year though it does come with a cost. We must say goodbye to some of our most beloved and talented athletes.

To our sixth years, Rafa, Karen and James, thank you for years of your talent, expertise and obviously craic. It won't be the same without you. We all hope you succeed in your future athletics endeavors and look forward to your return to the school when your famous to inspire the next generation of athletes.

*"As a member of the school athletics team over the past 5 years I've made some of the most amazing friends and had so many good times. That's one thing I'll miss about the school for sure, for me my favourite athletics memory has to be the slugging and banter on the back of the bus. Our abilities as a team and the support we gave one another made the athletics team feel like a second family"*

- James Hennessy

To those interested in join the school athletics talk to Miss Delany or Ms. Reid in the new year. Even if you have no athletics experience we take all new comers. Join for the fun stay for the fitness !

*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# Sports Day

By Orla Hayes

Every year, Sports Day at Ratoath College is a day to remember. No matter what the year group or age, it is a day when everybody in the school comes together. For the majority of each school year, we spend 95% of our time in the classroom, but on this day students engage with the spirit of sportsmanship and of course, the competitiveness that goes alongside it. Sports Day has always been a celebratory event for myself and my peers in Rang McGarron. Since our very first Sports Day in 1st year we have come out victorious; we have been the overall school winners for 4 of the past 5 years, winning for our year group overall in 2nd year. Every year, tensions rise and the stakes become even higher as the newest sporting talents coming into the school at the beginning of each academic year.

Before Sports Day commences two sign up sheets are handed out to each Caomhnóir class, one for the girls and one for the boys. Each year these sheets cause chaos. Students must decide who will compete in what event and come up with the strongest combination of students to take part in the team competitions.

One thing to say about Ratoath College is that there is no shortage of female and male athletes. For me, sport has always held a very important place in my life, and the same can be said for many other girls in my Rang and year. Every year at Sports Day there are a series of events from athletics to soccer and there is always something for everyone to try. Our girls' teams have been successful in the relay and obstacle courses each year, as well as achieving some star performances in the individual events such as 'Iron Woman', basketball, and a number of athletic competitions. All the girls give each event 100% (and the boys of course!)

Sports Day is a lot more than just winning too, although it's nice to come out victorious and celebrate



with your peers. It's also a time where students have to work together as a team, come up with strategies, play to each other's strengths and overcome any weaknesses. Students must find their place, whether that's as a team leader, or playing an active supporting role to help achieve success.

Apart from the winning aspect, Sports Day is a day for students to relax and have some fun. It gives us all an opportunity to try new things and maybe discover some hidden talents.

To close off Sports Day each year, the entire school gathers at the front of the building where we listen to our principal, Mr. Meehan, announce each year group's individual class winners, and, of course, the over all school winners. This ceremony wouldn't be possible without the hard work of the staff counting up everyone's scores and handing out the medals to each student at the end of the events. The suspense at the end of the day waiting to hear the winner is something I will miss when I leave Ratoath College and Sports Day is definitely a day that I won't forget!









# World Culture

By Ms. Donnellan

In January we celebrated Arts Week, the highlight of the academic year and a jubilant presentation of all things cultural from Art, Music, Classical Studies, to Literature and Culinary Delights. This event couldn't happen without our wonderful student leaders and the fantastic teachers that facilitate the different activities. To them we say "Míle Buíochas, Merci Beaucoup, Grazie Mille"! The theme was "Around the World" and we experienced some of the varied, exotic and momentous cultural contributions of the different countries around the world. The GP Area was Arts Week ready with the flags of the world that criss-crossed through the air. This created a buzz around the school with all sorts of flag identification challenges, flag comparisons, investigations and learning joy. Did you know the Red, white and blue were the most common flag colours?

Once again the cornerstone of every Ratoath College Arts Week, the Arts Week Debate was scheduled. The fearless student debate team took on their teachers under the motion "This house believes that living abroad is necessary to become a Global Citizen" The student team, comprised of Matthew Fleming, Eimear Fay and Caoimhe McCormack, undertook the task with gusto, feeling the pressure to defend the student team as reigning champs. The teacher team led by of the formidable

Mr. O'Dwyer as well as the renowned storyteller, and team captain, Mr. O'Neill were joined at the last minute by Mr. Alex Fleming who absconded from the student side with their plan of attack. That didn't make any difference however as the students, narrowly, outdebated the teachers with their brilliant points and cunning. Alex Fleming was crowned best speaker and Mr. O'Neill is already planning his retaliation as he intends to captain the teacher side to victory at the next Arts Week debate.

Throughout the week we were challenged with identifying the Art piece of the Day and the Classics quote of the day broadening our knowledge of the world's cultural endeavours.

The Home Economics department represented by the wonderful TY PIF students contributed the always delectable shortbread literacy biscuits to Arts Week. The lucky students who met our chefs on the corridors with their overflowing red tray of cookies were thrilled.





The highpoint of this year's Arts Week was the interclass cultural poster competition. Each Caomhnóir class was assigned a country and challenged to create a poster highlighting the cultural contributions of that place. The finalists were selected from all the different year groups. Rang Monerawela and Rang Gilmartin in 1st year, Rang Conaty and Rang Dalton in 2nd, Rang Toher in 3rd, Rang SONEill Rang McKeon and Rang Quinn in TY and finally Rang Donnellan in 5th year. The judges deliberated quite a while over their final decision

but the worthy and delighted winners were Rang SONEill with their artistic and aesthetically pleasing representation of Mexico. Winning aside, all the classes who took part developed a new appreciation for culture and improved their teamwork skills. Comhghairdeas to all!



Arts Week 2020 was a definite success and schoolwide discussions are underway suggesting next year's theme already. What Plato said about books is also true for all cultural endeavours, they "give soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything".

# Paying it Forward

By Sarah Mangan

Pay it forward is a class we have where we pick a project to work on the whole year in groups to help other people or the school in some way. My groups project was helping out charities, so we started off by knitting octopi for young children and babies in need.

We all learnt how to knit specially for the project, the knitting took a long time though so we decided we would make dresses out of pillowcases for unfortunate young girls. We used the sewing machines we had at home and in the Home Ec room to hem the dresses and make the necklines, we used ribbon and pockets to decorate them. Everyone in my group collected any spare pillow cases from their houses and friends to use for the dresses and we followed a tutorial we saw online.

Other groups had projects like painting the walls of the school, organising events like the phoneless for the

homeless night or football leagues, making different clubs like lunch clubs, being classroom assistants and cleaning different areas of the school. We also used this class for other things like setting up for the Christmas village in December and helping with the bake sale to raise funds for this years school musical. We made and put up posters set up the stand and sold the different cakes to the students. It was very successful and fun to take part in.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# Our Time in Ratoath College

By Aideen Lanigan

Almost six years ago now, the class of 2020 took their first steps into the next chapter of their lives. Although it most definitely does feel like a world away, I still can not fathom how much time has truly passed. We all began our journey, not yet even teenagers and now many of us leave as fully developed adults. From good times to bad it is safe to say that the halls of Ratoath College have shaped us into the group of people that we are today.

As a year group we have been through quite a journey together. We have gone through more Moltóirí than most year groups, Ms. Leavy, Ms. O'Neill, Ms. Casey and the best, Deputy Principal, Mr. Connolly who all had an impact on our journey through secondary school. Unfortunately our time at Ratoath College has been unexpectedly cut short as we face the new challenge of life with Covid-19, but from the unity and teamwork I have seen displayed throughout the years I have no doubt that the class of 2020 will come out the other side of all of this stronger than ever.



From the get go as a year group we bonded undeniably. From our first year trip to Italy and Carlingford, ice-skating with Ms. Leavy, to the nights spent adventuring at Lilliput. Not only did we all

grow so well together, but we welcomed in members of the original class of 2021 in on our journey, as they became a part of our year at the start of senior cycle. It would have been easy for divides and divisions to have stayed in place, yet everybody soon became one unit and previous groups and cliques ceased to exist.



Throughout the years Ratoath College has given me so much allowance to grow. The staff at this school without a doubt have equipped me with skills for life. Particularly from Transition Year onwards, I feel as if these halls have shaped me into the confident, capable person that I am today. The faculty members of Ratoath College have always been there for not only me but for the entire class of 2020 to provide encouragement and opportunity to succeed.

While I have this space in the Yearbook I would really like to give particular thanks to Ms. Martin and Ms. T. Kelly, my two Caomhnóirí, Ms. D. Kelly, who's Junior Cert English class made a bigger impact on me (and I'm sure many others) than she will ever realize, Ms. Casey and Ms. Flynn for all of the opportunities that TY provided, Ms. Monerawela the absolute musical icon who is without a doubt one of the funniest, kindest women I know, the entire Art Department who have always provided a safe space for creativity, the guidance team, Mr. Connolly, Mr. Meehan and of course you Mr. Toner.



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Although in this time of uncertainty we are left with question marks over long awaited milestones such as our fun day, graduation, the memorable clap out of our final assembly, the sitting of the Leaving Certificate and of course our Debs, I know for certain that the community of Ratoath College will not let the class of 2020 down.

Things may not be happening as planned, but they will go ahead when we are older (and hopefully wiser) and we will cherish those moments even more than we could have ever imagined.



# Harmony

By Laurie Johnson

We were visited by Roger Mehta a musician, singer song writer, DJ and radio broadcaster as part



of the Harmony Workshop that we attended. Harmony Workshop focuses on Dual Diagnosis – how to recognize it and how to prevent and build resilience to the idea of

usage of harmful substances such as alcohol and drugs. It also teaches us how to overcome the stigma of mental health and how to build a supportive mindset for ourselves and others. The workshop is unique in the way that it teaches us through the lyrics of hip hop artists like Kendrick Lamar and Grandmaster Flash.

We went in depth into the lyrics of songs by these artists such as Swimming Pools and The Message – songs that are often heard as upbeat but with subtle lyrics hidden away as you go and focus in

on them. Through this we were taught the correlation behind drug use and mental health/abuse. Roger told his story through his own music about how many he has lost around him but showed us how he overcame dual diagnosis. We were then placed into groups and were given the task of performing a rap piece based on a series of key words that were given to us in front of our class group.

Overall, this was a very enjoyable and informative workshop and we all appreciate Roger visiting us and hope that the school can continue to invite the Harmony Workshop back every year as we learned a lot and found it beneficial to have gained knowledge on dual diagnosis in such a unique and entertaining way.

**The HARMONY**  
WORKSHOPS  
GIVING A VOICE TO DUAL DIAGNOSIS



# Girls Shootin' Some B-Ball

## Outside of the School . . .

### A message from our coach, Ms. Conlon:

What a fantastic 6 years this U19 girls basketball team have had. I would love to be able to take some credit for their super achievements but this team were destined for success making it to semi finals and finals nearly every year. From the very beginning there was a such an array of talent on this team. Most of the girls had never played basketball before first year but they had such natural athletic ability and many had already excelled in other sports including Gaelic football, athletics and soccer.

It was such a pleasure to start with this team in first year and still have been with them as far as their semi finals last November. We had many ups and downs but my lasting and very fond memory will always be the North East Finals in second year. It was "edge of the seat" sporting excitement with Ratoath scoring a basket in the last few seconds to win the game.

I wish you all the best of luck in your future sporting and academic endeavours. I really hope that you will continue to play basketball or indeed any sport. The success of women in sport is only in its infancy even though we have come along way. Your sporting futures are very bright with lots of oppor-

tunity if you work hard. I really believe that being involved with a sport at any level and at any stage in life is very fulfilling. A special word of thanks must go to Kate Corcoran and Tara Kellett who were such a great help and support to myself and Ms Lyttle when she joined our team a few years ago. They helped coach younger players and had everything organised for matches before I even had to ask them.

Finally a huge thank you to all of the U19 team of 2020. You are all stars in my eyes. I only have positive memories of you all even when we had a difficult game you were all true sportswomen and picked yourselves up without complaint ,ready for the next challenge. You definitely always stepped up to those challenges.

Most of the U19 girls have been playing together since 2014. We were coached by Ms. Edel Conlon for the past six years with help from Ms. Lyttle over the past few years. During the 2015-2016 academic year we were joined by a Spanish exchange student called Ana Reinales who carried the team all the way to the finals where we beat Gormanstown. Although we have not won a final since then we have had girls progress to club level and see great success there.



**Semi Final 2019**



**First match of 2018**



**Finals 2016**

*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# RC FUT TOTY

By Mr. McAuley

The 2019/20 Boys soccer season is a bit of an anomaly. This ridiculous team of fantastically talented footballers won more games and scored more goals this season than any soccer team in RC's history yet... somehow they finish the season trophy less, with only silver medals and heartache. Boasting strength and depth in all positions this squad was expecting to win games this season and go far in both Senior Competitions and in these regards they certainly didn't disappoint.

The North Leinster League Campaign started with a 2-2 draw away to Boyne Community School, with goals from Luke Newe and Luke Carroll before a big win away in Dundalk 4-0 against Colaiste Rís with a brace each from the prolific Luke Carroll and the classy Evan Weir. The group stage would be decided on a freezing December morning in Donabate with a nervy 4-3 victory with a goal each from the tireless Luke Newe and the rampaging Luke Neville along with another brace from the Luke Carroll as he maintained his Ronaldo style goal scoring stats.

The scene was set for the League Semi Final vs St Oliver's of Drogheda, but in the home surroundings of City Jet Park, our boys put another of the top soccer schools of Louth to the sword despite Séan Graydon getting sent off early in the second half. A classy display of resilience and skill resulted in a 7-

2 victory. Evan Weir stole the headlines with a wonderful hat trick and the three Luke's all scored again, one each for Neville and Carroll and two for Newe. The League Final in Oriel Park Dundalk, was a dark day, the Gods were against us with suspensions and injuries stripping the squad of a few of



their key players. But as usual this team didn't fail to provide a match of high drama, an injury time equalizer from Meath GAA star Luke Newe brought the game to extra time where unfortunately the deadlock went unbroken and the cruelty of a Penalty Shoot out decided matters. The star of the Shoot-Out was the Coláiste na hInse goalkeeper who made a stunning save which was enough to deny us the League title.

The Cup campaign told a similar story, stellar free scoring games tearing apart many of the top Soccer schools in Leinster before being abandoned by fortune in the biggest game. A 2-0 win over Boyne CS got the Cup campaign rolling with goals from Luke Newe and Ross O'Neil, this was followed by a 2-1 win against Coláiste Chú Chulann, Luke Carroll with the first and a stunner from Mark O'Reilly ensured progress to the 3rd Round and a



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



clash with the Power House of Leinster Soccer – De La Salle Dundalk. Away in Dundalk again and all was square at 2-2 after 90 minutes so the game went to extra time. However the challenging circumstances galvanized our boys who stepped it up a gear and blew DLS away in Extra Time finishing up 5-2 winners. A goal each for the goal machines Evan Weir, Luke Newe and Luke Carroll, one for the Rock at the heart of the defence Séan Buchanan and the pick of the goals on the day came from captain Aaron Kelly.

It was now the business end of the Leinster Senior Cup and a local derby against neighbours Ashbourne CC lived up to expectations in an epic encounter played in apocalyptic conditions in CityJet Park. The torrential rain and gale force winds on this December day meant for a gritty test of endurance rather than a beautiful game of football. 1-1 was the score after 90 minutes a powerful headed finish by Luke Carroll from a wonderful Evan Weir cross from the left our only goal from play. As the conditions worsened through extra time and with Mr. McAuley worrying about some players getting hypothermia the lads battled on. Penalties were coolly dispatched by Adam Carroll, Luke Newe and the lionhearted Luke Neville but it was Jack Farrell who stuck away the decisive winner- a match none of the players will ever forget.

Next up in the quarter finals of the country's premier school soccer tournament was the best County Kildare had to offer --St Conleth's of Newbridge. Despite a nervy start the Ratoath Boys got into their stride and blew Newbridge away- ultimately

winning 4-1 with goals from Mark O'Reilly, Luke



Carroll and another brace for Evan Weir. The Semi Final defeat to Coláiste Eanna was a heartbreaking day for our boys who were comfortably the better team on the day, dominating proceedings for most of the game and yet somehow losing 1-0. Coláiste Eanna were a strong organized and very competent team but the fact that we missed so many straight forward chances left a very bad taste in the mouth—they were there for the taking. Regardless of all the missed chances the fact that the opposition's goal came direct from a corner, caught in the wind and we went on to miss a penalty confirmed that that The Fates had conspired against us.

Despite the feelings of regret and acknowledgement that we really could have and maybe should have won both competitions we still got a lot out of the season. The standard of football played and the quality of the goals scored will live forever in the memory for all who had the pleasure of watching

this team. It was an epic season for all involved from the stunning players to the Travelling Ultras and from the raucous home support at Ratoath Harps to the ever wise Assistant Coach Mr. Dylan Stears. Such a wonderful bunch of players will have many successes ahead of them - we look forward to watching and following the next steps in their exciting football careers.





# COYGIG!

By Aine Purcell

On the 5th of March, a group of girls travelled to Tallaght Stadium after school to watch the Ireland women's team take on Greece in a Euro 2021 qualifier, which they won 1-0 thanks to a Diane Caldwell goal. The women's skills and teamwork were powerful throughout the match, which resulted in a fantastic win that helped Ireland to top their qualifying group. The player's performance played a vital role in not only the outcome of the match but also inspiring the 4,511 spectators in the stadium. They proved women have an important place in the sporting world.

Apart from going to see the match for enjoyment and entertainment, one of the objectives for this trip was to get girls more interested in sports and experiencing a sporting environment. The FAI aim to increase the attendances at women's games through their schools initiative, which makes tickets available to underage clubs and school groups from all over the country. This is how Ms. Carragher and Ms. O'Hanlon were able to secure tickets for us.

Other than the health benefits, there are countless advantages to joining a team and being involved in



a sport, including body confidence, mental health, improved social skills, stress relief and many more. Unfortunately, very few girls get to experience these benefits. 78% of girls between 14 and 16 understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle, yet only 28% of girls enjoy participating in a sport. By the age of 14, girls drop out of sport at twice the rate of boys, and by the age of 17, about 51% of girls will have quit sports.

Why are girls dropping out of sports at such high rates? One of the main reasons is peer pressure. Two in three girls say that they dropped out of sport because of judgments and pressure from their peers or that they don't feel comfortable because their friends aren't a part of the team.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



Another huge cause of girls dropping out of sport or avoiding joining in the first place is the lack of encouragement. Mothers have been proven to be the main influencer for young girls, and these girls may not receive the same support that boys get from their fathers to get involved with sport. Many mothers have supported young girls when they have wanted to drop out of sport instead of encouraging them into sports.

This is why events such as the Ireland woman's match against Greece and is so important because it can provide the encouragement and support that young girls lack in their daily lives and push them towards getting involved in sport and physical activity. It is essential to get girls back engaged with sport and crush the stereotype that girls can't play sport because this is only a perception that girls have been taught.

At the end of the day, if boys and these powerful women can do it, why can't we?



# Boys Shootin' Some B-Ball Outside of the School . . .

By

Shafay Khan

First of all let's start off by saying that the first year school basketball team turned out much better than most people on the team anticipated. All of us knew the basics of basketball and it for some of us it was also a new challenge which they enjoyed. This didn't make much of a difference because everyone on the team learned how to play quite fast.

Everyone on the team was really good at one or more things like shooting, layups, dribbling, passing or rebounding. Our team had quite a lot good shooters but it wasn't their luck, it was their skill that their shooting led us to victory in the matches we won. We also had some good rebounding guys as well. Dribbling wasn't always our strongest move but we were still good at it and I hope we will all be great at these as time passes on.

This year there was 13 students on the first year team. Our first match was hard for some people as they were nervous but others were very confi-

dent, we won our first match and it even though it was just the first match everyone was celebrating and felt really proud. We won our second match too which was great but unfortunately we lost our third and fourth match which led most of us to disappointment. We rose up again in our last match which was probably our favourite match according to some of our teammates because it was very close but the good thing was we won and we couldn't be happier.

This years basketball team was very enjoyable for all the team members and we only hope to do great next year too.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# C.S.P.E

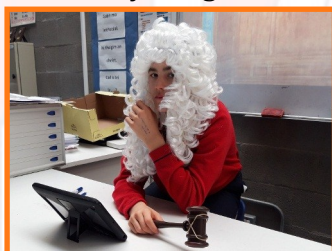


By Ms. Kilrane

It was another busy year for the CSPE Department!

In November, our First Year CSPE students took part in

the Team Hope annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Our first years decorated their shoeboxes in Christmas paper and filled them with small gifts, toiletries, items of clothing and sweets and almost 200 shoeboxes were collected by a Team Hope volunteer. An amazing total of 270,000 boxes were collected by Team Hope this year from schools and organisations around the country. Ratoath College's shoeboxes were part of the delivery of gifts that were sent to the African country of Burundi and we can be sure that they made a small but real difference to the lives of some of the children there this Christmas.



Second years were also very busy this year. As part of their study of The Law and the Irish Justice System before Christmas this year, all classes took part in a mock trial. Roles were assigned to all students, from defendants to witnesses, barristers and solicitors, judge and jury and students did a huge amount of work and practice to prepare themselves for the day of the big trial. There were certainly some

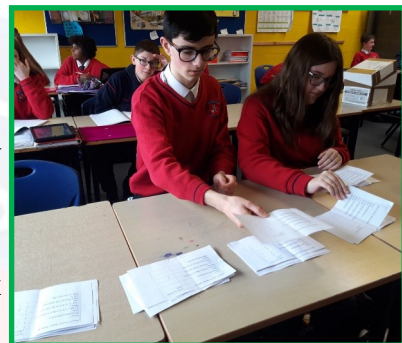
serious cross-examination skills on display and we have no doubt that there are some budding legal professionals amongst our second years.

Second years



continued with their studies after Christmas, with the focus now on Democracy and the system of election and government in Ireland. As it was a general election year in Ireland, campaigns and developments were closely followed by students. Some classes also took this opportunity to hold a mock election, where candidates and their parties developed manifestos and campaign leaflets, giving speeches to the class to win their votes. All students received their ballot papers and cast their secret ballot in the polling booth, with successful candidates announced by our returning officers!

In November 2019, Third Years were busy investigating the importance of global citizenship and sustainability. This year we were lucky to welcome WorldWide Global Schools to Ratoath College, a programme which promotes and supports Global Citizenship Education at post-primary level. All of our Third year classes attended an informative presentation from their representatives, which gave them a valuable insight and plenty of information for their CBA for CSPE. We hope to welcome this organisation back to Ratoath College in the future.





# Bláthanna Aoife



*By Ms Kilrane*

December 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 marked the first anniversary of the passing of Ms. Aoife O'Sullivan, our friend and colleague, who is greatly missed and fondly remembered in Ratoath College.

To mark the anniversary, Ms. Paola Flynn came up with the idea of getting in contact with the Irish Cancer Society and arranging for the school to help out with their fundraising, in honour of Ms. O'Sullivan. She contacted the Duleek and District News who were organising the Daffodil Challenge and arranged for a delivery of daffodil bulbs to the TYs of the school in November.

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December after school, staff and students were invited to a daffodil planting ceremony in memory of Ms. Aoife O'Sullivan, on the weekend of her first anniversary. Fr. PJ led those gathered together in a prayer service, with religious passages, poetry and pieces of music chosen for the occasion. Many teachers had brought with them their gardening equipment and after the prayer service, with the help of our caretakers John and Robert, teachers and students planted daffodil bulbs at the front of the school, next to a plaque designed by the technology department.

A big thank you also to John Farnane who planted the remainder of the bulbs the following week. It was intended that these daffodils will be harvested in the spring to raise funds for The Irish Cancer Society on Daffodil Day and by the end of March, the first of the blossoms had appeared. Though, with restrictions due to Covid 19, this years' Daffodil Day was a digital one, Bláthanna Aoife will bloom again for many years to come, for a cause close to our hearts.





# SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

By Ms. Kilrane

Bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge again i gColáiste Ráth Tó ó 9ú-12ú Márta and bhí go leor spóirt agus spraoi againn.

Ar dtús, bhí Comórtas na bPóstaer for 1<sup>ú</sup> and 2<sup>ú</sup> bliain, for designing the best posters to decorate the school for the week, organised by Ms English. There were many excellent entries, using Celtic script, Seanfhocail Gaeilge and colourful Celtic designs.

I rith na Seachtaine, our Cinnirí made announcements over the intercom as Gaeilge, with the help of Mr. Farrell and the comórtas began for all students for Cainteoir na Seachtaine (speaker of the week) with students who made a big effort to speak Gaeilge around the school being given special slips. There was a huge effort made by both múinteoirí agus daltaí agus bhí Gaeilge le cloisteáil ar fud na scoile.

After several practice classes in dancing, the annual Céilí Mór took place ar an Luan, the highlight of Seachtain na Gaeilge for our first year students. Some serious scileanna rince were on display sa Halla Spóirt, under the guidance of Ms. Monerawela and her daltaí TY.

Tráthnóna Dé Céadaoin, bhí ceolchoirm i Halla an Phiarsaigh, organised by Ms. Kilrane. Ceoltóirí and singers, groups and individuals gave a variety of fantastic performances as Gaeilge, with lots of RC talent on display. This was followed by some fabulous group songs ón Dara Bliain, led by the Múinteoirí Gaeilge, raising the roof of Halla an Phiarsaigh.

Dé Céadaoin also saw the Tráth na gCeist for an 5<sup>ú</sup> bliain, put together by Mr. Farrell with Ms. Smyth at the reigns as the Bean an Tí, along with Ms. Donnellan and Ms. McCormack. Great craic was had by all, though there was huge rivalry in the closing

stages of a close few rounds and the duaiseanna went to two teams that were fíorchliste ar an lá.



Meanwhile, an Triú Bliain were busy with Comórtas Craig, under the guidance of Ms. Donnellan. This involved a Dúshlán Gaeilge, with classes competing for points by carrying out various tasks through Gaeilge, from sending Tweets and translating songs to designing their own memes as Gaeilge.





Maidin Déardaoin saw the arrival of tae agus briosaí for the whole school, who enjoyed cupán tae agus comhrá Gaeilge together, just before the school closures were announced by An Taoiseach! This was served up by Ms. Kilrane and the Tae Team, a group of TYs who have honed their tae-making skills to perfection!

School closures meant that the Caith Amach É workshop organised by Ms. Gilna had to be cancelled but we look forward to welcoming High Rock Productions ar ais go dtí an scoil an bhliain seo chugainn.

Míle buíochas ó Fhoireann na Gaeilge to all of the múinteoirí agus daltaí who embraced the spirit of Seachtain na Gaeilge and helped make the week another roaring success. A special Go Raibh Maith Agat to our sound guys, Aodhán, Leo agus Matthew. Comhghairdeas also to all the prize-winners. Ní neart go cur le chéile!



A highlight in the musical calendar of Ratoath College is always Ceolchoirm Seachtain na Gaeilge and this year was certainly no exception. After much practice and preparation, all second year students gathered together in Halla an Phiarsaigh for an afternoon of musical talent.



The Trad Group opened the concert with a few traditional pieces, including O'Carolan's '*Planxty Irwin*', with harmonies from Ms. Gilmartin and Anya Browne, followed by Sharon Shannon's '*Blackbird*'. Next up was a traditional version of '*Can't Help Falling in Love*', with lyrics as Gaeilge beautifully sung by Meg Johnson, Mia Sherry and Elsa Johnson, with musical accompaniment by the Trad Group. Joshua Mulcahy took to the stage next with an as Gaeilge version of Ed Sheerin's Perfect '*Tógtha Anocht*' and his stunning voice captivated the audience. Ansin bhí píosa álainn traidisiúnta '*Inis Oirr*', as a tin whistle solo from Anya Browne, followed by the talented Sarah Gallagher, who gave us a beautiful rendition of a version of '*Your Song*' as Gaeilge. The performance section of the ceolchoirm was wrapped up by the Trad Group with the rousing '*O'Neill's Cavelcade*'.

Ar aghaidh leis an gceolchoirm ansin, as the whole of second year joined together to sing several songs as Gaeilge, which they had been practicing with their teachers sa rang. They warmed up their vocal chords to '*Braith Orm a Chroí*', a Gaeilge version of a Bruno Mars song, followed by the newly-composed '*Déan Damhs' Dom*', a Gaeilge version of '*Dance Monkey*'. All musicians, singers, teachers and pupils then came together to sing '*Amhrán Aoife*' in memory of Ms. Aoife O'Sullivan. Chríochnaigh an cheolchoirm on a lively note as the Second Years gave a magnificent rendition of George Ezra's '*Shotgun*' as Gaeilge.

Mar is gnáth, it was a highly enjoyable and entertaining afternoon and a big 'maith sibh' to all of our singers, musicians and performers.



# Seachtain na Gaeilge 2020



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# Ratoath Family Values

By Lauren Kelly

As October rolled around there was only one thing on my mind, the RC Addams Family Musical! Finally, the time had come for an audience to fill the hall, the stage to be lit and for all our talents to finally be showcased. Of course, this display of talent did not come about with such ease for this journey started all the way back in Easter 2019 when auditions were held.

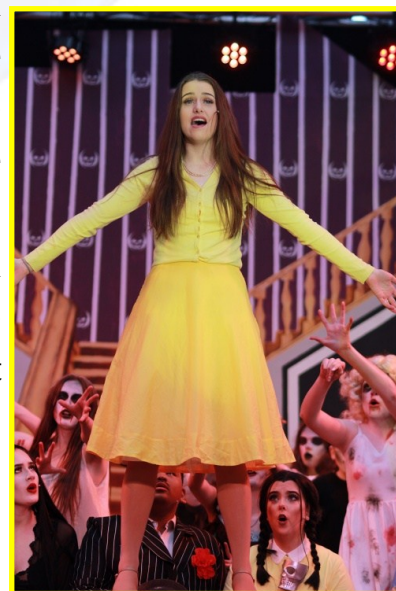
With Ms. Quigley and Ms. Monerawela on the search for their next Wednesday and Gomez Addams the nerves could be felt all week. After much deliberation our talented cast and chorus were chosen and ready to get their dancing shoes on for the following October.

September rolled around and rehearsals started with a bang. It was all left with just Ms. Monerawela to lead us now. From acting to dancing to singing she could do it all. She gave up her first 8 weeks of school to string together an amazing performance of The Addams Family. We rehearsed three days a week, turning off-key notes into three-part harmonies and those two left feet into talented tango dancers with the help of the ever-wonderful Aisling Rountree. Along came the full weekend rehearsals. They were long days of dancing, singing and missed lines, not to forget the everlasting smell of Four Star pizza and cookies in the air filling the hall.

Shortly after the set came in and we finally



got to see what had envisioned, our hall turned into a forest with moving trees and a house with moving photo frames (I can definitely say I'm glad I wasn't one of the girls holding them up, my arms would've given out and our pictures would be on the floor!) The scenes really came to life with the help of our TYs who painted the sets again this year with the talented help of Ms. S O'Neill who never disappoints. Finally opening night was here, our ghostly looking cast with white faces and dripping blood and was ready to transport the audience to another dimension. The nerves were felt all round with some last-minute practicing of dance moves and harmonies. The wigs were securely fastened on, the character shoes were tightened and with our voices warmed up it was finally time to hit the stage.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*





Niamh Madden was at the ready side stage to help keep our harmonies in check with an odd note sung by Ms. Donnellan., who with her fifth year crew were all set with props and ready for those all-important set changes. The first night went tremendously well and we were all on a buzz afterwards. Our dancing and harmonies were spot on and no lines were dropped! It truly was a spectacular show and we couldn't wait to get back on the stage on Thursday and Friday. Before the show begun on Thursday had a surprise in store for us. An adjudicator visited us on Thursday night to judge us for the secondary school AIMS awards. We made sure to put our best foot forward that night and we didn't disappoint. Laughter and cheers filled the hall that night and the adjudicator gave us rave reviews. He boasted about the incredible talent of Miss Aideen Lanigan's incredible rendition of

'Pulled' rivalling the professionals, the belly aching laughs that the brilliant Meg Johnson gave us as Granny (not to mention those fabulous eyelashes) the talented



tango performance with a special mention to our very own Mark Lehané and of course complimented the talent of our wonderful chorus who really brought the show together. A fun filled family event!

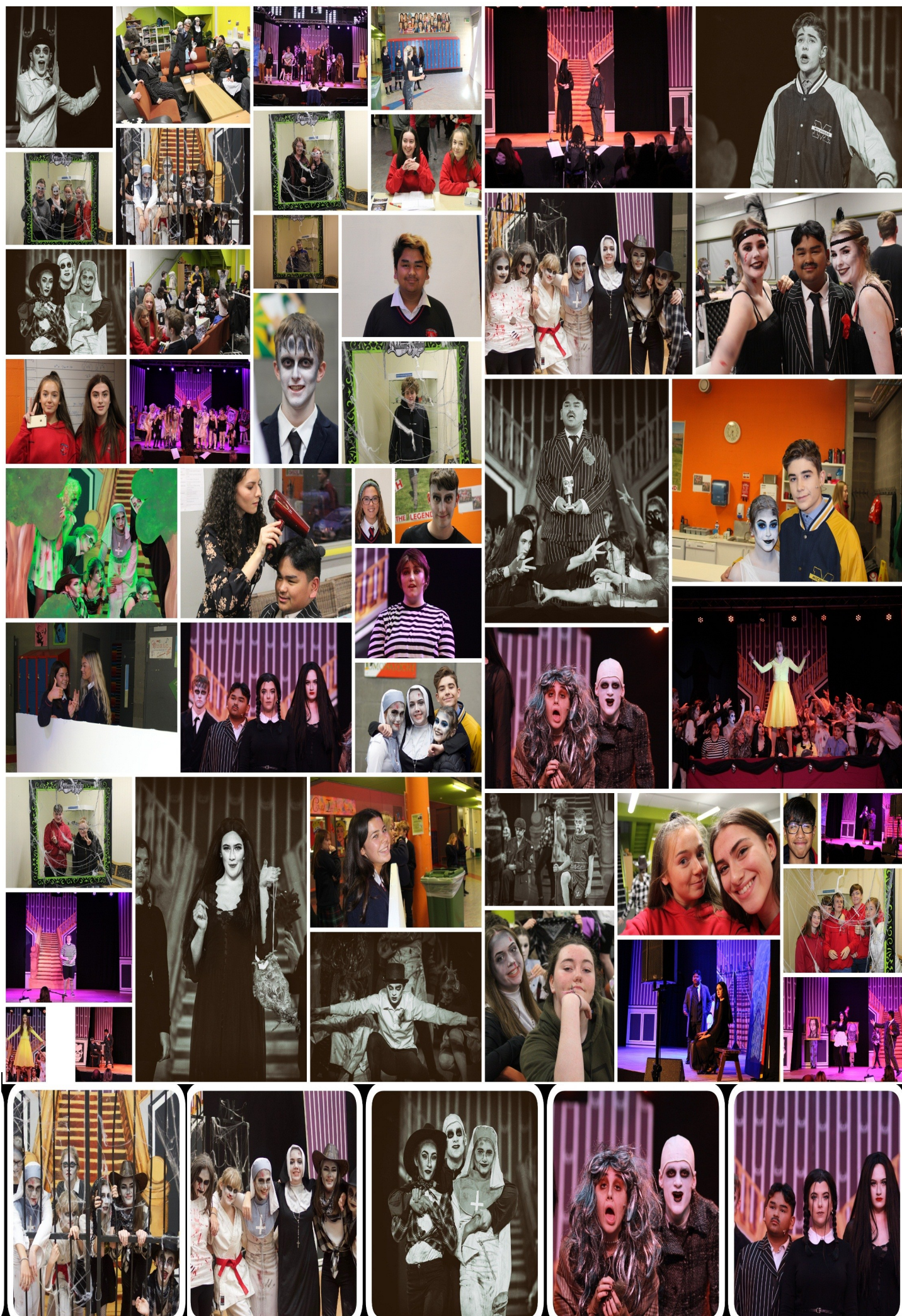


RC's production of 'The Addams family' earned 11 nominations in the Stagewise Secondary School Musical competition. Fingers & Toes crossed for the cast & crew when the awards are announced on May 22nd

- **Best Visual**
- **Best Ensemble Scene**
- **Best Duo: Laure Kelly & Aidan Fabian**
- **Best Comedian -:Matthew Sommerville**
- **Best Comedian: Stephen Kiernan**
- **Best Comedienne: Meg Johnson**
- **Best Female Singer: Aideen Lanigan**
- **Best Actress: Lauren Kelly**
- **Best Choreographer: Aisling Toher**
- **Best Director: Megan Monerawela**
- **Best Overall Show**







*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an áige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# SVP

*By Sorcha Broe-Brady*

Throughout the school year there were multiple collections for different organizations. In this particular collection 3 students stayed for 2 hours and were then replaced by another group. We were stationed outside Supervalu in the area between inside and outside. Any time a person walked in through the doors one of us would say 'good morning' and we tried to always have a smile on. As they walked out a 'have a nice day' would follow them. Throughout my time at the collection there were many quiet points where it would just be the 3 of us chatting about this, that and everything.

A chocolate sweet box had been given to us by the person monitoring us from SVP. We were told to offer one to anyone who donated and that we could pick away at them as we sat there. By

the end of our 2 hours we had eaten more of the mini chocolates then probably all the people who donated combined (some declined the chocolate).

At one point around an hour in we noticed that one of the buckets was getting filled up more than the other one so we thought we should just switch their position on the table to try and even them out. This didn't work people still went to the same bucket. We couldn't figure out why. Every single time a person reached to deposit money into the same bucket we were able to share a silent smile to each other and when a person placed money in the less filled one we also silently celebrated. Although this may seem inconsequential and in truth it was, it gave us something to talk about, to connect over in a way that can't happen when you are just sitting quietly in class.

This volunteer experience brought me closer to my classmates in a way that you wouldn't think could happen while sitting behind a table outside of SuperValu and all I had to do to experience it was volunteer.

# GAA Mad!

*By Mr Mulheir*

Our first year boys had a great start to their Ratoath College sporting careers. Managed by Fr. PJ and Mr. Mulheir, their hard work and dedication in training paid off as they got out of a very tough group to reach the Hubert Cup final. On a very cold and blustery day they took the game by the scruff of the neck and led at half time from some fine free range scoring. Sadly, they ran out of steam in the second half to an incredibly strong breeze and narrowly lost out to Ashbourne CS. Throughout the year the lads have

worked incredibly well as a team with a great understanding for one another and this will not be the last final this group reaches.

Our second year boys, also managed Fr. PJ and Mr. Mulheir were very misfortunate as two narrow defeats in the group stage ended their campaign prematurely. Their dedication and hardwork will stand to them in the coming years. We are all looking forward to seeing these young lads flourish and reach their potential in the coming years'

*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# Santa Paws

By Holly Blick



Santa Paws was the name of our business for the mini company competition. The mini company competition is set up by the Student Enterprise. When we were first told about the competition we had absolutely no idea what to do. We were given workbooks by our business teachers and I think this really helped us brainstorm ideas. It also gave us a lot of information about what has to go into a business. As a group we came up with all sorts of ideas from bath bombs to Christmas tree decorations. We finally settled on making Christmas stockings for people's pets hence the name Santa Paws. We quickly became passionate about the idea and I think this helped us when getting the business started. We each put in a small amount of money for materials at the beginning.

We put a lot of hard work into making the stockings and eventually made a profit. We met up after

school and each took on a different role to make the stockings as quickly as possible because we needed to get them out before Christmas. We also used any spare time we had in school. We then used different social media platforms including Instagram and Facebook to promote our business and orders started coming in almost straight away. As our company was only seasonal we spent a lot of time in class working on our business report and making sure we put in all the information we needed.

We fortunately got to go to the Student Enterprise final with a few other groups from Ratoath College. This was a great day out and we got to pitch our idea to the judges and to the 'Dragons Den'. We also got to socialise with other schools and companies and take part in loads of fun activities like karaoke. The mini company was a really enjoyable part of Transition Year and I think everyone really enjoyed taking part.





# Open Evening

By Ryan Doherty



Open Evening is an event that I look forward to every year, Teachers decorate the rooms, and the schools get students involved, allowing students to get involved in such an important duty as to advertise the school to future students really shows how much the school takes pride in the quality of its students.

This specific open evening was just as impressive and successful as any other, I was on photography duty which allowed me to move from room to room and experience what each room had to offer.

My adventure began with the English room which advertised the importance of language and how it is applied in every element of society.

I then ventured to the art room which showcased the amazing art work created by the students of Ratoath college and also offered face painting to those interested.

I continued on the path to the classics room which showcased a gladiator and the important impact that Ancient Rome had on our current scientific approach.

After, I ventured to the wood work room, There I saw all the amazing pieces that the wood work students had on display.

Next up on the list of rooms was the home economics room which was packed with aspiring chefs, cupcakes baked by the home economics team were also offered to those present.

I then headed to the business room, which taught the incoming 1st years about the importance of business and economics and how it present in our every day lives in the brands that we purchase product from.

Moving on to the History room I saw the projects created by Ratoath Colleges history students, these projects covered



topics such as ancient Rome and the Neolithic period.

Next up was the Irish, there I learned about the importance of the Irish language and

how it keeps the Irish culture alive.

After that was the Italian room where they promoted Italian culture and the benefits of speaking Italian.

Moving on the next language I entered the French room where students taught the incoming 1st years about France and how important the language and culture is.

I then went to the music room where students were holding a live concert and serenading those present.

After I moved on to the religion room where teachers and students taught those present about the importance of religion.

Next up was the Metal Work room where students showed the importance of architecture and engineering.

Following that I moved on the geography room where Projects of the students were showcased, these projects included the earths core and an active volcano

After that I went to the Maths Room which is arguably the most important subject in secondary school, there they showed off one of the topics of Maths, geometry and how it is used in every day life.

Next up was the chemistry room which boasted its usual fire and suds trick that wowed all present. Physics is also shown here and it shows everyday life can be calculated.

After that was the biology room which showed off diagrams of the human body and the functions of each system.

There was also all the learning support rooms and the Aonad Arkle rooms what shows how supportive the school is of all students and how each student is encouraged to get everything they can out of Ratoath college

Open night was a complete success and I look forward to the success of it next year too.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# Christmas Village

By Sorcha Broe-Brady

The Christmas Village was an amazing and wonderful event in the TY Calendar. The most difficult aspect of the weeklong event was the putting up of the rooms. This all took place throughout the Monday before the kids arrived and the most common words said were 'where is the sellotape' and where is the stapler'. Every single TY student helped and contributed to either hang lights or put up the wooden framing all in the aim to put a smile on some primary school students faces.

The same costumes wore 10 years ago when the tradition started are still in use and although they



have seen better days they couldn't take away the magic and fun that we felt when we put them on. Some of us even remem-

bered when we came to the school as primary school students and looking at these costumes brought back all these wonderful memories that we hope, we have created in the minds of the young children that took the long trek down the road to go to the big school.

Once the kids arrived in the village they began singing Christmas songs with the head elves giggling to themselves and clapping along with us.

Throughout the village all us elves where singing our hearts out while commenting to each other



about how small and cute the children are sitting in their big group. Once the kids started exploring and going into the different room they got all the little gifts that different classes in the school had spent time making and/or cutting out. The Home Ec department cooked hundreds of cookies and made loads of icing so that each child could get a nice sweet treat.



Other classes cut out Christmas cards and Christmas tree ornaments so that the children could decorate and colour them in. A letter to Santa could be written and then posted in the mail room. The reindeer room was my favourite as the children came in



and the reindeer keeper gave them mini bags of reindeer food (porridge) which they could sprinkle on their grass on Christmas Eve before they went to bed so that the reindeer could smell it and find their house to give them presents. The children were very interested in the story and I'm left wondering how many birds we fed on Christmas Eve. Before the kids left they were funnelled into Santa's grotto and Santa read them a story with the help of Mrs Clause. With one final Christmas song the children left the village holding their cookie, reindeer food and an assortment of pieces of paper. During the 3 classes that I was able to help out with I didn't see a child with a sad face. The head elves made sure all the kids where involved and that everyone could enjoy the Christmas Spirit.

*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



Taking down the village was quite complicated as the amount of staples that had be removed was staggering. Thumb Tacks littered the ground as they were used to hold up some of the wall covering and keep the lights from falling to the floor. I walked in the room for a total of 5 minutes and I am so glad that I had boots on as I took out at least 5 tacks from the bottom on my shoes.

By the end of the week a tremendous effort had gone in by the whole school into creating a Christmas Village that I hope the children will remember forever.



# The Hard Shoulder

By Tom Roddy

This year I toggled out in the Ratoath college colours for the last time and it was a memorable year for all involved. With a new manager arriving on the scene this year in Mr. Munnelly we all were eager to get going. Early on we trained every week right up until our first game against St. Mary's of Drogheda. An extra edge was added to the training with some sessions taking place with the U-16 team, thanks to Mr. Mooney for his all his effort getting us prepared for the big games. Round 1 against St. Mary's was a cracking game played in terrible conditions. Long grass, whirling gusts and pelting rain made for slippery underfoot conditions with plenty of ball spilled. Captain Aaron Davis led from the middle of the park managed to come out on top and get our campaign off to a winning start. Star performer on the day was Evan Weir who scored a hat-trick of goals.

Ardee were the challengers for our next game which was also a very exciting and

close match in which we narrowly failed to win. Having being knocked out of the cup competition we were seeded to play for the shield. Dundalk vs Ratoath was all set, but at the final hour Dundalk were unable to field a team and a bye was given to Ratoath. This put us into the semi-final of the North Leinster C Shield Competition, unfortunately due to the corona virus outbreak we were unable to play the final games in the knockout stages which is disappointing but a good year was had and the future definitely looks bright for Ratoath College on Gaelic football pitch.

The talent coming through the school at the moment is unbelievable and even though my time playing football for Ratoath College is over I have no doubt that the younger lads will be able to bring silverware to the school in the coming years. On behalf of the players I'd like to thank Mr. Munnelly for his hard work and involvement with the team this year.



# Spreading Christmas Cheer

By Sorchá Broe-Brady

A group of TY students all volunteered to go and sing Christmas Carols in the village nursing home. We got a morning of school to do a bit of singing, chat to people you wouldn't talk to otherwise and hang out with your classmates and friends. I can't remember how many of us actually went but I would estimate around 20-30. We did a few practice sessions during classes as well as two during breaks (I'm not fully sure) but we mostly knew the songs already so this was mainly us just having fun.



The day of the caroling arrives and we meet with Ms. Flynn to go over some of the songs as the last minute. Due to Ms. Flynn having to drive her keyboard down to the nursing home, we were left walking through the village. Surprisingly nothing happened on this walk other than us cutting through an estate to get there quicker. Everyone just chatted with their friends.

Once we arrived at the reception we were greeted and Ms. Flynn took us down the hall to drop off our coats which we –not thinking ahead– put into a big pile. Walking through the building felt weird as I had been here before in primary school with the choir then but now I was older, taller and surrounded by different people. Into the main hall we went, where a few people were seated in their chairs looking at us as we walked in. We were sort of nervous because we didn't know what to do or to expect. Stepping onto the raised platform and just standing there was awkward but once we started singing we were just having fun. A few of the boys started giggling thought one of the songs,

I never found out why. Overall I think we did pretty well considering the majority of the choir wouldn't have been considered good singers in their own right.

After the singing was over we were told to go mingle with the nursing home residents. This began with us all just standing in the middle of the floor in a huddle not knowing what to do. Some of them no longer spoke or had very limited motor skills so at the start we were unsure how to communicate and do this mingling. As a non-social butterfly I stayed in the huddle longer than others and for the start I just joined a group as they shook hands with or spoke with some of the residents. Eventually I did branch off and got to meet some pretty great people. My favourite conversation that I had was with an older lady and she was asking about a particular music teacher that she remembered that she had in school and was asking me if she was still there (I don't think she realised was school we go to). She ended up telling me all about a great piano teacher that she loved in her secondary school and that she still remembers being taught by. She was also very sweet with compliments about our singing but especially about our teacher Ms. Flynn's piano playing.

Before we left we were given 3 boxes of chocolates. Ms. Flynn took 1 in her car back to the school and left the other 2 in our care during our walk back. The chocolates didn't even last past the nursing home gates. I don't think any of us regretted signing up for the visit, I know that I certainly didn't.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an oíge agus tiocfaidh sí*





*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# A Night of Unrivalled Talent

By Sorcha Broe-Brady

The Talent Show is a yearly staple where the talent of Ratoath College shines. The students who wish to participate first have to go through an audition in front of some of the music staff. This starts just a month or so before the show is set to take place. A week later a roster of who is going to be able to compete that year is posted outside the music room door like in all the American high school drama movies. Each act is given a liaison teacher to help them to perfect their act. These teachers are a great help with staying back in school to rehearse and put the finishing touches on the act.

The presenting of the talent show is bestowed upon the TYs. The aim is to have 2 female presents and 2 male presents when possible so that both acts have 1 of each gender. This year however we had a lack of willing participants so after dragging a semi-willing classmate in to the show we split into Act 1 and Act 2 presenters. Act 1 has Sorcha and Eoghan take the stage while Stephan and Laurie stayed back to present Act 2.



Once everyone knew what they needed to do it was just a waiting game till the show night. The presenters worked on their script learning it semi-off and trying to make it as funny as possible while not making a fool of themselves in front of their classmates. The performers learnt, revised and edited their act getting it as ready as they could. Dress rehearsal took place the day before the show with each act getting a feel for the stage and final prep began. Stools were stolen from classrooms for a

guitarist to sit on, the presenters pestered acts about how to pronounce names, Ms. Flynn probably had a half



an hour before the show began performers were streaming into the teachers' lounge through the weird door that I still don't know how to open.

The presenters went over their cue cards and make last minute props, the singers warmed up their voices, the dancers stretched and the teachers chatted in the corner watching madness go on around them. At 7:30 the presenters walked out onto the stage and the show started.

After a brief introduction to our judges the talent came pouring in. Each and every act brought something different to the stage with a common Christmas theme running through them. Corny jokes were told between each act getting an amused chuckle from the audience. Every single performance that happened that night was spectacular. The bright lights behind them shining on their talent and confidents. I don't think any act that came of the stage had a frown on their faces once they were done.



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*





The evening had to end with prize giving. The new comer prize was snatched up by 1st year Shawn Ocampo with Somewhere only we know. Sidney Edge strummed his way onto 3rd place with a mesmerizing rendition of Have yourself a merry little Christmas. 2nd place

was claimed by Rebecca Healy with a haunting Hallelujah. The 2019 Talent Show winner was Niamh Madden with a stunning performance of Mariah Carey's 'All I want for Christmas is you'.

Although congratulations should be handed to our wonderful winners, there were many people involved for the event to even take place in the first place. Ms. Flynn and all the music team put in a phenomenal amount of time, effort and organiza-

tional skills to make everything go on track but even then there were many more behind the scene helpers. The parents association set up the raffle and manned the tuck shop with the help of a few TYs. The presenters put in a tremendous effort to write and deliver their pieces so that the acts didn't just meld together in peoples mind. The TYs selling the tickets at the door and leading people to their seats. Even sticking the seat number labels on the chair backs took coordination from the school and students.

The night was an accumulation of hard work from many fronts coming together to show off the amazingly talented school we are members of.



# Special Olympics

By Rohan Wardick

On the 3rd October 2019 David O'Brien, Brian McConway and Fiona Halpenny came into the school to give a talk to all TY students.

The talk was to give the students an insight on what the special Olympics is and what they do.

Fiona Halpenny is a special Olympic athlete who competes in the Special Olympics representing Ireland. Fiona is part of a bowling club situated in Blanchardstown named Blanch Blitzers. Fiona gave a very inspirational talk to the students. They were looking for volunteers to help out every week with their bowling training so athletes could get ready for upcoming competitions.

A number of student's decided to volunteer to help out, these students were Max Daly, Sarah Mangan, Rohan Wardick, Julie Lennon, Ellie Barker, Jennifer Deering, Eoin McCormack and Hollie Eade.

Every Thursday we went down to the Leisureplex and interacted with the bowling team. The athletes had different intellectual disabilities and our work with each athlete varied. We each took

a group every week and made sure that the games ran smoothly while interacting with the athletes. Some athletes needed more attention as they couldn't do some tasks by themselves. So, students helped with tasks including bringing the ball up to lane for them or guiding them to the lane as some were visually impaired. We tried to help make things easier and more enjoyable for the athletes.

Rohan Wardick and Max Daly also took part in a special Olympics Lane Marshall course in the National Sports Campus which meant that they could then volunteer in professional competitions.

**Special  
Olympics  
Ireland**





# I Was a Boy in Belser

By Aoibh O'Shea



In October 2019, Ratoath College Senior Cycle history students had the honour of meeting Tomi Reichantal, a Holocaust survivor who was incarcerated in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp when he was 9 years old. It was an insightful and eye-opening talk about one of the darkest periods of human history.

Tomi is known for his talks about his experience of

that prohibited the movement and rights of Jewish people.

His family was ripped apart and scattered across Europe in different camps.



He was placed in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1944. Over the duration of WWII, it had 120,000 inmates, notably the historical figure Anne Frank.

He recounted to us a poignant story of one young Jewish girl inmate. She took it upon herself to teach a few Jewish children in the camp, including Tomi, how to sing 'O Holy Night' or 'Silent Night' (i don't remember which sorry). They decided to gather sticks and foliage in an effort to create a Christmas tree. They even collected what ever trinkets they could to act as a gift. One morning before their morning check, done by the SS soldiers, they put their decorations on display. As the female SS soldier entered the room, Tomi said she was stunned by the sudden singing and offerings that the children had to present. She stood there for a moment before exiting. Tomi said that little girl went to all that effort to see, even if just for a moment, could there be some peace in the heart of that SS soldier under all that hatred and cruelty.



the Holocaust as a child. He is one of three Holocaust survivors currently residing in Ireland. He gives talks in secondary schools, colleges and at various other events across the country. His aim is to educate people about what happened during the Holocaust so that we can remember the people who died during it and so it never happens again. He has received many awards for his work and tireless efforts to promote tolerance and to educate young people about the importance of remembrance and reconciliation.

Experiencing him retell his time in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp was both haunting and emotional. He described how World War II changed his life forever. Born in Czechoslovakia in 1935 to Jewish Farmer's, he lived with his family on their farm until he was eight years old. His family went into hiding when laws were introduced





# Inside the Engine Room

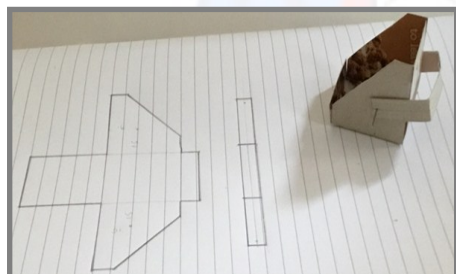
By Mr Hannon & Mr Munnelly



It's been another busy year in the Engineering department, this year RC Engineering reached a huge milestone of having three leaving certificate engineering classes. This has

been a result of the huge interest and enjoyment that students achieve from this practical course.

Our first years have been busy with the new engineering course at junior cycle. New projects were developed to go with this new course. The latest project our first years completed was a bird themed project in the RC colours. Students had to design their own base for the stand and were introduced to new materials such as acrylic, plastic and brass.

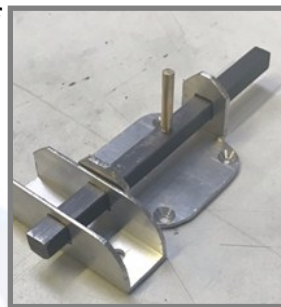


Second year students have also been busy with the trike project, manufacturing and designing a

trailer for their 3 wheeler. They also recently completed their door bolts and receiver, just in time for some isolation and social distancing.

Our junior certificate Metalworks were kept busy with this years model tractor project. Their design and make portion of the project required them to create tipping transport box to go along with it the

tractor. Our fifth years got off to a flying start this year, manufacturing hand tools such as brass hacksaws and screwdrivers. Their practical work includes the use of the centre lathe, cnc laser cutter and milling machine.



Our leaving cert students completed their interesting task of designing and manufacturing a remotely controlled autonomous vehicle such as the ones employed to diffuse bombs and in search and rescue reconnaissance missions. Well done guys. This projects earns the engineering students 25% of their leaving cert grade before they fit the terminal exam. The engineering subjects offers a students a varied learning style in contract to other subjects. We simply "learn by doing" in Engineering.



If you are interested in taking up Engineering in Ratoath College simply talk to Mr Hannon or Mr Munnelly (pictured on the right) at any stage – they will be happy to help you.





# Weird Science

By Megan Fitzmaurice

On the 9th of January all of 1st year went on a bus into the RDS to experience some science. This event takes place every year for families and students. Almost 50,000 people were expected to attend the exhibition. When we arrived into the RDS there was a large hall with all of the students projects. According to RTE news they said that 67% of projects were based on climate change.

Some climate change projects included possible solutions and others that showed people social behaviour towards climate change. There were 550 projects on display at the exhibition. Some other projects includ-

ing the winning project was an investigation of the gender stereotyping in 5-7 year olds and gender bias. There were also projects to do with hurling and Gaelic football.

They also had live shows in another hall including

the Physics of Breakdancing where science and breakdancing collide in high energy fusion, the 3D Space Challenges is a show to let you know about the space hazards and how to overcome them in 3D, Next is the World of Robots which is a show of robots that clash spin and fly around the room. Lastly there was Morgan and West's Unbelievable Science full of thrills and chemical spills.

At the event they had the primary fair that had stands of small companies like Teagasc an education of agriculture horticulture and rural development. Irish aid a company to do with poverty and hunger. RTE news that let kids experience news life and the weather forecast. There were Gaeltacht like Coláiste na bhFiann and UISCE. They had extra activities like a



bed of nails. When I got to the top of the queue my friends had all had their go on the bed of nails so then it was my time to try it out. I thought it would be painful but it was actually quite relaxing and chilling!



Another activity they had was the virtual reality headsets I didn't give this a go but while waiting for the bed of nails I saw others enjoy it!! In a dark room there was a projector and a pile of rice. The aim was to build the rice

into a pile but wherever the light went it usually stopped the rice from making shapes and fell down! This trip was a great experience and a lot of fun was had spending the day looking around learning new things and having fun!



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# Art Attack

## Art Department

### Our Vision

The vision of the art department is that every student will not just be encouraged but actively and individually helped to explore, express, and communicate their ideas and develop their skills and understanding of art, craft and design. We support our students to actively engage in the artistic process in order to develop as effective and independent learners, and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.



We believe that our students will flourish in a safe, stimulating and friendly environment where the atmosphere is one of mutual respect, co-operation, support and challenge. Student's involvement in art and design develops confidence, self-discipline, persistence and a capacity for critical reflection. Through the appreciation of art our students develop the capacity for imagination and divergent thinking. Our students are exposed to art and art history which provides them with an interest that will enhance their life in many ways.

*"Creativity takes courage,  
pass it on."*

## Junior Cycle Visual Art

Our junior students gain a knowledge of a range of art, craft and design processes including two and three dimensions, and traditional and new media and technologies. They gain a huge experience in researching, organising, selecting and communicating ideas, solutions and responses, and presenting them in a range of appropriate visual, tactile and/or sensory forms including the use of new technologies.

### 1st Year

This year we welcomed new young artists to the department. Our 1st year students learned the basic skills necessary to understand the foundations of Art. These include art elements, drawing, ceramics, painting and the management of materials and safety practices in the art room. Our students



also took part in different art competitions. In this year's Credit Union Art competition our students had huge success.

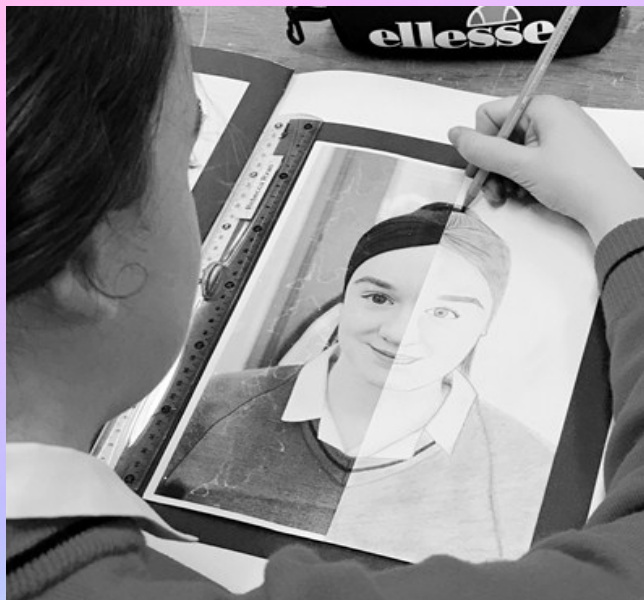
### 1st Year Painting Project

This year students were introduced too many artists, one in particular being Chuck Close. Close is an American artist known for his large-scale portraits.



Students began the project by studying a photograph of themselves. Each student worked to reproduce the image as realistically as possible in different mediums.

As research students first worked to create pencil studies.



Stepping into the second phase of the project, students learned all about the colour wheel, mixing paint, blending, tones, tints and shades. Each student worked on canvas to reproduce a photorealist self-portrait painting.



## 2nd Year German Expressionism - Printmaking

German Expressionism refers to a particular point in art history just before World War 1. It culminated to the development of new styles of art across mediums as diverse



as film, painting, architecture and cinema. But perhaps the most underappreciated artistic movement was the use of printmaking to develop new artistic forms, respond to the political upheaval at the time.

This year students learnt all about German Expressionist artists, such as Kathe Kollwitz, Conrad Felixmüller, Ernst Barlach and Karl Schmidt-Rottluff.

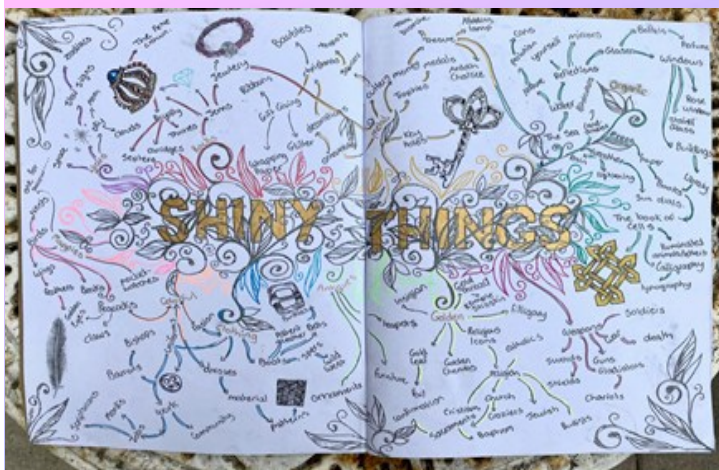


Taking inspiration from these artists students learnt how to create Lino prints through this radical art form. By using heavy lines, bold/flat patterns and more geometric forms each student created their own unique Lino prints

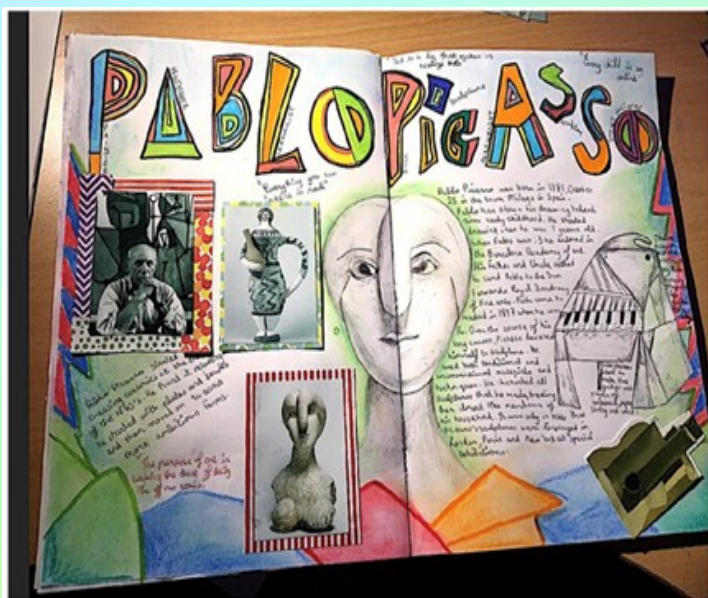


## 2nd Year - CBA 1

Using their Visual art sketchbooks, 2nd year students have researched, explored and developed their own ideas to create work based on the following themes; shiny things, looking down and home.



This year students have been exploring the visual art strand: Craft. Students have explored and researched artists who work in the area of sculpture. Looking at great artists like, Pablo Picasso, Alberto Giacometti and many more.



## 2nd Years - Transforming Readymade Objects

Many artists use or combine everyday objects to challenge assumptions about what constitutes 'art' and how it should be made. While working from home some of our 2nd years got to learn about Marcel Duchamp, Meret Oppenheim and Robert Rauschenberg.



Challenged with the task of creating ready-made art from home, students boldly selected everyday objects and either modified or combined them to create a readymade art sculpture.

## 3rd Year Visual Art

### Artist - Ava Gorman

Hi my name is Ava Gorman. I am 15 years old and I am a young makeup artist. I use makeup and sfx to create art. This is something I am extremely passionate about and I've had a huge interest in for years. I first started getting interested in makeup when I was 12 and from there I started creating looks. I started experimenting with different paints and special effects materials.





I started watching videos and researching makeup artists such as Keildhmua, James Charles, Gabrielle Alexis and Abby Roberts which really helped me create and learn different skills.

I developed more skills the more I practiced. My favorite type of makeup looks to do are special effects and creative looks, as it shows creativeness and skill. They are so unique and I feel like I can express myself through makeup in many ways. When I was 13 I decided to create an Instagram account to show my makeup looks. At first I would just do a few looks and upload them but one day I decided to do an inspired look from James Charles which shortly after that blew up on Instagram. Many people started to notice my work and my account was start-



ing to get popular. This really motivated me to keep going!

A while after this brands started to reach out to me and send me some of their products to try out and review on my Instagram account. This was a huge achievement for me



es-

pecially in the makeup industry as it is a very hard place to get noticed but luckily I had great support from my family, friends and school. Brands such as Pixi Beauty, Sosu by Suzanne Jackson, Flormar and Essence would send me some of their products to try and promote for them, with this I got to meet and talk to famous makeup artists and ask questions which they then gave me advice which helped me a lot.

Special effects and creative looks take a lot of time and patience and sometimes many hours! One thing I always say to people is "practice makes perfect" from where I started to where I am today there is a massive difference. I was given the opportunity to just special effects in a music video which is one my favourite highlights from this year. If you are interested in starting makeup I would 100% recommend doing it. It is such an amazing way to get yourself out there and show how creative you are! From going to just playing around with a brush to now having a future career you never know where it could get you!



## Transition Year Art

### Wonder Walls: Ratoath College

This year a group of amazingly talented Transition year students took to the corridors of Ratoath College. Working after hours and on school holidays, these young people created beautiful murals on the walls inside the college. These amazing art works were created by painting directly on-to the wall. Adding colour brought new life to the corridors of Ratoath. From the Italian room to the French room, to a Banksy inspired artwork on the second floor.



*Renaissance.* Our TY students should how progressive and hardworking they could be when taking their art to the corridors of Ratoath College.

Creating work that is not only a pretty picture, but work that is through provoking and inspiring, these students created masterpieces.



Along with great murals, students worked with great enthusiasm to create large scale pieces to be hung around the school. Taking inspiration from Irish street artist Maser who was once quoted to have said, *"This is the fastest art movement that ever happened... it's more progressive than the*







### Musical Set Design

This year Ratoath College put on The Addams Family the musical. The scenery, props and backdrop the audience seen on the night were created and imagined by a group of talented TY art students. These TY's became the set designers in which the action would take place. The art of creating a visual backdrop for the Addams Family helped teleport the audience into the world of Addams.



### TY Rang S.O'Neill Poster Competition Winners

During arts week this year every class group took part in a collaborative class poster competition to promote cultural contributions of that country to the world. Rang S.O'Neill were given the honor of creating a poster on Mexico. Taking inspiration

from Mexico's landscape, culture and well-known artists Frida Kahlo Rang S.O'Neill were crowned the winners. Huge congratulations and well done to the class.

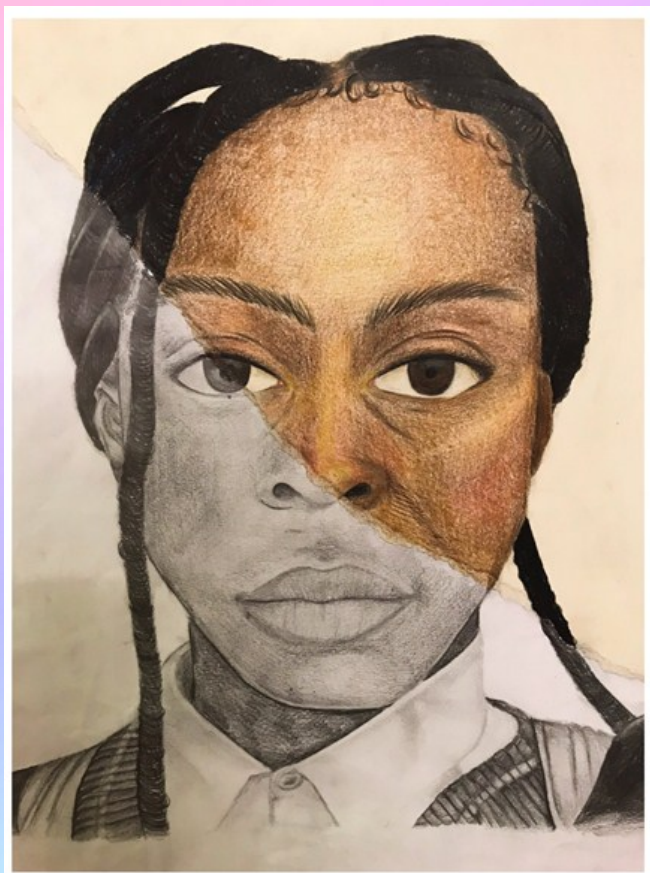


### Senior Cycle Art

In senior cycle, students develop the knowledge and skills learned at Junior Cycle and in transition year with an emphasis on composition, balance, proportion, rhythm, observation, study of colour and structure. Students are introduced to a wide range of media and techniques. Drawing and Support Studies are an integral part of every scheme of work. Students are encouraged to develop their individual styles and working methods and encouraged to experiment. . These skills can be applied to the areas of imaginative composition, still life, craft and design.



Students are given the opportunity to explore a variety of crafts to include print-making, ceramics, modelling, and calligraphy and poster design.



### Robert Ballagh Art Competition

Art is taught throughout a network of LMETB's Schools, Colleges, VTOS and Youthreach centres. For the past four years the Robert Ballagh Art Competition has taken place to recognise and promote the excellent work created by the students and learners within this network.

This year Anya Clarke Carr, 5th year student, was honored to receive a merit award from Robert Ballagh, who judged the competition. Ballagh's reputation as an Artist is renowned both on a national and international stage provides.

We would like to congratulate Anya on her amazing success in this competition. Anya is pictured here with Irish artist Robert Bal-

lagh at the LMETB Robert Ballagh art competition in the Droichead art centre in Drogheda.



### Credit Union Art Competition

Students in the art department had great success again this year in the Credit Union Art Competition.

Two students who were recognized at national level and awarded in Croke Park earlier this year. Pictured below is Eline Lund 2<sup>nd</sup> Year and Shona Beedall 5<sup>th</sup> Year. Huge congratulations to both students



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



## Senior Art Trips

As part of the senior art curriculum students get to go on two art trips. This year we visited Newgrange and the National Gallery.



### Newgrange

Our 5th Year art students took a trip to Newgrange. Newgrange is a Stone Age monument in the Boyne Valley, County Meath. It is the jewel crown of Ireland's Ancient East. Our students had a guided tour and took time to sketch their surroundings and enjoy the landscape. By all accounts it was an amazing day.



## 6th Year Gallery Trip

As part of their study for the gallery appreciation question in the art history section of the leaving cert our art students visited the National Gallery and the Museum of Archaeology on Kildare Street in Dublin city centre. We focused on a selection of paintings from different art periods. We saw beautiful works by Jack B. Yeats, Caravaggio and William Leech as well as incredible portraits by various artists.



We looked at the following paintings in depth - Caravaggio- 'The Taking of Christ', William Leech - 'Convent Garden', Jack B Yeats - 'Grief' and 'The Liffey Swim'. Students took time to listen to tour guides and to photograph and sketch the individual paintings. We also visited the National Museum of Archaeology where students saw the incredible craftsmanship involved in the bronze and gold objects they have studied such as the gold Lunula, Petrie Crown, Loughnashade Trumpet, Clones Fibula, Gleninsheen Gorget, Ribbon torc and sun discs.





## Guest Speakers to the Art Department

In the art department our door is always open. This year we had two guest speakers. One from NCAD and one from IDAT on different occasions.

Sinead a lecturer from Dun Laoghaire Art College came to speak to art students about Art College. Sinead gave students an excellent presentation about Art College, the importance of art education and why young people should continue to study art at third level.



*ing your individuality. You'll find yourself looking at the world from a different perspective with a creative mind."*

## Ratoath College Art Department on Twitter

For more information on the Art department and to see all the amazing things we get up to throughout the year follow us on Twitter at:

**Ratoath College Art**



Our second visitor was Greta from NCAD. Greta is a second year student in the National College of Art and Design. Greta met with our senior students to discuss portfolio preparation and what it is really like to be an art student in college today. Greta left students with this advice;

*"...there's a huge digital market out there for creatives in any field and a big demand for all types of designers worldwide. The creative world is always growing for artists, you can never run out of inspiration or possibilities. The boundaries with art are limitless and it's like no other area when it comes to express-*





## Teachtaireachtaí óna Moltóirí

# An Chéad Bhliain

*Message from 1st Year Moltóir, Mr. Mooney:*

The transition from primary school to secondary school is not an easy one and I want to congratulate each and every one of you on how successfully you have made that transition.

Since taking over from the wonderful Ms. Kelly in December it has been my pleasure to work with such an amazing year group. I want to commend you all on how you have embraced school life, adapted to new styles of learning, participated in extra-curricular, mastered the combination locks and most importantly how you look out for one another. Our school is lucky to have such a fantastic group of young men and women.

As we approach the end of First Year in Ratoath College, we can look back on some wonderful memories- your first day, the trip to the Young Scientist, learning your routines for the Céilí, the Talent Show, super successes in sporting and extra-curricular activities and those 'injection days'.

However, behind every great year group there is a fantastic team of Caomhnóirí who go above and beyond to look after you. A sincere thank you to Ms. Canny, Ms. Conlon, Ms. Gilmartin, Ms. Lyttle, Ms. McMenamin, Ms. Monerawela & Ms. K O'Neill who work tirelessly looking after your welfare and encouraging you to achieve your best.

On behalf of you all I want to thank Ms. Kelly for all the tireless work she dedicated to make your transition so successful. On a personal level I want to thank Ms. Kelly for helping me settle in to my new role, your help and guidance has is gratefully appreciated. Thank you.

On behalf of the First Year Team, we hope you and your families are happy and safe and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

*Mr. Mooney*



*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*



# An Dara Bliain

*Message from 2nd Year Moltóir, Mr. Horan:*

As we approach the end of any journey it is a good time to reflect on the path we've just taken. The high points the not so high points. The pathway we've just finished is 2nd year. We are now much closer to the end of Junior cycle than the beginning.

This year the expectations and demands on you from school life were higher and the challenges you faced are more asking. Given all the challenges you have come through on this very different year I am immensely proud of the way you have responded. Not just your response to the crisis of having to work from home over the past few weeks but also the way you have responded to every challenge thrown at you this year.

Your resilience, hard-work, creativity, innovation and generally good nature has made me enormously proud each day of this year. Yes, there has been some tears along the way, but it is the way you have responded to these incidents are the things that stand out. Next year is going to be a more stressful year but I am very confident that if you approach next year with the same enthusiasm, determination and support for each other as this year you will achieve and succeed.

I would also like to take this time to thank your Caomhnóirí for the colossal work they do for you throughout the year. They are always putting you first, looking out for you and supporting you even at times you don't see them. I am so appreciative to Mr. Toner, Ms. Conaty, Mr. Walshe, Ms. Dalton, Mr. O' Dwyer, Ms. Flatley, Ms. McNamara and Ms. Delany for the countless hours they put in on your behalf and the support they give to you.

This journey now takes a break with the well-deserved summer holidays. Take this time to relax and recharge. Spend some time with your family and friends, don't forget to take some time for yourself. Looking forward to seeing you in 3rd year and looking forward to seeing where the 3rd year pathway will lead us!

*Mr. Horan*

*There is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs!*



**Rang Conaty**





**Rang Dalton**



**Rang O'Dwyer/Delaney**



**Rang Flately**





**Rang Jordan**



**Rang Toner**



**Rang Walshe**



# An Tríú Bliain

*Message from 3rd Year Moltoir, Ms Savage*

Dear Students & Parents,

The third chapter of our time together draws to a close.

It's hard to believe that time has passed by so quickly since your story began here in Ratoath College, I can clearly recall the beginning of our time together on that lovely sunny day back in August 2017. Your caomhnóirí and I have loved being a part of your story and while we will take some of you along for the next chapter in 5th year, we will say farewell to those of you heading down the TY road and of course welcome the current TYs to 5th year, we look forward to the new characters who will become a part of our story and the many exciting chapters that are yet to be written. I hope that as you write the final few paragraphs of this chapter that you are proud of your time so far in RC and if not, there's always a chance to edit a few pages and start over.

We are very proud of you all and how you have faced the difficult challenges of recent weeks, this has not been an easy time for any of us but it has been heartening to see the kindness, support and care you have shown. It is wonderful to see so many of you engaging so well with your studies, especially as this has not only been a time of worry but also a new way to learn together. Well done to you all.

We have welcomed new and friendly faces and said farewell to some too. As I write this, I think of Ms. O'Sullivan, her absence is always felt by us, especially those she taught and of course her caomhnóir class, she would be very proud of you all and her positive influence on you still shines.

I hope you feel as you reflect on our three years together that you are now ready to discard that red jumper and take on the challenge of the navy blue! While this has not been the finish we hoped for, we hope we will have a chance at some stage to celebrate that time together after a well-earned rest over the summer months when hopefully you will be reenergised and ready for the next chapter!

Can I take this opportunity to thank your fabulous caomhnóirí for their hard work, care, kindness and unwavering dedication to each and every one of you. You are so lucky to have such a wonderful group of people in your lives.

Well done on all of your wonderful achievements and hard work over the last three years and we look forward to celebrating future successes.

Be kind to each other, be kind to yourselves. I know you will be fantastic senior cycle students.

*Ms. Savage*





**Rang Clerkin**



**Rang Doonan**



**Rang Hayes**





**Rang Lyons**



**Rang McKenna**



**Rang PO'Neill**





## Rang Toher

# *An Idirbhliain*

*Message from TY Moltoir, Ms O'Toole*

Where has the year gone?! I can't believe our time together draws to a close already. I am privileged to have had the opportunity to be your Moltoir and want to thank each one of you for making my experience such a pleasant one. However, I am saddened for you that we had an abrupt end to TY and that you missed out on some of the experiences of TY. That said, we have had a great year together, with the trip to Lilliput being one of my personal highlights. It was great to get to know you all so much better throughout the year and to share your TY journey with you. It has been an honour to see you grow and develop throughout this year into such caring and kind young adults.

Every one of you should be immensely proud of the contributions you have made to the school and the wider community during TY. From RC News to Gaisce to the cycle challenge, you really played your part to make a positive impact on our school and community. You all played such an important role in helping the musical to run so smoothly and well done again to our TYs who took to the stage! In regards to charity work, you have contributed significantly to the local community through your volunteering with Barnardos and Special Olympics Ireland. The quality of the reports I received back from your work experience placements is just another example of the dedication and maturity you have shown throughout this year. I want to say well done to you all.

With our very own Jamie Oliver's in the kitchen and our Picasso with a pastel you were so well looked after all year by our four fabulous caomhnóirí; Ms McKeon, Ms Donoghue, Ms S O'Neill and Ms Quinn. The work they put in to look after you all and the support they show you on an educational level and personal level has been amazing. I want to thank them personally and on behalf of the TY group.

How do I even begin to put my thanks down on paper for Ms Flynn. She is the backbone of the TY program and the effort she puts into planning and organising an engaging and rewarding year is phenomenal. I want to extend my own personal thanks to Ms. Flynn for everything she does for TY and I would like to thank her on behalf of the TY students.

I know there has been so many new friendships formed, and existing ones strengthened. You have shared experiences and made memories that will last a lifetime and I am so fortunate to have been a part of that with you. I hope that these friendships continue and blossom going forward.

Look out for each other and your families during these challenging times where 'social distancing' and 'stay safe' have become part of our everyday vocabulary.





**Rang O'Donoghue**



**Rang McKeon**



**Rang SO'Neill**





**Rang Quinn**

# *An Cúigiú Bliain*

*Message from 5th Year Moltóir, Ms. Casey:*

As I sit and write this message, it is week seven of lockdown and to think that the next time I will see you guys that you will be 6th Years. But let's not think about the next number of weeks, I want to focus on the last number of months and becoming your Moltóir since September. Since then, you have brought me fun, laughter, shown me kindness and have made my job all that more enjoyable. We have had our ups and downs but mostly ups and I really cannot wait to see what the class of 2020/2021 has to deliver.

You are an excellent group of talented, mindful and caring young men and women and have always remained positive and supportive towards each other when it was needed the most. Your behaviour is exemplary and you will be great role models and leaders to the rest of our school next year.

I would like to thank all of your Caomhnóirí for all that they do for you and for making my job so much easier. To Ms. Donnellan, Ms. O'Dwyer, Mr. Burns, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Farrell, Ms. Grogan, Ms. Smyth, Ms. Treacy and Mr. Mooney, we are all lucky to have you there to support and guide us along the way.

I would like to wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you all under normal circumstances in September.

*Ms. Casey*

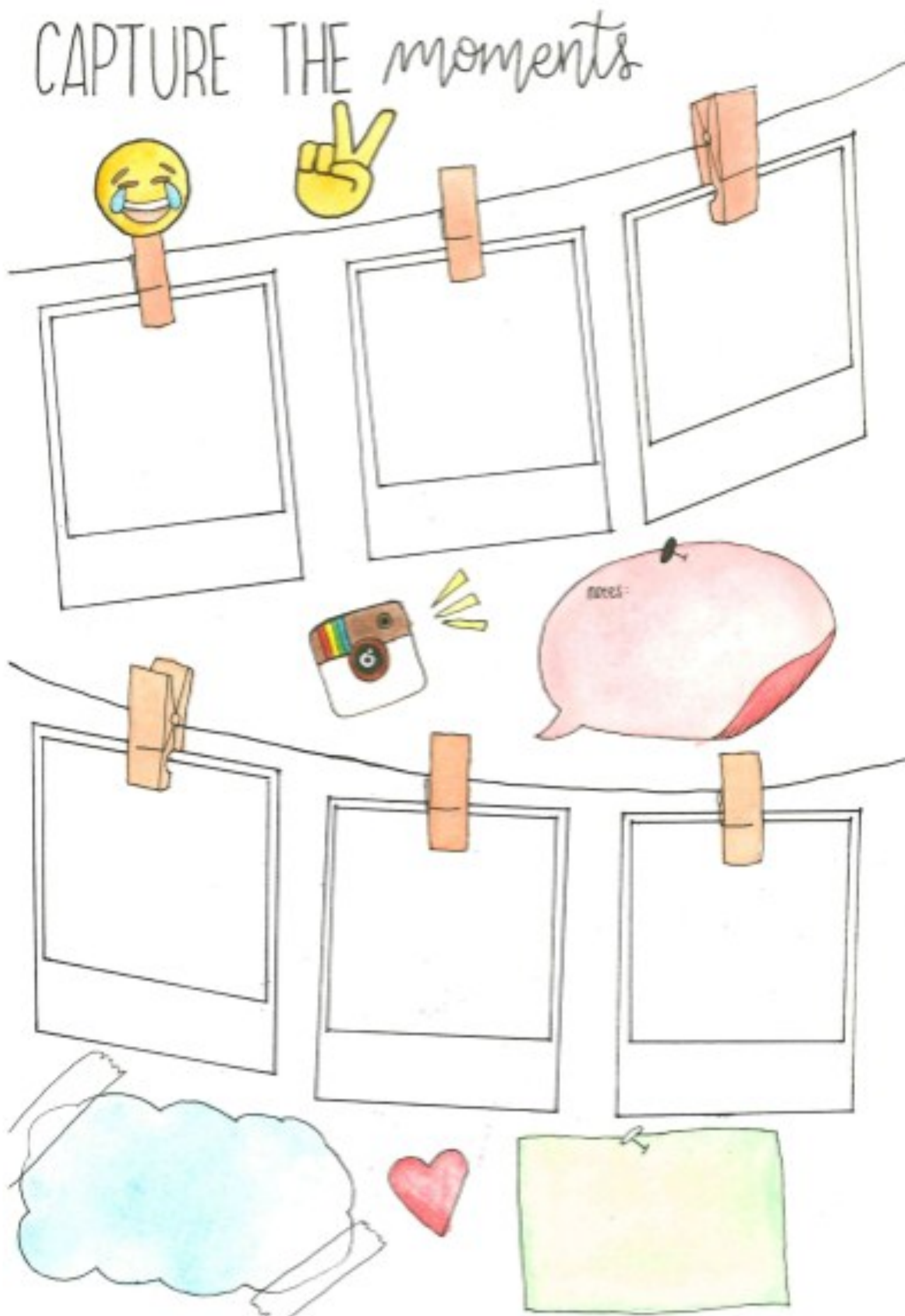
*"If you can dream it, you can do it" - Walt Disney*





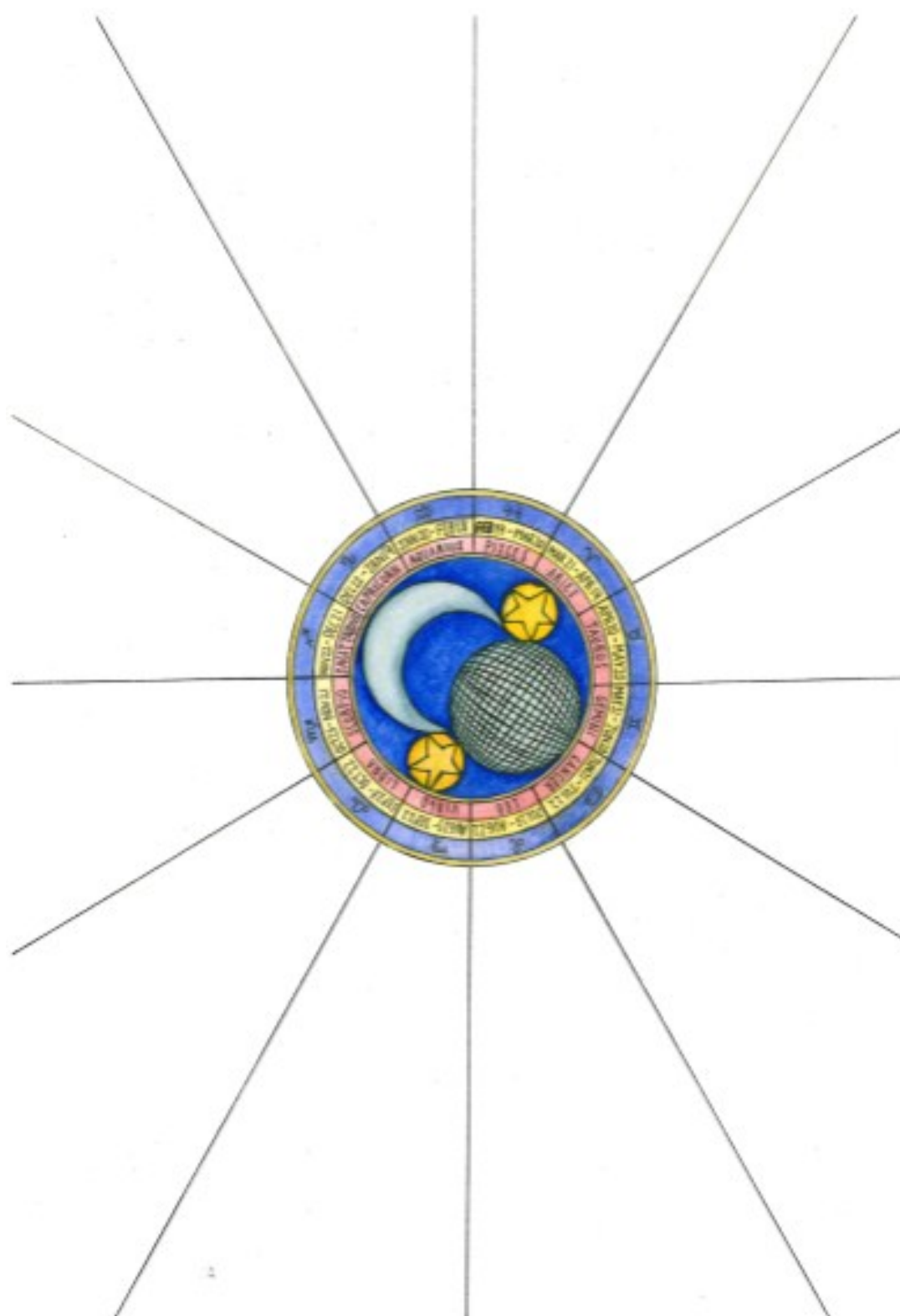
*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*





*Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí*









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