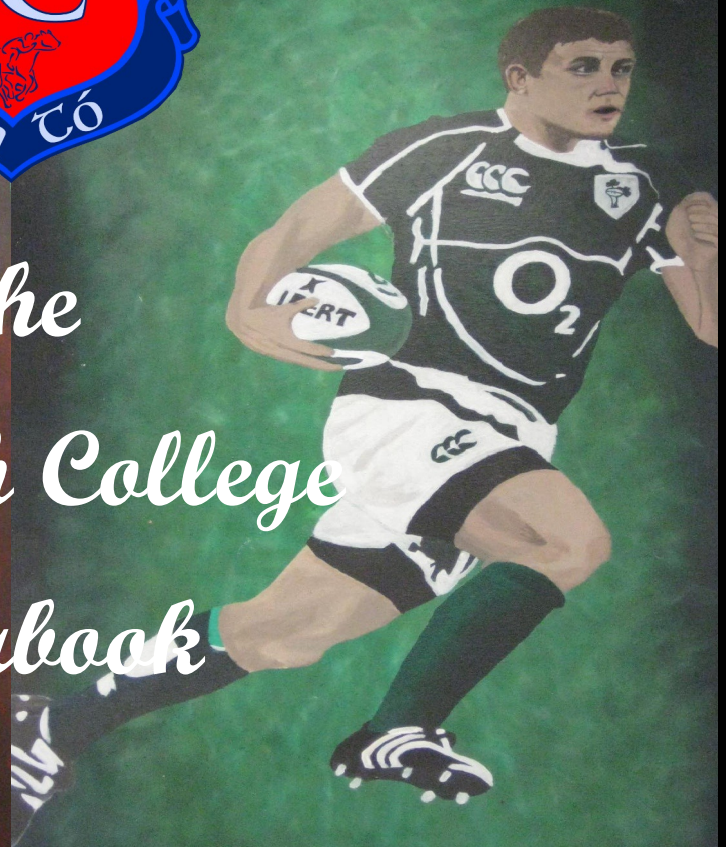
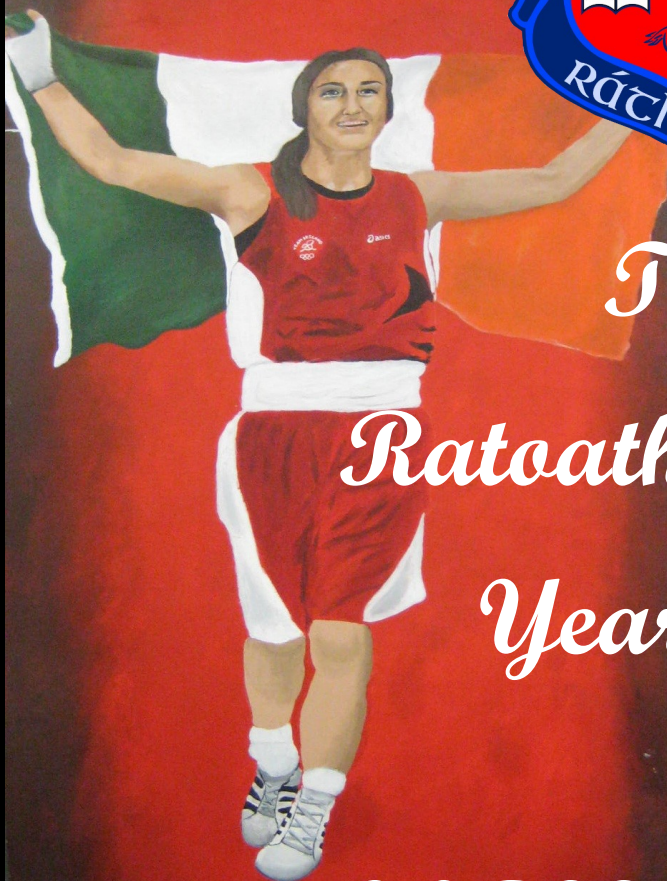
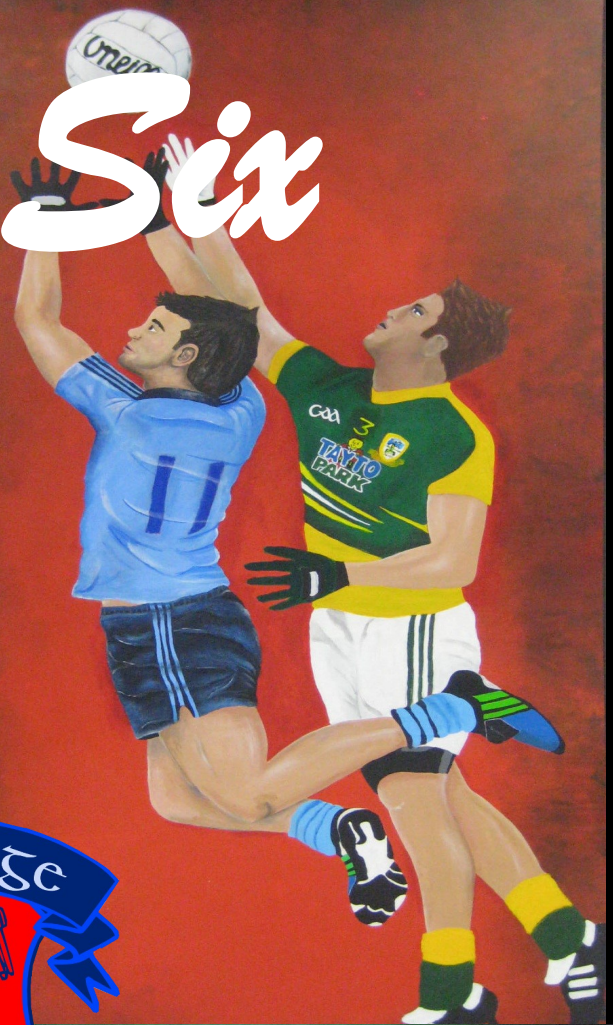


Sixty-Six



*The
Ratoath College
Yearbook*

CLASS OF 2013

Coming This Autumn:
Ratoath College Proudly Presents...



October 23rd - 25th, 2013

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Editor's Note

The Ratoath College Yearbook is produced by the Transition Year classes under the guidance of their English teachers as part of their English & Communications course. The Class of 2013 section has been compiled by a small but highly dedicated group of 6th years. Much credit and many thanks are due to Mary Eng, Sarah Morris, Sarah-Louise Adams, Clodagh Barnes, Aoife McGoldrick, Rebecca Mulvey, Dominique Coyle, Kira Morton, Emma Bracken and anyone else who lent a hand! Well done all.

While every effort has been made to include as many students as possible, we apologise for any errors or omissions.

Welcome from the Principal and the Deputy Principal



We are thrilled once again to be associated with this excellent production. This is our eighth school Yearbook and the standards are rising each year. As a school, we have a bunch of very enthusiastic, dedicated young students and a group of hardworking teachers. Their work is reflected in the pages of this magazine.

It has been an eventful year for the school with many successes on the sporting field and the highlight of the year was the school fashion show.

The number of extra-curricular activities increases year on year and we would like to say a particular thanks to the teachers, without whom none of these activities would be possible. Well done to those who were very successful in representing their school and those who represented their county and their country in many different sporting activities.

In the classrooms with the help of Bridge 21 (TCD) and Leap 21 (St Patricks Drumcondra) we have been busy putting an emphasis on new ways of learning for first year students in the classroom. We are working on the introduction of the new Junior Cycle programme for 2013.

We look forward to 2013-2014 when there will be almost 1000 students in the school. We wish Mark Caffrey of 3rd Year the very best next year when he takes over as the President of the Irish Second Level Schools Union (ISSU). We are proud that one of our students will hold such a prestigious position.

Thank you very much to Mr McCarthy and Ms Savage who put in such an effort to make sure that this production is of the highest standard. They were supported by all the students of Rang Cahill and Rang O'Donoghue (our excellent Transition Years) in this venture and I would like to pay tribute to them as well. I am sure you will all agree that they have done a wonderful job. This publication is an outstanding advertisement for our school.

Congratulations to you all. We are so proud of you.
Maith sibh!

Máire Ní Bhróithe & Oonagh Prendergast



A Reflection for the Year from Father P.J.

Crowds gather for various reasons; pop concerts, football games, protest meetings, and religious gatherings of one kind or another. In the month of February this year the relic of St John Bosco visited Ireland and large crowds assembled in places like Antrim, Dublin, Laois, Limerick, Mayo, and Meath. They came for a variety of reasons, some to pray for loved ones who were sick or suffering from one ailment or another, others to pray for those doing exams or for those who were unemployed and finding it hard to get work. I was there because he is the founder of the congregation I belong to, that is the Salesians.

John Bosco was a man with a dream, a dream to help young people especially the poor and vulnerable. He was born into a farming family in the North of Italy. When he was three his father died and times were tough for the family. When he was nine he had a dream where he learned that the way he must treat people was with gentleness and kindness. He decided that he wanted to be a priest and help young people who were homeless and poor. He had to overcome many hardships before his dream of becoming a priest became a reality. He started to work with street children. Together with his mother he gave them a home where they were safe, started to teach them trades, so that they could find work, and provided an environment where they could work, pray and play. John Bosco believed that there was goodness in all young people and long before it became popular he began to praise and encourage them. Our school motto is “Mol an Óige” but in the Turin of John Bosco day young people were treated with anything but respect. Large groups of young people flocked to the centres run by John Bosco and soon he needed help to run his schools and clubs so he founded a religious congregation – the Salesians. This is the congregation I belong to. Can you as a teenager take up John Bosco’s invitation to always respect yourself, your family and friends, be confident and responsible; develop your identity and self-esteem; find good role models and friends, choosing them carefully; keep a balance in your life with time for work and time for fun, live a healthy life and live it to the full, talk to your friends, your parents, your wider family, your teachers and talk to Jesus?

We admire people who dream big; who look at their lives and the world around them and dream of how they could live in such a way as brings some more hope, justice, peace and love to the world. We dream of peace in a war-torn country, of employment in a people suffering lack of jobs, of good health and plenty where there is sickness and starvation. Each of us has dreams of our future – involving our job, our state of life, the love we will give and receive, the type of parents we might be, the husband or wife we’ll marry, the way we’ll serve God. Our dreams are our hopes. God plants good dreams within us: we can call them good desires. May you be willing to pay the price to make those dreams come true just like John Bosco did.

Lawrence of Arabia said “All men dream: but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find it was vanity: but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act their dreams with open eyes, to make it possible”. I encourage you all to be dreamers and to leave your mark on the world. As Ralph Waldo Emerson, American poet said “Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail”.

PJ Nyland

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

“It has been a huge privilege representing the student body”

The outgoing Cinnirí discuss their experience in the role this year.

This year has been more than successful once again for our well respected Cinnirí. The Cinnire panel consists of 13 members of 6th year, elected by teachers and students. As the school and students have proven time and time again, the participation and enthusiasm of the students applying for Cinnirí was huge, inevitably making the job of the teachers and principles extremely difficult.

Each member of the Cinnirí panel who wished to apply for the position of Ard-Cinnire (head boy and head girl) had to prepare a speech to address the school. Each student then voted for which boy and girl they thought qualified, and best presented themselves for the role. The students of Ratoath College voted Luke Quinlan and Ellie Bolger as Ard-Cinnirí.

I asked several of the Cinnirí what benefits they got from being elected. Ard Cinnire Luke Quinlan says “It has been a huge privilege representing the student body. The role of Ard-Cinnire has allowed me to express my views about changes that the students of Ratoath College actually what to happen in Ratoath College, but sometimes I can’t hear people over my blazer. That’s the downside”

When talking to the Cinnirí I realised that they take their roles very seriously, and none of them would have any trouble voicing an opinion to a higher authority, which in essence is what the job of Cinnire requires. When asked what the most rewarding part of being Cinnire was, Michael Judge replied “Panini”. It’s quite clear to me that the Cinnire role



is taken very seriously here, and that all Michael wants to do is help others.

This year, two Cinnirí were assigned to each first year class, and they would interact and get to know the first years. They could then voice the opinions or issues that any of the first years had, and make their experience in school worthwhile.

I also spoke to Keila Whelan about the Cinnire room, and the perks that are involved. She said “The smell isn’t the smell of rotten food, it’s the smell of love and banter” which clearly shows that the Cinnire room is a place to relax, to discuss important issues that may arise and to jump on the couches because “The floor is lava”

Finally, the last Cinnire I spoke to was Darragh Jones. He was reluctant to speak at first, as he felt that “revealing his identity may harm his scrap metal business” but he still would not change his story. “I did not have sexual relations with that woman, I have a dream, yes we can. There will be no further comments”

This year has been an all round successful year for our Cinnirí and they would like to wish the next group of Cinnirí the best of luck for next year.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

RC's MARK CAFFREY ELECTED IRISH SECOND LEVEL STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENT

On Wednesday the 10th of April the Irish Second-level Students' Union (ISSU), held its AGM in the Clock tower Conference Room within the Department of Education in Dublin. Mark Caffrey, a 3rd year student in Rang Kelly, was elected as President of the ISSU at the event.

Student delegates from all over the country attended the meeting, with Ratoath College sending other representatives.

The annual meeting is the primary decision making event for the Irish Second-Level Students' Union, where decisions are made democratically about what issues and projects the ISSU tackles for the year ahead. There were a number of guest speakers on the



Mark meets Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn

day, including Patricia Kennedy of Stick and Stones, Data Protection Commissioner Billy Hawkes and Mr John Lonergan Former governor of Mountjoy prison. The Minister of Education, Ruairi Quinn addressed the conference and the delegates had a question and answer session with the Minister. Mark had previously served for a year as equality officer with the ISSU, having worked with passion in the area of anti-bullying by being on the DES Anti-bullying working group which made a national action plan. He had been the only young person to directly contribute to the action plan and he also represented the ISSU in the "Watch Your Space" campaign for Safer Internet Day 2013 which was aimed at encouraging bystanders of online bullying intervening positively. He now is the head of the

representative body.

In his election speech he said that he was going to develop the ISSU on more local levels by setting up regional councils.

There will also be a volunteer and work experience programme for anyone, in particular TY students, who wish to assist in developing the organisation and to expand membership to all second-level schools in the nation. "The ISSU is a catalyst for real and responsible change in the role of young people in schools and society. I look forward to representing second-level students nationally for the coming year," he said.

Mark and the other students on the 10 member National Student Executive (NSE) now lead the ISSU in representing all of the second-level students in the country at both a national and international level. They have already secured a commission from the Department of Education and Skills for a review of the Transition Year Programme by examining both student and teacher opinion on the programme.

Mark will be kept busy over the summer with managing the organisation and getting all plans in place for various action plans to be implemented over the course of the next academic year. The annual ISSU exam blog will be active this June and Mark will be one of the many contributors.





The Graduating Class of 2013

Thanks and Good Luck from Mr. Ball

'Experience is not what happens to you; it's what you do with what happens to you'
Aldous Huxley

Dear Graduates,

Journey - *passage from one place to another*, within all journeys we have a beginning, middle and an end, and what a journey it has been!

The beginning - Where has the time gone, it only seems like yesterday that you were all sitting in the school assembly hall for the 1st year mass as you embarked on your journey through secondary school. I remember watching as you all sat nervously and excitedly, perfect uniforms, shiny shoes, neat hair etc. Expressing your hopes and wishes, presenting your class symbols, pledging that you would do your best for the next 5/6 years. Even back then as a year group you made a strong impression on the school and I am delighted to say you maintained that positive influence for the remainder of your time with us.

The middle - Throughout your 5/6 years you have maintained the pledges you made at that 1st year mass, you have worked hard academically and played hard in extra-curricular. You have always been a positive year group and easy to work with and guide. You always sought direction/advice from staff and each other and took heed of it. I have seen you grow as individuals, form friendships and most importantly you have developed a great sense of camaraderie amongst yourselves as a year group. We have noted on many an occasion a deep sense of care for each other, always looking out for one another and standing up for your colleagues. There is an evident air of mutual respect amongst you for both your peers and towards staff. I have been part of the good times and the hard times, yes we did fall out from time to time, but grudges were never held. You have had 5/6 years full of good times and memories: musicals, talent shows, school tours, academic & extra-curricular achievements, prize-giving's etc.

And now the end is in sight - I have no hesitation in saying it has been a complete pleasure and honour to have worked with every single one of you for the past 5 years. I am grateful for the experiences you have afforded me. I was also on a journey, a journey of learning to be a Moltóir and I couldn't have had better teachers than you. I will genuinely miss you all, you each have unique characters and traits, and I will miss the friendly banter and camaraderie. I know that you leave us as unique, confident young men and women, mature, considerate and caring, keep this up.

My wishes for you are that you will live a fulfilled & content life full of good health & happiness, that you set goals for yourself and strive to achieve them, that you will remain positive when the going gets tough.

I end by asking you a small favour: please keep in touch and make sure to pay us a visit from time to time.

'Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail'
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Derek Ball
Moltóir
Class of 2013

A Valediction from the Ard-Cinnirí

In case you guys don't know what a valediction is, we suppose it's sort of a goodbye. A goodbye to the chats, a goodbye to the banter, a goodbye to the love/hate teacher student relationships and to the halls of Ratoath College. However, we never thought we would have to say goodbye to you.



From our very first day in Ratoath College, when our biggest problem was trying to navigate the school to our last days as we prepare to leave all of it behind, we have been together. In 5th year, our year changed but changed definitely for the better. Strangers became fast friends and our year became closer than ever before. Times may have been difficult and we may have struggled from time to time but we always had each other's backs and best interests at heart.

When assemblies dragged, when speeches bored us out of our minds and when the bells couldn't ring fast enough on Fridays, there were always those people who made you smile. They were the people who made getting up at half 7 every morning that little bit easier and who made those washed out Sports Days a little bit sunnier. This goodbye is the most difficult of all as the class of 2013 was shaped by each member in that class. We made each other stronger, wiser and happier even if it didn't feel that way sometimes.

Despite all this, it doesn't have to be goodbye forever. This year we say goodbye to Ratoath College and the lives we lived in it but in truth, we never have to say goodbye to the ones who made that life so worth living. So to the class of 2013, thank you for making our lives in this school unforgettable and we hope that this is not goodbye but simply the beginning of a new chapter.

Congratulations Class Of 2013.

Luke & Ellie

#suss

Graduate Profiles

Rang Heaney



HARRIET BERRY

Moment: When I asked how to spell GAA
Quote: "Believe in yourself And anything is possible"
What I'll Miss? My friends and the memories
Ambition: To become a paramedic



LUKE HALL
"Sawyer"

Moment: Running Fairy House backwards
Quote: "WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE!"
What I'll Miss? Lunch time banters
Ambition: To travel and enjoy life, and also to have lots of land.



MARC HERDMAN

Moment: School finally ending
Quote: "What?"
What I'll Miss? Nothing
Ambition: Become a super hero bin man



LEE KEELY
"Kuala"

Moment: Getting kicked out of class for a laugh
Quote: "Grow up"
What I'll Miss? All my friends that are in the school
Ambition: To become a football manager



ANDREW KELLER
"Kellogs"

Moment: When I tripped Luke Tarpey up in front of everybody in the G.P area.
Quote: "You're not holding your calculator right"
What I'll Miss? Absolutely nothing
Ambition: To grow taller



RACHEL AMY ROURKE
"Smurf"

Moment: Slipping on paper in the hall and falling
Quote: "Lads, will yee grow up"- Kevin Heaney
What I'll Miss? Ms Prendergast's random "dates to remember" at assembly
Ambition: Become a Guard after college.



ERICA SINAGOGA
"Sillers"

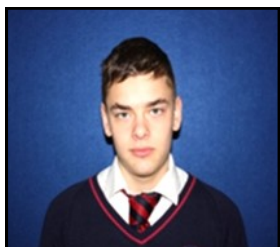
Moment: Going on the Italian Exchange
Quote: "SHUSHOLA"
What I'll Miss? All my friends/memories I've had here
Ambition: I want to be living in England, to be a nurse and to be married with two children



RYAN WILLIAMS
"Willy"

Moment: Trip to China
Quote: "SHUSHOLA!"
What I'll Miss? : Banter with the lads
Ambition: I hope to finish my PLC course and afterwards do a year in Australia to try and get my qualifications to become a pilot.

Rang Hynes



JELICO BACHIN
"Jelly"

Moment: Doing the Fashion show

Quote: "I grill more birds than George Foreman"

What I'll Miss? Being told to shut up in every class!

Ambition: Own a Lamborghini



ANDREW CHECKLEY
"The Italian Stallion"

Moment: Darragh Grehan still intoxicated in class after debts.

Quote: "...Well that escalated quickly."

What I'll Miss? Breaktime chilling with my friends.

Ambition: Dr Checkley has a nice ring to it.



SHANE CLAYTON
"Cookie Monster"

Moment: All-Ireland win and Italy trip

Quote: "Treat 'em mean, keep 'em keen"

What I'll Miss? Ciarán Tierney

Ambition: For MEGABALL to go Continental



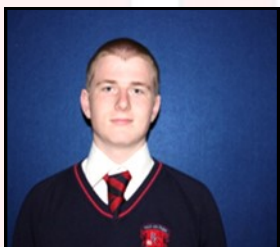
ALEX COAKLEY
"Rodriguez"

Moment: Leading out the team at Donnybrook.

Quote: "DOGGIES BRO!"

What I'll Miss? : Early morning training, that was fun. Religion banter.

Ambition: Pro level rugby, 3 Puntos different colours, be Tommy Bowe. Join a book club.



ANDREW FLINTER
"Hammer"

Moment: All-Ireland win

Quote: "What you put into TY, you'll get out of it!"

What I'll Miss? Megaball

Ambition: Gaelic Games 3 to come out



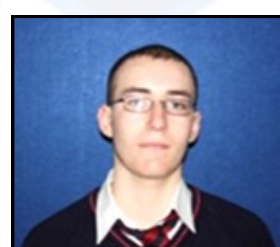
DARRAGH GREHAN
"Dar-rag"

Moment: I vaguely remember going to last year's debts

Quote: "Number one on my back number on in your heart" - Conleth Mc Larnon

What I'll Miss? Banter at break

Ambition: To be able to afford a decent haircut.



DEAN KAVANAGH
"Kavo"

Moment: Meeting Luke Q

Quote: "Thug life"

What I'll Miss? The people

Ambition: To make the world a better place



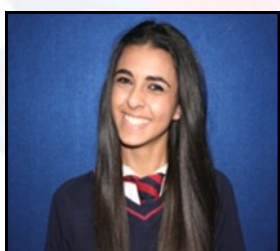
DARRAGH KELLY
"DK"

Moment: Winning The All-Ireland and the fashion show

Quote: 'Awww jaysusss'

What I'll Miss? Mandingo fighting

Ambition: Become part of the JTM



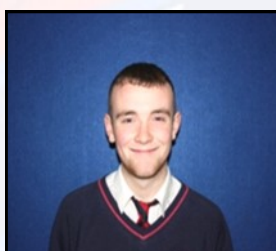
RHODA MASSOUD
"Roro"

Moment: Ciara falling in the halls.

Quote: "Oh dear..."

What I'll Miss? Ms Hynes, Italian class and Mr Connolly's sarcasm.

Ambition: Overcome my fear of hairdressers and be Beyonce.



MATTHEW MCCLEAN
"4head"

Moment: When we hid Mr Cahill's radioactive device and told him to follow the beeps.

Quote: "That's it big man"

What I'll Miss? Hiding from the teachers at lunch

Ambition: Not to be here again next year.



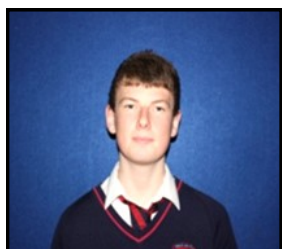
AOIFE MCGOLDRICK
"Hoop"

Moment: TY & China!

Quote: "Ah, sure be grand"

What I'll Miss? Debates with Ms Kelly in English, Cinnire room & study banter; mammy's lunches

Ambition: Dye my hair ginger and spread the Gospel according to Eiffel (Jennifer)



CONLETH MCLARNON
"Conlee"

Moment: Not having a broken collar bone.

Quote: "Are you extracting the urine" (Clare accent)- Mr Ivor Keane.

What I'll Miss? Alma </3, Guess the colour games.

Ambition: To one day see colours properly. To cure colour-blindness.



CALLUM MC MAHON
"Moleman"

Moment: Going back to rugby after being broken twice.

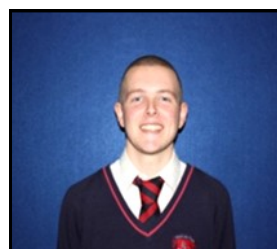
Quote: "Veni, Vidi, Vici"

What I'll Miss?

Sleeping in assembly.

Ambition:

Being successful and very wealthy with a lot of stories to tell.



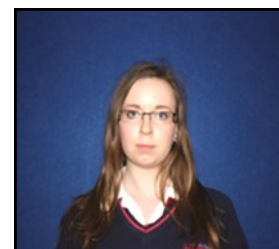
DAVID MCMULLEN
"Dave"

Moment: China trip in TY

Quote: Everything negative Ciarán says. Genius..

What I'll Miss? The craic with the lads everyday.

Ambition: Own a Range Rover



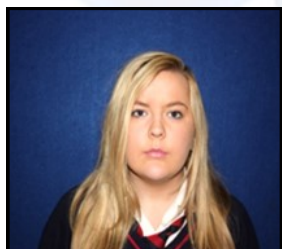
SARAH MORRIS
"Safraa"

Moment: Ty - spending a week as an elf (I had bells on my shoes!!)

Quote: "It's impossible to be unhappy in a poncho"

What I'll Miss? Seeing my friends everyday & Mr McAuley singing

Ambition: To figure out my ambitions!



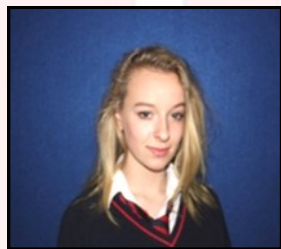
CIARA O'REILLY
"Chung lu"

Moment: Coming second place in the spelling bee

Quote: "We have sick nihhheee bitchezzzzzzzz"

What I'll Miss? My soccer team

Ambition: To further embrace my Chinese culture



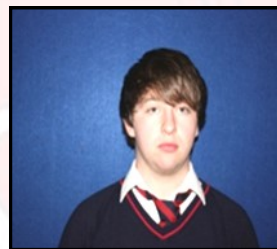
EVA ROWEN
"Cassie"

Moment: Losing passport in France.

Quote: "Any Filters? Rollies? Cans? Wow, that's just lovely"

What I'll Miss? Seeing my babies everyday <3

Ambition: Live fast, feel young, be wild and have fun.



JOSHUA SMITH
"Josh"

Moment: The fun we have in History!

Quote: "In UPENDI!!!!!"

What I'll Miss?: The craic with the teachers

Ambition: To have a job in biomedical science and have a nicer car than my parents.



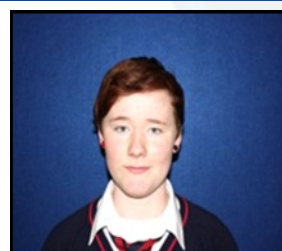
JODIE STAUNTON
"Joslynn"

Moment: Sprinting out to assembly with Saoirse to go home

Quote: "I'm so hungry..."

What I'll Miss? Mr McAuley's stunning face.

Ambition: To become a cat lady



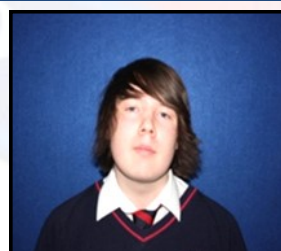
CATHY SWEENEY
"Cats"

Moment: Ehmm..

Quote: "If no one from the future stops you from doing something then how bad a decision can it really be."

What I'll Miss? The "NICE" teachers.

Ambition: Travel.



LUKE TARPEY
"Private Pyle"

Moment: Becoming friends with Eoin O'C

Quote: "Waking up is the second hardest thing in the morning"

What I'll Miss? High-fiving Alex in Irish

Ambition: To be in the yearbook



RACHEL TIERNEY
"Rach"

Moment: Eoin falling on the stairs

Quote: "If you see any vegetables will you LETTUCE know" - Rebecca Mulvey

What I'll Miss? Battling to stay in at lunch

Ambition: To marry Darragh Grehan



RICHARD TIMONEY
"Timo"

Moment: China 2011.

Quote: "Yitzer"

What I'll Miss? Having the craic with the lads and ladies and winding up the teachers.

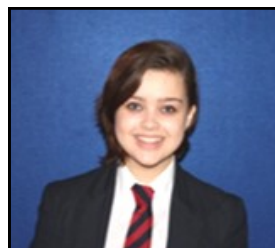
Ambition: To avoid going bald before I'm 30.



JACK WILEY
"Bill"

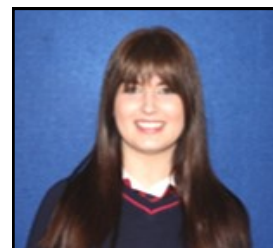
Moment: China Trip 2011
Quote: "It's not MY Leaving Cert!" – Every single teacher in the school has reassured us of this by now, not that we would have known...
What I'll Miss? Teachers!
Ambition: Be a professional footballer/bodybuilder

Rang Kilrane



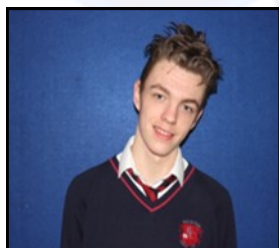
ELLIE BOLGER
"Smellie"

Moment: Dance parties with Keila Whelan.
Quote: "Michael, stop throwing things at my head!"
What I'll Miss? The smell of the Cinnire Room.
Ambition: To become the female Mr. McAuley.



DOMINIQUE DA SILVA COYLE
"Domo"

Moment : When Toni ran full speed into the door
Quote: "Oh my God, like!" "That's gas"
What I'll Miss? Trying to stay in at lunch+ Ms.K's gingerbread men!!
Ambition: Become a true African and be black and see the great barrier reef .



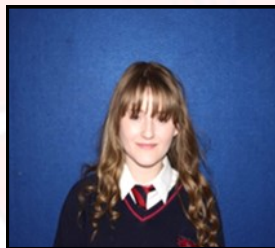
DAMIAN J. CUNNINGHAM
"Dado"

Moment: In classics Yasmin said "Sir, make it really hard" then I said "That's what she said"
Quote: "Remember: Dodge, duck, dip, dive and dodge"
What I'll Miss? Going to school hungover.
Ambition: Shave a Mohawk after the LC



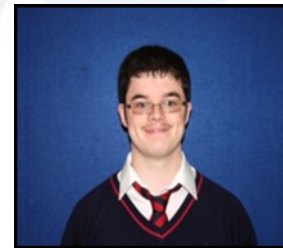
EOGHAN DOODY
"Doody"

Moment: Winning Leinster title in football
Quote: "That just doesn't cut the mustard" I Keane
What I'll Miss? The all round banter in school and Ciarán Tierney's attitude towards everything!
Ambition: To trend on twitter!



LAURA EDGERTON

Moment: China!!
Quote: "Life holds magic for people who dare to dream"
What I'll Miss? A typical fun filled Irish class.
Ambition: To travel the world!



DANIEL L. FAGAN
"Daniel"

Moment: Finishing the J.C.
Quote: "Opportunity is missed by most because it looks like work"
What I'll Miss? The slagging Abe gets and the jokes with Adam in Irish
Ambition: Play in my testimonial someday and become an architect



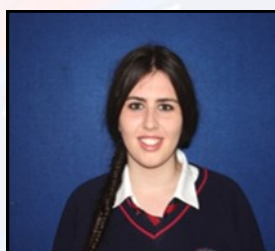
SADIE FITZGERALD
"Sadie"

Moment: In Home Ec in 2nd year and setting off the fire alarm.
Quote: "Just a nibble."
What I'll Miss? Being in such an intelligent and hardworking accounting class.
Ambition: To become a great chef and travel.



ASHLEY FITZSIMONS
"Shaniqua"

Moment: Driving Lauren home from school illegally on my moped with no helmet days after falling off
Quote: "Once you go black you never go back"
What I'll Miss? Ms.Cullen....naaaattt
Ambition: Marry Ken



SOPHIE GERRARD
"Soph"

Moment: Italian Exchange
Quote: Mr Keane: "You'll be flying it", Mr Nissar: "Let's go, let's go!"
What I'll Miss? Stories in Geography, Ms Kilrane, Free classes, Asho, Ello and Sofo, Monday's free double.
Ambition: Live until 100



JACK HOLSGROVE

Moment: Engineering project done
Quote: "Jelly or syrup?"
What I'll Miss? School friends
Ambition: Get enough points for a computer science course.



NIAMH KING

EMMA MCCORMACK
"Dilemma"

Moment: When I wore a wig into Home Ec and Ms. Delaney didn't even notice (I'm Mary Ward)

Quote: "Hate yis all"

What I'll Miss? The mayonnaise

Ambition: To work on a farm and live in Australia

CIAN MC TERNAN
"Tarmac"

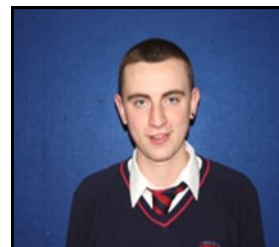
Moment: Winning football on Sports day. #Underdogs

Quote: "You lay it too hard, and drill it too slow." -Dylan Kelly.

What I'll Miss?

Ms. Kilrane's gingerbread men.

Ambition: Fill all Ratoath's potholes. Lay my own motorway.

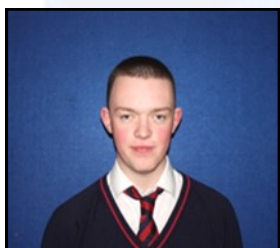
JACK MOLLOY
"Bum"

Moment: Attacking Dylz.

Quote: "Y' Alright??"

What I'll Miss? Cian's way of doing stuff.

Ambition: Do my best in life. Build my own car with 10 engines. Own a tractor.

LUKE MULLALLY
"Salmon"

Moment: Alex Holliday scaling the wall of the school

Quote: "At least he didn't milk it" -Ryan Graham

What I'll Miss?: Mr. Ó hEochaidh's bad jokes

Ambition: Get a hands-on job, like a carpenter...or win the lotto



JAMES MULVANY

Moment: Drinking on Wednesdays

Quote: "Winter's Coming"

What I'll Miss? The yuss

Ambition: To reach super saiyan 5



BEN NEWE

Moment: All-Ireland Champions

Quote: "This will be worth loads when I'm famous.."

What I'll Miss? The People

Ambition: To be as successful as I can be.

Travel the world. Play a lot of football.

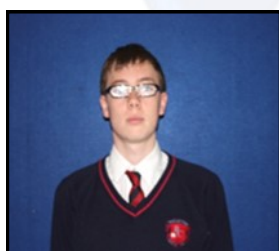
LAUREN O'REGAN
"Laurenn"

Moment: All the parties with Ms. Kilrane

Quote: When me and Sadie used to say "you coming out"

What I'll Miss? Teachers and friends and all the laughs

Ambition: To be successful

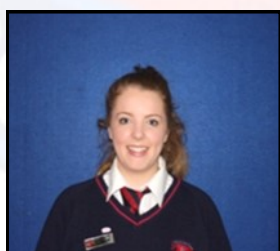
LIAM ROONEY
"Lopez"

Moment: China bartering.

Quote: "I'm not crazy! You're crazy! Especially you ghost of Nappa."

What I'll Miss? Dean Kavo

Ambition: Sort out mental health issues.

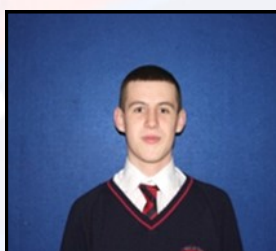
EMMA SCROOPE
"Scrooper"

Moment: Going on French exchange

Quote: "Winning is for losers!" Ms Kilrane

What I'll Miss? Home Ec class...the way it used to be, and Ms Kilrane's gingerbread men!!

Ambition: To visit every country in the world!



LUKE SCULLY

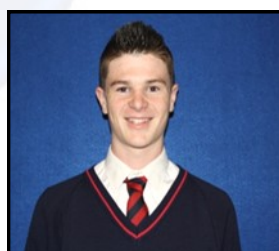
Moment: Mr Heaney singing at after school Engineering practicals.

Quote: "Valar Morghulis."

What I'll Miss?

Abraham's religious beliefs (Big Fish)

Ambition: Not to be back here in September.

JONATHAN SHIELS
"Cone-Face Killah"

Moment: Scoring a goal on Mr. Flynn.

Quote: "Ahreeet"

What I'll Miss? Heads and volleys with the lads and Yuss

Ambition: Make an appearance on *The Valleys*



CIARA SOMMERFIELD WALSH
"Ciwa"

Moment: Sophie's antics

Quote: "We'll be flying" - Mr. Keane

What I'll Miss? Ms. Kilrane's ginger bread men and Geography class

Ambition: Live in New York.



ABRAHAM ZAIDAN
"Abe-z"

Moment: The formation of The Dukes (a musical band made up by David Luke and Adam)

Quote: "Ahh Jaysus"

What I'll Miss? The Dukes

Ambition: To be rich and powerful

Rang McCarthy



CLODAGH BARNES
"Clodawg"

Moment: Being on TG4 without any warning. My Awkie momo.

Quote: "Just keep swimming"

What I'll Miss? Insightful tutorial conversations and construction with Martin

Ambition: Grow taller



JORDAN BERRY
"Jordan"

Moment: Taking 6 months to work out what a "Caomhnóir" was!

Quote: "The important thing is not to stop questioning"

What I'll Miss? School life

Ambition: To become successful and travel the world.



EMMA BRACKEN
"Bracken"

Moment: The races with Sarah-Lou and Kira.. SOUP!

Quote: "BABABABABA"

What I'll Miss? Morning locker Banter with the 8 o'clock crew

Ambition: To become a midwife



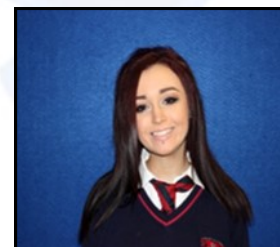
JONATHAN CLARKE
"JC"

Moment: Getting my bum bum out on Sports Day for Ms Prendergast ;)

Quote: "Mol an Óige.. Hmmmee"

What I'll Miss?: Getting postcards telling me how good I am at everything.

Ambition: To be successful



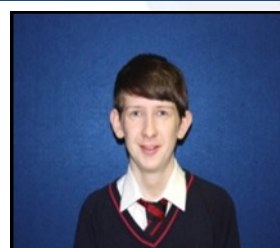
LAUREN CRAWLEY
"Crawlz"

Moment: Persuading Mr. McAuley to make us tea in class.

Quote: "Aw I'd love a Domino's right now."

What I'll Miss? Mr. Daly's pretty face.

Ambition: To grow my hair to my bum and own lots of hamsters.



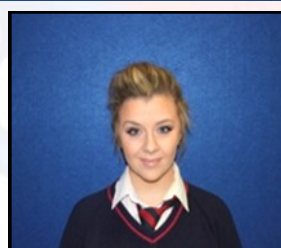
HUGH DALY
"Hughie"

Moment: Fitting fully into my locker!

Quote: "Not small... I'm average height now!"

What I'll Miss? Cinnire sandwich toaster

Ambition: Create my own type of cheese.



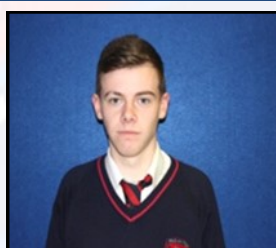
EMMA DEMPSEY
"Dempsey-real original"

Moment: Ms. Ní Mhurchú making Adam dance for the class.

Quote: "I look like a poodle"

What I'll Miss? Mr. McAuley's story telling.

Ambition: Travel the world with Mr. McCarthy as my tour guide - he knows all.



DILLON DOOLEY
"Dooley"

Moment: China as a whole

Quote: "Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is."

What I'll Miss? Friends in fifth year when I go to college

Ambition: To make a lot of money and see where things go from there.



EMMA DUFFY
"Scruff"

Moment: Literally everything in China!

Quote: "There's being adventurous and then there's eating the unknown" - China 2013.

What I'll Miss? Ms McTiernan's Irish class... Poor woman.....

Ambition: Just be successful



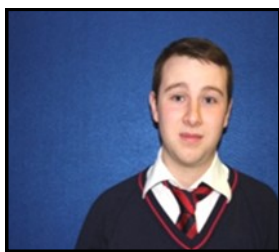
JENNIFER EIFFE
"Jen"

Moment: French Exchange, it was so bad it was great.

Quote: "I respect your right to an opinion, but let me tell you why you're wrong"

What I'll Miss?: Biology with Emma.

Ambition: Finally receive my Hogwarts letter.



ADAM FARRELL
"Duke"

Moment: The Dukes

Quote: "Hey take a good look at me, now picture me unhappy" TI

What I'll Miss? Jokes in general (Hook, Duke and jokes with the lads)

Ambition: Become a champ!



RYAN GRAHAM
"Grahamer"

Moment: Me & Halpin's ESPN classic 'Mandingo' fight

Quote: "The biggest risk is not taking one!"

What I'll Miss? Just having the craic & The soup with Briany x

Ambition: DJING in sunny Ibiza



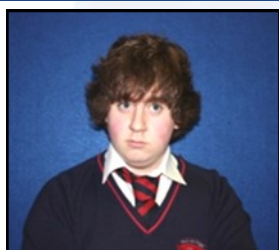
EOIN HALPIN
"Halpo"

Moment: Scoring in an All-Ireland in Gaelic. Ciarán Tierney halo theme song at TY camp

Quote: "If you're nay craic, you've nay chance"

What I'll Miss? Mandingo fighting and mega ball

Ambition: Still be chasing young first years at 40



NIALL HAYES
"Purple Haze"

Moment: When Luke Hall glued the mouse to the table in T.Y.

Quote: "I cry because others are stupid, and that makes me sad."

What I'll Miss? Mr. Connelly's sass.

Ambition: To receive my doctorate in physics.



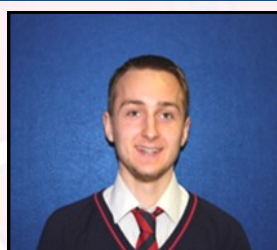
DARRAGH JONES
"Jonesy"

Moment: The Rugby Final

Quote: "Jonesy with the solution"

What I'll Miss? Cinnire Sessions and Being Stereotypical in English

Ambition: CALI-FORN-IA. Go to College and Travel.



GYTIS KAVALIAUSKAS
"Derp"

Moment: Replacing whiteboard markers with permament markers.

Quote: "Clean up" - Mr.H

What I'll Miss? YOU!

Ambition: To take part in DH race.



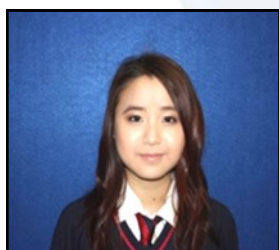
DYLAN KELLY
"Dylz"

Moment: All-Ireland basketball final and the debts.

Quote: "The yunter becomes the yunted"

What I'll Miss? Mr.Horan's antics and the yuss.

Ambition: To rid the world of the chint plague and get 15 A's in the Leaving Cert.



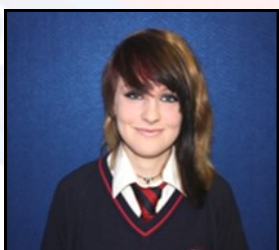
SHARON LEE
"Tiktak"

Moment: Slipping on bin lid, tripping over flat ground, being rugby tackled by D.J. and maybe winning the talent show.

Quote: "It's cas I'm Asian"

What I'll Miss? All the gosssssssss, oh the goss.

Ambition: To beat someone in a thumb war



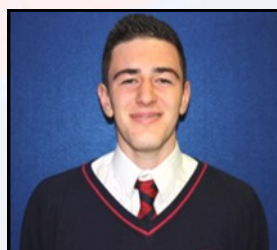
SHAUNA MAHON SMYTH
"Sham"

Moment: 13 people over the space of 1 year licked the shaved part of my head...eww.

Quote: "There is no method in my madness."

What I'll Miss? Stupid arguments with teachers.

Ambition: To do something with my life.



KEITH MCCABE
"Sharky"

Moment: Winning Leinster Soccer with the boys

Quote: "Haters gonna hate potatoes gonna potato"

What I'll Miss? Every teacher in the school hating my guts

Ambition: To not be filling out this again next year #prayforkeith



ALEX MCDONNELL
"That tall guy"

Moment: Getting lost on the Art trip.

Quote: "Goin' gym?"

What I'll Miss? The gym

Ambition: To drop a deuce on the Queen of England's couch



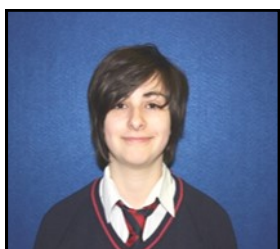
HEATHER MCMULLAN

Moment: When Emma fell down a flight a stairs.

Quote: "OMG! Guess what?!"

What I'll Miss? Finding an excuse every week not to do P.E and JMAC!

Ambition: To grow old with Mr. Flynn

ARIANNA PERSECHINI
"Ari"

Moment: bring home a badger in my bag

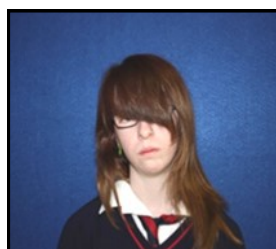
Quote: "Arianna, where are your shoes?"...hay!

What do you know I ain't got shoes on"

What I'll Miss?

Cleaning the art room

Ambition: Become the badger queen

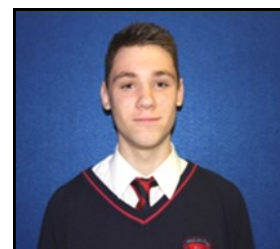
SARAH SMITH
"Smithy"

Moment: Doodle for Google.

Quote: "Ohana, Hakuna Matata, Show me your GRR face."

What I'll Miss? Friends, that Friday feeling, skipping, hiding behind hair

Ambition: Make Walt proud Don't mess up. Grow.

DAVID TONER
"Toner"

Moment: Winning the All-Ireland

Quote: "Form is temporary, class is permanent"

What I'll Miss? Mitchi...i mean going to class!!

Ambition: Play for Meath seniors and try to escape Curraha

CONOR J. R. P. TORMEY
"Beard"

Moment: Meditation

Quote: "You're the only one suited to wear this helmet as you are the only one with the beard for it"

What I'll Miss? Dossful Irish classes. DYSLEXICA FTW

Ambition: Re-grow my beard

CHRISTOPHER WATERS
"Chris"

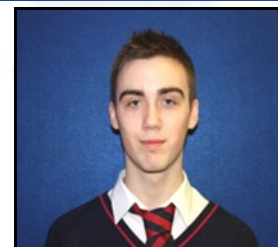
Moment: Being a starting player for senior rugby team, made the final and me dominating the lineout.

Quote: "BIG MUSCLES"

What I'll Miss? The banter everywhere and training

Ambition: To play rugby professionally

Rang
O'Neill

GLENN ARMSTRONG
"Braccio Forte"

Moment: Money in the Bank Match.

Quote: "Never give up on something that you can't go a day without thinking about."

What I'll Miss? The antics in general really .

Ambition: Live the good life abroad .

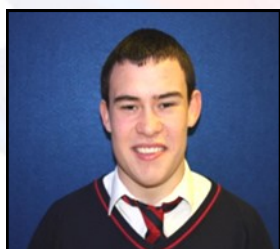
BRIAN DALY
"The Gearbox"

Moment: Winning The Leinster Soccer

Quote: "Since 95"

What I'll Miss? The Sport in school

Ambition: To out bench Ciarán "The Dragon" Tierney

DYLAN DOYLE
"Doyler"

Moment: Making the Leinster A Schools' team.

Quote: "Train as you play."

What I'll Miss? Playing rugby for the school.

Ambition: To play for Ireland in rugby.



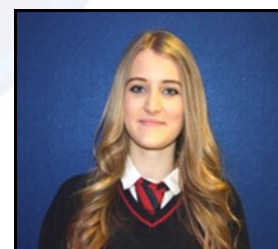
KATIE DOYLE

Moment: The Mouse in Ms Neilson's classroom!

Quote: "Can we have a five minute break?" - Home Economics Class.

What I'll Miss? School trips and lunch time.

Ambition: To Marry Mr Flynn!

LAUREN GILBERT
"Laur"

Moment: When my whole JC Home Ec practice

smashed all over the floor

Quote: "Scuttery Joe"

What I'll Miss? All my friends

Ambition: To never say 'Scuttery Joe' ever again.



ADAM GRIFFITHS
"Griffo"

Moment: Winning the All-Ireland final.

Quote: "Rats out!"

What I'll Miss? Mandingo fighting!

Ambition: Go to Trinity College!



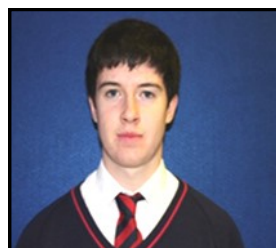
YASMIN HALPIN
"Yas"

Moment: When Lauren G fell in PE and everyone thought she was faking but broke her ankle.

Quote: "Oh no, you got vicious"

What I'll Miss? Damo's classics jokes + Business!

Ambition: To be pretty



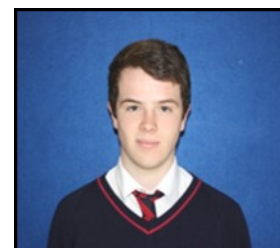
CONOR JOYCE
"CJ"

Moment: Winning the All-Ireland in 2012.

Quote: Do you want to go to 'Supersnacks' – Mr Qualter.

What I'll Miss? Playing GAA for the school.

Ambition: To be successful in my chosen career and be happy.



MICHAEL JUDGE
"Michael Judge"

Moment: Rugby Final

Quote: "Duke"

What I'll Miss? Conleth's 'Yuss Bus'

Ambition: Go to college



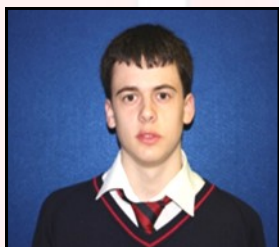
JACK MCDONNELL
"Foxy"

Moment: Beating up Ciarán Tierney

Quote: "Chalk it down"

What I'll Miss? Mega ball

Ambition: To still be legend.



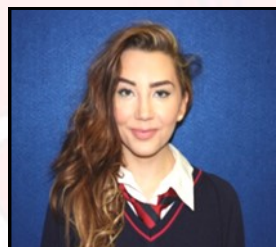
MARK MEYLER

Moment: Winning Leinsters with soccer team

Quote: "I'm tired"

What I'll Miss? The people

Ambition: To beat my brother in the leaving. Be successful



KIRA MORTON
"Maggy"

Moment: Ms. M. Daly explaining cubic functions with "bunny rabbits"

Quote: "Shut up Emma"

What I'll Miss? Seeing Mr. Murtagh run on the treadmill. Yum

Ambition: Buy Jack a tractor



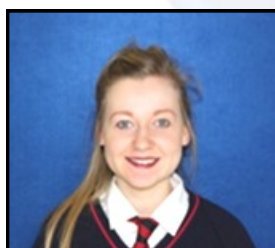
NICOLE O'CARROLL
"Coley"

Moment: Doing the Hoedown Throwdown with Ms. Ní Bhrolcháin!

Quote: "I should have known it was you!" –Fr. P.J

What I'll Miss? Our Bench!

Ambition: Go to Craggy Island and hope I'll be accepted into the nunnery...



KATIE O'NEILL

Moment: Getting kicked out of Mr Walsh's Maths class

Quote: "What's meant to be won't pass you by"

What I'll Miss? Mayo from canteen, Ms McTiernan's Irish class...

Ambition: Be happy and make lots of money



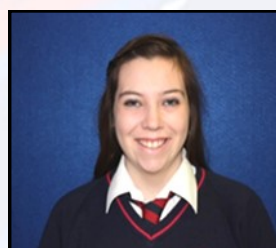
GLENN O'REILLY
"Biggie"

Moment: Winning The All-Ireland last year.

Quote: "Only Buzzin Man"

What I'll Miss? Megaball.

Ambition: To graduate from The Corminator's school for kids who can't bench good.



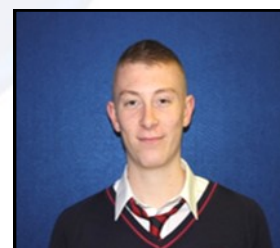
NIAMH O'RIORDAN

Moment: Singing while walking down The Great Wall of China with Ms Cullen and Ms Judge

Quote: Father PJ- "I should have known it was you"

What I'll Miss? Our bench since 1st year

Ambition: To join The Wolfe Tones



BRIAN POWER
"Eskimo Joe"

Moment: All-Ireland journey

Quote: "I want you in their shorts lads" D. Qualter

What I'll Miss? Megaball

Ambition: To end the Undertakers winning streak at Wrestlemania.



RYAN B. QUINN
"Quinnythepooh"

Moment: "Braining" Bill and Alex in biology.

Quote: "All I want is the moon upon a stick, just to see 'what if?'"

What I'll Miss? Mr Hannon <3

Ambition: To rock like Jesus, Godzilla and Spongebob combined.



WAYNE REILLY
Wazza

Moment: Watching ham sing spider pig.

Quote: "May your summer be full of drink and awesomeness."

What I'll Miss? Mr McAuley singing in the halls.

Ambition: Grow an awesome afro.



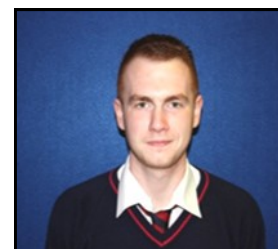
JACK STOCKWELL
"Jacky"

Moment: Ms. Ní Bhrolcáin's Irish class, a series of bizarre moments.

Quote: "It's only as good as you make it" – Ryan Graham

What I'll Miss? The mayonnaise

Ambition: Once I'm happy I don't mind.



CIARÁN TIERNEY
"Dragon"

Moment: Italy, China, Transition year, Ivor's quotes of the day, "The Rid-dler" Mr O'Reilly.

Quote: "Do you not talk to him cause he is black?!"

What I'll Miss? The grief off teachers

Ambition: To get a tan



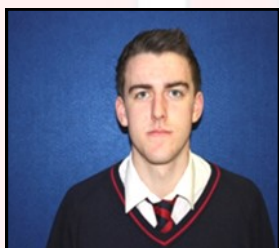
RACHEL TORMEY
"Rachiee"

Moment: Darragh Kelly pulling my legs and falling flat on my face.

Quote: "Oh my God, you got viscous."

What I'll Miss? Ms. Kearney's Maths class

Ambition: To be working and happy



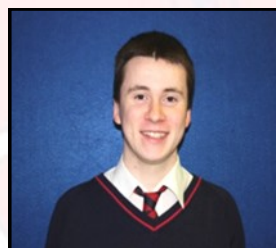
ROBERT WATTERS
"Rob"

Moment: China

Quote: "If you use black pen you will fail your Junior Cert"

What I'll Miss? Glenn O'Reilly beating lads before a GAA match

Ambition: To finally bench as much as Conor 'The Machine' Falvey



SHANE WOODS
"Woodzie"

Moment: China, Culture Award, School Musical

Quote: "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."

What I'll Miss? Nothing

Ambition: Successful published author and all my dreams to come true!!!

Rang
Ryan



SARAH-LOUISE ADAMS
"Sarahlouu"

Moment: Ms. Daly imitating the scream-Whatsuup? <3

Quote: "Preeeeetty"

What I'll Miss? Mr McAuley in Classics, beaut!

Ambition: Get a ger-beary quote tattooed on me.



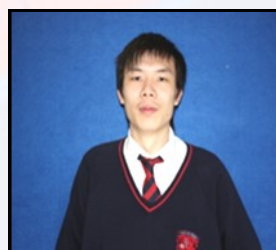
VINCENT BROWN
"DJ Vinny B"

Moment: Going on report for absolutely nothing!

Quote: "That's what she said" ... at least once a day

What I'll Miss? BANTER

Ambition: Hope to work as a janitor in a college, solve difficult Maths equations on chalk boards, my best friend will be Ben Affleck.



TING LOK CHANG
"Ting"

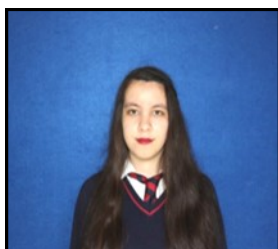
Moment: Always doesn't get the joke. (ノ◕_◕)ノ ㄣ

Quote: 'Exceed yourself, you exceed the world.'

What I'll Miss? Probably the teachers making everyone eerily quiet at some days.

Ambition: Having multiple paid jobs at once.

DYLAN CONNOLLY



MARY ENG
"M.E"

Moment: Behind the scenes of West Side Story

Quote: "Say cheese"

What I'll Miss? Sports day

Ambition: To be happy



RICHARD FAGAN
"Dribbley Drew"

Moment: French class in general.

Quote: "Do you see what you get when you mess with the warrior"—Turk
What I'll Miss? Rugby and Ms Cullen and many other teachers.

Ambition: To become president of Cameroon.



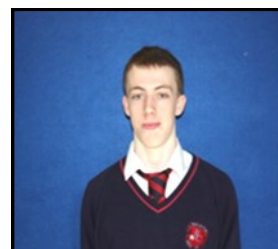
CONOR FALVEY
"Falvey"

Moment: Winning Sports Day with Rang Nelson, TY Camping.

Quote: "Failure is only a step on the way to success"

What I'll Miss?: Excitement of false fire alarm. People.

Ambition: Run a sub 20 second 100 metres.



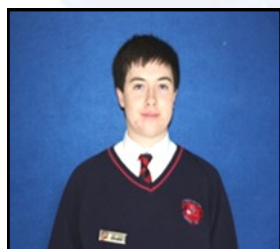
EOGHAN GUBBINS
"Gubstep"

Moment: Leaving last year

Quote: "How do you open the internet?" Sorry PJ.

What I'll Miss? First years on prayer forgetting half the our father

Ambition: To finish college without liver failure



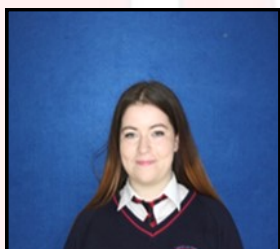
EOIN JOYCE

Moment: TY - I really grew in confidence and enjoyed every minute of the year.

Quote: "If it is to be, it is up to me."

What I'll Miss? Everything about life in the school, the fantastic people I've gotten to know.

Ambition: To have a great career and to travel!



SHAUNA JOYCE
"SJ"

Moment: Mr.McAuley and Shauna Mahon Smyth singing Bootylicious.

Quote: 'Don't tell anyone I said that'-Mr.Carey

What I'll Miss? Classical Studies classes.

Ambition: To one day be successful and come back to Ratoath College.



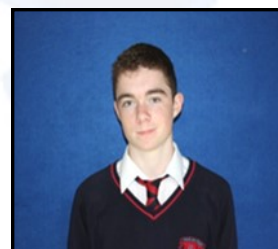
BILL KELLY
"Birr"

Moment: TY camping trip

Quote: "DOOOYYYYLLLLLE"

What I'll Miss? Lunchtime banter!

Ambition: To move abroad



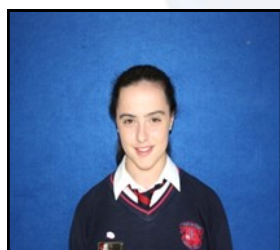
IAN MARRON
"Croissant"

Moment: Eoin Halpin's flying tackle on Eoin Joyce

Quote: "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take"

What I'll Miss: The world according to Mr Keane, Mr Hannon's dry humour, banter, French exams

Ambition: Bench more than Conor Falvey



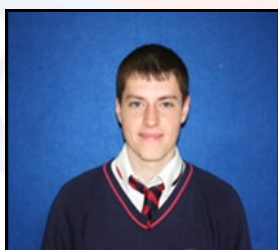
CIARA MC CABE
"Mc Cabe"

Moment: China Trip 2013

Quote: "That's shockin!"

What I'll Miss? The craic in classes & Mr Carey's Religion classes.

Ambition: To be successful in my career, earn lots



GAVIN MCGOWAN

Moment: Winning the All-Ireland last year

Quote: "But he can run fast"

What I'll Miss? Being late everyday

Ambition: To be able give a team talk like Glenn O'Reilly



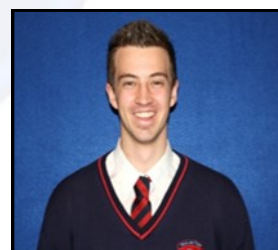
REBECCA MULVEY
"Mulvey"

Moment: Eoin falling down the stairs!!

Quote: "Ya what?? That's gas..Lolocaust!"

What I'll Miss? The gang battling to stay in at break...on a mission!

Ambition: To get married on the GAA pitch...Pause Nawt.. To be a dog.



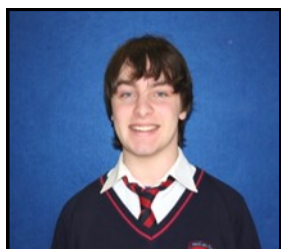
EOIN O'BRIEN

Moment: TY China Trip.

Quote: "Don't log on yet. Ok, now log on."

What I'll Miss? Being herded outside like cattle at break time and Mr. McAuley's magnificent voice during speeches.

Ambition: To Be Mr. Hannon.



EINO O'CONNOR
"Special Eoin"

Moment: When I became friends with Luke T.

Quote: "Yaaaah cool"

What I'll Miss? The easy life.

Ambition: To find out what my ambition is.



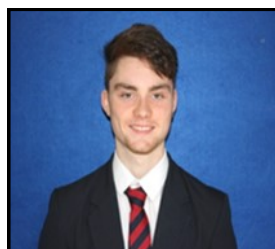
TONI O'ROURKE
"Tee"

Moment: Running into the door, saving my chicken roll

Quote: "NO ONES GETTIN ANY!!!" (food)

What I'll Miss? Robbing the mayo from the canteen.

Ambition: Get married to Keith McCabe and bum off him for the rest of my life.
#KDL



LUKE QUINLAN
"Ard Rí"

Moment: When Mr. Carey explained what "rimming" was to us.

Quote: "Why am I so good looking"-Keila W

What I'll Miss? Ms. Daly's amazing sarcasm

Ambition: To fly to the Degobah system and train with Yoda



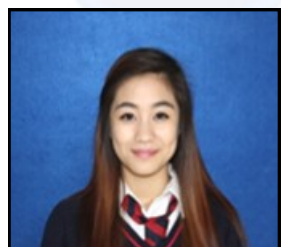
LYDIA REDMOND
"Lyd"

Moment: When Mr. Carey said orgasm instead of organism in religion.

Quote: "The duty of youth is to challenge corruption" - Kurt Cobain

What I'll Miss? Laughing in Home Ec

Ambition: To get successful by procrastinating



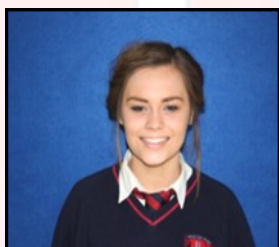
SAMANTHA SANTILLAN
"Sam"

Moment: China Trip!

Quote: "Just keep smiling."

What I'll Miss? Laughing uncontrollably in Home Ec.

Ambition: To grow taller



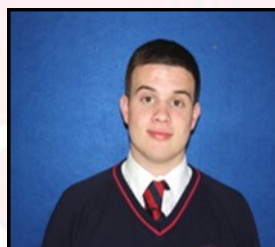
LAUREN SHERRY
"Laurz"

Moment: My 3rd year graduation speech.

Quote: 'Ye big poshie'

What I'll Miss? Friends & Teachers

Ambition: Live Happily Ever After With My 12 Cats.



JASON TYNDALL
"Jay"

Moment: Winning the Leinster Cup with my ho-mies.

Quote: "Don't be jel, be reem."

What I'll Miss? Megaball.

Ambition: To host Take Me Out / become Paddy McGuinness/ become a Geordie. Ahreeet.



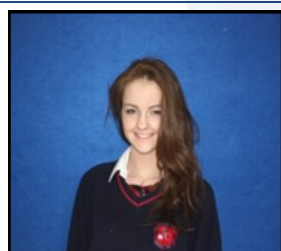
CONOR WARD
"Wardy"

Moment: Winning the All-Ireland football.

Quote: "Winning isn't everything but wanting to win is"

What I'll Miss? Mr Keane's stories in Geography.

Ambition: To go to college and achieve a degree in Product Design.



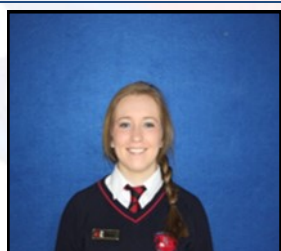
KEILA WHELAN
"Teely"

Moment: Boob slip in musical. Army crawling with Jodie past Ms. Prendergast's office.

Quote: "Sponging is Key"

What I'll Miss? Ms Cullen's singing.. NOT MR CAREY

Ambition: Marry David Toner and have class talented gorgeous Kids



MEGHAN WITTER-NOLAN
"Megatron"

Moment: Ice-Skating with the whole school

Quote: "Life's pointless without geometry."

What I'll Miss? Maths class with Scooper J

Ambition: To become an actuary and to own a pet penguin.

Class of 2013 Cinnirí



Back row (l-r): Philip Healy, Ciara McCabe, Shane Woods, Ellie Bolger, Luke Quinlan, Emma Dempsey, Jennifer Eiffe, Keith McCabe, Hugh Daly, Darragh Jones, David Toner, Rachel Rourke, Aoife McGoldrick, Emma Scroope, James Mulvaney, Sarah-Louise Adams, Keila Whelan, Meghan Witter-Nolan, Rachel Tierney, Eoin Joyce.



Class of 2013 Ard-Cinnirí:

Ellie Bolger
&
Luke Quinlan

Class of 2013

MOST LIKELY TO...

Get 600 Points



Conor Falvey
Megan Witter Nolan
Sharon Lee

Dylan Connolly
Michael Judge
Ryan Graham

End up back here next year



Appear on
Jeremy
Kyle

Dean Kavanagh
Lauren Gilbert
Dominique Coyle

Be a
contestant
on X-Factor



Keila Whelan
Adam Farrel
Darragh Grehan

To
become
President

Jennifer Eiffe
Eoin Joyce
Shane Woods

Compete for
Ireland in Sport

Ben Newe
Dylan Doyle
Abraham Zidan

Most Likely to
Marry a Millionaire

Emma Bracken
Toni O'Rourke
Emma Duffy



Luke Mullaly
Dean Kavanagh
Jonathan Sheils



Class of 2013

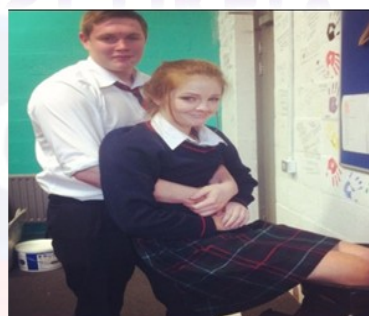
Couples to
get married

Cian & Ciara
Luke & Louise
Jack & Kira
Sophie & Jay

MOST LIKELY TO...

Become a
Millionaire

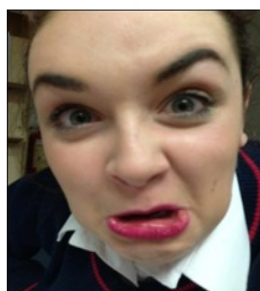
Luke Mullaly
Eoin Halpin
Jack Molloy



Become
a model

Kira Morton
James Mulvanny
Darragh Grehan

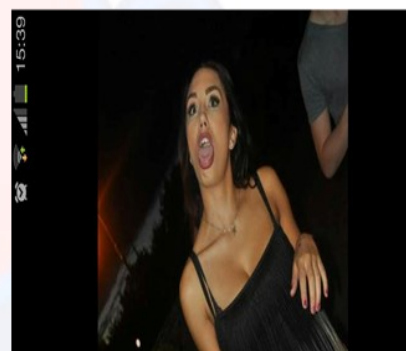
To Get
Married
First



Emma Bracken
Emma McCormack
Dominique Coyle

To be Forever
alone

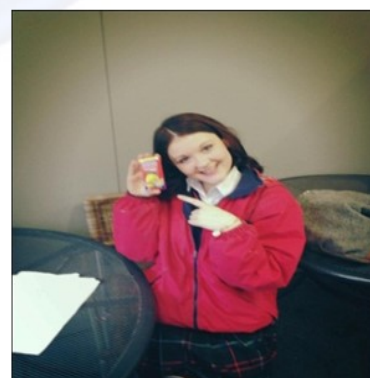
Brian Daly
Lauren Gilbert
Keith McCabe



To Become a
nightwalker

Rachel Tierney
Hugh Daly
Toni O'Rourke

To Appear on
EuroVision



Jack Cosgrove
Sarah-Louise Adams
Keila Whelan

Class of 2013

80-DRAGON-08



ITALY-08

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2013



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2013



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2013



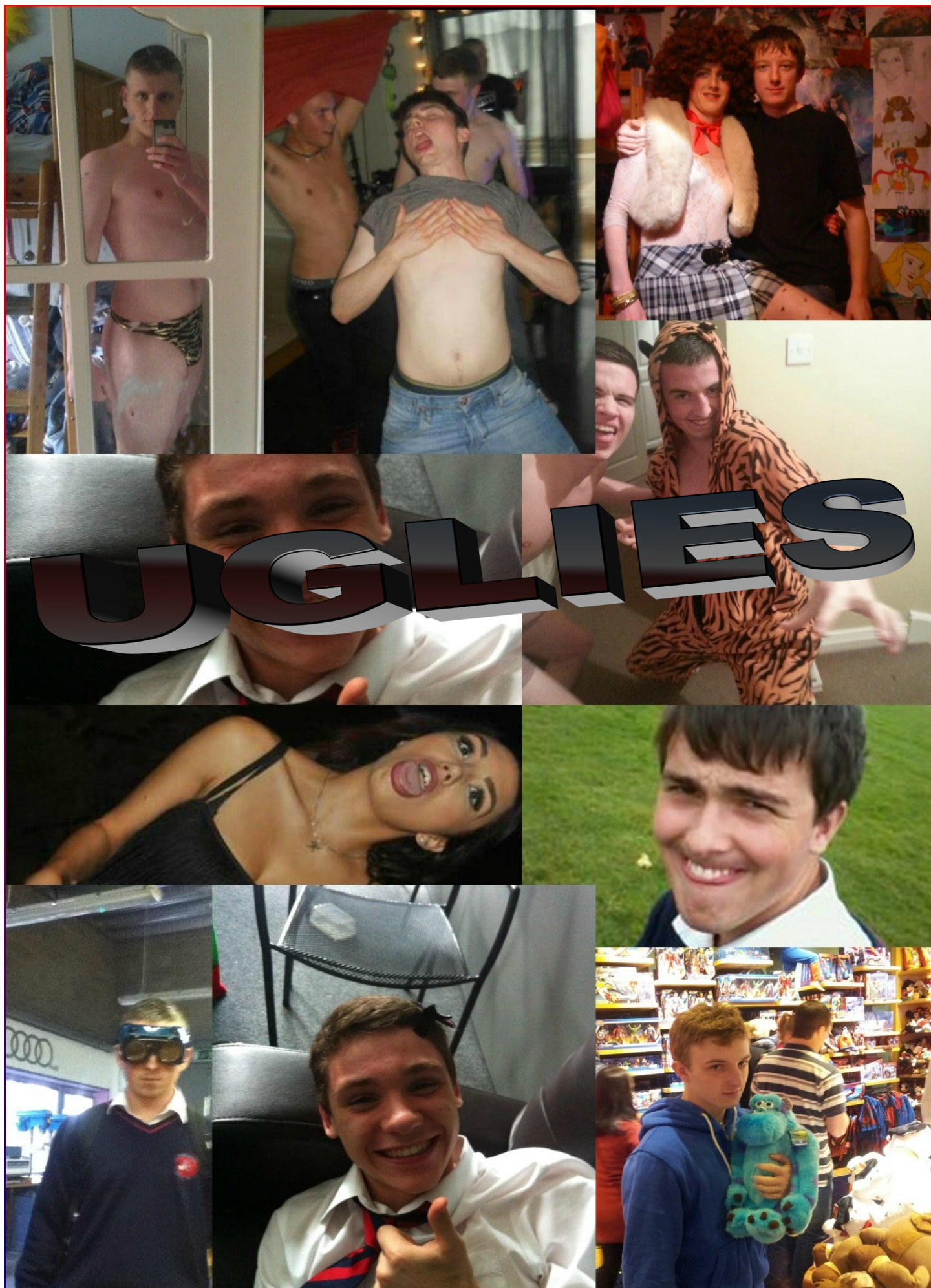
MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2013



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2013



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

CLASS OF 2013



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

CLASS OF 2013



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2013



Trends 2012/2013

Like

Love/Hate – “Oh my god Darren’s dead! ...Oh wait no he’s not?”



Gangnam Style – Psy

Harlem Shake

‘YOLO’/ ‘FISH’/ ‘LOL’

Instagram

Snapchat



Thrift Shop – Macklemore

One Direction

#Twitter #hashtageverything

“be grand”

F***** for the Irish Oral video

Geordie Shore



the award-winning
an criú craiceáilte
proudly presenting their debut album
sceitimíni&cailíní



Overuse of; “Suss”, “news”, “chats”

How Animals Eat Their Food video

Memes – ‘Y u no ...?’

Cinnamon Challenge

Call Me Maybe – Carly Rae Jepsen

An Criu Craiceailte – Sraith Pictuir

#[insert word here]iskey

‘B-ridge!’

‘The awkward moment when...’



Class of 2013



Instagram

Borussia Dortmund FC

Cup Song/ Knife Song

Let Her Go – Passenger

SHM (Swedish House Mafia)

Checkley's Love Life

'Suiting up'

US Election #thethingsrepublicanssay

Revenge – TV show

Falvey's Drinking Antics

Rattle – Bingo Players

Having an iPhone

Pompeii – Bastille

Payphone – Maroon 5

I Knew You Were Trouble (goat edition) – Taylor Swift

Les Misérables

Temple Run

#foreveralone

Dr Dre Beats



Rang Heaney



As I near the end of my two years working with Rang Heaney I think back very fondly of the experience. Working with such a small group presents its challenges but it also allows for some excellent teamwork, bonding and above all else, great friendships.

I found it a joy to see the confidence of each student develop immeasurably over the course of the Leaving Certificate Applied programme. I can honestly say that all of the young people leaving Rang Heaney will go on to achieve great things in the coming years. Please keep in touch!

Best of luck on whatever path each of you take, and mind yourselves on the outside!!!!

Kevin Heaney

Rang Hynes



Let me start by saying that I am very proud to have been the Caomhnóir to Rang Hynes for the last five years. It is with great sadness that I have to come to terms with the fact that you are leaving Ratoath College (and more importantly me!) and I will miss you so very much for many good reasons.

Rang Hynes are a group of outstanding students and no I am not biased! I admire you all. I admire your fantastic academic ability and dedication to your studies. I appreciate your wonderful personalities and your ability to be kind to one another and be loyal friends in times of heartache. I love your ability to see the good in life, in people and in your school. I respect (and often envy) all your sporting successes and the many marvellous moments you have experienced being part of a team and being triumphant.

I am so appreciative to you all for the wonderful memories you have given me as a class. When I think back to our 1st year Italy trip and remember how young and impressionable you were it is so lovely to see how you have all grown and matured into the caring and admirable young adults you now are. Thank you to the new TY students who joined Rang Hynes in 5th year, although I only know you two years it has been an absolute pleasure. Timo, Jackie and Davie you know I love you guys and Dave we are all very proud of you turning down the offer to play the role of Tarzan (because of your immaculate pecks) so you could concentrate on your study!

I would like to personally mention students who have achieved outstanding success in sport. I am hugely proud of Darragh Kelly for making the Dublin Minor Hurling team, Shane Clayton for making the Dublin Minor Football team, Alex Coakley for captaining the school rugby team to the Leinster Final and Darragh, Andrew and Callum for their involvement in that incredibly successful Ratoath College rugby squad.

Congratulations too to Matthew for getting into the Army Reserves and to Dean for joining us at such a late stage but doing so in such a mature and gracious manner. Finally, thank you to my fabulous models that looked sensational on the catwalk in this year's Ratoath College Fashion Show, yes Darragh, Jelico, Alex, Andrew, Rhoda and Eva you people are just too beautiful! Without mentioning everyone, thank you all for making me the proudest Caomhnóir.

Life is a wonderful journey. So my advice to you all now is as, you step out to meet the world with your mind prepared and your skills tuned, I urge you to continue to set your direction with a positive attitude and strong spirit. I wish each of you luck and perseverance. I look forward to hearing about you all in the next few years and I will be very proud to know you have continued to be kind and obliging people, that you have achieved your dreams and most importantly that you are happy.

I leave you with these wise words, "Watch your thoughts; they become words. Watch your words; they become actions. Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character. Watch your character; it becomes your destiny." - Frank Outlaw.

Ursula Hynes

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Rang Kilrane



I can't believe I'm saying farewell to Rang Kilrane as you make your way out into the big bad world! From your very first afternoon in Ratoath College, you bonded so well as a class group—such a mix of personalities and every one of you adding something special to the unique blend that is Rang Kilrane.

You have always been so warm and welcoming, kind and caring, crack-me-up funny and just the perfect amount of crazy; all of the things that have made it such a pleasure to be your Caomhnóir. I'm so proud of you all and of everything that you have achieved and will achieve in the future and I have been honoured to have my name linked to all of yours.

I'll miss every one of you and wish you all the gingerbread men you could ever manage. May you live as long as you want and never want as long as you live.

The very best of luck in your exams and don't be strangers in the future.

Thanks for everything.

Eimear Kilrane

I could not of got a nice group to take over this year. Kilrane have made me feel so welcome and I appreciate that so much.

They are a funny, enthusiastic and caring bunch.

Best of luck in all your future endeavours.

Deirdre Bourke

Rang M^cCarthy



I've been putting off writing this for a long, long time. And now that I've started, I know why: *"Parting is such sweet sorrow!"* It's difficult to know what to say, I even found it impossible to do a plan! So forgive me if I ramble at bit...

Although I didn't know it at the time, as it has turned out that day Ms Ní Bhróithe came into the staffroom and asked me to take over from Ms O'Dwyer as your Caomhnóir was a momentous one. I couldn't have foreseen how important you'd become to me.

I remember being in a meeting with some important education-types a few years ago. You know the kind: decision-makers, movers and shakers. We'd just finished, you and I, a lesson on themes in *Much Ado* - you'd been coming up with ideas together in groups and making posters. We were down in Room 22, there must have been house exams on that week. At first, I walked around the room and offered suggestions, but after a while I found myself sitting on one of the tables near the door, looking at you and grinning stupidly. There you were, earnestly talking about Shakespeare! Every last one of you, sharing ideas with each other, arguing with each other - about Shakespeare! As if the dreams of every wide-eyed trainee teacher had come true! All the things I'd hoped teaching would be, there it was right in front of me - you. Afterwards in the meeting, they asked me - these education-types, these movers and shakers - what I was most proud of about our school?

"My kids" I told them. I still am.

Indeed, although that was some time ago, my sense of overwhelming pride in you has never abated. It is the same with the old friends we bade farewell to at the beginning of fifth year and the new ones we welcomed. I hope I have been able to be of as much service to you - Jordan, Gytis, Johnny, Eoin, Dylan, Keith, Hugh, Ryan, Niall, Conor, Chris and later Emma - as my predecessors were.

It has been my great pleasure to share your journey into adulthood these last five years, to see your gifts and talents thrive and develop in so many spheres, from music to sport to art and beyond. I'm so proud of our Leinster and All-Ireland winners and finalists in GAA, Soccer, Rugby and Basketball; of Lauren's and Sharon's talent show successes; of Emma's appearance at the Royal Albert Hall - I wish I'd called in sick to see it; of David & Keith's Meath selection; and all the other myriad achievements you've been a part of. I should also mention Clodagh - without her, you'd all have been marked absent for five years in a row!

There's a line from old song I haven't heard in years that keeps popping into my head: *"I love you for a hundred thousand reasons, but most of all, I love you 'cause you're you"*. Some of the hundred thousand reasons I love Rang M^cCarthy might include:

1) The fact that you love arguing as much as I do, 2) DJ's outstanding taste in films, 3) That tie Arianna gave me for Christmas, 4) The smile Heather has for me every (well, most) mornings, 5) Emma Duffy's unquenchable desire to change the world, one issue at a time, 6) The way, when I'm having a bad day, as can sometimes be the case in this job, seeing one of you always makes me feel better about it.... and so on, *ad infinitum*.

But mostly, I love you because you are each your own person, unique and extraordinary in your own way, every single one of you. It might take a little longer to realise for some than others, but I know you all have the capacity to achieve extraordinary things in the world that awaits you beyond these walls.

If there's one piece of advice that I've always tried to impart to you, it's that kindness is never difficult - share your heart, your talent and your passion with those around you and always be generous of yourself - you will reap the rewards a million fold.

And so, after all that, I'm left with this simple but selfish thought: What in the world am I going to do without you?

I wish you joy, health and prosperity in all that you do, always.

I remain, of course, your dutiful servant,

John M^cCarthy

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Rang O'Neill



Rang O'Neill, as we approach the end of your time in school we look back and see how our lives have changed in the five or six years since you have been in Ratoath College. You started off as children in Rang McQuillan and we have seen you mature and grow into the young adults which you are now. In that time we have had a few rows; tears, of joy and sadness; we have had good days and bad days. Through it all you have been there for one another, as a comfort and support.

When all of the lessons are over and the exams are finished, what will stay with you will be the friendships and the memories which you made in Ratoath College. Whether it was a school trip to the DSPCA, the Italy trip in First Year, French Exchange trips, and more recently the school trip to China; you have had many enjoyable experiences. As well as that there have been many sporting achievements by the class; be it on the Gaelic pitch or the Rugby field; and who could forget the tug of war in First and Second Year? Who knows, one day we might see someone playing in Croke Park, wearing Green for Ireland in the Aviva, or competing in the Irish Open against Rory McElroy.

There have also been many achievements outside of the sporting world; in musicals, Irish Dancing, academia, and involvement in school life, to name but a few. You will be missed, but we hope that you will all go on to bigger and better things! This is the end of one chapter of your lives but the beginning of many more!

Wishing you all the very best for the future,

Niamh O'Neill & Laura Dinsmore

Rang Ryan



This is totally the best class in the school- multi-talented in every way. I have no doubt that I'll be hearing great things about you all as you embark on new adventures ahead. I may even be saying '*You know I used to teach Keila Whelan*' as she becomes famous in some hit show or '*That professional soccer player Eoin O'Brien was actually in my tutor group in school*'. I bet you'll regret the 1st year photos I still have of you then as I can sell them to some tabloid newspaper and make a bomb!

Seriously, I am so proud to have been your Caomhnóir and I wish each and every one of you the very best in life. This is a very exciting time in your lives and I hope that you all enjoy the journey of realising your dreams. I have fantastic memories of the last 5 years with you and we've had some journey.

To offer you advice I'm going to use the words of Mark Twain as it's my favourite quote and it always inspires me to make the most of every second and grab any opportunities that come your way.

Twenty years from now

So throw off the bowlines

Dream.

You will be more disappointed

Sail away from

Explore.

By the things

The safe harbour

Discover.

You did not do

And catch the trade winds

Than by the things

In your sails.

You did do.

Best of luck everyone. I have every faith in you,

Mairead Ryan

In the short time I've worked with Rang Ryan, I've been impressed by their camaraderie and loyalty to each other. They are highly motivated and have made my job very easy. The class has demonstrated leadership skills within the school and have set a fantastic example to other classes. The class have a great relationship with each other, and with their teachers. They will be missed as they move on, however I think the friendships they have formed within their class will stand the test of time.

I wish them the very best of luck in the future and hope that they carry fond memories of their time together in Ratoath College.

Amanda McNally

Fashion Show 2012

Ratoath College was proud to present our second school fashion show, which took place on 12th October 2012. It was a huge success. Students, parents, teachers and special guests who took part were fantastic. They came across as natural models. It was organised by the wonderful Ms Kelly and Ms Hynes who did a fantastic job. The special guest included the amazing Pippa O'Connor, Sarah McGovern and Ruth Griffen. With special performances by students Keila Whelan, Ellie O'Neill and Sarah Sheridan. They all really enjoyed themselves and had a ball of a time.

The clothes that were worn were by New Look, Debenhams as well as local boutiques and stores, along with sports wear from Elvery's. The make-up was done by The Lemon Door and Pampered by Pamela who did an excellent job as all the girls (& boys!) looked beautiful. Hair was done by Gatsby and Coyotes which also looked fabulous.

The stage was put together by the amazing woodwork department. It looked very professional, just like a real Milan runway!

Ann Eng, one of the students who took part said of the event: "It was a really enjoyable night and we all had get craic backstage as we were buzzing to go on. I think we all gained lots of experience in the modelling world" Mr Carey, one of the teacher models at the event also enjoyed himself thoroughly: "Wow! What an experience, the lights, the crowd. It was just amazing. I really have to think strongly now about moving my career into the



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



Talent To Behold



Sharon Lee — Winner

The standard of Talent at this year's talent show was extraordinary!

Sharon Lee is a 6th year student in Rang Mc Carthy. To win the 2012 talent show Sharon played the Game of Thrones on the piano. She put in months of preparation into her piece but has been playing the piano since she was 3 years . She is a self taught pianist who learned the Game of Thrones theme tune in 3 weeks.

David Caprani and Chloe Kelly Preformed together singing and playing the song Little Talks by Of Monsters Of Men. David is a Transition Year student in Rang Cahill and Chloe is a third year student in Rang Connolly. The two placed joined 4th with 5th year student Ellen Hogan who also played the piano.

Ellie O'Neill is a Transition year student in Rang Cahill. She has performed and won Meath's got talent. She performed her own song on the night called Lady in Blue. Her original song got her 3rd place. Singer Sadhbh Whitty came fourth.

The presenters for first Half were Helen Ryan from Rang O'Donoghue and Brian Musoke from Rang Cahill and for the second half Emmeline O'Malley and Aaron Dunne. All four did an amazing job on the night and spent many hours before hand writing the script and jokes to make it as entertaining as possible.

The Judges on the night were Ms Ni Bhróithe, Mr Cahill, Mr Mc Carthy, Ms Mannion and as a tradition last year's winners, Keila Whelan and Lauren Crawley. This year the judges had, as usual, an extremely hard job in choosing the winner on the night. The judges did a great job in choosing the winner and for that we thank them. All the competitors put in an amazing amount of work for the night and it most definitely paid off.

The students in Ratoath College would like to give a big thank you to all the teachers who helped in the run up to the show and on the night, if it wasn't for them the night would not have been as much of a success as it was. To Mr Mc Carthy and Ms Cullen, Ms Garrett and Mr Doyle, for the preparation on the night and at the auditions, Ms Henahan for coaching the competitors, Mr Walsh for helping the Transition years manage the shop and for allowing them use the equipment to capture and the special night on video and pictures.

We would also like to Thank Rang Cahill and O'Donoghue for running the event. For the crew behind the scenes setting up the stage, to people selling raffle tickets, to stewards, to photographers and videographers. And special thank you to all of the performers for entertaining us for the evening.



Runners up (left to right), Ellie O'Neill, Sadhbh Whitty, Chloe & David, Ellen Hogan

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2013

This year Seachtain na Gaeilge took place from 4th March until 17th March. It was a busy week in Ratoath College, as usual, with many events taking place throughout the week.

One of the events that took place was the toraíocht taisce (treasure hunt). Clues were hidden all over the school that led to the prize. Teams from first year and second year took part in this activity. The team that won from first year was made up of: Laura Sommerfield Walsh, Chloe Stockwell, Clodagh O'Farrell, Laoise Corcoran and Michael Quinn.

The team that won from second year was made up of: Meagan Shore, Becky Mahon, Clíodhna Moore and Lelia Byrne.

Throughout the week there was an on going competition for the best Irish speaker. There were first and second place winners from first and second year. In first year the 1st place winner was,

Cathal Tormey in Rang Lyons. The 2nd place winner was Ronan Keavney in Rang Dwyer.

In second year the 1st place winner was: Sadbh Thomas in Rang Hitillambeau. The 2nd place winner was Sarah Kate McConway in Rang Smith. The best Irish speaking teacher went to Ms. Smith.

Other events that took place were the poster competition and the long puc. The winner of the poster competition was Kate O' Brien. The winners of the boys long puc were Sean O' Hanrahan and Jordan Barnes. The winners of the girls long puc were Karen NicCaba and Danielle Power.

The highlight of the week was the bricfeasta on Friday. Everyone in the school was treated to sausages, a scone and an orange juice. The bricfeasta is always a great way to end the week.

Seachtain na Gaeilge was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who took part. It is always a great success in Ratoath College.



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La Giornata Italiana

La Semaine Française



Ratoath College's 2013 Italian day was a huge success and definitely topped last years with both teachers and students partaking in the activities.

The morning started with famous Italian music such as Andrea Bocelli and Vivaldi playing over the intercom system as we went to assembly. During assembly are resident Italian speaker Livio said the Our Father in Italian in front of the whole school.

There were many activities throughout the day, such as the second year's 'Italian Lunch' which consisted of cornetto di ciaccolatto (Chocolate croissant) and orange juice. Later during big lunch the first and second years football tournament.

The activities weren't just about sport, they was also a poster competition won by Dominica of First year. There was quizzes

on throughout the day and at lunch there was an Italian movie playing for all years.

It was a great day and both students and teachers enjoyed it.

French week 2013 was a huge success in Ratoath College, with lots of activities for students from all years.

French week was kicked off by the French breakfast which consisted of croissants, pain au chocolat and a choice of juices supplied from the local restaurant 'As you like it'.

A French theatre group came in a performed two plays. One called Le Bon Roi for first and second years and another called Le Texte Perdu for fourth and fifth years. There was a movie on during lunch time for all students to help with their French oral work.

It was a fantastic week with many great activities to attend.

APPLIED MATHS QUIZ SUCCESS

Mr Cahill led his Maths charges to great success this year in the National Applied Maths Table Quiz.

The Ratoath team, consisting of Tim Ryan, Meghan Witter-Nolan and Darragh Grehan blew the competition away in the first round, the North East Regional Competition on 20th March.

The following Saturday at the All-Ireland competition in Portlaoise, our very own Math-a-Magicians again acquitted themselves well, finished as the best placed team in Leinster!



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Ratoath College Rugby 2012/2013

The 2012/2013 season for rugby in Ratoath College, was not successful (with the exception of one team), but certainly fruitful, with both players and coaches alike breaking the boundaries of what we all thought was possible those few years ago when rugby first started in Ratoath College.

Players on the senior team made history this, year, with making the final of the Senior Development Cup for the first time in the history of the school. We also had our first Leinster representative player, Dylan Doyle who played with the Leinster "A" in the Interpro Provincial Series. His sheer power and monstrous lunacy would be enough to frighten even the manliest man.

With impressive statistics recorded this year, and quality coaching from David Nelson and Darren Kenna C.C.R.O, the prospects for senior rugby in Ratoath College look bright.

Also coming close was the Junior team, led by none other than the dynamic duo of Ivor Keane and Mohammed Nissar, whose strategic awareness and tactical prowess brought the Junior Team to semi final which they unfortunately lost; a match which some would dispute the terms of the loss, but a wise man once said "You can't win them all, but the ones you lose you can still be bitter about".

And last but by no means least was newly formed girls rugby team, managed by the Iron lady herself - Nicola Kearney. The girls senior and Junior teams have attracted a huge amount of interest among the female population of the College, with combined squads of nearly forty girls. The girls have comprehensively won every match they have played, in which their opponents were genuinely outclassed by a stronger, fitter, and better trained rugby team. The girls team is tipped for bigger things, and I'm sure as soon as more schools start to assemble girls teams, they too can provide cannon fodder for our girls.

Rugby is fast becoming part of the Ratoath College heritage, ever since the first team played their first match on the hallowed Jamestown ground, no Ratoath College team has ever been beaten on home turf, this is an incredible record considering how young the school is in schools rugby terms, with strong players from first year right through to the sixth years, the future of Ratoath College rugby is only going one way.

"Ever since the first team played their first match on the hallowed Jamestown ground, no Ratoath College team has ever been beaten on home turf"

"His Sheer power and monstrous lunacy would be enough to frighten even the manliest of men"

"And last but by no means least was newly formed girls rugby team, managed by the Iron Lady herself - Nicola Kearney."

The Road to Donnybrook

As was aforementioned, the Senior team made history this year by reaching the final of the Senior Development Cup for the first time. Although they lost to Wexford C.B.S, a titanic effort was made by the players, coaches and the supporters, in total eight matches were played, seven of which were victories.

The season was well documented by the coaching panel, with guest coaches being brought in to give the team an edge. The following is the season in brief, the team would like to thank the coaches and all the supporters who came out on that cold January afternoon and gave such mighty support.

Squad:

Robert Waters
Darragh Walsh
Richard Fagan
Darragh Hoare
Daire Gannon
Darragh Kelly
James Dervan
Darragh Grehan
Gytautas Sikarskas
Darragh Jones
Shaun Brown
Christopher Waters
Dylan Doyle
Adam Rooney
Alex Coakley (Captain)
Conor Cunningham
Micheal Judge
Rob Grall
Jamie Walsh
Callum McMahon
Daragh Byrne
Dylan Williams

Game I

Ratoath **49-0** Dunboyne

Game II

Ratoath **46-3** Athboy C.S

Game III

Ratoath **31-10** Drogheda Grammar

Game IV

Ratoath **50-12** Malahide C.S

Game V

Ratoath **22-10** St.Colmcilles

Game VI

Ratoath **47-0** St.Mels

Game VII

Ratoath **26-3** De La Salle Churchtown

Game VIII

Ratoath **20-51** Wexford C.B.S

Top Points Scorers:

- 1.D.Kelly (68 pts)
- 2.A.Coakley (50 pts)
- 3.R.Fagan (40 pts)
- 4.D.Doyle (35 pts)
- 5.G.Sikarkas (15 pts)

Top Sentimental Value:

1. Ham (100 pts)
2. C.Cunningham (100 pts)
3. C.'Ham (100 pts)





Leinster representative player Dylan Doyle.

Dylan represented Ratoath College for the Leinster “A” team. Dylan played against Connacht, Munster, and Ulster, winning all of the matches. Dylan enjoys training, and also likes a spot of gardening.

*Team Talisman Conor
Cunningham, who stunned
the school with his
rendition of “Spider Pig”-
Ham, we love you.*



The Huddle



By Darragh Hoare

Girls' Rugby

Girls try contact rugby

2012-13 has been a fantastic year for girl's rugby in Ratoath College, with two brilliant teams fielded in the first ever school's league for girls and some very impressive wins over the opposition schools. Before this school year there has never been an opportunity for girls to play rugby at school level. 2012-13 saw the beginning of the Leinster Girl's Schools Rugby Competition. Ratoath College fielded both a Junior and a Senior team in this competition and had an unbelievably successful season. Many of the girls who played with the teams had never played rugby before and the school team gave them an opportunity to get involved in a school activity and try a new sport.

The first game of the season, and also the first ever girl's rugby match for Ratoath College was a home match v Scoil MacDara. Both teams played their hearts out through wet and freezing conditions, with some brilliant scores and unstoppable defense and came out of the battle with fantastic wins of 44-5 for the senior team and 48-10 to the junior team, much to the delight (and somewhat amazement) of their coach, Ms. Kearney.

In the second round of the championship, the girls came head to head with their neighbouring team Ashbourne CS away in Ashbourne rugby club. Another fantastic performance, especially quick on the defensive against a strong, well-paced Ashbourne side, awarded the Ratoath girls with another satisfying 40-5 victory, leaving them unbeaten with one match left to play.

The final challenge for the team was played on the home pitch v. Firhouse. Again the girls put on another fast-paced, high-scoring performance against their opponents, beating them 42-10. This left them sitting unbeaten at the top of the table at the end of the competition, an impressive accomplishment for a first-time team. This year's group of girls have set the bar high for the standard of girl's rugby in Ratoath College and hopefully the team will continue to grow and improve under the coaching and management from Ms. Kearney and assistant coaches Darren Kenna and Nicola Finglas.



Team talk before the first game.



The Junior's victory over Scoil McDara's.



Teamwork from Ratoath against Firhouse.



*2012-13 Girl's Rugby Squad along with their
coach, Ms Kearney*

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Get in the Hole!!!

This Year there was both golf and pitch and putt on offer. In the golf there was two teams picked at the start of the year, a junior team and a senior team. The senior team played this year but the junior team didn't because it clashed with the pitch and putt. In the pitch and putt eight teams played in the first round

Pitch and Putt

The qualifying round this year was in Navan pitch and putt club. It was a cold morning in Navan but as the day went on it got warmer and warmer and it turned into a lovely evening to play pitch and putt. The teams were in groups of threes and there was no handicaps involved. All the groups were mixed up so you weren't playing with people from your own team. Each player had to play thirty six holes and each of the players scores were combined to decide which of the teams qualified for the Leinster finals. From Ratoath there was eight teams playing and there was also schools from Navan hoping to qualify. In the end four of the Ratoath teams qualified for the Leinster finals which was to be played in St. Bridget's Pitch and putt club.



The Leinster Finals

The bus journey was long and tedious and when we got off the bus we all had to do a warm up because we were all stiff after a long bus journey. The course was difficult enough but to add to the difficulty it was also a windy day. We had four teams playing and we were hoping to get at least one to qualify for the All-Irelands to be played the next month. Half an hour after arriving we were called to the first tee box. One by one the players went out hoping to play well and qualify. The first hole was a tough hole to start with as it was uphill, hitting to a blind green. In the end everyone played well but only one team was likely to qualify for the finals in next month. This team consisted of Glenn Mee, Enda Cahill and Mark McCormack. The team didn't know whether they qualified for a long time after they had finished because some of the other qualifiers were playing in the afternoon tee times. The team later found out from the manager of the pitch and putt team Ms. Claire that they missed out on qualifying for the All-Irelands by just two shots.

Well done to all on a great year once again!

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Unsuccessful Year on the Soccer Pitch for Ratoath

Under 15

I was part of the under 15 boys school soccer team coached by Mr Murtagh and Mr O'Reilly. We only had two matches this year because the first match was a warm up game and unfortunately we were knocked out of the cup in the second match. It was a tough game which we lost 5-3. this year wasn't our year but we most certainly are a team for the future.

Under 17

It was a fantastic journey for the under 17 boys soccer team that sadly came to a premature end in this seasons Leinster cup trophy. A strong start opening game against Blakestown saw the team to an emphatic 5 -1 defeat of their talented opposition. Goals from Dan Chochlinski twice, Callum McGovern , Moe el Sayed and Graeme Reynolds demonstrated slick passing and a skill level that couldn't be matched by the opposition . The team with the opportunity to make a semi final, just came short against a very well respected Fairview outfit being defeated 3-2. Two suburb goals scored by Luke Darcy Wasn't enough in a game that really could have went either way. The team however can be very proud of their fantastic commitment and team spirit and there mentors Mr Murtagh and Mr Mc Auley are very optimistic about the teams chances next year.



FIRST YEAR BOYS SOCCER



This year in Ratoath College the first year soccer team have had a very enjoyable and successful year. This year there was a great turn out, the most in the history of the school, a promising year was on the cards.

Every Friday evening after school the team trained for an hour and a half. The sessions were very tough, a lot of fitness work was being done to prepare the team for the upcoming season. The team put in a great effort each and every training session making it so difficult for the trainers Mr. Daly and Mr. O'Reilly to cut down the panel to a squad of 16.

As weeks went on they could really see the squad develop both mentally and physically, and you could see the squad beginning to gel as a unit. Everybody was looking forward to the first game of the season that began in late November. They were entered into the Leinster cup, if they lost a game they were to be eliminated.

So as preparation a few friendly matches were arranged, which were won very convincingly. The first years played their first cup competition match. They won their first round match, they put in a lot of effort and it really paid off! The second round game was against Chanel college in the Parnell's G.A.A all weather. They lost that match by a big margin but didn't deserve it as they were the better team in the first half. They were very disappointed

as they did not deserve to lose by such a margin, and as a result they were knocked out of the Leinster cup.

However the team had to keep their heads up and prepare for the league matches upcoming. Their first league match was in Dundalk, they played Drogheda in the first game and narrowly lost and played in the second game against Dundalk and drew 1-1 but they deserved too win as they were the better team by far and had a lot more chances, that was the last game for the first years. Although they didn't have a very successful season everyone strongly believes that they will go very far in the coming year.

The goalkeeper on the team Darragh McPartlin was asked a few questions about the entire season.

Did you enjoy the training sessions? Yes, I did enjoy the training sessions, however I believe the management could have been a lot stricter to help keep better discipline within the team and to encourage us to achieve better this season.

Do you think you had a successful season as a squad? Not really, I felt that with the number of players we had and the quality of the squad was very high but we achieved very little considering we could of went further than we achieved this year.

Do you think your team will improve next year? Yes, with a bit of hard work and preparation I think

HEARTBREAK FOR RATOATH STARS

The 1st year girls soccer team came to the end of their Leinster Cup odyssey on Friday, 26th April, when they were beaten in the final.

The girls eventually went down on penalties to the dominant force in girls soccer, Loreto Kilkenny.

Loreto had already claimed the Leinster title at U15 and U17 level but, having defeated Scoil Chríost Rí, Loreto Bray and local rivals, Dunboyne with consummate ease, our girls were in confident mood facing into the showdown. Indeed, they had conceded just one goal on their run to the final, while netting 11 at the other end.

A hard-fought first half, when facing into a strong wind, saw Ratoath match Loreto at every turn and the best chance of the half fell to Claire Nolan, who confidently rounded the goalkeeper before a last ditch tackle on the line thwarted her. The defence, marshalled by Lua Henderson and Kayleigh Wilson, were in sparkling form, while Olga Merrigan was keeping goal with the confidence of Shay Given. 0-0 at half time, the girls were confident of taking control in the 2nd half.

Ratoath piled on the pressure after the break, with Judy Bobbett going close on a couple of occasions and some superb link up play on the wings by Áine O'Connor and Leah Farrell. Kira Bryan, Katie Newe and Layla Aniss were giving their usual 110% displays but, unfortunately, the deadlock remained unbroken and the game headed for extra time.

The girls continued to push hard in extra time and the introduction of Katie Browne gave extra help to an already impressive Rebecca Mahon up front. However, more chances, particularly from great crosses out wide, weren't enough to break down a strong Loreto defence.

The title was eventually decided on penalty kicks. Extremely brave efforts from Bobbett, Nolan, Wilson, Newe and Mahon, as well as a penalty saving display from Merrigan in goals, were not enough for the girls, who eventually came up one goal short. Loreto took the title, but Ratoath took the plaudits. It was commented by the competition organiser that they were "the better team in the best cup final in years!" They will pick themselves up from this disappointment and will undoubtedly go on to claim huge successes in the future.



The First Year Girls' soccer squad on duty for their Leinster Final appearance along with their coaches Mr McCarthy & Ms Grogan.

Basketball Boys Bounce To History



In this article we follow the footsteps of the great under 19 basketball team to the all Ireland final and also talk about the upcoming talent from the first and second year teams.

Galway

Heroism is often an overused term. However, it is the only word that comes to mind to describe the play of the Ratoath College u19 boys basketball squad in the All Ireland playoffs that took place in Galway. The team faced down squads from the hotbeds of Basketball in Ireland, namely Donegal, Laois, and Galway. In the first game we took on Heywood CS from Laois and won by a margin of 58 to 43. Joey Wallace shone in this game putting in a MVP (Most Valuable Player) display.

Next we faced Rosses CC from Dungloe in Donegal. Daniel O'Donnell was there to support his team but the Ratoath boys were the only ones singing after as a result of a 59 to 50 victory. Charlie Coombes hot shooting streak was a highlight of this win. In our final encounter we faced Galway CC and their substantial home support. In the face of fiery home resistance and home town refereeing decisions, we managed to scrape home by a 1 point margin. This game featured outstanding rebounding from Ben Scroope and tenacious defending from Ryan Graham. All roads now lead to All Ireland Semi Final against St Munchins of Limerick.

“fail to prepare, prepare to fail”

If you could describe this semi final in one word it would be exhilarating. This semi final had all the aspects of a NBA match. It had team spirit, it had determination, it had skill, it had great mangers and much more. The day started off with the team exiting the school onto the bus with the school roaring support to us as we left. The team was focused as ever and was lead into Tallaght leisure centre by captain Charlie Coombes. As there was a match on before the big game the team settle the pre match nerves for about thirty minutes until coach Qualter let out a call to bring the lads into the dressing room.



As coach Qualter and Heaney did all they by giving the team one of the best team talks it was all in the lads hands. They walked out to a court full of screaming fans. The game was end to end stuff both teams scoring amazing baskets. Ratoath main scores were Charlie Coombes and Joey Wallace. Ratoath never went ahead in the whole match but that didn't stop them battling. When Joey scored the basket to put us within one the place erupted the clock stopped at thirteen seconds. Coach Heaney called a time out and we agreed we would go for the win.

This match will be remembered for what happened next Charlie got the ball ran down the clock and scored the winning basketball It was truly amazing to witness. So Ratoath went marching on to be The first ever basketball team from Ratoath to reach the all Ireland.

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The Final

On the 21st of march our under 19s team boys team, were faced with the biggest basketball achievement of the school's history. This team had made it through the north east in first place, the top of the play offs, winning the semi final with a nail bighting win by 2 points. Mr Heaney's team made it through to the final being undefeated all season. The day began with an early day for the team.



The Senior Basketball Team, 2013 All-Ireland Finalists

Half of the players are in TY and had to take a day off their work experience for this occasion . The starting 5 were Ben Scroope no.13, Ryan waters no.12 , Captain Charlie Coombs no.7, Joey Wallace no.15 and David Caprani no.10. By the end of the first quarter Ratoath didn't fair well with the score at 10-4. Ratoath down by 6. And from that Ratoath never truly recovered. By amazing hard work we got back to 2 points in the difference but by the end of the third Ratoath were trailing by 15points. Coach decided that everyone on the team will play in the National Basketball Arena so he put on the rest of the team that hadn't played. In the end, Ratoath were down by 20 points and it was the first and only defeat all year for the team. The year was a huge success for the team and the school. Hopefully next year with a bit more training and hard work we will go one step forward and win the all Ireland.

"Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try Again. Fail again. Fail better."

Interview With The Coaches

What got you in the game of basket ball?

I was huge into the sport and I played with my school. I was very athletic so it was easy to pick up

How long have you been playing?

2 years and I have been playing shooting guard and point guard.

What is it like being a new teacher and teaching a new team that you did not really know?

The lads are great workers and have amazing talent. there commitment was outstanding was a huge factor in the end result

Proudest moment of the season?

4th quarter of the semi final when we came back to win and also getting to the final.

Worst moment of the season?

1st quarter of the third match in the play offs in Galway. we were down by 10 to the worst time there

Funniest moment of the season?

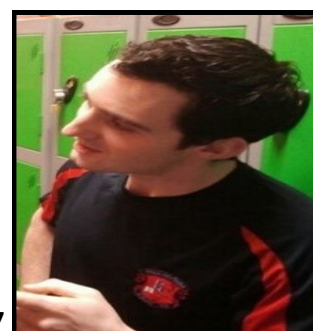
Doing and reading the tweets from big DQ

Did you think that we would get that far, to the all Ireland final?

Not at the start but by the second game of the season I knew we would make it



Mr Qualter



Mr Heaney

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1st Year Basketball Team

It is hard enough coming into the school as first years but to take on a sport as well is a tuff task to ask any first year but these bunch of lads took the task and grabbed it by the scruff of the neck and proved everyone wrong. This group of lads trained hard and showed a lot of commitment and by the end there skills had improved. Unfortunately the lads did not have a very successful season but show real potential for the future.

2nd Year Basketball Team



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RATOATH COLLEGE'S DYLAN DOYLE PLAYING FOR LEINSTER 'A' SCHOOLS IN DEFEAT OF MUNSTER IN MUSGRAVE PARK...

Leinster took a big step towards regaining the Schools 'A' Interprovincial with a four try 22-13 victory over Munster at Musgrave Park on Wednesday afternoon...

Leinster played into a strong wind in the opening half but found themselves ahead 5-0 after four minutes. Leinster opted for touch from a penalty and from the Twenty Two they mauled the ball towards the Munster line where Dylan Doyle peeled from the back and powered over. Leinster were then unlucky to concede rather quickly.

Munster out half Dylan Cadogan failed to judge the wind with a penalty just outside the Twenty Two that drifted wide. From the restart an unfortunate bounce went the way of Munster and winger Andrew Carey was sent racing away to score and Cadogan converted. Munster added a penalty before a strong finish to the half saw another drive close to the line by the Leinster pack. Prop Conor Dempsey barrellled over to score and leave it 10-10 at half time.

Leinster tightened their grip on the game playing with the wind in the second half and after a period of sustained pressure went ahead with a try and conversion by Cormac Hughes with fourteen minutes left. Cadogan reduced the arrears with a penalty minutes later but Leinster went over for a fourth try from Niall James on sixty three minutes.

A good win for Leinster in Cork .



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



2012/13: The Year in Gaelic Games

U-14 Boys

The U14 boy's football team had a great season this year. Trained every Wednesday by Fr. PJ, Mr. Ó hEochaidh and Mr. Mooney they had an enormous panel of over 47 boys from second and third year. They had a very strong team including Eoin O'Connell an unreal goal keeper, Andrew Battersby, Mark Phelan and Gary O'Reilly holding a solid back line. Declan Waters and Conal Ahern, coming up from first year, gave for a speedy midfield pair. The forward line was fast and furious consisting of Sean Keogh and Peter Kilgannon, to name but a few. They had a lucky year with no serious injuries throughout the season.

They began training in September and their strength shone through on their first match on October 19th. They played a weaker Dunboyne side and beat them well. The whole team played a tremendous game, especially Sean Keogh scoring an amazing 10 points from a forward position. But the next few games they were not to be so lucky.

The next game, they faced Dunshaughlin on October 26th and were beaten by a mere two points. The team stayed strong throughout the whole game with some vital scores from Andrew Battersby from the full back line, but sadly it wasn't their day. Their next game was against a very strong Kilcock team on November 9th and unfortunately they were beaten. Their last game of the season was against Boyne on November 16th. Everyone played their hearts out but it was not to be and the Ratoath boys were beaten and knocked out with a very unlucky and close defeat.

U-16 Boys

The boys under sixteen football team trains on a Friday after school. The two main coaches are Mr. Mc Carthy and Mr. Ó hEochaidh. The boys have had a lot of matches this year and they all played exceptionally well in all there games. The team has a brilliant selection of players and all the players show a high level of skill and stamina. The boys have shown great dedication when they all showed up in bunches for the training sessions. No matter the weather conditions the boys were always ready for training and they wouldn't think of missing it.

They really enjoy having Mr. Mc Carthy and Mr. O' hEochaidh as there team coaches and although this year ended unsuccessfully for the U-16s, the boys have had a great year playing football and all of them want to hopefully move up on to the senior team when the time is just right.

Senior Boys

The year started promisingly for the defending All-Ireland Champions. Now advanced to the élite 'A' level, they knew a challenging year was ahead. Once again under the tutelage of Messrs. Qualter & Carey, the seniors welcomed back a significant contingent of last year's winning squad.

On a wet and wild night under the lights at NUI Maynooth, the heroes of 2012 fought hard to overcome their predecessors as 'B' All-Ireland champions, Maynooth Post Primary. In what could only be described as a fractious affair, the Ratoath boys finished strongly to advance.

That victory was to be as good as it got for the boys in navy and red though. Defeat and championship exit at the hands of ultimate All-Ireland winners Cnoc Mhuire, Granard was however as honourable a way as any to exit the competition, and for many of this year's senior team, announce their retirement from schools football.

We wish the footballers of the Class of 2013 the greatest of success in their College, Club and, for some, inter-county football careers.

A Day At The Races



A Successful Year

Mrs Reid agrees that this was a very successful year in terms of athletics. The age group which succeeded the most was from the ages of 14-16 year olds ranging from 2nd forth years. We have seen unfamiliar names rise from the bottom to the top. Names such as Philip Marron (above), Peter Kilgannon (right), Amber Roche, Steven Shaw, Ciarán McCarthy, Áine O'Connor, Tom Flanagan, Mark Nolan, Ryan O'Connor and Eoin Clayton.

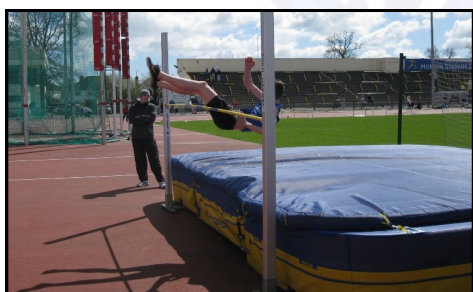
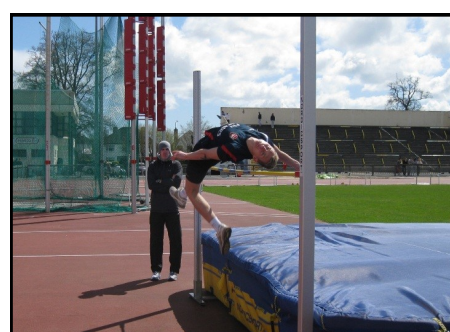
This year was an exceptional year in terms of cross country and athletics. Unfortunately we are starting to see less seniors doing cross country than juniors. We still have exceptional people who are in senior cycle doing athletics. People such as Abraham Zaidan, Joey Wallace, Conor Duncan, Robert Reid, Ben Scroope, Brian Murphy, Daniel Chochlinski, James Dervan and Tom Gannon. These people are exceptional but there are also quite a lot of exceptional people in junior cycle as well. There is a very high medal count especially in track and field. Santry and in Navan were great examples of success.



Mrs. Reid's Opinion

Mrs Reid Thinks that this was an exceptional year in terms of athletics. She is very satisfied that it was the younger age groups who stood out this year. She thinks that this is a sign of greater this to come in the future. She agrees that she has put in a lot of time into the teams. She has put in many hours of training and is looking forward to a nice break. So in all she is very happy with the year and has great expectations for next year.

Robert Reid



YOUNG SCIENTIST COMPETITION



Ratoath College was represented at this year's Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition by Stephen Fowler and Taylor Quinn. Stephen and Taylor both 2nd year students did a project looking at whether bribery works as an incentive in making students perform better in exams. The title of their project is 'Can you bribe students to do better in school?' There was a lot of interest in their project by both the general public and the media. Stephen and Taylor did many interviews over the course of their time in the RDS including an interview on RTE 2FM.

Stephen and Taylor tested a number of students and offered them money if they were able to improve their results; they also used a control group of students who were not offered any money to act as a comparison. They found that some students did better when offered money but in the majority of cases it was found that students must be self motivated if they are to do well long term.

Stephen and Taylor thoroughly enjoyed their experience at the exhibition and would strongly recommend other students to enter the competition, they met many interesting people and got an opportunity to research and present a topic that they had an interest in.

CELEBRATING THE GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR STUDENTS

This year, once again, many Ratoath College students have achieved extraordinary success outside of school in various sporting and cultural activities. We offer the heartfelt congratulations of the whole school community to them:

- ♦ Charlie Coombes - Representing Ireland, Basketball
- ♦ Ihar Kirsanau - Judo
- ♦ Philip Marron - All-Ireland Cross Country finals
- ♦ Dylan Doyle - Representing Leinster, Rugby
- ♦ Alex Coultard - Representing Leinster, Swimming
- ♦ Naoise McAloon - Representing Ireland, Soccer
- ♦ Marc Gibson McKenna - Representing Leinster, Cricket
- ♦ Liam Delaney - IFK National Junior Light-Middle Champion, Kick-Boxing
- ♦ Brian Eiffe - A 3rd place & a 4th place finish, International Musical Festival, Innsbruck, Austria with the Castletown Accordion Orchestra
- ♦ Kevin Roche - Co Meath Foróige Talent Competition Winner

We're very, very proud of you all!



Charlie Coombes



Liam Delaney



Kevin Roche



Brian Eiffe

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Junior Cert Results

2012

This was the most nervous and one of the biggest days the new transition years and 5th years would experience in their lives, and one that they would always remember: 12th of September 2012.

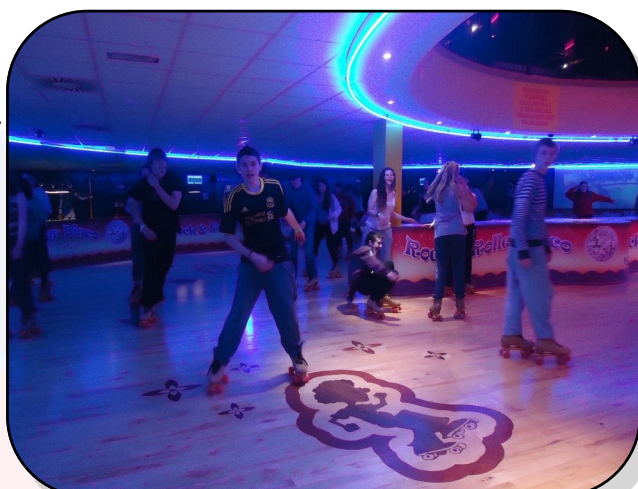
This is when we all would receive all the results we worked for so hard for in our last year in junior cycle. The long wait for the Junior Cert results was finally over, it was definitely a nerve-racking experience.

The morning of the 12th of September was overcast but at least it wasn't raining. As always the TYs and 5th years lined-up into their old 3rd year classes and waited nervously while the teachers stood in front of us. The teacher went down the line and handed each of us our results in a brown envelope. Once everyone had received their envelope, Ms Ní Mhurchú gave the announcement to open them!

It was completely silent as we all opened the envelope and then all of a sudden you could hear the excitement of how the students were so happy with all the brilliant results. It made the day extra special, that everyone was so happy and delighted for one another.

Afterwards, TYs and 5th years reunited as one year group one last time because to go to Funtasia to celebrate their great results together.

Special congratulations must go to Christopher Dignam, Ellie O'Neill, Rachel Giles, Ailbhe Brioscú and Emmeline O'Malley who were presented with awards at a Meath VEC ceremony in recognition of their excellence. These students had all achieved a minimum of eight A's in higher level subjects in Junior Cert with some students getting as high as 11 A's in higher subjects. It was a most enjoyable event as students' parents and school principals joined in the celebrations and all received recognition for their achievements.



A proud Ms Ní Mhurchú with the five Ratoath College Students receiving their awards for outstanding achievement at Co Meath VEC head office in Navan.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

**Ms Grogan**

Teacher Interviews!

**Ms English****General Questions**

If you could live anywhere in the world,
where would you live?

Ans: Somewhere along the east coast of Spain

What would you do if you won the lotto?

Ans: Travel around North America visiting every state

If you knew your next meal would be your last,
what would you eat?

Ans: I'd go to an all you can eat Chinese buffet!

Would You Rather?

Dublin City or Meath's green fields?

Ans: Dublin City

Taylor Swift or Linkin Park to perform
on your wedding day?

Ans: Linkin Park

Drink a cup of water out of the Liffey or
eat a tea-spoonful of sand?

Ans: A spoonful of sand

Personal Q's

What was your dream as a child?

Ans: To have my own Irish dancing school

Who would you consider to be your hero?

Ans: My mother!!

Teacher with the best Fashion Sense?

Ans: Mr McCabe...he co-ordinates his outfit around his shoes and belt :D

General Questions

If you could live anywhere in the world,
where would you live?

Ans: Ireland because there is no place like home!

What would you do if you won the lotto?

Ans: Travel around the world in style!

If you knew your next meal would be your last,
what would you eat?

Ans: Chocolate!

Would You Rather?

Dublin City or Meath's green fields?

Ans: Dublin City

Taylor Swift or Linkin Park to perform
on your wedding day?

Ans: Taylor Swift, no competition!!

Drink a cup of water out of the Liffey or
eat a tea-spoonful of sand?

Ans: Water from the Liffey...

Personal Q's

What was your dream as a child?

Ans: To read the news!

Who would you consider to be your hero?

Ans: Lots of people inspire me... Oprah Winfrey!

Teacher with the best Fashion Sense?

Ans: Mr McCabe has a talent for co-ordinating his belt with his shoes.

**Mr McCabe**

Teacher Interviews!

**Ms O'Neill**

General Questions

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you live?

Ans: New York City

What would you do if you won the lotto?

Ans: Bring My Family and Friends to Las Vegas!

If you knew your next meal would be your last, what would you eat?

Ans: A simple steak

Would You Rather?

Dublin City or Meath's green fields?

Ans: Definitely Meath's Green Fields

Taylor Swift or Linkin Park to perform on your wedding day?

Ans: Taylor Swift no Competition

Drink a cup of water out of the Liffey or eat a tea-spoonful of sand?

Ans: Drink the water from the Liffey, even if it is worse for me!

Personal Q's

What was your dream as a child?

Ans: To become a teacher

Who would you consider to be your hero?

Ans: Alfred Wagner, discoverer of Plate Tectonics

Teacher with the best fashion sense?

Ans: Has to be Ms. Henahan!

General Questions

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you live?

Ans: New York

What would you do if you won the lotto?

Ans: I would do cartwheels around the world!

If you knew your next meal would be your last, what would you eat?

Ans: Anything followed by sticky toffee pudding :)

Would You Rather?

Dublin City or Meath's green fields?

Ans: Neither – I'm a Lily White

Taylor Swift or Linkin Park to perform on your wedding day?

Ans: If I absolutely had to pick one – Taylor Swift playing guitar.

Drink a cup of water out of the Liffey or eat a tea-spoonful of sand?

Ans: Sand

Personal Q's

What was your dream as a child?

Ans: Obviously to be a teacher

Who would you consider to be your hero?

Ans: René Descartes :)

Teacher with the best Fashion Sense?

Ans: The very dapper Mr Burns!

BRIDGE²¹



THE POWER OF LEARNING

On the 21st of September 2012 the transition years went to Oriel House in Trinity College Dublin to take part in the Bridge 21 programme.

The Bridge 21 programme is a programme aimed at enhancing active learning. In the projects the participants will work in a group that they haven't chosen therefore they are most likely going to be outside their comfort zone. They get a project and then they have a set amount of time to complete the activity. The project is one mainly for secondary school students, however there is adapted programmes that younger students such as fifth and sixth classes can complete. The whole aim of the programme is to get students to work together and make the task a success.

The TY's visited Oriel House on the 21st of September to take part in the programme.

The first exercise that we did was simply thinking about what we could do with an orange. A simple task that proved quite enjoyable. It was surprising how many ideas there were and how random most of them were.

Then we were put into groups of five and we had to think of ideas for products or services in the year 2050. Yet again everybody had plenty of unique and strange ideas, such as money tree, teleportation app and cloning machine.

Then we had to choose the best product that we had came up with and film an ad for it.

After filming the video we cut out the bits that we didn't need, we chose suitable music for the video and also any voiceover, some groups used voice over some didn't.

Adding voiceover wasn't difficult but it was important to get it into sync. In all everyone learned how to use the programmes such as movie maker, how to use voiceover equipment and basically how to use a camera.

The trip was enjoyable and later in the year Bridge 21 visited the school to hold the same workshop for first year students. The objective was the same for the first years it was to encourage working in groups and making the group work successful.

Picture below from the first year project.



Narrow Defeat for TY Mini- Companies

Our Transition Year mini-companies had a fantastic year this year. Ideas were ranging from American themed goodie bags, to suicide awareness wristbands, to decorative wooden reindeer. The mini-company teams headed out to Trim Castle in early 2013. This is where they were surveyed and questioned by judges, including Dragon's Den judge Gavin Duffy. There was fierce competition from other schools such as Loreto Navan, Ardee Community College and Dunshaughlin Community College.

One particular company 'Here's To Life' fell just short of first place, losing to Loreto Navan. The team were lauded for their excellent business pitch, teamwork and marketing strategies.

The managers of Here's To Life were given €250 to further run their business. Overall, all of the companies who competed in the event received good marks.

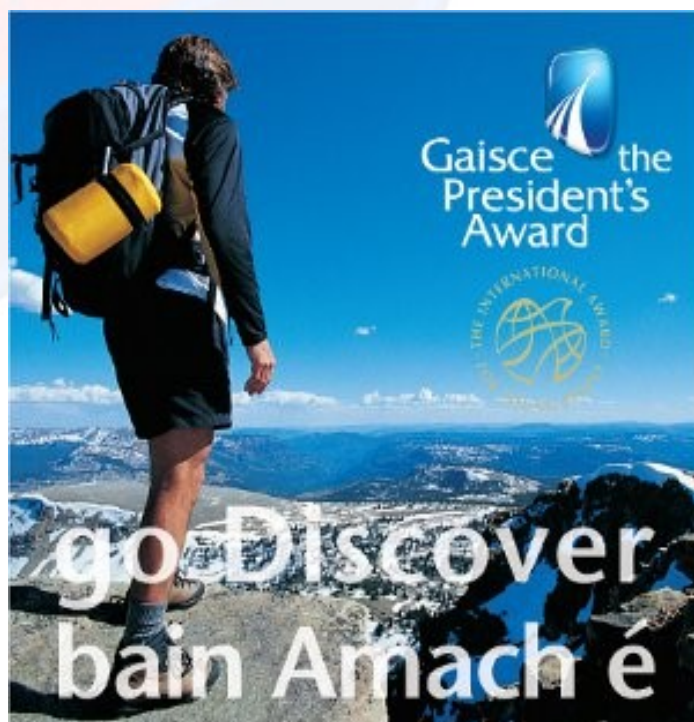
Gaisce Awards 2013

Like previous years, the Transition Years took part in Gaisce – The President's Award. This takes place throughout the school year, where students have to choose three activities – A personal activity, a community involvement activity and a physical activity.

The PAL for Ratoath's Gaisce is Mr. Connolly, who helps students throughout the year with their activities. The students had to type up what they did each week for each activity on Gaisce's website.

They also have to receive signatures each week from their mentors to prove that they had finished the activity. These blogs should end up at 52 per person at the end of the year.

At the end of the year, the students are required to go on an over night trip and must either walk 10 miles, cycle 50 miles or kayak 20 miles. The students who finish all activities including the adventure journey



TY HISTORY TRIP

On the 15th of November 2013 both of the TY classes went on a history trip to Belfast.

It was an early start with us leaving the school at 7:30 am in two buses. We first stopped at the Titanic Museum where we got a guided tour of the museum. The museum's exhibits go through the Titanic's construction and launch, her voyage and sinking. It also goes beyond that telling us about the aftermath of the sinking and the discovery of the wreck. A feature in the museum called 'Titanic Beneath' allows you to see high definition footage of the wreckage as it is today.

After our tour we had food in the museum's café

and had a chance to browse around the souvenir shop.

We then piled back onto our buses and headed to our next destination, one bus went to Shankill Road while the other went to Falls Road. In each area we got a guide to tell us about the troubles in that area between the Catholics and Protestants. The guides also took us around each area showing us important buildings/monuments and telling us different facts about the area. We spent about an hour in each place.

After this we made our way home (stopping for food on the way of course) and we arrived back at 7 o'clock.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

TY GEOGRAPHY TRIP

On the 2nd of October 2013 the TYs went on a geography trip the Giants Causeway in Co. Antrim.

We left the school at 7:30am by bus, the journey there took about 2/3 hours . At first we visited the Carrick-a-Rede Bridge, we were allowed to cross it and walk around and explore the surrounding area.

Then we got back on the bus and made our way to the Giant's Causeway Visitor Centre, which took about 15/20 minutes.

When we arrived we each got an outdoor audio guide. We then got to go and see the Giants Causeway and the surrounding area. As we were doing this we could listen to our audio guide to tell us more about it. After an hour we got back on the bus and headed back to school . We arrived back at about 5 o'clock.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

TY CHARITY CAR WASH



Seven Transition Year students organised and ran a charity car wash this year in aid of Headway Ireland, for people with acquired brain injury. They raised over 180 Euro by washing over 30 teachers cars.

ALL-STAR TEACHER JOINS RC!

Ratoath College was delighted this year to welcome an extraordinary new staff member. Mr Paul Flynn is a teacher of PE and biology but is best known for his Gaelic football exploits with Dublin. Mr Flynn is a member of the Fingallians club in Swords and has represented Dublin at senior inter-county level since 2007. This is a very busy time of the year for Mr. Flynn. As well as starting his new job in Ratoath College he is also in the middle of a tough training schedule with Dublin as they prepare to begin their Championship campaign. Mr Flynn and the Dublin footballers will be hoping to replicate their form of 2011 when they won the county's first All-Ireland since 1995. 2011 also coincided with Mr. Flynn's first All-Star award which he replicated in 2012.



We're certainly very fortunate to have the benefit of Mr Flynn's considerable talent and experience on the team at Ratoath College. Mr. Flynn is hopeful that a successful period in Ratoath College can be replicated with Dublin lifting the Sam Maguire once again in September. We wish him all the best over the summer... as long as he doesn't beat Meath!



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

TY PEER EDUCATION PROJECT

During Transition year, six students were selected by writing an application letter to the TY co-ordinator to attend the PYE programme in Trim to learn about substance abuse to teach to the first years in our school over weeks for each Rang. A lot of TY students applied, but only six students were chosen.

We attended the PYE programme for 5 days, the 4th and 5th of October and the 5th, 6th and 30th of November.

The first day we went, we met the students from the other schools in Meath such as Athboy and Ashbourne. We got to know each other by playing different ice-breaker games. That was good as everyone became more comfortable now that we knew each other better. Later the day we began learning about self-esteem, peer pressure and bullying which we taught to the first years. The second day we learnt all about smoking, through interactive games and a power presentation. After these two days we had a few weeks break.

When we returned, we were taught all about alcohol. We learned about standards, which is the legal amount of alcohol that can be offered to you in restaurants, pubs etc. This linked into the peer

pressure as many people start to drink alcohol because of peer pressure whether they want to or not.

The following day we learnt about drugs by looking at a powerpoint and pictures. This day was especially interesting as we got to learn so much more about drugs and the harmful effects of them. We focused on three main drugs, cocaine, ecstasy and cannabis. These were also the three main drugs that we would be teaching to the first years. On the last day, we got to practice teaching the information we learnt over the five days to the other students present like we would with the first years. We had to make posters and presentations to make the classes more interactive. It was a great experience and everyone learnt a lot about peer substance abuse.

When it came to teaching the first years, we were split up into pairs and each got given either two or three classes to teach. The first years enjoyed the classes and when the evaluation forms back nearly of the comments were good. Most of the first years thought the classes were very helpful and encouraged them not to abuse substances in the future.

By Aoife and Megan.

SENIOR SINGERS

This year in the senior music group has been a busy one indeed!

Meeting in the music room every Thursday at lunch time, the super talented group of senior students spend their lunch times singing tunes and playing instruments. As often said in assembly, even if you can't sing or play a note to save your life, anyone is welcome to come down and have some good fun even just being there to have a listen.

This gang even had a spot in the Ratoath College Talent Show singing a compilation of Christmas songs including 'Heal the World' and many many others!

They even added to the Christmassy atmosphere by wearing Christmas colours. Not only did this add to the atmosphere it made them look like a well put together group. Very professionally done! As you can see this is a wonderful and talented group but would be nothing without their mentor: Ms Garrett.

A wonderful continuation can be seen from the choir for the junior students. All there is really left to say here is a huge congratulations on a fabulous year to all the girls involved and of course to Ms Garrett.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

JUNK KOUTURE

Junk Kouture is a national competition for second level students. It challenges students to create high end wearable fashion from everyday junk. There were thousands of entrants to the competition.

Our school entered two dresses. One called Rewind was modelled by Serena Fagan and designed by Hope Courtney, Anna Dunne. The dress Rewind was made mainly out of old cassette tapes. The second dress was called Rocknaissance. This dress was modelled by Helen Ryan and designed by Naoise Collins and Laura Donohue. This dress was made out of lots of different materials including newspaper, tablecloths and wires.

Both of the entries made it through to the eastern regional final which was brilliant as there were thousands of applicants altogether and only 80 dresses in each of the regional finals. The eastern regional final took place on Monday March 11th 2013 in the Helix.

The Regional Final took place in the evening but we arrived early to register and for the rehearsal. After that we got the dresses on and got ready for the show. The show was brilliant. There were 80 contestants who all modelled the dresses so it was a long wait backstage. Each of the models had to do a routine on the catwalk as this was one of the sections where you received points. The atmosphere was brilliant and it really was a fantastic night. Unfortunately neither of the dress got through to the national final but It was a fabulous experience to have.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

TV PRESENTERS, ACTORS AND CAMERAMAN OF THE FUTURE!

We went on a Transition Year trip to Kairos for a one day workshop. Three option classes took part in the workshop. On arrival, we were introduced to the tech, e.g. Cameras, recording studio, etc. We were given a choice of jobs to pick for the day. The jobs included director, camera man, actor, screen-play writer, sound producers, etc.

Everyone had an important role to play in the production of the broadcast we were going to make. One of the groups made a spoof



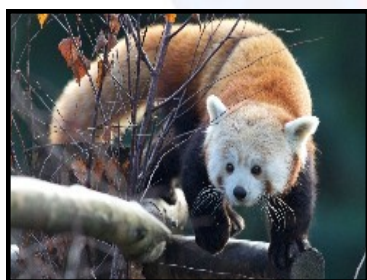
of a David Attenborough documentary and the other group made a short talk show and news film.

It was a great experience for all who participated in the film making and it was also great fun. The instructors were very nice and helpful. Why interviewed a student who participated in the film making and here's what he said, "I thought the program was very interesting and I had great fun".



TY students got to experience working on both sides of the camera on their TV production training day at Kairos.

TYs VISIT THE ZOO!

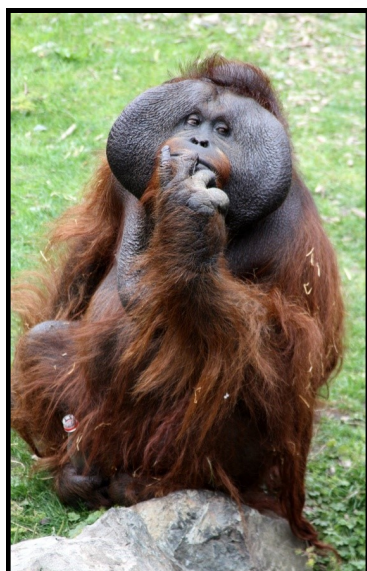


On Wednesday the 17th of April, transition year visited Dublin Zoo, A highlight of the year according to the previous transition years. The object of the day was to learn about the animals and the history of the establishment. Rangs Cahill and O'Donoghue were very excited.

At around a quarter to 10 the bus arrived at the zoo, we were given until 11:30 to explore the zoo before meeting up for a talk inside the director of Dublin Zoo's house to receive a talk.

Inside we learned about the history and origins of the zoo and how it came to be what it is today. We also were told about endangered creatures and animal welfare and some of the effects they can have on wildlife and the ecosystem.

After that we were allowed to do as we wished which was eat and relax in the zoo, the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and personally would be a good memory of my transition year.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

TY CAMPING TRIP

The TY classes of Rang Cahill and Rang O'Donoghue left school at 9 o'clock on the Thursday morning on the 6th of September to go on a camping trip to Larch hill. When we all arrived at Larch hill it was still early in the morning. Everyone sat down on the grass to eat some lunch while also waiting for the cabins to open.

When we got inside we went to the hall where



everyone was sorted out in groups to sleep in the rooms. We put our bags in the room then went outside to do team bonding exercises.

We got in groups and we all had to collect a certain amount of wooden logs and try to build a bridge with them by force, without using glue, ropes, nails etc. This was very hard to do but eventually everyone got it built and then had to test it out by trying to walk over it.

We then split up into Rang Cahill and Rang O'Donoghue and the two classes were against each other in different class bonding exercises. One exercise was to all link arms and wrap around one person in a circle and then trying to walk without breaking or falling. It was very fun but difficult to control.

Another team bonding exercise was to get in groups of 6 and each group was given a map of the place and had to go solve the clue and go to the spot where the answer is and get a picture beside the name of the sign.

We then had to go and find small sticks. These were used to make a fire for when we were going to cook our dinner which was chicken curry. We made our chicken curry outside using a tin and just fire.

Some people burned theirs and so we all put the chicken curry in the one pot and handed it out.



As it started to get dark everyone went to the forest and started to collect sticks that we could use to light our campfire. People brought down bags of marshmallows and guitars. The fire was huge and it was a good way to end the night.

The next day Mr. Walsh made everyone get up at 7 o'clock in the morning to go for their morning exercise which was a run around the field and do a few stretches! We then had to make our breakfast which was sausages and bread. We grilled these outside over a fire.



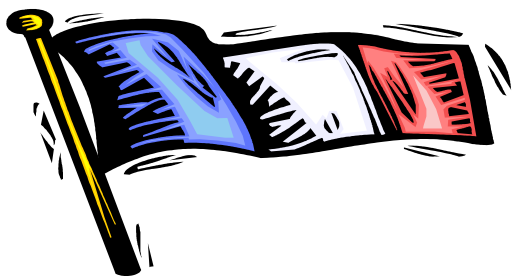
ITALY TRIP

Our first year students headed off to Italy at the beginning of the Easter break. The students travelled to the Lake Garda region of Italy. Visited Verona, shopping and gondola riding in Venice and the favourite off all was Garda land where everyone, students and teacher braved the roller-coasters and rides.

Everyone had a fantastic time as usual and was sorry it had to end.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



THE FRENCH EXCHANGE

Picture this. It's October 15th, a Thursday and a group of 20 eager students are waiting in the GPA, waiting to meet their French exchange partners. And then they arrive, and a week of fun ensues.

The French students came to Ireland as part of an exchange for a week's stay. They stayed with an Irish student in their house for a week, living with and like the Irish. During their stay in Ireland, the French students visited many famous tourist attractions, including Croke Park, Temple Bar, The Battle of the Boyne, the Guinness factory in Dublin and the famine ships in Dunbrody, Glendalough. They said the highlight of their trip was tasting Guinness, and real Irish fish and chips! It was very interesting to see what the French people thought of Irish food. We brought them for fish and chips and we gave them traditional Irish stew - they thought the food was really strange but they enjoyed most of it.

We also had plenty of time to bond with the French students. In particular, we had a movie night in our school with the French exchange students with pizza. It was good fun and really good to be with the French students. It was heart breaking to see them leave the last day, and tears were shed! However we also looked forward to seeing them again and we knew it would be a week not to be forgotten in France.

After a long four months of being separated from their French counterparts, the small group of 20 plus Ms. Cullen and Mr. Connolly headed to France. After our early morning flight (meeting at the school at 4AM!) we went on a guided tour of Nantes, seeing the beautiful Chateau de Nantes before getting back on the bus and heading to Rennes to meet up with the French group! After being reunited with the French group, we headed home for the eagerly anticipated first meal...what would it be? Snails? Frogs legs? No-one knew...

Waking up the next morning, having survived dinner in the household, we were required to be at the school for 7AM! In France they start school at 7AM, and classes last an hour each. After a fun double PE, we split up and headed to different classes, some heading to geography, history and English. In one geography class, Irish students had to tell their French class about Ireland. "We showed the French guys videos of football and hurling so they could see what sport in Ireland is like," Hannah Coakley, a TY student who went on the exchange tells us. Following school the students headed into Rennes for a spot of ice-skating, where fifth year student Tom Gannon managed to sprain his ankle, and ended up on crutches.

During the following week, the Irish students went on many trips and took part in many activities, including visiting Mont St Michel, Dinan, a guided tour of Rennes and a cultural workshop. Over the weekend, students saw what it was like to be part of a French family. Rivie McCormack said on her weekend "I went to St Malo on Sunday with my French family, and I really enjoyed it. I got to see what life is like in France, I had a great time." Ms Cullen said about the trip "it was a very memorable trip and the students fully engaged with la culture et la langue Francaise."

And all too soon, our time in France was over, and we packed our bags and headed home, leaving behind friends for life, and a broken heart.





STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ATTEND BETT CONFERENCE IN LONDON

On Saturday 2nd February, four TY students flew to London to attend the British Educational Training and Technology show (BETT) along with Mr Cahill, Ms O'Donoghue and Mr. Walsh. The exhibition showcases new education & learning technologies that the school hopes to use in the future. Darragh, Aislinn, James and Dayna were selected because they won a media studies web design competition.

It was their job to give feedback on the different technologies available, and to advise Ms Ní Bhróithe and Ms Prendergast on what the school should get. Some of the highlights of the show included; RM Books – eBooks designed specifically for the school curriculum, Twig – a series of short study videos with notes, quizzes and diagrams to help students who struggle to take in a lot of information and Sonocent – which helps students with audio note taking.

Afterwards, the students got to tour London, take the tube and see some famous sights such as Big Ben, The London Eye, and The Gherkin. It was a long day and a lot of walking but everyone had a great time, and really enjoyed the trip!

Afterwards, the students got to tour London, take the tube and see some famous sights such as Big Ben, The London Eye, and The Gherkin. It was a long day and a lot of walking but everyone had a great time, and really enjoyed the trip!



Around the world in 8 Days

The trip of a lifetime to Beijing, China.....



The announcement of flight EK 162 in Dublin airport on (date) heralded the beginning of the trip of a lifetime for some lucky Ratoath College students. We were on our way to China!

We had a quick stop over in exotic Dubai before landing in Beijing and meeting our lovely guide, Ariel. After settling in to our hotel we embarked on our first trip to a real Chinese restaurant. Time for some fish heads and chicken heads—yummy!

Next day we woke to a breakfast of noodles before a memorable trip to the aptly named Temple of Heaven. Our very own Darragh Gannon certainly left his mark on the local population by attempting to join them in one of their customary regional dances!

The atmosphere at the temple of heaven was different to anything we'd seen in Ireland. People danced, played games and did martial arts on the street. The temple itself was beautifully decorated and it is the most important structure in Beijing as it is still standing today after centuries with no foundations.

We got a real taste of Chinese culture when we went to a tea house where we saw how Chinese tea is made and got to sample it ourselves. There were lots of flavours, such as lychee tea, fruit tea and black dragon tea.

Later we went to the magnificent Summer Palace.

There was a breathtaking view of the palace in the mountains as we walked along the lake up to the marble boat. We had, yet again, another real Chinese meal for lunch, so we got a chance to improve our chopstick skills.

Taking a rickshaw tour of the hutong area in Beijing was so much fun. We visited the hutong home of a family who specialise in calligraphy and paper craft, and saw for ourselves the beauty of their work. The hutongs are homes in the streets of Beijing that are worth millions of euro because they were owned by very important people in Beijing. We were at a hutong worth €8m!

The Great Wall of China really deserves its title as a wonder of the world. It was the highlight of the trip for me and it definitely lives up to its reputation. Nothing beats that feeling when we were standing at the top and looking out at the wall that stretches for miles. It was just breathtaking.

We got an amazing opportunity to meet Chinese



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students studying English at the USA College of English. We spent an afternoon getting to know them, and even challenging them to a game of table tennis by our very own Sam O'Connor. They prepared performances for us including saxophone and singing, and some of us also performed for the Chinese students.

The afternoon was really interesting and we saw a real diversity in western culture and Chinese culture.

We made a final visit to our favourite haggling spots, the Silk and Pearl Markets in the afternoon. Everybody stocked up on their share of beats, Abercrombie, Uggs, Converse and Vans.

And the lads, of course, got kitted out in tailor-made suits, dressing to impress on the last night.

On our last day we made a visit to Beijing Zoo to see the Pandas and they were too cute.

What I found really funny about Beijing is that you feel like a celebrity when you are there. Chinese people constantly come up to you and ask for your picture, or jump into group photos. Or even shake your hand. And the compliments come at you like lightning, especially when they want you to buy something. 'Beautiful girl, you so pretty!'

The food was so different to what we're used to. I had noodles for breakfast! I was in the presence of some seriously brave people who tried scorpion while we were at a night market. Eating with chopsticks was a struggle but I think we close to mastered it by the time we left!

What we are going to miss most about Beijing, without a doubt, is our incredible tour guide Ariel. She was so nice and funny and made our trip what it

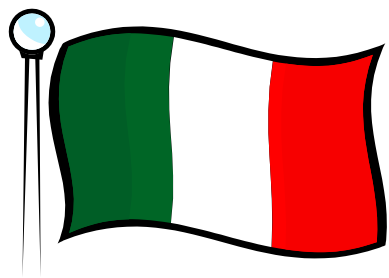


was. She was great.

And of course, we have to thank the teachers Ms. Judge, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Qualter, Ms. Kelly and Ms. Cullen for making the trip as fantastic as it was. It wouldn't have been the same without Mr. McCarthy as our bus DJ!



Shane Woods turned 18 while we were in Beijing! Our tour guide Ariel got him the biggest cake ever to celebrate.



OUR FIRST EVER ITALIAN EXCHANGE

In October 2012 a group of Irish students from Ratoath College went on the inaugural Italian exchange to Parma in the Emilia Romagna region of northern Italy. The students all arrived at the Liceo Ulivi early in the evening and met their Italian exchange partners.

During the trip the Irish students visited the Parma Ham museum, as well as the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Parmalat factory. On the last night of the exchange in Italy there was a big party on for all the students and teachers to say goodbye. It was a memorable week as we enjoyed a very enriching cultural and linguistic experience as well as just having a great time.



The Spirit of Christmas!

ST VINCENT de PAUL CHARITY HAMPER COLLECTION

Christmas is a time of year that is so often associated with the food we eat. Who could imagine a Christmas Eve without mince pies or a box of biscuits? But for some families, especially during the recession, huge Christmas dinners and new gifts are a luxury they can't afford. St. Vincent de Paul is a international charity that is dedicated to helping the poor and disadvantaged. Every Christmas, Ratoath College organises a food collection in the school and creates Christmas hampers that St. Vincent de Paul can give to less off people in our area. This year my Transition Year class Rang O'Donoghue undertook this annual collection.

Each class was given a list of thirty items, then each student was asked to bring in one item from the list. The items on the list ranged from Christmas crackers and pasta to toothpaste and firelogs. There were cardboard boxes, kindly donated by Tayto Park, in every classroom where students could leave their food. Alongside the food, students could also donate new toys.

All of the transition year students sorted all the food that was donated into different sections, so



that when we were packing them into hampers we were sure that each one had an equal amount and variety of food. We covered the boxes in festive wrapping paper and packed them full with food.

The amount of food donated was phenomenal and all the teachers and students made a big effort to bring in what they could.

During the last week of school before Christmas, the volunteers from our nearest Saint. Vincent de Paul came to the school to collect the hampers. We were proud to hand them over 30 full boxes alongside four more filled with brand new toys. It was a wonderful feeling knowing that because the students and staff were so generous that we were able to help a less fortunate family in our own community. It was then that Ratoath College proved that Christmas time is never just about food or presents, but about sharing what you have with





The Art Department

Teachers: Ms. Johanna Daly, Mr. Phil Daly

Congratulations and well done to Fionnuala McCormack, Ciara Fennessy and Ailbhe Caprani in First year who recently won a special Merit Award in The Texaco Art Competition.

Also congratulations to Caitriona Shanley and Laoise Corcoran for getting through to the semi-finals of the Doodle for Google competition.



The Picasso club were busy this year with the huge task of brightening up the hall. Twelve sports stars were chosen and students painted them life size on large



boards.

St. Patrick's day Parade

The Art Department won best float this year at the St. Patrick's day parade. A lot of hard work went into creating two large scale



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Third Year Art Work

3rd year Painting Junior Cert Art Work

As you know the third year art students have been working since September for their junior cert art exam. It was a long road to walk seeing as they had to create a 3D object, a bag, a painting along preparation and support studies for each. Not only that but they also had an actual drawing exam consisting of life and object drawing! Throughout the year the students worked non-stop on their projects intent on getting the grade they wanted. There was no stopping there; as soon as they finished they began to prepare for the drawing exam and each student excelled in their work on the day! Let's hope they achieve the grade's they worked so hard for! Well done to all!



More Third Year Art Work



Arts Week



Leaving Cert Art Work

Leaving cert students sat their craft, still life and life drawing practical exams. The students spent a lot of time preparing and practicing for the examination. For the craft exam students produced some amazing prep work and posters also some students decided to go down the modelling route and produced some fabulous work. Students also produced excellent still life paintings and life drawing.





2nd year Animal and self- portrait painting scheme



First Year Painting Schemes



5th year Art

Fifth years have been working on posters this term. They were given a choice of various different themes.



More Leaving Cert Art Work



SUBJECT DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Business

It's been a very busy and successful year for the Business department once again this year.

ACJ Pilot Project in conjunction with University of Limerick

This year, the Business Studies Department worked with the English Department in incorporating Adaptive Comparative Judgement as a pilot assessment of learning strategy for the first year Christmas exams. Each of the three first year Business Studies classes were taken to the computer room and the students were given a brief that required them to construct a Letter of Complaint as part of their assessment on the topic of The Consumer. The student's tasks were uploaded onto a computer system where their teacher is assigned an individual login to grade the work.

The Adaptive Comparative Judgement system has been run in conjunction with the University of Limerick. It compares two pieces of work and assigns a grade mark that is deemed more reliable than traditional marking. Teachers look at two pieces of anonymous work and judge a winner based on set criteria rather than the marking process of each individual script. The teacher may judge work from students that they may not teach and so it focuses on a Department approach to grading. What will emerge is a professional consensus from a group of teachers that has proved very popular as a strategy for assessment within the Department this year.

This project proved to be a great success and it is a huge step forward in how we assess our students.

Mini Companies

Our 2nd Year students continued the trend of very successful mini companies. Various tuck shops took part and we had a company selling soft drinks, sweets and crisps and a company selling cookies and a drink. 'Yum Yum Ltd' made homemade buns, which they sold with soft drinks. 'Snack Shack' also proved themselves as a profitable business mini company. We also had an innovative group who raffled off an iPad mini. These 2nd year Business Studies classes found developing their own mini companies to be the best way to learn about entrepreneurship, through direct experience and practice. The companies were solely run by the students, and in some cases making a huge profit. It was an important and worthwhile activity for stimulating entrepreneurial attitudes and skills within the class. Well done to all involved!

TY Junior Dragons Den

The TY students took part in a five week "The Apprentice" enterprise and media course. This was a Mini-Enterprise competition run by the County Meath Enterprise Board. Each week the student teams were given enterprise/media related tasks, with each of the five tasks contributing towards their summer grade. In doing this course, the students get to work closely with several local businesses. Our own students competed extremely well with 5 teams qualifying for the County final, which took place in the Knightsbridge Hotel in Trim in February. One of the groups, "Here's to Life" ran a social enterprise based around the issue of suicide and this enterprise won the second place trophy in the final. Here they are seen here with Gavin Duffy off RTE's 'Dragon's Den'. Well done to all involved.



Mini-Company Prize Winners with Gavin Duffy of RTÉ's 'Dragon's Den'

5th Year Bridge 21 initiative

Independent learning is the way forward for students as self-evaluation is a corner stone of 21st century education. 'School self-evaluation is about reframing school development planning into an evidence-based process leading to improvement'. This was very much shown by our fifth year Business class this year when they presented prototype ideas based on their fifth year Business syllabus and using the development process involved in the process of making a good/service. Potential products like 'RIP-A-BIB', 'Free runner', 'Sol', 'Water Block' and 'What's On' were showcased. Mr Ciarán Bauer from Bridge 21, Ms Ní Bhróithe, Ms Prendergast, Ms Hughes and some of the teachers from the Business department were all present to see the showcase. There was innovation, student engagement, team work and a great sense of enthusiasm in the classroom. Another successful year was had by all in fifth year Business. Well done to all students for your hard work in this project. Dragon's Den.... Watch out!!!

What to look forward to next year...we will be starting a new Advertising and Marketing Short Course with our incoming 1st years. During this 11 week course students will explore how companies advertise and promote their products to the consumer. Students will study various advertising campaigns from well-known companies and will be able to analyse and discuss the efficacy of such campaigns while learning the theory behind advertising and marketing. Students will be able to compare and contrast various methods and mediums used by well-known organisations.

Students will then work in groups to create a marketing and advertising plan for a product with specific tasks to have completed for each class. Students will present their plan to the class which will be assessed by the class based on a clear marking scheme. Two judges will also assess each project according to the marking scheme.

Exams

Finally we would like to wish a huge best of luck to our Junior Certificate Business Studies students and our Leaving Certificate Business, Accounting and Economic students in their exams.

"I'm convinced that what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful ones is pure perseverance." – Steve Jobs



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Materials Technology Wood & Construction Studies



This year was another busy year in the M.T. Wood department. With the excellent results again in last summers state exams, students were encouraged further to push the design boundaries of their projects this year. To assist the teachers and students in their quest for further excellent results, another teacher was added to the team. Mr Pdraig Giblin has joined the school with a wealth of furniture making skills and also a passion for Plane & Solid Geometry. His expertise and passion has added greatly to the busy department.

With two classes sitting the Junior Cert and for the first time, two Leaving Cert Construction Studies Classes the volume of projects being submitted for examination was always going to be colossal. 3rd Yr students had the choice of design and making 1) A cook-book stand, 2) an artefact to celebrate 'The gathering' and 3) a Wall storage unit. These design briefs gave each student great scope to create a distinct and unique project, a selection of which can be found below.

6th Years have complete freedom in their choice of design. To demonstrate the range of projects made; some of the projects made were a grandfather clock, poker table, bedside lockers, models of old historical buildings, models of new eco-friendly houses, chairs, and models of various types of roofs.

3 First year classes took up Materials Technology Wood this year. In each class the gender divide is close to 50/50. This is a huge increase in what is an historically male dominated subject. All First years have been kept busy with projects where they've been constantly asked to add their own design inspirations to each of their own.

The department also joined Twitter this year. Constant pictures of project work are put up to keep current students, parents and past students updated and informed as to the work that's going on. Please follow us on Twitter @RCMTWCS.





2013 Leaving & Junior Cert Projects



Engineering and Metalwork

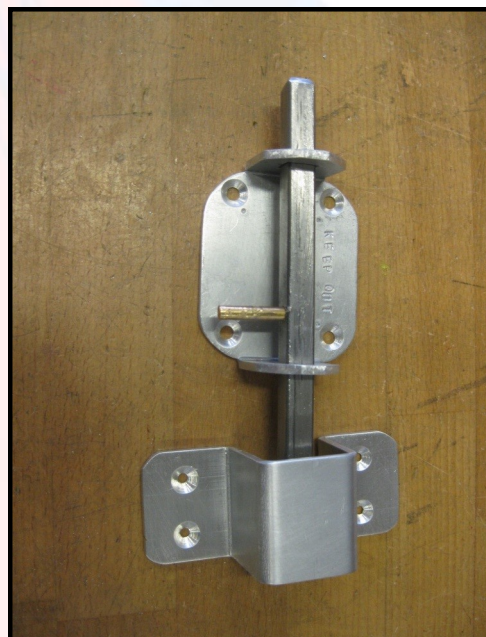
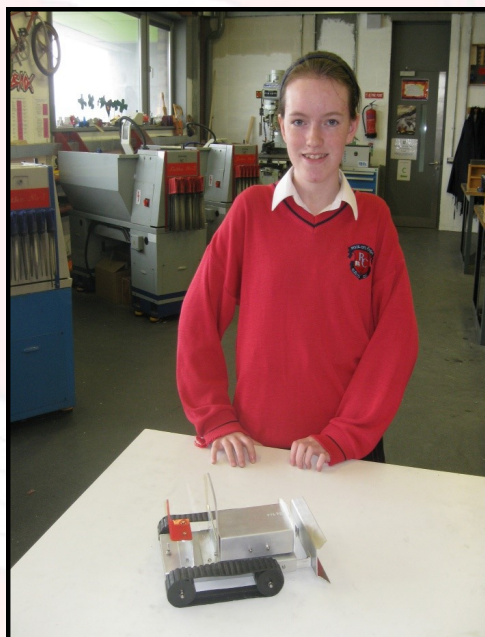
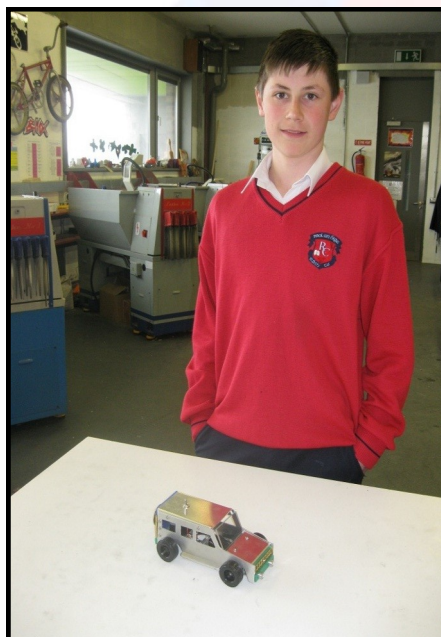
The Engineering department would like to wish the best of luck to our third group of Leaving Certs to sit their final exams this June. They have been working hard all year with the help of Mr Heaney and have produced some excellent projects that will gain high marks. Their engineering project was a mechanised theme park game device. Well Done Guys!

Junior cert students have completed their model jeep and model bulldozer. This year we have two full classes sitting their junior cert exams. The popularity of the subject is on the rise. Here we have a picture of Mark Mc Cormack with his model jeep and Melissa Conroy with her model Bulldozer.

2nd Years have had a great year too. Here we see pictures of their rubber band car race and a completed door bolt project.

Well done guys!

Mr Hannon and Mr Heaney.



Music

This has been another great year for the Music Department. We were delighted with the outstanding Junior Cert and Leaving Cert results that our students achieved. There were lots of trips organised throughout the year. The 6th Year music class had a trip to the National Concert Hall to see a performance of their Set Works. Rang Cahill and Rang O'Donoghue, our Transition Year classes, had a bodhrán workshop which went very well. They also made their own bodhráns. Rang Qualter tried out their percussion skills when they attended an African Drumming workshop. They also organised a concert for the 1st Year music class as part of their Practical Achievement Task. This gave our 3rd Years an opportunity to perform as preparation for the Junior Cert Practical Exams which, along with the Leaving Cert Practicals, took place in April. These exams went really well.

As always there were lots of Extra Curricular activities going on in the school. The annual Talent Show was a great success. The deserving winner was Sharon Lee from 6th Year with a fantastic performance on piano. The Junior Music Group and Trad Group performed at the many services and ceremonies throughout the year as well as Seachtain na Gaeilge. Outside of school, many of our students took part in productions with the Ratoath Musical Society and MYMS. Other students took part in Meath's Got Talent and various other talent shows and competitions. We are now looking forward to next year. We are excited to announce that our School Musical next year will be "Grease"!!!! Auditions are taking place before the summer and the shows will be on just before the October midterm break. Put it in the diary!

C.S.P.E.

The CSPE Department had a wonderful year again. We welcomed two new members to the department, Mr Walsh and Ms O' Neill. We kicked off the year to a great start with the Junior Certificate results which were outstanding as always with 79 students getting an A.

The great work of the department continued in October when our 7 second year CSPE classes visited the DSPCA in Rathfarmham for their Action Project which is worth 60% of their Junior Certificate exam. In November all of our first year classes were involved in the Team Hope project and together we produced amazing 190 shoe boxes for this very worthy cause.

Continuing on from the success of the department being involved with Ratoath Tidy Towns, all our first and second year classes have continued to be involved in cleaning up rubbish around the village and developing a pride in their own locality.

In March our current third years filled out their official booklets for their action project which has now been submitted to the Department for correction. April was also an important month for Rangs Brennan and Doyle as they visited Leinster House and received a guided tour of the Dáil and the Seanad, followed by a most interesting and informative talk by our local TD, Ms Regina Doherty. All of the students returned home full of political knowledge and information. Well done to all on such a successful year in the department and it's time now for a well-deserved rest by all.



Rangs Brennan & Doyle enjoyed a guided tour of Leinster House with our local TD Regina Doherty



CSPE students getting involved with Tidy Towns - helping to keep our community tidy!

Classical Studies

We enjoyed an historic year in the Classical Studies Department with a number of memorable firsts— Our first TY trip to the Classics Museum in UCD, our First class group of First Years and our schools first class group taking on the Leaving Cert. Ms Dinsmore had the pleasure of bringing the First Years through the adventures of Theseus and Odysseus as they first encountered Greek Myths and Legends. While another highlight of the year was the Open Night in January, a host of our students did a great job promoting the subject to Ratoath's Classicists of the future, and anyone around that night will long retain the image of Conor Tormey in his Spartan Helmet and robes welcoming visitors into the classroom. In May the TY Classics students visited the Ancient Greek and Roman Museum in UCD, we were treated to a number of beautiful decorated vases, tombstones, jewellery and pottery a pretty enjoyable experience for all. Aaron Flanagan's reflection on the day? "*Veni Vidi Vici*".

Home Economics

The Home Economics Department have had a very busy and exciting year. The Junior Certificate students recently had their practical exams and did very well, producing many wonderful culinary delights as well as producing some very decorative craft items. They are working studying very hard now for their exams as are the Leaving Certs, we wish them all every success in their exams.

First and second Year students have produced some great craft pieces again this year and we are all

a w a i t i n g t h e
announcement of this
year's Rene Weldon
Craft Award winner at
the awards ceremony
this month. Rene
Weldon was a
seamstress and a close
relation of Co Meath
VEC CEO, Peter
Kierans. He donated the
trophy in her memory to
Ratoath College so that
each year, 2nd year
students who display
excellent sewing skills
may be recognised and
rewarded for their hard
work.

Rang Heaney and Rang
Qualter have had a very
good year, working hard
o n t h e i r k e y
assignments. Best of
luck to Rang Heaney
and the Leaving
Certificate Home
Economics students in
their final exams!



Home Economics

2013



Geography

The current academic year was another successful one for the Geography Department. At an academic level the Leaving Cert results were again wonderful. The results were well above the national average. At Junior Cert level the number of students taking the Higher Level paper was extremely high and the results were equally as good. The teachers in the department have to be acknowledged for all the hard work.

The current Leaving Cert students went to Co Wicklow in early October to study fluvial processes (rivers) so that they could conduct their field study which is worth 20% of the overall exam. Ms Ryan and Mr Keane were very happy with the general attitude of the students on the day. Everyone worked hard and had a bit of craic along the way. We were blessed with the weather.

Geography this year in TY was a core subject. Students engaged in areas such as weather forecasting, tourism, physical geography, natural disasters and video production. As part of the TY course the department organised a trip to Co Antrim which incorporated the Giants Causeway which was formed by volcanic activity and also they visited the nearby Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge which are famous tourist attractions. It was a long but enjoyable day departing at 8 in the morning and not returning until nearly 7 in the evening. Many thanks must go to Ms Ryan, Mr Doyle and Mr Keane who organised the trip.

As Ms Ryan was away on maternity leave soon after, Mr Mc Cabe continued the trailblazing path set by Ms Ryan. Recently, Mr Mc Cabe has set up a weebly site on the internet. This is an online revision aid designed to assist students in achieving academic success. It can be accessed at www.rcgeography.weebly.com

On behalf of the Geography Department I would like to wish the best of luck to all our exam students in the upcoming state exams. Use your exam papers, plan your time wisely, take your breaks for exercise and ensure you get plenty sleep and proper nutrition.



Leaving Cert Geographers get to grips with their field work!

Italian

The Italian Dept grew even further this year with the additions of Ms Tracy Kelly and our Assistente from Bergamo Livio Amaglio. It was a breakthrough year for our department as along with 'La Giornata Italiana' a successful first year trip to *Lago di Garda*, many Oral exams and an expanding department, we also had our first Italian Exchange- spending a week in Parma in the Emilia Romagna region of Italy in October. Twenty nine students from TY, 5th and 6th Year participated in the inaugural exchange programme and had an excellent linguistic and cultural experience not to mention just having a great time. Our exchange partners from 'Liceo Ulivi' then brought a little bit of Italia to Ratoath for a week in March while enjoying the pleasures of Irish life. We'll be sorry to say *arrivederci* to Livio in June but look forward to meeting our new Assistente Italiano in September.

Gaeilge

Tá an Ghaeilge ag dul ó neart go neart anseo i gColáiste Ráth Tó. Faoin am seo tá na scrúduithe béil críochnaithe ag lucht na triú bliana agus ag lucht na hArdteiste agus is cosúil gur éirigh thar barr le gach aon ghaeilgeoir. Bhí na scrudaitheoirí iontach dearfach agus iad ag moladh na daltaí.

Arís i mbliana bhí i bhfad níos mó ghaeilge le cloisteáil thar timpeall na scoile agus is cosúil go bhfuil an “Ghaeilge Beo i Ráth Tó”!! Chuir Roinn na Gaeilge fáilte roimh Iníon Donnellan agus Iníon English i mbliana agus tá fíor obair déanta ag na baill is nua dár bhfoireann. Guíonn an Roinn gach ráth air Maitiú Ó Baoill agus a chlár nua ar Raidió na Life 106.4fm. Bíonn sé le cloisteáil gach Aoine ag a dó. Bhí an t-Uasal Ó hEochaidh le cloisteáil gach satharn ar an staisiún céanna I rith nab liana seo agus é ag tabhairt treor do dhaltaí onóir, pás nó fiú teip a fháil sna scrúduithe.

Tá níos mó ná dhá chéad dalta réidh chun freastal ar choláistí Samhraidh i mbliana ón scoil agus tá deichniúr ag dul ag obair sna Gaeltachtaí mar chuntóirí tar éis na hArdteiste. Thug Coiste Garimoideachais na Mí agus Coláiste na bhFiann níos mó na €2000 do scoláireachtaí don Roinn le bronnadh agus thug Coláiste Lurgan €4,500 dúinn freisin tar éis an sár obair agus tacaíocht a thug múinteoirí agus daltaí na scoile dá suíomh idirghníomhach ABAR LEAT.

Seo roinnt de na himeachtaí a bhí ar siúl i 2013 i gColáiste Ráth Tó:

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí spórt agus spraoi le feiceáil thar timpeall Coláiste Ráth Tó le linn Seachtain na Gaeilge. Thosaigh Seachtain na Gaeilge ar an Luan, agus bhí imeachtaí Gaelacha ar siúl gach aon lá. Bhí toraíocht taisce, comórtas litriú, Poc fada, tráth na gceist, céilí mór agus an Bricfeasta Ghaelach. Rinne na daltaí sár-iarracht leis an teanga agus ní raibh aon chaill ar na múinteoirí ach oiread!!!

Bhí Bronnadh na nDuaiseanna ar siúl anseachtain ina dhiadh agus bhuaigh daltaí ó gach aon bhliain duaiseanna. Bhuaigh Iníon Nic Gabhann an duais don Múinteoir is fear ó thaobh na Gaeilge de. Mar a duirt an Phiarsaigh, “Tir gan teanga, Tir gan anam”.

Tarraingt Téide do TG4

I rith mí Aibreán tháinig TG4 go dtí ar scoil. Bhí tarraingt téide ar siúl idir na scoláirí agus na múinteoirí. Tháinig láithreoir an chlár teilifíse PONC, d’arbh ainm Seán. Bhí fear cheamara, fear fuaime agus eagarthóir na clára in éineacht leis. Chuir siad roinnt daltaí faoi agallamh. Chuir siad ceisteanna orthu faoi stair na scoile, áiseanna na scoile, spórt sa scoil agus go leor eile.

Ag a dó a chlog bhailigh gach duine ar an bpáirc taobh thiar den scoil. Roghnaíodh an seachtar dalta is laidire agus an seachtar múinteoir is laidire chun dul san iomaíocht lena chéile. Agus an gcreidfeá bhuaigh na daltaí. Bronnadh corn orthu tar éis an chomórtas. Bhí athas an domhain ar na daltaí, ach bhí na múinteoirí ar buille.

Bhí an clár ar an teilifís ar an 14ú Bealtaine.

Coláiste Ráth Tó ar Seó Spóirt

Ghlac buachaillí ón bhfoireann peile sinsire páirt sa chomórtas “Thar an trasnáin” a bhíonn á chraoladh ar Seo Spóirt ar TG4 gach Aoine. Thug Eoghan Ó Dúdaigh fáilte roimh an foireann taifeada agus d’inis sé dóibh faoi tábhacht an spóirt inár scoil.



The Senior footballers try to get past Mr Flynn for TG4's Seó Spóirt.

Bhí ar na buachaillí an lámh is fear a fháil ar Mr.Flynn agus scór a aimsiú. Thosaigh siad le luas lasrach agus bhí ceithre chúl faighte acu sular dhuisigh Mr.Flynn. Sa deireadh d'aimsigh an fhoireann 4-1 agus bhíodar sásta lena n-iarrachtaí. Bhí an rud ar fad le feiceáil ar Seó Spóirt ar TG4 ar an Aoine an 10ú Bealtaine.

David Toner agus na buachaillí ag ullmhú don Comórtas Thar an Trasnáin.

🐦 @gaeilgeráthtó.



English

This year we welcomed new members to the department: Rita Donnellan, Tara English, Andrew Mooney, Gareth Mahony, Shabana Dowd and Tracy Kelly. We were also sad to say farewell to Nuala Ní Mhurchú, Ratoath College's first ever English teacher. We wish her well in her new role as Deputy Principal at Ardgillen Community College. Their gain is certainly our loss.

We were delighted to see our students achieve such excellent results in both the Junior and Leaving certificates. This is a real reflection of our student's hard work and dedication to English. It was particularly wonderful to see our Leaving Cert students achieve such excellent results; we don't doubt that this will continue with every Leaving Cert class. We would like to take this opportunity to wish both our Junior and Leaving Certificate students the very best of luck in June.

This year once again our English students took to the road on a trip to the theatre...our 5th and 6th years attended theatrical productions of Macbeth. These were very well received productions by many of our students and tremendous post production analysis was had in class! Our 3rd years also attended the theatre to see their Shakespearean play, "Romeo & Juliet."

We were also delighted that five of our first year students had their poems selected for an anthology celebrating Meath VEC. The amazing students were Ciara Byrne, Sophia Gray, Luke Shepherd, Katie Newe and Laura Shannon. All four students are invited to attend an awards ceremony in Navan on May 30th for their amazing work!

History

The History Team has gone from strength to strength again this year. We were delighted to welcome Ms Gannon and Mr McCabe on board and to welcome back Ms Farrelly to the team this year. We offer our congratulations too to Ms Kilrane and Ms O'Neill on the birth of their beautiful babies.

Mr Ó hEochaidh's 5th year class enjoyed a trip to Dublin city to tour sites associated with the 1916 Rising as part of their prescribed topic for study while TY students once again enjoyed an engaging and enlightening trip to Belfast with Mr Keane and Ms Dinsmore.

Meanwhile, Mr McCarthy's 6th year class completed their Research Study Reviews, worth 20% of their Leaving Cert grade. These projects are completed independently on topics chosen by the students. There were many excellent examples of research on show this year.

Aoife McGoldrick's comparative evaluation of the Saville and Widgery reports into Bloody Sunday is a fascinating and thought provoking study. Sarah-Louise Adams' analysis of the marriage of King Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn makes excellent use of 500 year old primary source material to give a real, human insight into one of History's most famous marriages. Luke Quinlan's oral history of Dublin during the Emergency is another great example of students using primary research, in this case interviews with people alive at the time, to give us an insight into how the lives of normal people are affected by History's major events. Other projects this year included Adam Farrell's appraisal of the role of the GPO in the Easter Rising, Dillon Dooley's examination of the Zodiac Killer case from 1968-69 in San Francisco, Luke Scully's fascinating treatise on the French Army mutinies of 1917 and Bill Kelly's discussion of the role played by Joseph Mengele at the Auschwitz Concentration Camp during World War 2. Well done all!

We wish all Ratoath College Historians the very best of luck in their exams in June.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Guidance

Where are the Current Opportunities in the Jobs Market?

With all the talk of recession and austerity, it may be natural for teenagers to wonder about the possibility of employment in the future. However, there are jobs out there....you just need to know where to look.

For the last three years 'The Expert Group on Future Skills Needs' has published a Vacancy Overview Report which outlines the areas where job vacancies arise for that year. Through an analysis of almost 100,000 vacancies (from two sources – FÁS Jobs Ireland and IrishJobs.ie), the Vacancy Overview shows that vacancies continue to exist for most occupations with a strong demand for those with work experience, third level qualifications and/or foreign language skills. Una Halligan, Chairperson of the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs said, "This data is telling us clearly that the demand is for those with third level qualifications and experience and also for those with foreign language skills. While currently we are not seeing a significant expansion in jobs there is some evidence from the analysis of job announcements that there will be future expansion demand particularly in the areas of Information Communications Technology (ICT) and sales, marketing and customer services."

Key Findings of the report

- ICT and sales related vacancies continue to occur most frequently. Third level qualifications and work experience were requirement for many ICT positions while foreign language skills, primarily in German, but also French, Italian, Spanish and Dutch were a requirement for numerous sales and customer service jobs.
- Third level qualifications were a requirement for many vacancies across all occupational groups; where this was not a specific requirement, work experience was seen as key.
- The report also highlights vacancies in occupations that are proving difficult to fill with suitably qualified and/or experienced staff, which include certain professionals in ICT, engineering, science, business and healthcare.
- As this report indicates, third level qualifications are a requirement for many jobs. Applications for these courses often flag growth areas in terms of employment. An analysis of this year's CAO applications show the major subject areas in terms of first preference applications were technology (20 per cent of all first preference applications), science (7.5 per cent), computing (6.6 per cent) and engineering (4.6 per cent). These statistics are positive as it shows that students are applying for course with the most growth potential, particularly courses in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, maths) programmes.

Proposed Changes to the CAO System and Streamlining of 3rd Level Courses

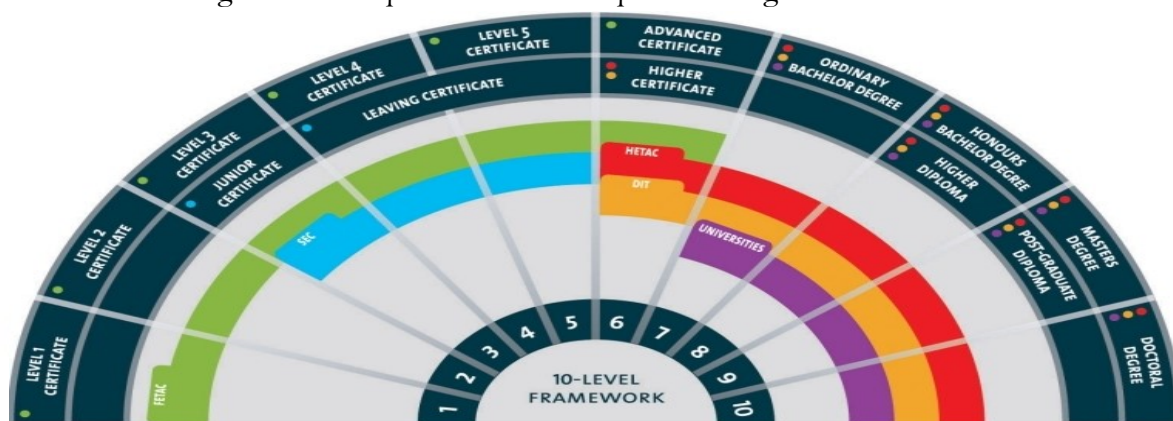
A recent report titled, *Supporting a Better Transition from Second Level to Higher Education: Key Directions and next Steps*, outlined proposed changes to the CAO system and the proliferation of courses at 3rd level.

This report was published by The Department of Education & Skills in March.

The report contains three key commitments to:

- ♦ Reduce the number of level 8 degree programmes in higher education and make them more broadly-based
- Currently there are a large number of specialised (denominated) undergraduate degrees on offer at third level. This often leads to confusion for students selecting courses of study, unnecessarily high entry point requirements for some degrees and can also have adverse consequences for the first year experience.
- Instead, colleges intend to offer broader based courses (non-denominated) to first years with the option to specialise further into the programme.
- Reduce the number of grading bands (A1, A2, B1, B2 etc)
- Until 1992, there were only seven points to the scale in Leaving Certificate results. However, at the request of the higher education institutions, this was expanded to 14 different grades (A1, A2, B1, B2, B3 etc) in order to improve the means by which the Leaving Certificate exam could be used as a mechanism to determine entry to higher education and to reduce the level of random selection.
- The department envisages that this will take the heat out of the points race.
- Address problematic predictability in the Leaving Certificate exams
- The report says that predictability in examinations can lead to undesirable teaching and learning behaviours such as "teaching to the test" instead of in-depth learning and critical thinking.

- These proposed changes are to be introduced to fifth year students who commence the Leaving Certificate cycle in 2014 on a phased basis. A range of areas for such further work have been identified including exploration of issues such as the number of grades in the Leaving Certificate, the level of CAO points to be awarded to each Leaving Certificate Grade and the use of additional tools in addition to Leaving Certificate points to allocate places in higher education.



The CAO System Explained

The Central Applications Office (CAO) are responsible for the processing for the majority of applications for third level institutions.

When applying for courses through the CAO, students have the option to select 10 Level 6/7 courses and 10 Level 8 courses *in order of preference*. If they are unhappy with their selections, students have the option to change their selections.

Students will then be offered their highest preference from Level 6/7 and Level 8 depending on the number of points achieved in the Leaving Certificate and subject entry requirements. Students can only accept a place on one course.

NFQ (www.nfq.ie)

Level 6, Level 7, Level 8 – what is the difference?

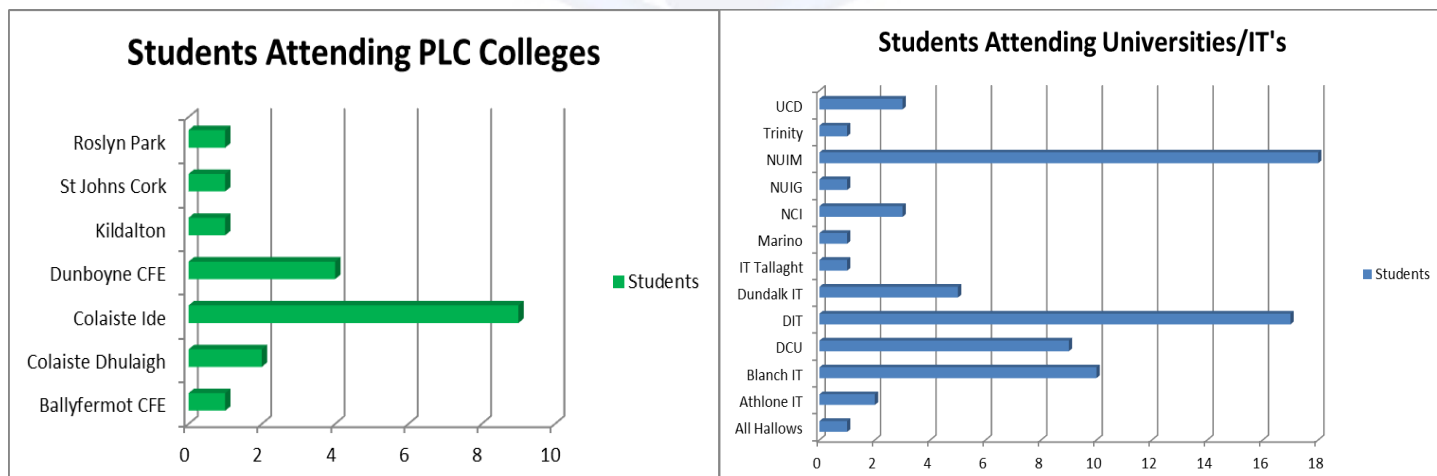
These 3 levels are components of the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). This is a system of 10 levels used to describe the Irish qualifications system and to recognise people's learning - including yours! The diagram below shows a breakdown of these levels. Here is a brief summary to help you understand these:

- Secondary School:
Upon completion of the Junior Certificate you achieve Level 3 status
Upon completion of the Leaving Certificate you achieve Level 5 status
- Third Level
Post Leaving Certificate courses (PLC's) award a FETAC Level 5 qualification, Higher Certificate = Level 6, Ordinary Degree = Level 7, Honours Degree = Level 8

Where did the Class of 2012 go?

Please see the graphs below for the destinations of our students who attended PLC courses and courses in IT's and Universities.

As you can see NUI Maynooth was the most popular University for our students, DIT the most popular IT, and Colaiste Ide in Finglas the most popular PLC college.



CLASS PHOTOS

2012-13

1st Year: Moltóir's Message

Congratulations to each and everyone of you on what has been a fantastic, yet quick year. The transition from primary school to secondary school is not an easy one but we are so proud of the way you have faced these challenges head on. As the largest single group of students in the history of Ratoath College, you made your presence felt from day one and you're concerns about lockers, new subjects, following timetables etc are all but a distant memory.

It has been a very successful year for you as a group and as your Moltóir I can honestly say it has been a pleasure getting to know you over the course of the year. We enjoyed such events as the trip to the young scientist exhibition, the first year service, pink or blue day, sports day and who could forget the exciting trips to Carlingford and Italy. We have had some wonderful sporting, cultural and academic successes too.

Well done to all of you on great summer reports and to those of you who may be a little disappointed or who feel you didn't give it your best remember that next year is a new beginning.

We have thoroughly enjoyed this year with you and are very proud of the way you conducted yourselves both inside and outside the classroom. We would like to wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and we look forward to late August when you come back as 2nd year students.

D.Kelly, C.Casey, J.Dwyer, N.Kearney, G. Lyons,

D.Mc Carthy, L. Neilson, D. Walsh, L. Witter.

Rang Casey



Rang Dwyer



Rang Kearney



Rang Lyons



Rang McCarthy



Rang Neilson



Rang Witter



Rang Walsh



2nd Year: Moltóir's Message

As we approach the end of our 2nd year at Ratoath College, we would like to congratulate each and every one of you on a fantastic year. It has been a very successful and enjoyable year for us as a group. We enjoyed such events as the trips to DSPCA and to Leinster House and of course sports Day. 2nd years were very much to the fore when it came to sporting successes we enjoyed as a school this year – well done to all involved. We also had academic and cultural success this year.

Well done to all of you on great summer reports and to those of you who may be a little disappointed, next year is a new beginning.

We have thoroughly enjoyed this year with you and are very proud of the way you conducted yourselves over the past two years. Next year will be our last year together as a group as some of you will opt for TY and some of you will choose to go directly on to 5th year. Let's hope next year will be an even better year.

We would like to wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and we look forward to late August when you come back as 3rd year students.

A Sweeney, D. M Brennan, G Carey, A Doyle,

A Hitillambeau, F McTiernan, B O'Dwyer, C Smith

Rang Brennan



Rang Carey



Rang Doyle



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Rang Hitillambeau



Rang McTiernan



Rang O'Dwyer



Rang Smith



3rd Year: Moltóir's Message

To the students of third year I want to say a very well done on completing Junior Cycle. You are about to start on the most important exams to date and when they finish I thoroughly hope you enjoy a well-deserved break.

This has been a year of big decisions; for some of you it's been about selecting Transition Year or Leaving Cert Applied, for others it's been what subjects to take for 5th year. Whatever path you have decided on for next year, I know I speak for the whole third year team when I wish you the very best of luck. I have no doubt you will do very well and hope you have enjoyed your three years with our year group.

As always, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with each and every one of you, even when we were having 'difficult discussions'. You are the reason we teachers come to school and you certainly make my day more enjoyable.

This year would not have ran so well if it had not been for the fantastic 3rd year team of Caomhnóirí, who care for you on a daily basis and always have your best interest at heart. To Mr Connolly, Ms Daly, Ms Flatley, Ms Kelly, Mr Nissar and Mr Ó hEochaidh I say a big thank you.

Keep revising, good luck in the exams and when they are over, I hope you all have a wonderful break. Remember to mind each other, have fun and be well rested when you return to us next year.

Gretta Judge

Rang Connolly



Rang Daly



Rang Flatley



Rang Kelly



Rang Nissar



Rang Ó hEochaidh



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Transition Year: Moltóir's Message

What a year it's been for the TY students!

Again 2012 2013 saw an action packed TY programme and as my mantra goes 'you get out what you put it' Over the year students engaged in many activities and programmes to develop as rounded individuals by facing personal, academic and physical challenges.

Students had the opportunity to engage in peer education by training and teaching modules in oral health and substance abuse. All students took courses in First Aid, Health and Safety, Driver Theory and the Gaisce programme preparing for the Bronze Medal. They also took part in the Bridge 21 project working on group-work strategies and methodologies for the classroom.

Students took the initiative in running various mini- companies, the Talent show and training junior students on the sports field while also engaging in projects for St Vincent de Paul and other charities. Work experience and community work also formed an integral part with students completing two weeks work experience and getting involved in various community projects including a float for the St Patricks day parade which they worked on with Mr Daly.

The highlight for the students was the many trips and activities including French films, the Zoo, Camping, film making, hiking, bodhrán playing, martial arts and the TY leadership conference just to mention a few. Best wishes for the summer.

P. Cullen

Rang Cahill



Rang O'Donoghue



5th Year: Moltóir's Message

And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer.ⁱ But you know, Summer will end soon enough, and childhood as wellⁱⁱ and soon there will be a new year. A new beginning. And things will change.ⁱⁱⁱ If you want to live a happy life, tie it to a goal, not to people or things. ^{iv} (Are you) *hungry for knowledge? The whole thing is to learn every day, to get brighter and brighter, That's what the word is about*^v The beautiful thing about learning is that nobody can take it away from you.^{vi} You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.^{vii} It is our choices, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities^{viii} (It's worth remembering) that Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. ^{ix} My advice is to never do tomorrow what you can do today. Procrastination is the thief of time.^x [Next year] the time to hesitate is through.^{xi} {Never forget that} everything you can imagine is real. ^{xii} A change is brought about because ordinary people do extraordinary things.^{xiii} *Make your own dream.*^{xiv} See you next year.

Ann Daly

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|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ⁱ F.Scott Fitzgerald | ^{viii} J.K.Rowling |
| ⁱⁱ George RR Martin. | ^{ix} Nelson Mandela |
| ⁱⁱⁱ Taylor Swift | ^x Charles Dickens. |
| ^{iv} Albert Einstein. | ^{xi} Tim Morrison |
| ^v Jay-Z. | ^{xii} Pablo Picasso |
| ^{vi} B.B. King. | ^{xiii} Barack Obama |
| ^{vii} Mae West. | ^{xiv} John Lennon |

Rang Barry



Rang Garrett



Rang McAuley



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Rang Qualter



Rang Reid



Autographs

Autographs

Autographs