

The Ratoath College Yearbook 2018



Sixty-Six



Fáilte ó Ms. Prendergast

Some people believe 13 to be an unlucky number but that is definitely not the case with this, our 13th Edition of “66” the Ratoath College Yearbook. In a year when we were bombarded by *Ophelia* and the *Beast from the East* we have still managed to pack in an incredible array of events and activities, and what a wonderful job the Yearbook production team have done in recording them all here. We never cease to be amazed by the wealth and richness of talent in Ratoath College and as ever we are extremely proud of all the achievements of our students both inside and outside school.

As you leaf through this yearbook you will be reminded of many wonderful activities and occasions that our students have been involved in, from our hugely successful production of “Hairspray” the musical to the success of the Athletic team. We have had so many activities and student led initiatives throughout the year. Not a week went by when we weren’t busy taking part in a wide variety of sporting, cultural or academic endeavours. We are immensely proud of all of your efforts.

Commitment and hard work are always evident in Ratoath College particularly in our classrooms and this year with our change to the earlier start and longer class periods has been no exception. These changes have been successfully embraced by all and we are continuing to build the learning power of our students.

We especially want to commend our students of whom we are extremely proud, on all of their endeavours this year. Well done everyone on a super year’s work! We particularly want to acknowledge our 3rd and 6th year students who are making their final preparations for their upcoming exam, we wish them the best of luck and have no doubt that their hard work and commitment will be duly rewarded

We are very fortunate in Ratoath to have so many very committed people working to ensure our students have the best possible opportunities for success. A huge thank you to our Parent Librarians, the Parents’ Association and the Board of Management who give so willingly of their time. To all our teachers for the commitment and care and time that they give to their students but academically and extra-curricular.

In a school as big and as busy as ours our secretarial team and our auxiliary staff play a pivotal role in keeping us on track and we want to acknowledge them and thank them for super job they do.

Lastly, but certainly by no means least, our congratulations and thanks to all of the production team, to Ms. Donnellan, Ms. S O’Neill and our students who once again have done a super job in producing this top class edition of “Sixty-Six”. It is an excellent publication and a wonderful overview of all this is good about Ratoath College.

We wish you all a wonderful, and hopefully, sunny summer.

Oonagh Prendergast Gillian Leavy John McCarthy Donna Kelly

Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

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Editor's Note

The Ratoath College Yearbook was produced by a number of dedicated students under the direction of their teachers.

Much credit and many thanks are due to Ms. S. O'Neill, Clíodhna Griffin, Ella Hussey, Niamh Madden, Lauren Kelly, Aideen Lannigan, Jessica Wong, Amy Beirnes, all of the teachers in Ratoath College and anyone else who lent a hand! Well done all!

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



*The Graduating
Class of
2018*

*“When you see someone putting on their big boots, you can
be sure that an adventure is going to happen.”*

A.A. Milne Winnie the Pooh

Beannachtaí ó Mr. Horan

We have come to the end of the school year...

and the end of your time here in Ratoath College. I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you the very best of luck with the exams in June and with whatever path in life you choose. I remind you to have faith in yourselves and to trust that the hard work and effort you have put in will serve you well over the coming weeks.

I sincerely wish to thank the fabulous team of Caomhnóirí that looked out for you, not just this year but over the past number of years. Their support to you and to the Moltóirí has been extraordinary. You only get to see the public part of their work, but behind the scenes they work tirelessly on your behalf looking after your welfare and helping you to achieve to the best of your ability.

You are all a very talented bunch. Some of these talents have yet to be discovered, but that's what life is, a journey of discovery and learning. Every obstacle you encounter is an opportunity to discover these previously unknown talents and abilities.

On a personal note I feel privileged and honoured to have had the opportunity to get to know you as a group of wonderful young ladies and gentlemen. I hope that in general your time here has been an exciting, enjoyable and a successful one. I'm sure you have had good days and bad days, but I hope that you will treasure the memories and friendships that you have made forever. They say that the end of one journey is the beginning of another so don't think of this as an ending but as a new beginning in which you must seize every opportunity that comes your way.

Let the Journey Begin...

Wishing you all the very best of luck always,

M Horan

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined." - Henry David Thoreau.

Focal ó na hArd-Chinnirí



We've come such a long way from the moment we walked through the doors of Ratoath College six years ago. During our time here we have made true friends, been involved in amazing activities, we've learned so much and we have made memories to last a lifetime. To top it all off, we were lucky enough to be chosen by our fellow peers and teachers as Ard Cinnirí. We can honestly say from the bottom of our hearts that we have made the greatest memories here in Ratoath College and it's such a bittersweet feeling to be leaving such a wonderful, comforting environment.

We'd love to say a big thank you to our teachers who, throughout the years, have taught us so much more than just the curriculum. You have taught us life lessons and we've had lots of craic, fun and laughter along the way. Thanks to our amazing caomhnoirí who are always here for us not only as teachers but as our friends. To our moltóir Mr. Horan who has taken the role of

moltóir in his stride. Thank you for giving us support, drive and the motivation to succeed. A massive thank you to Mr. McCarthy, our ex-moltóir, for bridging the gap between our two separate year groups and helping it become one. You offer wisdom, knowledge and golden nuggets of advice such as NEVER to wear white trousers unless it's your best friend's wedding in Germany! A final thank you to Ms. Leavy, Ms. O'Dwyer, Ms. Kelly and Ms. Prendergast who have been with us from start to finish and embody all things Mol an Óige.

To the students who will still walk the corridors of Ratoath College next year. Enjoy the time you have left, have fun, make friends, create memories and remember that your peers and staff are here to help, support and guide you in the right direction.

Finally, to our fellow 6th years, The Class of 2018. There aren't enough words to describe such an amazing year group. Thank you for being such an incredible bunch. Each and every one of you are wonderful people filled with such potential. You are all bound to succeed and thrive in whatever you decide to pursue. So, let's start this new chapter together, wherever it may take us.

Your Ard-Chinnirí 2018,

Colm and Ciara

Rang Dalton



To my wonderfully talented, intelligent, musical, helpful, polite, caring, sporty and funny Rang Daltons. Can you believe we have made it? As Nelson Mandela said: *'It always seems impossible until it's done'*. Well your time here in Ratoath College is now done and I have no doubt in my mind what so ever, that the road that lies ahead of you, will be a good one. I just hope that you continue to enrich the lives of those people you meet along the way as that is what you have done since the first day I met you all. There will be many bends and turns in the road; some uphill and some valleys but always remember that roads were made for journeys not destinations. A side road to room 44 will always be there for you all. I will really miss the chats, the gossip and the laughs- *Normality is a paved road; It's comfortable to walk but no flowers grow on it.* (Van Gogh).

We began this journey at Ratoath College together - my first day was your first day. When I took over from Mr. McCarthy in the October of first year, I knew it was going to be an uphill battle as filling the hiking boots of Mr. McCarthy would never be easy - Isn't that right dudes? :D Over the three years I got to know you as independent, kind and thoughtful young men and women. Then we lost some members to TY and really inherited some absolute gems.

The senior cycle Rang Dalton's are made up of some of the most precious, sought-after students - Árd Cinnire, Leas Árd-Cinnirí, Cinnirí, leaders in the classroom, on the sportsfield and of course the cultural fields of music and art. I have been so blessed to have gotten to know everybody in Rang Dalton and I really hope that your memories of our time together in RC are as fond as mine. We have certainly lived by my life motto of *'Why fit in when you were born to stand out'* and I cannot wait to see what the future holds for you all. *'Whether you colour the world or light it up BLUE ... You are making a difference, so keep being YOU.'*

So to the Rang Daltons of 2018 - Thank you for making my time here at Ratoath College so memorable and special. Will the future be easy? Nope. Will it be worth it? Absolutely! More than you can ever imagine. You will move mountains as big as Everest and fill hearts as deep as the Atlantic. Today, you close the door to the past, open the door to your future, take a deep breath, step on through and start a new chapter in your life.

Thank you for brightening up even the darkest of days!

To: *Simon, Craig, Conor, Richard, Enda, Padraic, Ronan, Matthew, Craig, Ruairi, Nathan, Gemma, Orla, Colm, Jacob, Rebecca, Renata, Benita, Leah, Ailise, Ciara, Clodagh, Martin, Eden, Ellen, Aoife and Yasmin* - thank you for the wonderful memories.

Deborah Dalton

Rang Flatley



It was Maya Angelou who said: *“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”*

Rang Flatley, I have only had the pleasure of being your Caomhnóir for the past year and I have to say I was slightly nervous about it. But you made me feel at ease.

Each of you have brought your considerable talents to bear on the year and what an eclectic range of talents we have: actors, architects, athletes, electricians, engineers, entrepreneurs, film-makers, singer-songwriters and most exciting and of all, even a future teacher in the making! And that’s to name but a few.

The school year goes by very quickly and it won’t be long till you are all making strides in the world outside Ratoath College and I wish each and every one of you the best of success in your lives and careers. With that in mind, I’ll leave you with the words of Irish playwright Brendan Behan: *“If you have a talent, use it in every which way possible. Don’t hoard it. Don’t dole it out like a miser. Spend it lavishly like a millionaire intent on going broke.”*

Grazie tutti e in bocca al lupo.

Daniel Delaney

I had the absolute pleasure of being your caomhnóir for 5th year and you guys did me the great honour of taking my surname as your Rang name. You made my job as caomhnóir incredibly easy with your good sense of humour, wit and determination. I have no doubt that your families, like me, are incredibly proud of the wonderfully mature, capable young adults that you have become. I am so happy to have had the opportunity to meet and get to know you. I have every confidence that whatever path you take as individuals, you all have the capacity to succeed. I wish you all the very best in your future. I will leave you with the very wise words of Dr. Seuss *“You’re off to great places. Today is your day. Your mountain in waiting, so get on your way!”*

Aileen Flatley

Rang Jordan



“Be grand sir” they said, “Sure that’s ages away”. These are the responses anytime the big LC or the end of 6th year were mentioned to Rang Jordan. That time is no longer a distant prospect, it’s now upon us. Although I constantly told you how quickly the two years would go, I still can’t believe just how fast it actually went. Throughout this time, I have been lucky enough to see you all develop into the deadly people you are today. For many, this development has not been a straight forward one, with many challenges faced. These have been overcome with the help of the rest of the class who have always been there when one of us needed help. It is these challenges though that have shaped your characters and will stand to you in the future, whatever that may hold.

There are so many memories that each one of you has provided me with, however, the one general theme that runs through them all is the sense of warmth, kindness and good craic that springs to mind anytime I think of you all as a group. Whether it be walking along the line of assembly every morning, during Caomhnóir period or just stopping in the corridor for a chat (generally for you to avoid going to class), I know I’ll be greeted with a “Hi Sir” or “Howya Jordo” which will be followed by some random conversation that probably had no importance but has in some way made my day more entertaining and enjoyable. For this I thank you all.

Within our class we have such a diverse range of talents, skills and personalities. From future literary icons to business tycoons and sporting greats, I have no doubt I will be piggy backing on your success and telling anyone that will listen “I taught them everything they know.” Before you embark on the next stage of your epic journey, I would stress to you the following points; work hard, be kind and most importantly, The Kidd, Megan, David, Ailbhe, Rory, Hannah, Olga, Darragh, Chloe, Tyrreller, McLarnon, Laoise, Peter, Andrew, Jason, Carl, Cookie Monster, Ruairí G, Aimee, Rebecca, Alex, Knowlesy, Ciara and Nathan.....Be proud of who you are.

Joseph Jordan

Rang Kilrane



When I was asked to take over as Caomhnóir in September, and Rang Giblin became Rang Kilrane, I was introduced to many of you for the very first time. Over the year, we have gotten to know each other and I realise that I was lucky to have some of the kindest, smartest, funniest, sportiest and most talented students in 6th year in my class.

As you head out into the big bad world, embarking on your new adventures, I wish you all the very best of luck. I have no doubt that you will achieve success in a huge variety of areas and that all of the budding engineers, interior designers, doctors, teachers, beauty technicians, business men and women, fashion designers and pilots among you will carve your own path. You all have the ability to make your dreams a reality so never stop chasing them. I'll miss all the 'Good mornings' in assembly and particularly our cuppa and chat on a Wednesday, it was a lovely start to the day.

So to Seán, Lelia, Alex, Holly, Sean, Nicole, Matthew, Mark, Jade, Aoife, Aoife, Troy, Lauren, Josh, Elizabeth, Glenn, Clíodhna, Craig, Harry, Eve, Darragh, Peter, Sean, Cillian, John and Sophia.....

*Go n-éirí an bóthar leat
Go raibh an ghaoth go brách ag do chúil
Go lonraí an ghrian go te ar d'aghaidh
Go dtíte an bháisteach go mún ar do pháirceanna
Agus go mbuailimid le chéile arís,
Go gcoinní Dia i mbos a lámhe thú.*

Ms Kilrane

Rang K O'Neill



To my amazing caomhnóir group,
You've made it, congratulations!

I remember calling out the names of the students in Rang KONEill back in August 2013 like it was yesterday. It's hard to believe 5 years have passed and that group of once shy, nervous first years are now amazing, confident, young adults.

I am so proud of the wonderful people you have grown up to be. There are so many different personalities in the class, all unique in their own way. You are a wonderful bunch, you are kind and thoughtful and you have made my job very easy over the last couple of years.

Unfortunately, we lost some of the original KONS after 3rd year (They'll always be KONS at heart). They were hugely missed in the group but we gained some fantastic new recruits in 5th years and I've been very lucky to get to know some really amazing people over the last 5 or 6 years.

It's the end of an era and I truly hope you've enjoyed your time in Ratoath College. I hope you look back on your years here with fond memories in the future and I'm sure most of you have made friendships here that will last a life time.

I wish you nothing but the best in everything you do and I'm sure all your hard work will pay off over the next few weeks. I am so honoured to have been your caomhnóir. I have loved every minute of it and you have taught me so much over the years. I am so sad to see you leave, I will miss your friendly faces and all the 'chats' but I am also so excited for you all and the journey you are about to embark upon.

In the words of Dr. Seuss *'You have brains in your head and feet in your shoes, you can steer yourself any direction you chose.'*

Enjoy the adventures ahead of you, have fun, be the best you can be and most of all be happy.

Katie O'Neill

Rang Moreton



Although we've only been together as a Rang for a short time I really was very lucky having been handed a truly outstanding group of students. We had ups and downs along the way but we got through it and thankfully the finish line is in sight!

As your Caomhnóir and teacher it has been my pleasure to have had the opportunity to get to know you all. It has been an honour to watch each of you grow into confident mature young adults who have achieved so much over your time in Ratoath College. This group of high achievers from, musicians to sports stars, actors and comedians have all combined their own individual talents to form a truly amazing group that I am extremely proud of.

The time has come to go our separate ways, with every ending comes a new beginning. So many great opportunities lie ahead of you, and I'm sure you'll return in years to come with amazing stories. I wish you all the best of luck in whatever path you choose to take. I will miss the laughs, the chats, and most of all your company. I will cherish all these memories and I look forward to hearing of your future successes.

Take it handy,

Liam Moreton

Rang O'Reilly



Six months ago Mr. Horan rang me to ask would I take over as caomhnóir from him. I replied straight away with a YES, wondering what the class was like. He told me there was ten students in it and they're a great bunch! So the day arrived when I met my new caomhnóir group for the first time. I walked into the room and it was like a Mexican stand-off,

There was silence.....

There was eye contact.....

All we were missing was the tumbleweed.

I introduced myself and then I got interviewed to see was I suitable for the job.

"Where you from?"

"Where's that?"

"Why do you talk like you're from Cavan then?"

"What car do you drive?"

"What's your subjects?"

"Where did you teach before?"

"Do you have a "mot" ?"

"Do teachers earn good money?"

The personalities of the class were flourishing and I quickly got to grips with them;

Eric talking like he is driving cars all his life, Aaron showing off to Shannon, Shannon pretending to ignore Aaron, Aaron trying harder to impress Shannon, Jack talking about the science of liquid coolant computers like it's common knowledge to everyone, Josh giving out about tax being theft.

Time moved on and our relationship started to build so much so I was known as Vinny, it wasn't long until I got to listen to your dreams and your fears. I couldn't have asked for a better group to welcome me into Ratoath College, kind, caring and very well mannered. Though we have spent just six months together as a caomhnóir crew, it has been an absolute joy to have had the opportunity to get to know each and every one of you. Rang O'Reilly is small in number but every student is as important as the other to make that class.....like a jigsaw, without one piece it couldn't be complete. So that brings us today, your graduation, a celebration of making a successful journey to adulthood. A celebration of moving onto the next chapter of your life, which will bring ups and downs but you are prepared for life so learn from the past, plan for the future, but live for today.

I have a simple rule in life, never say good bye. Goodbye gives the impression you won't see them again, so I hope to cross paths with you again soon and when we do, don't be a stranger. I hope you enjoyed your time in Ratoath College and the experience of the last 6 months as much as I did, being a small part of your school life was a privilege so.....I'll see you all soon. Remember never be a stranger.

Vinnie O'Reilly

Rang S O'Neill



So, unlike some of the other class groups our time together has been a little shorter, but wonderful none the less. At the end of the academic year 2016/17 I was approached by Mr. McCarthy, who asked if I would consider becoming a 6th year caomhnóir for the academic year 2017/18. Of course I was honoured and accepted his request.

Before I knew it August 2017 had rolled around. A new addition to my timetable for the year was Rang English, soon to be re-named Rang S.O'Neill. Delighted and a bit apprehensive to take on this new role as your caomhnóir, I decided to embrace the challenge.

Going through your class list it soon began to dawn on me that there were a lot of members in this group who had yet to cross my path. Nevertheless, as the year unfolded I got to know each of you, and you got to know me. Seeing you every morning in assembly, having the chats in tutorial and getting to know you all has been an amazing experience.

As your time here in Ratoath College comes to an end I want to leave you with some words of advice, some inspirational thought and motivational dialog as you move forward to the next chapter of your story...

First of all, the big question! Who do you want to be in this world? You are responsible for your life, so don't sit on the bench and don't let other people poke holes in your dreams. Always remember who you are, what you are capable of and go out and get it. To me you are all phenomenal young individuals.

Believe in your greatness and the universe will reward you two fold. Each one of you with your different aspirations and goals in life can achieve whatever you put your mind to.

With your abundance of gifts and talents; may it be in sports, music, arts, business, languages, mathematics, etc. use your talents for something good. Understand that all of you have the potential to be hugely successful. Be true to yourself and do what makes you happy, that's half the battle. Positivity attracts positivity so keep an open mind and surround yourself with people who want to see you shine.

Don't allow yourself to become too comfortable. Embrace the things that scare you and challenge you. Your life comes down to your decisions and if you change your decisions you change your life. Don't let fear make the decisions for you. Stay inspired, stay motivated, and allow your dreams to become your reality.

And be sure when you find your direction or path in this world you are sitting in the driver's seat.

S.O.N

Na Cinnirí - Class of 2018



Back row (l-r): Róisín Conlon, Michael Power, Lua Henderson, Daniel Doyle, Katelynn Duffy, John Walsh, Hannah Talbot, Padraic Byrne **Middle row (l-r)** Orla Hayes, Adam Whelan, Laoise Corcoran, Ryan Barker, Hannah McClean, Benita Mbemba, Georgina Coyle, Alba Walsh, Ellen Roche **Front row (l-r):** Rebecca Mahon, Ciara Byrne Ard-Cinnire), Colm Hynes (Ard-Cinnire), Enda Byrne



Ard-Cinnirí

Rebecca Mahon
Ciara Byrne
Colm Hynes
Enda Byrne

Graduate Profiles

Rang Dalton



Simon Barry
"Si"

Likes: Pints and Saturdays
Dislikes: Assembly
Greatest Achievement: Managing to hide in rooms at lunch
Will miss: Being kicked out of classrooms at break times



Craig Boyle

Likes: Freshly cut grass, snow
Dislikes: Disco biscuits
Greatest achievement: North Leinster final-soccer
Will miss: Kev's Irish class



Conor Buchanan
"Bucho"

Likes: School football and big lunch
Dislikes: Assembly and accounting
Will miss: Irish banter with Kev and football on break
Quote: "That's what"-she



Richard Buruiana
"Richie"

Likes: Money
Dislikes: School
Will Miss: Non exam religion
Quote: "I hate maths..... But I love counting money"
Greatest achievement: Getting nominated for student of the month in second year



Enda Byrne
"Seamus Walsh"

Likes: Filmmaking, Christopher Nolan, Gaelige
Dislikes: The ending of Sherlock
Greatest Achievement: Finding the school's swimming pool
Will Miss: Mr. Toner's memes
Quote: "Look, I can dance now Mom"



Padraic Byrne
"Podge"

Likes: Birds
Dislikes: Birds
Greatest achievement: U19 North Leinster GAA champions 2017
Will Miss: School GAA



Ronan Cahill

Likes: Liverpool
Dislikes: Waking up in the morning
Greatest achievement: 2016 Sports Day Soccer Champions
Will miss: Signing in late every morning
Quote: "I wasn't in that day"



Matthew Campell
"Harvard"

Likes: Bikes and Fortnite
Dislikes: Doing exams
Greatest achievement: Racing for my country on multiple occasions around Europe on my bike
Will Miss: Doing practical engineering
Quote: "Work hard, dream big"



Craig Clancy
"Clancy"

Likes: Psycho women xxx
Dislikes: Getting up
Will Miss: Ms. S.O'Neill



Ruairi Crawford

Dislikes: Glenn Whelan & PTS breath
Likes: Gaelic football
Will miss: Irish class with Kev
Quote: "It's on schology" - NP



Nathan Dunne
"Dunneser"

Likes: Donuts, snow, disco, biscuits, eating
Dislikes: Snitches
Greatest achievement: North Leinster winners hurling/football, North Leinster finalist's soccer
Will miss: The boys
Quote: "The more you weigh the harder you are to kidnap, stay safe, eat cake"



Gemma Flinter
"Gem"

Likes: Gilmore girls, Netflix binging instead of doing homework
Dislikes: wondering why I do badly in tests
Greatest achievement: making it this far
Will miss: It being acceptable to innocently ask stupid questions
Quote: "The world is leftist" - Catriona Shanley



Orla Hayes

Likes: Music, Sport, being with friends
Dislikes: Exams
Greatest achievement: Getting cinnire
Will miss: Seeing everyone everyday
Quote: "It's the little things that matter most"



Colm Hynes
"HardChinnire"

Likes: Uncle Ben's Microwaveable Rice
Dislikes: Benita Mbemba
Greatest Achievement: Night Out
Quote: "Too ard for that"



Jacob Leskiewicz
"Kuba"

Likes: Being the centre of attention
Dislikes: When there's no drama
Greatest achievement: Ripping my trousers in assembly
Quote: "I can't even blow" #china



Rebecca Mahon
"Bex"

Likes: Scientology
Dislikes: After school classes
Quote: "Life is short but I'm not"
Greatest achievement: Fitting into my locker
Will miss: The Art room with Ms. O'Neill and Ms. Donnellan



Renata Massoud
"Riri Masso xxx"

Likes: Mr. Connolly
Dislikes: Socialising
Greatest achievement: ? Still to be confirmed
Will Miss: Mr. Connolly's sarcasm
Quote: "Nah guys I'm actually failing this exam"



Benita Mbemba
"Benzo/B"

Likes: Myself
Dislikes: Colm Hynes
Will Miss: Fiona Mc and Siloe
Greatest achievement: Not dropping out of this nasty hole
Quote: "Beauty is pain but for me Beauty is just Beauty"



Leah McDonald

Likes: Ms Inglo
Dislikes: Double economics first thing every Monday
Greatest achievement: Making it to sixth year alive
Will miss: Absolutely nothing
Quote: 'Georgie'



Ailise Jane McDonnell
"AJ"

Likes: Slagging Hazel
Dislikes: Hazel
Will miss: O'Donoghuns
Greatest Achievement: Being the first student to faint a solid 20 times in one year



Ciara Moran
"CDM"

Likes: Holy water
Dislikes: Anything that's not in the bible
Greatest Achievement: Getting cinnire... oh wait nvm
Will miss: Construction with mr Morton, tutorial with Debbie
Quote: "I'd mill a bagel"



Clodagh O'Farrell
"Clod"

Likes: Being petty
Dislikes: "feag's" and first years
Greatest achievement: Not making a move on Mr. McKenna
Will miss: Ms. Lyons remembering my name
Quote: "I was like, I was like, I was like"



Martin Olaseni
"Martini/ Hndrxx"

Likes: Engineering and Merriment
Dislikes: Being told what to do innit
Greatest Achievement: H2 in Maths
Will Miss: Absolutely nothing
Quote: "If young Metro don't trust you, I'm gon shoot you"



Eden Purcell Kavanagh
"Hagrid"

Likes: Tea n' chats
Dislikes: Feeling like my legs got amputated after student of the month
Will Miss: Dodging teachers in the hallways in TY for my nose piercing
Quote: "Gas I'd say"



Ellen Roche
"El"

Likes: The stand with Luke, dad jokes
Dislikes: Stirrers aka Niall
Will miss: Deb and Katie
Greatest Achievement: Mr. Moreton bought me lunch
Quote: "Just here for the laff x"



Aoife Tormey

Likes: Tommy Hilfiger sliders
Dislikes: Bouncers in Navan
Will miss: Debbie D
Quote: "Who's coming out this weekend?"



Yasmin Van Wegan
"Paris"

Likes: Impulse buying
Dislikes: Fresh tan in the rain
Will miss: Religion with Mr. McKenna
Greatest achievement: Missing the most amount of days

Rang Flatley



Ryan Barker
"Barkey"

Likes: Things with engines, Guitars, Queen
Dislikes: Asparagus, Spiders, Vegemite
Greatest Achievement: Barely understanding An Tuisceal Ginideach, Getting to work on the Cinnire Team
Will Miss: Mr. Nissar, Ms. Dinsmore's spiels at award ceremonies
Quote: "Shout out to all of the



James Brady

Likes: Football
Dislikes: Maths home-work
Greatest achievement: Winning Rogha na nDaltaí
Will Miss: PE class



Mark Brady

Likes: Drawing, playing piano, cooking, swimming.
Dislikes: Football, exams.
Will miss: Getting to see my friends everyday at school.
Greatest achievement: Obtaining a black belt in tae kwon do.
Quote: "Work for what you want and always try your hardest."



Shane Cleary

Likes: going home early
Dislikes: Early Mornings
Will Miss: being with friends at lunch
Quote: "Sorry I'm late"



Roisín Conlon
"Protein/ Ro"

Likes: French grammar with Ms O'Hanlon
Dislikes: Selling the yearbook
Will miss: Room 8 after hours, Mr Mooney mopping up my mistakes #China2k17
Greatest achievement: Sinéad O' Connor buying my painting for over 600 quid. Yop!



Laoise Corcoran

Likes: When people know what the homework is
Dislikes: When people don't know what the homework is
Greatest achievement: Reaching 5ft
Will miss: A good long assembly
Quote: *rolls eyes*



Evan Cotter
"Cotter"

Likes: The weekend
Dislikes: Bonucci
Greatest Achievement: Phone being confiscated 5 times in one year
Quote: "The things you will regret most in life are the risks you didn't take"



Erinn Coyne Mannering

Likes: Food,Netflix,Horse riding
Dislikes: Probably you
Will miss: Not much
Greatest achievement: Leaving this school
Quote: "I have never let my schooling interfere with my education"~Mark Twain



Daniel Doyle
"Doyler"

Likes: Reading Sam Fraughan's posts on Ratoath notice
Dislikes: Public transport
Will miss: Construction with Liam
Greatest achievement: Beating Joesph Jordan in an arm wrestle.
Quote: "Sure you always take a cheeky look' ~SF."



Joesph Doyle
"Joey"

Likes : MMA, Rugby, Safety
Dislikes: Hazards
Greatest Achievement: Lifeguard Qualification and keeping the group safe
Will Miss: Being with friends everyday
Quote: "There is a good chance an accident brought



Tara Farnan

Likes: Listening to music and eating chicken with bbq sauce
Dislikes: P.E, actually school in general
Greatest achievement: Rogha na nDaltaí
What I'll miss: Chats at lunchtime with my friends



Hannah Fitzroy

Likes: Missing Irish
Dislikes: Awkward convos with Mr.Delaney
What I'll miss: Maths with Roisin
Quote: "Do I need to powder?"



Brion Forde
"Fordey"

Likes: Italiano, vlogging and sports
Dislikes: Snakes,Scauldly people,double biology and first years
Greatest achievement: Winning peoples respect
Will miss: The bantz in irish
Quote: "No Snakes"



Joshua Masutti
"Albert"

Likes: Lemonade stands, Hot Christmas, vegemite
Dislikes: Rain
Greatest Achievement: Moving from Australia to Ireland
Will miss: Straya
Quote: "Throw another shrimp on the Barbie"



Hannah McClean
"Han"

Dislikes: Slow walkers
Will miss: Chats with the Terrific Trio, Ms.S O'Neill, Ms.Hayes & Rita D xx
Quote: "I'm over it, be grand"



Nyah Mulreany
"NyNy"

Likes : Mr McKenna's smart comments
Dislikes: Beep test in P.E
Will Miss: Seeing Mr Jordan's spelling mistakes
Quote: "This was not like high school musical at all"



Seán Murphy
"Murphy"

Likes: Higher Options
Dislikes: Bonucci
Will Miss: Harry's Ronny
Quote: "I'm here for a good time not a long time"



Hazel O'Driscoll
"Haz the singer"

Likes: Singing
Dislikes: Not singing
Will Miss: Singing in School
Quote: "Do re me fa so la ti do"



Leah O'Hannigan



Jordan Preece
"Bonucci"

Likes: Hats
Dislikes: People talking my hat
Will miss: Nothing much
Greatest achievement: Fending off hat snatchers
Quote: "Don't even think of touching my hat"



Jack Scully
"Pesky Wizard"

Likes: Drinking Paint
Dislike: Digesting Paint
Will Miss: Sharing urinals
Greatest Achievement: 3 fails in my junior cert
Quote: "Woah keep to your side of the urinal"



Shauna Stoney
"Shauny"

Likes: Niamhy G's laugh
Dislikes: Double French
Greatest achievement: Just about passing HL Biology
Will Miss: The chats with the gals



Hannah Talbot
"Tall Snake Talbot"

Likes: The cinnire toastie machine
Dislikes: Ciara's Actimels
Greatest Achievement: Passing HL Maths hopefully
Will Miss: Stephen McKenna
Quote: "Odds? 1 in 5."



Lauren Thornton

Likes: Lauren Kelly's dinosaur noise
Dislikes: Nosebleeds
Will miss: Curry from the canteen



Conor Tierney
"Shedletsky"

Likes: Memes
Dislike: Mr Jordan
Greatest Achievement: My hair jokes about Mr Jordan
Will miss: Tutorial
Quote: "Memes were there for me when no-one else was"



Dylan Wray
"Ted"

Likes: Swalsh
Dislikes: Getting swalshed
Will Miss: First years breaking the rule
Quote: "Gas no moths"- Swalsh



Rang Jordan



Peter Barry



Andrew Brohan

Likes: Breathing
Will Miss: Mr. Jordan's head brightening up the day and the CAC
Quote: "You can do that thing"



Megan Browne
"Katie"

Likes: Freshly squeezed memes
Dislikes: Majority of people
Will miss: Jordo
Greatest Achievement: getting away with my nose piercing for 3 years
Quotes: "God bless dis mess"



Aimee Byrne
"Aims"

Likes: Symphony by Clean Bandit
Dislikes: The bouncers in Navan
What I'll miss: The girls at lunch
Quote: "I'm in Aoife's"



Ailbhe Caprani
"Caprisun"

Likes: Dank flavoured memes
Dislikes: Pooers in the loo-ers
Will miss: Joey Jordan
Quote: "Is that a fat joke?"



David Collins

Likes: Things and stuff
Dislikes: Nicknames
Will Miss: Carl Herdman
Achievement: For getting to cut my hair for 2 years
Quote: "You're so great David" -Carl Herdman, 2001 - 2043



Alessia De Luca
"A1"

Likes: When people say your name right and summer.
Dislikes: When people can't say my name right.
Greatest achievement: Staying in school.
Will miss: Chats with Mr. Ball.
Quote: "Let your smile change the world, don't let the world change your smile"



Rebecca Duffy Kelly

Likes: Sports, animals, tea.
Dislikes: Assembly lines, loud people,
Going to miss: mr balls guidance, mr Jordan's tea and biscuits
Achievement: Made it through 5 years in this school
Quote: "It never gets easier it just gets better."



Ciara Fagan
"Curda"

Likes: The Stand
Dislikes: Adam Whelan
Will Miss: The girls asking are we going out every weekend
Quote: "Sorry I fell asleep"



Jason Farrell
"Jay"

Likes: Troy's on a Saturday
Dislikes: When I don't have homework done for Ms. Doonan
Will Miss: Getting my name called out in assembly
Quote: "It wasn't me"



Rory Fleming

Likes: Music, books, films
Will miss: Don't know, I'll find out once I'm gone
Quote: "March on, join bravely, let us to't pell-mell If not to heaven, then hand in hand to hell."



Ruairi Gannon
"Ganno"

Likes: Money
Dislikes: School
Greatest achievement: Full attendance
What I'll miss: "Having the chats with Mr. Horan"



Alexandra Ghiorghita
"Alex"

Likes: Doggos and Prosecco
Dislikes: People who borrow my stuff and don't return it
Greatest achievement: Speaking 4 languages
Will miss: Banter with Lenny
Quote: "I never dreamed about success, I worked for it" - Estée Lauder



Nathan Haruta
"Americano"

Likes: Technology
Dislikes: Mushrooms
Quote: "Bazinga" -Nathan Haruta



Carl Herdman



Alicia Kidd



Conor Knowles
"Knowlesie"

Likes: History
Dislikes: Kylo Ren & Anto
Will miss: The bench
Greatest Achievement: The Junior Cert (and soon to be the Leaving cert)
Quote: "Merciful isn't a quote, Conor"



Hannah Laird
"Han/Bronto"

Likes: Being tanned
Dislikes: Being pale
Will miss: Pushing Hazel down the stairs
Quote: "You should put something inspirational" – Mam



Darragh McGonigle

Likes: Sleep, Food and Netflix
Dislikes: Physics first thing in the morning
Quotes: "I would like to thank Google, Wikipedia and Copy+Paste for getting me to where I am today."



Niall McLarnon

Likes: Mr Moretons smirk when feck up your wood in construction
Dislikes: 100mins of Geography on a Monday morning
Will Miss: Breaktimes in classrooms and at the ledge
Quote: "You're some gobshite Niall"



Aaron McNally



Olga Merrigan
"Olgie bear"

Likes: All people.
Dislikes: You!
Greatest achievement: Surviving this far.
Will miss: Blowing bubbles in Biology and miss asking Ms Donohoe my profound questions



Laoise Nolan
"Stoner"

Likes: Puns,naps, disgruntled noises
Dislikes: Teachers that tell me to smile
Will miss: My gals
Quote: "Ugh"



Chloe Stockwell
"Clodagh"

Likes: Singing completely off key with Clod in the 2nd year talent Show, anytime Sophie speaks in Religion
Dislikes: Calling girlfriends
Will miss: The moulds
Greatest achievement: Getting pranked into asking Mr. Jordan is he'd seen 'Christmas Fake Taxi'
Quote: 'As long as it rhymes, everything will be fines'



David Tyrell

Likes: Food
Dislikes: Fog Horns
Achievements: Never winning a school award
Quote: "Could have been worse, could have been Ashbourne Community School"



Adam Whelan

Likes: Me
Dislikes: Ciar a
Greatest achievement: finding a hat to fit Aaron's Head
Quote: "Yes Aaron you do have big head"

Rang Kilrane



Seán Brazil
"Ginge"

Likes: Gucci
Dislikes: Fake Gucci
Quote: "ye know"



Lelia Byrne
"Red"

Likes: Food
Dislikes: Getting kicked out of assembly
Will miss: Eating chocolate in tutorial
Quotes: "Lelia you're going red"



Alexandra Callaghan
"Alex"

Likes: Having 'just one' with the gals x
Dislikes: When clerko ignores me
Will miss: Taking the mick out of the Kilrane gals 24/7
Quote: "Oh slayy gall"



Holly Carroll

Likes: Mr. Leonard he is fab
Greatest achievements: Loads
Will miss: Nothing x



Seán Conheady
"Skinny Latté"

Likes- Evan moments, annoying Sam F
Greatest Achievement- Getting a distinction in TY
Will Miss- Evan Moments, telling Mr. Leonard what car to buy next
Quote- "I don't like it when it wet" ED



Nicole Crowley
"NNNIKKI"

Likes: Lelia's red face
Dislikes: Bleep test
Will miss: Tea on a Wednesday with the Gibo Gals
Quote: "oh my god delete that!"



Matthew Cullen
"Matty"

Dislikes: Everything
Will miss: School football
Greatest achievement: Completing the leaving cert twice



Mark Eccles
"Marl"



Jade Halpin
"Halpino"

Like: Slagging Lelia for going red
Dislikes: Getting slagged about my laugh
Will miss: Mrs N O'Neill
Quote: "Are you for real?"



Aoife Healy

Will miss: making soap (in chemistry)



Aoife Howard

Likes: Pointing out Lelia's going red
Greatest achievement: Managing to never do an oral exam in senior cycle
Quote: "No land, no point!"



**Troy Jackson
"Tiggs"**

Likes: The sesh
Dislikes: Maths Class
Will Miss: The early finish on Friday
Quote: "What will I put as my quote?"



Lauren Kelly

Likes: Lauren Thornton's whale noise
Dislikes: Lauren Thornton's whale noise
Will miss: Lauren Thornton's whale noise
Quote: "Waz hayenn"



Joshua Lyttle

Greatest Achievement: Passing OL Italian
Will miss: Sports Day
Quote: "That's fine, thank you class"



Elizabeth Maza

Likes: Hannah Dooley
Dislikes: Mushrooms
Greatest achievement: getting through 6th year
Will miss: Being told to take out my nose ring



**Glenn McNally
"Chico"**

Likes: The aux cable
Dislikes: Having to go outside at break
Greatest achievement: Forging Notes
Will miss: Mr. McKenna's Religion class
Quote: "If Ya can't be good, be safe"



**Clíodhna Moore
"Cli/Clio/Cinks"**

Likes: Percy pigs
Will miss: forging signatures
Quote: "RUDEEE"



**Craig Nolan
"Juicehead/Dragonslayer"**

Likes: Gucci and Skryne
Dislikes: accounting
Greatest achievement: Getting Sophia Wyrer to go debts with me. (sorry Ben)
Will miss: Tadhg McCann's antics



**Harry O'Toole
"Hags"**

Likes: Football with the boys
Dislikes: Bleep test in PE
Will miss: Mr. McKenna's religion class



Eve Reilly

Likes: Baking in Home Ec
Dislikes: Class Tests
Will miss: Sophia Wong



Darragh Ryan

Likes: Peters slags
Dislikes: Not having hair
Will miss: SNOWBALL
Quote: "Ye I swear my birthday is the 6th of March"



Peter Sherry

Likes: Getting a roasting from Ms. Donnellan
Dislikes: Darragh's hair
Will miss: Ms. Kilrane
Quote: "Stop videoing me or you're out"



Seán Smith
"Dewey"

Likes: Assembly
Dislikes: Impractical Jokers
Greatest Achievement: Winning a game of Kahoot
Quote: "Wenger Out"



Cillian Thomas
"El Chapo"

Likes : Tea
Dislikes : Everything else
Will miss : Assembly
Quote : "Rather know it and not need it than need it and not know it"



John Walsh
"Walshy"

Likes: Slagging Sam F everyday, Cinnire Room sambo toaster
Dislikes: Particle Physics, David T's "gay" days
Greatest Achievement: North Leinster U18 Gaelic Champs
Will Miss: Awkward silences in economics
Quote: "Johnny's got you covered"



Sophia Wong

Will miss: Eve Reilly

Rang KONEill



Katie Browne
"Megan"

Likes: Away days with the girls
Dislikes: Rat(s) in biology
Greatest achievement: Level 55 8ball pool
Quote: "sChOoL is iMpOrTaNt but gOsSiP grL is iMpOrTaNtEr"



Leah Butler

Likes: Park Jimin
Dislikes: Wearing a skirt in winter. Having to sit in freezing classrooms,
Fondest memory: Ms. Casey's Business class screaming and standing on tables as a mouse ran across the room.
Greatest achievement: Being able to stay awake in



Raj Desai

Likes: - The New York Giants, Pineapple on Pizza, Holly Gaygan
Dislikes: - Playing Fortnite with Luke Sheridan, Holly Hagan
Greatest Achievement: Actually being able to get into a sports team
Quote: "I'm not Raj from the Big Bang Theory"



Paul Donnelly
"Pauly D"

Likes: Playing Junior B, Memes
Dislikes: People who eat tuna or oranges at lunch
Greatest Achievement: Discovering Wifi
Will Miss: The bus and all it's memes
Quote: "Look at the size of your head"



Hazel Dougan
"Dougie"

Likes: Hannah's laugh, pizza and dark chocolate ricecakes
Dislikes: when people get my name wrong
Will miss: Being pushed down the stairs by Hannah everyday
Greatest Achievement: Always having spray and chewing gum at the ready
Quote: "Sure it'll be grand"



Katelyn Duffy
"Cakelyn"

Likes: CURRY pot noodles
Dislikes: CHICKEN pot noodles
Will miss: Katie o Neill
Biggest achievement: Team captain on sports day 2015 #rangkon
Quote: "Je suis gâteau"



Holly Hagan
"Hulk Hogan"

Likes: Spotify on the daily
Dislikes: Raj calling me Gaygan every day for 2yrs
Achievements: Leadership modules, being more masculine than Conor K
Quote: "Sadly I've never starred on a Geordie shores episode"



Lua Henderson
"Lu"

Will miss: Mornin updates
Likes: Chats with Declan
Greatest achievement:
Continually succeeding in getting El home after a night out



Seán Johnson
"Seány"

Likes: Football
Dislikes: French with Mr. Gibson
Greatest achievements:
Leinster football champions 2017
Will miss: Mooney in the team huddle
Quote: 'If you're on your phone again I'll boot it out the window' Mooney



James Kelly



Tadhg McCann



David McGowan
"Santan"

Likes: Mr Farrell sleeping in the back of his car.
Dislikes: Unnecessary meditation in assembly
Greatest achievements:
Leinster football champions 2017



Katie Newe
"KT"

Likes: Bio with Treacedog & Leahs, chats in assembly, Tim Riggins
Dislikes: Choco mooju ;)
Will miss: Feeding my ego with sports awards
Greatest Achievement:
Getting away with me gafferr. #ifyounewe
Quote: "Sorry I'm late"



Cian O'Keefe

Likes: Music
Dislikes: Conor's Music
Greatest Achievement:
Getting to hear Dan play guitar
Will Miss: Walking to school
Quote: "Don't quote me on that." ~Sam Bergin



Kimberly Pasqual
"Kimbo"

Likes: Memes
Dislikes: Forgetting money everytime theres a bakesale and biased opinions
Greatest achievement: Winning 3rd place in the schools talent show
Quote: "Forget the risk and take the fall, If it's what you want then it's worth it all"



Ashleigh Pillay
"Pillz"

Likes: Ben & Jerrys
Dislikes: Having to share my water with back washers.
Achievement: Getting to school on time.
Will miss: My go to person, Mr McCarthy :)
Quotes: "A winner is a dreamer who never gives up"- Nelson Mandela.



Michael Power
"Mikey"

Likes: A 32 county republic
Dislikes: The Brits
Achievement: Tearing my pants twice in one day in TY
Will miss: My chats with Mr Nissar
Quotes: "Give a man a fish and feed him for a day. Don't teach a man to fish... and feed yourself. He's a grown man. And fishing is not that hard."



Tegan Rodden
"Tee"

Dislikes: Chicken wraps
Greatest achievement:
Being nominated for student of the month once in 2 year
Quote: 'A diamond is a chunk of coal that did well under pressure'



Luke Sheridan

Likes: Carrying on fortnite, Sorry Sean.
Dislikes: getting collected early from a party...
Will miss: the rest of the party....



Craig J. Smith
"Smithy"

Likes: Basketball, business and fitness
Dislikes: Thursday mornings...
Achievement: 11.5 in the bleep test
Will miss: The 30 minutes wait for PE
Quote: "Live life to the fullest"



Sophie Smyth
"Moulds"

Likes: Mr. McKenna
Dislikes: Mr. McKenna and everything Mr. McKenna



Daniel Todd
"Dan"

Likes: Guitar
Will miss: Ms Flynn's music class
Quote: "Everyone is born a woman, No one is born a woman, That is like saying whales are mammals" – Sam Bergin Daniel Todd, Carl Herdman 2016



Vinayak Unnithan
"Vinhack, Vinny"

Likes: Chicken Curry and Chess
Dislikes: Anyone who argues with me a better person
Quote: "Hey guys, it's me Vinhack Gaming" "Today"



Zoe Walsh
"Zo"

Likes : Symphony by clean bandit
Dislikes : People giving out when symphony is being played
Quote : 'Wouldn't be caught dead in that white suit'



Paul Woods
"Paulie/Woodsie"

Likes: Being nosey
Dislikes: English in the demo room
Will miss: Debating whether darts is a sport or not
Greatest Achievement: Convincing everyone darts is a sport
Quote: "Sure you could do the same on a nokia 2210"

Rang Moreton



Nathan Bedford
"Nathoboy"



Samuel Bergin
"Berginstein"

Likes: The stuff that I like
Dislikes: The things I don't



Lucy Clarke

Likes: When Ms. Lyons gets my name right
Dislikes; when Ms Lyons calls me Clodagh
Miss Most: Ms Lyons confusing me with Clodagh
Quote: "Sin é that's it"-JL



Leila Clarke-Carr

Likes: Music and art
Greatest Achievement: Completing my grade 8 in music



Georgina Coyle
"GC"

Likes: Pearls, prosecco, gucci and Ms. Lyons
Quote: "Never sit beside a man with sunglasses and a moustache" - Grainne Lyons
Will miss: Bio with Rachel Treacy and Cinnire Room lunchtimes.



Aaron Crampton
"Cramps"

Likes: Playing football
Dislikes: Getting injured constantly while playing football
Quote: "Tiofaidh ár Lá"



Christine Cruz

Will miss: Friends
Quote: "Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory" - Dr. Seuss



Aoife Fitzpatrick

Likes: Italian exchange, sesh in Italy
Dislikes: getting caught
Will Miss: Kev's voice
Quote: "Check yourself before you Shrek yourself"



Ailbhe Flynn
"Dragon"

Likes: Shark week and martial arts weapons signed by Randy Jackson.
Dislikes: Derek
Greatest achievement: Co-founder of Prestige Worldwide
Quote: 'Investors?...Possibly you!'



Niamh Gannon
"Niamhy G"

Likes: Milky tea, techno, pineapple on pizza and cocoa brown
Dislikes: Being pale, feet and dicsco music
Greatest Achievement: Not staring at Mr. Leonard's arms for over 5 min in business
Will miss: Mr. Nissar
Quote: "Are you for real?"

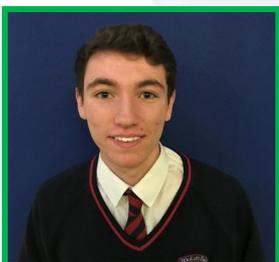


Peter Keenan



Ben Mahon

Likes: Nacho Monreal
Dislikes: McCleaners
Will miss: Mo



Matthew Mahon

Likes: Women I swear
Dislikes: Dry group chats
Greatest Achievement: Sitting the leaving cert
Will Miss: TY and Eric



Sam McLean

Dislikes: Assembly



Emma Nolan

Likes: I don't mind
Dislikes: I don't Mind
Miss: Ms Treacy, roasting Georgina
Quote: "And then you die" -RT



Alannah O'Riordan

Likes: Tea
Dislikes: Early mornings
Quote: "I used to think you were a b**** before I met you" - Everyone



Zoé O'Callaghan
 "Ellen / ZoeBlowy"

Likes: Doing wheelies
Quote: "I'm leaving early"



Jack O'Haire

Likes: Hardbass and tabs n' techno
Dislikes: Assembly, Orchard Thieves
Will Miss; Kev, Eric and his hand files



Jack Ryan

Likes: Scott Pilgrim
Dislikes: Most things



Catriona Shanley

Likes: Mr Connolly's sass
Miss: Friends
Achievement: Not missing a day of pe
Quote: "The world is leftist"



Daniel Shields
 "Friedrich Nietzsche"

Dislikes: Assembly
Miss: Reminding Mr Mc Kenna to use his haircut voucher
Greatest Achievement: Diamond award in TY, TY as a whole.



Laura Sommerfield Walsh
 "Laurie"

Likes: Sunshine, Malibu and all things tropical
Dislikes: When religion gets cancelled
Greatest achievement: Learning how to use a lock six years later...
Will miss: Antics with Laura #laurax2
Quote: "ssstop"



Conor Staunton

Likes: Swalsh
Dislikes: Assembly, biology,
Miss: PE
Quote: "Gas no maths"



Samia Sultan
 "Sam"

Likes: Spicebags
Dislike: People who don't like spicebags
Quote: "01 8352880" Superchef xxx



Paul Tierney
 "PaulyT"

Likes: Sports and Xbox
Dislikes: Applied maths and cleaning



Luke Treacher
 "treachertreacher_"

Likes: Morto, Vody, Moltóir Martin and The Stand
Dislike: Anything to do with French
Will Miss: Running the Debs Committee "NOT"
Quote: "Ah come on we only go for one or two"



Alba Walsh

Likes: Harry Potter, The Hunger Games, Alex rider
Will miss: Lunch time with my best friends, the chats with my favourite teachers and sports day
Quote: "It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities"- Albus Dumbledore



Rang O'Reilly



Jonalyn Cruz
"Jono, Jojo"

Likes: FRIED CHICKEN, BUBBLE TEA AND DONUTS!
Dislike: Aaron Mulvaney (when he annoys me)
Will Miss: The canteen
Greatest Achievement: Diamond of the Year
Quote: "If life gives you lemons squeeze them in people's eyes."



Sarah Greene



Dylan Kavanagh

Likes: Guitar, gaming, music.
Dislikes: Going to school.
Will Miss: Not worrying about working.
Greatest achievement: Getting all my results that I wanted to get in to college.
Quote: "When you reach the end of your rope tie a knot and hang on."



Joshua Lynch

Likes: Video games, Democracy, Computer, History.
Dislikes: Communism, tax, homework.
Will Miss: half days on Wednesday and Friday
Greatest achievement: Being on the student council for 3 years and getting A in my junior cert maths.
Quote: "Taxation is theft."



Arnoh Mbemba
"Membs, Teddy, Arnie"

Likes: Music, Art and Dance
Dislikes: School, Sitting down, Not doing stuff
Miss from school: nothing
Greatest achievement: 3rd musical in the school, Student of the term
Quote: "I'm never wrong. I thought I was wrong one time...but I was wrong"



Aaron Mulvaney
"Spud"

Likes: LCA, goats
Dislikes: Dylan's kneecaps
What you'll miss from school: Craic in class
Greatest Achievement: Student of the month
Quote: "Don't be such a baby!"



Stephanie Quirke

Likes: Seeing my friends in school, half days
Dislikes: When students are mean to me.
Will miss: Seeing my friends
Greatest achievements: Getting Student Of The Month every year
Quote: "Where's the green sheet?"



Shannon Reilly
"Shazza"

Likes: Pizza
Dislikes: Coffee
Will Miss: Ms Hennessy
Greatest achievement: Student of the year
Quote: "In the end we only regret the chances we didn't take."



Eric St. Ledger



Jack Walsh
"Spencer"

Likes: Gaming, Game Developing, Gym, Boxing and Guitar.
Dislikes: Getting up early in the morning.
What will I miss from the school: The security of school and socializing.
Greatest achievement: Working hard and getting the results I desire
Quote: "For Every Level There's Another Devil"

Rang S O'Neill



Nicholas Bobbett
"Nico"

Dislikes: Not being allowed talk in class

Will miss: The great craic in maths with Ms K O'Neill.

Quote: "Shtop dee liights"



Bendegúz Bosze



Tara Brazil
"Taz, T"

Likes : Lettuce , the great British bake off

Dislikes : Slow walkers , Louis Walsh

Will miss : lunchtime chats

Quote : "feet up wine o clock "



Ciara Byrne
"Poison Daddy"

Likes: Attention, as my girlos already know

Greatest achievement: Getting shoulder pads bigger than my ego

Will miss: Mr McKenna and his daily Bray storytimes

Quote: 'Byrne baby Byrne'



Toby Clarke-Carr
"Tobocop"

Likes: Guitar

Dislikes: 100 minute classes and mornings (who doesn't)

Greatest Achievement: Getting 3rd in the talent show

What I will miss: lunchtime banter

Quote: "Just imagine I put something profound here ok."



Mark Comerford

Likes: Disco Biscuits, A good book

Dislike: Harry Kane claims he wrote this

Will miss: Craig's sweaty hands

Quote: "Boys any pre workout?"



Jade Conroy

Likes: Art, football, food, sleeping

Dislikes: Homework, school, junior students that walk slow

Greatest achievement: being able to get ready in 10 minutes

What will you miss: getting up early, sleeping during class

Quote: 'If its due tomorrow I'll do it tomorrow'



Evan Donnelly
"Donno"

Likes: Cutting Grass

Will miss: Mr. Moreton's Health & Safety

Greatest Achievement: Pretending I know what's going on in class for 6th years

Quote: "Sometime I pretend to be normal but it gets boring so I go back to being me"



Hannah Dooley

Likes: Elizabeth Maza

Dislikes: Beans, people who don't like cheese and the thought that Mr winters left us.

Will miss: Stephen Mc Kenna tripping over something in every class and Sarah O'Neill



Leah Farrell

Likes: Starting fights with my boyfriend for no reason

Dislikes: Juniors trying to take our table

Will miss: Getting roasted with Katie in bio

Greatest achievement: Planning the biggest secret gaffer of the year #projectK



Florin Fitt
"Flo, Florida"

Likes: Having a fresh cut
Dislikes: Barcelona
Greatest Achievement: Academic Award (Passing Maths)
Will miss: Having a laugh with the boys
Quote: "If you fail to prepare, then prepare to cheat"



Sam Fraughen
"Who?"

Likes: Chairlegs, Man united and Buff Egan's Snapchat stories
Dislikes: TY moltoirs, Kings
Will miss: Making accumulators whenever there's a free class
Greatest achievement: Somehow losing in Kings every single time
Quote: "If I had a chance to burn down the school would I take it, ohhh I would yaaa"



Eabha Gannon
"É"

Likes: Chicken nuggets
Will miss: having the lols and kahoot
Greatest achievement: remembering my books for bio
Quote: 'is it Eva or Ava?'



Serghei Istrati



Breanne Madden
"Bre"

Likes: Attention
Dislikes: Being the untalented sister
Greatest Achievement: H2 in Maths
Will Miss: lunch with the gals
Quote: "Think I'm going home early"



Conor McCarry

Likes: Long walks on the beach and late night phone calls
Dislikes - Cars, buses and the boys in the institute.
Will miss - Chats with Mohammed Nissar
Quote - "Can you go be stupid somewhere else?" "Not until 4" - Patrick Star



Rebecca McFaul
"Rocky"

Likes - Chats in maths with Ms. Conaty
Dislikes: Accounting
Will Miss: Chats with my bestfriend Meabh and rants with Ms S O Neill
Greatest Achievement: Going to double accounting once a month
Quote: "Are you for real?"



Matthew McGlynn
"Mallew"

Likes: Mo Salah
Dislikes: Mancs
Greatest Achievement: being in HL Maths
Quote: "Allez Allez Allez"



Sorcha Quinn



Holly Rafter
"Jam'ie"

Likes: The majority of the male teaching staff, khal drogo
Dislikes: Sorcha
Quote: "I don't actually have a quote I just tend to stutter a lot when i speak"



Sophie Anne Randles
"Sandals"

Likes: Having the laugh with friends at lunch
Dislikes: The bleep test
What I'll miss: Mr Mc Kenna's jokes in religion



Kevin Ryan
"Kev"

Will miss: Needing to use Irish again
Quote: "No" -rosa parks



Laura Shannon
"Ladra"

Likes: Sun -> straight hair
Dislikes: Rain -> frizzy hair
Greatest Achievement: My streaks-lots on Snapchat but none on my tan!
Will miss: Antics of Laura & Laura #laurax2
Quote: "Oh my goodness"



Róisín Tierney
"Ró"

Likes: Nothing
Dislikes: Accounting
Greatest achievement: Making it to assembly once a week



Seán Walsh
"swalsh"

Likes: Medium pep
Dislikes: Every class that I don't play kahoot in



This time six years ago we were preparing ourselves for the heart wrenching detachment from our childhood safe place, the place full of people who shaped our impressionable minds. Months passed and a new journey commenced, one that landed us on the doorstep of Ratoath College, a place of no emotional attachment or security, a place full of teenagers and their lockers.

We anticipated the new lifetime of experiences that would follow.

This time five years ago, We watched a generation of navy jumpers being applauded as they walked out of assembly for the last time. They were at the end of the journey we had just begun.

In May of 2018, We are preparing ourselves for the heart wrenching detachment from the place that gave us unforgettable memories, long lasting friendships, life lessons that will prepare us far more for life than JC Science and most importantly the home truths that everybody needed to hear.

We are The Class of 2018 and our theme is 'Adventure' which is defined as "excitement associated with taking risks." Everybody has the ability to go from A to B but it's the choices you make in relation to the journey that shape you as a person. The destination can be reached through many different routes, Schooling gives us a clear understanding of the routes we should take. Numerically we go from first to sixth year, but what comes next?

On the 28th of May, the safety nets and guidelines will be no longer there and we will be left with none other than a new journey, a new adventure. We can and we will get to where we want to be but the difference now is that it is up to us to get ourselves there for ourselves.

"Your life is your story, and the adventure ahead of you is the journey to fulfill your own purpose and potential." —Kerry Washington

CLASS OF 2018 - PHOTO MEMORIES



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tíochar si





Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tíocheadh sí



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

MOST LIKELY TO...

Win a bake-off :

Lua Henderson (for her lemon
and poppy seed cake)

Matthew Cullen

Holly Rafter

Nathan Dunne

Get married first:

Zoe Walsh (then divorced a week
later)

Leah Farrell and Craig Clancy

Peter Sherry

Laoise Nolan and Georgina
Coyle

Die first in a zombie apocalypse :

Nicholas Bobbet

Hannah McClean

Benita Mbemba

Craig Nolan

Kuba

Win the lotto but lose the ticket :

Aimee Byrne

Ciara Fagan

Sam Fraughean

Kevin Ryan

Eabha Gannon

Become a film star :

Josh Masutti (because he already
is one)

Clodhna Moore

Ms. Disnmore

Jack Scully

Arnoh Mbemba

Return here to work as a teacher:

Idk because they keep leaving for
other jobs

Alba Walsh

Mr. Toner

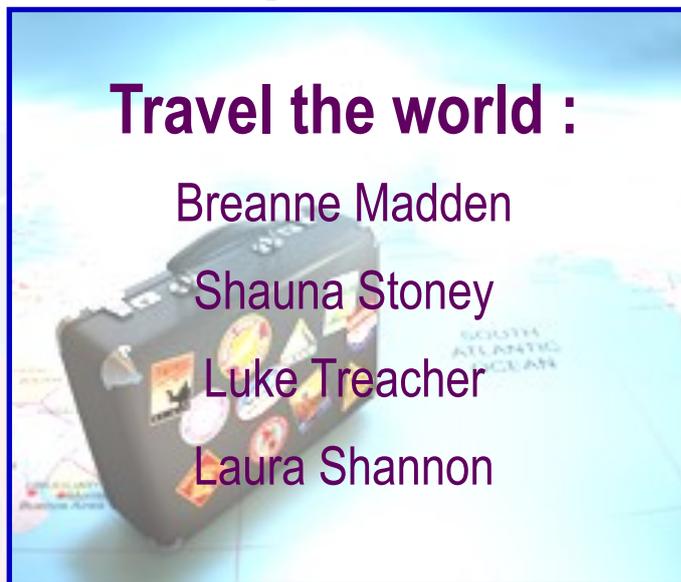
Katelyn Duffy

MOST LIKELY TO...



Be a mad scientist :

Darragh McGonigle
Vinyak Unnithan
Rory Fleming
Mr Nissar
Conor Knowles



Travel the world :

Breanne Madden
Shauna Stoney
Luke Treacher
Laura Shannon



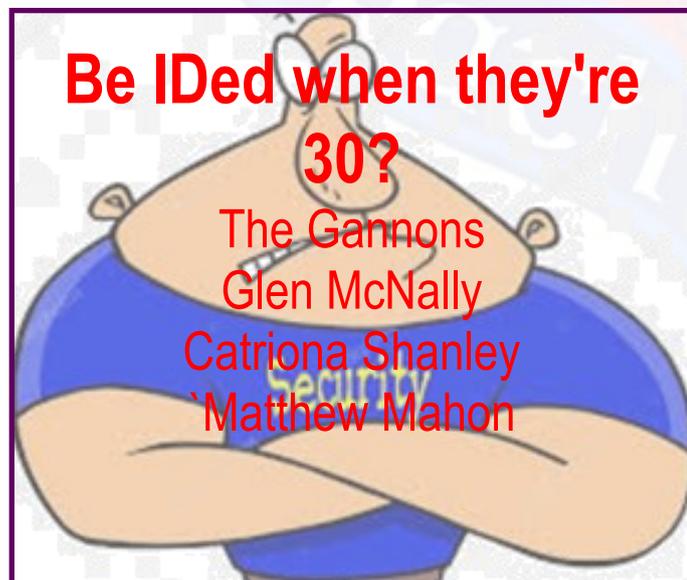
Join a religious order:

Mark Brady
Benita Mbemba
Mr McKenna
Jason Farrell



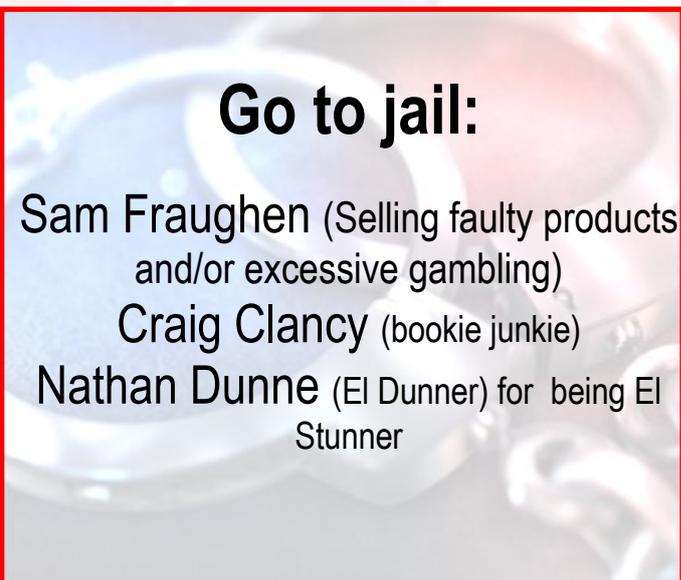
Get a "Yes" from Simon Cowell:

Ailbhe Caprani and Hazel O'Driscoll
Clodagh O'Farrell
Ashleigh Pillay (singing lo rida's 'low')
Tara Brazil
Ciara Byrne



Be IDed when they're 30?

The Gannons
Glen McNally
Catriona Shanley
Matthew Mahon



Go to jail:

Sam Fraughen (Selling faulty products and/or excessive gambling)
Craig Clancy (bookie junkie)
Nathan Dunne (El Dunner) for being El Stunner

MOST LIKELY TO..

Do a bungee jump :
 Laoise Nolan
 Troy Jackson
 Craig Nolan
 Leah McDonald



Go to space :
 Carl Herdman
 Mr Jordan (to prove the moon landing was real)
 Hannah Talbot
 David Collins



Become Taoiseach :
 Becky Mahon
 Ruairi Gannon
 Enda Byrne
 Adam Whelan
 Colm Hynes



Become a millionaire:
 Holly Carroll
 Sean Walsh
 Cian O'Keefe
 Jack O'Haire



Start a fashion trend?
 Brion Forde
 Padraic Byrne
 Ms Monerawela
 Eden Purcell



Most likely to adopt cats: Elizabeth Maza
 Most likely to have social media fame: Holly Rafter
 Most likely to be a heart breaker: Zoe Walsh
 Most likely to change the world: Vinayak Unnithan

Memories

The Highs & Lows from the class of 2018:

- ◆ Italy Tour in first year
- ◆ Italian exchange
- ◆ TY
- ◆ Craig Nolan's hair
- ◆ Tea every Thursday in Home Ec
- ◆ China Tour
- ◆ School Musicals
- ◆ Peter Barry's disappearing eyebrow in Lilliput
- ◆ Mr Mooney saving the day when the bathroom flooded in China
- ◆ Snow fight
- ◆ The helicopter landing on Sports Day
- ◆ The horrible rain on Sports day in first year
- ◆ Having to hold on to your friend's bag to get through the crowds on first year.
- ◆ Rang KONEill's (obvious) wins on sports day
- ◆ Holly Hagan's daily snorty laugh
- ◆ Jason Farrell's hair
- ◆ Conor Knowles flipping a table
- ◆ Mr. Toner's spicy memes
- ◆ Mr Walsh taking a penalty and falling in the mud
- ◆ "Jailhouse Rock" on the opening night of "All Shook Up"
- ◆ Evan Donnelly funny "Evan" moments from TY and Fifth year
- ◆ Hannah McLean Asking is Ms O'Neill if Asia was a country or how to spell trousers
- ◆ Peter Sherry ripping his trousers during the Engineering mock exam
- ◆ Ms Neilson's lilting accent as she said "Give me your dialann or I'll be furious"
- ◆ Matthew Cullen and Alex Neville's fights
- ◆ Last day of school every summer
- ◆ Mr Liam Moreton coming down the line in his green jacket saying 'How's it going lads?' in his Leitrim accent every morning
- ◆ Geography trip in the river not having a clue what to do
- ◆ Mr McKenna and Chloe Stockwell's stand off over the coursework
- ◆ French Exchange
- ◆ Ms. Dinsmore
- ◆ Band of Brothers' Football matches.
- ◆ Maths Class with Ms. K O Neill
- ◆ Sports Day
- ◆ The laughs in every religion class with Mr. McKenna
- ◆ Junior Cycle rang friendships
- ◆ Storm Ophelia school cancelled, great day
- ◆ Enda's Alexander The Great videos in Classics with Mr. Toner
- ◆ Mr. Toner wearing a Pikachu onesie on the last day of the year
- ◆ Roman Day in first year when we all wore togas
- ◆ The day of the Junior Cert results

Talent Extravaganza

By Callum Browne:

The Talent Show in Ratoath College came back with a bang this year, with acts and performances that blow last years contestants out of the water.

The big gym transformed into a glittering theatre where our brave contestants showcased their skills and talents when they stepped onto the stage in front of a large crowd of family, friends and teachers. Bhí bua an cheoil ann gan dabht!

We were delighted to welcome Neil Mather back, who performed a rousing violin solo for us before joining the judging panel that consisted of our esteemed principal, Ms. Prendergast and Matteo Cullen, accompanist to Ireland's finest, Shane Filan. (now he's no Daniel O'Donnell) The judging panel was rounded off with the addition of talent scout and talent show enthusiast, Ms. Donnellan.

We were dazzled by the various acts such as Ella Duff singing her rendition of Dolly Parton's top hit "Jolene". (Fun Fact: Dolly Parton is Ms. Donnellan's idol and owns her own theme park, Dollywood) Sisters Alba and Lara Walsh gave us a dramatic performance of "17 Again". Not to forget about the powerhouse that is Kimberley Pasqual who blew the roof off accompanied by Ciarán Ó Suilleabháin.



During the audition process groups were formed just like the One Direction of long ago who entertained us thoroughly on the night, Orla Hayes, Orla Byrne, Evan Murphy and Dante Macari as well as the girl group, 'The Infinities'.

The audience were cheered when Lon Aiden Fabian and Paul Roche took to the stage singing and playing a ukulele mashup. They brought a smile to every audience member's face. Breakout act Meg Johnson singing Snowman had the audience spellbound.

Fifth Year students, and no strangers to the stage, Thomas and Freya stood by each other with their polished melodic performance.

Bringing a little class to the affair was the Clarke-Carr family playing 'Classical Gas' on the piano, violin and guitar. They were breathtaking.

The talent in Ratoath College was incredible, sixth year students Ailbhe Caprani and Hazel O'Driscoll hypnotised us with their self-penned emotive song.

While the judges deliberated Colm Halpin and



Aaron Kelly raised the roof and brought the Christmas mood to us all with their matching Christmas jumpers as they performed their synchronised dance routine and lip sync to 'The Fairytale of New York'. Their humour, cheer and joy was contagious and everyone's spirits were lifted.



But it was Joshua Mulcahy with his clear cool vocals who walked away with the big prize with his rendition of Perfect by Ed Sheeran. The star of the show! Thanks to the Trojan work of our incredible Music Department amongst many others, the show went off without a hitch! It was undoubtedly a roaring success and the audience lucky enough to be in attendance was once again reminded that there is truly no school in Ireland with students as talented as those who walk the hallways of Ratoath College!!! A great night was had by all, onstage and off, and once again lived up to previous years' high expectations, and certainly sets the bar for next year. Congratulations to all performers!





Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tíoefaidh sí

Go the Distance

Daragh Casey & Rafael McCaffrey reporting on the Athletics Team:

We had an amazing and talented group of athletes this year that trained consistently every week in preparation for the cross country and track and field competitions over this year.

The cross country team showed great skill and determination in training and all of their races as they battled for both individual and school success, through all sorts of terrain and weather.



The first race of the year took place in Oldcastle and was only the

beginning of amazing results from all athletes who competed this year. This helped the athletes prepare for the North Leinster and Leinster Championship races in which you need to qualify for the All Irelands. All athletes worked hard and the results reflect their efforts. In the Meath championship Amelia Campbell(3rd) and Laura Smith(10th) ran extremely well for the minor girls. Amy Doherty came second in the junior girls race with Lauren Hu running a good race behind her. Karen



Hayes, Erin Donnelly and Rachel Doherty ran well for the inter girls, coming 3rd overall in the team event. Kyle Witter qualified for the North Leinsters for the minor boys, along with Matthew Hayes



(6th) for the junior boys and Aaron Kelly for the inter boys. We had two winners at the North Leinsters. Kyle Witter came first for the minor boys and Amy Doherty came first for the junior girls, both qualifying for the Leinsters along with Eoin Kane, Amelia Campbell, Laura Smith, Stephen Kiernan and Karen Hayes.

The standard of competition was very tough in the Leinster championships but three of the athletes qualified for the All Irelands. The standards were even higher for this competition and the athletes performed extremely well, coming home with 29th and 33rd place.



The Track and Field season took up the second half of year and gave athletes with different strengths to compete for the school. The T&F season started in Navan which, unlike the Cross Country, athletes don't need to qualify for the North Leinsters. Despite this all athletes worked extremely hard, coming home with thirteen individual medals and two relay medals. Rafa McCaffrey not only achieved a new personal best in the inter boys long jump but also managed to beat the school record while also coming first in his 100 meter sprint. Karen Hayes came first in the inter girls 800 meters and third in the high jump. Amy Doherty led the pack in both the 800 and 1500 meter races coming first in both.

Next up was the North Leinsters which took place over two days in Santry. Unfortunately our numbers were down on day 1 because the races clashed with the exams. Those who did compete did exceptionally well. The weather took some



bad turns during the day but that didn't bother the athletes, winning 8 individual medals (6 gold and 2 bronze) and 1 team relay silver. Rafa McCaffrey won the inter boys triple jump, Amy Doherty won the junior girls 1500m, and Matthew Hayes led the pack in the Under 16 boys mile



finishing first with a time of 4:40mins. We had two new comers, Ben Colgan and Bogdan Barturov. Ben came third in the senior boys shot putt and Bogdan came third in the inter boys javelin.

Day 2 took place on a school break but that didn't stop a group of 8 dedicated athletes from competing. The competition was tough but the athletes brought home 6 medals (2 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze). With the Leinster Championships and All Irelands around the corner, we wish those who are competing the best of luck.

Roll of Honour

North Leinsters Cross Country

Minor boys :

1st Kyle Witter

5th Eoin Kane

Minor girls:

3rd Amelia Campbell

6th Laura Smith

Junior girls:

1st Amy Doherty

16th Ava Fraughan

Junior boys:

10th Stephen Kiernan

26th Tom Kilgannon

32nd Thomas Corbett

Inter girls:

12th Karen Hayes

34th Lauren Hu

35th Erin Donnelly

Inter boys:

26th Matthew Hayes

41st Harry Sheehan Coakley

North Leinsters Cross Country

Minor boys :

1st Kyle Witter

5th Eoin Kane

Minor girls:

3rd Amelia Campbell

6th Laura Smith

Junior girls:

1st Amy Doherty

16th Ava Fraughan

Junior boys:

10th Stephen Kiernan

26th Tom Kilgannon

32nd Thomas Corbett

Inter girls:

12th Karen Hayes

34th Lauren Hu

35th Erin Donnelly

Inter boys:

26th Matthew Hayes

41st Harry Sheehan Coakley

North leinsters Day 1:

1st minor girls 500m - Laura Smith

1st minor girls 1100m - Amelia Campbell

1st junior girls 1500m – Amy Doherty

1st junior boys javelin - Ilija Bolaks

1st U16 mile – Matthew Hayes (4.40 mins)

1st inter boys triple jump – Rafael McCaffrey

3rd inter boys javelin – Bogdan Baturov

3rd senior shot putt – Ben Colgan

2nd U16 Boys 4x300m relay – Jed walshe, Matthew Hayes, Bogdan Baturov, Cian Agar Finlay

Meath Track & Field Championships

Inter boys:

1st Rafael McCaffrey – long jump (new school record 6.51m)

1st Rafael McCaffrey – 100m

2nd Matthew Hayes – 800m

2nd Matthew Hayes – 1500m

3rd relay team (Rafael McCaffrey, Kevin Dat Conway, Cian Agar Finlay, Matthew Hayes)

Inter girls:

1st Karen Hayes – 800m

3rd Karen Hayes - high jump

4th relay team (Karen Hayes, Rachel McPartlin, Rachel Doherty, Rachel Fraughen)

Junior boys:

3rd Stephen Kiernan – 1500m

Junior girls:

1st Amy Doherty - 800m

1st Amy Doherty – 1500m

Minor boys:

1st Kyle Witter – 1100m

2nd Eoin Kane – 500m

Minor girls:

1st Laura Smith – 500m

2nd Amelia Campbell–1100m



Don't stop the beat!

Cori Gormley gives us the insider low down on this year's production of 'Hairspray':

Last October played host to the infamous Ratoath College Musical and as always it was quite the production. The buzz and the excitement for the musical began as auditions were announced as well as the name of the musical... "Hairspray". The days leading up to the auditions were filled with excitement, nerves and most importantly the Hairspray soundtrack! After a tough few days of deliberating for the amazing directors Ms Dalton and Ms Jackson and the show's choreographer Aisling the cast list was posted and anxious hopefuls flocked to the music room to see if they had gotten the part.

Rehearsals began straight away, with the principal cast learning lines rapidly

and dancing most days after school. For all of us in the cast we knew we had a lot of work to put in to make sure the musical would be amazing. While there were many feet out of place and voices a few semi-tones off in the beginning, it all came together in just eight weeks!

Although not without the

concern that perhaps we wouldn't be ready or someone didn't have a costume! Thankfully though, all the hard work payed off, with help from the TY art students on the set design as well from the Home Ec teachers ensuring all costumes were up to scratch!

As opening night arrived a few nerves began to set in for the cast, leading to some funny improv moments in the mâtinée show and a few of us dancers forgetting our steps. That evening brought the same nerves and a whole lot more hairspray. We were doing some last minute rehearsing in the dressing room (which was the staff room) while the hall began

to fill with people. With sixties hair costumes and makeup ready, the show began! Nerves didn't seem to bother a single one of us as

the production carried without a hitch! I

remember standing backstage in the pitch black peeking through the curtain waiting for our que. We were all

terrified and excited at the same time as we skipped onto the stage. Bright colourful lights shine directly onto the stage and hid the massive audience from our view. It was a spectacular opening night which left the entire audience chatting gleefully in the GP Area afterwards

The following two nights followed with the same fantastic energy and enthusiasm from both the cast



and audience, although for me, closing night was without a doubt the best of all, with more hairspray and fake tan than the previous two nights combined, which also happened to bring on an asthma attack or two...

Everyone in the cast seemed to be more excited and nervous backstage than the past shows, we were

confident from having performed so well the pervious two nights but that night we had our biggest audience yet and we had to make it fantastic! We all managed to get through the show without any major mistakes and finished with an amazing closing set.

We had the entire cast on stage singing and dancing you the finale as well as the backstage crew!

While the show to a disappointing end, there was a sense of relief that all had run smoothly enough over the three nights. All of us had been through so much to get the show to the way it was with many evenings after school and lunch times dedicated to learning the songs and dances that make the musical a musical! The production drew to an official close with a speech from Ms Dalton in the staff room

congratulating us on an amazing performance over the three nights and of course a well deserved pizza party! The experience was amazing and all of us cast have made memories that we'll never forget through it!





It's Hairspray

Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tíochar si

Teacher Interview

Ms. Hoey



1. What's a typical Saturday night for you?

Family dinner, movie, glass of wine.

2. What dish can you cook to perfection?

Chicken surprise, it always tastes good and different because whatever is in the fridge goes in

3. What was the strangest way you have injured yourself ?

Once, my hand was glued to a toilet handle, it took a half hour to get my hand off it, and I went to give out I stood on a rake and it hit my straight in the face

4. Who is your favourite student?

I like all of my students equally

5. How many times did you take you driving test?

Only once!

6. What song do you know all the lyrics too? Will you sing it for us?

"Everything I Do" - Bryan Adams as Gaelige (She sang it beautifully, even better than Adele)

7. What Hogwart's house do you belong to?

" Ah Jesus ,I don't have a clue"

8. What decade would you love to live in ?

Clothes-wise 1800's but I couldn't live there because I'm a feminist, the 90's

9. Which of the seven dwarfs are you most like ?

Bashful

10. What place would you love to visit?

Bora bora or Maldives

11. What was your first impression of the school?

That it was very progressive

13. What advice would you give to 6th year students?

Study hard and enjoy it because it goes so fast! Don't write hours of notes just bullet point!!!!

Teacher Interview

Ms. Monerawela



1. What's your typical Saturday night?

I love Karaoke

2. What dish can you cook to perfection?

White chocolate Oreo fudge (Sounds yum, bring us in some?)

3. What was the strangest way you have injured yourself?

I kneed myself in the face on a bouncy castle at my sisters baptism, there was no permanent damage so it's okay

4. Who is your favourite student?

The ones who return a smile

5. How many times did you take your driving test?

I had to take it twice!

6. What song do you know all the lyrics too? Will you sing it for us?

All the songs by S Club 7

7. What Hogwarts house do you belong to?

Gryffindor

8. What decade would you love to live in?

Ohh the 80's! Leg warmers and crazy colours

9. Which of the seven dwarfs are you most like?

Happy

10. What was your most embarrassing moment as a teacher?

Repeatedly wrote the wrong date on the board after being corrected 3 times

11. What place would you love to visit?

I would love to visit New Zealand

12. What was your first impression of the school?

Lovely atmosphere, really friendly and everyone is so welcoming

13. What advice would you give to the 6th year students?

Take a deep breath and it will all work out.

Ga-Ga for Gaelic

Reported by Tom Roddy & Luke Newe:

U14 Boys

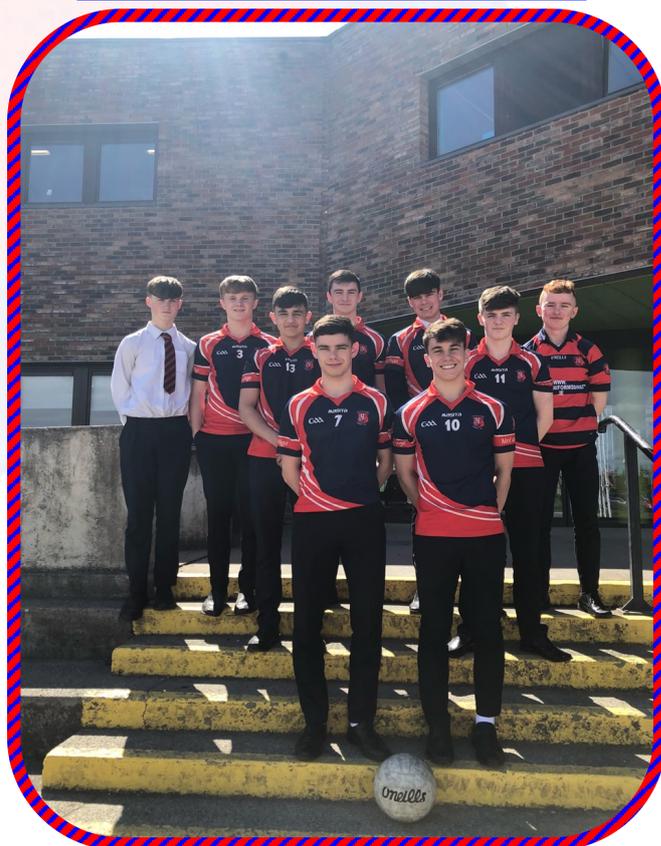
The U14 boys were straight back into training after the summer holidays. They were eager to get their season underway. The management team was made up of Fr.P.J alongside Mr.Munelly, the two Mayo men with plenty of experience under their belts made an excellent coaching team with help from myself Luke Newe and another TY student Lewis Nolan. The team were a privilege to coach as every player gave their all in training every single day. The special thing about the team and what I think made them unique was that there were no individuals. They all worked as a team and worked for each other. They had a good few matches through out the year against some of the best schools in the county but they didn't let that phase them and they came out on top in the majority of their games. Altogether they had a good year the last hurdle proved too much of a challenge. For many players on the squad this would have been their first year playing football for Ratoath College and by the looks of it the future of the school's team is in safe hands with this talented bunch of players.

U16 Boys

It was a short year for Ratoath Colleges U16 footballers. They trained hard with the U18 boys for weeks leading up to their U16 season, this gave some of the younger players a chance to develop under a good coaching team and some fine footballers a few years older than

them. At the start of December the U16's went to Oldcastle for their first game of the season. It was a bit of a slow start for the lads but as the game went on their chemistry began to show and some good football was being played. We were unfortunately beaten narrowly by a better team on the day but we knew if everyone played to the best of their abilities we would be a hard team to beat. Unfortunately due to exams and other complications the U16 season never got to commence any further and this left some of the lads focusing on the start of the U18 season. Overall it was unfortunate the U16 season didn't continue but there's no doubt there will be very strong teams in that age group for Ratoath College over the next number of years.

Members of the U16 team before their first game against Oldcastle



U18 Boys

The u18 boys were out training from the moment everyone returned to school. Alongside the U16's, a strong panel of players was beginning to form. Everyone was waiting for our first game of the year which brought us to Ashbourne Community School in a league competition. We held our own against the strong Ashbourne side for most of the game but were unfortunately beaten in the end. After the game all focus went to our North Leinster championship. A competition the U18 boys won last year for the first time in years. A huge achievement for Ratoath College not to be forgotten about. Our first game of the North Leinster championship brought us away to Dundalk. The boys all knew one thing and that was if we won the game we will have booked our place in the competitions semi final. Ratoath showed no mercy from the very first whistle until the very last in a game in which some beautiful Gaelic football was played absolutely playing Dundalk off the park in the end. Everyone was on a high and ready for the semi final. Semi final day brought us to Dunganny, the Meath centre of football and hurling excellence, to play an Ardee

side that we had overcome in the same competition the year before. We knew what we had to do and lined out in strong force. The first half left us trailing by a couple of goals and after a strong start to the second half from Ardee the game started to slip away from us. We were beaten by the better team on the day in the end but it was nothing to be ashamed of as the lads put in their absolute best effort and the strong Ardee team went on to win the All Ireland final in the same competition. A huge thank you to Mr. Mooney, Mr. Farrell and Mr. O'Reilly for taking the lads out throughout the year and as players we are sure that there will be many more good days for football in Ratoath College.

Ratoath's David McGowan taking on two Ardee players in a well fought U18 North Leinster final.



Rugby

Sam Phillips looks to the future of rugby in RC:

This season wasn't the best for the Ratoath College Senior Rugby. Having lost some of our best players in former Captain David Caffery and Sean Keane. Still we had some solid players left, Michael Power, Conor McNally and Daniel Doyle. These gents have been a great asset to the team, inspiring and helping to train younger players. We won our first games easily against Balbriggan and Rathmines respectively and saw out the groups stage. Unfortunately we got knocked out by Athboy. In all our season wasn't great but we have some great strong players coming up next year and the future is bright. Many thanks to Mr. Jor-

dan and Mr. Nissar for their help and support throughout the year. We are currently undertaking negotiations to draft Ms. Hoey, a part-time professional rugby player, in as an expert trainer next year.



STUDENT COUNCIL 2017/18

Vice-chairperson Amy Beirnes reports:

This year was an interesting year for the Student Council. Our school's student council is a group of students from each year group who act as mega-phones for the student body. We have meetings weekly to discuss issues that are raised by the representatives. These issues are brought to us by the students and we try to resolve them.

This year was particularly interesting for the Council as we had a change in leadership, half-way through the year. The council consists of Representatives and Core Representatives. The Core leadership positions are, Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Public Relations Officer and Irish Language Officer. These positions were filled by the amazing Zara Doyle, who acted as Chairperson and was in charge of running meetings. Amy Beirnes who undertook the position of Vice Chairperson, and the dashing Cian Agar Finley who was our Public Relations Officer. The lovely Niamh Larkin who graciously acted as our Secretary and did an excellent job. Last but certainly not least, the enthusiastic Sorcha Broe-Brady, who did an excellent job as our very first Irish Language Officer.

This year the council looked into many issues, such as issues with bathrooms, uniform and to insert a path at the entrance to the school to make walking to school



easier for students. These are just some of the issues that were raised at meetings and brought to the attention of the School Board.

Coming to the end of this year we have decided to set a theme for next year. This theme is 'Give Respect to Get Respect'. Over the course of this year we have had complaints from students about antisocial behavior. For next year we hope to have members from every class in every year group, and we hope to run events and projects to promote our message! And to improve the school atmosphere for all the school community.

Hip hip Hooray

Very recently we celebrated the birthdays of two of our favourite people. Teachers were seen making their way hastily and extremely determined in the direction of the staff room as the word spread that there was cake was available, not to mention the glorious harmonies that were heard. This is NOT an everyday occurrence. We don't celebrate every teacher's birthday but when Fr. PJ and Mr. O'Toole turned 21 at the beginning of May it was decided



that the occasion should be marked. Both gentleman were secretly delighted with the fuss even though they hid their happiness well. However they did decline our offer of the bumps.

Lá Breithe Sona Fr. PJ and Mr. O'Toole.



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

SLAM DUNK



Boys' Minor Bball Team

This years BB got off to a great start. The Senior players had a great few games, leading the way was a shining basketball player from 6th year, Paul Donnelly.

Eric Nullty and Rafael McCaffery are two outstanding team players both on and off the court and will help to lead the team to victory in the next season.



Ms. Hoey, Eric and

Rafael completed an intensive BB coaching course which was extremely beneficial to our Minor team who made it to the Semi-Finals of the North East Basketball League. Mathew Duggan scored some amazing 3 pointers for someone who only took up basketball this year. The Corbett Triplets were a force to be reckoned with on the court stealing balls from the opponents so easily. There was so many outstanding players its hard not to mention them all. Like John Fitzharris who is a very skillful player and Aaron Nullty following in his brothers footsteps with huge potential. We had great fun and enjoyed the season.



Paparazzi

Short Films in TY by Anna Crowley

Transition year this year focused on digital learning. This led to a lot of key assignments involving the use of our iPads and the creation of short films. In a lot of cases the students were given basic criteria of the length of the film and a general theme of the film.

We even had a whole class dedicated to the making of short films, this class was called media studies and we would be given a theme every week and time to storyboard and to come up with a plot. We then had to organise ourselves to film and edit outside of class time. In our cinematography class we were studied

editing and camera angles. These skills came in handy when we started doing short films I classes such as English and Irish. Overall I think the short film making modules of TY became a really important part of the TY experience. I learned how to organise groups of people who I may not of talked to before and learned not just the joys of being the person with the camera, in control and making all of the decisions but also the joys of being in front of the camera and being able to be more creative and inventive in the way which we did things. All these wonderful films can be viewed on the school's Youtube channel RCnewsandfilm.

The Transition Year Experience

Aoibh O'Shea reflects:

TY is a year jam-packed with opportunities, experiences and amazing moments. I chose transition year as I have seen its benefits first hand from my brother and sister and I have always wanted to experience the things transition year has to offer. I didn't know what subjects I wanted to do in senior cycle or what I wanted to do in the future and I'm happy to say TY has helped me figure that out. Throughout the year you get to go on numerous trips where great memories and bonds are made, trips such as bog jumping in Liliput, sheep sheering at the ploughing championships, learning about entrepreneurs at the TY leaders event or even showing off your mini companies at the enterprise awards. The trips range from being interesting, academic experiences to fun, memorable bonding exercises. During transition year, you get to experience every subject in different modules, this is very useful as it gives you a better insight into the subjects you might pick in Senior cycle and it might also introduce you to new subjects that you enjoy. The array of things you learn and gain from trying out multiple subjects is amazing. You are given the opportunity to learn new languages, create interesting wood, metal and art pieces, bake and cook delicious foods and also learn about the exciting worlds of business, classics, and music. Transition year encourages you to take



part in Gaisce. Gaisce means 'great achievement' and it is in the spirit of this meaning that the program challenges young people to set and pursue goals in three



different categories; personal, community and physical, over a certain amount of weeks. This program lets students get involved in the community and take up new skills. If completed, you will be rewarded and it is a great achievement to have and can be written on your CV. Work experience is one of the most beneficial opportunities as it allows

you to get a feel for what the world of work is like and how it differs from school life. Work experience can also be useful in your picking of Senior subjects as it can really show you what work you genuinely like and what work you don't. Work experience is also very important for the students who are planning to go straight into work after secondary school. Students are provided with three weeks where they are expected to find and do work experience. Students are allowed to do their work experience in the same place for the three weeks or in completely different places, it is all the students pick based on their interests, likes, and dislikes. Transition year doesn't just focus on academics and future choices, it gives you the time to get involved in projects that you might not have done before such as 'cycle against suicide', 'the young scientist' or 'the young entrepreneur awards'.



There is a module during the year called 'Pay It Forward' in which the students are encouraged to set up a project that benefits others and has a good purpose. This year many amazing projects were organized such as 'Phoneless for the homeless' which was sleepover in the school where students who volunteered gave up their phones for 24 hours and got sponsored in an effort to raise money for the homeless, some students hosted bake sales to raise money for charities of their choice or used the money for other projects such as painting the bathrooms to promote good mental health, other students set up sport tournaments for younger years within the school to promote fitness and teamwork. During this module, some students helped with younger students or primary schools students and cleaned up around the school and Ratoath in an effort to benefit the community. Transition year pushes you out of your comfort zone but in the best way possible, it is a year where you can make new friendships and learn new skills. There are a lot of talks and small events throughout the year. We received talks on important topics such as bullying, driving safety and mental health. We also had people come in and teach us new skills such as drumming and Zumba, and even if you don't pick up these skills full time each event becomes a good bonding experience and memory. The activities and opportunities given to TY students help them become more confident and open. Transition year consistently promotes and encourages volunteering and putting yourself in new situations. Students have volunteered for things such as bag backing, painting for local business, special Olympics, the pink run against breast cancer, teaching proper oral hygiene, and the organising and set up of the school musical. All these events inspire students to be more social



and confident which are very useful traits to have. Transition year also offers classes on drama, news, film, and dance. These are all classes that wouldn't be taught in other years and it is important that they are being experienced during TY as these subjects may be the only things some people are interested in so hopefully these modules encourage students to get involved. Transition year has been a phenomenal year and has benefited my school life hugely in many different ways. I strongly recommend Transition year.



Advice from a 5th year student on making the transition back

The transition from TY to 5th year is hard. There is no other way in saying it. When you have to adapt from having 3 weeks to do a paragraph about your favourite hobby to having 50 minutes to do a 4 page English essay it will make you want to cry and drop out. So to make this short and sweet the only advice I will give you is to do enough to pass everything and do well in 5th year but don't stress yourself. If you start working too hard too soon you will have no motivation in 6th year.

At the end of the day it's a marathon not a sprint. So hold your horses for a year with the attitude of having to work hard in 6th year.

***** This piece is in no way endorsed by teachers in Ratoath College or the editor. We advise you to hit the ground running in September and not put your studies on the long finger*****

"It was indescribable" - A TY student 2018





Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

Goodwill & Harmony

Another great opportunity provided in the TY curriculum is Pay it forward is a class that lets students create opportunities to give back to others, thus paying your efforts forward for a helpful cause. Students can create such opportunities by embracing the programme and being creative coming up with ideas and fundraisers. Pay it forward is a class entirely up to the student to involve themselves in, with teachers only there to help and push students ideas. It is a major programme in TY which is what TY revolves around and keeps you busy. Here are some of the projects that students created this year.



Phoneless for the homeless: This was a project run to raise money for The Simon Community, a charity which focuses on the homeless crisis in Ireland. The main event was the sleepover that was held in the school hall including 90 students and teachers who volunteered their night and fundraised using sponsor cards. Some students raised €60 for the charity. Students also had to give their phones up for 24hrs as the name suggests. It was a great night overall and a fun way to fundraise money for a great cause.

Cookies for teachers: This project was run to simply be nice and give something back to the wonderful teachers. TY students prepared a recipe and ingredient list for making the cookies. The idea was created and put together in one P.I.F class. The students then spent their next P.I.F class baking these cookies and then handed them out to all the teachers in the school.



Rainbow day: Rainbow day was a fundraiser to help the musical costs. This day involved students wearing a certain colour which was specified for each year group. Students brought in money to wear their own clothes.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers: TY students organised to raise food and supplies for St. Vincent de Paul hamper appeal which happens annually around the country. They collect food hampers to give to disadvantaged families at Christmas. The students created a list of things to bring in and gave them to each rang, each rang also received boxes to put the items in. The students then collected the supplies and organised them into hampers ready for collection.



Christmas Door Competition: This competition is held yearly in the school and is run by TY students each year. The competition involves each rang making a Christmas themed door to spread cheer around the school. The TY team comes up with a criterion for judging and prizes for the winners, with categories for each rang to win these prizes.



Cleaning up of the Riverwalk: Another TY group organised the clean-up of the Riverwalk, they would go to the Riverwalk each P.I.F. class and pick up glass or rubbish with bin bags that they brought in.



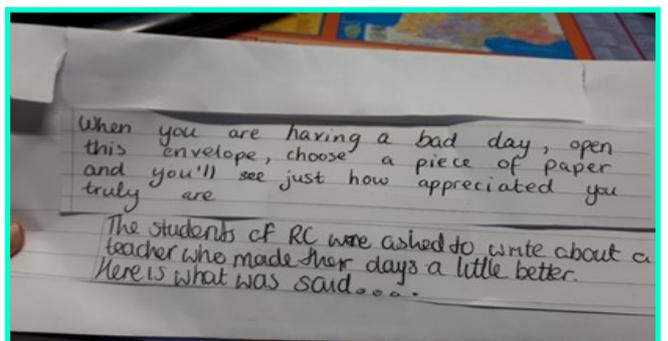
Post it notes: TY students came up with the idea to write positive notes on post it notes and stick them to people's lockers. The students researched quotes and wrote them down on over 1000 post-it notes, they stayed after school to stick them all up for people to see the next morning.

Valentines day treats: This was an idea to spread the love in Ratoath College near Valentine's day. The students bought sweets to parcel up to give to students. Students would pay 50c to give a parcel to a friend or maybe a valentine's crush. The Ty's went and delivered these sweets to classrooms as the school's cupids.



Giving teachers letters: This group of TY students decided to do something nice for the teachers. They wanted to show how appreciated the teachers in the school were. They came up with the idea to ask students what they thought of teachers or to name a teacher who inspires you. The student's comments were then placed in envelopes with the teacher's names and delivered personally to them.

Notes on cookies: The same group that painted the bathrooms used the idea of writing positive quotes/sayings with cookies to raise funds for their paints. Again, they organised a recipe and ingredient list and used the first pay it forward class to sell the cookies at lunch time



Gaisce

By Lauren Kelly

During TY we all take part in a programme called Gaisce. Gaisce-The Presidents Award, is an award given to young people between the ages of 15-25 who carry out several activities for a specified amount of time. The award has three stages; Bronze, Silver and Gold. In TY we all start at the beginner stage, the bronze award. For this award you must complete 13 weeks of physical activity, community involvement and personal skill, plus you must do an additional 13 weeks of one of those three activities. Then to finish you will go on an overnight adventure journey with all of TY. During the process of Gaisce you must complete a diary full of all your activities you have done over the weeks. In the diary, you write a diary entry each week of what you did during your activities. You also add photographs or souvenirs of all your activities to your diary. Then you must get the signatures of the people in charge/supervising you participating in your activity. Gaisce is a great way for you to really enjoy and take part in the essence of TY, which is involvement and development of oneself. I find Gaisce is a great way to learn new skills that you maybe wanted to try but were too busy to take up or weren't motivated to do so. Gaisce pushes your boundaries and gives you a reason to try something new or reconnect with previous skills or activities you were involved in. Gaisce also makes you become more active in your community or volunteer work and truly shows your willingness to help others and is about making a difference in the community around you. Gaisce can make you realise and discover new interests or skills you never knew you had, interests that you may pursue future on in life and gain something out of. Interests or skills that create a better lifestyle for yourself, improve your social relationships like making new friends by sharing a common interest and create future career opportunities. The overnight trip is a great bonding experience for you and all your TY class mates. The trip is filled with adventure, fun and excitement with the days packed of activities. You get to chat with students and teachers you may have never spoken to in school life. To immerse yourself in

enjoyment. The trip is an unforgettable experience which brings everyone together. To end the Gaisce journey you all receive an award at your TY graduation to signify the completion of the bronze award. From here teachers in the school will help you continue further on towards the gold award, if you wish, a prestigious award where you will meet the president. I feel Gaisce has affected me greatly over the past year, it has made



me more involved and determined to achieve my goals and to help others around me. To take part in organisations that are bettering our country, such as cycle against suicide, foróige, tidy towns etc. To better my health and improve my physical activities while doing team sports or going to the gym. To provide me with life skills such as life-saving which I'm grateful to have. Others around me feel that they have all benefited from the programme too and see it as a very positive part of TY. The memories that you make due to Gaisce won't be forgotten and with your diary and photos you won't forget them. Gaisce translates to achievement, which defines what Gaisce is. A great achievement!



Positivity doesn't stall

Remembered by Aileen Lanigan:

As a part of the Transition Year course, every student gets the amazing opportunity to partake in a class called "Pay It Forward". The idea of Pay It Forward is for students to make a difference and give back to their community, through grand gestures and small but impactful projects. This year one of the initiatives taken on by a TY group, was the painting of our school bathrooms. Throughout the day students use these toilets as a necessity, but why should a necessity be boring, drab and dull? That is the exact question Karen Hayes, Emer Brady, Aileen Lanigan, Aoibh O Shea, Amy



Gray, Rachel McPartlin, Eva Beedall and Darragh Kelly found themselves faced with on a bright Tuesday morning in



room 47. Over the following weeks the project began, and blossomed from simple sketches on a page to pieces that will last forever. The group decided that while it would be pleasant for the bathrooms to be made brighter and prettier it would be phenomenal if they could find a way to inspire, motivate and lift the student body at the same time. This is when it dawned on the group that after being granted permission to brighten these rooms up they now not only had the opportunity but the responsibility to send a message and make a difference. Each door in both the girls and boy's bathrooms were painted with uplifting phrases and quotes from "Grow through what you go through" to "Be a warrior not a worrier".



The mirrors were brightly embellished and illuminated with flowers, leaves and a finishing phrase. Our bathrooms in Ratoath College are now not only a facility we need to use, but a place of our own that we are encouraged by. It is hoped that this art will lift and inspire the students of Ratoath College for many years to come as much as it has lifted and inspired the students of Ratoath College today.

room 47.

Over the following weeks the project began, and blossomed from simple sketches on a page to pieces that will last forever.

The group decided that while it would be



Cycle for life

Amy Beirnes reflects on the first year RC has participated in Cycle against Suicide:



This year was the first year of our school part taking in Cycle Against Suicide! Cycle Against Suicide is an inspiring and truly amazing initiative to help raise awareness of all the supports available to people battling depression, suicidal thoughts and other mental illnesses. The lovely Ms.

Grogan introduced this initiative to a group of senior students at the beginning of this year. These 35, dedicated students, have worked hard throughout this year to advertise Cycle

Against Suicide and their message. This year the message was, "It's okay not to feel okay, and it's absolutely okay to ask for help."

The committee did many things over the course of the year to advertise this message. On the 18th of January, we attended the Student Congress. The Student Leader's Congress was held in the Three Arena. It is the leading Student Mental Health Conference in Europe.

Students from all over the country, 7'000 to be exact, came together to listen to speakers like Kevin Heines, and musical acts. Kevin Heines was a remarkable speaker who's story really struck a chord with all of us.

The Student Leader's Congress was absolutely fantastic and we all look forward to returning next year.



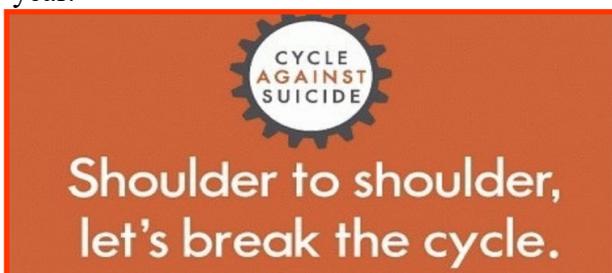
As part of the initiative, Cycle Against Suicide has an annual, "School's Go Orange Day." This was in the beginning February of this year. As our school had exams during this time, we held it later in the month on the 22nd of February. For this event, we had a bake sale, gave out orange ribbons and did free face painting. This event took a lot of work and was a success! We raised €400! This event took a lot of work and a big thanks is in order to Aideen Lanigan, Lauren Kelly, Ms. Grogan and Ms. Prendergast for co-ordinating and overseeing this event!



Now coming to the end of the year, the Cycle Against Suicide Committee is hoping to start our Wellness Garden. This is our project to promote Cycle Against Suicide and Good Mental Wellbeing in the school. It will be in the courtyard beside the canteen and we hope to make the area a bright and a nice place for students to relax and to destress!

As a whole, this year was extremely successful for the committee! We

accomplished so much and Ms Grogan really did an amazing job in introducing this initiative to the school and we look forward to continue to work hard next year on future projects and promoting the Cycle Against Suicide message, "It's okay not to feel okay, and it's absolutely okay to ask for help!"



HEAVY METAL!

Metalwork and Engineering in Ratoath College



It has been a very busy year for the Engineering department with our first year students undertaking the mammoth task of building a petrol powered go-kart. Starting off with a blank canvas and a load of parts, they have completed the back half of the kart and are raring to get back at it after the

exams in order to have that all important test drive completed before schools out for the summer.

Our second year metalwork students have been very busy honing their practical skills and are finishing a trike project. This has been the culmination of all the new skills and knowledge they have gained using new machines such as the lathe and getting to work with new materials.

TY Engineering has really taken group work and collaboration to a new level. Each TY student has created and sculpted their own unique butterfly out of aluminum. Fancy spray paint jobs have created a host of neon pink and speckled butterfly's that will soon decorate the walls of Ratoath College. The idea for this project came from the students themselves, all the butterflies are arranged in a giant love heart and are positioned so they are flying at different heights. This represents that sometimes your butterfly can be flying high sometimes it may be flying if feeling low but that we are all in the Ratoath College family together and are here to support each other.

Leaving Certificate Engineering students have just finished their three wheeled Model Autocycle project. This projects awards students with 40% of their leaving cert grade and they can sit their leaving cert exam in confidence that they have a high number of mark achieved already. Well Done Guys!



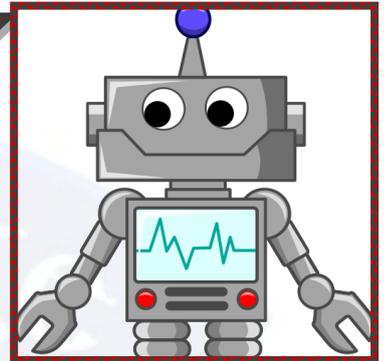
Finally we have a number of students from across the school who are readying their robots for battle! The Robot Games takes place in Galway on the 9th of May where they will compete against other students and robot from secondary schools across Ireland. It shaping up to be an exciting day, hopefully some silverware will make its way back to Ratoath! No robots were harmed in the making of this article.

Follow #RCMetalwork for more fun updates on the Metalwork Department!



Teacher Interview

Mr. Munnelly



Due to a busy schedule competing at Robot Wars, Mr. Munnelly was unavailable for his photoshoot.

1. What's your typical Saturday night?

Finishing up work then going out with the lads

2. What dish can you cook to perfection?

I can cook a good steak

3. Who is your favourite student?

The students that say Thank You

4. How many times did you take your driving test?

I passed it first time

5. What song do you know all the lyrics to? Will you sing it for us?

I know every word to "The Rattlin' Bog" (The performance was rousing)

6. What Hogwarts house do you belong to?

I don't have one

7. What decade would you love to live in?

The 90s

8. Which of the seven dwarfs are you most like?

Sleepy

9. What was your most embarrassing moment as a teacher?

After teaching a topic half way through I realised I was teaching it completely wrong. Mortofied!

10. What country would you love to visit?

Cuba

11. What was your first impression of the school?

Very big and it was brilliant to have my own classroom.

12. What advice would you give to 6th year?

It will all work out in the end, so don't worry

Teacher Interview

Ms. Lyttle



1. What's your typical Saturday night?

Cinema with my friends

2. What dish can you cook to perfection?

Not a lot, just pasta

3. What was the strangest way you have injured yourself ?

I once closed the car door on my hand

4. Who is your favorite class?

When Ms. Feeley is with a class, we have great craic!

5. How many times did you take your driving test?

Only once, I'm a pro at driving

6. What song do you know all the lyrics too? Will you sing it for us?

Happy Birthday - I'll sing it on your birthday

7. What Hogwarts house do you belong to?

Ravenclaw

8. What decade would you love to live in ?

I'm pretty happy being a 90's baby

9. Which of the seven dwarfs are you most like ?

Definitely Sleepy

10. What was your most embarrassing moment as a teacher?

Tripped on a wire in front of second years

11. What place would you love to visit?

There's nowhere better than the Hills of Donegal

12. What were your first impressions of the school?

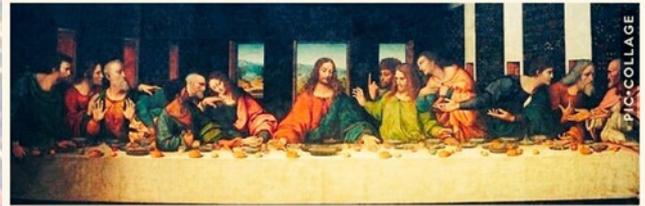
Brilliant, very big and busy

13. What advice would you give to 6th year students?

Say yes to everything good. Say no to drugs !

THE ART DEPARTMENT

The Art Department at Ratoath College aims to develop and promote a sense of personal identity and self-esteem, achieving the expressive, communicative and functional modes of Art, Craft and Design. Students' pursuit of creativity and cultural enrichment, for the development of the total individual is encouraged.



This Year in the Art Department

1st Years



This is pursued in a fun and active way through structured practical work, building the students qualities of imagination, originality, creativity and problem solving.

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

Our ambition to achieve national standards of excellence in the education of students in the creative, visual arts. We do this through the quality of our teaching and by introducing students to contemporary and traditional art practice. We endeavour to raise students' creative competence as well as their creative confidence.

This year we welcomed some new young artists to the Ratoath College Art Department. These new young artists have worked extremely hard this year and have created some amazing works of art.

Students have explored all the art elements. The Visual Elements are Line, Shape, Tone, Colour, Pattern, Texture and Form. These are the building blocks of composition in art.



Exploring shape and form students created pinch pot clay creatures. . It was great for all our first years to finally get their hands dirty and create an object!



Producing pinch pots is the most direct method people have of interacting with clay. We push, and the clay responds. We pinch, and again the clay responds. We can learn a huge amount simply through the experience of directly modifying the clay's form. Each pupil got to work on their own designs and the results were fantastic.

2nd Years

Lino Printing

This year through Printmaking 2nd Year students discovered and experimented with a new medium. The group created multiple -coloured lino prints based on different animals. This is a form of relief printing.



What is printmaking? Well, for those of you who don't know, printmaking is a form of art that involves transferring ink to paper. The process is capable of making multiple copies of the same artwork. Each individual copy is called a "PRINT" or an "IMPRESSION".

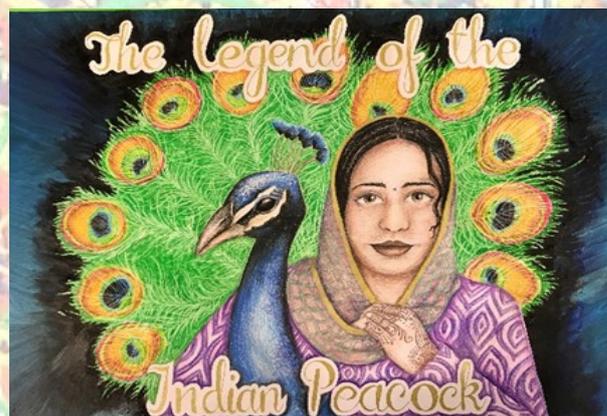


Graphic Design

Researching and developing ideas for a composition using found imagery and imagination, students created posters relating to different countries and places around the world.

Learning how the relationship between imagery and words can work together to form a strong graphic design poster.

Through discussion and expression of opin-

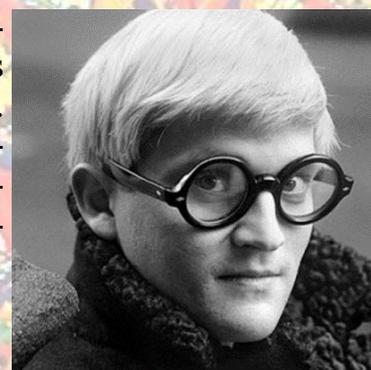


ions on the world, students learned from each other and learned about new worlds and places outside of the classroom walls.

iPad Painting David Hockney inspired

Taking inspiration from the incredible artist that is David Hockney students started using their apple gadgets to create iPad drawings and paintings.

The novelty of painting on an iPad was exciting and new. This is a new medium with fresh possibilities, requiring unorthodox techniques.



Students replaced their paint brush with their fingers and the canvas with the iPad.

Students worked in areas like, painting, graphic design, ceramics, book craft, lino printing, bag design and much, much, more.



Another innovation of iPad painting – sending your art at the touch of a button. Students sent their techno-sketches out to friends, who could pass them on, collect them or do what they like with the art work.

Working from direct observation, from imagination or from a combination of both project work developed and students excelled. Watch this space Picasso, there are some new and upcoming artists on the scene!!

3rd Year

Junior Cert Art Project

Beginning work back in October for the Junior Cert art project 3rd year students worked consistently throughout the course of the year.

TY ART

Set Painting: Hairspray the Musical 2017



Looking at different themes from ‘what a day, things that fly, awesome’.... Etc. this group created a collection of great art.

This past September Ms O Neill assembled a group of Transition Year students to give up many hours after school to design and create the sets for the upcoming school musical- Hairspray. We initially started by coming up with ideas for three different scenes: Mr. Pinky’s Hideaway, the living room and the record shop. After hours of browsing Pinterest and scribbling down any sort of an idea, we finally settled on our final ideas and made a rough plan of action.



As well as the three scenes, we also had many street scene boards and the main “Corny Collins Show” boards to paint. We all formed into separate groups to either work on the record shop, Mr. Pinky’s or the living room, and the others began the laborious task of covering the street scene boards in white paint to start on a clean canvas. The record shop used many cans of spray paint and tubes of black acrylic paint. It was a tedious task of carefully painting around the multi-coloured records with black paint, as to not ruin their shape.

skirting board! The window had a glass-looking sheen, and the green curtains had realistic creases and folds. It was time for Mr. Pinky’s windows to be filled, so we started by separating one window with a shelf. On this we painted the iconic blue wig on a mannequin and a pair of red heels. In the other window, we designed a tailor’s mannequin wearing a pale blue skirt. We finished Mr. Pinky’s by adding some warm yellow window sills. The giant street scene boards were progressing well; they all had fresh layers of blue, green and yellow paint. We sketched out the topsy-turvy style windows, all in different shapes—some circular, some diamond, and some were trapeziums. We painted the window sills, added stormy looking skies outside, and even finished one of the boards with a “Baltimore” street sign.



Mr

Pinky’s began by covering the two canvases in pink paint, before mapping out the green wooden door and striped canopy. We left two topsy-turvy style windows to leave items in, like shoes or a dress.



By

mid-September, the living room was coming on well. It was covered in a bright yellow paint, and the intricate square pattern was almost finished. It was even complete with a

Time was running out, and the show was in a couple of weeks. We all started staying back in school until 6pm or later. We had to add the finishing touches to majority of the boards, and complete the “Corny Collins Show” boards. On top of that, we had to paint the giant hairspray can that the woodwork teachers had made. We had a lot to do and not much time left.



As the musical rehearsals started being scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays, we decided we would dedicate our weekends to finishing this project. We added white and yellow snowflake shapes to the Corny Collins boards, touched up the lettering, and then we turned all our attention to the hairspray can. The words “Ultra Clutch” were delicately written onto the side of the can in white after completely covering it in pink paint. The same snowflake shapes were added to the can, and the cap was painted blue, white and silver.

A big thank you to Ms O Neill for giving up a lot of her time to help us with this project and letting us temporarily destroy her art room. Also to the amazing TYs that made these sets come to life: Sarah Ashmore, Amy Beirnes, Emer Brady, Erin Donnelly, Adam Fitzgibbon, Antonio Gogioman, Amy Gray, Clíodhna Griffin, Karen Hayes, Ella Hussey, Darragh Kelly, Rachel Mc Partlin, Emily Nannery, Emer O Neill, Aoibh O Shea and Tom Roddy.

By Emer Brady

After School Art

This year during Transition year I had the great opportunity of getting to be a part of after school art. Afterschool arts main purpose began with getting a signature for Gasice but as time went on I think we can all agree that it actually became very enjoyable.

We started off the year having a very close deadline of the school musical ‘Hairspray’ which was performed at the end of October.

Next event we had to work towards after the musical was the open night in January. Ms S.O’Neill had many plans and different ideas to make the art room the most memorable room. Some of us began to make a Mona Lisa out of cardboard that incoming first years coming to the open night could put their face into and pretend to be the Mona Lisa and take a photo in. This would help to demonstrate the amount of talent and the levels of creativity that comes from the art department in our school.

We also made bookmarks that were given to the incoming first years to give them something to keep from the art room. We also set up a face painting station on the night for anybody who wanted to get their face painted.





After the stress of the open night was over and Ms S'ONEILL could finally relax, we then went on to make tall boards that would get to be displayed outside different classrooms in relation to the subject that gets taught in that classroom.



As the year is coming to an end and that means afterschool art is coming to an end I know my peers and I will truly miss everything about it. It has helped me to grow as a person and have more confidence in the few artistic talents I have. Coming from a person who wouldn't have set foot in an art room in junior cycle afterschool art has allowed me to have that belief in myself and not think the art room was so intimidating.

After school art has also really helped me embrace the idea of transition year and getting involved. It has taught me to believe in myself and has really made my Transition Year. So thank you to Ms O'Neil for all the hard work,



time and effort you have put into after school art. We are truly so grateful. And you will always be a favourite of the transition years of 2017/2018.

By Clíodhna Griffin, 4 Mc Carthy

TY ART PROJECT: Empower Your Voice

As part of a project to Empower Your Voice TY students created wallpaper panels using mixed media. Each piece ranges from 4.5 to 6 foot in height and is built on textured wallpaper.

The idea behind the work was to capture iconic people who have challenge pre-convinced ideas and fought for a better world. Students took it upon themselves to re-search different figures from J.F.K., to Martin Luther King, to Gaudi, and many more.



Selecting iconic people throughout history as a symbolic symbol students, through art began to express their authentic voice, release self-judgement and criticism and build inner strength and confidence.

Recreating Artworks

Ms O'Neill's TY art class recreated famous works of art. The students did this by taking photographs with props, face swap, emojis, and photoshop.



The art works included Da Vinci's *The Last Supper*, the *Son of Man* by René Magritte, *Napoleon Crossing the Alps* by Paul Delaroche, *The Scream* by Edvard Munch and many more.



Students got to choose what paintings they wanted to recreate and how they wanted to recreate it.



The photos are available to see on the Ratoath College Art twitter account @artratoathc

By jenni and caoilinn x

The Fresh Film Festival

By Aideen Lanigan

This year I was lucky enough to get the chance to enter The Fresh Film Festival. I decided to enter after Ms O'Neill spoke to me about the competition and showed me the amazing piece that Roisin Conlon had entered last year.

I decided to base my film around the unrealistic beauty standards that exist today and the pressures that we are under to always look different, no matter how hard we try.



I wrote a spoken poetry piece to use instead of music as I felt it would be more impactful and that same day my friend Lauren Kelly helped me to film for the finished piece.

This year there were over 1500 entries and I was lucky enough to make it to the top 80 in the finals. To anyone who is thinking of entering next year I could definitely recommend it.

Junk Kouture

In transition year we were given the opportunity to do Junk Kouture as part of our art module. We were given newspaper, tape and scissors. We then designed an outfit including accessories such as a hat or handbag to go with the outfits.



Each team dressed up one person who then had to cat walk, the most creative idea as a finished product won. We all really enjoyed taking part because it was at the beginning of TY and we wanted to work with new people in groups and socialise.

LMETB Robert Ballagh Art Competition 2018

The awards ceremony for this year's LMETB Robert Ballagh Art Competition took place in the Droichead Arts Centre, Drogheda. Now in its third year, the competition has attracted entries from the ETB's secondary schools, Youthreach Centres and Further Education Colleges. In total over 12,000 students were eligible to participate and entries were received from over 75% of the Board's educational institutions.

This year Alicia Kidd 6th Year received an award for 3rd place in the senior student category. She is pictured here with her work entitled *Steam Punk*.

artist came to the school and worked with them on a mixed media project.

Mixed media art refers to a visual art form that combines a variety of media in a single artwork. Pupils were able to combine multiple disciplines such as painting, drawing, print-making, collage, inks, and pastels, along with many combinations of different surfaces. The results in the final pieces were amazing.

6th Year Leaving Certificate Art

This year brought about new changes to the leaving certificate art course. The rationale for these changes have come about because there has been no major changes to the curriculum since 1971. This new framework is more in line with pedagogical practices at Junior Cycle and contemporary Art Education practice. Students now have more time to demonstrate a variety of skills. Students are at the centre of the learning process, working from primary sources and showing evidence of their design footprint.



5th

Years – Visiting Artist

Our pupils in 5th year have been working hard on their transition from junior cycle to senior. With the introduction of the revised Leaving Certificate they have been working hard on the new format.

They were also extremely lucky this year to take part in a creative engagement project where a local



Sixth year art students here in Ratoath College were the first in their school to experience this new framework. Under this framework students have researched a range of different themes in their workbooks. Illustrating and exploring primary sources ideas developed and manifested into works of art. Students have worked in multiple areas from imaginative composition, still life, poster illustration, clay modelling, lino printing etc.



The art teachers in the art department want to express how proud they are of all the 6th year students this year and we wish them all the best as they step into the next chapter of their lives. Remember to always keep the art in your heart. Continue to create and imagine a world of possibilities. The world is yours...

IMMA Collection Freud Project

6th year students took a trip to IMMA this year to visit the Lucian Freud exhibition.

IMMA secured a significant five-year loan of 50 works by one of the greatest realist painters of the 20th century, Lucian Freud (1922-2011). Renowned for his portrayal of the human form, Freud is best known for his intimate, honest, often visceral portraits. Working only from life Freud's studio was intensely private and he mainly worked with those he was close to, often asking subjects to sit for hundreds of hours over multiple sittings to better capture the essence of their personality.



IMMA Collection: Freud Project features a selection of 30 of the artist's finest paintings, and 20 works on paper. The works, mainly dating from 1970 onwards, explore several of the artist's key themes such as Portraiture; Self Portraiture; Still-life; Animals and Nature; works that reflect his interest in the people and the natural world.



Madrid



Madrid '18 was the first overseas art trip to happen in Ratoath College, and it was a trip to never forget. Departing early on the 26th of March, the small group of thirteen departed to Dublin Airport, each person a little bit sleep deprived.



We arrived in the city of Madrid a few hours later, sunny skies greeting us instantly. Our tour of the city of Madrid began, driving around the city, giving us a glimpse at the royal palace, the designer shops, and the bullring and of course the countless ham museums.

That evening is when we visited the first of three museums, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Spain's national museum of 20th Century art, named after Queen Sofía. As a team, we decided to go the top floor and work our way down, beginning at the rooftop balconies overlooking the city, trying to speak to a non-English speaking security guard to inquire about going into another section, fail-

ing but leaving with a crisp high five from him.

We then moved from floor to floor, section to section. In Reina Sofía we got to view works by extraordinary Spanish artists including Pablo Picasso's *Guernica*, noted by critics to be one of the most moving and powerful anti-



war paintings in history. It was not just paintings that we got to see in the Reina Sofía but also films such as Iván Zulueta's *Rapture* and 3D pieces like Ree Mortan's *To Each Concrete Man*. Our art-packed day led us to have a little rest in the gorgeous courtyard garden centred in the gallery, before finishing our visit and heading off to dinner in a local Spanish restaurant.



After dinner, still hungry for Spanish delicacies, we roamed Madrid for close to an hour asking locals where we could find a churreria, eventually finding one, sitting down and buying an absurd number of churros.



Day two was a gallery packed day, we began our day at the Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum, a short walk from our hotel in central Madrid. Here we discovered our passion of recreating works of art and finding some doppelgängers while doing so.



The Thyssen being one of the groups personal favourite galleries included works by Vincent van Gogh, Paul Gauguin, Edgar Degas, Edvard Munch and Salvador Dalí.



Later that day we got to experience the Art of Museo del Prado, the national gallery of Spain, home to some of the world's finest collections dating from the 12th Century to the early 20th century, such as Diego Velázquez's *Las Meninas*, Francisco Goya's *The Third of May 1808*, depicting the executions of Patriots from Madrid and Goya's *Saturn Devouring his son*.



Later we headed off to an Andy Warhol exhibition which wasn't on the itinerary but a must on all our to-do lists. The exhibition was incredible, full of colour and an interactive room with silver foil pillow-shaped balloons flying around. Andy Warhol's pop art added an extra form of art that couldn't be missed on our trip.

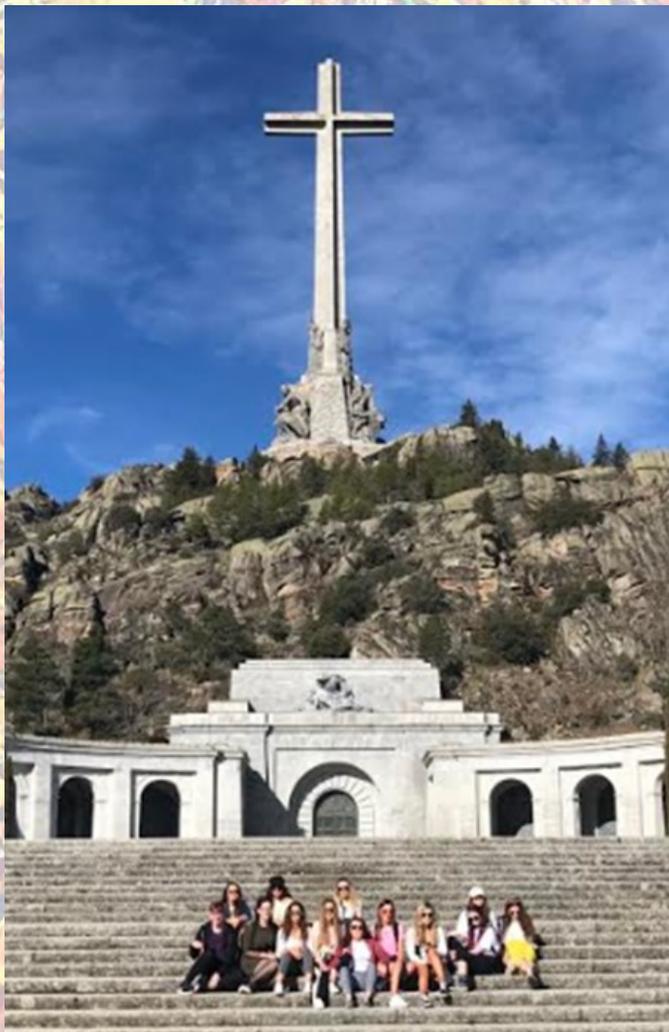


San Lorenzo, where we visited the royal site, El Escorial, conceived by King Philip II. The architecture and art within the buildings were incredible, but also the historical aspect as we got to see unmoved rooms belonging to the royals as well as the crypt of the royal families, Kings and Queens.

We then ventured on to Segovia where some enjoyed some Spanish tapas and had the chats with Ms. Morris for the rest of the afternoon before returning to the city of Madrid for the best meal of the holiday at the Hard Rock Café and sprinting to get to Sephora before it closed, followed by accidentally becoming spectators of the Semana Santa parade.

Day three consisted of bus drives to Spanish towns and brilliant views. Valle de los Caídos is one of the most beautiful memorials I have seen, its basilica is nothing less of jaw-dropping. The blue skies were perfect for picturesque views and the nearby tree lined roads for roadman pictures.

The final day of our wonderful holiday was

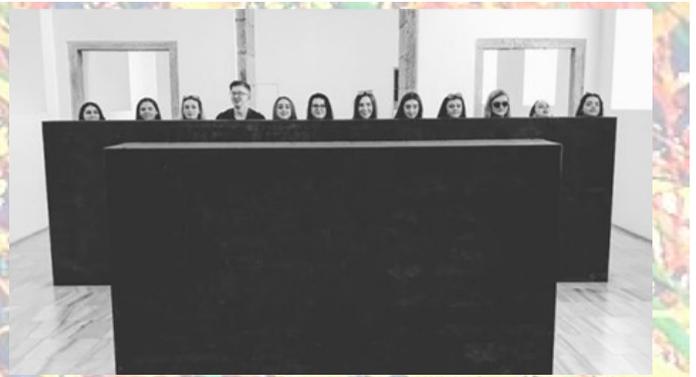


spent in Parque Warner, where we were thrown into loop-de-loops, got soaked on some rollercoasters, got to meet the mystery gang and a three of us ultimately becoming cowboys in our very own photoshoot.



Back to the bus, we moved to the next town of

The bus to the airport was bittersweet, sad we were leaving our holiday behind but happy for the memories and the close friends we gained. Going through the airport security with Hannah and I's teddies and talking over the planes intercom to wish Elizabeth Happy Birthday and to thank both our wonderful teachers, we continued having fun each moment.



Our Madrid trip was an incredible experience, opening our eyes to the gorgeous works of art that Madrid is home to, as well as teaching us

so many lessons, be on time, don't eat raw chicken and watch where you're going because you might fall over a boulder just as Ailbhe did.

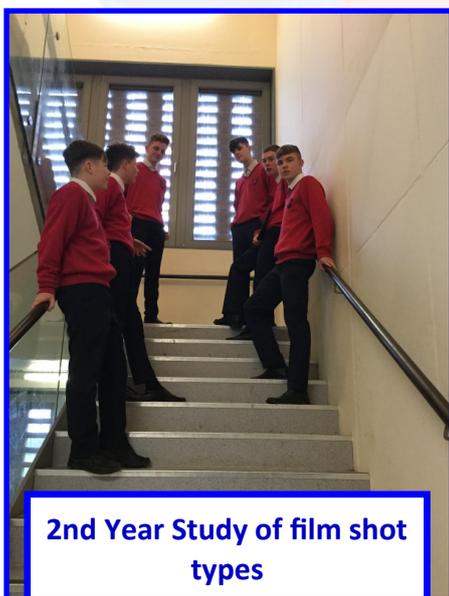
It simply was a perfect trip with the most bueno princesses (including Kev of course).



The Last Word

As a core department, 2017-18 has been another jam-packed year for English students and teachers. Of course, the study of English language and literature allows our students to identify and demonstrate various types of writing but, most importantly, it teaches the young people of Ratoath College to communicate with sophistication, empathy and intelligence, skills which will benefit them throughout their working and personal lives.

With another wonderful year of English to go, our 5th years are in an enviable position, while our 6th years are in the midst of comprehensive revision as they come to the end of their course. As part of



2nd Year Study of film shot types

their studies, 6th year students have either studied *Macbeth* or *King Lear* by William Shakespeare, as the Renaissance writer is a requirement at Higher Level. All Higher Level students have seen performances of these two plays both by the outstanding Cyclone Rep Theatre Com-

pany. These actors bring Shakespeare to students in an accessible manner as they break the fourth wall to speak to the audience and guide them through key scenes. 6th years found the performance to be engaging and clever.

In TY this year, our wonderful students worked on a project to create (write and direct) a modern day Fairy-tale. Their films were 3 minutes in length and contained a modern day twist to a traditional story. The project allowed students to showcase their creative interests and gave them a deeper understanding into the world of writing, the art of storytelling and use of dialogue. They showed a tremendous appetite to learning the fundamentals and complexities of producing performances. Who knows, a future Oscar winner might have been spawned from their endeavours?

Some other great outings: on Wednesday the 9th of May 112 TY students descended on the streets of Dublin as

part of their urban challenge which included tasks like finding places relates to literary greats. In the afternoon, they went to the



TY Fairy tales

cinema to watch the newly released Avengers film. At Junior Cycle, English is experiencing many changes. We are now fully immersed in the new curriculum for English at Junior Cycle, the old exam having been around since 1989. One of the new developments is the study of film—our 2nd years have studied films like *School of Rock* and *ET* and really enjoyed this new focus—we definitely have some future directors in our midst.

While our 3rd years completed their Classroom Based Assessment 2 back in December, our 2nd years are in the working on their Oral Communication CBA and have been doing amazing work, it's brilliant to see such maturity and understanding from them.

We wish all our 3rd and 6th year students the best of luck in their exams in June and to everyone else: have a super summer! See you in August!



2nd Year Study of film shot types

Not for Mere Mortals



Classical Studies at Ratoath College continues to grow and has had another excellent year. At Junior Cycle our students study how the Romans emerged from a tiny city to become one of the greatest empires that the world has ever known.

We also explore Greek mythology in relation to the Trojan War where we examine the great heroes and Gods such as Achilles, Hector and Zeus.

In Transition year students learned about the many Gods of the ancient world



and how they treated mortals the same way as people today treat their characters in 'The Sims'.

Meanwhile, at Senior Cycle, our students explored the wanderings of the Greek hero, Odysseus along with the schemes of Medea and the woeful tale of Oedipus.

Students were also enthralled with the study of one of history's most famous military commanders, Alexander the Great. We followed Alexander from his crowning as king at age 21 to his conquest of Greece and Asia by the time he was 32, the definition of 'live fast, die young'. Students studied his tactics in battle along with the occasional murder of his friends. Scandalous stuff!



BRAVO

Max Brazil from 2nd year was a winning finalist in the National Art and Italian Competition organised by the Italian Teachers Association. The competitions are divided into 1st year "Italiano Per Me Signica", 2nd year "Una Carolina in dale Vacanze" and 3rd year "Natale in Italia". Max received his prize and lunch at the Cultural Institute in Dublin on March 13th. Photographed here at the Italian Cultural Institute with another entrant, Luke Fitzpatrick and Mr. McAuley. Bravo Max!



Reeling in the years

History is Ratoath College continues to flourish at both JC & LC level. Our Junior students have been exploring the nature of history in Ireland, Europe & the wider world from humanity's origins during the Stone Age until more modern experiences such as the Cold War or the Troubles in Northern Ireland. This allows them to undertake a wide variety of tasks to further their understanding of how our world has been shaped by the events of the past. These can range from researching their favourite



Celtic myths to re-enacting famous battles such as the D-Day landings of 1942.

In TY our students have the opportunity to experience a wide variety of modules which cover areas of history they may

never have been given the chance to explore. One module focuses on the hit TV show 'Reeling in the Years' where students create their own version of the programme, passed on a specific time period. Students also have the opportunity to examine the causes and results of terrorism across the globe, from the domestic to the religious.

In Senior Cycle our students further develop their historical conscience and examine Ireland's struggle for

independence and its aftermath along. We study the rise of dictatorships across Europe in the 1930s, a topic more relevant now than at any other time in recent memory, and how Europe and the world was affected by the outbreak of WWII. We also examine how the United States became the world superpower it is today and how it struggled with race relations, propaganda & fear-mongering over the last century. Students also undertake a research project worth 20% of their final exam in a topic of their choosing, this year we have students researching Medgar Evers, Nelly Bly and Operation Anthropoid, among others.



AH GO ON!

You'll have a cup of tea!!

Tea and Talk was set up this year for fifth year students during lunch on a Thursday. It started a few years ago during Mental Health Week and as it was such a hit with all students that it was brought back.



Every week it is very kindly sponsored by Sweeney's Centra Ratoath. This oasis of peace gives students a chance to get to know new people that they may not have a chance to talk to before, take time away from digital tech, a break

from the busy day to day and to get in out of the cold. It is the highlight of the week. And of course the biggest draw, we have biscuits!



No Stone Unturned



The Geography department had a jam packed year of activity. It all kicked off when our first years pulled out all the stops to create models of the earth, volcanoes,

issues. Just to top off a great year, the classes travelled to Belfast on a joint Geography and History trip. They experienced many cultural and tourist areas of interest such as Titanic Visitor centre.

However, the real heroes of the geography team are those brave enough to take



on the challenge of senior cycle geography. The four senior cycle classes are doing great in progressing through the course. The 6th years travelled to the Glencree River in Wicklow to do their fieldwork. They braved the elements and put on their waders to do the tasks in the river. All are now delighted to have 20% of the Leaving Cert completed before the written exam in June. We are very proud of their efforts and of how the senior cycle students are applying themselves to the subject.

We are very confident that we will continue to have many students who go on to study geography at third level or use it as a gateway to study a wide range of topics. After all, we all know that geography rocks!!

mass movement, earthquakes and rivers that impressed staff and students alike. The finished products showed such great creativity and craft from the young geographers and were proudly displayed during open evening to the awe of the incoming first years and their parents. The second years are now farm experts after applying their knowledge of primary activities to real life situations when the visited Causey farm. I think all involved would agree it was an excellent experience for students and teachers alike.



The third years are now entering top-gear in the run up to the Junior Cert and are such a hardworking bunch that will achieve great results. They got on super in the mocks and are now looking forward to showing-off all their geography knowledge to ace the big exam in June. Good

luck guys, we know you'll do great.

Well done to our TYs who capitalised on the amazing opportunity that is TY. It is such a great opportunity for students to apply their expanded geography knowledge and challenge themselves to examine wider world issues. Modules included Natural Hazards, World Inequality along with many other current and topical



Photo-

to shows our 2nd years on their trip to Causey Farm.

My year went to Causey Farm as a Geography trip and it was one of the funniest trips I've been on so far.

We went on Thursday the 12th of April and we did lots of things like learning to Irish dance, playing the bodhrán and baking bread. We also got to hold a sheep and paint on the walls and we went into the middle of the field and learned about what they did to keep the farm going. We also got on a trailer up to the bog and jumped in it, that was my favourite part because everyone kept getting stuck. It was a really good day and I would definitely do it again.

What Sarah Mangan & Sadhbh Hannratty had to say about their Geography and Tourism trip:

SKILLS FOR LIFE



2017/2018 was another fantastic year for the Home Economics department with the subject being yet again, a popular option for first and fifth year students.

Our first years had a busy year, learning about healthy eating choices and how to work safely and efficiently in the kitchen. Each student also learned how to do some embroidery before designing and making their own cushion. We think they are all just fabulous!



Our second years had a very relaxing 8 weeks working on their Junior Cert craft projects which account for 15% of their grade.



We are expecting great results from them next year.

We are so proud of our third years who, after Easter completed, their cookery practical worth 35% of their JC grade, we wish them luck in June and have every confidence in their ability.



The super TY students exceeded the expectations of themselves and their teachers with their brilliant cooking and baking skills. Sometimes the best evaluation is to see everyone enjoying what they've cooked.

Our fifth years have been working well all year and are nearly finished their journal work worth 20% of their LC grade. Both fifth and sixth year LCA groups organised wonderful bake sales for staff and students. They raised money for the Hope Foundation. Well done!

Finally our 6th years are all set for their exams in June. We would like to wish them the very best of luck. We will miss you and hope you have learned some things which will stand to you throughout your life.



Tips to look after your husband

(Extract from 1950 Home Economics Book)

Have dinner ready
Plan ahead, even the night before, to have a delicious meal on time. This is a way of letting him know that you have been thinking about him and are concerned about his needs. Most men are hungry when they come home and the prospects of a good meal are part of the warm welcome needed.

Prepare the children
Take a few minutes to wash the children's hands and faces (if they are small), comb their hair, and if necessary, change their clothes. They are little treasures and he would like to see them playing the part.

Minimise all noise
At the time of his arrival, eliminate all noise of washer, drier, dishwasher or vacuum. Try to encourage the children to be quiet. Be happy to see him. Greet him with a warm smile and be glad to see him.

Some don't's
Don't greet him with problems or complaints. Don't complain if he's late for dinner. Count this as minor compared with what he might have gone through that day.

Listen to him
You may have a thousand things to tell him, but the moment of his arrival is not the time. Let him talk first.

Make the evening his
Never complain if he does not take you out to dinner or to other place of entertainment. Instead, try to understand his world of strain and pressure, his need to come home and relax.

The goal
Try to make your home a place of peace and order where your husband can renew himself in body and spirit.

Prepare yourself
Take 15 minutes to rest so you will be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh looking. He has just been with a lot of work weary people. Be a little gay and a little more interesting. His boring day may need a lift.

Clear away the clutter
Make one last trip through the house to clear away the clutter.

Make him comfortable

We have come a long way from the 1950's

La vie est belle

French Tour 2018 by Hazel-Jane Meehan & Nadine Fogarty:

Over the Easter break this year there was a fifth year trip for the French students to Normandy for four days.

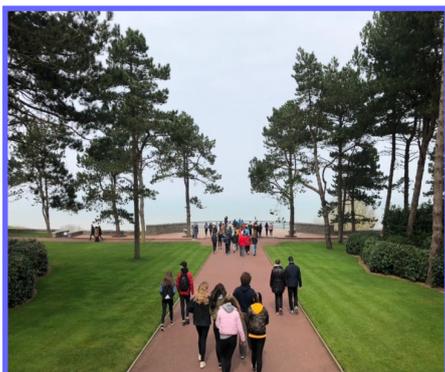
We met up at the bus stop to leave for the airport early Friday morning, we were all cold and tired but couldn't wait to get to France.

We arrived in Paris airport and got on our bus towards the beautiful Caen Castle. When we got off of the bus at Caen and stretched our legs, a bird emptied its insides on Mr. Jordan's shiny head. At the castle we had a tour guide telling us about the history of the town and about William the conquerer.

After the tour we drove to the next town over where our hotel was. We settled into our rooms and got ready for our dinner. Later that night we went to the games room to relax after a long day of traveling, some of us played pool and foosball while others listened to the music that was playing.

The next morning we had an early breakfast as we had a long French class after with a teacher. After the class we headed to a town called Bayeaux. At Bayeaux we visited a famous feature important to France's history. After looking at the tapestry we went upstairs to a museum about the history around it and the people who lived during that time and there was also a cinema in the museum and a group of students went up to watch a historic French film and without realizing everyone else left and went to the gift shop, the group of students left the cinema and panicked not knowing where their classmates were and they ran around the museum and landed themselves in the gift shop finding their peers after a funny but worrying situation.

The same day, we visited an interesting museum on World War II, it was called the Caen Museum. It was a memorial museum for all of the people lost in WWII and it celebrated the history of France during the war. When we went back to the hotel, we all went down to the beach that



our hotel was situated on and there was a big football game between teachers and students, others just walked along the beach or walked into the water. The football game was intense to



watch and there was cheers all round as Ms. Conlon scored the winning goal for her team. After dinner we went to the classroom downstairs and we all took part in a teacher, student quiz. We saw who knew the most about everyone and there were some general knowledge French questions as well. Team Wuhdder came paddy last while Team Buckaroo were the clear winners of the night. We went to bed after the quiz to prepare for a long travel the next day. In the morning, we were split up into two groups for our French classes. As one group was at the class while the other group walked up to the small village and got food to eat and vice versa.

After the classes that day, we went to visit the D-Day beaches and a cemetery. We collected our tour guide at Caen memorial museum where we had been the previous day and some went into the gift shop. We then went to Omaha beach with our tour guide and we were told about the history and the significance of the beach while others ran to find toilets, declined by two restaurants they were forced to use the public toilets along the beach. We then headed to the Normandy American Cemetery and memorial. Our tour guide brought us around and taught us the history behind the people buried there and the unique burial headstones. When the flag lowering was finished, we went towards the museum to get some food in the upstairs bistro and drop off our tour guide and after we ate we went back to the





At the hotel we had dinner before we all went bowling nearby and had a lot of fun, even the teachers joined in. There was an arcade section at the bowling alley too so when our games were finished we were allowed to go in there if we wanted to,

when all the games were over we went back to the hotel and went straight to bed as we had to pack our suitcases to be ready to leave for Paris early the next morning.

After a long, long drive we finally arrived in Paris.

Just before we arrived in Paris though Ms. Conlon and the other teachers had organized 'The Normie Awards' for the students on the trip, many awards were given out, some of which were 'Ant and Dec duo' which we proudly won. 'little ray of sunshine award' which was won by Aisling Lynch for her constant smiling face, 'Best Dressed', 'Bear Grylls survival award' 'Best Mammy' which was won by Orlaith McDonnell for her unreal organizational skills.

When we arrived in Paris we were allowed to take pictures by the Eiffel Tower, unfortunately it was too busy to go up so we decided to go to Trocadéro which is just across from the tower. Here we took more photos as it was a pretty view of the Eiffel Tower. This is a famous



monument in Paris that is featured in a lot of movies and people from around the world take beautiful photos here. There were a number of photo shoots occurring which really showed how much of a beautiful place it is for not only tourists but even the people who live there.

After all the pictures were taken we decided to treat ourselves to ice cream as it was a very warm day. We then headed to a huge and fancy shopping centre called Aéroville and were let free for about 3 hours to shop and eat, most people saved their money through the trip just for the shopping centre which was wise as there was many many shops which were intriguing and made you want to buy expensive things.

The trip was a really good experience it allowed us to learn about French culture and allowed us to see famous landmarks along with also improving our knowledge of the language. There were many people on their death beds through the trip but they survived in the end thank god. The trip overall was amazing and our discos on the bus with the speaker down the back will be missed, We can in full confidence speak for all when we say it was an amazing experience and a fantastic trip.

Problem Solving

All of our Maths and problem solving skills were tested this year when the Numeracy team and Ms. Conaty organised the inaugural problem solving week when Locked Room challenges, Sudoku solving abilities and life skills were tested through various activities. One of the loveliest presentations took the form of cakes, buns and sweet things, but these weren't for eating, they were only for show!



Music - a piece of art that goes in the ears and straight to the heart.



Oh! What a year we have had in Music in 2017/2018!! Thank you oh so much to all our wonderfully talented students who really make Music the most rewarding subject in the school.



As we know, Music, as a subject for both JC, LC and LCA, is a subject which opens your mind to dream beyond what you thought was impossi-

ble. Room 9 is a room where some life long friendships are made through performance, composition and experience. We dare you to give it a try! Sometimes music is the only thing that takes your mind off everything else.

The year began hectic as Ms. Dalton and Ms. Jackson got everybody ready for 'Hairspray' and what a treat it really was. This was soon followed by our yearly talent show lead by the wonderful Ms. Flynn, where Joshua wowed us all with his amazing voice and guitar playing – a well-deserved winner. Weekly practices of senior music group, junior music group (under the direction of Ms. Quigley and Ms. Monerawela) and trad group (under the



direction of Ms. Kilrane) take place during lunchtimes to fill the corridors with music. TY and LCA students got a great opportunity to learn from some of the best and took part in African drumming workshops. LCA students went to see Annie at Dunboyne school and the Ty students took to the streets of Dublin for a music themed urban challenge. A trip to the National Concert Hall cemented the understanding of our wonderful Leaving Cert students. With awards season looming I am sure all the students will step up the mark and show off their talents – we cannot wait to hear what you all have in store.

So, whether you experience Music as a subject or a hobby, we thank each one of you. For without you, the lives of us Music teachers would be dull and boring.

'To play a wrong note is insignificant; to play without passion is inexcusable' – Beethoven.



di-



Young Economist



Mr. Connolly, Emma Coroner,
Caoilinn Eiffe & Kate Corcoran



Mr. Connolly, Adam Goggin,
Callum Browne & Max McNally



Luke Tynan, Mr. Connolly & Emer O'Neill



Ailbhe Whitty, Lauren Kelly & Aideen Lanigan

Emer O'Neill reporting from the YEOTY:

This year Rang Hennessy's TY Economics class, taught by Mr Connolly, entered projects into the Young Economist of the Year 2018 competition. Four of these projects got through and won three bronze medals and one silver medal. The four projects were, 'Bitcoin: Rise and Fall' by Callum Browne, Max McNally and Adam Goggin; 'The Economics of Medicine' by Kate Corcoran, Emma Coroner and Caoilinn Eiffe; 'Social Media: The Influence of Influencers' by Aideen Lanigan, Lauren Kelly and Alibhe Whitty and 'How Brexit will Affect Northern Ireland', by Luke Tynan and Emer O'Neill.

Rang Hennessy travelled to the National Awards ceremony in Croke Park on 2nd May. When we arrived, we were assigned an area to set up our posters about our projects. This was inside the Croke Park Conference Centre, not on the pitch which was how I had been imagining it. Once we set up we were able to look around at some of the projects from other schools. Some of these were very interesting, such as 'Capitalism vs Communism' or my own favourite, 'Harry Potter and the unstable economy'.

We then went into the main hall where we listened to a talk on why economics is important from Professor Karl Whelan and we were introduced to the judges. After this came the moment we were all waiting for – the giving out of the medals. It was a bit nerve wrecking waiting for our school to be called and very daunting to walk up in front of everyone, but it was a great feeling and a very proud moment when we were handed our medals and took a picture with our fabulous teacher Mr Connolly.

We then went back to our stand and we were able to look at the other projects for another bit while the judges came around. The nerves returned in full force when one of the judges came to our stand and started asking about our projects. However, we all managed to make it through and talk about our projects without making fools of ourselves. The judge seemed to be particularly interested in the 'Economics of Medicine'. It was then back to the main speaking hall where we heard some interesting talks from past winners of the competition including our own previous Ard Cinnire, Stephen Fowler and the overall winners of the Young Economic were announced.

We were then given a tasty lunch and it was time to pack up and go home. It was a great experience and one I know I will remember for years to come. Thank you, Mr. Connolly for the brilliant day!

Marbh le tae agus marbh gan é

Bliain fíorghnóthach ar fad a bhí ann arís i mbliana do mhuinteoirí agus do dhaltáí na Gaeilge. Mar a deir an seanfhocal, "Stadann an ceol ach ní stadann an rince"! Tá fás agus forbairt na Gaeilge ag dul ó neart go neart timpeall na scoile gach lá dá dtéann thart - "Ní bhíonn bua gan dua" nó "Taithí a dhéanann máistreacht", mar a dhéarfá.

Bhí áthas orainn ag tús na bliana fáilte ar ais a chur roimh Ms. Kilrane. D'airigh sí go mór uainn. Comhghairdeas le Ms. Garrett atá ag caitheamh ama lena páistí áille. Chomh maith le sin chuireamar fáilte Uí Cheallaigh roimh Ms. Monerawela, Ms. Quigley agus Ms. Gilna a thosaigh ag obair linn i gColáiste Ráth Tó! Bhí foireann den chéad scoth againn.

Bhí na daltaí tríú agus seú bliana gnóthach le déanaí leis na scrúduithe beil. D'oibrigh siad go dian ad ullmhú do na scrúduithe agus b'fhiú í an obair dhian ag deireadh an lae. Mhol na scrúdaitheoirí go hard na spéire iad as ucht na dea-oibre a rinneadh agus as an dearcadh dearfach a bhí acu i leith na Gaeilge. Maith sibh!

Bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge iontach againn arís i mbliana. Bhí an t-uafás imeachtaí ar siúl, ina measc bhí, Comórtas na bPostaer, Tráth na gCeist, ceolchoirm don dara bliain agus an Céilí Mór. Bhí craic iontach ag daltaí na céad bliana ag damhsa. Eagraíodh an tae arís, "Marbh le tae agus marbh gan é".

Bhain chuile duine sa scoil taitneamh as cupán tae, briosca blasta le seanfhocal scríofa air agus comhrá is comhlúadar d'ard-chaighdeán. Bhí bua na hamhránaíochta agus bua an cheoil le feiscint ag an gceolchoirm agus is iontach an rud é daoine óga a fheiceáil ag baint taitnimh as imeachtaí dhifriúla trí mheáin na Gaeilge agus sin mar a tharla le linn na seachtaine sin.

Bhí an comórtas scoláireachta ar siúl arís i mbliana. Bhí deis ag gach dalta cur isteach ar an gcomórtas

chun scoláireachta a bhuachan chun freastal ar chúrsa samhraidh. Ba mhór an chabhair iad na scoláireachtaí do na daltaí. Bhí sé an-deacair don Uasal Farrell na buaiteoirí a roghnú! Comhghairdeas leo go léir.

Bhí seans ag an idirbhliain taithí a fháil ar shal na Gaeltachta i mbliana. Chuaigh siadsan lena múinteoirí go dtí Droim Rí. Ghlac siad páirt i go



leor imeachtaí agus ceardlaine éagsúla.

Bhí an-lá acu agus ba dheis iontach é chun taithí a fháil ar Ghaeilge mar theanga beo.

Níl aon amhras ach go raibh bliain iontach againn agus muid ag ceiliúradh Blaiain na Gaeilge agus 125 bliain de Chonradh na Gaeilge. Bhí an Ghaeilge le cloisteáil ó cheann ceann na scoile agus mar is gnáth tá daltaí na scoile ag dul i bhfeabhas ar a dteanga dúchais féin. "Tír gan teanga, tír gan anam".

Ba mhaith leis na múinteoirí Gaeilge ár mbuíochas a ghébhail leis na daltaí as an obair ar fad agus le údarás na scoile as an tacaíocht ar fad. Guímis gach rath ar gach dalta a bhfuil ag déanamh na Scruidithe Stáit i mbliana agus tá súil againn go mbeidh samhradh iontach grianmhar taitneamhach ag gach duine agaibh, go háirithe Ms. Lyons a bheidh ag ceiliúradh lá mór i rith an tsamhraidh - go n-éirí go geal léi!

Tá réabhlóid na teanga faoi lánseol i Ráth Tó. Bígí linn!



“La brutta notizia è che il tempo vola.

La buona è che il pilota sei tu!”

Another year has flown by in the blink of an eye and we are all finding ourselves reflecting on the year that was. In the Italian Department, it's been another *anno pieno di impegni e avventure!!!*

We've missed the *favolosa* Ms Flatley immensely this year, but she's been busy spending time with her lovely little *signorina* Lily. *Congratulazioni* and we can't wait to have you back with *la famiglia italiana* in RC next year. However, *arrivederci* to Ms Flatley meant *ben tornato* to the *magnifico* Mr Delany. Not alone that but we were also joined by the *fantastica* Federica from *Venezia*, the latest in a long line of exceptional language assistants. It has been *un'esperienza indimenticabile* having a true Venetian in our midst for the year giving us an insight into the reality of living in such a legendary city.

Our First Year Italian classes, Rangs Clerkin, Doonan and Hayes, are already proving themselves to be naturals to the Italian language and their energy and enthusiasm for *la cultura e la lingua* has been a joy to see. For obvious reasons, the Hayeselnuts seem to have an extra special connection to *il bel paese*. ;) We can't wait to see their ability and passion continue to grow in the coming years.

Once again, our Junior Cycle students excelled in the National Postcard and Poster Competition organised by the *Associazione Insegnanti di Italiano*. Art and Italian undeniably go hand in hand and it is wonderful to see our students combine their twin passions through their engagement with this competition. This year one of our Second Year students, Max Brazil of Rang Farrell was a prize-winner and he, along with all the other national finalists, was celebrated at the awards ceremony in the Italian Cultural Institute in Dublin where he received a goodie bag full of Italian treats. Max was accompanied by Mr McAuley, the organiser of this national competition, and his fellow *studente d'italiano*, Luke Fitzpatrick of Rang Grogan. *Complimenti a Max e al suo insegnante Mr Delany!!!*

This year we changed things up for *Lo Scambio Italiano*. Rather than the usual springtime swap over, we welcomed our Italian visitors in October. However, they were not our only unexpected visitors as Storm Ophelia came crashing in from the West scuppering our plans and closing the school!!! However, to quote none other than Albert Einstein, *“In mezzo a ogni difficoltà si trova un'opportunità”*. We, and our Italian colleagues, were incredibly proud to see how our students rallied and stepped up to face a challenging situation. When the photos began to flood in, we were particularly impressed by the Italian-Irish partnership that prepared pasta from scratch, *bravi Luca e Virginia!!!* In March, it was our turn to jet off with Mr McAuley and Ms Hayes guiding our fabulous TY and Fifth Year students on their *avventura di una vita!!!* We'll leave it to the aforementioned *giornalisti* to give you the nitty gritty details of our time in *Bella Italia...*

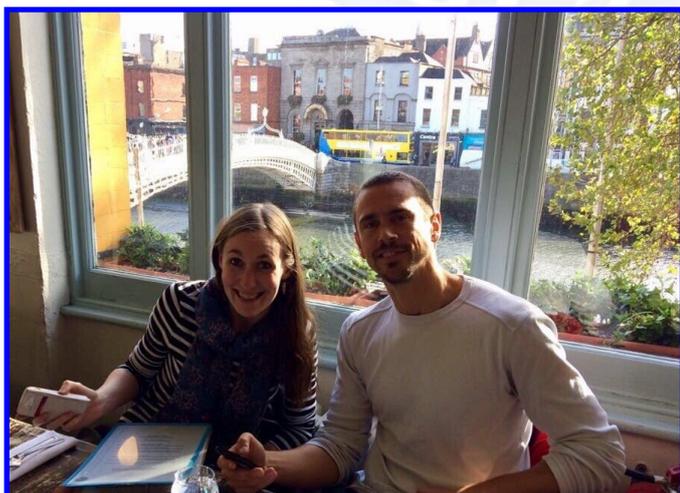


As we approach the end of another academic year, it's almost “Time to Say Goodbye” to our stellar Sixth Years. We are so proud of all of your hard work across the last five or six years and, *in particolare*, of your trojan efforts to prepare for your Oral Exams in April. We hope that no matter what corner of the world life leads you to, a little bit of love for *Italia* remains in your hearts. *In bocca al lupo per gli esami a giugno!!!*

Best of luck once again to our Third Year and Sixth Year students as you face into the State Examinations. *Forza ragazzi!!!*

To everybody else, *buone vacanze e ci vediamo in autunno!!!*

**Ms Hayes,
Mr McAuley,
Mr Delany
e Ms Flatley**



L'avventura di una vita!

Written by Sarah Jones:

At 11pm, the 11th of October, I stood outside the school gates, dressed comfortably in my fluffy slippers and PJ bottoms alongside my fellow exchange students, dressed the same as me. We stood and chatted in the cold for what seemed like hours until, finally, our Italian partners arrived. The first night was challenging to say the least, trying to establish breakfast times and general school happenings was difficult enough without the serious language barrier between the two nationalities, let alone how exhausted all the students were. We struggled through the awkward breakfast times and quiet walk to school. Arriving to sports day on the Italians first official day although was a complete change of pace, everyone came out in full form and put everything into our sports day, no matter how cold they found it. The Italians, although, did not have the regular Irish experience. Unfortunately, a storm was brewing and by the fifth day, school had been cancelled and houses were on lockdown. Our trips had to be cancelled and we were now left with the responsibility of entertaining 27 Italian students for two days within the comforts of our own homes. Luckily everyone pulled together, our days and nights were spent making home made carbonara and trying desperately to educate the Italians on the spirituality behind a spice bag. The Italians saw true Irish culture, although it may have not been what they expected and visited both the Guinness storehouse and Katy's chipper, maybe more times than we'd like to admit. But overall the week we thought we would dread ended up being over in a flash. Teary-eyed goodbyes and "See you later's" were shared and just like that, the Irish students were already planning for our trip to Parma in the months to follow.

We boarded our bus to the airport at 4:30, the 21st of March. We were anything less than well rested and nerves



were running high. We enjoyed our Burger King breakfast and in no time, we were sat on the plane ready for take-off. The plane landed in Milan airport early that morning and we were greeted outside Liceo Scientifico Statale G.Ulvili in Parma by our Italian friends. That first day was long and tiresome and that evening we all sat down with our families to our first dinner, some were pleasantly surprised, and some thought they wouldn't eat anything again for the rest of the trip. The second day we visited the Parma town hall and was greeted by the town mayor. We visited "Luna parc" also that day, the sun was beaming, we ate crepes and rode the bumper cars until it was time to go back to our temporary homes. Our third day in Italy was by far the best day of our trip when we visited the cinque Terre. The first town we visited was Liguria, here, we walked up what seemed like millions of stairs until we reached the top of the mountain and were greeted with the most beautiful view of the sea. We descended back down the dreaded stairs and boarded our double decker train to our next destination, Manarola. We spent a short amount of time there eating ice cream and shopping through the town. Monterosso was everyone's favourite town. We visited the beach and a few Irish students braved the cold waters and went in for a dip, once again the whole trip was entertained by Colm and Aaron, in their matching pink shorts, diving straight into the freezing cold waters. Everyone dried off and headed out for pizza before leaving for our last town of the trip. Vernazza was our last stop, we did no more than sit and soak in the sun and wait for our bus to take us home after the most memorable day of our exchange so far.





The students arrived at the school the next morning, exhausted from our busy day. The Italian students told us that today we would be going on a “puzzle walk” which we could only assume meant treasure hunt, we were put into teams and sent out around Parma with a list of clues. The competitive-types were really shown clear this day, the Irish, as expected were too lazy to run around getting the answers, which did not make the Italians very happy, they spent the day sprinting around the town trying as hard as they could to win us the prize of a Liceo Scientifico t-shirt. Saturday morning, we woke up, once again, at 6am for school,



something we weren't too pleased about, we spent a small amount of time in the school and then went shopping for the rest of the day. That evening we went to the Bebob disco in Parma. The Irish were shocked to find a band performing inside the club but kept an open mind and we ended up having the best night of the trip in that little disco. Sunday, we went to Milan, it had been a late night the night previous and all anyone wanted to do was go home and get some rest, a concept that became very foreign to us on this trip. Some of us rented bikes and went around the streets of Milan taking in the sights, and being offered jewellery by strange men on the streets. Our last two days in Italy were spent in the school, visiting the parmesean cheese factory (the smelliest place any of us had ever been!), seeing an ancient castle in Parma, listening to throwback songs on Oisins speaker and like every other day of the trip, shopping.

The trip was drawing to an emotional close and we began wanting more and more time away with both our Italian and Irish friends, quite different to how most of us felt at the beginning of the trip. In just one short week us 27 Irish students had made another 27, lifelong Italian friends and gotten to know our Irish friends on a much deeper level. We said goodbye to our Italian friends on the 28th of March and promised to see



them soon, some even planned to make another trip to Parma over the summer.

It goes without saying that Italian exchange was one of the best experiences any of us have had in our lives thus far, it was completely life changing. It is safe to say that we all boarded our bus for the final time that day, after very emotional goodbyes and more sleep deprived than any of us thought humanely possible, but left with memories to last us a life time, memories of friends and places we will never forget but most of all, the beautiful city of Parma #Andiamo.



Do they know its Christmas?



Nicole Stewien look backk on a magical memory from TY:

I can easily say on behalf of all of the transition years that the Annual Christmas Village that Ratoath College puts on for the local primary schools was one of the most enjoyable things we took part in throughout the year, I even got the pleasure of being Mrs Claus for a day which was a fun and amazing experience! Each rang got to put on outfits and be that little bit jolly for the children



which was so much fun and so great to be a part of. We got to sing songs, play games, bake and decorate



cookies, we had face paints and lovely elves to help children write letters to Santa! The best part, which I'm sure made most of our days was getting to be the reason children were laughing and smiling and talking about how they got to see Santa and even who their favourite elves were. It brought the magic of Christmas alive to all of the TYs and overall it was one of the opportunities that truly made Transition Year that little bit greater, perhaps even more merry and bright!

Robot Wars

By anonymous:

After being convinced to do it by a friend, and after months of planning, soldering, 3D printing and several trials, we created a robot worthy of entering Robot Wars, a competition of craftsmanship, cunning and outsmarting your opponent. It took place in Galway and to my amazement, the place was absolutely packed. There were hundreds of people and robots, some made professionally and others not quite so professional. We got through the qualifying round easily enough but ultimately we were defeated. It was fascinating to watch all the different schools and how they had constructed their robots. The experience itself was truly amazing,

my understanding of design and engineering has improved, I will definitely go again. Now that I know what I'm up against I'll be better prepared too. Thanks to Mr. Munnelly and Mr. Hannon who made it possible for us to enter.



DREAM

Students and staff from Aonad Arkle travelled to Microsoft Ireland's headquarters in Leopardstown on Wednesday May 9th to take part in their Dream Space experience. In Dream Space the students enjoyed hands on, immersive technology experiences and saw many of the applications for technology in everyday life. Students were introduced to coding, scratch and Minecraft. While there Microsoft provided the students with a delicious lunch and everyone left with a goody bag. Our students really enjoyed this trip as so many of them have an interest in technology with some wishing to pursue this as a career.



Students from Aonad Arkle in Microsoft HQ

Let your voice be heard

By Eoghan McGee:

So as we all know, the Referendum is fast approaching. A lot has been said about the verdict on the day, the public controversy of the opinion of both sides. However, not much has been said about the lack of registration to vote. Compared to the other referendums, much less citizens have decided to register to vote. Whether this is down to a lack of effort or people not wanting to express an opinion, it could sway the verdict of the vote. In the end, whatever verdict is announced it is important that as many members of the nation have their say. Through the media, we know that a lot of young people have a strong opinion on their voting option, however it's not as much as it has been. So I don't care what you vote or what your opinion is on the topic, what matters is that we vote as young people. The future of the country isn't up to anyone else



but us. So if we want to change or impact on our future, we need to vote for these things, regardless of what we vote because our Ireland can only be unique to us because of how we want it to be. If we want something changed, we vote. So it's our responsibility if we're eligible to vote that we should, it's our country and we have a right to vote, so we should use it. So I say to you, for this Referendum or any in the future, let your voice be heard, stand up and vote for the future.

In April we were extremely grateful to Garda Barbara Kelly who helped 39 senior students to complete their registration making it possible for them to vote this May 2018.



Teamwork makes the dream work

Leaving Certificate Applied

As part of the LCA programme students complete 7 big tasks over the course of the two years. They are interviewed by an external examiner and have to produce a report on each. Here, Craig Abdul Kareem reports on two of tasks completed this year:

Bake Sale



On the Friday 9th March 2018, Rang Canny's LCA Students ran a mini-company and it is very important for the Enterprise task. My class-mates chosen to do the Bake Sale. The Mini

Company's name was Get Baking. All of the items sold cost €1. My class-mates sold cookies, pancakes and muffins which we had made ourselves on our Hotel Catering and Tourism module. All proceeds went to the Hope Foundation. During the Bake Sale, we worked on a till, handling the money and selling the three products. The money raised was around €191.00 and all of it went to the Hope Foundation. My favorite moment in Bake Sale was RC News, I reported the RC News because I enjoyed sharing the news on the Bake Sale and I also enjoyed making my RC News debut.



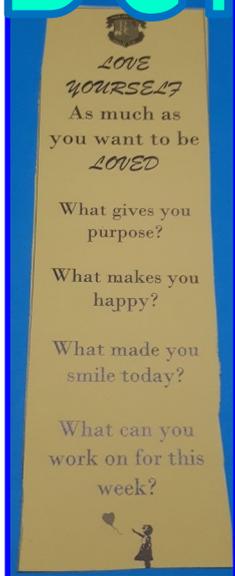
The Story of My Life



In Music, LCA students from 5th Year did the General Education Task in Music class and it was called the Story of My Life. We picked 7 soundtracks from important times from our lives. We worked in groups to think about three different ideas for our task. The ideas we had were making a soundtrack, putting on a concert and researching a topic. We worked on typing up this task on the Computers during our ICT class. We designed the CD Cover in Craft and Design class, created the CD and wrote the track lists. We enjoyed working this task. We did an interview on the music task and we have already received our results. Our teacher Ms. Flynn was very proud of the work we put in to both tasks this year and of our excellent results.



Believe to Achieve



An endeavour taken on as part of a Transition Year Project on minding our mental health was to appreciate all the wonderful things about yourself. During Mental Health Week students and staff were given self-check book-marks to help them reflect on their purpose, their accomplishments and the great uplifting moments of each day. While every day may not be wonderful, there is something wonderful to be found each day and the aim of the book-marks was to keep this to the forefront of our minds. Bright yellow in colour, a bright idea for reflection, evaluation, inspiration and improvement. Mighty work!



First year runs wild!

First years on tour:

On Monday, the 14th of May this year, the halls of Ratoath College were filled with a frisson of excitement unusually early. Why? Because the long awaited day had arrived, a rite of passage for every 1st Year student who passes through the doors: the School Tour to Lilliput Adventure Centre.

We gathered bright and early in the morning, students, Caomhnóirs and our fabulous



Moltóir Ms. Savage, all ready to head out into the wilds of Westmeath for a day of fun, friendship and mud. LOTS of mud!!!

We climbed rock walls and abseiled down with music booming out across the lake. We completed an orienteering trail and we chased each other down in the forest in epic games of "Capture the Flag". We canoed out onto Lough Enell learning a lot about team work in the process. Some of us figured out



pretty quickly that if we didn't work together we'd soon end up spinning in circles or, worse still, plunged unexpectedly into the icy water. No naming and shaming for now!!! ;) The highlight of the day for everybody was definitely our bog

hopping adventure. Nerves and doubt soon gave way to adrenaline and courage as we waded through the slime and jumped into the bog pools. We transformed into swamp monsters but we loved every minute.



As the day came to an end, there was one last surprise in store. The way to the heart of every teenager around the world, especially tired and hungry ones – PIZZA!!! We descended on the pizzas like a pack of hungry (but polite) wolves and relished our last few minutes sitting lakeside at the end of a non-stop but incredible day.

Huge thanks go to our amazing Moltóir Ms. Savage for organising the trip, our fabulous Caomhnóirí for looking after us and the awesome staff at Lilliput Adventure Centre for giving us a day to remember!!!

It's hard to put into words the magic of a day checked out from the reality of every day school life. Time slows down and stretches out to hold more laughter. The sound of chatter and whispered confidences spread like wildfire and at the end of the day, all we could do was marvel at how closely bonded and united our 1st Year family has become in just one short school year.



Na Múinteoirí

Fresh off their excellent showing in last year's 'Schoology Interschool Teachers Cup', a crack team of part-time educators and fulltime footballers from Ratoath College faced off against colleagues from other local schools in a titanic clash, broadcast live on Eir Sport 4.



Without going into too much detail the team were cruelly denied in the final by a highly questionable penalty decision but can be praised for their valiant efforts in reaching that stage of the competition. They were almost led to glory through the magnificent goalscoring exploits of Mr. Farrell, who smashed in a belter of a free kick from 30 yards to beat a former Irish international in goals. Coincidentally Mr. Farrell also picked up the 'Protège-tibia d'Or' as he ended the tournament as the top goalscorer. Honourable mentions must go to the goalkeeping expertise of Mr. McCarthy, as his distribution and handling were something to behold, and also to the dogged persistence of Mr. Nissar, who smashed against the post to perform a goal-line clearance in the dying seconds of one match — commitment.

The Ratoath College teaching staff divided for a final clash in the 'RC Shield' with the 'A-Team' consisting of Mr. McAuley, Mr. Delaney, Ms. Quigley, Ms. Hennessy, Mr. Gibson & Mr. McKenna vs the 'B-Sharps' comprised of Mr. Jordan, Mr. O'Neill, Ms. Conlan, Ms. Lyttle, Mr. Toner, Mr. Farrell & Ms. Conaty. Some highlights included the exquisite finishing of Mr. Delaney who scored a number of volleys and diving headers to revive his goalscoring touch, which had been lacking in the early stages of the tournament, alongside the pinpoint accuracy of the crosses provided by Ms. Quigley. Ms. Conlan was a rock in goal with some dubbing her 'RC's answer to De Gea'. Mr. Toner was in fine scoring form as he hatched in the box, eager to pounce on any opportunity whilst avoiding the long trek back to help his

own defence whilst Mr. Jordan ran up and down the wings in support, until distracted by the pile of burgers and hotdogs on offer at the side of the pitch. Ms. Hennessy & Ms. Lyttle had a stern contest on the wings with

hard challenges and rabonas coming in equal measure while Mr. McKenna was an immovable force at the back as no member of staff was safe from his tough tackling, no nonsense approach to the game. The midfield dynamic duo of Mr. McAuley & Mr. Gibson provided the flair and samba skills of the game as each flick and trick was matched by an equally impressive dive after being hit by a rogue gust of wind. The engine room of the team was Mr. O'Neill who never stopped running around the pitch like a headless chicken, trying to win the ball back from the opposition, and often from his own team.



In the words of every Liverpool fan since 1990 — "Next year will be our year".

Arts Week Writers

As part of the Arts Week Writing Competition the following entries were selected to be published in the Yearbook as young writers to watch. Well Done all!

The Tiny Test

Walking through the rain on the path to hell
 You know your grammar but you can't even
 spell
 You studied for your test long and hard
 But you can't even remember because your
 brain feels slurred
 It's only a few questions how bad can it be
 But that changed when it's in front of me
 I searched my brain for the answer to B
 But I could only think about question C
 I scribbled some words, I threw down my pen
 And in front of me the clock struck ten
 I looked over and over and over again
 Looked for the answers and clicking my pen
 It suddenly felt hopeless alright
 Until I thought back to last night
 I remember the answers on the page
 And suddenly I felt awake
 All the answers came back to my head
 And I scribbled as fast as I could while I read
 And handed up my test in time for the bell
 And ran out of class, happy as hell

Matthew Fleming 2 Smith

Ratoath College

Ratoath College, what a place to be
 It's become part of me
 Walking to class is fun
 You have no need to run
 The classes are good
 When you're with your bud
 You can ace your exam

The challenges can be rough
 So you've got to be really tough
 Life here isn't bad
 You might think that is sad
 Break is great
 Eating with your mate
Kyle Witter 1 O'Sullivan

Citizens of the World

In March Rang Jackson invited a guest speaker into their CSPE class as part of a project they were completing on Ireland, Politics, Justice and Citizenship. They were delighted to welcome John Cuff who spoke with the class about his work with the prison service in Mountjoy. Rang Jackson and Ms. Kilrane found the presentation to be engaging and highly informative. Very sensible questions were asked. The students now feel that they have a better understanding of the justice system in Ireland and Ms. Kilrane informs us that a high standard of projects were completed based on the information their guest speaker shared.



Grianghraif na ranganna 2017-18

An Chéad Bhliain

First Year Moltóir's Message

A chapter draws to a close,

It's hard to believe that just a few short months ago your story began here in Ratoath College. You are such fabulous characters and you have all enriched the story of our school. Your caomhnóirí and I have loved being a part of your story and we look forward to the many exciting chapters that are yet to be written. I hope that you have started a story that you are proud of and if not, there's always a chance to edit a few pages and start over. Can I make a special mention of the fabulous day we spent on May 14th in Lilliput. Your company was wonderful, your positive can do attitude inspiring, your spirit of good fun fabulous and your behaviour exemplary. I hope it was a highlight in your story so far, one of many I am sure, it was definitely one of mine.

I hope you feel as you reflect on the year that you have settled in well and after a well earned rest over the summer months you will be reenergised ready for the next chapter...2nd year!

Be a good example to our incoming 1st years. Be kind. Be helpful. They will look to you for guidance. I know you will be fantastic role models for them.

Well done one and all on a fabulous year, here's to an extra fabulous 2nd year!

Ms. Aisling Savage

Rang Clerkin



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

Rang Doonan



Rang Hayes



Rang Lyons



Rang McKenna



Rang O'Sullivan



Rang O'Toole



An Dara Bliain

Second Year Moltóir's Message

Where has that year gone? Everyone warned me that 2nd Year was going to be a tough year, it is always the year when students cause trouble, lose motivation and stop working! I am delighted to say that this has not been the case, in fact it has been the opposite. You have all matured and settled down in Ratoath College, finding your place or niche, and developing your talents. You have started to grow into mature confident young ladies and gentlemen. I am very proud of you as a year group and admire how you dealt with 2nd year, faced and dealt with any adversities, and focused yourselves on both your academic learning and personal development.

In short, you have been a fantastic group to work with, it has been a pleasure to support you on this Learning Curve and it is my privilege to be your Moltóir. Again, I would like to congratulate you all on how you embraced your academic studies, adapted to new styles of learning and continued working on your digital learning using your iPads, engaged in extra-curricular activities and most importantly the way you look out for and mind each other. It has been an extraordinary busy year, there wasn't a week when there wasn't some activity or trip on and you embraced all of these whole heartedly. Third year will bring new challenges, the level of work will once again increase, but I have no doubt you will be well able for it. Come back in August with a positive attitude, set some goals, be organised and start working from day one, and you will all do fine.

Behind every good year group there is a great team of Caomhnóiri who go way beyond the call of duty to look after you. A sincere thank you to Ms. Grogan, Mr. Farrell, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Mooney, Ms. O'Dwyer, Ms. Delaney, Ms. Smith & Ms. Treacy who work tirelessly looking after your welfare and helping you to achieve the best of your ability.

On behalf of the Second Year Team, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and safe summer, enjoy the rest and we look forward to welcoming you back to the Ratoath College family in August.

Derek Ball

Rang Farrell



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

Rang Grogan



Rang Jackson



Rang Mooney



Rang O'Dwyer



Rang Smith



Rang Treacy



An Tríú Bliain

Third Year Moltóir's Message

Well, our countdown is nearly over and the 6th of June 2018 is fast approaching. Who knew back in August 2015 that our time together would pass so quickly!! I have loved my time working with you as a year group. There is no doubt in my mind but that you will do well in the state exams and that you are ready to move onto senior cycle.

As we approach the end of 3rd year, I would like to say thank you to you all and to congratulate each one of you on three excellent years. We have created and shared many memories over the three years and your Caomhnóirí and I are very proud of you all.

To those of you progressing on to Transition Year, I wish you all the very best in your future endeavours. I will miss you as part of the year group but you know where my office is if you ever want to call in for a chat!

To those of you progressing on to 5th Year, I really look forward to working with you in senior cycle as you embark upon the next chapter of your life and upon the exciting coursework for your Leaving Certificate. We look forward to welcoming the current Transition Years to our year group and getting to know them as our classmates. We look forward also to welcoming Ms. Donohoe and Mr. Munnelly to the team in 5th Year.

I would like to say a huge 'Thank You' to my team. Ms. Daly, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Martin, Ms. McGarron, Mr. Nissar and Ms. Witter. The commitment and dedication to you, their students, on both a personal and educational level has been truly inspiring.

A word of thanks is also due to our parents who have helped and encouraged you along the way and our 3rd Year team would like to express our thanks to the parents/guardians who supported us over the three years.

Our school is a richer and more diverse community because of the contribution you have made and so I have to tell you all one last time – thank you for making my job as a teacher and my role as your Moltóir a pleasure!

'Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow' – Albert Einstein

Kind regards,

Colm Connolly (Moltóir)

Mary Daly

Teresa Kelly

Kerry-Lynn Martin

Heather McGarron

Mohammed Nissar

Lorraine Witter

Rang Daly



Rang Kelly



Rang Martin



Rang McGarron



Rang Nissar



Rang Witter



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

An Idirbhalliain

Transition Year Moltóir's Message

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!! You guys have made the last 5 months as your Moltóir the most enjoyable, fun and enriching time I have had in Ratoath College to date. Your good humour, kindness and positive attitude has been so refreshing and I am bursting with pride to have my name associated with 120 fantastic students.

I am so proud of each and every one of you and all that you have achieved over the last year. Your contribution to the school community is highly commendable and you have left big shoes to fill. To those of you who always volunteer and have set up or run any initiatives in the last year, well done!! Your dedication and ambition has not gone unnoticed. It was a pleasure to share in and hear your stories about the many trips (Bonding, Irish trip, Belfast, Urban Challenge), Talent Show, the Musical, RC News, Christmas Village, countless Pay It Forward projects... the list is endless! My only regret is that I wasn't there from the start to share in all of this but we have certainly finished the year on a high!

My special thanks to your wonderful Caomhnoirí, Ms Dinsmore, Ms Hennessey, Mr McCarthy and Ms O'Donoghue who have cared for you on a daily basis and always had your best interests at heart. I say a big thank you to them on your behalf and I hope they enjoy the well deserved summer break.

And finally, the glue of Transition Year... Ms Paola Flynn, where would we all be without her? On behalf of the Caomhnoirí, the teachers and particularly the students thank you so much for all that you do for the Transition Year students. Ms Flynn's dedication to you guys is second to none and her enthusiasm and vision towards the TY programme is what it makes it such a success and a wonderful experience for all!

I wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing summer break and I look forward to seeing you back at the end of August ready to start into your next journey as Leaving Certificate students. My door is always open if you ever need an ear to bend, a tie to borrow, a gentle nudge in the right direction or a good aul 'What's the story' chat. Continue to be wonderful!!

Ms Ciara Casey

Rang Dinsmore



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

Rang Hennessey



Rang McCarthy



Rang O'Donoghue



An Cúigiú Bliain

Fifth Year: Moltóir's Message

It seems no length since February when I took over the reins from Ms Kelly as your Moltóir. Time certainly flies when you are having fun! Fifth year is a huge challenge and you have all really stepped up to the mark and have taken the challenge of Leaving Certificate full on.

I know most of you have been working really hard and have shown great maturity approaching the challenge of your studies. You are an amazing group of talented young people, you have demonstrated exemplary behaviour and you've been very supportive of each other and have remained positive as you've faced the challenges together. It was a great highlight for me to accompany some of you to France this year and those of you who went abroad to Madrid and on the Italian exchange were exceptional. We have been really proud how you have represented the school both at home and overseas.

I want to say a huge thanks to your amazing Caomhnoirí who always keep an eye out for you and always have your best interests at heart.

I hope you have a lovely break over the summer but do remember to devote some of that time to revision. We look forward to seeing you all in August for your final year!

*Janice Coulon, Jordan Lyttle, Caroline Canny, Rita Donnellan,
Craig Gibson, Patrick McAuley, Amy Quinn and Fiona Reid.*

Rang Canny



Coláiste Ráth Tó - Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí

Rang Donnellan



Rang Gibson



Rang Lyttle



Rang McAuley



Rang Quinn



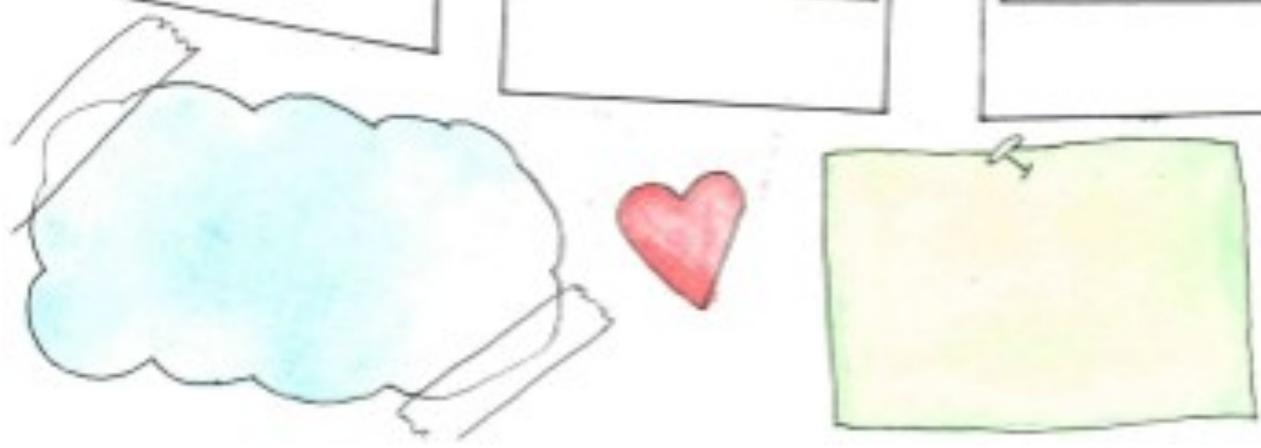
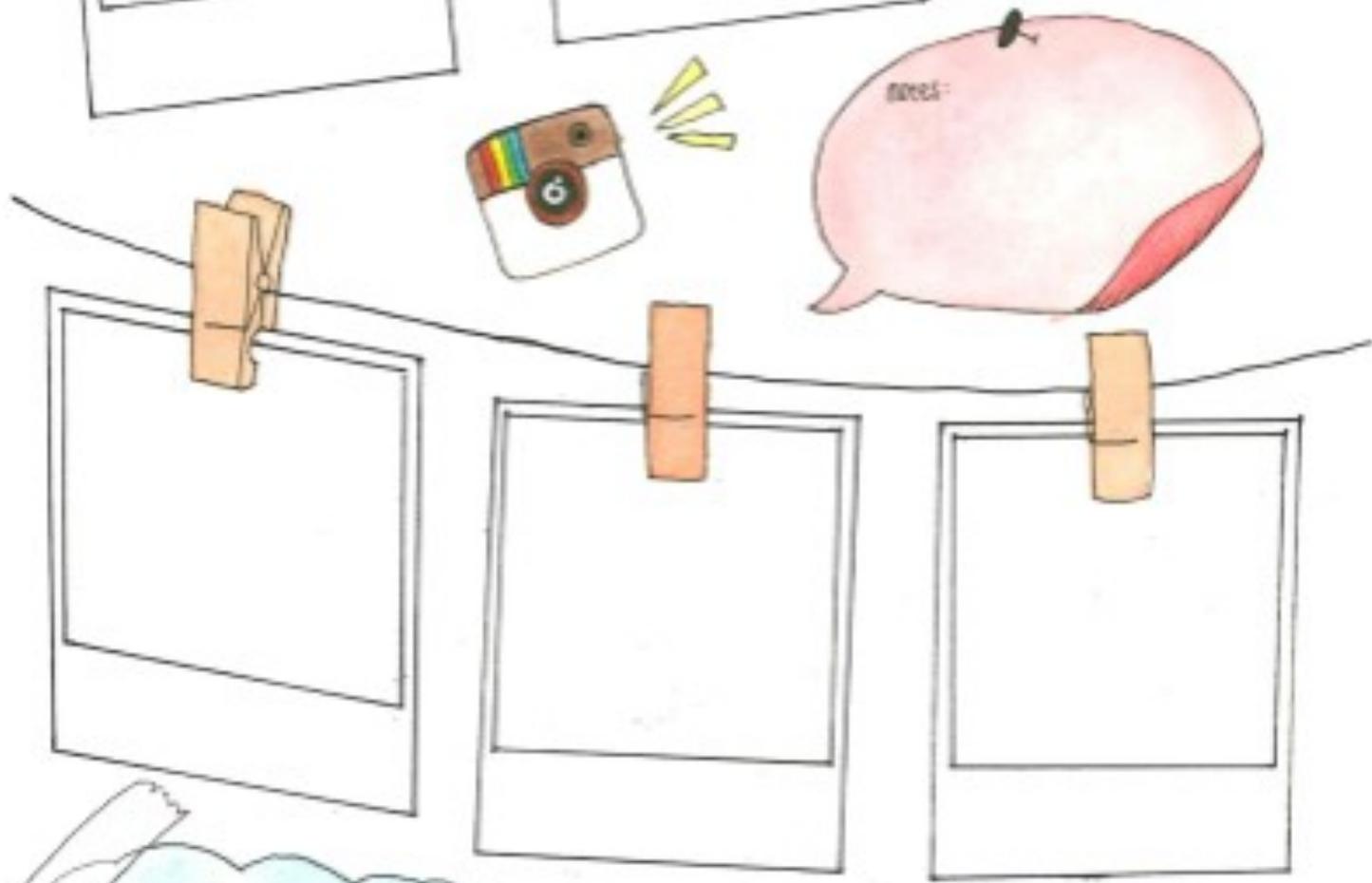
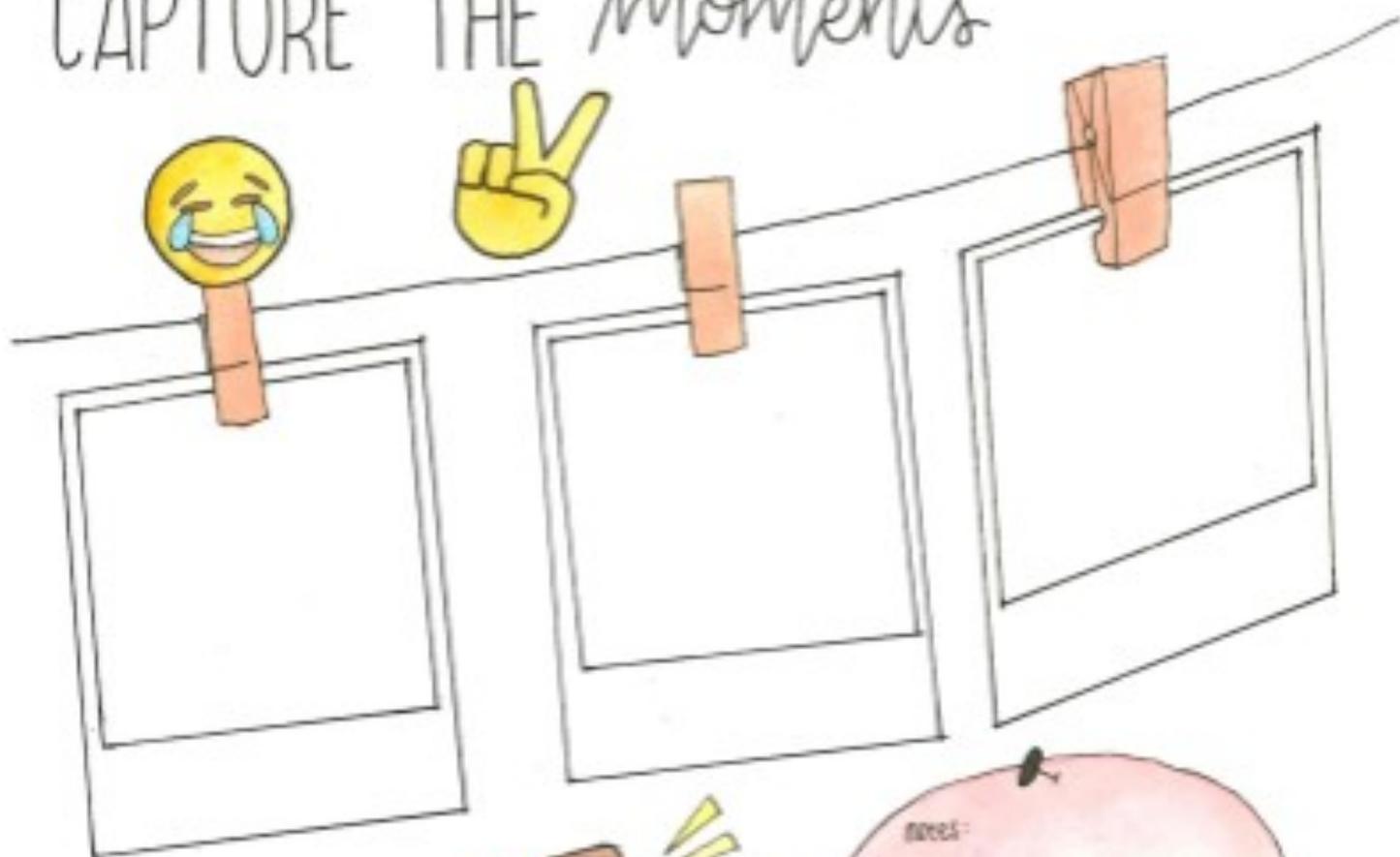
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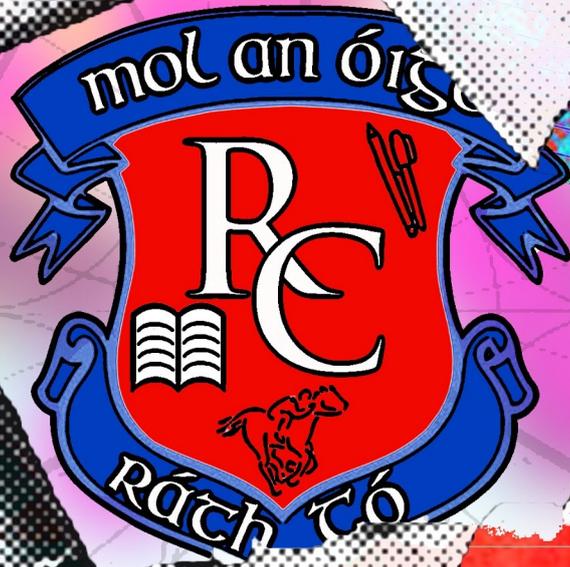


memories



CAPTURE THE moments





2018