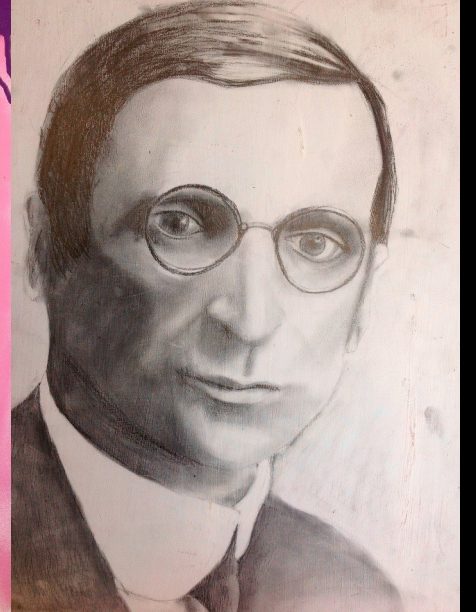
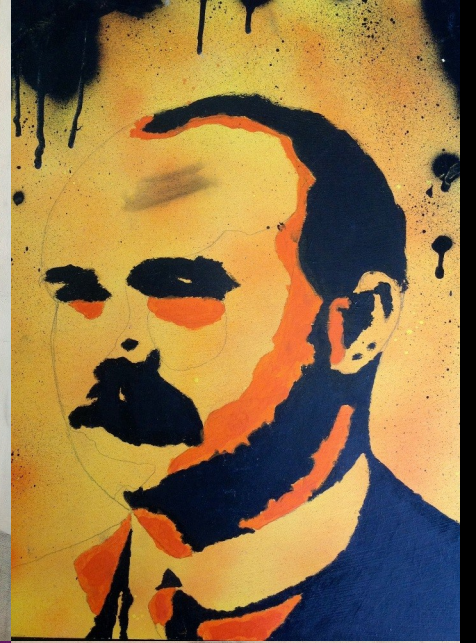
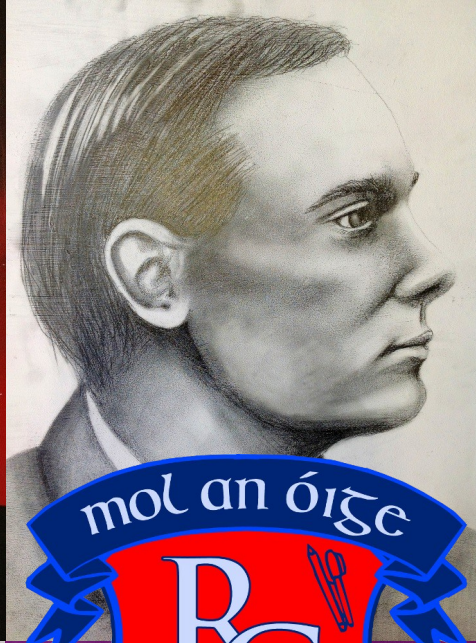


Sixty-Six



Welcome from Ms Prendergast & Mr Ball



Once again it gives us great pleasure to present this, our ninth school Yearbook. As ever the production team have come up trumps with this superb production that provides us with a wonderful overview of life in Ratoath College this year.

What a year it has been, with continued success on the playing fields, to Young Scientist winners (well done Mark Caffrey), participation in Applied Maths Quizzes, our rained out sports day and of course Ratoath College's hugely successful staging of Grease. These activities are indicative of the commitment and dedication of our extremely hard working staff who give of their time to coach and train and direct these events. To them we say a massive thank you. Without their generosity none of these events would be possible.

We also want to say a very well done to those of you who have achieved personal success this year, in representing your county and country in many different sporting activities. You have been amazing ambassadors for Ratoath College and have done yourselves and the school proud. We wish you continued success.

Commitment and hard work are always evident in Ratoath College particularly in our classrooms. We are extremely proud of the students of Ratoath College particularly in relation to their hard work and their commitment to learning. This year was no exception and we are very pleased with the success of our Literacy initiatives and our continued involvement with the Bridge 21 Team. We wish the very best of luck to our 3rd and 6th years in the coming weeks.

Finally, thank you very much to Mr McCarthy, Ms Savage, Ms Kelly and the TY students who have done a wonderful job in producing this Year Book. The outstanding quality of the production is a testament to them and their production team and reflects the very high standards that have become the norm across the board in Ratoath College.

Congratulations and well done!

Maith sibh

Oonagh Prendergast & Derek Ball

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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 2014 section has been compiled by a small but highly dedicated group of 6th years. Well done all.

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

Farewell to Ms Ní Bhróithe



This year, Ratoath College bade farewell to our founding Principal, Ms Ní Bhróithe as became Education & Leadership Officer with the new Louth and Meath Education and Training Board.

From humble beginnings in a portacabin on the grounds of Fairyhouse Racecourse to the lofty heights of her office in the new building on the Jamestown Campus, Máire Ní Bhróithe brought to fruition the dreams and hopes of many Ratoath people who in 2005 wanted a school worthy of the young growing population of Ratoath.

From those early days in the executive suite in Fairyhouse Ms Ni Bhróithe has worked tirelessly to create a caring, innovative school, where the students not only achieve of their best academically but more importantly, have confidence and belief in their abilities to achieve. Central to this is the school's motto *Mól an Óige*, which under Ms. Ni Bhróithe's stewardship is not just a catch phrase but is the living, breathing ethos of the school everyday.

Máire's energy and joie de vivre are contagious, and both staff and students alike have benefited from her positive and forward thinking approach to education. As a school we have been moulded and shaped by Ms. Ní Bhróithe and we hope we have developed into the type of school she envisaged when she took up her position.

While we miss Ms Ní Bhróithe around the building, we congratulate her on her new position as Education and Leadership Officer in LMETB, and of course we are doubly thrilled as in her new position she is only a step away from Ratoath College.

Our school banner can easily be adapted to read... Fairyhouse (and Ms Ni Bhróithe) forever in our hearts.



Above (clockwise from left): With the Sixty-Six, who we honour with the name of this publication, on RC's first day of school; With Ms Dervan at the Fairyhouse Run; Showing her festive spirit at an ice-skating trip; Inspecting what is now Mr Nissar's lab during the construction of the RC building; Helping students with their ties on the opening day of Ratoath College; With the rest of the Board of Management of RC at its first ever meeting; Top: On her last day as Principal of Ratoath College, with the framed picture presented by the student body.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ



A Reflection for the Year from Father P.J.

I'm a cracked pot. Has that gotten your attention? Before people jump to conclusions let me explain myself. I'm a cracked pot because I'm not perfect. I have faults and imperfections but so does most of the human race and so I'm in good company. My singing voice would make the crow family sound musical. My faults and failures do not prevent me, however, from making a valuable contribution to society. All of us have limitations but these can be used in creative and positive ways. Let me share a story with you from an unknown author.

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole, which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it was made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream.

"I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologise to you."

"Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"

"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the

master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and it cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologised to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you been just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

God has created each of us with our own unique gifts and talents. There is nobody just like you. You are special. In the book of Genesis it says "God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good". As Chaplain, however I often encounter students who do not believe this, who have low self-esteem, who feel that they are not as good as others, that they are less talented than their peers. Self-esteem has to do with how you feel about yourself, your lovability and your capability. It is how you see your own worth and importance. It is formed by the messages we get from significant others in our lives. I hope that you always get positive messages from parents, teachers and peers. May you realise that you are special and as Thom Schultz said God made you special for a very special purpose. He must have a job for you that no one else can do as well as you. Out of all the billions of applicants, only one is qualified, only one has the right combination of what it takes. That one is you. Because... You're special.



The Graduating Class of 2014

Thanks and Good Luck from Ms Daly & Ms Ní Mhurchú

World is crazier and more of it than we think, Incorrigibly plural.¹ Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice.² Never give in. Never, never, never, never — in nothing, great or small, large or petty — never give in, except to convictions of honour and good sense.³ Go wisely and slowly. Those who rush stumble and fall.⁴ My point is that the world is more malleable than you think and it's waiting for you to hammer it into shape.⁵ You've got to find what you love. And that is as true for your work as it is for your lovers. Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work.⁶ Live, travel, adventure, bless, and don't be sorry.⁷ Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none.⁸ Your life must now run the course that's been set for it.⁹ Nobody can give you wiser advice than yourself.¹⁰ There is risk and truth to yourselves and the world before you.¹¹ Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow, that I shall say good night till it be morrow.¹²

Ann Daly

A heartfelt thanks to you all for the magical memories I have of you from when you arrived as wide eyed 1st years to when you entered senior cycle as mature, confident, personable young men and women. My favourite memory is of onesies and wellies galore being the dress code up in Collen on our overnight camping trip and of the music session in the tent that night. Over the years I have admired your many talents and appreciated your successes in sporting activities, in the annual talent show and of course in your academic pursuits. I am and forever will be proud of your many achievements.

I hope you enjoyed your time in Ratoath College and that you are leaving with memories you will treasure and rich friendships that you appreciate. This is an important time in your lives as you embark upon the next stage of your journey and I wish each and every one of you every success in what lies ahead at this exciting time. Life is short so don't waste time on regrets and little worries. Live each day to the full and celebrate the many talents that you have. And so a new chapter begins....

Míle buíochas ó chroí agus go n-éirí go geal libh sa toadhchaí!

Nuala Ní Mhurchú

1. Louise McNeice
2. Steve Jobs
3. Winston Churchill
4. William Shakespeare

5. Bono
6. Steve Jobs
7. Jack Kerouac
8. William Shakespeare

9. Kazuo Ishiguro
10. Marcus Tullius Cicero
11. Seamus Heaney
12. William Shakespeare

A Valediction from the Ard-Cinnirí



Laura reflects... When I joined this school back in 2008 I was a quiet, shy girl with bushy hair that sat in the corner and spoke only when spoken to. This school has completely changed that.

I got involved in the choir; I took part in the musicals and the talent show. Never in a billion years would I have pictured myself writing this valediction as Ard-Cinnire, winning the school talent show or performing in musicals. The funny thing is, I know now that's what I want to do with my life, perform, and this school helped me realise that. This school gave me fabulous opportunities and allowed me to become a more confident version of me and for that, I am grateful. I'd like to say thank you to everyone in this school who made these past 6 years an incredible journey. I hope the remainder of yours is equally, if not more, rewarding.

Dáire reflects... When the Senior Rugby team walked off the pitch in Newbridge in February after being narrowly defeated; I knew I had played my last ever game in the navy and red jersey. But I sat in the changing room with a smile on my face.

Despite the fact it was the end of the road for my fellow 6th years and I, chuckle-inducing memories flooded through my mind of my six years playing rugby for Ratoath College.

As we approach the final whistle for our time in school, I can't help but smile as I did in the dressing room that day.

It's been an epic journey; from the left-hand side of the hall for assembly to the right, from red jumper to navy jumper, from child to adult. To staff and fellow students, thanks for making the journey so memorable.

Together they reflect... It'll be tough to see everyone set off on their own path, but exciting also. In the words of Walt Disney, "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them".

Goodbye to walking down the avenue, goodbye to the multi-coloured skylights and goodbye to you. Let's hope that somewhere down the line our paths will meet again.

Congratulations Class of 2014.

Laura & Dáire

Graduate Profiles

Rang Barry



ERICA BROWNE
"Editare"

Moment: Spilled soup on some girl
Quote: "Bring on the the weekend with me girlos no fellas allowed x"
What I'll Miss: Mr. McCarthy's hair
Ambition: To have a family and a good career



KERRI DONNELLY
"Kerri D"

Moment: When Louise & me did the imaginary stairs by Ivor's window.
Quote: "Stay away from my windows!"
What I'll Miss: Being with the girlos all day.
Ambition: To be Marilyn Monroe.



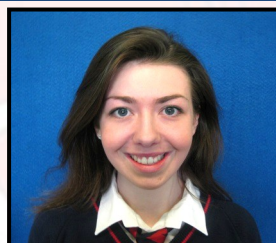
DILLON DOOLEY
"Dool"

Moment: Neck necking with Saeed
Quote: "White boy, give me ya pud pud"
What I'll Miss: Curry
Ambition: To bring Abe home



CONOR DUNCAN
"Duncan"

Moment: China Trip
Quote: "Won't be getting into any clubs with that subway"
What I'll Miss: General banter in school
Ambition: Go to college and travel



CELINE FOX

Moment: Haggling for "high quality Beats" with Rich  el in China.
Quote: Clin d'oeil clin d'oeil!
What I'll Miss: Eating cake on birthdays in the canteen.
Ambition: To marry an economist.



TOM GANNON
"Tommy G"

Moment: Winning Rogha na nDalt   in TY
Quote: "Who's your one?"
What I'll Miss: Representing my school in sport
Ambition: to manage the Ratoath collage Gaelic team.



ROBERT GRALL
"RobbyG"

Moment: #Talentshow #Robbed
Quote: "I'm Cinnire I do what I want..... I live by my own rules, nobody else's, not even my own."
What I'll Miss: The craic with Ms Hanly #loveher
Ambition: Repeat 6th year for yuss.



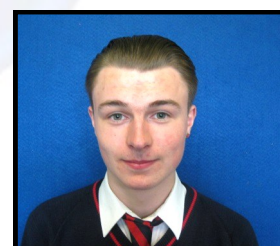
ALANNA GRAVES

Moment: When Fiona fell & head-butted the wall
Quote: "Sorry sir I just got a little bit sick" - P.M
What I'll Miss: Andrew correcting every teacher
Ambition: To win the lotto



MANUEL GUERRERO III
"Manny"

Moment: Becoming a sixth year student
Quote: "The power response is in the need, not in the desire"
What I'll Miss: The feeling of a school day off.
Ambition: Diamond tier engineer



MICHAEL HIGGINS
"HIGG"

Moment: Patrolling the village in Ali C's car.
Quote: "I am the one who knocks"
What I'll Miss: All the Yuss
Ambition: To smell what the Rock is cooking!



RYAN HILL
"Hilly"

Moment: When I proposed to Rob
Quote: "Ah here!!" - Brendy
What I'll Miss: The early mornings
Ambition: To be alive in 10 years time



MELISSA HOGAN
"The Brain"

Moment: Getting rid of the evidence from mine and Saoirse's bet
Quote: "I'd love to live in Europe" - The Brain
What I'll Miss: Getting 85pts in my mocks
Ambition: To be the first human Avatar



RONAN HYNES
"Scholesy"

Moment: Being held captive in Mr Keane's classroom for a Laser incident
Quote: "Riiight Guys"- Ms. Prendergast
What I'll Miss: Mr. McCarthy's hair, Ms. Dalton babysitting me
Ambition: To be Great!



SEAN KEOGH
"Keogh"

Moment: Winning the FIFA tournament for 50 quid (I am so sad...)
Quote: "If you don't buy a ticket you can't win the raffle" - Martin Tyler
What I'll Miss: Cinnire room cheese toasties #sogood
Ambition: Be ambitious.



BREANDAN KERIN
"Brendy"

Moment: That time with all those people!
Quote: "My feet are hungry and my tummy is tired" - Eoin O' Connor
What I'll Miss: Scramble to the lockers in the morning.
Ambition: To be alive in 70 years.



NATHAN MCALOON
"Nates"

Moment: Feeling my rats tail blow in the wind(1styr)
Quote: Maths is a lot like women you're never really going to understand it.
What I'll Miss: banter, birds, booze and books!
Ambition: Be as good as my sister at football. #ICanDream



MICHELLE MC CAMLEY
"Shelly"

Moment: TY camping trip
Quote: "The human torch was denied a bank loan"
What I'll Miss: Everyone, The Stallions
Ambition: To win an Oscar, become a director and own a red VW camper van



CALLUM MCCORMACK
"Cally Wally"

Moment: Winning the 3rd year student of the year.
Quote: "Maybe I will, Maybe I won't."
What I'll Miss: The chats in assembly and Shane getting caught singing "Friday".
Ambition: Grow taller than Shane.



SHANE MCGLYNN
"Bridge between Genders"

Moment: Jelly fishing down the Great Wall of China
Quote: "Join the S.S.O"
What I'll Miss: Team Greece and Pale Amy
Ambitions: Conquer Asia Minor, direct "Jurassic Mark" and get the third nipple removed



NEIL MOORE
"Coconut"

Moment: Picking up women in the car.
Quote: "I'm not buying a yearbook"
What I'll Miss: The Lads
Ambition: Get drunk every day and succeeded as a millionaire



SARAH M. MURRAY
"Murray"

Moment: Carrots.....lol
Quote: "One may say the possible is impossible"
What I'll Miss: Team Greece!!
Ambition: To be an Artist and to travel the world in style...on a magic carpet.



STEPHANIE O'BRIEN
"Steph"

Moment: Italian Exchange
Quote: Born at a very young age
What I'll Miss: I never miss, I'm always on target
Ambition: To be a trolley dolly



SAM O'CONNOR
"Sambo"

Moment: Being Andy from Little Britain in the TY TV show 'want tha one'
Quote: "Gerrard!! ohh ya beautyyyy what a hit son, what a hit!" -Andy Gray
What I'll Miss: Being the only bloke in Home Ec
Ambition: To dance like Gavin Boyle's uncle Tony!



CONOR PATTEN
"Patten"

Moment: Filling out this profile.
Quote: "Come and 'av a go if ya think ya 'ard enough."
What I'll Miss: Alex Coultard bombing up to school at 8:49.
Ambition: To marry Ms. English.



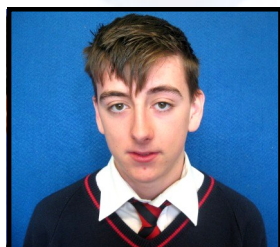
KATE PHILPOTT
"Kate"

Moment: When Mr. Connolly got stuck in the net in Italy (1st year).
Quote: "I'm not good with advice, can I interest you in a sarcastic comment?"
What I'll Miss: The hell out of my friends!
Ambition: Loads.



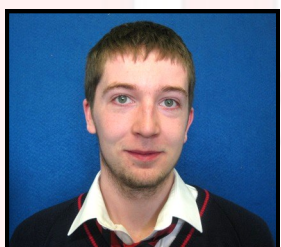
FIONA ROONEY
"Fifi"

Moment: When Beth slipped on a banana skin
Quote: "That makes me sick" - Ellen Scully
What I'll Miss: The canteen soup and Andrew's cheeky comments
Ambition: To marry Ryan Gosling



JORDAN SMYTH

Moment: 2nd year camping trip
Quote:
What I'll Miss: Big Gib and his samurai sword
Ambition: To pass my leaving cert



MARK TOBIN
"Toby"

Moment: When I first met Nuala
Quote: "Marky Mark" - Ms Ní Mhurchú
What I'll Miss: English class with Ms English.
Ambition: Pass my leaving

Rang Martin



MARK W. ANDERSON
"Son of Zeus"

Moment: Re-enacting the Battles of Alex in the courtyard.
Quote: "You should always waste time when you don't have any."
What I'll Miss: Team Greece.
Ambition: To one day have a better ambition.



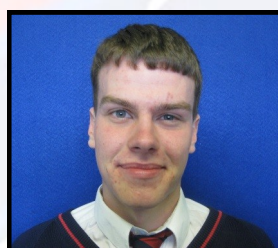
ZOË BRADY
"Zeb"

Moment: Befriending my Twingles (Tara + Shell) in Italy.
Quote: "Don't play the odds, play the man" - Harvey Spectre
What I'll Miss: Off topic English class discussions.
Ambition: To win a Man Booker Prize.



AILBHE BRIOSCÚ

Moment: Receiving my 11 A's; a total surprise!
Quote: "Goodbye? Oh no, please. Can't we just go back to page one and start all over again?" - Winnie the Pooh.
What I'll Miss: Friends.
Ambition: To inspire; and be inspired.



LUKE CAHILL

Moment: Stuff blowing up in chemistry and tent nearly burning in TY.
Quote: "Ah sure, be grand"
What I'll Miss: Seeing everyone every day.
Ambition: To be 6 foot and to grow a proper beard.



NAOISE COLLINS
"Nisha"

Moment: Winning the Cultural Award.
Quote: "Never tickle a sleeping dragon."
What I'll Miss: Seeing my friends every day.
Ambition: To find something in life that I'm good at, and get paid good money for doing it.



HOPE COURTNEY

Moment: JunkKouture final with Shell in 2012
Quote: "Did everyone see that? Because I will not be doing it again" – Captain Jack Sparrow
What I'll Miss: The bell
Ambition: To be successful and happy but rich would be good too.



DARRAGH DALY
"Dazzler"

Moment: Slinky steps made from battery packs
Quote: "Don't sweat the petty stuff, don't pet the sweaty stuff"
What I'll Miss: Mr Giblin's DCG models.
Ambition: Nuclear by day, funkstar by night.



LUKE DARCY
"Big Dog"

Moment: Coming into school after Calvin Harris with Ciaran and Kev lol.
Quote: Shut your lips
What I'll Miss: Ms Prendergast's tasty voice in the morning.
Ambition: To hit puberty.



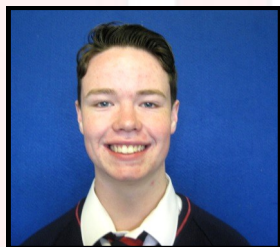
LAURA DONOHUE
"Smora"

Moment: Winning the Talent Show 2014
Quote: "How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard"
What I'll Miss: The little things, like seeing my friends everyday
Ambition: To be happy



ANA MARIA DUNNE
"Ana"

Moment: Trip to China
Quote: "Sarcasm: A literary device for identifying the stupid"
What I'll Miss: Easy access to sleeping aids.
Ambition: Being rich would be nice.



EOGHAN FAGAN
"Enzo"

Moment: The secret hike during the camping trip
Quote: "I'll always remember"
What I'll Miss: Cinnire banter
Ambition: To be so rich and famous that Forbes looks through my yearbook.



SERENA FAGAN
"Serena Kardashian"

Moment: Italy! 3rd year art bant, Lee falling off the chair in biology.
Quote: "Sinead! I learnt the heart OFF by OFF!"
What I'll Miss: The HACKS... Sinead, Ceile and Ava.
Ambition: To be a Kardashian and DANCER.



RICHÁEL FARRELL COURTNEY
"Richard"

Moment: Eating a scorpion in China
Quote: "It's Richáel"
What I'll Miss: Asking Shane if he has the English homework done.
Ambition: To find my Belfast twin.



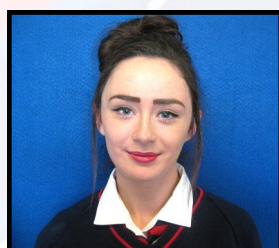
MACIEJ GRZESZCZUK
"Magic"

Moment: Trip to Carlingford.
Quote: "...and he waddled away, waddle, waddle".
What I'll Miss: Friends, funny classes.
Ambition: Travel across the continents, be in a movie or tv-show.



BETH HAYES
"Befany"

Moment: Slipping on a banana in 2nd year... Cartoon style
Quote: "I don't feel like a man – I feel very much like a boy" – Alex Turner
What I'll Miss: The Fabulous Mr. Ó hEochaidh
Ambition: To make as many memories as I can



ELLEN HOGAN

Moment: Melissa getting stuck on the zip line in TY... ahaha wet myself!
Quote: "She doesn't even go here!" #meangirls
What I'll Miss: Running away from teachers at lunch, NOT GOING OUT!
Ambition: To destroy Snapchat, no dignity left.



DANIYAL HUSSAIN
"Dónal"

Moment: Breaking The Expensive Painting.
Quote: ايم ستعمل تفجير لك
What I'll Miss: The Laughs, Gibles, Ms. Ní Mhurchú's Detentions.
Ambition: Rule The World, Keep In Touch With Friends, Travel The World, Be Challenger.



CHLOE KAVANAGH
"Chloe"

Moment:
Quote: "Ha Gas!"
What I'll Miss: Canteen soup
Ambition: Pass my leaving and be rich.



DAVID KENNY STANTON
"The Mushroom"

Moment: When Rang Garrett won the sports day football in 1st year.
Quote: "Ye you did!!"
What I'll Miss: Having a good chat with the teachers and friends of ratoath college.
Ambition: To move abroad.



LEE LYNCH
"Pee wee"

Moment: Erica and Saoirse cut my hair off.
Quote: "Could you not?..."
What I'll Miss: Class time with Saoirse and Erica.
Ambition: To go to college and own 20 cats by my 20th birthday



CATHAL MCMAHON
"Smuel"

Moment: Chemistry explosion
Quote: "How are you?"
What I'll Miss: Spending time with friends
Ambition: None at the moment



ROBERT O'BRIEN
"Rob"

Moment: Accidentally kicking and setting off the fire alarm in P.E
Quote: "Do the what? The work"
What I'll Miss: The craic with King Gib
Ambition: To become a head developer for a company like Microsoft.



KEVIN O'DRISCOLL
"Bosco"

Moment: The LCA camping trip
Quote: "I got about 17 dollaz now that's gangsta"
What I'll Miss: Being an absolute spoon to teachers
Ambition: Inherit Hugh Hefner's fortune



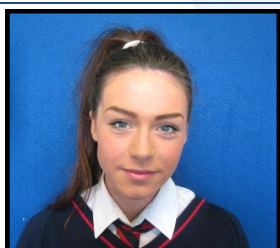
AARON O'TOOLE
"Tooler"

Moment: Reaching the footie final with Belgium as underdogs
Quote: "Maaaaaan"
What I'll Miss: The boys in 5th year and Cathal
Ambition: Grow a Gordon D'arcy beard



CIARÁN PHELAN
"Sniper"

Moment: Day after Tiesto and Calvin Harris with Luke and Key
Quote: "Simples"
What I'll Miss: Big Gib
Ambition: Get cheap car insurance



ELLEN SCULLY

Moment: When Alanna Graves slipped on a piece of lettuce.
Quote: "That's ih RooneyBee" - James Dervan
What I'll Miss: The canteen soup!
Ambition: To marry Orlando Bloom!



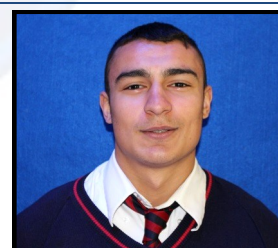
DIANA STRUJEVICA
"Dino"

Moment: The time I shaved half of my head
Quote: "Too glam to give a damn"
What I'll Miss: Being asked if I have a green card
Ambition: Aircraft engineer / Pilot / Exploring with Dora



CONOR WARD
"Wardooo"

Moment: Winning the first match with the B-Team.
Quote: "Excuse me sir I seemed to have lost my identification"
What I'll Miss: Mr Giblin.
Ambition: To grow a little someday.



DYLAN WILLIAMS
"Dyl"

Moment: The human pyramid with Rang Garrett in third year
Quote: "When life puts you in tough situations don't say why me, say try me" -Me
What I'll Miss: The females
Ambition: To be in the special forces

Rang McAuley



JORDAN BARNES
"Jordie"

Moment: LCA camping trip
Quote: "What's The Story!"
What I'll Miss: The craic with all my mates and the craic with all the teachers
Ambitions : To do well in Life !



SHAUNA KATE BROHAN
"Shana"

Moment: Fashion Show in 5th Year
Quote: "Just Keep Breathing"
What I'll Miss: Sharon in Maths class!
Ambition: Be as sassy as Olenna Tyrell



DANIEL CHOCHLINSKI
"Choko"

Moment: Leinster Football championship
Quote: "When you want to succeed as bad as you want to breathe, then you'll be successful" - Erick Thomas
What I'll Miss: Getting into trouble
Ambition: Living American dream



BRENDAN CONNELL

Moment: Italian trip. Sports days.
What I'll Miss: Free classes.
Ambition: Go to college. Study product design. Pass my course. To design something of significance for the future. Pass driving test.



ALEX COULTARD
"Ali C"

Moment: Crashing my car
Quote: "I pull who I want" -David Toner
What I'll Miss: Coban.
Ambition: To have hair like Michael Higgins #Slick



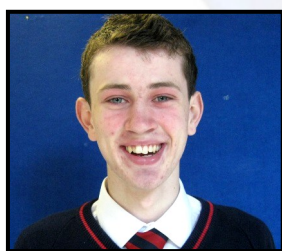
JENNY DEMPSEY
"The Hobbit"

Moment: Hope calling Sean the "Founder of Humanity" in Kairos in TY
Quote: "Wit beyond measure is man's greatest treasure"
What I'll Miss: Everyone
Ambition: To visit Neverland



JAMES DERVAN
"Dervo"

Moment: China / Leinster Final.
Quote: "You eating that? I'll have it..."
What I'll Miss: Big P, my Caomhy
Ambition: Pro Rugby player/Coach



GLENN DOYLE
"Glennnda"

Moment: Never being able to splle right
Quote: "You've NO idea how many times I've clogged the disabled toilets."
What I'll Miss: Clogging the toilets.
Ambition: To clog the toilets once more.



ANN ENG
"Ann-Eng"

Moment: Winning the 3 year attendance award by accident.
Quote: "Ann, why are you late?"
What I'll Miss: The weekly Lionel Richie fix during accounting.
Ambition: Travel and just go with it,,,



SHARON ETUKUDO
"Sharzan"

Moment: The Carlingford trip (I'm sure Italy was better tbh)
Quote: "They're foreign, they won't think like us"
What I'll Miss: Mr McAuley... (and all my friends in 5th year.)
Ambition: Break a food related world record.



CONOR FITZPATRICK
"Fitzy"

Moment: Accounting Christmas dinner and TY
Quote: "Am I that red?"
What I'll Miss: The good wife guide from Mr Walsh.
Ambition: To one day have the greatest wave in the entire world!



RACHEL GILES
"Rachie"

Moment: Laura's smack cam at break
Quote: "Eat sleep economics repeat"
What I'll Miss: The gals and Tom Gannon's one-liners
Ambition: To show the world the true side of Jane Flood



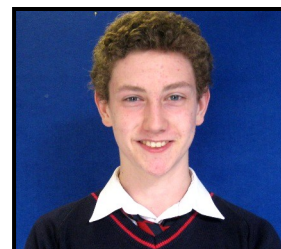
SADBH KELLETT
"Sieve"

Moment: When Tim read the map upside down and got us lost in Roscommon!
Quote: "VIVE LA REVOLUTION!"
What I'll Miss: Team Greece and my friends
Ambition: To become a bestselling author!



JOSHUA V. KIDD
"Josh"

Moment: Seeing Ms Clare at the Eminen concert selling snapbacks
Quote: "Will there be women and biscuits?"
What I'll Miss: Ms English's classes
Ambition: To be an actor and star in a movie with Seth Rogan



ANDREW MALONE
"Andy"

Moment: Losing the basketball finals.
Quote: "I will either find a way, or make one."
 -Hannibal
What I'll Miss: Not too much actually.
Ambition: To save the world and such...



KAREN C. MCCABE
"Karoncé"

Moment: Winning this year's Talent Show
Quote: "There's a lot of beauty in ordinary things. Isn't that kind of the point?"
What I'll Miss: General shenanigans and tomfoolery with friends
Ambition: To inspire



TARA MC CAMLEY
"Taz"

Moment: TY in general
Quote: "We're all stories in the end, just make it a good one" -The Doctor
What I'll Miss: The People, Mr McAuley's inspirational speeches
Ambition: To own a small nation that rivals Molossia



GARRY MCCANN
"Tractor"

Moment: Being great at everything
Quote: "That's the crack she said with one leg on the dash and nothing on but the radio"
What I'll Miss: Ms. English
Ambition: Not be back next year.



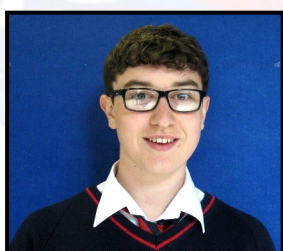
LAUREN MCCONWAY
"Lorenzo"

Moment: Celine asking Ms.O'Dwyer "what's a casual relationship" in maths
Quote: "I hate midgets"
What I'll Miss: Shauna & her hatred for midgets
Ambition: To catch Michelle every time she faints



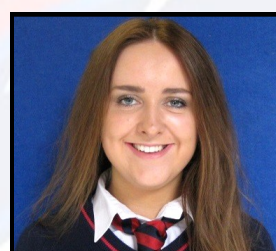
SHAUNA MCDONNELL

Moment: When Lauren fell down a rabbit hole in TY
Quote: "You lookin' nice!" -Lauren McConway
What I'll Miss: Spending every minute with Lauren
Ambition: To teach Celine left from right



PARAIG MCGEE
"Pat"

Moment: Being Porus
Quote: "[Jellyfish] are 97% water, so how much are they doing? Just give them another 3% and make them water. It's more useful." - Karl Pilkington
What I'll Miss: Ham
Ambitions: Yes



KELLY MCGUINNESS
"Kel"

Moment: Mr Carey asking me to go gym with him.
Quote: "There's something about him."
What I'll Miss: Everything! Except Jane stealing my soup.
Ambition: To marry Tom Eiffe



MICHELLE MCLOUGHLIN
"Micháel / Odysseus"

Moment: Tim attempting to chug 2L of milk in TY
Quote: "I'd hate to be foreign, if someone sneezed it'd sound like your name" -Amy Lawlor
What I'll Miss: Assembly with Aoife, Team Greece!
Ambition: To change the world, a brownie at a time



AOIFE MOLONEY
"Molonskey"

Moment: The curious incident of the exploding egg

Quote: "I've got a belly full of love"

What I'll Miss:

Assembly chats with Michelle

Ambition: To learn how to crack an egg properly



CATHAL F. O'CARROLL
Error: nickname not found

Moment: Ice Hockey viewing in TY

Quote: "Cathal, you're actually the bane of my classroom." "What? Like in Batman?"

What I'll Miss: The Bus Suss everyday

Ambition: To someday receive the title of Lord



NEIL O'DOWD
"O'Dowd"

Moment: The Italian exchange.

Quote: "Shtick it in the pan"

What I'll Miss: The insane craic had on the bus.

Ambition: To acquire a trophy wife



DANIEL O'SULLIVAN
"Dan"

Moment: Winning the Leinster Cup with the school team.

Quote: "Clear eyes, full hearts, can't lose."

What I'll Miss: Seeing friends.

Ambition: To become Scotty.



TIM RYAN
"Tim"

Moment: TY: finding the flag (I was never lost....)

Quote: "Why?"

What I'll Miss: Physics, lunchtime birthday cake, "unbiased" Irish History, the walk home, app. maths, the awful jokes, the "goss", the table, the people.

Ambition: To matter



JAMIE WALSH
"J-Boogie"

Moment: Becoming a Belfast Giants fan for life #ComeOnYouGiants

Quote: "Life in progress - 20% complete...#reem"

What I'll Miss: Ms Hynes first two on a Friday

Ambition: To make a guest appearance on Baywatch. #ooohhyeah

Rang Reid



MIKAILA BEIRNES
"Kaila"

Moment: China Trip!

Quote: Ha! stick that in your juice box and suck it!

What I'll Miss: Maths classes with Sharon!

Ambition: To travel. To be free to do whatever and to enjoy life.



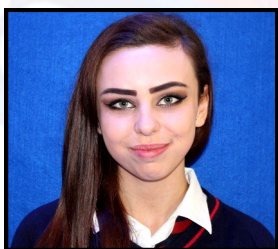
GAVIN BOYLE
"Gav"

Moment: Going missing and skipping computers in TY to watch Netflix.

Quote: "How long do I have to wait for you Rachel!" - Coultard

What I'll Miss: Bitching with my gals in careers.

Ambition: Grow a moustache like Dillon Dooley



LAURA BURKE
"Laur's"

Moment: Spooky farting and Andrews's lack of rhythm.

Quote: I look better in person.

What I'll Miss: The girls.

Ambition: Passing the leaving cert is ambitious enough.



PETER BYRNE
"Peteybxxx"

Moment: When I realised Frank Flanagan was coming to China

Quote: "Can you dig it? Suckaaa" - Booker T.

What I'll Miss: Dan O'Sullivan's beard.

Ambition: Gotta catch em all!



CONOR P. COYNE
"Coyne"

Moment: 15/3/2011, the day of the first pun.

Quote: "Cool Beans"

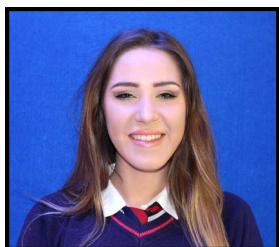
What I'll Miss: Most people but not everyone.

Ambition: To be happy, rich, famous and in love with the perfect woman.



CONOR CUNNINGHAM
"Ham"

Moment: Singing spider-pig in assembly
Quote: "I named my dog "5 miles" so people will think I walk 5 miles a day."
What I'll Miss: School on a Monday morning.
Ambition: To make bank.



NIAMH DELANTY
"Delantaaay"

Moment: Doing 'Bootylicious' dance with the girls.
Quote: "Oh my god like"
What I'll Miss: Wearing hair scrunchies.
Ambition: To survive Magaluf.



TOM EIFFÉ

Moment: WWE title matches with C-Dunc in the Cinnire room.
Quote: "I thought it was a piercing!" - Alex Coultard
What I'll Miss: All my homies.
Ambition: To play junior D football for the rest of my life.



JANE FLOOD
"The Queen"

Moment: Paul Flynn's arrival.
Quote: "Ya look like a hen"
What I'll Miss: Lunch with the gals.
Ambition: To marry a fine thing!



DÁIRE GANNON
"DG"

Moment: Improvised dancing in China.
Quote: "Procrastination is the thief of time" - Charles Dickens via Ms Daly. Also... "Sound".
What I'll Miss: Banter & sense of community.
Ambition: To go on tour with PMC & Qualter arís.



JOHN GRIFFIN
"Griff"

Moment: Winning the Rogha na nDaltai award in second year.
Quote: "How are the boys"
What I'll Miss: Football matches at break and sports day.
Ambition: Go to college and travel the world.



JADE KIRWAN
"Kade"

Moment: Remember that time when that thing happened??
Quote: "Don't hate me 'Coz you ain't me."
What I'll Miss: When I never did P.E
Ambition: I'd love to be a midwife but I just hope I don't have to repeat...



AMY LAWLOR
"Lawlor"

Moment: Going on the second year camping trip
Quote: "Moment on the lips forever on the hips"- Mr Nelson.
What I'll Miss: The chats at lunch time.
Ambition: To take a year out after college and travel the world.



SHAUNA MC DERMOTT
"Sausy Mc D"

Moment: Staring the basilisk in the eye, fun times.
Quote: "I pull who I want when I want" - DT
What I'll Miss: Watching Mr Carey strut across the courtyard everyday<3
Ambition: Marry a GAA PLman "jersey puller"



AOIFE MURPHY
"Murph"

Moment: Amazing times during the 5th year China trip
Quote: "Vitamin C is Vitamin Yes in Spanish" - Anonymous
What I'll Miss: Teachers, fun classes, sports days
Ambition: To eventually join Facebook



SEAN O'CONNOR



SEÁN O'HANRAHAN
"Seanie"

Moment: Aoife Whelan and Girlfriend
Quote: "It doesn't matter who we are what matters is our plan"
What I'll Miss: Mr.Mooney's team talks and Gooch Giblin
Ambition: To settle David Toner down



DANIELLE POWER
"DaniePowPow"

Moment: When I tackled Amy in the hall.
Quote: "Oh my giddy aunt"
What I'll Miss: The rants every morning about uniforms or lateness.
Ambition: To actually pass my leaving cert.



ANDREW RALPH
"Ralphy Boy"

Moment: After-School art with Jo-Jo
Quote: "You're excused!"
What I'll Miss: Mr McCarthy's anecdotes about airports and boats.
Ambition: To rule the world obviously.



GYTAUTAS SIKARSKAS
"The Gy"

Moment: Playing the Leinster Senior Cup Final.
Quote: "Is it because I'm foreign?"
What I'll Miss: Day to day school banter.
Ambition: Don't have any, just want to see where life takes me.



DAVID TONER
"D.T."

Moment: Winning the All-Ireland football final
Quote: "Your eyes are so beautiful"
What I'll Miss: Not filling out the CAO AGAIN!
Ambition: To not be in next year's yearbook



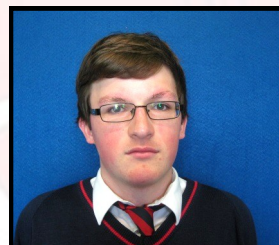
SAOIRSE TORMAY
"Louis Griffin"

Moment: Scaring the bEjaysus out of Mr Carey so well he cursed, love that man #EyeCandy
Quote: "Stop guys I'm dishlechllic" - Melissa
What I'll Miss: Taking the urine out of my girlos
Ambition: Find something funny to say



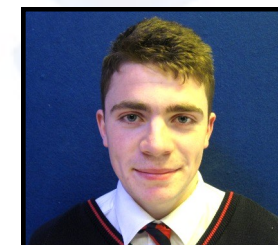
DYLAN TREACHER
"Treacher"

Moment: The double
Quote: "Sorry I'm six foot two"
What I'll Miss: Mr Giblin's way of explaining questions
Ambition: To be as big as David Toner



JACK TYRRELL
"Jacky T"

Moment: Going China with the lads and camping in TY
Quote: 'Even I'd be afraid, and I'm big' - Tom Gannon
What I'll Miss: Seeing everyone everyday
Ambition: To travel the world



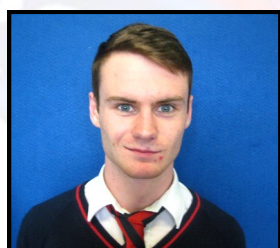
JOEY WALLACE
"J Candy man Money"

Moment: Winning the All -Ireland.
Quote: "My jersey is not tight fit because of all them jersey pullers."
What I'll Miss: I still miss Mr Qualter :(
Ambition: To find that easy going girl .



CIAN WALSH
"Cripple"

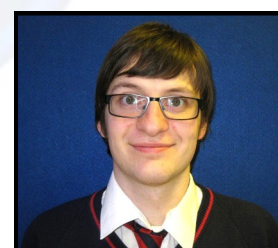
Moment: My long to pink to ginger to short transition of life.
Quote: "Bleegghhhhh"
What I'll Miss: The frustration and relief of applied maths questions.
Ambition: To learn that song. The guitar one with the thing.



DARAGH WALSH
"Maximus D Meridius"

Moment: This one time, at band camp....
Quote: Now You're Hurling!!!
What I'll Miss: The banter with teachers and friends
Ambition: Regain my title as Scandinavia's Sexiest Man

Rang Reilly



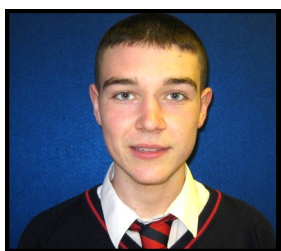
KIERAN BIDDULPH
"Kiersy"

Moment: The time in Awesome Walls climbing six times and reached the top!
Quote: "I'm always up and ready!"
What I'll Miss: Friends and teachers
Ambition: I'll be a computer games tester!



NICOLE BYRNE

Moment: Pre debs in Newry.
Quote: "Men belong in the shed with the rest of their tools."
What I'll Miss: All the breaks and holidays
Ambition: To own a big house and be married in 10 years time.



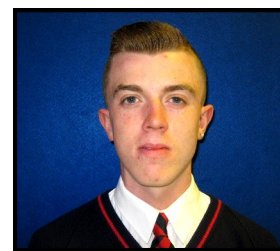
JESSE FANNING
"Jess"

Moment: Camping with the LCA class in 5th year
Quote: "ATM!"
What I'll Miss: All my friends
Ambition: To be successfully living in Holland with my family and to be very rich



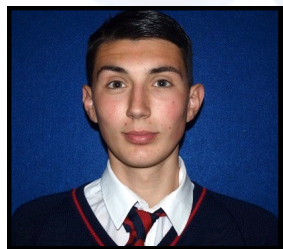
AMY GAFFNEY
"Gaffo"

Moment: Daniel and Cillian in PE
Quote: "Jaysuss"
What I'll Miss: Ms English, dumb and dumber lol
Ambition: Marry Paul Flynn



MARLEY N. GALLAGHER

Moment: Ms Prendergast falling of the stage hahahaha
Quote: Ms Daly "Don't be late for Assembly"
What I'll Miss: Ms English the hero
Ambition: Be more like Ms English



CILLIAN GLYNN
"Cilo"

Moment: Calling Mr Qualter an Egg Head!
Quote: "I love you!"
What I'll Miss: Ms English she's truly a legend.
Ambition: To have a good life and a son and marry Amy.



EIMEAR GRIFFITHS
"Griffo"

Moment: Camping trip
Quote: "NON-NEGOTIABLE"
What I'll Miss: Being taller than Ms Witter and her classes
Ambition: To play camogie for Dublin



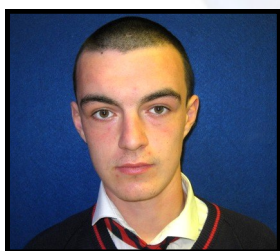
MICHELLE MANRIQUE
"Mitch"

Moment: That time when class just go mental.
Quote: "Oh my gosh"
What I'll Miss: Seeing my friends every day.
Ambition: To be a nurse and have my own business.



DANIEL J. MC CABE
"The Bull"

Moment: Chilling down the back of the class with Derry in Italian
Quote: "Did I ever tell you the Definition of Insanity?"
What I'll Miss: Ms Wilson
Ambition: Live Free, Die Young



CHRISTOPHER MCLAUGHLIN
"Chris"

Moment: My rant with Mr Qualter
Quote: "Chaps a ham"
What I'll Miss: Changing room bant.
Ambition: To be richer than Jordan Belford.



DERRY O'SULLIVAN
"D"

Moment: When it came up to summer
What I'll Miss: Friends and teachers
Ambition: To do good in life be happy, have women and money



STEPHEN B. WALSH
"Steve"

Moment: winning Rogha na nDaltaí
Quote: "No amount of worry can solve any problem".
What I'll Miss: Assembly chats with Mr Horan
Ambition: Be a history teacher in California with my German shepherd.

Class of 2014 Cinnirí



Back row (l-r): Mark Anderson, Eoghan Fagan, Darragh Daly, Gytautas Kavaliauskas, Jamie Walsh, Conor Duncan, Tom Eiffe; Middle row (l-r): Dáire Gannon (Ard-Cinnire), Sadbh Kellett, Laura Burke, Robert Grall, Amy Lawlor, Celine Fox, Sean Keogh, Laura Donohue (Ard-Cinnire); Front row (l-r): Aoife Murphy, Jenny Dempsey, Tara McCamley, Ann Eng, Naoise Collins.



Class of 2014 Ard-Cinnirí

Laura Donohue
&
Dáire Gannon

CLASS OF 2014 - PHOTO MEMORIES

FIRST DAYS OF SCHOOL



DRAGONIZING



FIRST YEAR TRIPS

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2014

MUSICALS



SPORTS DAYS

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2014

FASHION SHOW



TY - 2011/12



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2014



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Class of 2014

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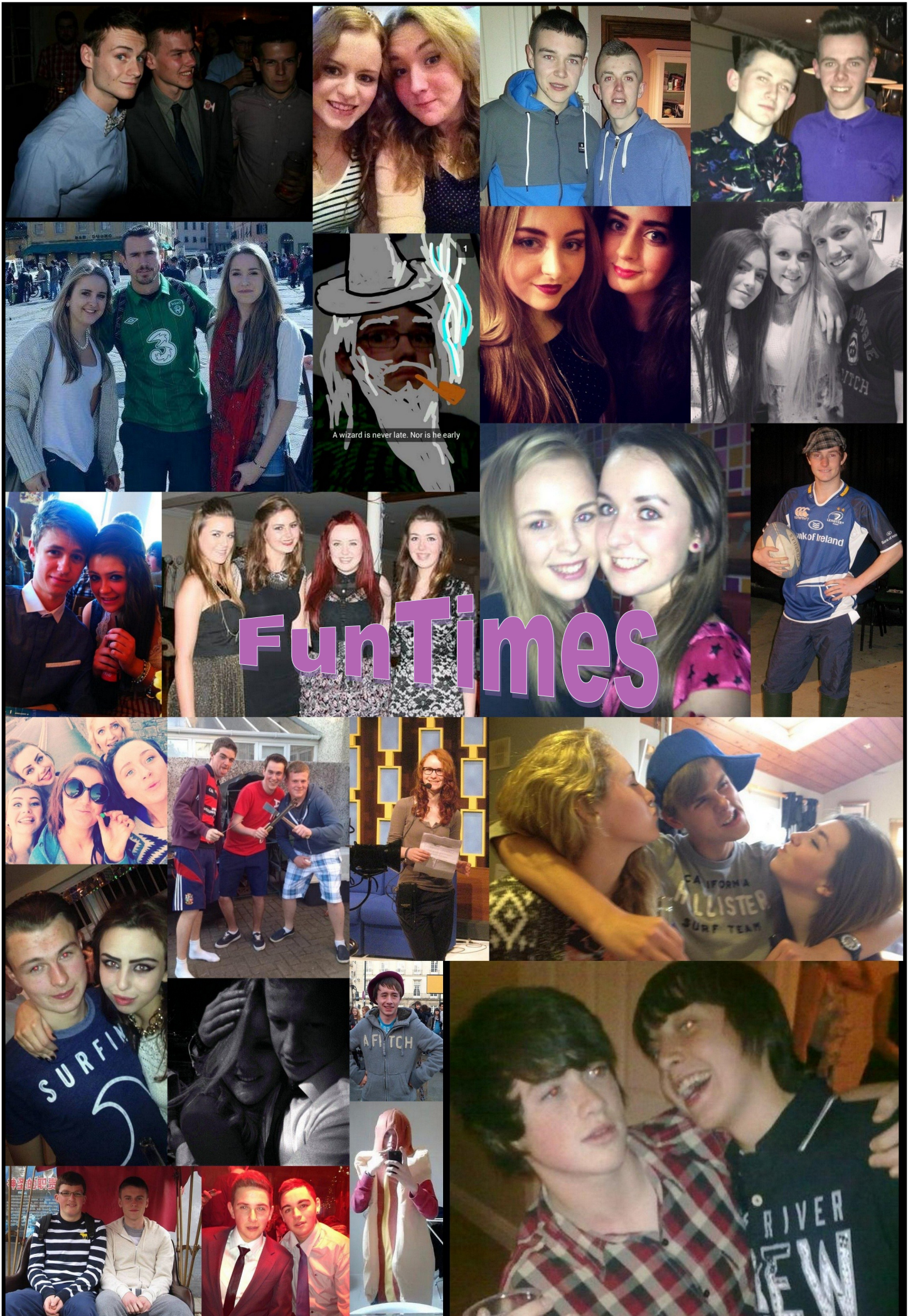


ITALIAN & FRENCH EXCHANGES

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ





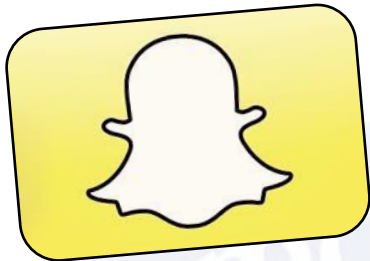
FunTimes



Fun Times

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

TRENDS OF 2013/14



Snapchat

John Green

Selfies



Breaking Bad

Netflix

Kimye



Extravagant nail art

Game of Thrones

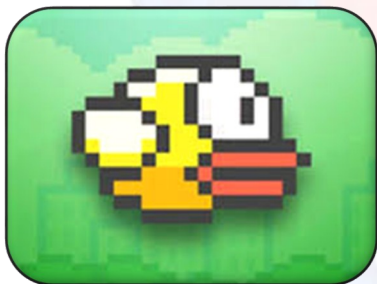
Miley Cyrus

#OscarSelfie



Beyonce

Grand Theft Auto V



Flappy Bird

Brian O'Driscoll

Happy – Pharrell Williams

“Amazballs”

Gym Club



TRENDS OF 2013/14

Mean Girls ... that's so fetch



Iphone

The Hobbit

Do it for the vine

Leonardo Di Caprio

Eyebrows

Minions

The World Cup



How I met your Mother ending

“Blurred Lines”

Bearded Conchita winning the Eurovision

Frozen – Let it go

“Come on Eileen” – Dexys Midnight Runners

One Direction

Twerking



MOST LIKELY TO...

Become Taoiseach:
 Andrew Ralph
 Dáire Gannon
 Ailbhe Brioscú



Win a Nobel Prize:
 Ailbhe Brioscú
 Tim Ryan
 Sadbh Kellett



Couple to get Married:
 Celine and Tim
 Sarah and Cytas
 Amy and Charlie



Become a Gold Digger:
 Shauna McDermott
 Karen McCabe
 Kerri Donnelly



Be Treated for Addiction to Snapchat:
 Laura Burke
 Nathan McAloon
 Daniel Hussain

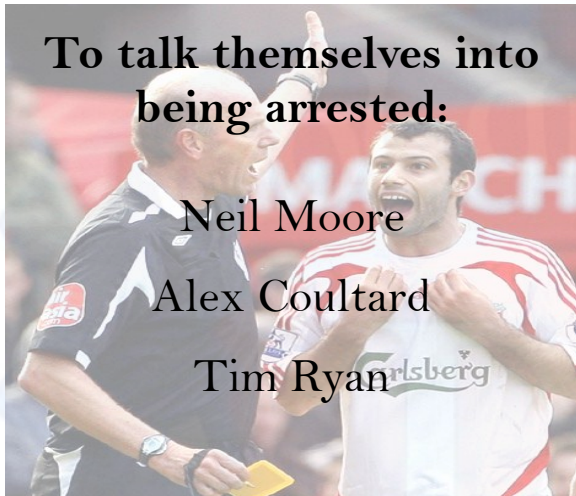


Be a Recording Artist:
 Aoife Moloney
 Ryan Hill
 Ellen Hogan



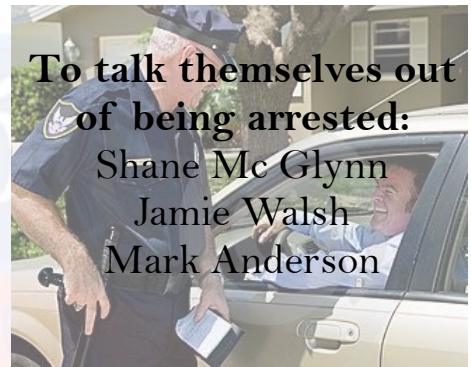
MOST LIKELY TO...

To talk themselves into being arrested:



Neil Moore
Alex Coultard
Tim Ryan

To talk themselves out of being arrested:



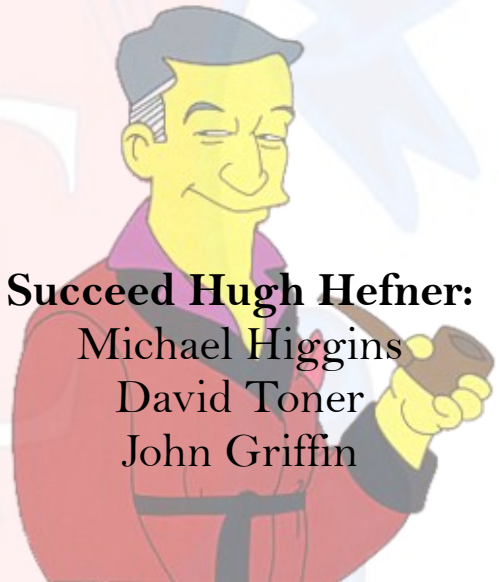
Shane Mc Glynn
Jamie Walsh
Mark Anderson

Join the Circus:



Maciej Grzeszczuk
Conor Duncan
Serena Fagan

Succeed Hugh Hefner:



Michael Higgins
David Toner
John Griffin

To get 625 points:



Tim Ryan
Celine Fox
Ailbhe Brioscú

Return as a Member of Staff:




Beth Hayes
Michelle McLoughlin
Andrew Ralph

To retain their nickname:

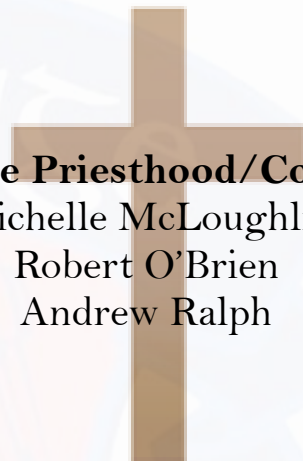


Conor Fitzpatrick
Conor Cunningham
Conor Ward

MOST LIKELY TO...



Be a Hollywood Star:
Sadbh Kellett
Laura Donohue
Karen McCabe
Michelle McCamley

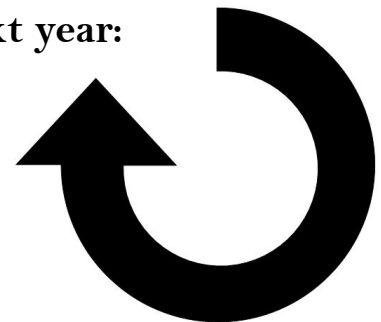
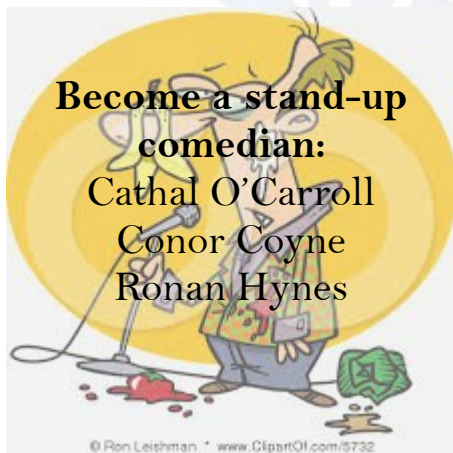


Join the Priesthood/Convent:
 Michelle McLoughlin
 Robert O'Brien
 Andrew Ralph



Be a Professional Athlete
 Joey Wallace
 Andrew Malone
 Luke Darcy

Be back here next year:
 David Toner
 Dylan Williams
 Dillon Dooley

Become a stand-up comedian:
 Cathal O'Carroll
 Conor Coyne
 Ronan Hynes

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Become a Farmer:
 Garry McCann
 Tom Gannon
 Cathal O'Carroll

Rang Barry



They say the end of one journey is the beginning of another and as you come to the end of your journey in Ratoath College, a whole new path awaits you.

Many of you will remember the early days of our journey in first year and the transition from Rang Judge to the “Jarry-Budges.” Having taught you for the year I knew what a fabulous group you were and it was an honour to become your new school mammy. The camping trip in second year was a great bonding opportunity and it really helped me to realize how lucky I was to have such a wonderful caoimhnoir group. After the Junior Cert we lost some of our original Barry clan, but we began the next leg of our journey with 15 new members, and what a great bunch you all are. We have had successes academically, on the sporting field, in music and art, not to mention the strong representation of Cinniri in our midst. The past two years have been both challenging and rewarding, and as you matured into young adults you were met with many highs and lows. But your kind, caring nature has been evident throughout and I have always been so proud of how you all look out for and support each other.

I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to get to know such a wonderful group of people and while I am sad to say goodbye, I wish you all the very best as you continue on your journey...

*“Life is a journey with problems to solve, lessons to learn
but most of all experiences to enjoy”*

(Ritu Ghatourey)

Caroline Barry

Rang Martin



Life is like a patchwork quilt....Each patch is unique and stands out in its own way. Combined the effect is special, a one off masterpiece. On the surface there is colour and character. Behind the scenes the loose threads show all the hard work, effort and commitment that it takes.

In first year as a class Rang Martin created their own class patchwork quilt. Each individual was represented by a patch and your own personalities shone through. Together you made a complete picture, a team. Although you've matured and grown into such colourful and distinctive young adults you are still at heart the same loveable individuals that began this journey together. Just like on a patchwork quilt behind the scenes you've worked hard and been committed to your own success.

As your caomhnoir I tried to help unite you and patch friendships and bonds as a "class family". Seeing the outcome today as 6th year draws to a close is humbling. I had hopes and dreams for you as individuals just in the same way as you have your own. I am in awe of how you have matured individually and strode to reach your potential. You've achieved many of those hopes and dreams whilst others are at your fingertips.

At the end of 3rd year we loosened the threads that bind us and embraced the change that life throws at us as we said farewell to some and welcomed others into the fold. The new patchwork shows how we have developed individually and as a class. I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to join the "class family". New friendships were formed and existing ones strengthened.

Bearing a teacher's name is a big responsibility. There are risks- what if the students misbehave and bring you dishonour? However you have borne the name with honour. I am proud today of my namesake – Rang Martin.

It is a bittersweet moment. Sweet in the knowledge that you go forth into the world equipped with the skills to be successful and happy in the path you choose to take. Bitter because it is hard to let go and say goodbye. However I take comfort in the confidence that the future is bright, hopeful and positive for each and every student in Rang Martin. You have left your mark on Ratoath College, and on me, now go make your mark on the world.

Kerry-Lynn Martin

Rang McAuley



Rang McAuley. The time has come to go our separate ways, have a look at the photo. Who'll be famous, who'll be a parent of 10 kids, who'll end up back in Ratoath College as a teacher? We shared wins and losses over our 5 year journey, losing Oisín Flynn in '09, Aaronn Flann and the TY crew in '12 and Darragh Byrne in '13. But for every teary goodbye we got an ample sub from Liam and Jordy to the arrivals from TY, our squad never weakened and we finish up with the dream team of 2014. Leinster Soccer champions, Talant show Winners, Writers, Musicians, Comediens, Martiel Artists, Dancers.... The list could go on.

The result of all this personality in one class group is the dynamic crack out-fit that you see in the team photo. Such great personalities, such unforgettable memories, such strong friendships and such bright futures ahead. Such a high calibre of human being! Ladies and Gentlemen Shauna B—an all-rounder, Jordan – what presence! , Daniel Choco- his hatred of school jumpers, Brendo- silent but deadly, Alex- funny guy, Jenny- genius, Jamesy D- gentleman, Glenn- such enthusiasm , Ann Eng– legend, Sharon – The Voice, Conor Fitzy- a modern hero , Rachel –outrageous potential, Sadbh- the well grounded dreamer, Josh- the accents, Andrew- the fro, Karen- Rockstar, Tara- a modern philosopher , Garry- the beard, Lauren- Coolness in stormy waters, Shauna McD- Wisdom and Grace , Pdraig- the pianist, Kelly- what a smile, Michelle- The Heart of Rang McAuley, Aoife- The Soul of Rang McAuley , Cathal – il volpe ,future teacher material, Neil – the lazy man's genius, Daniel O'S- safe hands. Tim – A Beautiful Mind , Jamie El Cinnirino Especial.

Being your caomhy, your departure will be felt more by me than anyone else. Despite the cloud of the Exams on the horizon, for most of you this is a very happy time as you look forward with excitement to new challenges and experiences. The saying that the best days of your life are spent at school is often dismissed as a cliché, but when I look at you I believe it. You spent most of the last 5 years laughing with your friends excelling in your areas of interest and becoming awesome human beings . You'd be lucky to spend a similar sized chunk of your life in such good company, laughing and smiling as you have during your time here in R.C.

Good luck on your paths to freedom and achievement. You'll be missed. Thanks for the memories, I look forward to hearing how you take the world by storm.

Patrick McAuley

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Rang Reid



It's hard to believe that its only 5 years since I apprehensively called out the names of the students in the first ever Rang Reid. I needn't have worried because I really landed on my feet that day having been handed a truly fantastic group of students. And then when I thought it couldn't get better - I was lucky enough to inherit a very talented group of TY's to make Rang Reid truly exceptional!

As a group I'm in awe of how much you have all achieved. There has been huge sporting success whether it was getting to a basketball or Gaelic final the list could go on. I've no doubt as a loyal Meath supporter it won't be long before I'll be cheering from a stand in Croke park when one of my class runs out onto the pitch! While there are plenty of sports stars in our class there have been successes in so many areas including music, art, drama and academics that I could be here a while.

Although your time in Ratoath College is ending, it is also the beginning of so many wonderful opportunities and many more achievements. I would urge you all to embrace every challenge that comes your way. "Don't let the fear of losing be greater than the excitement of winning!"

You will always cherish the friendships you've made and the fun times and memories you've had here in Ratoath College. I will miss you all!

I wish you all the best of luck & success in the future,

Fiona Reid

Rang Reilly



The 12 students in Rang Reilly / Qualter class have experienced a lot throughout their two year programme which has seen the group grow and develop through the very rich and diverse LCA programme. At the core of the LCA programme is the opportunity to learn about life in a practical and active way. It is also to prepare students for the next chapter after second level. Rang Reilly have always been very focused and ambitious about the next stage after Ratoath College and much of 6th year was spent researching and applying for Post Leaving Cert Courses.

Rang Reilly showed their class spirit and how socially aware they are in November 2013 when they rallied around their classmate Michelle Manrique. Michelle's home village in the Philippines was devastated in the earthquake that affected the region. Rang Reilly organised a Monster Cake Sale in response to this tragedy and raised €600 which Michelle's parents sent to their village's relief fund. The class also showed their entrepreneurial skills when they successfully ran a tuck shop in the school in 5th year. There have been lots of very memorable trips and outings which I am sure Rang Reilly will cherish. Most notable was the camping trip where students developed their independent streak and braved the elements overnight in Collon, County Louth with Mr Walsh. On behalf of myself, Mr Qualter, Ms Daly and all the College's teachers I wish every student in Rang Reilly every success in everything they do in the future. I hope they think fondly of their time in Ratoath College and that they keep in touch for the years ahead.

Gráinne Reilly

MARK CAFFREY: ISSU PRESIDENT

Transition Year student Mark Caffrey (from Rang Savage) has over the past year represented the students of Ireland as President of the Irish Second-level Students' Union (ISSU), the national umbrella body for student councils.

The ISSU works through student councils and other representative bodies to represent the views of students in education matters that affect them with the Department of Education as well as other partners in the education and youth sectors at a national as well as international level. Mark has led the ISSU for the past year building upon his experience over previous years to bring the ISSU into a whole new period of growth for the organisation, developing its structures, increasing membership as well as engaging and involving ordinary students in decision making. The ISSU's outreach on all forms of media especially social media has also been increased dramatically over the course of his term of office which ended on May 1st 2014.

Mark has achieved many things for students and for the ISSU over the past year in a whole variety of areas. He has been a leading member of the Department of Communications working group on Internet Content Governance which has been working to address issues that young people face online and the group is currently writing up report for the Minister, which shall be published shortly. This has only been the second time that a student has sat in any department working group, Mark previously had represented students on the Department of Education's Anti-bullying working group which developed the action plan on bullying. Another unprecedented achievement came through Mark being the keynote speaker at the annual symposium of the National Association of Principals and Deputy-principals (NAPD); Mark's major speech focused on the topic of 'assembly line education' and how values and systems of learning at 3rd level could be used in a second-level context



to end the current failing system. (You can see mark's speech on vimeo.com/nap) That had been the first time ever that a current second-level student had given the key-note address at an annual conference for an education body.

Another major part of Mark's presidency was that of the official review of the Transition Year Programme in schools nationally for the department of education and skills. Ratoath College was a part of the review process and sent our student council to events on it as well as a having focus groups in the school about the topic.

Over the past year Mark has put in huge efforts to supporting the reforms of junior cycle education on behalf of students, sometimes putting himself head-to-head with teacher unions (and winning). Mark and the ISSU have worked passionately to ensure that every student is given the opportunity to engage in the learning process which will support creativity, critical thinking and other key skills. In one speech he said "*The education system exists for students, currently it doesn't look like that. The ISSU has concrete proposal to fix the problems being faced in Irish education. I'd like to know who's going to listen.*" The answer is that many have, over the past year the ISSU has met more with education partners than ever before leading to an increased partnership between groups, benefiting students. The NAPD listened.

The Department of Education listened. The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment listened. And that's to name but a few.

Mark has also achieved something unprecedented by being the first student to ever be an interviewer for applicants to the role of principal of two schools Ballymakenny College (Drogheda) and Hansfield College (Blanchardstown) both opening in September 2014. He also sits on the Board of Management of Ballymakenny College, working with Miss Ní Bhroithe as it happens.

Besides the general reforms in education, Mark has also been deeply involved in individual subject reforms, for example speaking at the John Marcus O'Sullivan Sumer School, Mark spoke about reforming Religious Education in schools. Issues he raised were making the subject more respected by students, teachers and parents as well as making the subject more engaging at Junior Cycle, such as dealing with modernistic stereotypes and inaccuracies on religious issues such as logical fallacies such as scientism, as well as the examining relationship between religion and science & violence. Noting figures such as Fr Georges LeMaitres, the man who gave us the 'Big Bang' Theory to be used

as case studies as well as making the subject become more personally relevant to individuals. Mark has also had a major role in developing the Ethical Curriculum of Educate Together's second-level schools.

Even though Mark's term has come to an end and he now is ISSU honorary President, assisting the work of the new President, Craig McHugh from Dundalk, Ratoath College has continued its successes in the ISSU thanks to 3rd year student, Alex Fogarty, who like Mark, has been elected Equality Officer. (Perhaps he has presidential ambitions too!) Alex has been a member of the school student council since coming into the school in first year, in that role he has been involved in various ISSU activities such as the renaming of the junior Cert, attending the ISSU AGM of 2013 & 14 as well as events such as anti-bullying workshops and Regional Councils for the ISSU TY review. Alex was previously one of the two Leinster Regional Representatives sitting on the ISSU National Council of Schools (NCS) and has now left the role to take up his place on the NSE. Mark and Alex will do their best to continue promoting student voice in education!



GREASE IS THE WORD

Halloween usually means dressing up, but the students of RC brought it to a whole new level this past October with a colourful, dramatic and exciting performance of the classic musical **GREASE!**

Wednesday 23rd of October at 7:30pm saw Ratoath College host the first evening of Grease the musical. The show was performed on the 23rd the 24th and the 25th of October.

The lead cast was: Sandy played by Sarah O'Driscoll, Danny played by Harry Gribben, Miss Lynch played by Ellis Connell, Patty played by Tegan Rodden, Eugene played brilliantly by Ivan Mather, Jan played by Chloe Kelly, Teen Angel played by Sean Browne, Rizzo played by Emmeline O'Malley, Frenchy played by Cliodhna Moore, Roger played by Josh Newe, Sonny played by Alan Hartnett, Kenickie played by Nathan Mannion, Vince Fontaine played by David Caprani, Doody played by Enda Cahill, Johnny Casino also played by Sean Browne, Marty played by Sara Sheridan, Cha Cha played by Sinead Conlon and Helen Ryan, Un-named pink ladies played by Clodagh O'Farrell and Katie Byrne, Un-named T-Birds played by Brian O'Farrell, David Murphy, Ben Moore and Jake Allen.

Preparation for the show began at the end of the previous school year with auditions among students in 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th year. The cast then returned to school a few weeks early for a period of intensive rehearsal in the first weeks of August. Indeed, the huge cast showed extraordinary commitment and talent to put on such an exceptional and successful

show just nine weeks into the school year. As time went by, the cast and crew devoted weekends and days off to rehearsal as well as hours and hours after school under the watchful guidance of directors Ms Savage and Mr McCarthy, musical director Olivia Tomin and choreographer Aisling Toher or voice coaches Ms Dalton, Ms Donnellan and Ms Hanly.

Meanwhile, Mr Nelson, the third of the 'Three Wise Teachers' who produced this year's musical was busy preparing the amazing set and stage—along with Ms Daly, Ms Mortimer and their team of artists—ready to turn the sports hall into the Ratoath College Theatre. Once again, with the assistance of Terry O'Dea and his team from Bare Bodkin Theatre, the hall underwent an extraordinary transformation into a professional standard 500 seat theatre, complete with a stage larger than the Gaiety!

As with our previous musicals, *Back to the 20s* and *West Wide Story*, the crowd were thrilled and stunned by the talent on stage, each night and they brought the house down with a rapturous standing ovation on closing night. This was a much deserved acknowledgement of the performance, commitment and dedication that went into putting on such a successful show, from students, staff and parents! Well done all!

Interview with Sarah O’Driscoll & Harry Gribben Ratoath College’s Sandy & Danny from Grease

Q: Did you enjoy doing the musical?

Sarah: Yes it was brilliant I had so much fun.

Q: I’m sure the rehearsals were very tough though, were they?

Sarah: It was difficult at the start but Aishling (the dancing instructor) Really helped me through it and I just had a blast.

Q: Were you nervous on the night?

Sarah: On the first night I was but after the first scene I just felt confident on stage because I knew my stuff so well.

Q: What was your favourite part about the musical?

Sarah: I would have to say the show because It was just so exciting going on stage and performing in front of all them people.

Q: What can you take from your musical experience?

Harry: Well I had lots of fun doing it, I gained a lot of confidence over the course of my musical experience a I enjoyed it very much.

Q: What was your favourite scene in the musical?

Harry: I would have to say Grease Lightning.

Q: Do you have a reason for picking this one?

Harry: Well there’s just so much moving around and dancing and it’s just a really fun song to perform.

Q: Anything else you would like to add? Anybody you would like to thank?

Harry: Yes I would like to thank my beautiful mother for giving birth to me, she done a really good job on her part, without her I would be nothing so thanks mother. I would also like to congratulate Sarah on her great performance over the three nights, she done very well and last but certainly not least, the producers, we couldn’t have done without you.



SOME EXCLUSIVE BACKSTAGE PICS!



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

THE TALENT SHOW

Our Annual Ratoath College Talent Show took place on Thursday 13th February and it was a truly fantastic night. In what was described as our most entertaining night yet, we had singers, dancers and musicians all vying for that elusive Talent Show Trophy. Last year's winner Sharon Lee, now studying Psychology at NUI Maynooth returned to take the traditional title holder's place on the judging panel.

The artistic and musical talent on show was second to none and the 500+ audience were kept entertained throughout. We even had time for a guest appearance from the (so far!) only double Talent Show winner, Kevin Hartnett. He kept the crowd rapt as the judges considered their decision. The other interval entertainment was provided by the teachers act. This proved hugely popular on the night and had everyone on their feet.

To round off a perfect night of musical entertainment, the judges took to the stage to announce the winners. There was a prize for the best newcomer and this went to Toby Clarke Carr for his guitar skills. David Caprani and Chloe Kelly took third place with their sassy rendition of KT Tunstall's *Black Horse and the Cherry Tree* with Robert Grall's dance moves landing him second place. First place though, and the Ratoath College Talent Show trophy, went to Étain Collins, Laura Donohue and Karen McCabe for their wonderful medley and mixture of styles. We can't wait for next year!



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

LEINSTER GLORY FOR U-15 GIRLS SOCCER



The sense of anticipation in school that morning, Thursday May 15th was massive.

Would this team, that had come so close a year before at the same venue in Leixlip, be able to overcome those bad memories and triumph over a hugely fancied St Peter's College, Dunboyne outfit?

As it happened, the tension was felt more by the legions of fans that headed for Leixlip led by Ms Kelly than the girls themselves. For them, confidence was the order of the day. Under the sterling and experienced guidance of Mr McCarthy and Ms Grogan, they knew they were prepared; knew the result was not in doubt.

As the first half kicked off, it was clear the sides were evenly matched. A cagey first half saw no goals as two highly skilful elevens felt each other out for weaknesses to no avail. Nonetheless, the frantic Ratoath fans were boisterous in their support to say the least.

The second half followed much the same pattern as

the first, with neither side capable of making a breakthrough until Ratoath centre forward Leah McDonald stepped up to the spot after Ratoath were awarded a stonewall penalty. With the cup hanging on the outcome of her kick, Leah could have been forgiven if she felt the pressure. If she did, she wasn't showing it. As she addressed the ball and eye-balled the Dunboyne keeper, her face was a picture of concentration, poise and determination. As she began her run up the massed Ratoath support took a collective sharp intake of breath.

But there apprehension was needless. As soon as the ball was struck there was no doubting the outcome. Chaotic scenes erupted as the ball crashed into the net. Stewards struggled to contain the enthusiastic jubilation of the Ratoath supporters. Luckily, there was only moments left in the game and when the final whistle finally went the crowd and the heroic Ratoath team were finally able to release their unbridled joy.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Afterwards, Mr McCarthy and Ms Grogan were effusive in their praise of their heroic charges: "There's no limit to where this team can go," according to Mr McCarthy, "we have such an immensely talented squad, there's so much competition for places, we could be looking at the beginning of a footballing dynasty."

"I was a bit nervous at the penalty," admitted Ms Grogan, "but Leah was just so cool under pressure - she was unbelievably good. I can't tell you how proud I am of our girls. They were brilliant today, fought for every ball, stayed focussed right until the end and finally got the break they richly deserved." Congratulations to all involved.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

#BringingHomeTheBacon!

After many years of bad luck, questionable refereeing decisions and injury crises, it all came together this year for the staff soccer team in the All-Teachers 7-a-side tournament held at the home of the reigning champions Ashbourne Community College.

Although cup glory narrowly escaped our heroic staff, the shield was claimed with both hands after an emphatic final victory over Confey College. The victory was made all the more sweet as we also reclaimed the *Peter Kierans Trophy*, awarded Calcutta Cup-style to the victors in the fraught annual derby.

Many predicted the new look Ratoath outfit would struggle, what with Mr Qualter's big money move to Port Laoise Community School in the close season and the absence of goalkeeping stalwart Mr McCarthy through injury. These short sighted detractors didn't count on the value added by big money summer signings Mr Gibson and Ms Hanly.

Confidence was spread throughout the team by the commanding presence of Mr Mooney in goal, while Mr Giblin played on in defence throughout the final despite what was later confirmed to be a broken metatarsal. His courage can be a lesson for us all. Mr Farrelly dominated proceedings from midfield and even managed to get himself on the score sheet in the 4-0 final victory. Meanwhile Mr Carey is being touted for a big money summer move to Man Utd after finishing the tournament with the Golden Boot. His last minute winner in the *Peter Kierans Trophy* drew incredulous cheering from the sideline.

With Ratoath penned into their own box, Mr Carey collected the loose ball from a corner on the edge of his own penalty area and looked to break quickly. When his run was checked by an Ashbourne challenge, it appeared the chance was gone.

What happened next was poetry. Dropping the shoulder, he skipped past the first Ashbourne player. As he crossed the halfway line and the next challenge came, Mr Carey slipped the ball through his legs before skilfully rounding two



more defenders and slamming an unstoppable effort into the top corner of the net from fully thirty yards. The Shield final itself was a tense affair. Mr Farrelly gave Ratoath an early lead, and the game remained cagey throughout. With the game tensely poised at 1-0 to Ratoath and only moments remaining, the Confey attack broke clear and rounded the advancing Mr Mooney. With the goal at his mercy, the Confey striker hadn't counted on the bravery of Mr Giblin who put his body on the line to make a crunching last ditch challenge to prevent a certain equaliser. As the teachers of Confey College hung their heads, unable to understand how they had not scored, medical staff frantically tried to convince the clearly injured Mr Giblin to leave the field. But Ratoath College's defensive lion would have none of it, bravely seeing out the remaining few minutes. As the clock entered injury time, the Ratoath goal was under siege. One experienced spectator was heard to comment: "They're like the 300 at Thermopylae". Unlike the courageous Spartans of antiquity however, the warriors of Ratoath managed to hold firm despite the onslaught. As Confey College poured forward in search of the elusive equaliser, they left gaps at the back that Ratoath exploited as Mr Carey banged in an injury time hat-trick to seal a memorable 4-0 triumph.

An Audience with...

Judy Bobbett - Sporting Prodigy

Sixty-six had the privilege to sit down with 2012/13 Sports person of the year Judy Bobbett to see how her meteoric rise to sporting excellence is going.

Hi Judy, first of all, how have the girls rugby got on this season?

-We have had on blitz in Ashbourne RFC earlier this year and we won it! We won all our matches in the blitz!

Who was your coach?

-Ms. Hanley, Ms. Donnellan and Alex Doyle's dad!

Who would you say was your toughest team to play?

- Probably Firhouse from Tallaght, they were quite a strong team.

What position do you play?

-I play out half.

How long have you been playing rugby?

- I have been playing rugby for Ashbourne rugby club since I was 7. I was the only girl in the club until 3 years ago. I was always on the lads team!

How many sports do you play?

-I play 3 sports outside school and 3 sports inside school.

How many teams do you play for?



- I am the captain for Home farm soccer, I play rugby for Ashbourne and I play Gaelic for Ashbourne and the U.14 Meath team.

What is your biggest achievement in sport so far?

- One of my biggest achievements was winning 'sports person of the year' in 2013! Also U.15 'soccer player of the year' and 'Rugby player of the year' in school. Outside of school I was captain for Meath V. Laois back in March. Also reaching the Leinster final for Meath. (This year and last year!)

Who is your sporting hero ?

- By far Katie Taylor! She is unbelievable! She is so well respected in Ireland in boxing and football! She won a gold medal at the Olympics like!

What are your plans for next season?

- Next season I am really concentrating on rugby and soccer. It's getting to hard to play all these sports and to try and prevent injury! Playing to0 many sports also gets stressful so I'm going to concentrate on only a few!

What are your plans for sport in the future?

- For the future I hope to play rugby for Ireland! That would be a dream come true! I also would love to still play for the Meath ladies team and Home Farm!



EXPONENTIAL GROWTH

IN GIRLS' BASKETBALL

A great year for all grades of girls' basketball. Training numbers increased hugely up to 80 first and second year girls showing off their skills every Wednesday after school along with Ms Bourke, Ms Conlon and Ms Cousins.

A fond farewell to the U19 basketballers who leave

us for pastures greener, they have been an amazing asset to basketball over the last five six years. That team experienced huge success in Junior Basketball and we hope they continue this into third level.

Our U16's team made the final at Christmas and played with Great Spirit and Heart and we were only narrowly beaten. These girls will make up our U19's team next year which will be very competitive.

A huge good bye to Maria and Valaria who joined us for the year from Spain. They are amazing players who really showed us how well the game can be played!

Last but not least our second year basketball team who went into final undefeated! Scores of 43-4, 36-10 was some fine examples of their ability. They are a competitive, smart and professional bunch of players who will be excellent at U16's next September. Their loss at final will only spur them on!

Keep it up Girls!!!



PROMISING YEAR FOR BOYS' SOCCER

This year was a very successful year for Ratoath college Under 17 soccer team. They were not involved in the league but had a good cup run getting to the 3rd round and being unlucky to get knocked out. The manager this year was Mr. McAuley ably assisted by Luca Schillacci, training every Wednesday after school. Ratoath's biggest victory during the year was a 5-1 win over Swords and biggest defeat was 4-0 to Dunshaughlin. In other results they lost to Drogheda 1-0.

In an interview with Mr. McAuley we learned that Luke Darcy was the best player during the year and David Toner getting the most goals and best goal of the season. His favourite moment during the year was when "Daniel Chochlinski went marauding forward from full back ghosting past 3 men and blasting the ball in the bottom corner."

Even though they didn't bring home any silverware, they played some great football and next year looks promising very promising.

Meanwhile, The first year boys soccer team represented their school with passion, commitment and no shortage of skill. Highlights of the year included a 4-1 win over neighbours Dunshaughlin and a 7-1 success against Coláiste Chiaráin Leixlip.

Although the team narrowly lost out to St. Mary's Drogheda in the Leinster quarter-final their performances and, above all, team spirit this year left plenty of reasons to have high hopes for the future of soccer in Ratoath College.

Aaron McNally picked up the Player of the Year award after a series of excellent displays, including a superb hat-trick against Leixlip. Well done to all involved.

History Repeats for Junior Rugby

For the third year in a row the Junior Rugby team have been knocked out in the semi final. This year was supposed to be the year that we could get to the final and win it with a very strong squad made-up of mainly Transition Year and Third Year students.

The Junior Rugby Team trained hard in the weeks leading up to the Cup games, coming in on Thursday mornings and evenings to train. This hard training paid off as the Junior Squad made it all the way to the semi final unbeaten.

Mr. Keane and Mr. Nissar played a big part in the team's success this season. They trained with the team every week and helped the team improve as a whole.

In the end, it was a few injuries to key players that cost us the semi final match. Even though the Junior Team didn't get to the final, the squad performed throughout the season and a few of the younger players made a great impact and will be great for the team in future years.



A Year of Strong Growth for Hurling

U14 Hurling

We got to take part in the Super 7's tournament on Tuesday 6th of May. The 10 students involved (pictured) were Daithí McGowan, Tadgh McCann, Shane McGoldrick, Padraic Byrne, Jason Farrell, Aaron O' Flaherty (captain), Ruairi Colter, Harry Haskins, Evan Cotter and Adam Whelan. We acquitted ourselves very well on the day by making it out of our group which included Athboy, St Pats, Dunshaughlin and Boyne. We won 2 of our games, lost 1 and drew 1. We did end up being beaten by Dunshaughlin in the semi final though having already beaten them in the earlier league. Well done to all students involved on what was a very enjoyable day.



U16 Hurling

We had a great start to the year and qualified from our group in the league. We then went on to beat Longwood in the Meath Semi final however we were unlucky to lose to Dunboyne in the Meath county final. Well done to all players involved and particularly to our leader Mark Phelan who captained the side admirably throughout the year.

Hurling is still in its infancy in Ratoath College and we would love to be able to field teams at under 14, 16 and 18. Hopefully if interest continues to grow and players show improved commitment we will be able to achieve this in the coming years.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR GIRLS GAA

Junior Girls

This year, the girls started off with a young but strong team with a mixture of second to fifth year. They started their campaign against O'Carolan College at home. It was a very tough match in sunny conditions and luckily we came out with a victory.

Their second match was against Ashbourne away. This was played in very windy conditions and was a game off two very different halves. They unfortunately lost by two points. The last match was against St. Finian's away. There was mixed weather, it was either very sunny or lashing rain. They came out with a strong victory. This was the last match in the league as they didn't process out the knock out stages.

Hard luck girls!

U-14 Girls

It's been a tremendously successful year for the U-14 girls team (pictured below) this season, managed this season by Ms Casey & Ms Cousins with the able assistance of TY students Clodagh Higgins and Stephen Mooney. The season got under way with an away match against Dunboyne. The team got off to a great start with a quick succession of goals. They went in half time with a good lead. As the second half began a rejuvenated Dunboyne came out in the second half. Throughout the first half the score was getting closer and the game was getting quite tense. As the match entered the closing stages the scores

where close with Dunboyne getting ahead. The Ratoath team pushed forward for one final attack and got the score they need to draw the match.

The girl's second outing was a home game to Maynooth. Yet again the team got off to a great start with scores coming from every angle. They went into half time with a lead to hold onto. Maynooth came back with a few scores but couldn't get near Ratoath as the final score was 6-10 to 5-6. The final group game was against Castleknock and this was away. This was a close game and finished 8-7 to 6-5. After winning their games against Maynooth and Castleknock they had to play Dunboyne again who they had drawn with earlier on to see who won the group. Although the first game was a draw this was a different story. At home the girls beat Dunboyne 10-6 to 2-3.

After winning the group they went onto play a preliminary quarter final against St Vincent's of Dundalk. Yet again the team showed off a great performance beating them with a score line of 7-6 to 2-4. The next game to be played was a quarter final against St Marys of Naas away from home. The game was even for the first quarter of the game but Ratoath college started to get a run on Naas and went into half time with a couple of points lead. The second half began with a series of goals by Ratoath which but the game to bed the final score was 5-5 to 3-3. As *Sixty-Six* goes to print, the girls await their semi-final and hopefully after that a Leinster final.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

READY. SET. GO!

On Wednesday the fifth of February the Ratoath cross country team travelled to the Meath north Leinsters . It was a mucky, rainy and cold day. The track was full of people getting ready to race. It was a tough day for all the racers but it was great to watch every person pushing themselves to do there best. It started off with the first year girls then the boys this was the order of races.

The representatives for Ratoath did our school proud and left their mark on the North Leinsters. First we had Phillip coming 3rd in his race with Ciaran and mark close behind finishing 7th and 14th. Then Connell coming 10th on his very first outing with the team and he showed that he was able to hold his own against people who have been training for two to three years he showed up many people and done himself proud. We then have Katie coming 17th. She did really well she pushed herself and did very well she should be proud.

On Wednesday the 30 of April the Leinsters took place in Santry stadium . Ratoath didn't have as much entry's as previous years but we still did very well. First we had Katie and Erica coming 4th and 5th in the long jump. Then we have Ciaran and Phillip coming third in their respective races. Then



Katie catching up to the leaders quickly, while Ciarán McCarthy sprints to the finish.



on the Friday they finished the Leinsters we had Eoin Clayton participating in the high jump. The athletes are now preparing for their next big event is the grand nationals on the 15 of may. I'm sure they will do us proud.



Luke, Phillip, Brian and Mark warming up for their race.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

FIRST YEAR BOYS TASTE SUCCESS

The First Year boys football team had a memorable year to say the least. The year started in the most emphatic and unimaginable fashion when the boys captured the Leinster First Year Blitz title. The whole squad played their part in what was an epic day in the history of Ratoath College G.A.A. Never before had a First Year team achieved such



success in their first tournament. It was an epic final against near neighbours Dunshaughlin, it was the men in the hoops of Ratoath who prevailed. Fittingly, it was Ronan Cahill who captained the team in the final. Ronan epitomised the spirit the boys knew was needed to achieve victory. Needless to say Fr. PJ & Mr. Ó hEochaidh were extremely proud of the whole squad.

A change of season and a change of jerseys. Thanks to the generosity and interest of Kevin Flynn & Ratoath G.A.A and also Mick Brasil & Fairyhouse Steel, the GAA teams of Ratoath College were provided with the finest of new jerseys for the league campaigns. The stylish new jerseys complimented the free-flowing and sometimes swashbuckling approach of the team. Attack was the name of the game, and it proved to be the right approach. The boys dismantled with ease those teams in their group to set up a grudge match with rivals Ashbourne.

As the team rolled into Ashbourne, they knew that a place in the semi-finals of the Meath First Year Competition was at stake. Having battled against the wind in the first half, the boys trailed by 6 at half time. Outstanding performances from Bendegusz Bosze in goals, Ben Wyer at full back, captain, Jack Flynn, and the Firing squad of Aaron McNally, Nathan Dunne, Tadhg McCann and Shane McGoldrick quickly turned the tide and pointed the

bus towards the semi-finals.

Again it was to be a game of two halves. This time it was the wind pocket that is Dunganny and a different challenge against Kilcock. It was the Ratoath boys who burst into an early lead and came in at half time in front. However the second half was to be our last thirty minutes of football for the year. Facing a strong Kilcock team and a stronger wind, the change from free-flowing attacking football to blanket defence did not suit. A 4 point loss and plenty of disappointed faces.

The boys can however be very proud of their achievements this year and look forward to an assault on the schools U-14 championship next year. There is no doubt that the team are receiving the finest of coaching from the club teams and as long as they keep playing with their clubs they will bring success to Ratoath College.

The squad this year was made up of: Jack Flynn, Aaron Mc Nally, Paul Tierney, Adam Whelan, Nathan Dunne, Tadhg Mc Cann, Jack Reid, Gavin O'Neill, Ronan Cahill, Sean Brasil, David Mc Gowan, Sam Doran, Jason Farrell, Shane Mc Goldrick, Ben Wyer, Mark Comerford, Joshua Cullen, Shane Duggan, Craig Nolan, Bosze Bendeguz Endre, Padraic Byrne, Evan Cotter, Josh Farrell, Matthew Kelly, Colm Halpin, Ryan O Doherty.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

FORMER STUDENTS (AND A TEACHER!) MAKE AN IMPACT AT INTERCOUNTY LEVEL

A large number of our talented former students have tasted great success this past year, both with representative teams and at University level. Gavin King and Darragh Kelly both represented Dublin in minor hurling this year, while Shane Clayton and Glenn O'Reilly lined out for the Dubs in football.

On the Meath front, dual star Gavin McGowan along with Brian Power, Harry Rooney, Bobby O'Brien, Eamonn Wallace and Bryan McMahon all made waves with the minor or u-21s. While Eamonn is now an established figure in the Meath senior set-up, this year saw Bryan McMahon join him as well as his younger brother Joey, who graduates this year from Ratoath College make his senior debut recently.

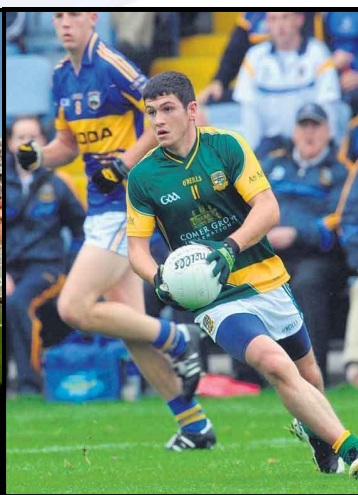
Power, Clayton, and their fellow class of 2013 graduate Keith McCabe also tasted success at University level with their College DIT. The lads were an integral part of DIT's fresher's team that claimed All-Ireland victory this year, with Power captaining the team.

We could mention GAA success without also mentioned former Ratoath College teacher Paul Flynn, whose career with the Dublin senior footballers goes from strength to strength. We were delighted (well, everyone expect Mr Horan and Fr PJ—our Mayo contingent in the staffroom—that is!) to see Mr Flynn claim his second All-Ireland victory this past September as well as his third all-star in three years.

Congratulations to one and all, and we wish you every success for the future.

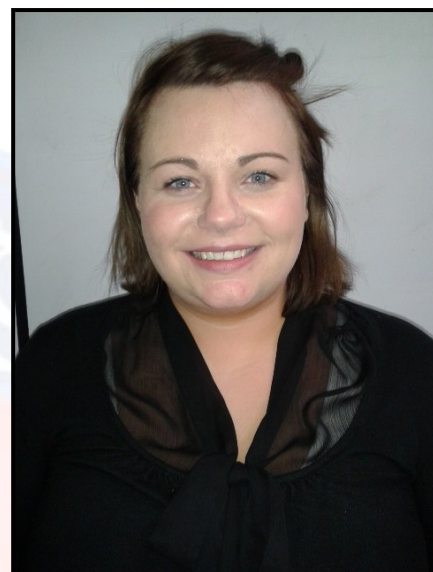


Top: Joey Wallace and Harry Rooney in action for Meath. Above: Brian Power lifts the All-Ireland Fresher's cup for DIT. Below (l-r): Mr Flynn with team mate Bernard Brogan celebrate Dublin's latest All-Ireland; Bobby O'Brien and Bryan McMahon in action.



NEW TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Ms Dalton:



Q: If you were stranded on a desert island and could only bring three things what would you bring?

A: "A guitar to amuse myself, some seeds to sow something and a drink because you can't drink salty water."

Q: If you were a box of cereal what would you be and why?

A: "I'd be rice krispies so I could snap, crackle and pop."

Q: How lucky are you?

A: "Not very lucky, I will always fall if there's a chance to fall."

Q: What's your least favourite thing about humanity?

A: (chuckles) "These are crazy questions; I don't know maybe that they kill people?"

Q: What's your favourite joke?

A: Oh I don't have one... maybe how did the chicken cross the road? To get to the other side (Its why did the chicken cross the road miss)

Q: If we came to your house for dinner what would you make for us?

A: "Oh god you'd go home with food poisoning"

Q: If you were going to get rid of one country what one would you get rid of and why?

A: "Maybe Tenerife"

Q: Why is that?

A: "Because I was there and it's a kip"

Q: Pick two celebrities to be your parents.

A: "Oh! Well my dad is already a celebrity because he'll be on dragons den on Sunday. However if I had to choose Prince William and Kate"

Q: If you could change your name to a number what would you pick and why?

A: "Thirteen, unlucky for some but lucky for one!"

Q: If you were a kitchen appliance what would you be and why?

A: "I suppose a kettle I don't know? Because everybody uses them"

Q: What's your favourite thing about humanity?

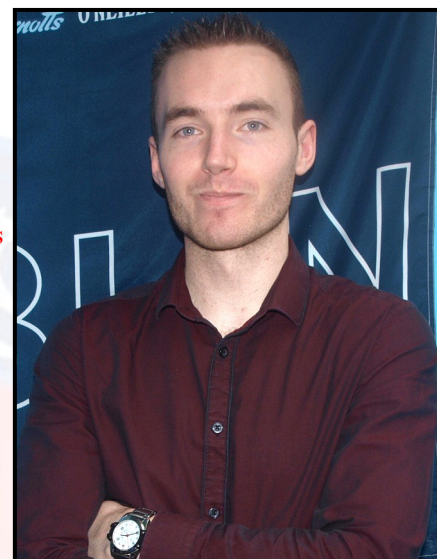
A: (in an unsure voice) "forgiveness."

Q: Would you rather have four fingers or six?

A: "Six so I could play the piano better."

NEW TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Mr Gibson!



Q: If you were stranded on a desert island and could only bring three things what would you bring?

A: "Good start! I'd say food, my phone and Jennifer Aniston."

Q: If you were a box of cereal what would you be and why?

A: "A multipack because I'm not the same as everyone else."

Q: What was the last gift you gave someone?

A: "A keying from a holiday."

Q: What was the most embarrassing thing to ever happen to you?

A: "I don't know... just when I think of it here off the top of my head I was managing the first year football team and I made a big deal the day before the match about how everyone has to remember their boots, shin guards, socks, shorts and then we were half way to the match when I remembered I forgot the jerseys! We all got a good laugh out of that."

Q: If you were a kitchen appliance what would you be, and why?

A: (Chuckles) "A knife..."

Q: Why? So you could cut people?

A: (chuckles) "Yes..."

Q: What is your best party piece?

A: "Anything other than karaoke!"

Q: What is the last thing that made you cry?

A: "I dunno I can't remember..."

Q: What about Marley and me?

A: "I've never seen that actually... the champ maybe? It's also a film."

Q: Do you believe in Bigfoot?

A: "No... obviously not"

Q: What song best describes you?

A: "I don't know, is there a song called Mr Gibson?" (chuckles)

Q: If we came to your house for dinner, what would you make for us?

A: "I'd probably just put a pizza in the oven because I'm not a good cook."

Q: If you were gonna get rid of one country, what would it be and why?

A: "I'd say northern Ireland but I might offend someone!"

TY'S GO TO CARLINGFORD FOR SOME BONDING... & CHIPS

Roisin Fitzpatrick recalls the TY trip to Carlingford.

The Carlingford trip was a bonding trip for the TYs. It is a chance for all the TY's to get to know each other and their class. It is a really great trip to start the year with. We all left on Thursday evening.

When we arrived at Carlingford we were all gathered together into a room and told where everything was and different rules ect. We then were split into two different groups and set out on a night hike. We walked up a bit of a hill and then sat down while our guide told us " Ghost stories". When we got back everyone was a bit peckish but we hadn't arrived in time for dinner. After some persuading the caomhnoirs agreed to let us get chipper but only if we completely organized it ourselves. Myself along with Jake and Jennifer took it on. I took the orders, Jennifer took the money and Jake helped her. We finally had gotten orders from at Seventy five of the TY's. We headed down to the local chipper and ordered. After a good half an hour of waiting we carried a box of chips back to the hostel, then back for Burgers and Chicken nuggets, then back a third time for drinks. But three boxes of food later everyone got what they had ordered and enjoyed their food. Then we all headed to bed. We were put



in hostel rooms with 6/7 people per room . The next morning we had to get up at 8.30. I got a lovely surprise while I was waiting for my breakfast. I heard someone call my name and there was my cousin . It turns out my cousins school was there to, but neither of us knew! So after a bit of catching up we were put back into our school groups and split into two again.

After breakfast we went to do our water activities. We first built the rafts when we got the and afterwards we got changed into our wetsuits. In our teams we raced to see who would come first and to see if any of the rafts would fall apart. We then jumped off the pier and got changed out of our wetsuits afterwards. When everyone was changed we walked to where we were going to do outdoor activities. We were put in groups and went off with our instructor to begin our challenges.

For every station, we had to work together to complete the task. We had a set amount of time and if we successfully completed the task we would be awarded with a gem. For one of the challenges there was a spider web made out of rope with different sections for us to pass through. We had to work together to get each other through without touching the rope and we could only go through a section once, so as we progressed it became more difficult.

We had a brilliant time, and the trip definitely achieved its goal of building a team-spirit among the TYs.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

GAISCE, WHAT A TRIP!

On the 7th and 8th of May Ratoath College's Transition Year students went on an adventure journey to Wicklow as part of their Gaisce to get their bronze medals. Gaisce is an award in Ireland that young people between the ages of fifteen and twenty five can get by participating in three separate activities for thirteen weeks each with an additional thirteen weeks of an activity of their choice.

As part of the Transition year student's adventure journey they had to hike for two days and stay overnight, the hike was fifteen kilometres long.

The students left early and arrived in Wicklow at twelve o'clock. All of their bags were loaded up on to a bus and driven to the camping area they would be staying at. They started their hike and walked twelve kilometres in the first day. When they arrived at the camping grounds they set up their tents and unpacked. They then went out on canoes on the lake and went out to an island. After they arrived at the island they started their hike on the mountain.

The next day the TY students cooked sausages for breakfast on grills provided by the staff at the camp grounds. They then sailed back across the lake and were given the option of either keep on canoeing, archery and zip lining.



Overall the transition year students enjoyed their adventure trip and had a good time. We can see that the Gaisce was a roaring success with our transition year students this year whether they found a new sport they liked, made new friends or developed a new skill in a certain area. All the students said it was a brilliant way to end the year and spend time together. We hope that next year's transition year students have a fantastic Gaisce experience as well and that it is kept on for other students to go through such an amazing and worthwhile experience, as it is a great way to make new friends and a perfect way to end the year.



"I had a great time and wish I could experience it again. I had a lot of fun and made a lot of new friends. Really wish I could go again."

-Neil Shevlin

"It was fab! I would recommend it to the next group of transition years coming into the school. I wish I could go again had a great time with all my friends."

-Lyndsey Hageman

Giovanni's Irish Odyssey

This year, Ratoath College welcomed a new student from Germany. Here, TY's Giovanni Boewer shares his thoughts on the similarities and differences between school in Ireland and Germany.

The school in Ireland and in Germany can be different in many aspects.

First of all the most important point is the school system. You have to do thirteen years of school. From that, eight in a Primary school and five or six in a Post-Primary school. That is very similar as in Germany. In Germany the school is divided into Grundschule (1st to 5th Year) but than the teachers have to decide on which following school you have to go. Hauptschule, Realschule or Gymnasium are the 3 main school levels called in Germany. Hauptschule starts from the 5th to the 9th year. After that year you are doing a leaving certificate but later you cant qualify yourself. In Realschule you are doing 6 years after Grundschule (5th to 10th year). After that you have a Realschulabschluss which is their final certificate. Later you can do an apprenticeship or other things but you cant go to university. The last level is Gymnasium. There you are doing eight or nine years after Grundschule (5th to 12th/13th).

In this school you can do your Abitur which is in Ireland the final Leaving

Certificate. With that Leaving Cert you can go to a university or whatever you want.

Another big difference between Irish and German schools is the dress-code. Pupils in Germany don't have to wear uniforms.

Some schools thought about it but actually nobody does it. Wearing a uniform at school can have pros and cons. An important point for students is that they often don't feel very comfortable in their uniform. They are trying to express themselves in how and what they wear. But exactly that could be also a reason why pupils have to wear a uniform. Because students cant be judged from how and what kind of clothes they wear etc. In fact that bullying is a big problem, wearing a uniform could alleviate this problem. Another point is that students are treated more equal. It also shows more respect in front of the teachers and the staff. Students who wear whatever they want tend to think they can get away with a lot more, because their teachers aren't as strict.



TY PEER EDUCATION

The TY peer education programme was a great experience. It gave us the opportunity to learn how to stand up and present to a large amount of people. It also gave us the knowledge about the affects of drugs and alcohol we also had to teach the first years about self esteem and peer pressure.

We first signed up for the peer education course during the summer. This course involved us going to five classes in Trim. The classes were held in the Annebrook House Hotel. The people who taught the course were very nice and were very welcoming of us. The other students from the other schools were very nice as well.

The first day was just getting to know each other we played a few games and learnt about self esteem and peer pressure . The second day was about drink and the affects and why people drink we also looked at the age limit to drink. The third day was about the dangers and affects of smoking we also looked at the chemicals in a cigarette. On the fourth day we learned about the many different types of drugs and

what kind of affects they could have.

At the end of the fourth day we got into pairs and prepared our posters about either Drugs, smoking ,self esteem or alcohol that we would have to present to the other students at the course on the fifth day. There were six students from our ty in the course so that meant there was three pairs.

On the fifth day we were all ready to present our projects, each group went up one by one and presented. This was to give us confidence to be able to present to a whole class.

When we were done the course we went back to the school and started to make our slideshows to present to the first years. A few weeks later we started teaching the first years about drugs, alcohol, smoking and self esteem we done this over four classes.

We then went on to teach the sixth classes in St. Paul's. We thought them about smoking alcohol and self esteem. They all really enjoyed it

STUDENT COUNCIL 2013/14

This year's Student Council have been hard at work as ever, meeting regularly and discussing issues that affect all members of the school community. This year, the council had the added benefit of having the President of the Irish Secondary Students Union, Mark Caffrey as one of it's members.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Lovely "Falls" Day

Down the Shankill

For the TY history trip the students were taken to Belfast, up there they got a guide tour of the Falls road the Shankill road and they were taken the Titanic museum.

The day began early for the students as their bus to Belfast left the school at seven o'clock that morning and they arrived in Belfast and got off the bus at ten o'clock. The students were then divided into four groups and two of the groups were taken for a walk along the Falls road first, while the others were taken for a walk down the Shankill road.

The group that started with a walk down the Shankill road first started at the top of the Shankill road and walked down the road. The tour guide explained about the troubles that had happened up in west Belfast. He talked about how there were so many people killed on both sides of the battle. As they walked down the road they came across a member of the "UVF" (Ulster Voluntary Force). The guide then said how the UVF were a group of volunteers who told the Protestant people that they were fighting to keep them safe, but as a lot of the time what they were doing was actually putting them in more trouble. They then walked to what is now a Credit Union but back in nineteen ninety three was a fish shop. The guide said how this fish shop was the site of one of the worst attacks. What happened was most days the fish shop got a delivery of fresh fish and one Saturday two "IRA" (Irish Republican Army) members showed up dressed as fishmongers and took a tray of fish into the shop, but inside their tray was a bomb that exploded only



six seconds after the IRA members had entered the shop. They then continued their walk down the hill and showed other sites of bombings that had happened. Once they had gotten to the bottom they then walked up the wall that was built to keep the nationalist and loyalist apart. The wall is forty-five metres high and a kilometre and a half long.

While one group was walking down the Shankill the other group was walking along the Falls road. They began their tour down by the wall that was built to split the two sides. Their tour guide was able to tell them that while now that area isn't very prone to danger but during the troubles it was and that many buildings were destroyed in the troubles. The tour guide told them about how one day a school that was built up against this wall had a bomb thrown into it. Thankfully there were no students in the school after the time but after this the school was re-built in a different location. They then walked up by the monastery that is there and saw a memorial for the first person to be killed in the troubles. After they then walked up towards the museum where they were able to view amazing things from the troubles they were allowed to go into a replica cell from the prison and they could view a model of what the H-blocks looked like. To finish off they went to a remembrance garden for the people who lost their lives fighting in the troubles.

The Titanic museum is where they went after their walk. The museum was built so that the top of the museum is the same height as the top deck of the Titanic was. The students were taken into the museum where they were able to walk around freely and to find out information about the Titanic themselves. It was very easy for them to learn a lot about the Titanic because the museum was very interactive, this made it very simple and entertaining for the students to find out about the Titanic about how it was built and what the inside of the ship would actually have looked like.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

TY BEACH PARTY!

On the 26th of March all Ty's went to Malahide for the Geography trip.

We went to Fingal sailing school to do sailing, kayaking and windsurfing. At the start of the day the classes were split into 2 groups. One group did the surfing, kayaking and windsurfing and the others did orienteering at Malahide castle. It was a freezing cold day at the seaside. Some people even got out of the water to warm up so when we changed from sailing to kayaking we all had to get out of the water and do runs up and down which warmed up us enough. But it just made us colder when we got back into the water. It was so cold that some people didn't even finish all the activities. Some people got out of the water and got changed. But some people stayed in to finish the activities.

We then took a small train ride that went on the road from the surf school to the castle. There we were split into groups and set out around the castle



grounds to make our way to the castle. All we had was a map and a tour guide came around with us to supervise us. When all the groups made it to the castle we went into the coffee shop and were allowed to buy something to eat and when we were done we went to the park for 15 minutes before we had to leave for Ratoath.

A most enjoyable day was had by all.

TY DCU Computer Trip

Earlier in the year in January, A group of TY's had the opportunity to go and attend a computing course in DCU. It is run by the computing building in DCU under a programme called ComputeTY. It was launched in 2005 and over 4000 students have taken part in it. We had the choice of 3 different courses. The first course was HTML coding. HTML is the coding language used to create websites. As part of TY we had the opportunity to learn this code in classes in school as well. The second course was App developing and basic coding. The third course we had the option to take part in was Java programming. This is the universal computer language used to code everything from ATM's, to computer software.

It was taught by college professors. The HTML classes' task for the week was to make a website about anything you wanted and to include everything they had learned about HTML coding. The App development classes' task was to create an



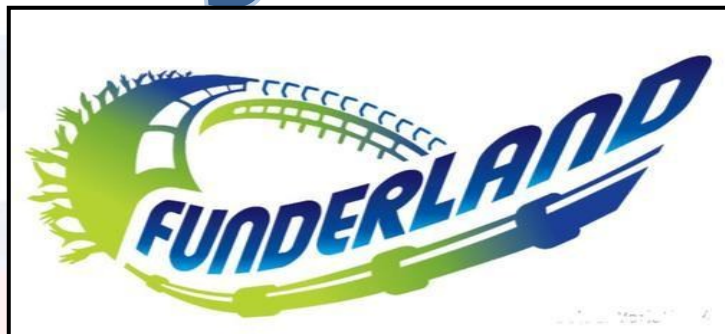
app such as whack a mole but to personalise it with your own images etc using the codes they had been taught. The Java classes' task was to make a Robot maze game on a computer they had learnt how to programme and understand commands. Over all it was a really enjoyable week. We got a tour around DCU at the end of the week led by 4th year College students. We had a chance to see all the different societies, courses and facilities that DCU has to offer. It gave us a look into college life and perhaps the idea of going to DCU when we are older, or to do computer science.

A Fun Day Out

This year the TYs went on a Food studies trip to non-other than Funderland. This was one of the first TY trips so we were all very excited when we were on the bus. We got the bus to the RDS making sure that the lads got a good few chants going.

The first activity was ice-skating. As you could guess there were varied rage in ability. Some were naturally gifted at it, some hugged the wall for their lives and then there were the people who were quickly improving all the time. There were falls and crashes my personal favorite was Colm who was constantly covered in ice from being on the floor. The prize for best was a real battle between Darragh Phillips and Harry Gribben. Due to his flawless 180 jumps my prize goes to Darragh. We all came out in one piece and was a great activity to start off the day.

After that we all got food from one of the many food stalls. I think the traditional chipper van was the most popular. There was every thing from German Snizzels to Italian pizza.



Later on after we were all full we got are day passes for Funderland. This meant we could go on as many rides as we wanted. A lot saw the biggest of all the rides called the Eliminator and went on that first. While strapped securely in we were raised high into the air and just as you were admiring Dublin's finest scenery you were dropped back to earth. Probably not a good idea to go on straight after the chips as some felt ill after.

Inside there was all types of rides and amusements from the classic teacups to the role coasters. The teachers didn't disappoint and was the main target on the bumper carts.

The most impressive of all amusements was the Ferris wheel. Soaring high into the air it was a must. By far my favorite moment on the trip was on the jungle river. This was a rollercoaster whit a downhill splash at the end. The difference in this roller coaster was that there was a photo taken on your way down. People then try to out do others and this lead to some very funny photos.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Great trip to Glasnevin and Croke Park

John Shannon reports on the TY History and Irish Trip



Above, the lights used to make the grass grow quicker instead of depending on sunlight, and left, a view from the stand looking out onto the pitch at Croke Park.

A joint venture by the Ratoath College History and Gaeilge departments turned into an extremely successful and worthwhile TY trip to Glasnevin Cemetery and Croke Park.

"I was dying to get in", said one student with others describing the trip as, "deadly", "entertaining" and "fantastic".

In the weeks leading up to the trip, we were busy learning about Glasnevin Cemetery in History and doing projects on the GAA in Irish.

On the day, the Transition Years were divided into two groups with one heading to Glasnevin Cemetery first and the other one heading to Croke Park first.

I was in the group that went to Glasnevin Cemetery first. When we arrived we were allowed to "go exploring" in the cemetery which is absolutely huge. It was interesting to walk around and look at the different dates on the tombstones.

We started our tour after our initial walk. It was very informative and started in the information centre/museum where there was an exhibition on about the Irish Volunteers. We then went outside to see some of the graves of "The Forgotten Ten", a group of republican prisoners who were executed during the 1920s.

We went inside Daniel O'Connell's tomb and the brave ones were able to touch his coffin for "good luck". Our tour then took us around the other

famous graves such as those of Éamon De Valera and Michael Collins

We got back on the bus and went on to Croke Park where we watched a short video about the GAA before being taken on a tour of the stadium.

We went to the dressing rooms which had each county's jersey hanging up. We then walked in the tunnel out onto the sidelines of the pitch.

We went up to the VIP area on the upper tier of the Davin? Stand. We then proceeded to the GAA museum which was the highlight of the day for many people.

It was a hugely interactive museum with jumping simulators, brain games, awareness testing and machines to test how hard you could hit a sliotar or football.

There were various displays of county jerseys throughout the ages along with a Wall of Fame listing the winners of the All-Ireland since the GAA's creation.

It was an extremely successful day and was enjoyed by everyone.

A few weeks later we learnt of the sad death of Shane MacThomais who was a historian at Glasnevin Cemetery. He brought forward Glasnevin and was instrumental in the development of Glasnevin Cemetery into a successful tourist attraction.

"It was an extremely successful day and was enjoyed by everyone"

TYs GET A FEEL FOR WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL



The Irish Wheelchair Association came into the TYs to teach us about wheelchair basketball. At first we had a talk about the Association, what it does and who it supports. During periods 4, 5 and 6, each class had an opportunity to play wheelchair basketball which was extremely enjoyable and fun. First of all the class was split into two groups and one group got in the chairs and to get used to how they moved, we had a race. Afterwards we were told how to play wheelchair basketball and the ball was thrown in. We all scrambled for the ball and played a game full of passion and hard work. It was extremely good fun, but was quite tiring on the arms. We all got the hand of how to use the wheelchairs very quickly and all played extremely well. It was an extremely enjoyable, fun and interesting day, the only thing was we didn't get enough time in the wheelchairs!

The Wheel Chairs that we had use where specially designed for wheel chair basketball, the wheel are at an angel so they wont tilt and it make then faster. Wheel chairs like this can cost a lot of money to they where only able to bring 11 with them. They can cost up to €1000 for just one chair so that is why they are relying on public donations.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

ART TRIP TO WAX MUSEUM AND CONGO EXHIBIT

In February all TY classes visited the Wax museum and the RHA Gallery in Dublin city centre. Our trip to the National Wax Museum was a great success. We had a great time in the exciting interactive visitor centre which is located in Temple Bar district and just off Dame Street. The museum is housed in the historic Foster Place landmark building. The museum was an interactive experience where we were taken on a journey through Irish cultural heritage, a scientific section, a green screen video room, and a recording studio. They were informed about the huge amount of work and time that is involved in the process. The characters were all very life like works in wax.

After the trip to the wax museum the transition years visited an exhibition at the RHA gallery to see an exhibition by Richard Mosse. In 2012, Richard Mosse travelled in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, Taking videos and pictures the rebel groups in Congo, the living conditions for the people of Congo and the amazing scenery around Congo. The exhibition was amazing and really gave us an insight on the challenges faced by the people of The Congo.



TY: In Pictures



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

TY: The Year In Pictures



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ





Saint Vincent de Paul Shoe Box Appeal

The St Vincent se Paul Shoe Box Appeal was a success this year as students made their own unique shoe boxes using wrapping paper and colours. The students after finishing their shoe boxes filled them with items like books, small toys, small games and other goods like a toothbrush. When the students



The pile of shoe boxes in front of the school doors ready to be collected sent their shoe boxes into the school they were collected by St Vincent se Paul workers and sent off to Africa and Eastern Europe were those shoe boxes will change a child's Christmas.

As you can see from the shoe boxes above, a lot of students participated in the event. The students who made shoe boxes and sent them out deserve a lot of praise as they made a child's dark Christmas light up when that child sees his/her shoe box at their front door and when they open it they see all the toys and goodies left for them by someone far away who they will probably never see in their life but who still donated a box anyways. St Vincent de Paul and other charities have been doing this appeal for years now and more and more people keep giving to them every year. It's great that Ratoath College participates in this fantastic charity event every year so far in Ratoath Colleges history. Ratoath College is one of the many schools in the country that participates in the St Vincent se Paul Shoe Box Appeal every year, a great feat to hold and Ratoath will continue to hold for years to come. A credit to the students and teachers that were involved in this great cause for charity and St Vincent se Paul.

When the shoe boxes are sent to St Vincent de

Paul headquarters they are collected and placed in piles were they organised into which country they are being sent to. Once they are organised they are placed in big boxes and our shipped out of the country to where they are needed. When the boxes arrive in the target country they are taking by volunteer workers and brought to poor towns and villages and are given to the children on Christmas where they open them and celebrate.



Some of the students placing the presents in front of the main door.

A special thanks to all those who participated in this charity event for St Vincent se Paul. Especially to those who contributed to it by making and sending in their shoe boxes. But the biggest thanks goes to Ms Sweeney as she organised the entire event mostly single-handily. She is the one who contacted St Vincent se Paul to let them know that Ratoath College would be taking part in this year's Shoe box appeal. She let the school know that we would be taking part in the charity event, she advised students about the event and what to do. How to make and decorate the shoe box. What to put in it and what not to put in it. She organised the collection of the shoe boxes from the students and the collection of the shoe boxes from St Vincent de Paul. St Vincent de Paul admire our schools effort at helping those in need and are amazed every year at the amount of shoe boxes they receive. And they will be expecting the same or an even bigger effort next year from Ratoath College and its wonderful students. Bring it on!

Ratoath Students do their bit for Charity

Shave or dye

Shave or dye is a major charity event that raises funds for the Irish Cancer Society. Irish cancer association. It's where people decide to shave or dye their hair and get sponsorship to help raise money for the Irish cancer association to help raise for research and machines and medicine for patients who suffer the disease and make it easier for them and family and friends.

Students from our school have participated in the event and help raise incredible amounts of money to the fundraising event. These extremely kind and heroic students have help raise money towards research, making families and friends lives a whole lot easier.

Daffodil Day

Daffodil day is Ireland's largest funded charity events, this year in our school teachers and students helped with fundraising by buying the Daffodil pins and other items that when bought the money would go to the Irish cancer association, and help people who suffer from all kinds of cancer, making sure that they get the right care with the right medicine. It will also go in to research, just making the lives of those who suffer from cancer and families and friends a whole lot easier than it should be.



Christmas Jumper Day

This year's first annual Christmas Jumper Day raised funds for the cardiac unit in Crumlin Children's hospital. Over €1200 was raised by students who out did each

other with extraordinary and even, as in the case of Adam Weir (above) from 1st year (pictured) battery powered Christmassy jumpers. Aside from raising vital funds for a cause very close to our hearts in Ratoath College, the day also helped to generate a wonderful Christmas spirit around the school.

Typhoon Haiyan

Sixth Year class Rang Reilly took the lead in organising a hugely successful cake sale (above) that raised over €600 for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. Michelle Manrique in Rang Reilly, whose family was affected by the disaster took the lead in organising the event.



Laura Hickey Foundation.

On Friday the 9th of May the school had a cake sale to raise money for the Laura Hickey foundation. Students and teachers brought in cakes to be sold in the GP area and were sold by first years. Laura Hickey is a 29 year-old primary school teacher from Ashbourne, Co. Meath. Laura got a job in St. Paul's National School, Ratoath where she became known to the local area. Teaching is not 'just a job' to Laura – it is her passion and her vocation. In 2010, at the age of 26, Laura's world came crashing down when she was diagnosed with mixed-cell lymphoma, a very rare form of cancer. Laura's case has been further complicated by an underlying hereditary spleen condition (spherocytosis) which impedes her post-treatment recovery and leaves her prone to potentially fatal infection. In 2012, she spent a month in an induced coma after contracting pneumococcal pneumonia. Sadly, Laura's treatment programme has achieved only intermittent success to date, and in late 2013, she received confirmation that her cancer had returned for the third time in four years. This was devastating news for Laura and her family. Laura is now being referred to the world-renowned Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York for a more expert opinion on her diagnosis, treatment plans to date and her post-treatment recovery programme. The total amount of money needed is 60,000 and we hope our cake sale can go something towards that.

SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS

Hundreds of Primary school students came to visit the Christmas village that the TY students built. We had students from junior infants to first class in to visit our make shift winter wonderland.

It was a very successful Christmas village with lots raised for the TY fund.

All transition years put a huge amount of time and effort into making this project a great success. They spent hours building the Christmas village. It took a whole day to build and decorate. Mr Walsh and the rang Cahill stayed back hours after school to finish it before the arrival of the children the next morning.

There was lots to do inside the Christmas wonderland. When the children first arrived, they were greeted by two welcoming elves and brought upstairs where they crawled through the chimney and into the winter wonderland. They sat down and

sang Christmas songs and waited to be let wonder around the Christmas village. They could go to the sweet factory and get chocolate covered marshmallows, or write their letter to Santa and send it to the north pole in the post office, they could visit the science lab and watch cool experiments, colour Christmas cards or visit the bakery and decorate Christmas fairy cakes.

It was a fantastic experience for all TY's and also for the primary school students. It was a huge success for Ratoath college!



'Santa' entertains the visiting children



CHRISTMAS CRACKERS!

There were several special visitors to our Christmas awards this year. The jolly man in red himself even made an appearance, and none was as pleased as Miss Predergast herself. *Sixty-Six* is not sure what she asked him for, but we hope she got it! He was welcomed with a big cheer and all the students were chuffed with the sweets he gave out.

It wasn't all about the presents though, there were a few awards to give out to. One of these prestigious awards was the sports one, which went to Joey Wallace. This meant a lot to him as his brother, Eamon Wallace who the same award the year before returned to present the award. Guess it must run in the family!

We were also delighted to welcome 2FM's Paddy McKenna and NewsTalk's George Hook. The Irish rugby legend had some inspirational words for the school community as he told us how had overcome his own challenges.

Another great thing going on this Christmas were the beautiful Christmas jumpers that our students were donning! Everyone was spreading the cheers with people wearing their own jumpers and raising €1200 for the cardiac unit at Crumlin Children's Hospital on the process!

To end the Christmas season in school, we had a very special performance at this years awards, an unexpected but welcome twist. Our teachers got up on stage and sang their hearts out, the best performance *Sixty-Six* has ever heard of Shakin' Stevens classic hit *Merry Christmas Everyone*.



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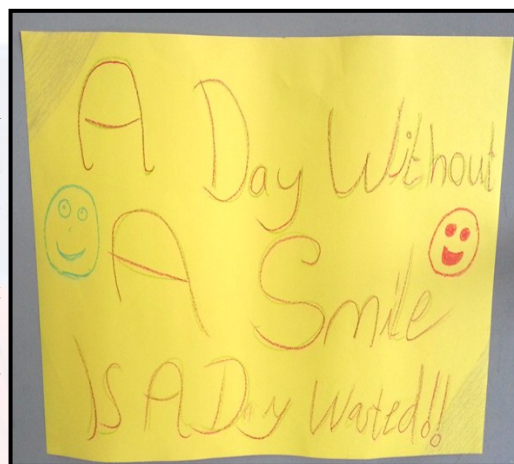
RAISING AWARENESS: MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This year saw RC's first ever Mental Health week. It took place during the week of March 3rd – March 8th, it took place to raise awareness about the effects of stress, anxiety and depression that some people may suffer from and how people can help relieve their problems with just a simple hello or joke. Simple things like this could help cheer up a persons day or even week just by making them smile. Throughout the week, events and classes around the school focussed on raising awareness of mental health and the supports available to students while also promoting positivity.

Transition year's Rang Cahill made posters with happy uplifting quotes from movies or simple smiley faces to remind people of the positive focus throughout the week. Some of the posters we made were of quotes from songs such as Bobby McFerrin's 'Don't worry, Be happy' I wonder what quote they chose from that... The posters seemed to brighten up the corridors a bit more as well because they were done on coloured paper not just plain white paper. Everybody felt they helped a lot with adding some happiness to the place and different things to look at.

On Wednesday of that week Rang Cahill and Rang O'Donoghue went around to 1st year classes and did a presentation during tutorial class on mental health

and how it's important to stay happy even when times are tough because it will keep your thoughts clearer.



Each morning at assembly, a student from Rang Cahill, Dylan Hannon, stood in front of the school during and read quotes that would help cheer up students sleepy heads and hopefully stick in their heads so throughout the day they can think of it when they need a bit of cheering up. It's not easy standing up in front of 800+ people so thanks to Dylan for being able to spread good quotes every morning for a week. One of Dylan's best quotes was "Its ok to not feel okay and its perfectly okay to talk about it". Dylan was really trying to tell people that if they have problems its perfectly fine to ask anyone about it, like your teachers, guidance counsellor or even your parents. This really encapsulated the message of mental health week.

SHARING THE LOVE

The Love Squad were hard at work once again this year as Ratoath College embraced the spirit of St Valentine's Day. The Love Squad spreads the message of love and affection by delivering Rolos to students, and teachers, who have been chosen by a secret admirer to receive them.



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SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

Here in Ireland, we pride ourselves on our unique language and culture, and we like to celebrate this with Seachtain na Gaeilge. All over Ireland people celebrate the week long event. They make an effort to speak Irish and some communities even hold events to promote the Irish language. One very popular event that occurs every year is "Ceol". This is a music event in which famous Irish musicians come together and rewrite their best songs in Irish. There have also been many events in our school. We have had performances of songs as Gaeilge (including one from myself in which I translated some of it myself), there were treasure hunts as Gaeilge for the first and second years, there were games and quizzes held during lunch and much more. The interior of the school was also decorated with green, white and orange. Sa deireadh bhí seachtain iontach ag gach duine!



Clockwise from above: Amhrán na gcupann; Iníon Lyons ag tabhairt faoin bPuc fada; Sean Brazil agus Eoghan McGee gléasta suas don 'Lá Glas'; Lár: SnaG Yoga!



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ANOTHER AMAZING ITALIAN EXCHANGE

On Wednesday the 19th of February, 24 senior cycle students departed Dublin Airport to go on a trip of a life time to Parma, Italy on a Italian exchange.

In the 5 exciting days spent in Italy, the students, accompanied by Mr. McAuley and Ms. Savage, travelled to the finest tourist attractions in Italy. Places including the Duomo, the Parma ham factory, Florence, Milan and many other attractions were visited while gaining the experience of Italian family life.

On the last night the students and teachers on the exchange experienced a lovely banquet hosted by the Italian teachers. Although the Irish students were

sad to return home to Ireland after 5 eventful days, their sorrows were soon uplifted when the Italian students flew into Dublin Airport just 3 weeks after the Irish students returned home.

Whilst in Ireland, the Italian students experienced many different Irish attractions such as The Hill Of Tara, Trinity College, a GAA match in Croke Park on St. Patrick's Day and, on the last night, a lovely Italian meal in La Bucca. Although the students were sad to leave their exchange partners for the last time, some students have already planned a private exchange over the summer. On the exchange, many memories were made and loads of new friends were made. It was truly a trip to remember.



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BETT Conference 2014

On the 25th of January this year three lucky TY students and one lucky LCA student along with Mr. Walsh and Ms. Barry flew across to London to the Excel arena where the annual Bett Conference was taking place. The students were Mark Caffrey, Stephen Cahill, Kelley Gorman and Diana Mihart.

They had a long day ahead of them as their flight was at six o' clock in the morning so they were on the move all day. As they



Above: teachers and students just about to go into the conference and below, Mr Walsh & Ms Barry show off their new capes!

entered the arena, they were surrounded by hundreds of different stands with different companies at each one trying to impress all of the visitors with their ideas and products.

But, the one product that they had paid the most attention to was the new windows tablet. They paid great attention to this product to see if it would be a better tablet for the new incoming first years to have throughout the year rather than the new iPad 2. In the end the students came to a group decision that the windows tablet would be more suitable for the first years when it comes to school work and it has an optional keyboard you can attach to it and it still has all the features of an iPad.

Because there was so many different stands and they only had a small amount of time to look around as many as they could they saw products like a 3D printer, tables that were touchscreen, protective cases for different devices which is the product all the students were most impressed by because of how effective it was. Overall they had a very beneficial day and hopefully the Bett Conference 2015 will bring more technology to our school.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

First Year Trips

Italy & Carlingford

Every year the first years go on an amazing trip. This year was no different. It is a school tradition for First years to either visit Italy or Carlingford. Both trips are meant to be 'class' as said by students. Around one hundred pupils attended this year accompanied by 12 teachers. They went for four days and stayed in the Splendid Sole Hotel in Manerba del Garda on the beautiful Lake Garda. On the Friday that they left it was an early morning for all. The students had to catch the bus at six am. Afterwards they had a two and half hour flight. It was a four day trip. Arriving in Italy on Friday and leaving their hotel early morning on Tuesday.

We sat down and talked to first year Moltóir Mr. McCarthy about the first year trip to Italy. Our first question for Mr. McCarthy what his favourite place they went on the trip and his answer was simply "Gardaland", which I think would be the same answer if you asked the majority of the students the same question, I know that Gardaland was definitely my favourite part of the trip when I went four years ago.

We also talked to Mr. McCarthy about the #OscarSelfie which is an impression of the selfie taken at the Oscars by Ellen DeGeneres with a lot of high profile celebrities. The teachers decided to do their own spin on it with Mr. McCarthy taking the photo which included many high profile Ratoath College teachers!

We also asked Mr. McCarthy to share any funny stories from the trip he had and he said the funniest memory of the trip was in Gardaland when Ms. Brennan thought she was falling off the Blue Tornado rollercoaster!

The students from first year were also blessed with the weather over in lake Garda, as it was a scorching hot week with sun splitting the rocks every day! As we wrapped up our interview we asked Mr. McCarthy what he thought of the trip as a whole

and he said that it was an outstanding trip, all the students and teachers had a great time and it was truly a trip to remember!

We also spoke to a First Year student to get her perspective on the trip:

Me: So Aisling I hope you enjoyed your 1st year trip to Italy.

Ais: Yes I did indeed it was a memorable trip, best week of my first year experience

Me: Wow that's good to hear, where did you travel in Italy?

Ais: Venice, Gardaland, Lake Garda and Florence

Me: What was your favourite place you went to?

Ais: I would have to say my favourite place was Gardaland, we went on all the rides but my favourite ride was easily the Blue Tornado, I went on it about eight times

Me: What were your favourite memories in while you were in Italy?

Ais: I would have to say some of favourite memories was staying up with my friends and having Jaffa cake wars in the room

Me: Did you enjoy the food in Italy?

Ais: Some of the people didn't enjoy the food but all we were really fed was pizza and pasta and I like both of them, so yeah

Me: Would you recommend it for next year's first years?

Ais: Yes I defiantly would it was something I really enjoyed

Me: Well thank you for your time Aisling it was talking to you

On the same day 100 students left for Italy, the other half of First Year had an amazing and exciting day in Carlingford, taking part in various water sports and extreme activities to get the heart racing!



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It's a KNOCK-OUT!

On Friday the 4th of April 2014 the parents association of Ratoath College put on an amazing event at the Pillo hotel in Ashbourne. It was of course "The School of Hard Knocks" white collar boxing event. The two main sponsors for the night were Des Kelly Interiors and The Auld Stand. The boxers consisted of both students from Ratoath College and adults willing to step into the ring.

The students who participated were Chloe Kelly, Aisling Doyle, David Caprani, Simone Canavan, Alan Hartnett, Emma Sweeney, Josh Newe, John Griffin and myself. It promised to be a night to remember, and that it was. Prior to the Friday, all participants had gone through 6 weeks of intense training in order to prepare for their fights. Just to add to the excitement, the pairings were only announced the night before the fight.

All the boxers arrived at 7:00pm on Friday. We all gathered in the fighters lounge on the first floor. We had plenty of time to warm up as the doors didn't open to the spectators until 7:30pm, by which time everyone's nerves were beginning to show and the fear and tension amongst the group could be seen in peoples faces. Nobody had participated in an event like this before, nobody was experienced. To make matters worse for the nerves, by 7:45pm, the place was packed with people far beyond the numbers any of us had originally anticipated. By this stage the first few pairings were warming up for their fights as there was only fifteen minutes until the event was due to start. As luck would have it though, it didn't start on time. At 7:50pm a few boxers began to panic as the boxing tops still hadn't arrived with just ten minutes before starting time. Finally at 8:00pm they arrived and everyone settled down. The referee came into the lounge at 8:00pm and explained the rules and regulations for the night, after which we were



given until 8:20pm before the "champions walk" (All the boxers walk into the ring to start the event).

All the spectators were seated and ready and finally the event began with the referees announcement. He then called the red corner boxers into the ring with music blaring as we came on. This was shortly followed by the blue corner boxers coming into the ring. We all stood around the ring as the referee introduced the event and the sponsors of the event to the audience. The tri-colour flag of Ireland was then lifted in the ring and the national anthem was played. There was a huge applause and cheer after the and as all the boxers left the arena. With all the drama and build-up to the event aside, it was finally time to begin.

The first pairing up was John Griffin against myself. The referee brought us in close and explained the rules clearly. The bell rang and the event was underway. We had a good fight with plenty of punches landed and in the end John was a worthy winner. The next students to fight were Chloe Kelly



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

and Aisling Doyle. This was a great fight with so much energy and so many punches being landed throughout the three rounds. Aisling Doyle prevailed for another great win for the blue team. Ratoath Colleges next student to fight was Simone Canavan who was up against a past pupil, Clodagh Barnes. This was an epic fight to watch. I heard everyone praising the quality of this fight simply for the amount of punches that they threw in every round. It was clear they gave it there all, it was a close call that went in Clodagh's favour. To say the least it was a fantastic first half of the event and the half time interval came and went very quickly, with everyone anticipating an even better second half.

Straight after the break our next student was straight into the ring, Josh Newe. He was fighting James, a regular from golden gloves. They were very well matched, this much was clear from the first bell. Quick and straight punches made this match one to remember. They both fought a tremendous battle and as a result of this, it was a draw, and deservedly so. As it turned out this match received the award for the best fight overall. That match was followed with another great pairing, current transition year student Emma Sweeney and past pupil Emma Dempsey.



ARTS ATTACK!

We had another successful Arts Week this year. We started the week with Ancient Rome day. During this all the classical studies students and teachers dressed up as Roman soldieries and gods, along with all first year students. Along with this, Rang Savage entertained students in the general purpose area with demonstrations of Chariot Racing, a Roman banquet and a battle at the Coliseum. While that was going on the TY art students were painting historical figures in pop art. Then to finish the week we had a concert. We had bands like Electric Shore and then Darragh Hoare performed one of his very own songs, with a myriad of other fun events happening throughout the week, not least the teacher-student debate.



FIRST YEAR HALLOWEEN PARTY

First years enjoyed a day of fun and partying this year at the TY organised Halloween Party. Students enjoyed a day of fun, dancing and general merriment at the scouts den, with lots of very imaginative costumes on show!



LET THERE BE LIGHT!

Recent visitors to the school may have noticed that the building has received a much needed influx of brightness in some areas.

This is thanks to tireless work of our caretaking staff, Mr Brady and Mr McLarney who have taken on the project in recent weeks with gusto. The main entrance is now a much more inviting place for visitors, devoid of the myriad brushes and other cleaning materials used by the classes on clean-up.

Indeed, some students may have found themselves

confused on one particular morning when they noticed a whole new room next to the lift that had appeared practically over night! Thanks to Mr Brady and Mr McLarney we now have a much neater and convenient place to store the clean-up material. The corridor between the main entrance and the staffroom has also benefitted from the facelift treatment, as has the Rainbows Room upstairs along with various class rooms around the building. Thanks guys!



RC STUDENT LEADERS ON RTÉ'S PRIME TIME

The RTÉ TV cameras were back in RC this part March, as Prime Time correspondent Donagh Diamond prepared a segment on Junior Cycle reform.

As part of the programme, Ard-Cinnirí Dáire Gannon and Laura Donohue along with ISSU president, TY student Mark Caffrey were interviewed for their views on educational reform.



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

RC HOSTS APPLIED MATHS QUIZ

Last year a team of Megan Witter Nolan, Darragh and Tim Ryan won the North East Applied Maths Table quiz. This year Ratoath College hosted the quiz. We had 5 teams entered. The most successful being the team of Celine Fox, Jennifer Dempsey and Roisin McConomy who came in 2nd place (missing out by one point).



CHESS CLUB GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

This was a busy year for the chess club with many more new members participating every week.

This was also a historic year for Chess in Ratoath College as we entered a team into the Leinster Schools Competition for the first time and had some very good success. The highlights being drawing our first match against Colaiste Eanna, taking a point off Gonzaga's 1st team and we also had a trip to Kilkenny. Pictured here are team members Ben Vereb, Brian McCabe, Brian Kiernan, Vinayak Unnithan, Antoina Tcacenco and Bilja Anne Thomas



SAFER INTERNET DAY

Safer Internet Day came to Ratoath College again this year. With technology and the internet, particular social networking becoming more and more a part of our daily lives, it's important to spend some time focussing on how students can ensure they get the most from the internet in a way that is safe and secure.

During the day, we got tips on internet safety at assembly and First Year classes had the benefit of a special presentation in tutorial class on some of the ways they can make sure they're using the web safely.

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

2nd Prize at Young Scientist for RC Student

In its 50th year the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition is much more than a competition; it is an unforgettable experience of a lifetime for the students who take part. The exhibition itself is the final stage in the competition which is open to all second level students from Ireland. As well as the 550 student projects on display, this year there were a further four exhibition halls of the RDS filled with science and technology exhibits and entertainment, making it a thrilling event for everybody, including all of Ratoath College's first year students.

This year Ratoath College was once again represented at the exhibition, this year by TY student Mark Caffrey. Mark, a student from Rang Savage, has had the honour of not just qualifying for the exhibition once as a student but now twice, it's a first for any student from Ratoath. Also a first for a student from Ratoath is that Mark won an award, he came 2nd place in his category.

Mark entered his project '*Are Teenagers more Liberal than Their Parents?*' in the social and behavioural sciences section and being in TY was placed in the sub-section of intermediate. Out of the 550 projects on display throughout the exhibition, Mark's section was the largest in size and it included a vast array of different projects. Mark surveyed approximately 150 students and 150 of their parents and compared their results to various questions asked, he then followed this up by examining pre-existing research from Ireland and abroad.

Mark's research found that compared to our parents generation, teenagers are on average, more



pro-life (supporting the equal right to life of the unborn), more likely to support a

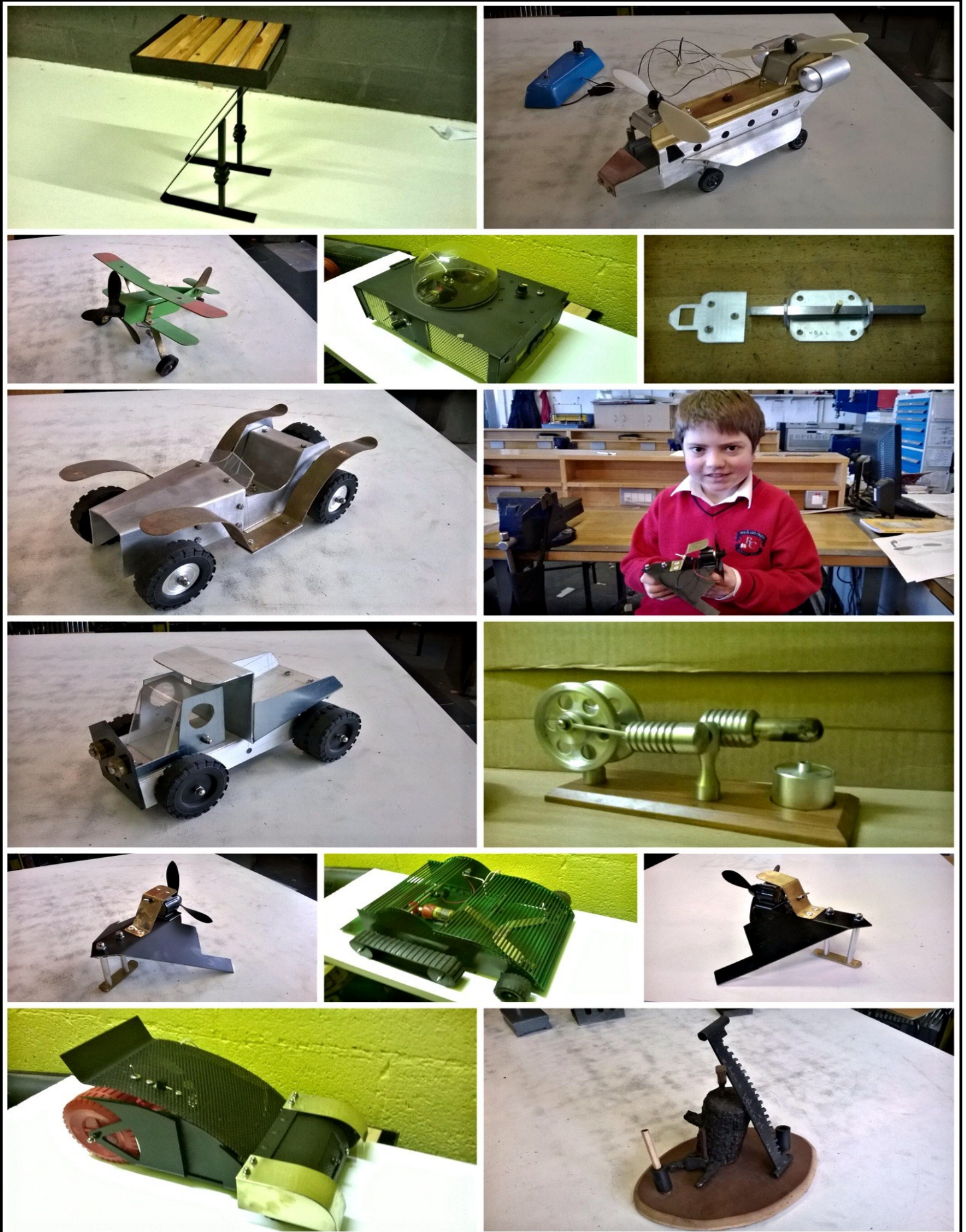


conjugal view of marriage (a child centred union of 1 man and 1 woman), more supportive of increasing Ireland's corporate tax rate as well as being slightly more euro-sceptic. When compared to existing data from elsewhere in the world, Mark's results stack up as being quite accurate. Was this what you expected?

The cause of difference in opinion between generations was explored by Mark as well. Taking an issue that had over the course of last year been highly debated, for example the equal right to life of the unborn, Mark found that one reason for the rise in pro-life opinion can be attributed to several reasons including improved levels of education (such as in biology and science more broadly) showing that human life begins at conception; and technology as well (the increased use of the internet allows people to see the pictures of abortion procedures, as well as images of the unborn child in the womb for example). The changing usage of media also may have been a factor influencing differences, mainstream print media (which teenagers are less likely to use) is statistically more biased in favour of the pro-choice position at a variety of levels for example. To those who came to see Mark's project it was clear that he well deserved his award. Mark later went to speak to 1st year students in the school about his experience of the competition and encouraged them all to take part next year!

SUBJECT DEPARTMENT REPORTS

METALWORK & ENGINEERING



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

METALWORK & ENGINEERING

It's been a great year in the metalwork department. A range of new projects have been manufactured this year by our students. First years have made pac-man key tags, an electronically controlled fighter jet and an "angry birds" themed wall clock. Second year metalwork students have been busy designing and making a personalised storage attachment for their locker as well as soldering electronic circuits.



Third years have had a very productive year building their twin engine helicopter as well as competing their practical day test.

In senior cycle engineering, fifth years have manufactured a model bench vice and leaving certs have completed very impressive batmobile tumblers as part of their state examinations.

Transition year students have designed and made basket hangers and wall hangings. They have also completed a little bit of jewellery making. They have just completed a silver ring made from 100% plate silver – it looks fantastic!

Overall it has been a very productive year in the metalwork department!

BUSINESS

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

Senior Cycle

Business at senior cycle explored the world of Business on a national and international scale while being grounded in well-developed business theory. Students are encouraged to think about the business world in a critical way and forces them to offer solutions to business situations. The real world context is vitally important for senior cycle Business keeping up to date with current affairs and the business environment. Business case studies offer rich information for class room discussions and debates on business topics. This together with regular presentation of students work develops student's communication skills. Through the use of group work and independent research students complete tasks that are related to the business syllabus but are also relevant to student's lives.

Students use the online educational tools Weebly and Edmodo for all class notes, access to interesting links and videos relating to Business and this offers an opportunity for students to comment on topics. As a number of the fifth year Business groups are interested in studying Business at third level, the students had a talk from Roger Sherlock from the Business Department in DIT. This was very insightful and motivated students to think further about career opportunities that exist from studying Business.

There is a great uptake in senior cycle Business, Accounting and Economics for next year in fifth year. Students have found that it proves beneficial to take on at least one of these subjects as they are so important to all future entrepreneurs and the world of business.

Transition Year

The Transition years had a very enjoyable experience in the field of Business. All students experienced elements of Business, Economics and Accounting to give them a sample of senior cycle. Each class group then had the opportunity to design their own product prototype and to present this to all students in their class. Samples of products included 'magbed', fast food that won't make you fat 'dinewise', expandable food 'expanda', see through toaster 'le cure', the baby Jacuzzi, the underwater phone case, the silent hoover, high

flats (high heels that convert to flat shoes) and a water powered car.

Students completed 3 main key assignments based on (1) examining different companies and how they approach their social responsibility, (2) an investigation of Ratoath itself, however the standout key assignment was definitely (3) the new product development. Groups came up with very exciting new products and services such as an "RC Journal App" - an online Dialann for use on all computer devices, "Be Free" - cordless headphones for use on the go, "Unbreakable Pencil" - does exactly what it says on the tin, "Magic Eyebrows" - a stencil for use when shaping your eyebrows, "Appssolutely Perfect" - an app which gets you the cheapest goods around. The Transition Year

Community Involvement

Ms Judges's second year Business class raised over €250 for Down syndrome Ireland, with their bake sale mini-company. They all worked very hard and made some fab cakes that were enjoyed by staff and students. Well done to all involved.

Short Course in Advertising and Marketing

The first year short course in advertising and marketing went very well this year. The first project for the first years was to create an advertising campaign for a cereal for children. We had some very innovative and creative adverts and promotional ideas. We had cereals such as "Jungle Crunch", "Marstarz" "Amazeballs".

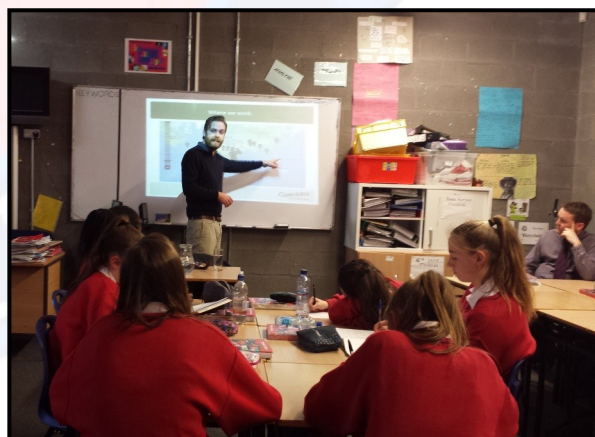
You can visit the marscrunchie website to see their work : <http://marshcrunchies.webstarts.com/index.html>

For the second project students had to come up with their own product ideas and create an advertising campaign. Students had to incorporate theory and practice they had learned from previous project such as creating storyboards for advertisements, creating an advertising media and internet plan, creating websites, TV and radio adverts. Check out some of our websites if you get a chance. <http://theilocker.weebly.com/> <http://blazejackets.weebly.com/> <http://g-gloves.weebly.com/> <http://a-choco-lypse.weebly.com/> <http://reachhandi.weebly.com/> <http://fastfootballboots.weebly.com/>

Best wishes to all our Junior and Senior students in their state exams. We have no doubt that you will all do very well!

CSPE

The CSPE Department had a wonderful year again. We welcomed three new members to the department, Ms Dalton, Ms Hanly and Ms McGinnell. We kicked off the year to a great start with the Junior Certificate results which were outstanding as always with 90% of our students got an 'A' or a 'B' and we are 24% Higher than the National average for 'A's'. The great work of the department continued in October when 5 of our second year CSPE classes visited the DSPCA in Rathfarmham for their Action Project which is worth 60% of their Junior Certificate exam. (Rang Dinsmore, Rang Ward, Rang Dwyer, Rang McCarthy, Rang Casey). We had a guest speaker from



Bóthar which was attended by Rang Lyons and Rang Walsh. Rang Witter worked tirelessly on both Trócaire Collection and on the Concern Fast and raised an impressive €1257. As a department we were delighted to have Gillian Bird from the DSPCA as a guest speaker for 3 of our second year groups. In November all of our first year classes were involved in the Team Hope project and together we produced amazing 178 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 April our current third years filled out their official booklets for their action project which has now been submitted to the Department for correction.

Art

Doodle for google:

We would like to congratulate Ailbhe Flynn and Catriona Shanley who got through to the semi finals in doodle for google. They received a doodle framed and a t – shirt with their doodle on it. The ceremony was held at google headquarters in Dublin 4.

Short course mural:

Rang K O'Neill were the first art short course in Ratoath College. They produced an underwater mural where each student drew and coloured a fish. They then started a project for creative engagement.

3rd and 6th years:

We would like to wish the 3rd and 6th years the best of luck in their upcoming exams. They have produced fabulous artwork over the last year.

Transition year art trip:

This year, as part of the art transition year programme, the TY students were brought to both, the national art gallery and the national wax museum. It was a very enjoyable trip where the students watched a movie on the congo while in the art gallery. They also had great fun touring the wax museum and many were amazed at how realistic the models were.

6th Year trip:

In January, the 6th year students visited the national gallery where they saw the galleries European collection of paintings. They also visited the national museum where they got to see it firsthand. Many of the objects that they have studied on their art-history course such as the ardagh chalice, the tara broche and the brougher collar.

Texaco children's art competition:

We would like to congratulate Lelia Clarke Carr who has won a special merit award in this years competition. Lelia has been invited to this years awards ceremony which will be held up in the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham on the 27th of May, 2014.

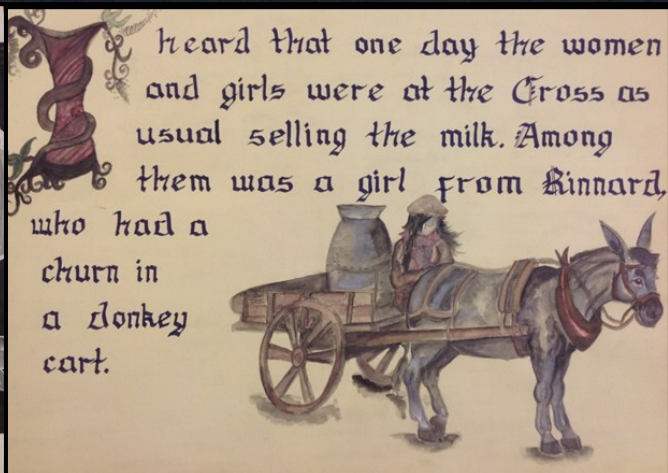
5th year art trip:



Top: Fifth Year trip to Newgrange. Middle: Face-painting for Valentines Day; Bottom: First Year Short Course under-water mural. Opposite page, top (l-r): Creative engagement project based on faces from Irish legened; Doodle for Google finalists Ailbhe Flynn and Catriona Shanley with Ms Daly. Bottom: TY 'Faces from History' Project and 6th year calligraphy projects



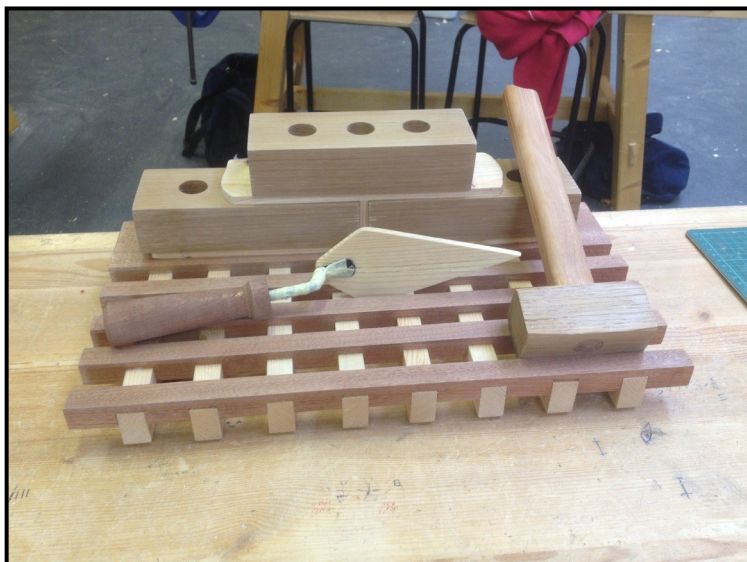
This year we went to Newgrange in the boyne valley. We visited the interpretive centre and watched a short documentary on the history of Newgrange. We were given a guided tour of the tomb and we saw where the light comes into the chamber. This prepared us for our essay on Newgrange.



Materials Technology Wood & Construction Studies

A selection of projects from MTW and Construction Studies.





An Ghaeilge

Tír gan teanga, tír gan anam', mar a deir an seanfhocal agus tá sé sin ríshoiléir i gColáiste Ráth Tó. Tá an Ghaeilge ag fás agus ag forbairt lá i ndiaidh lae sa scoil agus is iontach an rud é sin a fheiceáil sa lá atá inniú ann. Bhí na scrúduithe béil don tríú agus don séú bliain ar siúl roimh na Cásca, agus is cosúil le gur éirigh thar barr leis na daltaí go léir. Bhí na scrúduitheoirí thar a bheith dearfach faoi na daltaí agus faoin spéis a bhí acu sa Ghaeilge. Is mór an moladh é sin do na daltaí agus do Roinn na Gaeilge araon.

Bhí Cigireacht Ghaeilge ag Roinn na Gaeilge Mí na Bealtaine anuraidh. D'fhreastail an Cigire ar go leor ranganna agus labhair sé leis na daltaí freisin. Fuair Roinn na Gaeilge ardmholadh ón gCigire as ucht na hoibre a bhí déanta agus as ucht caighdeán na Gaeilge i measc na ndaltaí. Bhí an Roinn an-bhródúil as sin. Mar a deirtear 'Ní neart go cur le chéile'.

Chuir Roinn na Gaeilge fáilte roimh Iníon Ní Ainle, an tUasal Gibson agus Iníon Ní Bhroinn i mbliana. Chuir siad go mór leis an bhfoireann. Gabhaimid comhghairdeas le hIníon Kilrane agus le hIníon Garrett freisin as ucht breith a linbh áille!

I rith Mí an Mhárta, chéiliúraíomar Seachtain na Gaeilge. Bhí seachtain den scoth ag daltaí agus múinteoirí sa scoil. Bhí go leor imeachtaí ar siúl le linn na seachtaine. Bhí Toraíocht Taisce, Comórtas na bPostaer, Comórtas Memes, Tráth na gCeist, Puc-Fada chomh maith lena lán rudaí eile ar siúl. Bhí Céilí iontach ag lucht na céad bliana freisin. Bhain siad an-chraic agus spraoi as! Chuir lucht na hIdirbhliana clár raidió ar siúl ag am lóin i rith na seachtaine freisin. Cuireadh imeacht nua ar siúl do na daltaí sinsearacha i mbliana freisin...YOGA trí Ghaeilge!!! Bhain na daltaí sinsearacha fíor-thaitneamh as an Yoga, agus bhí an-éileamh air!

Is breá dearfach an rud é daoine óga a fheiceáil ag baint taitneamh as imeachtaí dhifriúla trí mheáin na Gaeilge agus sin mar a tharla le linn na seachtaine sin. Bhí an Ghaeilge le cloisteáil ar fud na scoile, idir daltaí agus múinteoirí!

Chuaigh na ranganna Idirbhliana agus Rang Connolly ar thuras go dtí Páirc an Chrócaigh agus Uaigh Glas Naíon mí an Mhárta mar chuid de thaighde don Ghaeilge agus don Stair. Bhí an dá thuras seo an-suimiúil agus d'fhoghlaim na daltaí go leor eolais chun cabhrú leo lena dtionscnaimh sa dá ábhar.

Bhí deis ag gach dalta sa scoil arís cur isteach ar chomórtas chun scoláireacht a bhuachan chun freastal ar chúrsa samhraidh i mbliana. Thug LMETB seacht scoláireacht don scoil le bronnadh ar na daltaí. Gabhaimid buíochas leo. Chomh maith leis sin, thug Coláiste na bhFiann €900 de scoláireachtaí dúinn arís i mbliana freisin. Ba mhór an chabhair iad na scoláireachtaí do na daltaí agus táimid fíor bhuíoch astu.

Tá áthas orm a rá go bhfuil 'An Ghaeilge Beo i gColáiste Ráth Tó'.

Geography



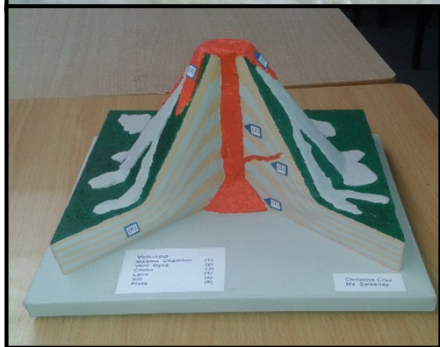
It has been another busy year in the Geography Department. The Leaving Cert results from 2013 bore all the hard work of students and teachers. 96% sat a higher level paper. The numbers achieving a C grade or higher was also higher than the national average. The departing Mr Mc Cabe, together with Ms O Neill have to be commended on their invaluable input in the Geographical Investigation which is worth 20%. We hope to build on these results again next year. At the start of the academic year, Ms Dalton joined the Geography Department in RC who took over from Mr Doyle. Her ideas and experience have been invaluable this past year.

Fieldtrip

The current 6th yrs completed their field studies well before the deadline but all the gathering of data and analysis of data was done last October. The team who were guided by Ms Sweeney were pleased with the day's experiments.

New Junior Certificate

The Geography Department has embraced the new Junior Cert curriculum. An emphasis now is developing students "keyskills". From the beginning of the year, learning was assessed in a different manner. One such method was the "make a model project". Students could make any physical feature of their choice. Some of the work produced was to a fantastic standard.



TY Geography

TY students covered modules on Natural Disasters, Geopolitics, World Cultures, Tourism and Meteorology. As part of the module on Geopolitics,

PHD lecturer in politics at NUI Maynooth, Claire Mc Ging spoke to the TY's on The Cold War and its impact on geopolitics. The TY Geography trip this year visited Malahide in north Co Dublin where the students immersed themselves in a range of water sports such as canoeing and small craft sailing. Despite the inclement weather and the next to freezing water the TY's had an enjoyable day. They also orienteered around Malahide Castle and gardens. After a brief stoppage for tea and treats the students took a novelty train journey back to base where teachers and students departed for home.

As we look forward to the Junior and Leaving Certificate exams, the Geography team would like to wish the best of luck to all our exam students. Have a happy and safe summer holiday.

Ms Sweeney, Ms Reid, Ms O Neill, Ms Dalton, Mr Farrelly, Ms Reid and Mr Keane.



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Home Economics

The Home Economics Department have had another great year, producing lots of great culinary and craft masterpieces. The recent Junior Certificate Practical Exams highlighted the hard work and creativity of our students, as can be seen in the photos. Transition Year Food Studies students experienced the delights of the Christmas Food Market in the RDS in December, giving them inspiration for decorating their Christmas Cakes. Throughout the year they broadened their skills base with many wonderful creations, both sweet and savoury. Second year students had a busy year producing highly decorative craft items including cushions, wall hanging and blankets. This year we also joined the school community on Twitter... why not join us @rhomeec and keep up-to-date with Home Economics activities throughout the year!



SPHE

This year the SPHE department along with our new Pastoral Team of Grainne Reilly and Cormac O'Brien help implement our first Mental Health Week. We had great support from the management and the rest of the school to help make it a really positive week for everyone. Our TY's worked tirelessly organising upbeat music and inspiring quotes on posters/ screens and at assembly in the mornings. It really was a positive way to start each day. All classes had a walk and speakers throughout the week. We had speakers from Teenline, Aware, Teen Focus, The Samaritans to name just a few. The students were so impressed that they raised much needed funds for Teenline later in the year. It really was a fantastic week and helped raise awareness for a very important topic in the process. Let's hope we can repeat it again next year!

Science

This has been another great year for the Science Department. We were very pleased with our state exams results that our students achieved.

Historic joint venture with PE dept.

For the first time we collaborated with the PE department to run a short course called Operation Inspiration which has been an inspiring success. This was reflected in the outstanding fitness results achieved by the 2 classes taking part in the course. Based on this we hope to run the short course again next year.

Trips

There were lots of trips organised throughout the year. The 5th and 6th years went to Dublin Zoo to carry out their ecology projects and this was a huge success.

The First years went to the BT Young Scientist exhibition at the RDS to be inspired. They drew special inspiration from Mark Caffery who was exhibiting for the 2nd time. He won a prize for coming second in his category area. We hope to have more students exhibiting and winning at next year's exhibition.

The students were particularly enthralled by Titan who opened up the minds of our young people to the potential of Science in their everyday lives. More importantly their minds were stimulated and engaged. This has aroused their curiosity for which there is no cure for. This only has positive benefits.

Lots of students are already planning projects for entry into the competition for next year. The science department are hopeful there will be more entrants next year.

The TY's went to the planetarium in Antrim. This was to help with their solar system projects. It fantastic day, with many students saying 'it was the best trip'. A huge thank you to Ms T Kelly for organising.

There was some very creative DNA modal made by the TY students.

Science Week

Science Week was another huge success. The department held events every day of the week at lunchtime. These ranged from exploding bottles, Alchemy, dissections to a Science Quiz. Prizes were given out to students for taking part.

Third Years

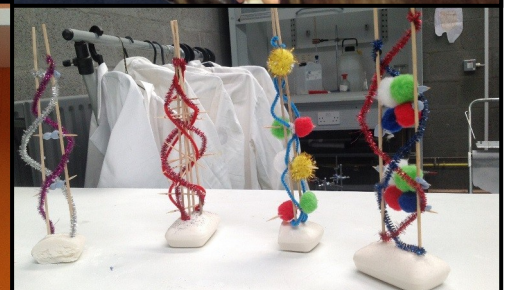
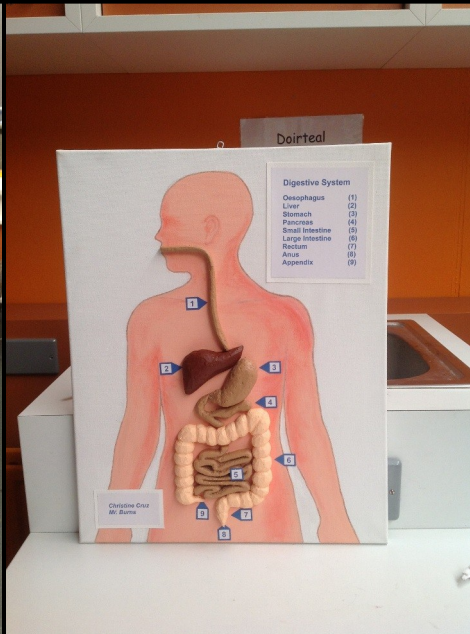
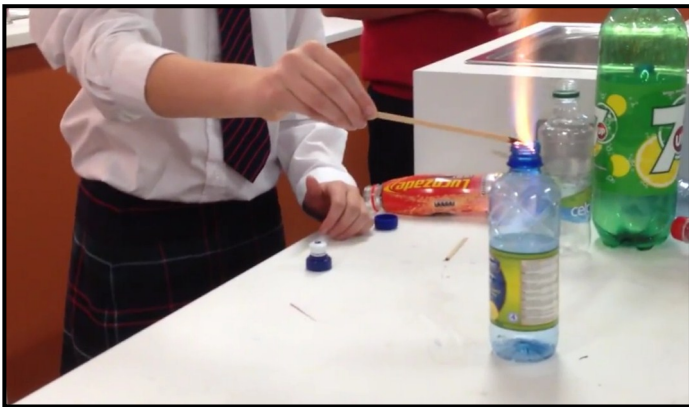
All third yaers have completed their coursework books which is worth 25% of their junior cert mark, another 10% comes from their mandatory experiment copy. Well done to you guys.

Amazing work by our first years

The first years have produced some fantastic work for their assessmment. Some of these are displayed here. The standard was very high.

Finally the Science department would like to wish all our students are sitiing state exams the very best of luck. Rememebr the 5 p's **Proper Planning Prevents Poor Performance.**

Photos (Clockwise from below): Students waiting to see Titan; TYs at the Armagh planetarium; Some examples of student made models, including Christine Cruz's outstanding digestive system; Freya and Jessica showing off their plant cell cake; Mark Caffrey talking to RC pupils about his project at the Young Scientist exhibition; students doing the bleep test to gauge level of fitness during an Operation Inspiration class; A bottle about to explode.



History

What an exciting time it is for our Ratoath College Historians! This school year has seen the first of what will be a great many centenary celebrations over the coming years. This year, we remembered the 1913 strike and lockout and over the summer, we will commemorate the outbreak of the Great War on 28 July. Most recently, the whole school took part in the National Famine Commemoration Day, observing a minutes silence with schools, workplaces and homes around the country.

This year has seen the History team's embracing of technology and the internet reach new heights. Thanks largely to the efforts of Mr Ó hEochaidh, you can now follow us on Twitter (@HistoryRathTo). We have found it to be an exceptional teaching and learning tool, allowing us as teachers to collaborate with colleagues around the country and indeed the world, but also to share notes, ideas and even homework assignments with students! Surely our most successful tweet so far must be Mr McCarthy's 5th year class' diagrammatical interpretation of the challenging External Association concept!

Alongside @HistoryRathTo, the team were delighted to launch our new website this year, www.ratoathcollegehistory.com. We hope it will be a venue for students to find a wide selection of notes and study aides, as well as guidance on successful revision techniques and much more.

There have been many exciting events and activities in History this year, none more engaging than our first 'Ancient Rome Day'. The school seemed more like the halls of the Senate itself as First Year and Classics students donned togas and other Roman dress for the day. TYs demonstrated Gladiator battles in the Coliseum, a Roman dinner party and most excitingly of all—a Chariot race in the Circus Maximus.

TY students also enjoyed superb trips to Belfast, where they learned about the Troubles through guided tours of the Falls Road and Shankill areas of the city as well as the Titanic museum, and to Glasnevin cemetery.

First year students also got the chance to experience Roman life up close and personal on their trip to Italy, visiting the magnificently preserved Amphitheatre in Verona.

We congratulate our Leaving Cert Historians on the recent completion of their Research projects and wish



Above: Our new website. Opposite page: First Years visit Verona's amphitheatre, students entertain our incoming first years on open night; TYs visit the Shankill and Mr McCarthy enjoys a game of History Scrabble on open night.



English

Once again we saw yet another successful year for the English department in RC. We were so very proud of the superb results of both our Junior and Leaving Certificate students in August and September. We would like to take this opportunity to wish our current Junior and Leaving Certificate students the very best of luck in June.

This year our students once were once again afforded the wonderful opportunity to visit the theatre and see performances of the work of William Shakespeare. Our 5th years attended a performance of “Othello” in The Helix. A well-received performance was enjoyed by all and once again the magic of Second Age Theatre company didn’t disappoint.

TY students in March attended a performance of “Macbeth” in Smock Alley Theatre in Dublin’s fair city by the actors of the Gaiety School of Acting. Eoghan O’Shea of rang O’Donoghue thoroughly enjoyed the performance describing it as , “dramatic and exciting”. RC had previously never attended productions in this fabulously restored theatre but it was truly a treat. Ms. Kelly praised the work of the theatre company and described the actors as “truly capturing the heart of Shakespeare’s tragedy, Macbeth”.

English students in first year took part in the book in the bag initiative this year, where all students were given a recommend reading list.

Junior cycle students studied a variety of texts from War Horse to Romeo and Juliet. With senior students enjoying work such as The Great Gatsby and The King’s Speech to name but a few.

We would like to encourage all our students to read over the summer months....

“Sometimes, you read a book and it fills you with this weird evangelical zeal, and you become convinced that the shattered world will never be put back together unless and until all living humans read the book.”

— John Green, *The Fault in Our Stars*

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



Technical Graphics & Design and Communication Graphics

The Technical Drawing Department in the school is going from strength to strength. This year we have the highest number of students ever sitting Junior Cert Technical Graphics. The department is continuing to strive for excellence, with 100% of students in the 2013 State Exams attempting higher level. This exceeds the national average. The Junior and Leaving Cert results of our students last year were excellent and these results are a credit to the students and the teachers in

the department. We have made improvements to the drawing rooms this year, many thanks to our caretaker James, who painted both of the classrooms.

Ratoath Student Wins National Award.

A huge congratulations to Kevin Mc Gonigle who achieved 4th Best Technical Graphics Result in Ireland 2013. Kevin and Mr Nelson were honoured for their efforts at the Techno Teachers Awards Ceremony in GMT Galway on the 8th of March. This is an amazing achievement for Kevin, his teacher Mr Nelson and the Technical Graphics Department considering 12,000 students sat Technical Graphics for the Junior Cert in 2013. He is the first technical graphics student in the school to win an award at this level.



Farewell to 6th Year DCG Class.

The time has come to say an emotional goodbye to our 6th year DCG students. This year the students had to carry out a project on Reusable water bottles. This project is worth 40% of their leaving cert grade. Ordinary level students carried out a project on portable computers. Students have to research the brief, select a reusable water bottle, complete freehand sketching, model this bottle using a 3D computer

programme called Solid works. Students have the option to design a new concept water bottle. This project is a culmination of 4 months work. The creativity among the group this year was excellent. Ciaran Phelan designed a bottle for TAYTO, Neil o Dowd designed a bottle for BMW. Other New designs included a refrigerated bottle by Mark Anderson, Athletics Ireland bottle by Luke Cahill and a Tour de France themed bottle by Paraig Mc Gee. We wish all 3rd and 6th year students the best of luck in their Junior and Leaving Cert exams.



RATOATH COLLEGE 6TH YEAR DCG CLASS OF 2014

DCG Student Assignment Submission, Project on Reusable Water Bottles.

Back row from left to right, Mr Giblin, Luke Cahill, Mark Anderson, Ciaran Phelan, Mark Tobin, Gareth Mc Cann, Jordan Smyth, Robert Grall, Darragh Daly, Sean o Connor, Daniyal Hussain, Neil o Dowd, Shane mc Glynn, Paraig Mc Gee.

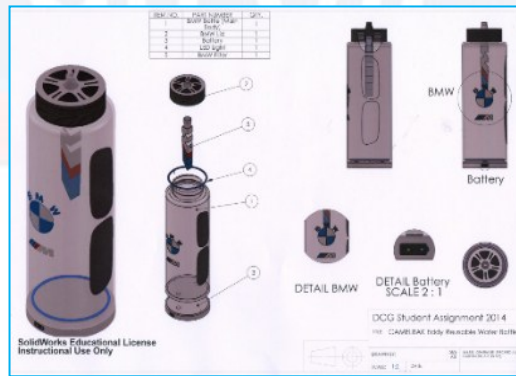
Front row from left to right, Cathal o Carroll, Conor Ward, Dylan Treacher, Nathan Mc Aloon, James Dervan, Robert o Brien, Daniel Chochlinski, Glenn Doyle, Maciek Grezusuzk.





DCG Project 2014 Assignment
Neil O Dowd 6th Year DCG Student 2014

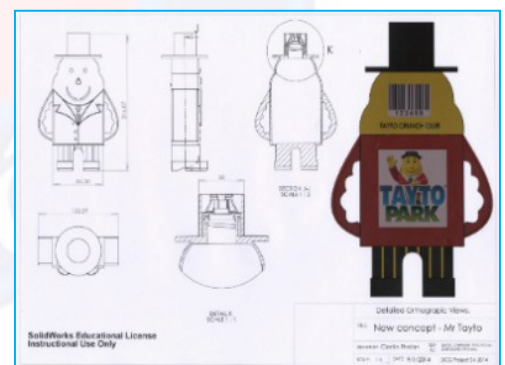
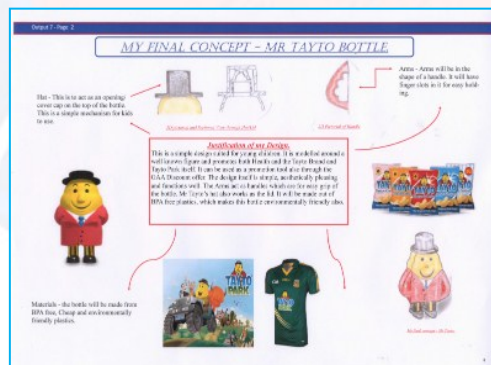
“For my Leaving Cert I designed a concept water bottle for BMW M Sport. I carried out a lot of research and incorporated a lot of BMW's key brand features into the design. I was able to model this design using Solid Works, produce working drawings and photorealistic views. I have found DCG a very rewarding subject, with interesting and challenging topics on the course”



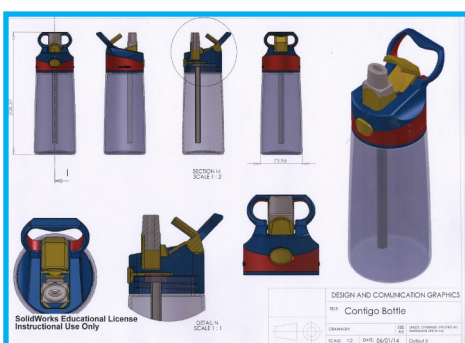
Ciaran Phelan 6th Year DCG Student 2014



“For my Leaving Cert I designed a concept water bottle for TAYTO. Brand Awareness was a key part of my design. I incorporated a simple, effective cap mechanism which is user friendly and cost effective to manufacture. I am delighted with my project and I have learned a lot of new skills as a result. I highly recommend DCG as a subject choice for Leaving Cert”



ADDITIONAL LEAVING CERT 2014 PROJECT PAGES



CLASS PHOTOS

2013-14

First Year: Moltóir's Message

Firstly, well done everyone!

The transition from primary school to secondary school is not an easy one and I am immensely proud of the dedication and commitment you have shown in meeting the challenges of a new and different environment.

It was a great privilege to be appointed as your Moltóir in March. We all owe a great debt of gratitude to Mr Ball for the guidance and help he gave you through the first few months of your time in secondary school. At the same time, I was sad to say goodbye to Rang Dalton as their Caomhnóir, but my sadness was lessened in the knowledge that they are in safe and caring hands with Ms Dalton. We also owe a huge thanks to the rest of our Caomhnóirí - Ms Conlon, Ms English, Ms Hynes, Mr Farrelly, Ms Ryan, Ms N O'Neill and Ms K O'Neill - for the great care and attention they have given in helping you settle in and to achieve and succeed to the best of your ability in school.

As we move forward into second year, we can take with us a lot of fond memories. From our exciting first days of school to fun and exciting trips to Carlingford and Italy over Easter to the tremendous successes of both boys and girls sports teams.

We also move forward with a sense of purpose. Second year brings with it a range of new challenges. We look forward to meeting them head on as we have this year and continuing to make sure that we always give of our best each day.

On behalf of all the First Year Team, we wish you all a happy, fun and safe summer.

John McCarthy

Rang Conlon



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Rang Dalton



Rang English



Rang Hynes



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Rang KO'Neill



Rang NO'Neill



Rang Ryan



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Second Year: Moltóir's Message

WOW..What a whirlwind of a year 2013/2014 has been. The time has gone so fast and as a year group you have matured so much. 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 really successful year. This year brought with it some new members and we are only too delighted to have Mr Ward and Ms Dinsmore as part of our team.

2nd years have excelled in so many areas and really embraced all that Ratoath College has to offer. The amount of students involved in extra-curricular activities is testament to your commitment and talent as well as your fun spirit.

2nd year is without doubt a tough year academically and congratulations to those students who worked hard and achieved great success in their summer exams. To those of you who may be a little disappointed, next year is a new beginning but you must be prepared to put in a lot of effort and do some serious work from the beginning of the year.

We have thoroughly enjoyed this year with you and are very proud of the way you conducted yourselves. Your compassion and kindness towards each other is commendable.

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 we welcome you back as 3rd Year Students.

*D.Kelly, C. Casey, J. Dwyer, L. Dinsmore, J.Ward
D. Mc Carthy, D. Walsh, L. Witter, G. Lyons.*

Rang Casey



Rang Dinsmore



Rang Dwyer



Rang Lyons



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Rang McCarthy



Rang Walsh



Rang Ward



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Rang Witter



Third Year: Moltóir's Message

Where has the time gone? As we approach the end of the year and look back over the last 3 years in Ratoath College, we would like to congratulate each and every one of you on a fantastic journey. It only seems like yesterday when you all sat in the hall waiting eagerly to commence your secondary school journey and here you are today preparing for your Junior Cert exams and getting ready to enter into Senior Cycle. As a year group you have carried yourselves with excellence over the past 3 years and have developed into fine young ladies and gentlemen. This year, like the past 3 years has been very successful for you as a group. We have had many notable achievements and successes academically, in sport and culturally.

We have thoroughly enjoyed the last three years with you and are very proud of the way you conducted yourselves in this school.

We wish you the very best of luck in the upcoming Junior Cert exams and we hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

We would also like to thank your parent(s)/guardians who have helped and encouraged you over the last 3 years.

We look forward to seeing you in late August when you come back as senior students.

A Sweeney, D. M Brennan, G Carey, C Grogan,

A Mooney, F McTiernan, B O Dwyer, C Smith.

Rang Brennan



Rang Carey



Rang Grogan



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ

Rang McTiernan



Rang Mooney



Rang O'Dwyer



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Rang Smith



Transition Year: Moltóir's Message

Congratulations to each and every one of you on what has been an amazing, but quick year. I'm sure to both you and your parents the decision to do Transition Year was made just yesterday and yet it is now over!

The transition from Junior Cycle to Senior Cycle is not an easy one but we, your wonderful Caomhnóirí and I, are so proud of the way you have started to face this challenge.

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 and watch you grow and mature into confident young individuals, maturing and blossoming into prospective 5th years (knowing that Ms Judge kept a watchful eye on her handed over babies!)

You enjoyed such events as "bonding trips", cooking up a feast, "drama", the musical and Talent Show, scientific experiments, Gaisce, Driver Theory, Belfast, work experience and ... too many to mention them all but shown through your memory boxes.

The TY team have thoroughly enjoyed this year with you and are very proud of the way you negotiated your points to go up and down!

We would like to wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and look forward to seeing you return in late August when you both continue in senior cycle and start your journey as Leaving Certificate students bolstered by your TY experience.

My thanks to the fantastic TY team of Caomhnóirí, who care for you on a daily basis and always have your best interest at heart. So to Mr Cahill, Ms O'Donoghue, and Ms Savage I say a big thank you on your behalf and from myself and hope that they also have a well-deserved rest over the summer holidays.

Remember to continue to mind each other, have fun and be well rested when you return next year for your new and exciting adventures under the watchful eye of Ms Sweeney.

Geraldine McNally

Gary Cahill, Fiona O'Donoghue and Aisling Savage

MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Rang Cahill



Rang O'Donoghue



Rang Savage



MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Fifth Year: Moltóir's Message

Hello, and well done to all 5th year students, we have had a very fast and busy year. You started back and received your Junior Certificate results, but immediately had to get into the hard work and study for what is an extremely busy two years of your Leaving Certificate.

You are about to start on a well deserved break having just completed the summer exams, for those of you who are happy with your results well done. To those of you who could have done better it's time again to make some New School Year resolutions; it's not too late to recover and aim high for 6th year. Remember you are going into a very important year, Xbox/PlayStation, boy/girl friends or social activities are not on the exam, so remember to use your time wisely.

To the students who only joined our year group this year, I must say you have done an excellent job of settling in and we are a richer year group as a result of you joining us. This year I had the pleasure of being involved in the selection process for the incoming Cinniri. I want to congratulate all students who applied for the job, unfortunately there were only twenty places but you did yourselves, you parents and school proud.

Finally the Caomhnoiri and I want to say that we thoroughly enjoy working with you on a day to day basis. We are there to support you in any way possible and we wish you a safe summer. Enjoy the rest, do some revision & goal setting and return to us ready for the challenges of 6th year.

Gretta Judge

Rang Connolly



Rang Daly



Rang Flatley



Rang Kelly

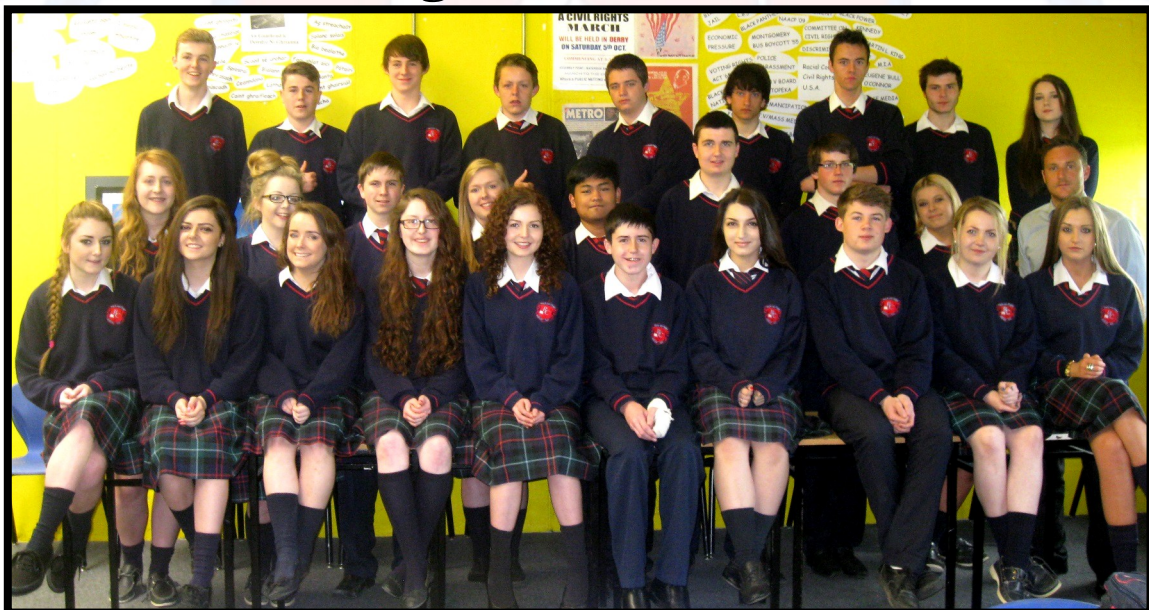


MOL AN ÓIGE AGUS TIOCFAIDH SÍ

Rang Nissar



Rang Ó hEochaidh



Autographs

Autographs

