

The Erasmian and Diocesan Times

THE HIGH SCHOOL, DUBLIN YEARBOOK

ERASMIAN ISSUE 1, VOLUME 126 | DIOCESAN TIMES ISSUE 1, VOLUME 49 | 2019-2020



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THE ERASMIAN
AND DIOCESAN TIMES
The High School Yearbook

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HSD 150

EDITORIAL

The scramble to complete this year's Erasmian and Diocesan Times was anything but conventional. With an unfinished academic year came a lack of some Form class photographs, as well as lots of untaken sports team photographs. It took a lot of time and attention to complete the seemingly run of the mill yearbook in your hands. With the help of some hardworking Form 5 pupils and Mr Phelan, we managed to accumulate enough articles and photographs to fill each page.

If there's one thing we've learned from this experience, it's that the school achieves a lot in a short amount of time. Even with months of events cancelled, there were still endless achievements and events to report on. It was a pleasure to read about the achievements of pupils in sport, the arts and in academics. It was also inspiring to witness the resilience and innovation shown by the entire school during these difficult times, especially the numerous activities planned for Mental Health or Activity Week. Despite the numerous challenges, The High School has successfully completed an outstanding academic year once again.

Our Committee began as seven pupils who were unsure what they were meant to do. We held bi-weekly meetings on the balcony, and then over Microsoft Teams. Our main focus was to try and make this year's Erasmian and Diocesan Times our own, which we did by including



some new elements such as our 'Spot the Uniform Violation' cover by Aimée Merriman. Our saviour came in the form of archivist Mr Phelan, who took over in late May and worked incredibly hard to put this yearbook together. Any member of this committee would agree that it was mostly funny, but at times testing and stressful. A unique experience for anyone involved and something we would encourage any upcoming Form 5 pupils to sign up for.

Special thanks go out to Mia McCullough, Cate Dooley, Boaz Ninan, Éile Ní Chonbhuí, Daniel Fiala Li, and Dylan Murphy for the countless Friday lunches and Wednesday afternoons that were sacrificed for the sake of the Erasmian, as well as all the teachers and pupils who wrote articles and helped us whenever they could. Especially Mr Miller and Ms Burrowes (whose newsletter was an absolute lifesaver) but in particular, Mr Phelan without whom nothing could have been done. To conclude, we hope you enjoy the 2019–20 edition of the Erasmian and Diocesan Times, and wish the next Erasmian Committee good luck!

The Erasmian Committee

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to the incredible High School community, a very different, but hopefully familiar, edition of The Erasmian and Diocesan Times has emerged this year. I stepped in as co-ordinator at the first easing of lockdown restrictions in late May to see if the material necessary for this magazine could be collated. As the designer of the magazine since 2003 I had a good idea what was needed but the process depends greatly on a staff connection to bridge that gap from archive to school.

So many teachers quickly assisted with name lists, reports, and photographs and I am so grateful to everyone for their generosity and time during an extra busy and difficult end of year, especially everyone in the administration offices. The Form 5 editorial panel had also been

working away in the background, despite their modesty in the text adjacent, so there was an amount of work already thankfully done. Many thanks to Éile Ní Chonbhuí, Mia McCullough, Cate Dooley, Boaz Ninan, Daniel Fiala Li, and Dylan Murphy, as well as others who contributed including Juliette Christle, Alannah Childs, Annie Sun, Ben Whelan, and Bevin Dixon.

It has been a great honour to help record some of the incredible lockdown activities undertaken by pupils and staff. A big thanks to Mr Miller and Mr McBride for introducing me to the team on Teams and getting me started with my remote communications with the pupils. It is odd that I have not formally met most of the team but to their credit and adaptability we have achieved this fine record of a year in the life of this school.

Apologies if you see yourself here unexpectedly in a screenshot or still of a school activity. Normal documentation procedures have expanded into many other media that take the place of regular photographs. General permissions apply here as for any school-related activities so please do not take offence. Apologies for any errors that have made it through the proof-reading process. Many thanks to our copy editor Natasha Mac a'Bhàird who has taken the burden off many that are called to proof-read at the start of the very busy school year.

The 150th school anniversary plans were cut short this year. Hopefully these can be re-scheduled during the remainder of 2020 and into 2021. We look forward to sharing these with you in the year to come. In the meantime, thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's edition and I hope you enjoy it.

Mr Phelan



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2018 – 19

MR G A FORREST

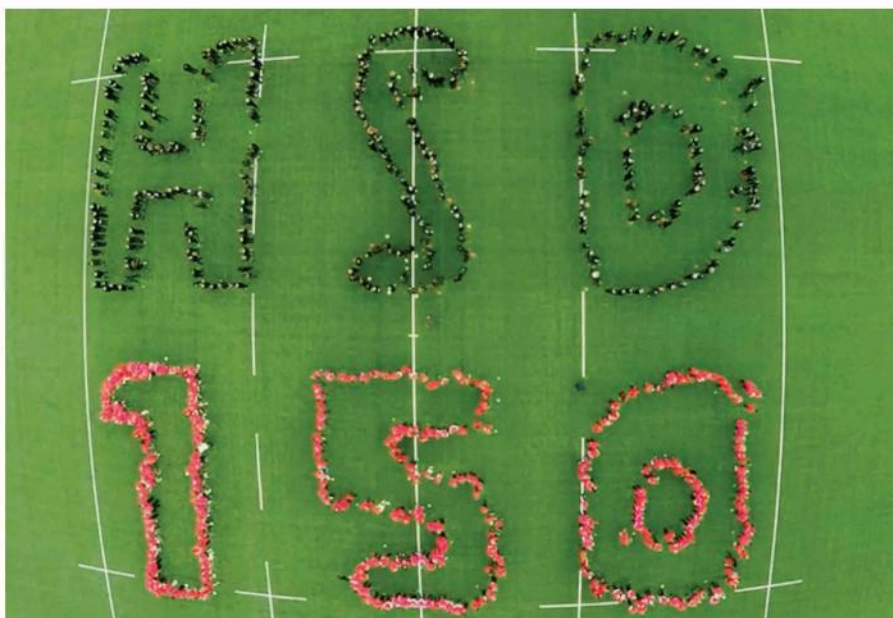
PRINCIPAL

THE HIGH SCHOOL DUBLIN

National Developments

The Action Plan for Education launched in 2016 with the aim of making our education and training system the best in Europe by 2026 remains an ambitious objective which will continue to challenge those concerned with delivering outcomes to the highest standards whilst operating under significant constraints. The consequences of these developments will result in substantial challenges for voluntary secondary schools during this period. In the short term the national agenda for the post-primary education sector was dominated by negotiations to resolve an ongoing pay dispute as well as debate regarding a series of policy initiatives which will require adequate funding if they are to be successfully implemented. It is encouraging to report a welcome and long-overdue increase in investment which aims to compensate for the cumulative impact of underfunding in the period following the economic recession. However, it remains to be seen whether the current (or any future) Government will be able to sustain the current levels of investment given the potential range of adverse effects caused by political and economic instability experienced at national, regional, or global level.

The ongoing challenge of differential salary scales for new entrants to the teaching profession was partially addressed in 2018–19. An initial proposal by the Government was rejected by the trade unions who threatened industrial action. However, a commitment to ongoing engagement and constructive dialogue on the issue of post-2010 entrant teacher pay emerged and all parties sought to work towards a resolution within the context of the Public Service Stability Agreement (PSSA). The outcome of subsequent negotiations between the Irish Congress of Trade Unions and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform on improvements to new entrant pay was broadly positive. The designation of €122m to implement this element of the PSSA within the Department of Education and Skills (DES) complimented improvements to starting pay already agreed under the Lansdowne Road Agreement. In addition, the Government



also pledged to give the two-tier pay issue full consideration either in a new pay review mechanism or in the context of the next round of pay talks. However, a lack of clarity on the scope or timeline of any such review has resulted in a further threat of industrial action by the trade unions.

The difficulties experienced in recruiting teachers at primary and post-primary levels were officially acknowledged by the DES and addressing the issue was described as a national priority by the Minister in 2018. The recruitment of post-primary teachers in specific subject areas such as Science, Technological Subjects, Modern Foreign Languages, Irish, and Home Economics was identified as being particularly problematic by the DES. A Teacher Supply Steering Group, chaired by the Secretary General of the DES, was established to develop a range of actions in response to this challenge. This group engaged with stakeholders around the country including meetings held in Cork, Galway, and Dublin. It recommended a range of measures to address the issue including a campaign to promote the teaching profession; the development of new four-year undergraduate programmes to train post-primary teachers; promoting increased student numbers on postgraduate programmes in post-primary priority subject areas; a review of School Placement Guidelines; and the development of a recruitment portal for teachers. It remains to be seen whether these measures will have the desired effect.

The mandatory reporting of child protection concerns by teachers and greater oversight of child protection

arrangements came into effect with the introduction of Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools in 2017. The DES recently announced additional safeguards for child protection in schools with the introduction of specialised inspections. The new Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspections were developed through an extensive research and consultation process with education partners and other interested stakeholders including the Office of the Ombudsman for Children. The inspections will be carried out in a sample of schools across the country every year. The Inspectorate will examine how Boards of Management and teaching staff are fulfilling their legal responsibilities in relation to the protection and safeguarding of children in schools.

The ongoing recovery in the public finances was reflected in Budget 2019 which was announced as the continuation of a major programme of reinvestment in Irish education. The DES budget increased by €674 million (6.7%) compared to the allocation for 2018, bringing it to a total of €10.8 billion. It was claimed that over the three budgets encompassed by the Action Plan for Education 2016–2019 that annual investment in education in Ireland rose by nearly €1.7 billion (18%). However, it is clear that this level of investment in Irish education is necessary to bring it up to international standards and that claims of progress in this area should be kept firmly in perspective. A recent Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) report entitled, Education at a Glance 2019, identified Ireland as having experienced



the largest negative adjustment in total expenditure on educational institutions as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) between 2010 and 2016. It should be noted that the Central Statistics Office (CSO) reported that economic growth increased significantly in Ireland during the same period. However, the OECD report states that in 2016 Ireland invested 1.2% of GDP in secondary education compared with OECD and EU averages of 2% and 1.9%, respectively. Overall, Ireland invested 3.5% of GDP in primary, secondary, and tertiary education in 2016 compared with the OECD average of 5% and the EU average of 4.4%. It is equally significant that the glaring discrepancy in the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) which exists between schools in the so-called Free Scheme (19:1) and fee-charging schools (23:1) is clearly reflected in the OECD report. In 2016 Ireland invested only 3% of GDP in private education at primary, secondary, and tertiary level compared with the OECD average of 10% and the EU average of 8%.

It would appear that the policy direction and funding model adopted by the newly appointed Minister for Education and Skills and his officials are likely to reflect those established by his predecessors in office. However, ongoing divergence in the PTR, differential salary scales for new entrants to the teaching profession, and teacher shortages will continue to challenge the voluntary secondary school sector. If the full range of reforms to the post-primary

education sector desired by the current Government are to be achieved in 2019–20 it will be necessary to sustain and enhance the levels of funding applied in the recent past. However, it is equally possible that political and economic turbulence will erode gains made in the public finances in the short to medium term. In this instance it is to be hoped that the education sector in Ireland is not required to bear a disproportionate burden of negative adjustments to its respective budgets in the near future.

School Developments

The Inspectorate has carried out a number of inspections and evaluations in the school in the areas of management, planning, curriculum, guidance, learning support, and a wide range of academic subjects, including Irish, Physics, Science, French, English, German, Technical Graphics, Design and Communication Graphics, Business, Physical Education, and Religious Education. The reports of the inspectors have been overwhelmingly complimentary in all areas and great credit is due to the teaching staff of the school for maintaining excellent standards across the curriculum. The most recent inspection reports are published on the Department of Education and Skills website.

The work of the Board of Management and its committees is a vital part of the long-term planning processes undertaken in the school. Staff and parents are represented on and make

valuable contributions to the work of the Board of Management; Finance and Audit Committee; Education Committee; Grounds and Property Committee; and the Sport and Recreation Committee. There is so much work undertaken by the Board committees on an ongoing basis that it cannot be listed here, but examples are the refurbishment and development work overseen by the Grounds and Property Committee as well as the systematic review of school policies managed by the Education Committee.

The Student Council is a very valuable body which is directly elected by all of the pupils, conducts its own meetings, and then meets with the school management and staff representatives in order to ensure that pupils have the opportunity to contribute to school planning and processes.

The Guidance Department is staffed by two qualified guidance counsellors. The process begins before the pupils enter the school with a visit by a Guidance Counsellor to primary schools and a talk for incoming Form 1 parents. All pupils in Form 1 are interviewed and assisted with their transition to secondary school. A study techniques course is organised for Form 3, 5, and 6. Form 4 pupils undertake differential aptitude tests and interest inventories to assist them to make subject choices for the Leaving Certificate. They also study the operation of third level education and

the opportunities available to them. Pupils are encouraged to begin thinking about potential career areas, to use work experience as a time to focus on future pathways, to consider possible college applications, and to prepare accordingly. Guidance continues for pupils in Forms 5 and 6. Form 5 pupils have individual interviews to focus their attention on preparation for third level applications. In addition, pupils in Form 5 attend a variety of career talks held in the school, carry out a career project, visit the UCD open day, and familiarise themselves with relevant college websites and career-related computer programs such as Qualifax. We are grateful to the Parents' Association for its assistance with the organisation of a mock interview evening at which Form 5 pupils are advised on writing a curriculum vitae, job applications, and interview technique. In Form 6, pupils have the opportunity to attend the Higher Options Career Exhibition and the TCD open day, as well as selecting other college open days of particular interest to them. A further round of individual interviews is scheduled. An evening is set aside in November for parents of Form 6 pupils when the various application systems used to access third level education are explained in detail. The Guidance Counsellors are available to parents and pupils for career advice and therapeutic counselling by prior appointment.

The contribution of the Parents' Association to the school is greatly appreciated. We are fortunate to have the oldest and one of the most active associations of any school in the country. Members now (among other things) assist the Guidance Department with mock interviews; hold talks on suitable topics with visiting speakers; facilitate the parties which are held to celebrate the graduation of Form 6 and the receipt of Junior Certificate results by Form 4; organise the parent-teacher meetings in Form 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6; meet with the Chairperson of the Board of Management and the Principal to discuss school policies; organise evening meetings for parents on educational themes; fund some of the prizes as well as grants for foreign exchanges; and represent the parents on all Board committees and sub-committees. This work brings the parents, pupils, and staff closer together and such a vibrant and enthusiastic association is a testament to the strong ongoing support for the school among parents. We record our thanks to all



committee members for their hard work and in particular to Mr Nigel Donovan for his dedication as President and Chairman of the Parents' Association.

The High School and Diocesan Past Pupils' Union actively encourages all past pupils to keep in touch with one another via the HS&D PPU website at www.hsdppu.com. The High School is most grateful to the Past Pupils' Union for its continued support. Although much of this work is unseen it is greatly appreciated by all concerned.

Staff

We are fortunate in having the services of an excellent staff who are committed to providing the highest standards of academic, pastoral, and extra-curricular education for all pupils attending The High School.

We are delighted to announce the return of Ms Heffernan, Mr Keegan, Ms Rellis, and Ms Thorp to their positions. We thank Dr Brusey, Ms Dowling, Ms Duggan, Ms Galligan, Ms Goulding, Ms March, Mr Middleton, Mr Mulligan, Ms Murphy, Ms O'Brien, Mr O'Connor, Mr Urwin, Mr Wahlrab, and Mr Swanwick for their excellent service and wish them all the best for the future.

We welcome the following new staff to The High School – Ms Byrne (Irish); Ms Clarke (Spanish); Mr Coleman (Learning Support/Resource Teacher); Mr Flaherty (Irish/History); Mr Kingston (Technical Subjects); Ms Little (Music); Ms Lowry (Geography); Mr Matthews (Biology/Science); Mrs McClean (Special Needs Assistant); Ms McDermott (Mathematics); Ms Nicholson (Physical Education); Ms O'Neill (Learning Support/Resource); Mr

O'Reilly Meehan (Irish); and Ms O'Sullivan (Irish) – and wish them well in their respective appointments. Ms Toolan, Ms Killane, Mr Kinsella, Mr Carolan, and Mr Barry are currently on career break.

Numbers and Examinations

The number of pupils enrolled in the school for the academic year 2018–19 was 714. In the Leaving Certificate 2019 examination, 107 pupils presented 742 papers in 28 subjects. A total of 557 papers were taken at higher level and H5 or better was obtained in 84% of these; H8 or less was obtained in 1.4% of all papers. This was a very good level of performance which bears strong comparison with previous records at The High School.

Events and Activities

The multitudinous events and activities of the school are reported weekly in our e-newsletter, on the school website (www.highschoolublin.com), and in The Erasmian and Diocesan Times, an excellent publication designed by Mr Phelan, produced by the pupils of Form 5, and co-ordinated by Ms Beamish in 2018–19. I should like to thank all members of staff who are involved with the extra-curricular programme for providing a wide range of enriching opportunities for those attending The High School. It is always a great pleasure to congratulate the pupils on their involvement and success in a variety of different activities.

SCHOOL STAFF 2019 – 20

Principal

Mr G A Forrest, MA (TCD, Oxford), QTS (Gloucestershire)

Deputy Principals

Ms V B Connolly, BA (Hons) (NUI), PGCE (St Mary's)

Mr R J Davies, BA (Mod), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD)

Mr P H McCaughey, BA (Hons) (NUI), MA (CEU), H Dip Ed (Hons) (NUI), H Dip Psych (QQI), MA Ed Psych (NUI)

TEACHING STAFF

Ms E Beamish, BA (Hons) (Exeter), PGCE (QUB), Dip Journ & Media St (ICM)

Ms P Bergin, BEd (Hons) (TCD)

Ms B Bourke, BA, BMus (Hons), H Dip Ed (Hons) (NUI)

Ms M Browne, BSc Ed (Hons), PGDE (Hons), GDETM (DCU), CELT (ACELS)

Dr U Budd, BA, BAI, MSc, PhD, PGDE (Hons) (TCD)

Ms M Burrowes, BA (First class honours) (DCU), H Dip Ed (First class honours) (NUI), Dip Comm (DIT)

Ms C Byrne, BA (Hons) (NUI)

Ms S Clarke, BA (Hons) (TCD)

Mr A Coleman, BBS (Hons) (WIT), PME (Hons) (UL)

Ms J Deacon, BSc (Michigan State), H Dip Maths Stud (Hons), PDE (Hons) (NUI)

Ms A Deane, BSc (Hons), PDE (Hons) (NUI)

Mr S Deane, BSc (Hons), BA (First class honours), PME (Hons) (DCU)

Ms N Fallon, BA (Hons), PGDE (Hons) (TCD)

Ms G Fitzgerald, BA (Hons) (DCU), H Dip Ed (Hons), MA (Hons), MEd (First class honours) (NUI)

Mr P Fitzpatrick, BA (Hons) (Glamorgan), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD)

Mr D Flaherty, BA (Hons) (TCD), PME (Hons) (UCD)

Ms J Garland, BSc Ed (Hons) (DCU)

Mr R Giles, MA (Oxford), PGCE (King's College London)

Ms S Gray, BA (Hons), MA (NUI), PGDE (Hons) (TCD)

Mr M Griffin, BA (DCU), PGCE (Leeds)

Mr P Hanan, BDes (Hons), PME (Hons) (NCAD)

Ms H Hanley, BA (Hons), PME (Hons) (NUI)

Ms R Hession, BEd (Hons) (NUI)

Ms A Horan, BA (NUI), H Dip Ed (NUI)

Mr D Howard, BA (Hons) (HETAC)

Ms S Hutchinson Edgar, BA (Mod), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD)

Mr P Irwin, MA, H Dip Ed (NUI)

Ms S Jones, BA (Hons) (Lancaster), PGCE (Liverpool)

Mr E Keegan, BA (Mod), PGDE (Hons) (TCD)

Mr J Kingston, BSc (First class honours) (GMIT)

Ms S Lally, BA (Hons), PDE (First class honours) (NUI)

Ms O Little, BA

Ms N Lowry, BA (Hons) (NUI), MA (Hons) (NUI), PGCE (London)

Ms R Lyons, BA (Hons) (HETAC), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD), MA (QUB)

Ms E MacGowan, BA (Hons) (NUI), GDE (Hons) (UL)

Mr A Malin, BA (Hons) (Newman), QTS (UK)

Mr M Matthews, BSc (Hons) (Glamorgan), MSc (Southampton), PGCE (Portsmouth)

Ms P May, BA (Mod) (TCD), PGDE (Birmingham)

Mr L McBride, BSc (Hons), H Dip Comp Sc (Hons), H Dip Ed (Hons) (NUI)

Mr A McBrien, BA (Hons), PME (Hons) (NUI)

Ms H McDermott, BSc (First class honours) (UL)

Ms R McDonnell, BA (Mod), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD), Dip Guidance (First class honours) (UCD)

Mr B McNamara, BBS, Dip in Ed (UL)

Ms A Meeke, Cert Sport and Recreation, Cert Sport Development (QQI)

Mr D Miller, BA, H Dip Ed (NUI)

Mr J Milofsky, BA (Mod) (TCD), PDE (Hons) (NUI)

Ms R Missen, BA (Hons), H Dip Ed (Hons) (NUI)

Ms E Nicholson, BEd (Hons) (NUI)

Ms J O'Neill, BA (Hons) (Columbia), MA (Hons) (New York City)

Mr T O'Reilly Meehan, BA (Hons) (NUI), PME (Hons) (NUI)

Mr A O'Sullivan, BTech Ed (Hons) (UL)

Ms R O'Sullivan, BA (Hons) (NUI), PME (TCD)

Ms S O'Toole, BA (Hons) (DCU), PDE (NUI)

Ms R Phillips, BA Hons (Liverpool John Moores), PGCE (Edge Hill)

Mr P Prendergast, BA, H Dip Ed (NUI)

Ms S Quinn, BA, H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD)

Mr C Rankin, BA (First class moderator) (TCD), PGDE (First class honours) (NUI)

Mrs C Reilly, BSc (Hons) (Loughborough), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD)

Ms C Rellis, BSc (Hons) (Bradford), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD)

Ms K Rogers, BA (Hons), BA (Hons) (NUI), MA (Hons) (IADT), PDE (Hons) (NUI)

Ms E Rouillet, BA (Hons) (Angers), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD)

Ms A Rugg, BA (Hons) (Coventry), PGCE (Warwick)

Ms M Smith, BA (First class moderator) (TCD), PGDE (Hons), MSc (First class honours) (NUI)

Miss A Stevenson, BA (Mod) (TCD), PGCE (QUB), TEFL Cert, Dip Rem Ed (CICE)

Mr R Sullivan, BSc Ed (First class honours) (ITT), PGDE (First class honours) (UL)

Mr S Tevlin, BA (Hons) (NUI), MSc, PGCE (Manchester Metropolitan)

Ms D Thorp, BE (First class honours), H Dip Ed (First class honours) (NUI)

Mr E Wahlrab, BA (Hons) (DCU)

Ms C Walker, BA (Mod), MPhil (Hons), PGDE (First class honours) (TCD)

Mr R Walker, BEd (Hons) (Greenwich)

Ms A Whelan, BA (Hons), MSc (Hons), MEd (Hons) (TCD)

Dr C Whitford, BSc (Hons), PhD, PGCE (Newcastle)

Mr I Wilkinson, BA (First class moderator), H Dip Ed (Hons) (TCD)

NON ACADEMIC STAFF

Finance and Estates Bursar

Mr K Poole, BBS (TCD), FCA

Librarian

Ms P Wiggle, NZLSC, RGN, BNS (Hons) (TCD), BSc (Open), MSc (TCD)

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Mrs Y Sharpe, BSc (Hons) (TCD)

Ms D Shaw

Ms J Smith, MIATI

Principal's Secretary

Mrs J McPhillips

Nurse

Ms U Bingel, DNS, RGN

Catering Manager

Ms K O'Leary

School Sergeant

Mr P Reck

Groundsman

Mr D Campbell, BA (Hons) (Liverpool)

Mr B O'Donovan

Security

Mr P Reck

Special Needs Assistants

Ms E Delaney

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Mrs C McClean, BArch (Hons) (Honduras)

Supervisors

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Mr A Phelan, BA (First class honours)
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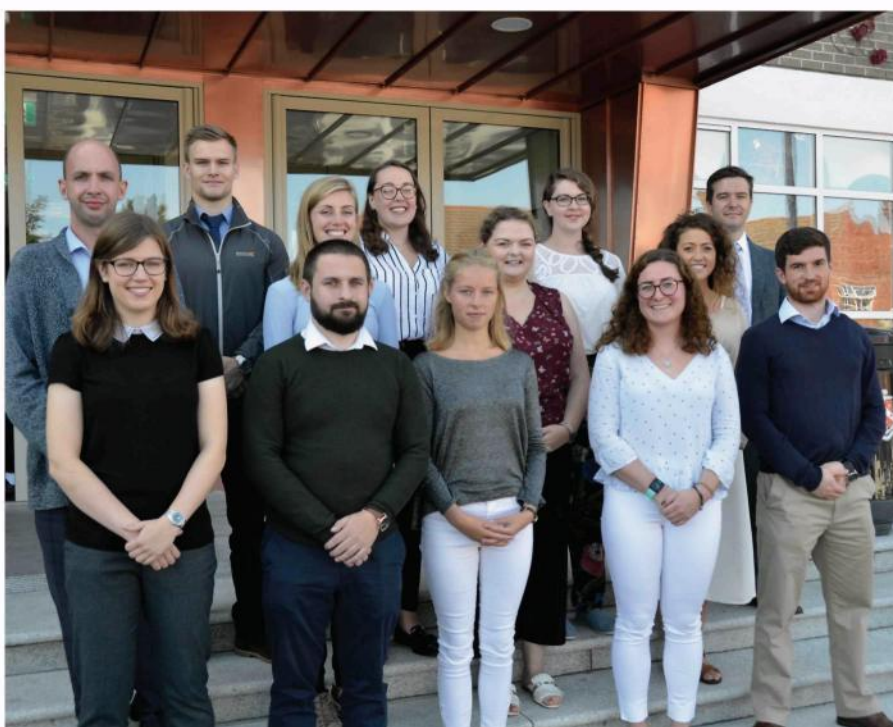
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Ray Stewart, Stephen Wilson

SCHOOL PREFECTS 2019-20

Camilla Anele, Jordan Bailey, Sol Bell-Megaw, Lucy Brennan, Jack Burke, Thomas Costello, Alana Cripps, Jacob Cullington, Alison Daly, Sarah Daly, Tristen de Beer, Isabel Dunne, Sam Dunne, Faith Edunpeters, Rosie Gillis, Giulia Guastalla, Isobel Harrison, Nicole Holland, Ben Hopkins, Ross Howard, Éabha Hughes, Nathan Hutchinson Edgar, Liam Irwin, Evan Jennings, Adam Killeen, Alison Landy, Katie Larkin, Harry Lynch, Anna Lyons, Adam Maguire, Aela Mahon, Enya Mak, Jodie McAvinue, Sadhbh Milton, Joseph Murphy, Mia Murphy, Ruth Ninan, Katie O'Brien, Alexander O'Connor, Heather O'Connor, Isabel O'Donovan, Debbie Ogunkayode, Oghenekaro Otobo, Robert Pearson, Morgan Pembroke, Robyn Pembroke, Jennifer Pillow, Orla Prendergast, Lisa Roche, Patrick Ryan, Conor Schmidt, Ben Shaw, Nathan Timmins, Lorcan Twomey, Eva Valentine, Daniel Walsh, Sarah Webb, Max Wright

Head Boy

Sol Bell-Megaw

Head Girl

Jodie McAvinue

Deputy Head Boy

Adam Maguire

Deputy Head Girl

Éabha Hughes

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

2019 – 20

Principal: **Mr G A Forrest**

Deputy Principals:

Ms V B Connolly**Mr R J Davies****Mr P H McCaughey****Pastoral Care**

Form 1

Year Head: **Mr R Giles**Form Teachers: **Dr U Budd, Ms A Deane, Mr S Deane, Ms N Fallon (Ms N Lowry), Mr C Rankin**

Form 2

Year Head: **Mr B McNamara**Form Teachers: **Ms P May, Ms M Smith (Mr M Matthews), Mr R Sullivan, Ms S Toolan (Ms R Hession), Mrs J Wilson (Ms S Gray)**

Form 3

Year Head: **Ms R Missen**Form Teachers: **Ms C Rellis, Ms A Horan, Ms S Jones, Ms A Rugg, Mr R Walker**

Form 4

Year Head: **Mr A Malin**Form Teachers: **Ms J Garland, Ms S Gray, Mr E Keegan, Mr A Malin (Mr D Flaherty), Mr J Milofsky**

Form 5

Year Head: **Ms S Hutchinson Edgar**Form Teachers: **Ms M Burrowes, Ms G Fitzgerald, Mr M Griffin, Mr B Kinsella (Ms E Beamish), Mr D Miller, Ms C Walker (Mr A Scanlon)**

Form 6

Year Head: **Dr C Whitford**Form Teachers: **Mr L Carolan (Ms J Deacon), Ms H McDermott, Mrs C Reilly, Mr S Tevlin, Ms D Thorp, Mr I Wilkinson****Subject Co-ordinators**Art: **Ms H Killane (Ms K Rogers)**Business Subjects: **Mr P Fitzpatrick**CSPE: **Ms G Fitzgerald**English: **Mr D Miller**Geography: **Mrs J Wilson (Mr C Rankin)**History: **Mr P Irwin**Home Economics: **Ms P Bergin**Irish: **Ms S Quinn**Mathematics: **Mrs C Reilly**Modern Languages: **Ms A Stevenson**Music: **Ms B Bourke**Physical Education: **Mr R Sullivan**

Religious Education:

Ms S Hutchinson Edgar

Technological Subjects:

Mr A O'SullivanSPHE: **Ms A Whelan**Science: **Dr C Whitford****Information and Communication****Technologies Team****Ms M Burrowes** (Communications Coordinator)**Mr R Davies****Mr E Keegan****Mr L McBride** (ICT co-ordinator)**Mr I Wilkinson** (supervision of facilities and staff support)**Sports**Sports Co-ordinator: **Mr R Walker**

Adventure Sports Co-ordinator:

Ms R McDonnell

Girls' Games Administration:

Ms S Jones (Ms A Rugg)Athletics: **Mr P Irwin, Ms N Fallon (Mrs J O'Neill), Ms J Garland, Mr R Giles, Ms S Hutchinson Edgar**Badminton: **Ms A Rugg**Basketball: **Ms S Jones, Mr A Malin, Mr J Boylan**Cricket: **Mr A Malin, Mr P Fitzpatrick, Mr R Giles, Mr B McNamara, Mr R Walker**Cross country: **Ms S Hutchinson Edgar, Ms N Fallon (Mrs J O'Neill)**Hillwalking: **Ms R McDonnell, Ms B Duggan, Ms A Horan, Mr B McNamara, Mr C Rankin**Hockey: **Ms S Jones, Ms J Deacon, Mr P Fitzpatrick, Mr D Flaherty, Mr D Howard, Ms S Gray, Ms A Meeke, Ms A Rugg, Mr P Fitzpatrick**Rock climbing: **Ms R McDonnell**Rugby: **Mr A Malin, Ms J Deacon, Mr L McBride, Mr B McNamara, Mr A O'Sullivan, Mr R Sullivan, Mr S Tevlin, Mr R Walker**Swimming: **Mr A Malin, Ms S Jones**Table tennis: **Ms S Jones**Tennis: **Mr R Sullivan, Ms S Jones, Mr S McDonnell***Additional part-time staff are employed in other sports***Recreation**

Recreation Co-ordinator:

Mrs C ReillyArt Film Club: **Mr P Hanan**Art Portfolio Club: **Ms K Rogers**Chess Club: **Mr M Griffin**Choir: **Ms B Bourke**Christian Union: **Mr I Wilkinson**Debating: **Ms S Hutchinson Edgar (Senior), Ms C Walker (Junior) (Mr A Scanlon)**Drama: **Mr J Milofsky, Ms M Browne**

Erasmian and Diocesan Times:

Mr A Phelan, Mr D Miller

European Youth Parliament:

Mrs J Wilson (Ms N Lowry)Film Club: **Ms R Lyons**Green Schools Group: **Mr K Barry (Mr A McBrien)**Lego Club: **Mr O'Sullivan, Mr S Deane**Model United Nations: **Mrs J Wilson (Ms N Lowry)**Orchestra: **Ms R Phillips**Photographic Club: **Ms K Rogers**President's Award: **Mr D Miller, Mr B McNamara, Ms R Missen**

Science Club/Young Scientist:

Ms A Deane

Other Responsibilities

Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Principal: **Mr I Wilkinson**

Assembly Co-ordinator:

Ms S Hutchinson Edgar

CAO/UCAS/EUNICAS applications:

Ms R McDonnell, Ms A Whelan

Communications Co-ordinator:

Ms M Burrowes

Detention System: **Mr J O'Brien**

Enterprise Education: **Mr P Fitzpatrick**

European Studies Information

Exchanges: **Mr P Irwin**

Examination Organisation:

Mr I Wilkinson, Mr R Hilliard (Mr M Matthews)

Guidance Counsellors:

Ms R McDonnell, Ms A Whelan

Induction of New Staff: **Ms P Bergin**

Literacy Co-ordinator: **Ms C Walker (Mr M Griffin)**

Lockers: **Ms G Fitzgerald**

Lost Property: **Ms S Quinn**

Numeracy Co-ordinator: **Mr McBrien (Ms J Deacon)**

Photography of School Activities,

Publicity: **Mr C Rankin**

Prize System: **Ms D Thorp**

Punctuality: **Mr P McCaughey**

Scholarship Examinations:

Ms A Stevenson

School Council: **Ms S Hutchinson Edgar**

Support for Learning Co-ordinator:

Ms M Browne

Staff Services: **Ms A Stevenson**

State Examinations: **Mr P Prendergast**

Stationery: **Ms E Roulet**

Study Skills Seminar: **Ms R McDonnell, Ms A Whelan**

Teaching and Learning Group Co-ordinator: **Ms E Beamish (Ms N Lowry)**

Timetable: **Mr R J Davies**

Transition Year Co-ordinator:

Mr P Irwin

Trophies: **Mr R Walker**

STAFF MEETINGS AND VISITS

When the school was on lockdown and teaching went remote staff meetings also went online. On the far page is a screenshot from the end of year staff meeting and below is a screenshot from an afternoon tea Zoom with retired staff.

Earlier in the year some other staff activities included a climate strike held at the school gates as pictured below and a visit from teachers from Turkey.



CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

**1B**

BACK ROW: ALANNAH SMALL, AVA BAILEY, MARK MCKEOWN, ISAAC LINDSAY, ISAAC ABUMERE, LUCAS D'ARCY, SAMUEL DEALE, FAYE O'HARE

MIDDLE ROW: BRUNO ZABALA GONZALEZ, LAURA SHANNON, KATHERINE MAY, EDMUND QUIGLEY, CATHAL ASU BISONG, BEN HEWSTON, SÁERLAITH DIXON, ANNA BUCKLEY, ORIN HURLEY, CALLUM MCLOUGHLIN

FRONT ROW: SHAUN O'FLYNN, ESMÉ DONAGHY, LUCAS VERCAUTEREN, ELSA HARDIMAN, CIARA KELLEGHER, PEARL SWEETMAN, LOUIS HANNON SMYTH, OSCAR PASLEY

ABSENT: ELIA ROSS

**1DA**

BACK ROW: EVA FITZ-SIMON, CIAN GREGAN, PAUL NWAMARA, TIAAN DALY, FINN Ó FOGHLÚ, KILLIAN WALSH, JAKE TIPPING, ANTHONY LEONARD

MIDDLE ROW: HUGH LYNCH, AVA O'BRIEN, AMELIE CREE, TOMÁS TAYLOR, MATILDA DOYLE, LILYANN PLOCKELMAN, REBECCA KNIGHT, LAURA KENNINGTON, TAQUIDA KAMAI, ADAM WALL

FRONT ROW: KATE RUTLEDGE, SADHBH YOUNG, LEO MELLON, ELLIOT WALSH, JASMINA PAIC-BROPHY, CLARA O'HANLON, EVE SKELTON, NAOÍSE GORMAN

ABSENT: YUVAN KANDRU



1DS

BACK ROW: HARRY KYLE, LUCAS SWAN, ELLA DAVEY, JESSE LYSAGHT, GRACE BEATTY, FINN GILMARTIN, HEDDA VERCAUTEREN

MIDDLE ROW: SAOIRSE REILLY, OLIVIA HERMAN, JAKE WALSH, NORRIS LAI, LUCA FARRELLY, AVA DEACON, ABIE SIBERRY, ROSA BELL-MEGAW

FRONT ROW: DIEGO ZABALA GONZALEZ, CHARLOTTE FLEGG, LEO SHORTEN, KEELAN MURPHY, MARK DOYLE, BEN CONN, FREYA BOYD, OLIVIA PODDER

ABSENT: ETHAN LEONARD, ABIGAIL LYNCH, DANIEL MOANE



1F

BACK ROW: LINUS FEENEY, DEXTER COMERFORD, OISIN BURGESS, CONOR GEOGHEGAN, WILLIAM MCCOY, NICHOLAS LOGHIN, RYANNE STANLEY, REBECCA FEIGHERY

MIDDLE ROW: FIONNUALA O'KELLY, CIARA MORTON, LOUISE FARRELLY, OSCAR O'SHEA, VIVIA BELAVUSAVA, JACK BOYD, GEORGE JAMES, ENAYA SAMARANAYAKA

FRONT ROW: JOSHUA DONOVAN, JAMES ARMSTRONG, MARTHA WAGHORN, QUINCYN KAMAI, FREYA SYKES, DYLAN MCGOVERN, SANJAYE KALIRAJA

ABSENT: MICHAEL BINCHY, JESSICA MCLUSKIE, ROXANE VANCE CRONIN

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

**1R**

BACK ROW: ÉABHA DEELY, CIAN SMITH, JAMIE MORTON BAILEY, FREDDIE ROBINSON, SEÁN HESSION, SAM SHEPPARD, GEORGE KENNEDY, HARRY GUCKIAN

MIDDLE ROW: MAEBH THORNTON, ANDREW MILLAR, FREYA MCNEILL, DEIRBHILE WOODS, AOIFE ADETONA, SHOURYA NARANG, MAX LYONS, LIBBY KENNA

FRONT ROW: FINN MAGUIRE, DYLAN MORRISSY, LUCY BRACKEN, FIONA JEPSEN, KAITLYN LEONARD, ROSE GERAGHTY, CHRISTIAN WALSH, ERIC HAN

ABSENT: ISABELLA GREY, BRENDAN KELLY

**2H**

BACK ROW: ISEULT FITZGIBBON-DUNNE, ERASMUS DEMPSEY, SAM KELLY, THEO WALL, ALEX GORDON, SAMUEL MCNAMARA, ALEX FITZPATRICK, RUBY NICHOLL

MIDDLE ROW: KATIE MILLAR, ANA SANCRAIAN, JAMES COX, EVA CARROLL, OLIVER O'DUFFY, CHLOE O'CONNOR, VALERIE MCMENAMIN, EMMA FITZPATRICK, KATE CAMPION

FRONT ROW: SARAH SMYTH, ILAI LEVY, COLIN MOISSARD, CALLUM LENNON, SAOIRSE RYAN, MATEUSZ BASINSKI, EVAN MOORE, VICTOR HARMON

ABSENT: SHAY FRAWLEY, SADHBH BRENNAN, REBEKAH SOLOMON



2M

BACK ROW: BENJAMIN HAMILTON, ZOE NUGENT, OISÍN GOLDEN, BRYANNA O'CONNOR, MIA O'MAHONY, PETER DERVAN, BETH FLYNN, JAKE O'LOUGHLIN, ELLIOT TUITE

MIDDLE ROW: CHARLIE O'NEILL, SOPHIE DONNAN, KATIE HOPKINS, DANIEL SHEEDY, FINLEY FRY, AIDEEN CASSIDY, EVAN KELLEHER, EMILY BRESLIN, ANDREW SYKES

FRONT ROW: SORCHA MURPHY, AARON LLOYD, ASHLEY MCNALLY, AOIFE TRIMMER, ELEANOR WRIGHT, AMELIA BARRETT, DAISY KIRK-GILLHAM, MAYA SIVAK



2S

BACK ROW: SAM NICHOLL, SAUL WRIGHT-BRENNAN, DANIEL CARTER, TOM WHELAN, ALEX BOWDEN, KIM GUINNESS, STEFAN MAIER, WILLIAM WU, NICOLAS RUS

MIDDLE ROW: JOSH STEWART, ELLA MELEADY, HELEN FARRELL, ISABEL SHEEHAN, DANIEL TALLON, MARCUS GERAGHTY, JENNIFER BURNS, LUCCI FENG, JOANIE MCGRATH, CYAN BACIK SAUL

FRONT ROW: MARYAM ABIOYE, AMELIA QUINN, MATTHEW HARTUNG, JAMES GODSON O'DOHERTY, ADAM HEARNE, FEGO OTOBO, ISABELLE DILLON, ELLEN HOGAN

ABSENT: PATRICIA BYRNE

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

**2SU**

BACK ROW: LUÍ RYAN, MILO LAVELLE, SAMUEL NEELY, ALEXANDER SHEEHAN, MEDHANSH AGARWAL, DWAYNE KAMAI, JACK DARMODY

MIDDLE ROW: TAMAMI GILL, THOMAS BOUCHER, BARRY KENNEDY, DANIEL SISSON, ADAM JORDAN, ALEX DUNGAN, EVELINE WALSH, DAVID AYANKOYA

FRONT ROW: FIONA RUTLEDGE, MILLIE REDMOND, AOIBHÍN CHAMBERLAIN, MATTHEW O'DOHERTY, EMILY LEONARD, LAUREN FO, ELLA MARIE CULLEN, ADRIAN O'LEARY

ABSENT: LUDOVICA CAMMARANO, ABIGAIL BIRNEY, OLIVER KENDRICK

**2W**

BACK ROW: REBECCA HOWE, ZACK HOPKINS, SAMUEL MAXWELL, SEAN AIGBOBOH, KEVIN YU, NOAH HELSIN, ALEJANDRA COSIJN GÓMEZ, LUCA HAYES, LEO COX

MIDDLE ROW: CHARLIE MILLER, KONRAD LEITNER, LUKE HOLLAND, KATE TAYLOR, ALISON HALPIN, ELLA ROCHE, HEATHER COYLE, GRACE MCKENNA, EOIN KELLY, ZENAN SPAIN

FRONT ROW: KEIRA ROSS, ANNA HOEY, ZAC REID, EMMA HAJAJI, UDAIVEER PARIHAR, ROBYN NOLAN, ERICA MERRIMAN, SAMUEL SEBASTINE

ABSENT: ANDREW ROBINSON



3BR

BACK ROW: JENNIFER MAIER, JACK BARLOW, JAMIE CHAMBERS, MAX CORCORAN, EMILY MAGUIRE, SAM KENNEDY, ROSA SANTORO

MIDDLE ROW: FAVOUR KEHINDE, NIAMH DOHERTY, ALEXANDRIA SWAN, DAVID AIGBOBOH, SEREN CUNNINGHAM, BRONAGH YOUNG, ELODIE RYAN

FRONT ROW: FAYE O'ROURKE, SUSAN LAWAL, ELLA O'FLYNN, LUKE STEVENS, AMELIA WEBB, KATIE COLLINS

ABSENT: SUKI BAILEY, GEORGIA CULLINGTON, DARA FITZPATRICK, CEALINN HURLEY, ROSS WILGAR



3H

BACK ROW: LUKE MURPHY, ARTHUR FEENEY, ETHAN JONES, ALEX LYNCH, FERGUS KELLY, CIARÁN MCCARTHY

MIDDLE ROW: SEÁN O'BRIEN, EVAN LOFTUS, ANDREW FARRELLY, CALLUM GILMARTIN, JEREMIAH EDUNPETERS, DIVINE NWAMARA, SOPHIE SCOLLARD

FRONT ROW: COCO O' DONNELL, RUTH DILLON, POPPY HALL, MAYA BARBER, LIBBY PERDUE, DAIMEE NG

ABSENT: AVA RYAN, MIRIAM ODUNTAN, DAVIDE CAMMARANO

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

**3J**

BACK ROW: JACK O'RIORDAN, ANDREW DONOVAN, RYAN BRACKEN, DERMOT EVANS, SEAN WINSLOW, ADAM ROSS, NATHAN PRIESTLY, JACK MCGINN

MIDDLE ROW: JESSICA NEEDHAN, MIA NAUGHTON, LUKE FITZPATRICK, CIARA BUGGIE, FREYA FETHERSTON, ESTHER OLANIYAN, RYAN BOYD, REBECCA COLLINS, ENA Ó FOGHLÚ

FRONT ROW: LEAH MCGRATH, ZOSIA MAYRS, JERRY WANG, DAVID LAWLEY, TIRZAH HUTCHINSON EDGAR, ALEXANDRA LENIHAN, ELLIOTT SPARKS, BEN PASLEY

ABSENT: ESTHER VANCE CRONIN

**3R**

BACK ROW: AARON WILSON-GREENE, OSCAR SMITH, ALEX STEWART, JACK O'MALLEY, ALEX DONOVAN, HUGO CHALONER

MIDDLE ROW: MOYA QUIGLEY, GARY MEANEY, FIONN WHOOLEY, OSCAR MAGUIRE, SAM HUTCHINSON, NICK WRIGHT, MATTEO SANVITO, MILLIE POSKITT

FRONT ROW: LOTTIE EGAN, AADYA VIG, OLIVER DAVEY, SOPHIE PEARSON, ZOE RICHARDSON, ARCHIE SHERIDAN, CHARLOTTE GUCKIAN, LILY GALLAGHER



3W

BACK ROW: JOHN KELLY, ALEX O'HARE, CHARLIE BEATTY, LUKE SHANNON, ANNELIES LOOSE, TRISTAN COMERFORD, RYAN WYNNIE

MIDDLE ROW: EMMA WILSON, HANNAH MCCARTHY, TARA CAREY, DAVID ODEKUNLE, RACHEL ROBINSON, CARRIE MACWILLIAM, GEORGIA GOUGH, CHRISTOPHER DE LACY

FRONT ROW: ZARA HARDY, HANNAH HEARNE, CHARLOTTE MACDONNELL, EMILY CURRAN, THOMAS NICKELS, CLODAGH SOMERVILLE

ABSENT: JACOB KHARSIEVA O'RAHILLY, SAMUEL MCCLUSKIE, REUBEN ROSS, ROISIN BRAZIL



4GD

BACK ROW: OLIVER MARJORAM, ELI BREEN, SAM WALSH, JULIAN HAUXWELL, CIAN ZIGLINSKI, COLM COONEY, JESSICA XU

MIDDLE ROW: ISABEL FEENEY, MONA WEBSTER, TADHG DIXON, AMELIA KING, JAMES FARRELL, PRINCE ISIKALU, WUMI OBI

FRONT ROW: RUTH STEWART, ROBERT COURTNEY, SARAH MORRIS, CIARA BOYD, ZAMAN ZAIDI, AOIBH MAHON, KATY DONNELLY

ABSENT: CONLETH LAW, AOIFE CAHILL, TOM GARVEY, KAYLA KENNEDY

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

**4GY**

BACK ROW: LUKE EGAN, HARRY DORAN, SEAN OMORUYI, DARRAGH SULLIVAN, DAVID ADEYANJU, CHRIS CHONG
MIDDLE ROW: SAM COURTNEY, CHRISTINA GOVAERTS, SCOTT WILGAR, AMY MCCRACKEN, KELLY-JO WILSON, RACHEL GARVEY, LUKE HARDY
FRONT ROW: LAURA COLE, EMILY BRENNAN, SOPHIE DOYLE, ARIANNA GORMAN, ELLEN NEEDHAM, NATHAN MCLOUGHIN, KATIE DUNNE, AJIRI OTOBO
ABSENT: BEN MCCLEAN HOWARD, JUSTIN HANNEY, TOM LAYTE, PHILIP THEOCHARIS

**4K**

BACK ROW: HUGH GERAGHTY, ADAM REID, SHANE REID, SHANE BURKE, MARTIN COSIJN GÓMEZ, SID CRUICKSHANK, DEREK UKAGBA, LIAM BUTLER
MIDDLE ROW: SARAH DOYLE, OSCAR LOFTUS, IAN GILL, JOSEPH DEVEREUX, JORDAN BRISLANE, ROBYN HAMILTON, EMILY PRYCE
FRONT ROW: ALICE KELLY, CLAIRE CAHILL, PATRICIA ZHANG, SÍOFRA YOUNG, MICHELLE YANG, ELEANA MCGRATH, EDIE LEAVY, SOPHIA LEONARD
ABSENT: KIM DUNNE, MATTHEW HACKETT, ROSS MOLLOY



4M

BACK ROW: DAVID FLYNN, PADDY PLOCKELMAN, OSCAR MAHARG BRAVO, ANDREW BROWNE, MARCUS EMPEY, CILLIAN WEST, JOSH HAYES, CHARLIE MCNAMARA

MIDDLE ROW: LYLA CORCORAN, ELLA MAXWELL, SARA DUNNE, SAMUEL BYRNE, AILBHE SMITH, SAMUEL HUTZLER, KATIE CROSBY DILLON, LUKE DEE-BROWN, HONOR NOLAN

FRONT ROW: ROSEMARY SHANKEY, ZOE DUNNE, ELLA PASLEY, EMMA JENKINS-LEESON, ANDREW WHYTE, DANIEL ABIOYE, BETH HESLIN, FAYE LEAVY

ABSENT: CAROLINE O'CONNOR



4MY

BACK ROW: MIHAI AVASILICHIOAIEI, MAYA FEIGHERY, JONATHAN LEES, FINN REILLY, LOUIS DUNNE, LEO VAUGHAN, MATTHEW GILLIS, DARA HOGAN

MIDDLE ROW: NAOMI WILSON, ROSS DEEGAN, OSCAR MARTIN, ISRAEL ABUMERE, ROSALIND REDDICK, ROISÍN MURPHY, FIONA O'BYRNE

FRONT ROW: JULIA RODRIGUES, KIRSTEN SARGENT, ABIGAIL KENNA, DARAGH MCGRATH, LOUIS O'NEILL, ELIJAH ROSNEY, ISABELLA DOYLE, AOIFE GEOGHEGAN

ABSENT: HEATHER COLLINS, CAOIMHE LOWRY, MICHAEL COURTNEY

FORM 5

CIARAN
ADAIRSEAN
ADEDUNTANMICHAEL
ASU BISONGDANIEL
AWODETYLER
BACIUORLA
BAGNALLISOBEL
BOWENOISÍN
BRENNANGEORGE
BRITTENRACHEL
BROWNINGGEORGINA
BYRNEBRIAN
CARTERALANNAH
CHILDSJULIETTE
CHRISTLEJUNO CLAFFEY
HEGARTYROBERT
CLOUGHLEYNAOMI
DALYROBIN
DAVEYHANNAH
DILLONBEVIN
DIXONJOHNLUKA
DOHERTYMATTHEW
DONOVANCATE
DOOLEYZAC
DORFMANCHRIS
DOYLESCOTT
DUNNEAMELIA
DURACDANIEL
FIALA LIEMILY
FITZGERALDETHAN
FLYNNISAAK
FOLEYCLARA
GORHAMROBERT
HACKETTMAX
HAUXWELLNIALL
HEALYSARAH
HEERANKANE
HENNESSYMICHAEL
HOLLANDDANIEL
HUDSONSIMONE
IANNAONENATHANIEL KAYE
MELLORHANNAH
KENNEDYJOHN
KENNEDYLAYLA
KENNYSTEPHEN
LALOREVA
LAYTESTEPAN
LETSKOYEHONATAN
LEVYCHLOE
LOHRACHEL
LOWSAUL
LYSAGHTSENAN
MACKEOGHCRYSTAL
MATTICKSSAMUEL
MAWHINNEYIAN
MAYRSGEORGINA
MCCARTHY

FORM 5



MIA MCCULLOUGH

JESSICA MCDERMOTT

FERGUS MCDONAGH

THOMASIN MCKENNA

AIDAN MCNEILL

AIMÉE MERRIMAN

BEN MITCHELL



LAURA MITTEN

CONOR MOORE

DYLAN MURPHY

LÉNA NEMES

ÉLE NÍ CHONBHUI

BOAZ NINAN

SAMMY NYAMBURA



LEANNE O'BRIEN

KYLE O'DWYER

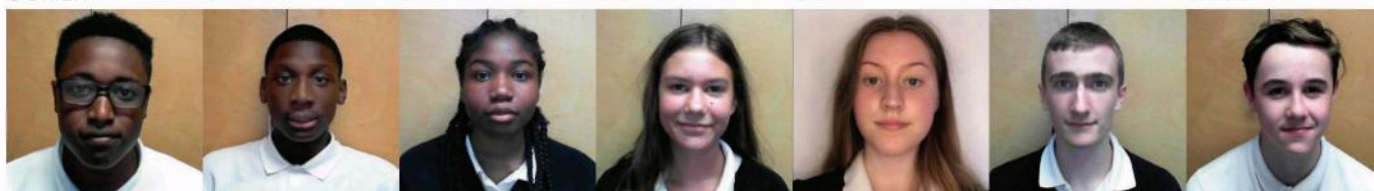
LOUIS O'LEARY

ANNA O'SHEA

MOLLY O'SHEA

LOUIS O'SULLIVAN

ART O'TOOLE WHITE



JOSHUA OGUNKAYODE

BRYAN OKOLO-TIMOTHY

STEPHANIE OLANIYAN

ALISON PEACE

EIMEAR QUINN

JOSHUA RANCE

SAM REDMOND



JOSHUA ROYCROFT

CONOR RYAN

GRACE SHEEHAN

CHARLIE SILKE

RACHEL SIMMS

EVE SISSON

AVIV SIVAK



SEAN SLATOR NELSON

LARA SMITH

EWAN SQUIRE

HUGH STAFFORD LANGAN

OISÍN STAPLETON DOYLE

AMY STEVENS

ANNIE SUN



ROGER SUN

ELLEN SWEENEY

ABIGAIL SYKES

AOIFE TALLON

KEVIN TOMESCU

DAISY TUOMEY

ALEX WALSH MALONE



THEA WALSH MALONE

TOM WANG

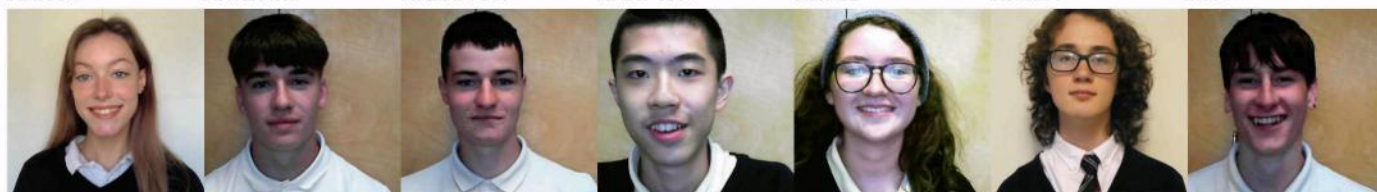
BEN WHELAN

CLARA WILSON

DAVID WILSON

YURI WRIGHT-BRENNAN

FORM 6

CAMILLA
ANELEJORDAN
BAILEYSOL
BELL-MEGAWLUCY
BRENNANJACK
BURKEJOEY
CHONGLOUIS
CHRISTLEEMILY
CLINCHJAMES
CODYNINA
CONROYRORY
COSGROVETHOMAS
COSTELLOALANA
CRIPPSJACOB
CULLINGTONALISON
DALYSARAH
DALYTRISTEN
DE BEERAIDAN
DOYLEISABEL
DUNNESAM
DUNNEFAITH
EDUNPETERSKEVIN
ELWOODALEX
FARRELLJACK
FARRELLYAAYUSH
GAURROSIE
GILLISDANIEL
GUASTALLAGIULIA
GUASTALLAMARTIN
HANCZCORMAC
HARBARTISOBEL
HARRISONSOPHIA
HARTUNGISSIE
HAYESJAKE
HICKEYJOSIAH
HILLNICOLE
HOLLANDBEN
HOPKINSROSS
HOWARDOSCAR
HUANGÉABHA
HUGHESNATHAN HUTCHIN-
SON EDGARLIAM
IRWINPRINCESS
ISIKALUALEXANDER
JACKSONEVAN J
JENNINGSTHOMAS
KELLYADAM
KILLEENALISON
LANDYKATIE
LARKINJAMES
LE BASCLARA
LEEJOSHUA
LLOYDFREDERIK
LOOSEHARRY
LYNCHANNA
LYONSMARCO
LYONS

FORM 6



CAMERON
MACEOGH

ADAM
MAGUIRE

AELA
MAHON

EVA
MAHON

ENYA
MAK

SHAAM
MALLAK

TEIA
MARSH



JODIE
MCAVINUE

CAOIMHE
MILTON

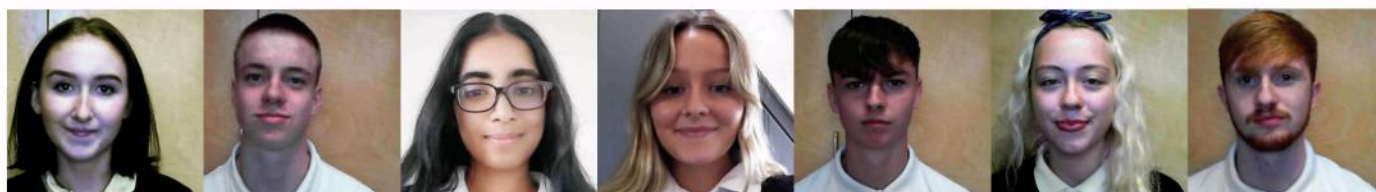
SADHBH
MILTON

OSCAR
MOHOLO

MILO
MOYNIHAN

GAVIN
MULHERE

JOE
MURPHY



MIA
MURPHY

TOMMY
MYLES

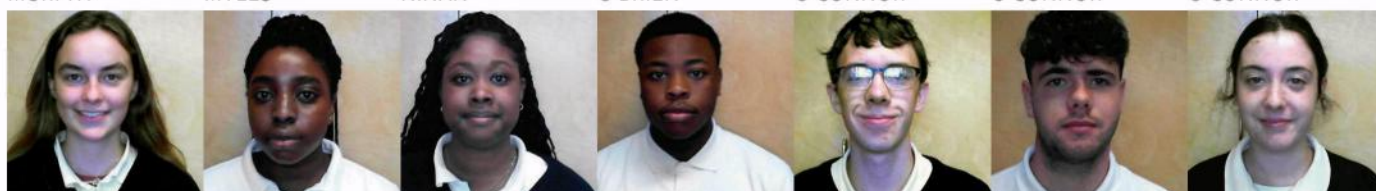
RUTH
NINAN

KATIE
O'BRIEN

ALEX
O'CONNOR

HEATHER
O'CONNOR

JAMES
O'CONNOR



ISABEL
O'DONOVAN

DEBBIE
ODUNTAN

DEBBIE
OGUNKAYODE

KARO
OTOBO

ROBERT
PEARSON

MORGAN
PEMBROKE

ROBYN
PEMBROKE



JENNIFER
PILLOW

ORLA
PRENDERGAST

LISA
ROCHE

LOUIS
ROSNEY

MAX
ROSS

PATRICK
RYAN

CONOR
SCHMIDT



BEN
SHAW

BENJAMIN
SISSON

AMY
TALA

PATRICK
TALLON

NATHAN
TIMMINS

SIOBHAN
TRIMMER

LORCAN
TWOMEY



EVA
VALENTINE

DANIEL
WALSH

JIN
WANG

SARAH
WEBB

MAX
WRIGHT

CUÁN
YOUNG

PARENTS' EVENING AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

PRIZE DAY SPEECH

MR G A FORREST

PRINCIPAL

THE HIGH SCHOOL DUBLIN

23 OCTOBER 2019

Bishop, Chairperson, distinguished guests, parents, past pupils, and pupils: I am delighted to welcome you to the annual Parents' Evening and Prize Distribution at The High School.

I want to take this opportunity to reflect briefly on the history, ethos, and values of the school. The High School was established by the Governors of the Schools founded by Erasmus Smith Esquire in 1870 and was located at Harcourt Street until it moved to this site at Danum in 1971. In 1974 The High School became fully co-educational when it incorporated the Diocesan Secondary School for Girls. The incorporation is reflected in the official name of the institution – The High and Diocesan School – as recognised by the Department of Education and Skills and the Charities Regulator. This important development allowed the school to consolidate its existing links with Church of Ireland and other Protestant communities both within the city of Dublin and across the United Dioceses of Dublin and Glendalough. The terms of the incorporation permit the Diocesan Board of Education to nominate nine individuals to the Board of Governors of whom three are appointed to serve on the Board of Management.

The reason for highlighting these connections is that we have been planning to observe a series of important anniversaries in the corporate life of the institution. Firstly, in 2019 the Governors of the Schools founded by Erasmus Smith Esquire marked the 350th anniversary of its foundation in 1669 during which time it has actively supported a wide range of initiatives in primary, secondary, and tertiary education in Ireland. Secondly, in 2020 The High School will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its foundation by highlighting its distinguished contribution to achieving and maintaining the highest standards in Irish education since 1870. Thirdly, in 2024 we will have an opportunity to observe the 175th anniversary of the establishment of the



Diocesan Secondary School for Girls in 1849 as well as the 50th anniversary of its incorporation with The High School in 1974.

The corporate life of the institution has been sustained by its ethos and values throughout the various stages in its history. The Christian faith – in its best and broadest sense – has informed all stages of its development in the reformed tradition. In particular, both the Diocesan Secondary School for Girls and The High School have enjoyed a substantial and valued association with the Church of Ireland from their inception to the present day. The original sub-committee appointed to examine the possibility of establishing The High School was chaired by an Archdeacon of Dublin who was latterly appointed Dean of Christ Church Cathedral and St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. The first Headmaster – the Revd Dr Samuel Cresswell – and a significant number of subsequent members of the teaching staff were Anglican clergymen. Today, the most senior ex officio Governors of the Schools founded by Erasmus Smith Esquire which controls The High School are the current Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan; together with the Archbishop of Dublin and Bishop of Glendalough, Primate of Ireland and Metropolitan; and the Bishop of Tuam, Killala, and Achonry.

The expression of ethos at The High School (incorporating the Diocesan Secondary School for Girls) derives from its Anglican origins and the ongoing influence of the Church of Ireland and other Protestant denominations in its daily activities. We engage positively with Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Quaker, and Pentecostal communities across the city of Dublin and beyond. We are particularly proud of our long association with families from minority faith backgrounds especially those of Jewish heritage. In keeping with its

liberal Anglican heritage The High School currently educates pupils from a wide range of minority faith backgrounds including Jewish, Hindu, and Muslim children. We welcome those of other Christian denominations, those of other faiths, and those of none provided all agree to uphold and adhere to the values outlined in the ethos statement throughout their time at The High School.

The annual Parents' Evening and Prize Distribution is an important occasion in the life of the school. It provides us with an event which allows us to reflect on key aspects of our vision, mission, ethos, and values. It permits an opportunity to acknowledge with pride and gratitude the commitment and dedication demonstrated by all members of the school community to the life of The High School. Therefore, I should like to begin by offering my congratulations to prize winners on their success; to acknowledge the efforts of members of staff who work tirelessly to encourage pupils to fulfil their potential; to thank parents and guardians for supporting the efforts of their children; and to express my sincere appreciation for the practical support and advice offered by the governors. The order of proceedings and range of prizes awarded this evening are printed in the accompanying booklet which remains part of the official school record in perpetuity. Separately, I have reviewed a range of national and local developments in post-primary education in the Principal's Report which you are welcome to read at your convenience.

The High School seeks to educate its pupils based on a set of inclusive and progressive values within our established academic, pastoral, and extracurricular programmes. It is worth reflecting on how this model offers an opportunity to implement a vision of excellence in education for all pupils entrusted to our care.

Firstly, our academic record is a key strength of The High School. We seek to prioritise the core activity of teaching and learning to provide a first-class education in a school where there is no academic selection on entry and mixed-ability teaching throughout. We continue to maintain a clear focus on developing the full potential of every pupil entrusted to our care by striving to achieve the highest standards of academic excellence commensurate with their abilities. We are all too aware of the pressures imposed

by a high-stakes terminal examination which determines access to third level education. Nevertheless, our academic record suggests that the vast majority of pupils at The High School are fulfilling their potential and – in many instances – exceeding expectations on all fronts.

Secondly, our pastoral care is a key strength of The High School. We have a strong commitment to the welfare of the children entrusted to our care. The development of positive and supportive relationships between staff and pupils is a significant feature of daily life at the school. We have a well-qualified and highly-experienced team of pastoral specialists who advise and support pupils throughout their time at the school. Our experience tells us that if young people feel happy and secure they will fulfil their potential. We are continuing to explore ways to expand and enhance this pastoral provision to ensure that our pupils receive the best possible support in all areas of school life.

Thirdly, our extracurricular programme is a key strength of The High School. The variety of opportunities open to pupils in this area of the school is outstanding. We support a substantial number of active and successful clubs and societies which provide access to a wide range of sports and activities. We are particularly keen to encourage the highest levels of participation – ideally a sport and one other recreational activity – among the pupils. We share in the joy of competitive success at all levels and age grades whether at local, regional, national, or international level. The recent selection of twelve of our pupils to represent Ireland in seven different sports is one example of this diversity and plurality in action at international level. It is this balance between the various elements

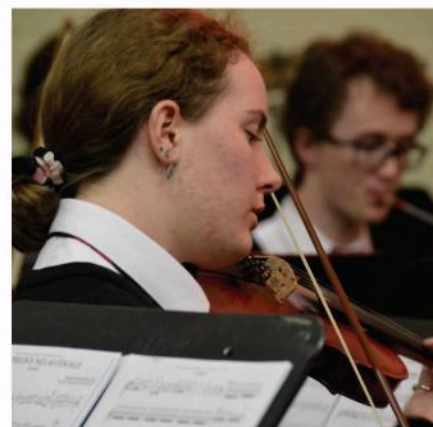


of our academic, pastoral, and extra-curricular programmes which is central to maintaining a happy and flourishing school community.

The pupils and past pupils who are gathered here have demonstrated outstanding commitment and determination in order to succeed in their respective fields. I should like to offer my warmest congratulations to those who have been awarded prizes and recognise above all their dedication to achieving and maintaining the highest standards throughout their time at The High School. I am delighted that we have an opportunity to celebrate your achievements this evening. You have every reason to be proud of your many and varied accomplishments. The role played by parents and guardians in promoting and supporting the education of their children in order to achieve these positive outcomes is also greatly appreciated. We do understand the variety of challenges to which all families are subjected. You should be assured that the school is most grateful for the consistent support and encouragement it receives from the parent body in general and the Parents' Association in particular. It is equally clear to me that it would be virtually impossible to achieve the positive outcomes we are celebrating this evening were it not for the professional excellence of the management team and teaching staff who are so ably and effectively supported by the ancillary, catering, and administrative staff on a daily basis. Finally, I am most grateful for the practical support and sound advice offered by the governors at The High School whose specialised expertise is provided voluntarily throughout.

In conclusion, a core purpose of any education system is to create the widest possible range of opportunities for young people to fulfil their individual potential. Therefore, it stands to reason that the pursuit of excellence in education for all those attending The High School is the key to a positive future for the pupils entrusted to our care. It is vitally important that we remain true to our liberal and progressive values by fostering a humane approach throughout this process. However, if we are to be successful in fulfilling our mission we must be ambitious and remain willing to accept the risks associated with leading from the front. The reward is that we succeed in preparing your children to take their place in wider society as responsible, informed, thinking, and tolerant human beings. I believe that the evidence presented this evening suggests that we can have every confidence that current and immediate past pupils of The High School are already meeting that challenge.

Thank you very much indeed for your attention. I hope you enjoy the rest of the evening.



**REMARKS AT THE HIGH
SCHOOL PRIZE GIVING**
THE MOST REVEREND
PATRICIA STOREY
BISHOP OF MEATH
AND KILDARE
 GUEST SPEAKER
 23 OCTOBER 2019

I am delighted to be here with you today to talk with you and to give out your school prizes for this year. There is probably something crucial that you should know about me – I spent 14 years in education in Northern Ireland, and not once, not ever, did I get a prize for anything! Nothing. Zilch. Nada. Now I hasten to add that this was not my school's fault! I loved English and Languages – including Latin, French, Spanish, and even Russian, but I clearly did not love them enough to get any prizes. The one word that appeared consistently on my school reports was the word "erratic". I could be good at something, but I often chose not to. That is not to inspire you to be mediocre, rather just to tell you that if you are not a prize recipient today, don't despair! You can still make a contribution to wherever you choose to in life and work. I for one never thought in school that I would be in this position talking to you today. I imagine my Maths and Science teachers are in utter shock that I managed to accomplish anything! I would not have stood out as their prize pupil – but things change! Prizes are meaningful and well deserved – I don't wish to take away from any of the prize winners today as I'm just jealous that it's not me, but getting them or not getting them will not define you. Yet I want to congratulate every single one of you that has managed to achieve here today something that I did not!

At school I was not a religious person. People often assume that when you have a clerical collar around your neck, that you have always been religious. In fact my family for generations had been non-churchgoing. We had very nominal contact with the church a few doors down, and the local minister used to call regularly in the hope of converting my father – but instead my father tried to convert him to a wee afternoon sherry. Since he was a Presbyterian minister, he tended to decline. But my point is – we were an utterly unchurched family and when I went to Trinity to do my undergraduate degree in English and French, I went with the specific intention



of becoming an air hostess as soon as I graduated, and had certainly no notion of anything else. Like I said before, the only thing I was good at was languages, and I wanted to travel – so, that seemed like the route to take. I also had a very glamorous aunt who worked as an air hostess with British Airways, and I really just wanted to be her. However, I hadn't banked on God's call on my life or on my friend, Penny's, persistence. When I went to Trinity the only girl going there from my school was Penny and Penny was known to be a committed Christian. I was a little worried about this. I did not plan to spend my undergraduate years praying and studying my Bible, as I assumed she did. I was very fearful that this wasn't going to work and Penny was just going to have to lighten up and not cramp my style.

As is God's way, the joke was in fact on me. Penny had something I didn't, and I noticed. I was a very happy person with lots of ambitions at this period of my life, so I wasn't miserable and needy and looking for an emotional crutch. However, Penny's faith and behaviour was so alien to me that I did decide that I would explore the gospels in the Bible, just to kind of rule out that they would have anything to say to me. And of course, the unthinkable happened, and as I read, the personality of Jesus in the gospels caught my attention and really made me think. After it kind of crept up on me, I made a decision towards the end of my first year in college to follow Christ, and that changed everything I had ever planned for myself. After university and as soon as I graduated, I went to be a youth worker in Dublin with a Church of Ireland church. After a few years in that church I got married and had two children, Carolyn and Luke, and, like many women, any call I felt I had to a

career or to Christian leadership got put on hold. Eventually in my early thirties, I applied to the ministry, fairly sure they would see through me and close the door, and instead I got accepted and the rest is, quite literally, history.

Did I ever think I would get this far in the Church? Absolutely not. I was as surprised as anyone when the phone call came on 19 September 2013, appointing me to be Bishop of Meath and Kildare. My name wasn't on any list. I hadn't been groomed for the post. It had never occurred to me that this was in my future, so to say I was dumbfounded would not be overstating it. But I took a deep breath, said yes, and became the first female Bishop in UK and Ireland at the end of November 2013. These have been some of the best years of my life. I love my job. It is very very challenging almost every day and I have learnt to lean heavily on the strength of God, but it has been a blast. I actually enjoy it probably much more than I expected. It gives me opportunities to go places I never thought I would be, and speaking here today is one of them! Like I said at the start, my school would not have put me down for a future speaker at school



prizegivings! As the saying goes, give God a laugh and tell him your plans. He has plans of His own.

So what words of wisdom would I want to pass on to you lovely young people with your lives ahead of you? There are probably three vital things that have helped me through my life and especially in these last years when I have needed them most, and they are: the willingness to listen and to learn; resilience in the face of difficulty; and determination to get the very most out of life.

Firstly, willingness to listen and learn. I would say that up until recently I have been someone who is fairly sure that they know it all. If ever there were years that taught me differently it has been the last few. Rather against my own temperament and personality, I have had to stand back and to be prepared to listen to people who know better than me about the Diocese of Meath and Kildare, and to be willing to simply learn. Now that goes against my nature – I am an activist who is pretty sure that nobody can teach me anything (which probably accounts for my lack of progress at school). But to be forced to stand back, to listen and to learn for a prolonged period – well, that has been such a valuable and vital lesson to me. I have learnt that others have important information too; that you don't always have to be in charge of everything; that you can trust others to help you to lead; that God wants to speak. So listen and learn. I waited till I was 53, but you can learn much faster than me!

Secondly, be resilient in the face of difficulty. Life will throw curveballs at you. Here are four famous people in history that needed resilience: Thomas Edison's first teacher described him as 'addled' and his father almost convinced him he

was a "dunce". Winston Churchill seemed so dull as a youth that his father thought that he would be incapable of earning a living in England. GK Chesterton, the English writer, could not read until he was eight. One of his teachers told him: "if we could open up your head we would not find any brain, but only a lump of white fat." Albert Einstein's parents feared that their child was stupid, and he performed so badly in school, except in Maths, that a teacher asked him to drop out. If you want to achieve something in life and make a contribution – the contribution that only you can make – then you will need resilience. The dictionary defines resilience as "the ability of a substance or an object to bounce back into shape." That is exactly the key to resilience – the ability to bounce back. So work on your ability to bounce back as you face disappointments now and into the future. Nobody gets an easy journey through life. You will need to bounce back. You will need resilience.

Thirdly, you will need determination. The quality of determination is totally underestimated. Achievement and meaningful contribution is not all about skill, genius, and luck (although these are all important). To serve your society with purpose and meaning will take utter, dogged determination.

So determine to be someone. Determine to not waste the one and only life that you have been given. The job that you choose is incidental. Determination is an inner pursuit. It also creates opportunities. When you are determined about something – and I don't have time to tell you of the ways that I have needed to be determined to get to this point in my life, but do take it from me, it was a necessary quality, perhaps especially as a woman in a man's world – when you keep going and you don't give up no

matter what, then it is amazing how often determination creates opportunities. You get a second shot at it. Or you get a different shot at it. And very often you are relieved and glad that you didn't get what you first desired. God has a way of giving you much much better than you wanted for yourself.

And so I come to God. This is not a sermon, and I respectfully realise that there are many religions and none here this afternoon, and yet I am a Christian and a Bishop, and you would presumably expect me to speak about God! The three things I told you about – being willing to listen and learn; resilience; and determination; – these three things would be nothing without my Saviour. Since I came to faith at the age of 19, I have never ever looked back. God has truly been my rock. I couldn't have done any of it, and especially these last years, without my God. For me, listening and learning, resilience and determination would be nothing without the knowledge that I am His daughter. Everything I do and am hinges around that. I find my purpose there, my delight there, my very reason for being right in the heart of God.

So my last words to you would be – find your destiny. Listen and learn. Be resilient and be very determined. But much much more than that – be at least open to the fact that God loves you and wants to make you His. I promise you, you will never look back. And I remind you that I say that as someone who has never won a prize in her life. Until now. Because without exaggeration, I have found my God to be the greatest prize of all. Thank you so much for your attention.



PARENTS' EVENING AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION



ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

2019-20

Dr Ralph Reynolds Memorial
Scholarship:

Finn Ó Foghlú

Ranelagh Multi-Denominational School

School Scholarships:

Luca Farrelly

St Mary's Boys' National School,
Rathfarnham

Enaya Samaranayaka

Presentation Primary School, Terenure

Pearl Sweetman

Kildare Place School

Maebh Thornton

Presentation Primary School, Terenure

Tiaan Daly

Ballyroan Boys' National School

Music Scholarship:

Michael Binchy

Zion Parish Primary School

Éabha Deely

Kildare Place School



PRIZES 2018 – 19

(Subjects taken outside the normal
school curriculum are not counted
when calculating prizes)

Form 1

Class Prizes:

1H **Erasmus Dempsey,
Katie Millar**

1M **Jake O'Loughlin,
Aideen Cassidy**

1S **Daniel Tallon,
Jennifer Burns**

1SU **Emily Leonard,
Barry Kennedy**

1W **Eoin Kelly,
Ella Roche**

Progress Prizes:

1H **Emma Fitzpatrick,
Theo Wall**

1M **Katie Hopkins,
Ben Hamilton**

1S **Ella Meleady,
William Wu**

1SU **Fiona Rutledge,
Thomas Boucher**

1W **Anna Hoey,
Luke Holland**

Form 2

Class Prizes:

- 2BR **Jack Barlow,
Ross Wilgar**
2H **Daimee Ng,
Alex Lynch**
2J **Tirzah Hutchinson Edgar,
Ena Ó Foghlú**
2R **Gary Meaney,
Oscar Hannon Smyth**
2W **Charles Beatty,
Luke Shannon**

Wilfrid Lowry Progress Prizes:

- 2BR **Dara Fitzpatrick,
Emily Maguire**
2H **Sophie Scollard,
Callum Gilmartin**
2J **Mia Naughton,
Luke Fitzpatrick**
2R **Oliver Davey,
Amelia Poskitt**
2W **Carrie MacWilliam,
Alex O'Hare**



Form 3

Rogers Memorial Prize
(best overall in Form 3):

Kayla Kennedy

Art – Miss Mitchell's Prize:

Elijah Rosney

Business Studies – SS Evans Prize:

Laura Cole

Classical Studies Prize:

Maya Feighery

Civic, Social & Political Education

– Parents' Association Prize:

**Michelle Yang, Emma Jenkins-
Leeson, Fiona O'Byrne,
Dara Hogan, Patricia Zhang**

English – Emily Latimer Memorial Prize:

Kayla Kennedy

French – Carpenter Memorial Prize:

Cillian West

Geography – Miss Latimer's Prize:

Laura Cole

German – German Government Prize:

Darragh Sullivan

History – Casserley Prize:

Laura Cole

Home Economics

– Dr Maurice Anderson's Prize:

Zoe Dunne

Irish – Jellett Memorial Prize:

Hugh Geraghty

Materials Technology (Wood)

– Parents' Association Prize:

Oscar Loftus



Mathematics – Dillon Prize:

Kayla Kennedy

Music – Diocesan School Prize:

Eileen Curran

Religious Education – Parents'
Association Prize:

Omowumi Obi

Science – Dorothy Blakeney Prize:

Kayla Kennedy

Technical Graphics

– Parents' Association Prize:

Taiwo Ogundipe

Progress Prizes:

3B **Daniel Abioye,
Robyn Hamilton**

3D **Eleana McGrath,
Samuel Hutzler**

3F **Prince Isikalu,
Alice Kelly**

3L **James Farrell,
Ella Pasley**

3R **Kim Dunne,
Oscar Maharg Bravo**



Form 6

(Normally a pupil is eligible for only one of the first six awards below)

High School Exhibition:
(best pupil in Form 6 who enters TCD)
Calum Adair

John Thompson Scholarship:
(best pupil accepted into TCD to read Classics, English, and another language)
Jack Healy

Glorney Exhibition and Cup:
(next best performing pupil who proceeds to further education)
Andrew Canning

Mildred Latimer Memorial Prize:
(next best performing pupil who enters further education in Ireland)
Naoise May

Rawdon Taylor Memorial Prize:
(best pupil studying Engineering)
Andrew Canning

Abraham and Charles Spiro Prize:
(next best performing pupil)
James Cole

John Bennett Memorial Prize:
(next best performing pupil)
Alistair Empey

Accounting
Andrew Canning

Applied Mathematics
– Evelyn Riley Memorial Prize:
Hannah Kerr

Art – Miss Mitchell's Prize:
Caitriona Brennan

Biology – Miss Jagoe Prize:
Shauna Power

Business – SS Evans Prize:
Molly O'Shea

Chemistry – Dr Start's Prize:
James Cole

Classical Studies – Etheline Brady Prize:
Calum Adair

Construction Studies
– Parents' Association Prize:
Eric Felle

Design and Communication Graphics
– Miss Mitchell's Prize:
Finn O'Sullivan



Form 5

Mitchell Scholarship
(best overall in Form 5):
Aayush Gaur

Class Prizes:
**Harry Lynch, Nathan Hutchinson
Edgar, Enya Mak, Frederik Loose,
Marco Lyons, Patrick Tallon,
Rory Cosgrove, Siobhan Trimmer,
Isabel O'Donovan, Eva Valentine,
Anna Lyons**



Economics – Ivan King Memorial Prize:
Andrew Canning

English – Bessie Bury Prize:
James Cole

French – McNay Prize:
Luan Rogers

Geography – Miss Latimer's Prize:
Rory Browne

Geology – Ivan King Memorial Prize:
James Cole

German – German Government Prize:
Naoise May

History – Ivan King Memorial Prize:
Calum Adair

Home Economics
– Dr Maurice Anderson's Prize:
Katie Moore

Irish – Casserley Memorial Prize:
Calum Adair

Mathematics – Foster Memorial Prize:
Alistair Empey

Music – Diocesan School Prize:
Rebecca O'Farrell

Physics:
Naoise May

Spanish – Ray White Memorial Prize:
Naia Byrne Paredes



Class Prizes: **Erica Macari, Siofra O'Brien, Elias Dempsey, Shona Carey, James Coman, Niall McDonnell, James Campion, Niall Lynch**

Special Category Prizes

Alan Peters Memorial Prize:

Leah Merriman

(for Prefect who has made the most helpful contribution to school life)

Past Pupils' Union Debating Medal:
Patrick Tallon

McDonnell Prize for the Arts:

Mia Murphy

(for contribution to the Choir and Drama productions)

The Hughes Meredith Award:

Erica Macari

(Pupil who has made overall contribution to school life)

The Claire Tuite Memorial Prize:

Hannah Hearne

(in recognition of her kindness and positive contribution to her year group and school life)

Past Pupils' Union Awards

Jean Scott Trophy:

Naia Byrne Paredes

Old Boys' Cup:

Naoise May

Deputy Head Girl:

Shona Carey

Deputy Head Boy:

Andrew Canning



LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2020

Camilla Anele
 Jordan Bailey
 Solomon Bell-Megaw
 Lucy Brennan
 Jack Burke
 Joey Chong
 Louis Christle
 Emily Clinch
 James Cody
 Nina Conroy
 Rory Cosgrove
 Thomas Costello
 Alana Cripps
 Jacob Cullington
 Alison Daly
 Sarah Daly
 Tristen De Beer
 Aidan Doyle
 Isabel Dunne
 Sam Dunne
 Faith Edunpeters
 Kevin Elwood
 Alex Farrell
 Jack Farrelly
 Aayush Gaur
 Rosie Gillis
 Daniel Guastalla
 Giulia Guastalla
 Martin Hancz
 Cormac Harbart
 Isobel Harrison
 Sophia Hartung
 Isabelle Hayes
 Jake Hickey
 Josiah Hill
 Nicole Holland
 Ben Hopkins
 Ross Howard
 Zhu Huang
 Éabha Hughes
 Nathan Hutchinson Edgar
 Liam Irwin
 Princess Isikalu
 Alexander Jackson
 Evan Jennings
 Thomas Kelly
 Adam Killeen
 Alison Landy
 Katie Larkin
 James Le Bas
 Clara Lee
 Joshua Lloyd
 Frederik Loose
 Harry Lynch
 Anna Lyons
 Marco Lyons
 Cameron MacKeogh
 Adam Maguire
 Aela Mahon
 Eva Mahon
 Enya Mak
 Shaam Mallak
 Teia March

Jodie McAvinue
 Caoimhe Milton
 Sadhbh Milton
 Oscar Moholo
 Milo Moynihan
 Gavin Mulhere
 Joseph Murphy
 Mia Murphy
 Thomas Myles
 Ruth Mary Ninan
 Katie O'Brien
 Alexander O'Connor
 Heather O'Connor
 James O'Connor
 Isabel O'Donovan
 Debbie Oduntan
 Debbie Ogunkayode
 Oghenekaro Ootobo
 Robert Pearson
 Morgan Pembroke
 Robyn Pembroke

Jennifer Pillow
 Orla Prendergast
 Lisa Roche
 Louis Rosney
 Maximilian Ross
 Patrick Ryan
 Conor Schmidt
 Ben Shaw
 Benjamin Sisson
 Amy Tala
 Patrick Tallon
 Nathan Timmins
 Siobhan Trimmer
 Lorcan Twomey
 Eva Valentine
 Daniel Walsh
 Jin Wang
 Sarah Webb
 Max Wright
 Cuán Young



JUNIOR CERTIFICATE 2020

David Aigboboh
Suki Bailey
Maya Barber
Jack Barlow
Charles Beatty
Ryan Boyd
Ryan Bracken
Roisin Brazil
Ciara Buggie
Davide Cammarano
Tara Carey
Hugo Chaloner
Jamie Chambers
Katie Collins
Rebecca Collins
Tristan Comerford
Max Corcoran
Georgia Cullington
Seren Cunningham
Emily Curran
Oliver Davey
Christopher de Lacy
Ruth Dillon
Niamh Doherty
Alexander Donovan
Andrew Donovan
Jeremiah Edunpeters
Charlotte Egan
Dermot Evans
Andrew Farrelly

Arthur Feeney
Freya Fetherston
Dara Fitzpatrick
Luke Fitzpatrick
Lily Gallagher
Callum Gilmartin
Simone Giunta
Georgia Gough
Charlotte Guckian
Poppy Hall
Oscar Hannon Smyth
Zara Hardy
Hannah Hearne
Cealinn Hurley
Tirzah Hutchinson Edgar
Samuel Hutchison
Ethan Jones
Favour Kehinde
Fergus Kelly
John Kelly
Samuel Kennedy
Jacob Kharsieva O'Rahilly
Susan Lawal
David Lawley
Alexandra Lenihan
Evan Loftus
Annelies Loose
Alex Lynch
Charlotte MacDonnell
Carrie MacWilliam

Emily Maguire
Oscar Maguire
Jennifer Maier
Sophie Mayrs
Ciarán McCarthy
Hannah McCarthy
Jack McGinn
Leah McGrath
Samuel McLuskie
Gary Meaney
Luke Murphy
Mia Naughton
Jessica Needham
Daimee Ng
Thomas Nickels
Divine Nwamara
Seán O'Brien
Coco O'Donnell
Ella O'Flynn
Alex O'Hare
Daniel O'Leary
Jack O'Malley
Jack O'Riordan
Faye O'Rourke
David Odekunle
Miriam Oduntan
Ena Ó Foghlú
Esther Olaniyan
Ben Pasley
Sophie Pearson
Libby Perdue
Amelia Poskitt
Nathan Priestley
Moya Quigley
Zoe Robertson
Rachel Robinson
Adam Ross
Reuben Ross
Ava Ryan
Elodie Ryan
Rosa Santoro
Matteo Sanvito
Sophie Scollard
Luke Shannon
Archie Sheridan
Clodagh Somerville
Elliott Sparks
Luke Stevens
Alexander Stewart
Alexandria Swan
Esther Vance Cronin
Aadya Vig
Jerry Wang
Millie Webb
Fionn Whooley
Ross Wilgar
Emma Wilson
Aaron Wilson Greene
Seán Winslow
Nicholas Wright
Ryan Wynne
Bronagh Young



ART

The Art Department had a really busy year. We started with a trip in September with Form 1 to the Natural History Museum and in October Form 5 and 6 undertook their annual Gallery visit. Lots of artwork was displayed in the Library, Form 2 Ceramics, Form 1 Masks, and Form 5 notebooks. We were constantly surprised and uplifted by the creative response of Art pupils in The High School throughout the year. This was especially true during remote learning; pupils toured virtual galleries like the Courtauld Institute of Art and the British Museum, made lots of drawings and mixed media work at home as well as participating in online conversations with artists such as Ria Czerniak Lebov and Alan Phelan, during Culture and Creativity Day as part of Activity Week. It was a real highlight for the Art Department to have all our pupils who applied to Art College accepted to IADT and NCAD.



Portfolio

The Art Department would like to congratulate Eva Mahon, Tommy Myles, Rosie Gillis, Joey Chong, Adam Maguire and Thomas Kelly on the completion of their Art Portfolios. They have all been exceptionally dedicated and hard working. We look forward to hearing about their future studies and following their careers in Art and Design.

Form 1 Art Trip

Form 1 Art visited the Natural History Museum on Merrion Square on Monday 9 September. We were looking for source material for our Mask Project and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We made drawings and took photographs of the animals on display. It was a brilliant experience to see how everyone was drawn to different displays and developed designs for their masks. There is representation of a vast array of mammals, birds, sea life, and insects. We were delighted with how their masks turned out!



Form 5 and 6 Gallery Visit

Form 5 and 6 had a great Gallery Trip to the National Museum of Ireland Archaeology and to the National Gallery of Ireland. It was a real treat to see many of the artefacts we have studied in the National Museum, beautifully crafted lunulae and torcs as well as the brilliant display of the bog bodies.

We visited 'Sorolla: Master of Light' in the National Gallery and had fantastic guided tours which really brought the works to life. Joaquín Sorolla (1863–1923) is known as Spain's Impressionist. He painted varying subjects ranging from portraits of his family, to the maritime culture of Valencia as well as the traditional Spanish dress and customs. We also saw the Zurich Portrait Prize exhibit and Joe Caslin's installation as part of his body of work titled 'Finding Power'. It was a very successful trip. Thank you to all involved!

Ms Rogers and Mr Hanan

SENIOR ART VISIT

On 22 October the senior art pupils ventured out to Dublin's museums in order to gather first-hand information for the Leaving Certificate gallery question.

We started at 10:00 am at the National History Museum on Merrion Street. Here we took notes on two artefacts of our choice, noting their purpose, structure, lighting, and placement. The museum has exhibits on Celtic and Viking Ireland which is relevant to our Leaving Certificate course. After lunch we met at the National Gallery on Clare Street where we had a very thorough guided tour at the Sorolla exhibition. Sorolla is an impressionist painter born in 1863 and is known today as 'The Spanish Master of Light'. At this show we took notes on two of Sorolla's paintings based on technique, meaning, and context, but also its curation with lighting, framing, and position.

Overall, the trip was stimulating and beneficial. I would highly recommend a visit to any of Dublin's wonderful museums.

Juno Claffey Hegarty



FORM 1



DEPARTMENTS



FORM 2



FORM 3



FORM 4



FORM 5



FORM 6



BUSINESS STUDIES

The Business suite of subjects includes Business, Economics, Accounting, and several modules in Transition Year, including Enterprise, Business for living, Accounting, and Economics. All of these subjects are in tune with real-life situations and provide pupils with many of the tools needed in life today.

These subjects have seen significant change over the past five years with the new Junior Cycle Business Studies now in its third year and a new Economics syllabus, which started this year with Form 5. There have been important changes in the area of assessment for both Junior and Senior Cycle; Form 2 and 3 are required to complete a classroom-based assessment and Form 6 must complete a project worth 20% of their final Leaving Certificate grade.

These projects give pupils the opportunity to develop important presentation and research skills, as well as explore areas of interest. The standard of pupils' presentations and research has improved every year. Examples of the presentations completed by Form 3 include: 'What is Google's impact on the local economy in Dublin?' and 'How have Lidl reduced their food waste?'

To help pupils prepare for these projects and presentations, we have increased our focus on project and digital work across all year groups. Pupils are often given the opportunity to research a specific area of interest, related to the curriculum, and present their findings, typically in a digital design. The examples below show three infographics made by pupils.

We continued this year with the Banking module run in conjunction with AIB Rathgar. The pupils travel down to the bank for several weeks to interact with the staff and systems at the bank. They also get to see how a bank functions and the many services they offer. Thanks to AIB Rathgar for facilitating this as the pupils really look forward to it.

This year, there were two Transition Year Enterprise classes. One class embarked on a wonderful idea to reduce the amount of plastic in the school. They ran an awareness campaign and bake sales to raise money to reduce the cost of a HSD water bottle, so every pupil would have their own water bottle. It is hoped that next year's class will continue the

great work already done by this year's group. The second enterprise class sold tea, coffee, and snacks on Tuesday and Thursday mornings throughout winter. The group learned about the logistics of running a small business, including managing purchases, sales, advertising, and finances.

During school closures, our pupils continued to work hard and show their entrepreneurial characteristics, completing excellent group projects. One Form 1 group came up with a new business idea to help those with visual impairments, social distance effectively, called 'Near Hear'. A group of pupils in Transition Year developed and presented an idea for a fridge scanner – Franner – to help reduce food waste.

We, as teachers, try to vary the experience for pupils by bringing them out of the classroom and into real-life business activities. They get the opportunity to meet local business owners and see first-hand how the economy works. Thanks again to all the local businesses in Rathgar who have continued to facilitate this valuable resource. We also participate in as many in and out of school quizzes, seminars, competitions, and activities as possible.

We look forward to the new pupils coming in and wish all our Leaving Certificate pupils every success in whatever they may do.

Mr Keegan



CAREERS GUIDANCE

The bulk of the academic year in the Guidance Department involves lots of Careers meetings and Subject Choice meetings and general counselling support. Then, in a typical year, we would have a trip to Dublin City University and to Trinity and to the Technological University Dublin with Form 4. This year, however, we only managed to travel to DCU for the first visit before the school closed. We always have a visit to UCD for Form 5 and this was to have taken place the week after school closed this year so, unfortunately, we didn't manage to go. Form 5 also normally have a series of presentations and we had the following colleges booked in to give their presentations in school: Institute of Art, Design and Technology Dún Laoghaire, NUI Maynooth, Trinity College, NUI Galway, Technological University Dublin, Dublin Business School, and EUNICAS, which is the agency assisting with applying for degrees in the EU.

We hope that we can organise to have these presentations for Form 6 next year, whether virtually or with an actual visit. The highlight of the year for the Guidance Department is the annual Careers Fair, where past pupils of The High School come back to school for an evening and provide an opportunity for the present Form 5 and 6 to ask questions about their courses and college life. It's always a great evening with the returning pupils enjoying a dinner in the canteen with their old classmates and then providing really helpful advice at the various desks in The Reynolds Hall. Again, we hope to manage to facilitate this wonderful opportunity in some form over the coming year.

Ms McDonnell and Ms Whelan



CLASSICAL STUDIES

It has been another eventful year for the Classical Studies department in The High School – filled, as always, with tales to astound, stories to inspire, and feats to wonder.

Form 1 pupils began their journey through the Ancient World with their study of Greek Mythology. Their “Hero’s Journey” projects ranged from Theseus to Luke Skywalker, and their creativity never failed to impress – which they again highlighted with their excellent Ancient Greek ‘Herakles’ vs Disney ‘Hercules’ presentations. Although they had to finish their First Year studies from home, they managed, in truly “epic” fashion one might say, to create marvellous practical projects to sum up their First Year as classicists; from Circus Maximus chocolate cakes to Greek feasts for the whole family, they all proved to go on a Hero’s Journey in their own right.

Form 2 began their year exploring Homer’s Iliad and ended it with their practical projects on Ancient Pompeii. They once again showed great ingenuity in creating and presenting a variety of projects encapsulating the life and death of this Roman town. There were Aqueduct recreations and molten cake Vesuviuses (Vesuvii?) – they should be commended on their creativity in encapsulating aspects of their study of Pompeii with their own interests.

Form 3 have worked steadily all year. Although the year was missing some of the usual staples of the Classics calendar, such as the annual Ides of March Feast and the summer walk to Ely’s Arch (to conduct architectural analysis with the aid of 99s/ice cream), the pupils showed great determination in remaining steadfast in studying their Classics course from their homes. Julius Caesar once said “Alea Iacta Est”. Although the die was cast in an unfortunate situation for the Third Year pupils, they admirably persevered.

Transition Year undertook their Classical History modules with great enthusiasm, learning about the society and customs of Ancient Sparta and the story of Leonidas and his brave 300.

Form 5 each embarked upon their own Odyssey through their Leaving Certificate course by encountering and analysing, with great vigour I might add, works of Homer and Sophocles; of Aristotle and



Euripides. Class members also attended a trip to the Abbey Theatre to see a new production of Euripides’ ‘Medea’ this year, which proved to be a great experience.

I cannot, of course, discuss Senior Cycle Classics without mentioning the 2020 trip to Rome. Twenty-four pupils from Form 5 and 6 united together, as strong as a Phalanx of Spartans, and during the February half term spent four days exploring the Eternal City. From the pitter-patter of the cobbled streets, to the hallowed chambers of the Colosseum; the recorded history on the weathered stones of the Ara Pacis Augustae to the dusty sands of Ostia Antica; the vaulted ceilings of the Vatican to the pureed tomatoes of the pizza-making class, this truly was an unforgettable experience for all those involved. There was a great sense of camaraderie on the trip, and there were constant sounds of joy and laughter all around. I would once again like to thank Ms Whelan and Mr Rankin for accompanying me on the voyage. We were so lucky to be able to attend this trip, given what happened just weeks afterwards. I know that none of us take the experience for granted.



Then there is Form 6. What can I say to you all? What a class you have been. Determined and inquisitive, hard-working and enthusiastic, it has been a joy to work with each and every one of you. If Classics has taught us anything, it is that things happen in the world around us, but the universality of the human spirit remains.

I know this wasn’t how any of you foresaw your studies concluding, but I urge you to remember Virgil’s famous words: “Audaces Fortuna Iuvat”. Fortune favours the bold. I wish you all good fortune as you set off on your own adventures; you deserve it.

And wherever they may take you, know you have the fortune and the bravery to face whatever comes your way, with a smile on your face, and your own legend in your heart.

Mr Milofsky



CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

Construction Studies started off as it usually does with a group from Form 6 with high ambitions for each of their projects. Many pupils decided to investigate and research new and exciting building technologies, and others took the opportunity to showcase their practical skills. There was a diverse choice of topics this year from electric guitars and sustainable house design to wireless charging coffee tables. Pupils maintained a balance of exam preparation, board drawing, practical exam practice, and project work. I congratulate the class on the high sights they set for their individual projects and portfolios. This year was unfortunately cut short resulting in many of the Form 6 project work remaining incomplete. However, here is some of their work in progress!

Mr O'Sullivan



DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS

These images show some of the work completed by Form 6 Design and Communication Graphics class. This forms part of their assignment where they use CAD software to digitally model existing products and later alter the design or create a new concept of their own. This year the assignment was based on gaming headsets which is a popular consumer product.

Mr O'Sullivan





ENGLISH

The English Department's activities were somewhat curtailed by the enforced closure of the school during the COVID-19 outbreak, but there was plenty of activity which we managed to partake in.

Both Form 4 and 3 attended Shakespearean productions during the year. Form 4 attended Hamlet whilst Form 3 attended an adaptation of Romeo and Juliet. The Junior Cycle classes made great use of the library and carried out oral activities and written activities for their CBAs. We had a Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) morning during the spring term and we continue to promote literacy throughout the school.

The recent school closure has had a positive effect in allowing our pupils a re-engagement with literature and to develop their creative insights and writing. One of the inspiring things was the prominence of poetry and spoken words used in the media in the last few months. We were all struck with the impact that the COVID-19 crisis had made on the pupils and the impact on their written responses and insights.

We are delighted to see past pupil Naoise Dolan publish her debut novel 'Exciting Times'. Her book is an intimate, bracingly intelligent debut novel about a millennial Irish expat who becomes entangled in a love triangle with a male banker and a female lawyer.

Past pupil Stephen J Smith continues to develop his poetic work with 'Ní neart go cur le chéile'. There is no strength without unity, a commission for TV advert, during the recent pandemic, and 'Collectively Counting'. He is also judging poetry, created for Cruinniú na nÓg (part of Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth) during lockdown. We wish them continued success with their endeavours.

Hopefully we can get back to a sense of normality sooner rather than later. We know that the world will be different, The High School will be different, but our pupils will realise that:

"One thing the distance has exposed, our hearts need to be close, not closed."
Stephen J Smith

"If you remain generous,
Time will come good;
And you will find your feet
Again on fresh pastures of promise,
Where the air will be kind
And blushed with beginning".
John O'Donohue

Mr Miller



GEOGRAPHY

It has been another busy year for the Geography Department at The High School. The new Junior Cycle course continues to be rolled out and is now being followed by all Form 1 and 2 pupils. The new course builds upon the old Junior Certificate course and aims to develop a pupil's appreciation and understanding of how our world works and the interactions between people and the planet.

One significant change in the new course has been the introduction of Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) in Form 2 and 3. This year, Form 2 pupils completed the first set of CBAs in Geography. Pupils were asked to investigate a geographical event that had been reported in the news. A wide variety of topics were chosen, reflecting the breadth and relevance of this diverse subject. Topics included volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, storms, floods, urban air pollution, traffic congestion, climate change, and wildfires. Pupils investigated the causes and effects of these events as well as the implications for people and the economy. They then produced a report, poster, or PowerPoint presentation to display their findings. It was a great opportunity to connect the Junior Cycle course content with real world events.

The annual Form 6 field study took place on Shanganagh Beach, Shankill in October. This year, pupils examined the effects of coastal transportation and deposition on the landscape. We spent the day collecting data relating to the geology of the beach as well as analysing the waves, in order to develop a detailed understanding of how the beach was formed. This was a good opportunity for

Form 6 pupils to investigate some of the natural processes that they have studied in class and to develop their fieldwork and research skills.

Lockdown and school closure made learning more difficult in the latter part of the year. Despite this unusual and challenging situation, we were very impressed with the engagement of our pupils as school moved online. It was not an easy situation and online learning cannot fully replicate the experience of school, however, we saw a great effort being made by pupils in all years to engage with the work set.

The lockdown was particularly challenging for the Form 3 and 6 classes who had been working hard to prepare for the state exams. The cancellation of these exams was an unexpected end to both the Junior and Leaving Certificate courses. This was disappointing for many pupils who felt that they did not have an opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills that they had worked hard to acquire during their Geography course. However, we should remember that we do not study Geography solely to complete exams and time spent studying this subject makes us more informed, knowledgeable, global citizens and allows us to understand better this incredible planet. Our Form 3 and 6 pupils should be very proud of the work they have completed and their engagement throughout the year. Well done!

Mr Rankin



HISTORY

The momentous 150th anniversary of the school's foundation and the disruptive effects of this year's pandemic (COVID-19) provide an important backdrop for reflecting on this year's Leaving Certificate History Course. The year of the school's foundation, 1870, was also the year of the Franco-Prussian War which resulted in German unification under Bismarck and the beginning of Franco-German bitterness at the centre of Europe which only ended with the Treaty of Rome, 1957, and the beginning of the European Economic Community (now the EU). Leaving Certificate History pupils studied this at the outset of their course on much of the 20th century. They began Irish History with the foundation of the Home Rule Party in the same year and the 1870 Land Act which was part of British Prime Minister, W.E. Gladstone's, mission to "pacify Ireland". These modern history courses now begin in the early 20th century. They are also broader courses reflecting not just on political events but also on social, economic, and cultural aspects of the times studied.

It is interesting to note that the "Spanish Flu" pandemic of 1918 has not up to now received much attention in Irish or wider world sections of the course. This year's European course focused on the end of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles, 1919, and how the map of Europe was redrawn and contributed to the out break of World War II. The rise of Communism and Fascism and the personalities of Hitler and Stalin are central to the course, while in Ireland, the revolutionary decade (1912-1923) with its outcomes of partition on the island and independence leading eventually to a republic in 1949, were the starting points of study.

Another focus in the newer course has been Document Studies with a question on the exam paper. This year's studies focused on the USA and the World 1945-1989 and the three

case studies were: The Montgomery Bus Boycott, 1955-1956; President Johnson and the Vietnam War, 1963-1968, and The Space Race and the Moon Landing, 1969. These studies not only provided deeper insights into the state of the world's largest democracy in the middle of the 20th century but also how history is put together/written.

The fourth section of study for this year's Leaving Certificate was Northern Ireland, 1949-1993 (an odd end date given the Good Friday Agreement of 1998!). The course focused on the divided society, the possibilities of 'opening up' in the 1960s, the civil rights movement and the descent into violence for 30 years. One of the case studies examined the possibilities of power-sharing and the failure of the Sunningdale Agreement, 1973-1974, while another centred on the marching tradition of the Apprentice Boys of Derry/Londonderry.

As always, the Research Study where pupils have the opportunity to choose their own area to research and write on was an area of study where many pupils displayed their full potential.

Under the emergency COVID-19 Crisis conditions, the state exams were deferred to August and then postponed (essentially cancelled). The "Calculated Grades" system which has replaced the exam is a "second best" system in these strange times. Teachers have been diligent in their efforts under this system and hopefully the outcomes for pupils will allow them to progress in this 'one off' situation.

Finally, I hope that the richness and variety of the Leaving Certificate History Course which pupils studied will inform their future careers and lives.

Mr Irwin

HOME ECONOMICS

It was another great, albeit strange year, in the Home Economics department at The High School! Following the school closures in March, the pupils of Home Economics at The High School must be commended. All pupils engaged excellently with the virtual learning and continued to excel in the subject. Well done to you all!

The new Home Economics pupils in Form 1 settled straight into Year 1 of the Junior Cycle Home Economics programme and delved into all areas – cookery, sewing and theory. Form 1 created some fantastic sweet and savoury dishes throughout the year and performed excellently in their end of term cookery exams. The cohort of pupils also developed some hand-sewing skills before the Christmas break when they made beautiful Christmas tree decorations. Pupils celebrated both Halloween and Christmas with some festive baking in class too! Although their in-class experience of Home Economics was cut short due to the school closures, the Form 1 pupils engaged excellently online and continued to send in amazing photos of their cooking and baking at home.

It was a busy year for Form 2 pupils. They completed numerous sweet and savoury dishes while developing their practical skills for their 50% CBA 2 in Form 3. The Form 2 pupils also engaged excellently with the CBA 1 task of creating/upcycling a textile item in class. All pupils engaged in the Design Brief Process and they were only a week away from finishing when the schools closed. Their projects were coming along brilliantly, and we are looking forward to seeing the finished products in the near future!

The diligent Junior Certificate pupils worked hard this year and they really consolidated their learning of Home Economics throughout the last three years. This was to be the last year of the old Junior Certificate Course. It was unfortunate that this talented group did not get to showcase their culinary skills for the Junior Certificate practical exam or the chance to show off their fantastic Design and Craftwork projects. However, their diligence has not gone unrecognised and it is safe to say they have developed many life skills throughout their studies of Junior Certificate Home Economics.

Form 4 pupils enjoyed the Food and Culinary Skills module. Many of these pupils did not study Home Economics for their Junior Certificate and were enthusiastic about participating in the module. Many sweet and savoury dishes were completed and skills for life were developed throughout the module.

Form 5 completed two of their Food Studies Coursework tasks and began working on their third. Pupils created a range of dishes including curries, yeast bread, yeast pizza, and also some festive treats at Christmas time! The Form 5 pupils produced some excellent work online throughout the school closures and they really engaged in the virtual learning.

The annual Ploughing Championships trip in September 2019 was enjoyed by Form 4 and 5 pupils. The pupils attended cookery demonstrations by the ambassador for the Association of Teachers of Home Economics Neven Maguire, Rachel Allen, and many more. It was a fantastic day enjoyed by all.

The Leaving Certificate pupils submitted their Food Studies Coursework journals. They celebrated Christmas in Home Economics by preparing a seasonal Christmas lunch. They worked hard at their studies throughout the year. The majority of these pupils had studied Home Economics for their six years in the school and the cancellation of the Leaving Certificate was a strange and difficult time for them. However, the Form 6 pupils have made fantastic memories in the Home Economics room and it is a certainty that many of the things they learned throughout their studies of Home Economics will stay with them forever.

Ms Hession and Ms Bergin





IRISH

Dia daoibh a chairde,

A warm "Céad Míle Fáilte" to Ms O' Sullivan, Mr Tristan Meehan O' Reilly, Mr Flaherty, and Ms Caoilinn Byrne who all joined Roinn na Gaeilge in The High School this academic year 2019–20.

We have had a very busy year with the introduction of the new Junior Cycle Curriculum for Form 3 and they were to be the guinea pigs of the new course this year but alas due to the cancellation of the Junior Certificate examinations, it was not to be. Form 3 had two CBAs to complete this year and a huge effort was made by both pupils and teachers to ensure and deliver some excellent work. Seachtain na Gaeilge ran this year from 9 March but unfortunately was cut short due to school closures on 12 March. We had poetry recited by our Head Girl and Head Boy "as Gaeilge" at Assembly from one of our most famous past pupils WB Yeats to kickstart SNAG and our 150th Celebration. We were entertained by Irish dancers and singers from Form 5, Riptide "as Gaeilge" performed by Form 2 and a wonderful duet from Leah and Daimee in Form 3 during our morning assemblies. A big thank you to all of those pupils who performed so beautifully this year.

The weather wasn't as kind to us this year as previous years but we made the most of the drier days with peil ghaelach matches and an poc fada competition for all year groups. Face painting and a series of tráth na gceist competitions in the Demonstration Theatre kept all pupils busy and engaged on the wetter days.

Our Transition Year annual trip to Croke Park had to be cancelled as did our TY Fáinne presentations but we will ensure that this takes place in the new academic year.

I also wish to welcome Mr Prendergast back to Roinn na Gaeilge. We will all enjoy his teaching, company, and experience, back in A8.

Ms Quinn



MODERN LANGUAGES

In September, we began our activities by celebrating the European Day of Languages. In order to involve as many people as possible there were events throughout the week. There were quizzes in the Library. Pupils contributed to both Junior and Senior Assemblies. Ryan Boyd, Georgia Gough, Tirzah Hutchinson Edgar, and Ross Wilgar read French poems, Mia Murphy sang "La Vie en Rose" and Enya Mak described some of the benefits of a French exchange. This year, we also included some activities based on non-curricular European languages as members of the school community shared elements of their heritage with us.

In Assembly, Daniel Fiala Li gave a presentation (in English) on the Czech Republic. This gave us an insight into the culture of the Czech Republic and we then listened to the sound of the Czech language as he ended by reading a poem about the harvest. We also had an opportunity to hear about Lithuania. In the Library, Ms Little, a student Music teacher (who is a fluent Lithuanian speaker), spoke to pupils about Lithuania and taught them some words in Lithuanian.

Transition Year provides pupils with more varied opportunities. The French classes visited the IFI to view a French film. Pupils from all of the Transition Year Language classes organised the European Christmas market. Lots of preparations were made for this event – baking, designing posters in French, German, and Spanish and choosing attractive material to display the delicious food on the stalls. Their efforts were also for the benefit of others at Christmas as money raised at the market was given as a donation to Focus Ireland.

During the year, pupils enjoyed the challenges of preparing for The Linguistic Olympiad and in January, the team competed in The All Ireland Linguistic Competition.

FRENCH FILM

We were tasked with making a short film during one fateful French class, with simple instructions: get into groups, brainstorm an idea, write a script (in French!) and shoot, edit and produce a 10-minute-long film. I entered production with four of my classmates, taking on the role of actors, directors, cameramen, and

This year, the Library was awarded a considerable grant by the Post Primary Languages Initiative which enabled us to enhance our resources by buying games, DVDs, and books.

We also have subscriptions for French magazines which deal with topics of current interest to teenagers.

The new Junior Cycle programme has now been fully implemented for Modern Languages so Form 3 were the first cohort of pupils to complete the course. Pupils rose to the challenges of the CBAs and some very creative assignments were submitted. Spanish was introduced in Form 1 in 2017 so this is the first time that Spanish has been examined in Form 3.

The restrictions imposed by the outbreak of COVID-19 meant that the latter part of the year took a very different shape. All staff and pupils had to adapt to remote teaching and learning and the state exams for Form 3 and 6 were considerably modified. The year of 2019–2020 will always be a very memorable one!

Ms Stevenson

LINGUISTIC OLYMPIAD

Throughout the year, a team met regularly after school to hone their critical thinking, code breaking, and applied linguistic skills through games and puzzles.

In January, the team competed in the All Ireland Linguistic Olympiad: a virtual competition in which pupils from across the country compete for a chance to represent Ireland at the International Linguistic Olympiad. Although we didn't move forward in the competition this year, we were thrilled with the work we put in and look forward to stretching our minds further in next year's puzzles.

Ms May

scriptwriters, with much multitasking. Many 40-minute scriptwriting sessions occurred, complete with dictionary fumbling and grammar mistakes. The filming proved to be challenging, as we were operating on a strict schedule in our studio (aka HSD grounds). Although our film won't be premiering in Cannes,

MATHEMATICS

Every pupil in The High School studies Mathematics. With at least one Maths class every day it is part of the regular rhythm of life in the school. We aim to make that daily learning experience one that stretches and challenges pupils, giving them the opportunity to learn new concepts and solve problems, all in a safe and encouraging environment.

Maths has also been changing in line with the new Junior Cycle. Form 2 pupils this year attempted their first Classroom Based Assessment (CBA). Not only were they required to create a problem to solve from any area of life, they then had to do their best to solve it! Problems ranged across many areas of interest – the design of pet houses, the pricing of fashion items, the success of sports teams, travelling, interior décor, computer games, and other technology. Further up the school, Form 5 pupils joined pupils from across the city at a Maths Week Event held in Trinity College. Andrew Jeffrey, the Mathemagician, brought his audience on a rapid journey through mathematical themes connected with the everyday world. Meanwhile back in High School, Ms Wiggle celebrated Maths Week in the library with visits from Junior Cycle Maths classes.

High School pupils often compete in citywide Maths Quizzes. Unfortunately the Pi Quiz for Form 3 pupils scheduled for the spring term could not take place. But earlier in the year an able and enthusiastic team entered the Team Maths Senior Quiz. We are always very proud of our pupils who so ably represent the school on these occasions.

In the COVID-19 context it has been interesting to see how statistics and data analysis have been critical in shaping government policy. Increasingly the state curriculum is including new approaches to problem solving and the use of Maths understanding in real-life situations. Of course there will always be the odd question about the girl who went into a shop and bought 48 watermelons. That could only happen in the Maths universe!

Ms Reilly

we did receive a prestigious premiere in our classroom. One thing is for sure – it was an incredible experience.

Patricia Zhang

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

2019–20 was a very busy and successful year within the Physical Education (PE) Department at The High School, Dublin. The PE Department continued to ensure that pupils received a broad, inclusive, and enjoyable curriculum to all pupils this year across several activity areas. For the first time, pupils in Form 2 and 3 undertook a PE assessment in activities such as gymnastics, dance, hockey, and rugby, where their efforts and achievement will be acknowledged on their Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement on completion of their Junior Cycle education.

In addition, several PE excursions and activities were organised by the Department to assist in providing new learning experiences for pupils at both the Junior and Senior cycles of the school.

An overnight adventure excursion at Kippure Estate was organised by the Department. Here pupils camped overnight, learned a variety of camp craft skills, prepared and cooked their meals, undertook a day and night hike, and completed a high ropes course.

Also, as part of their PE curriculum Transition Year pupils undertook several coaching courses in sports such as basketball, hockey, and rugby, where many pupils achieved a national governing body coaching qualification. All Transition Year pupils also successfully completed a recognised First Aid Course. The Department also included the inclusion of new physical activities within Transition Year such as indoor climbing and yoga.

Furthermore, the PE Department ensured that pupils continued to interact with PE lessons remotely in the last two terms of the academic year. Pupils received class assignments and challenges/activities to complete every week from their teachers. Finally, to end the academic year the PE Department, with the assistance of past pupils and school staff were able to provide pupils with video content in the areas of mobility, yoga, dance, and strength and conditioning to participate in during Activity Week and Sports Day.

Once again, well done to all pupils on a great year's work and their high levels of participation throughout.

Mr Sullivan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

It was a very interesting year for Religious Education (RE) in The High School. For Form 1 it was the beginning of a new era in doing the Junior Cycle. The new course was being introduced for the first time and pupils were using the new textbook 'A World of Beliefs'. The new course is really engaging and starts with an introduction to the Major World Religions, their beliefs and some, interesting facts.

Then pupils had an opportunity to explore the evidence for Religious Communities in the area. After checking out Google maps we went on a walk around Rathgar and Terenure to observe the various communities including a Jewish Synagogue, a Presbyterian Church, a Roman Catholic Church, and Zion Church of Ireland. We also noted a Mosque quite nearby in Milltown, shops selling Kosher and Halal foods, and a Buddhist centre.

Form 1 also had a really great opportunity to see the film 'Pareeksha' in Dundrum as part of the Indian Film Festival. It was attended by the director Prakash Jha, and there was a Questions and Answers session afterwards. The film touches on topics relating to the course, including culture, morality, and faith.

For Form 2 it was all go, getting projects completed for the Junior Certificate. These were just being started as lockdown happened. Form 2 were brilliant and all did loads of work online at home, working individually or in groups to research and create some amazing projects. Topics varied from the distribution of Islam or Judaism, to festivals in Hinduism, a survey on what influences teenagers in deciding right

and wrong, and a project investigating finding answers to the meaning of life!

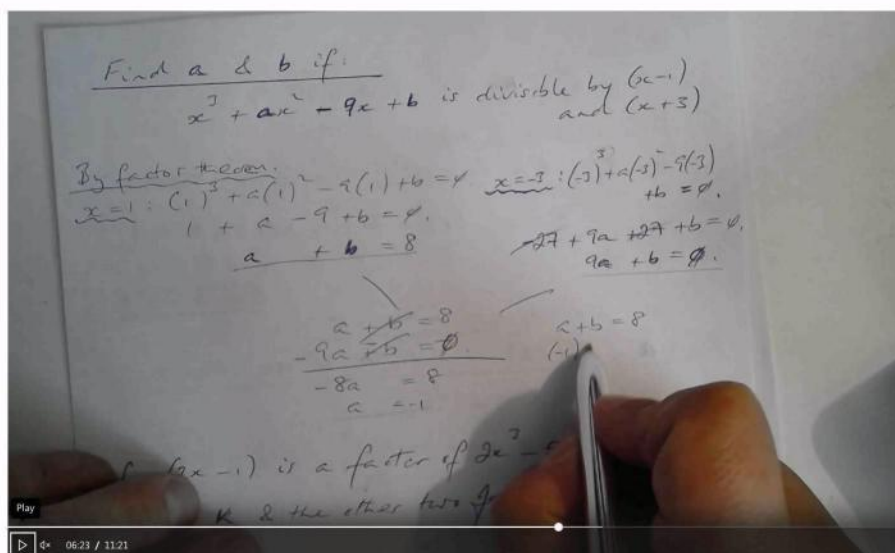
Finally, our Form 3 went about finishing the course and getting ready for the Junior Certificate, which of course ultimately never happened. Well done to all in Form 3, they finished the Junior Certificate course and were able to complete their final assessment in the subject in May.

Form 6 studying Leaving Certificate RE had a very challenging time this year. They too had the uncertainty of whether the exams would happen. While they did not sit the exam, over the past two years they have discussed, researched, and written on many interesting topics, like the Philosophers from Socrates to Nietzsche, Ancient Myths, Feminist Theology and Ethical Issues, including Structural Injustice and Stem Cell Research. They gained many critical thinking skills, had lots of fun, and are well placed going on to study at third level. I wish them well for all their future studies.

A joke from our Leaving Certificate RE class!

Descartes walks in to his favourite restaurant, the maitre d' says, 'Your usual?'
Descartes replies, 'I think not' and promptly disappears!

Ms Hutchinson Edgar



FORM 2 REFLECTIONS

Everyone realises that 2020 was a challenging year for all academic subjects, but for none more so than Religious Education. As Form 2 pupils, we were in the middle of our Junior Certificate Religious Education Journal Work, which, for those of you going "What on earth is he talking about?", is a project that all pupils must complete, as part of the Junior Certificate course. It is usually completed in Form 2 and the reflection of this is worth a percentage of the overall RE Junior Certificate grade (so basically, it's a big deal). And so, like all the other second years before us, we began our RE projects. My project was about Malala Yousafzai, and how she expresses the importance of prayer in her life. It was very interesting to learn about Malala's life and her work, so I'm glad I chose this topic for my project.

Of course, we were all taken by surprise when COVID-19 hit, but it left us with the question, "How are we going to complete our projects from home?". This of course, like so many other things that happened at around this time, no one had an answer to initially. Nevertheless, the ever-determined teachers found a way around this slight bump in the road. We started working on our projects from home and emailing our teachers with any questions we had. There is no point denying that this wasn't easy. To put it bluntly, it was hard doing our schoolwork, especially important projects like this, from home. So, we kept working away at our projects, as the deadline crept ever closer. When we finished our projects and handed them in, there was a huge sense of relief and satisfaction, that cannot be explained or translated into words. I think that, as much as everyone loved doing these projects, we were happy when the time came to hand them in. Then we had the project reflection to complete, which was the part that was worth a percentage of the overall Junior Certificate mark.

In fairness, we did have a substantial amount of time to complete our reflections on our projects, but it was still a lot of hard work. We wrote about all sorts of things, like how we came up with our project ideas, what sources we used, how challenging we found the projects, etc. We filled in our reflection forms on our projects, completely from home, and we sent them in to our teachers. Again, when we handed in our

project reflections, there was a weird sense of relief and satisfaction. Overall, the only way I can think to describe our Form 2 RE projects is that they were a very interesting experience. I have never done anything like it in my life. They were fun to do, and it was very interesting to see how everyone adapted to the new situation that was thrown at them with no notice at all. In my opinion, working on the projects from home worked out better than I think anyone had expected it to. It was enjoyable to do a project from home, as we had a bit more freedom. They were a welcome change and they were an interesting experience for all parties involved.

Eoin Kelly

FILM PREMIERE OF 'PAREEKSHA'

In November all of Form 1 went to see a film called 'Pareeksha', which was being shown in Dundrum Cinema as part of the Indian Film Festival. The RE department arranged the trip as the film touched on many topics studied in the Junior Cycle Course. The director was present at the screening, which was a premiere, and he kindly took time to answer questions from the pupils. Everyone really enjoyed this opportunity and the film gave us lots of topics to discuss afterwards.

In an article in 'India Today', describing the story of the film, Prakash Jha said, "The film is about Buchhi, who drives children from affluent homes to an expensive private English school every morning and dreams of giving his child the same quality education. This dream sets him on a dangerous path. The rest of the film is about the consequences of his dream."

CHRISTIAN AID VISIT

On Wednesday 9 October Reverend Bob Kiluyu, Global Senior Advisor from Christian Aid came to our Form 1 RE class to speak to us about poverty in Kenya. Before he spoke to us, his colleague, Michael Briggs, explained what Christian Aid is about. Christian Aid started at the end of World War II when churches came together to help people that were affected by the war. A few years later, they named their organisation Christian Aid after those churches.

Most children in Kenya leave school in year eight (6th class here) because their

parents cannot afford to pay for further education. The children spend the rest of their lives waiting for more education opportunities. Most begin to start families at the age of sixteen.

Many children run 13km to school and home every day. When they get home they must complete all their chores. When they are finished it is too dark to do their homework. Christian Aid gave these children solar lights so that they could do their homework. Shockingly, a family with seven or eight children would live in a house a quarter of the size of our classroom. We found this talk a very valuable experience and think that Christian Aid is a very worthwhile charity.

**Ciara Morton
and Enaya Samaranayaka**

FORM 1 REFLECTIONS

My favourite religion that we studied was Islam, as I hadn't previously learned about it, and I was able to research about it and find out important information I hadn't known. I enjoyed the project work. I personally prefer to do my own research, so projects are a great way for me to learn and compile my information and broaden my knowledge. I also liked how we learnt about branches of religions, for example, the Salvation Army is a branch of Christianity that dates back to the 1900s. Our class was even lucky enough to meet one of their commanding officers and learn about the Dublin community, as well as its past, and we were allowed to openly ask him questions, which he would answer. We learnt that the Ireland community was rather small, with around 15-30 members in total, and that they had a small meeting place in Terenure. Since they were at the time signing a lease with a new building, they were meeting in a café, with anywhere from two to 20 members showing up to weekly worship. This was a great opportunity for the class.

The textbook was very informative as well, and had great information in it, making it very easy to study. It had some excellent information and ideas for our end of year project.

Libby Kenna

SCIENCE

This year has been an unusual one for everyone, with the global pandemic bringing an abrupt end to our usual activities.

Nevertheless, there have been a few highlights to mention.

Throughout the year, the Science Club has been well-attended by many enthusiastic Form 1 and 2 pupils, meeting on Thursday after school to carry out their own experiments and investigations. The pupils enjoyed many experiments, from making King Kong hands and soda snake fireworks to space treasure hunts.

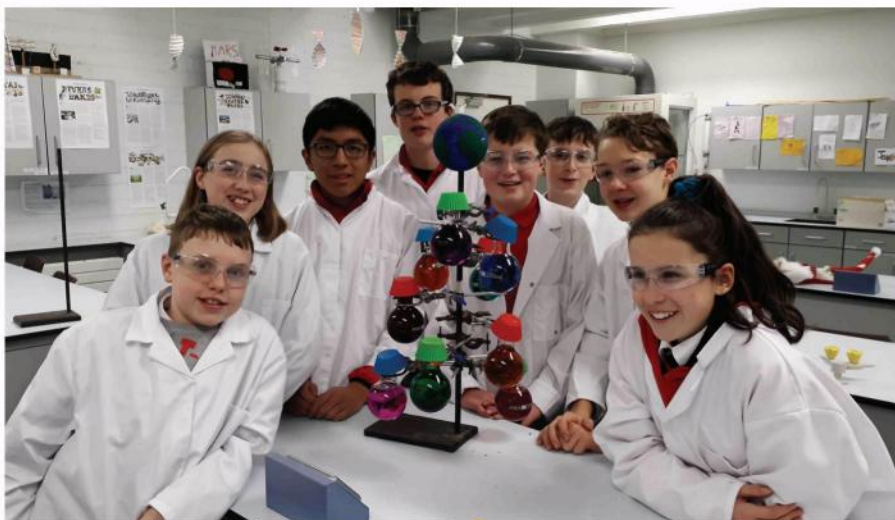
In October, Form 5 and 6 Chemistry pupils marked the occasion of International Mole Day with a selection of activities in tribute to the work of famous Italian scientist, Avogadro.

In November, Irish Science Week was celebrated with a display of science-related books in the Library, and a competition to build a model or sculpture on a scientific theme, made from recyclable materials. The competition was won by Fiona Rutledge in 2SU with a highly creative model of a food web.

In March, the sudden closure of school led to a few months of online learning, which meant that teachers and pupils had to embrace and develop their IT skills to a new level. Undeterred, science continued with some imaginative experiments and creative infographics, amongst other things.

Congratulations to all our pupils and their intrepid teachers on their efforts and for their enthusiastic participation throughout the year.

Dr C Whitford



FORM 6 BIOLOGY TRIP

Last week Form 6 Biology pupils went on an excursion to Sandycove Beach to complete their mandatory Ecology Habitat Study at the rocky seashore. We arrived at Sandycove bright and early while the tide was at its lowest point. Fortunately, the weather was spectacular and the scenery breathtaking. We divided into groups and began to explore the habitat, identifying the various flora and fauna native to Sandycove, such as the common shore crab and the bladderwrack. We used many tools to help us examine the habitat, such as quadrats (to carry out a qualitative study); pH indicators (to find out the pH of the rock pools); and a luxometer (to measure the light intensity). Everybody was given an Ecology booklet to fill in during the day with a checklist, key, and instructions on how to carry out investigations. We were grateful for the opportunity to visit the rocky seashore and expand our knowledge of this habitat. We would like to thank our teachers for taking us on the trip and for the delicious ice cream on the way home.

Debbie Ogunkayode



LIBRARY

The Library commenced the year very busily, with a lot of activities. We had Modern Languages Week, Space Week, and Science Week all one after the other. With a large group of new Form 1 having started in September, there was a lot of buzz in the library.

The addition of chess sets in the Library meant lots of pupils coming in and playing chess before school, as well as during break times. If the chess sets were in use, lots of pupils availed of the various board and card games that are also in the Library. Uno is particularly popular, as well as Jenga (even if used as dominoes instead).

Two High School pupils had amazing poetry success this year. Rachel Low won a Highly Commended prize for her poem in the Senior Category of the PDST Wellread and Poetry Awards 2019, an all Ireland poetry writing competition. Jake O'Loughlin reached the finals of the national Poetry Aloud competition. He was one of 16 finalists from an original entry of over 1500 pupils across the country. A fantastic achievement for both pupils.

Both Senior and Junior Debating were held in the Library, as usual, and it was great to see lots of Form 1 trying debating alongside the more experienced Form 2. Pupils are always welcome to come along and join in the debating.

We had some fantastic entries for the Halloween Haiku competition in October. The haiku winner this year was Patricia Zhang. Unfortunately, like the rest of the country, being physically in school was cut short on 12 March. Some of the other Library competitions had to be completed remotely, such as the Short Story competition, and our end of year activities.

The Library will be continuing with the Reading Club in September and we will be working towards renewing our national Wellread award that we achieved in 2017, so new members will always be welcome in the Library.

Ms Wiggle

NATIONAL POETRY
AWARD WINNER

Congratulations to High School pupil Rachel Low who was awarded Highly Commended in the senior category of the 2019 PDST Wellread and Poetry Awards. Rachel travelled to the Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone along with many other teachers and pupils from all over Ireland. The PDST Wellread and Poetry Awards focuses on the potential of poetry to enable us to use language in new and exciting ways as well as being an outlet for self-expression. Attendees heard former Director of the Galway Arts Festival and children's author Patricia Forde speak about how her love of reading influenced her decision to become a writer. Author Dave Rudden congratulated all award winners via video-link and praised them for bravely pursuing their creative endeavours.

CHRISTMAS HAIKU

Kings walk through the night
A star overhead burns bright
Born is a new world

Patrick Ryan

HALLOWEEN HAIKU

No one will suspect
That this is not a costume
Tonight, I blend in.

Patricia Zhang



POEMS FROM BOOK COVERS



WHEN SCHOOL IS OVER, WHAT'S NEXT

Before I go to sleep
(I) wonder (about)
My story
Such a long journey
To reach the clouds
The sea
The seven storey mountain
Paris
Istanbul
Timbuktu
Persepolis
Pompeii
Travelling light
The comfort of strangers
Family matters
A fine balance
The Groundbreaking moments
Heroic failure
Unbroken
Born to run
Found in translation

Patrick Ryan



The outsiders
Half bad, half lost
Run swift, run free
Into the wild.

Fiona Rutledge



Beverly, right here
On the banks of the Dodder
Framed
With the end in mind
An inconvenient truth
Why the whales came

Pearl Sweetman



Love letters from the front
Far from you
Between sisters
Lost and found

A girl is a half-formed thing
Silent scream
The girl who played with fire
Brightly burning

The woman in the window
The human stain
Silent scream
The killing

The names they gave us
Eleanor Oliphant is completely fine
Love lessons
Now we are six

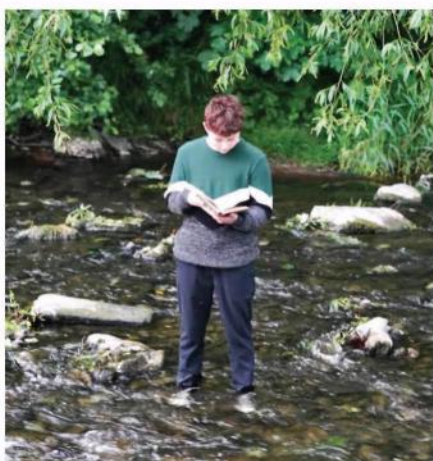
Hannah Hearne



BANNED BOOKS



EXTREME READING



150TH WORD IN THE 150TH LINE

DUBLIN BURG
Hynes here too: account of
Thumping thump. This morning
Mr Patrick Dignam. Machines.
if they got him caught. Rule
machineries are pegging away t
of hand: fermenting. Working a
that old grey rat tearing to get i

HOW A GREAT DAILY ORG
Mr Bloom halted behind th
admiring a glossy crown.
Strange he never saw his
for College

Panic

Summoning

Himself

Happy

Second

Bigwig

Inside

And

One

Dwarves

Get

SNOW

Sensei

Angrily

DVDs

grey

Jacket

Fear

Morgue

Remorseful

Malfoy

Her

Remarkable

Place

Most



THE ARTS



SENIOR PLAY

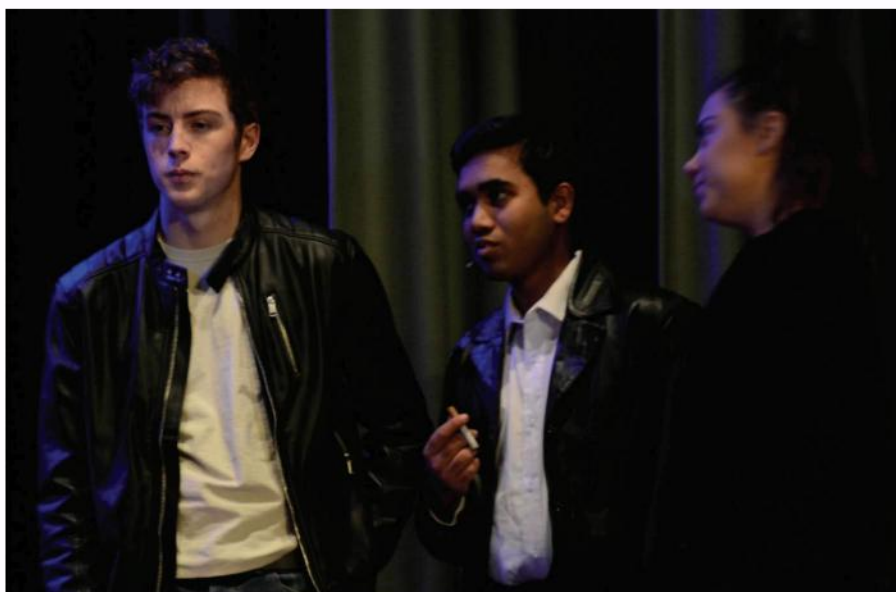
This year, Form 5 put on a production of 'West Side Story'. It was an unforgettable experience filled with highs and lows, such as endless choreographing and gruelling rehearsals, while also making new friends, becoming closer as a year, and just having a lot of fun.

During the production we learned how to work as a team, which can be challenging at times. We always had each other's backs, whether it was going off in small groups and rehearsing scenes or lending someone money to get something from the vending machine. We became one big happy family. I'll always remember the Saturdays spent practising our scenes, or the Wednesdays painting the sets. Most of all, I'll never forget the magic of seeing it all come together.

I've never felt a thrill like opening night. Our hearts were in our mouths as we waited behind the curtain. Once we heard those three, almost ritualistic, clicks we knew the show had begun. The rest seemed like a mesmerising blur. Whereas the closing night was bittersweet. We had poured our hearts and souls into this musical and it had finally come to an end, but it was so worth it. The atmosphere was electric, from the joyful 'Jet Song', the sassy 'America', the explosive fight scene, to the heart-breaking end. It was worthwhile just to hear the crowd laugh, gasp, and applaud. We also worked hard to make each other proud, just like a real family would.

I think I can speak on behalf of all cast members when I say I miss it dearly and would give anything to do it all over again!

Clara Gorham





JUNIOR PLAY

This year, pupils from Form 1 and 2 were set to perform the comedy 'Drama Club Must Die!', by Gerald P Murphy. A great deal of work was put into the preparation of the play by all involved. Auditions kicked off the Junior Drama season in January, with each actor receiving a monologue to perform. Each pupil also had an option to sing at their audition if they wished. The auditions provided an opportunity to show off each pupil's talent and was an experience enjoyed by all. Before parts were allocated, the entire group came together to take part in fun ice-breakers. These were incredibly entertaining and allowed everyone to get to know each other. The parts were allocated and those working back stage were assigned their roles. Then the serious preparation began.

Each actor received a script and immediately got to work learning their lines. Multiple rehearsals were held each week where the entire play was run through and practised. There was a great atmosphere of excitement and support at all of the rehearsals, making them a rewarding part of the experience. This year, it was planned to continue the tradition of interval acts where pupils partaking in the play would entertain the audience during the interval with musical performances. Many of these were already being rehearsed and it was shaping up to be another massively entertaining evening of music and drama! Due to the fact that everyone worked so hard, the play was almost perfected before the school had to close down.

While the actors rehearsed, stage hands had just as important a role to play. It was up to them to find and prepare props, paint the backdrop of the stage and plan stage design for each scene. An enormous amount of work in all of these areas was required to make the play come alive and thanks to their efforts, the play was almost ready to perform at the time the school closed on 12 March.

The play 'Drama Club Must Die!' is about a new principal who is making budget cuts in the school. As part of this, he decides to get rid of some clubs including the drama club, due to the amount of money royalties for plays cost. In order to save their club, the drama students and their teacher Miss Goldberg have a week to put together a show of 'The Wizard of Oz' to save themselves from the wrath of the principal Mr Grackle.

To avoid royalties, they write their own songs and script. Will they succeed?

Two weeks prior planned performance of the Junior Play, we heard the unfortunate news that the school would be closed due to COVID-19. The performance was moved to a later date, and we all kept practising at home. We then found out that the school would not be opening until the new school year and arrangements were made to possibly hold the play when the school reopened. We had all hoped to perform the play, but the safety of everyone is our priority!

We all want to say a huge thank you to Ms Browne for organising and choosing

the play and making it all so much fun even through the uncertainty that came with the pandemic. Thanks also to Tirzah Hutchinson Edgar, Josh Ogunkayode, and Rachel Simms for helping us all with our lines and giving everyone positive feedback.

Many friendships were formed during the making of the play and we are positive that everyone had a lot of fun. In the end, it was not the evil principal who brought a premature close to the drama club, but COVID-19. A massive thank you to everyone involved and we can't wait to do this again next year!

Jake O'Loughlin and Katie Millar



EXCITING TIMES

Congratulations are in order for past pupil Naoise Dolan (HSD, 2005–11) on her hit debut novel 'Exciting Times'.

'Exciting Times' was acquired in a seven-way bidding war by Weidenfeld and Nicolson and made the "One to Watch in 2020" list in 'The Bookseller' magazine, as well as being picked up by Black Bear Pictures so as to be made into a TV show.

The novel is set in Hong Kong and follows the adventures of Ava, an Irish TEFL teacher; Julian, an English banker; and Edith, a Hong Kong-raised lawyer. It explores love, class, colonialism, language, and more. Naoise wrote the book while working as an English teacher in Hong Kong. After leaving The High School, Naoise studied English at Trinity College, Dublin before completing a Master's degree in English literature at the University of Oxford. We wish Naoise every success in her future.

CREATIVE WRITING

COVID-19 SPEECH

I'm not enjoying quarantine.

Yes, that isn't the most dramatic or unique opening line, and I won't state otherwise. Nevertheless, it manages to summarise my emotions extremely well. Most children my age would think, 'Yay, we can watch TV all day!', or I don't have to encounter human beings!

Yes, there may seem like there's so much to do now that we have no choice but to stay in the prison of our homes. Still, there's so many little things that bring me joy – they may seem insignificant to others but I miss them so much more than I thought I would.

I miss anticipating meeting my friends once I enter the school. I miss rushing to each of my classes in a panic. I miss having those conversations that end up making no sense with my weirdly amusing friends.

It's funny how we only begin to appreciate the little things when things like this happen.

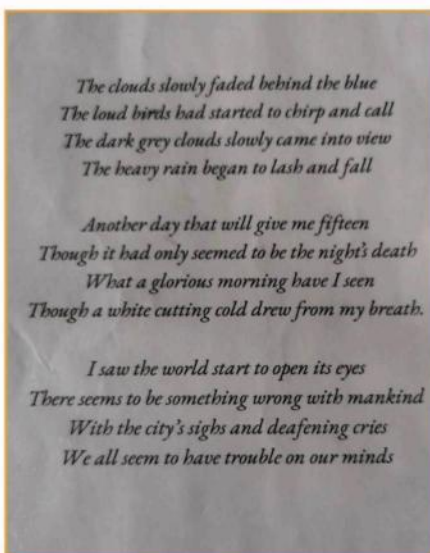
Nonetheless, this was not what I wanted my article to discuss, so I shall move on. As explained above, I'd prefer to be thinking about the future after this crisis rather than facing this crisis head-on.

Now think about that opening line, and I mean really take time to contemplate it. I'm not the only one who feels this way, and that is a fact. While this is how I feel, I know that the most supportive thing to do currently is to find the positive. While online learning and examinations make us feel uncomfortable and anxious – no one can deny that – in a way, this is a learning experience. What is the likelihood of something like this occurring in our lifetimes again? There are so many ways we can become stronger from this experience.

Being in lockdown really gives you a lot of time to think and give time to yourself, without being around people and chatting. This may sound strange, but I sometimes wonder, what will future generations think?

During our years of primary and secondary education, we've obviously learned about major events in our history such as the two World Wars, the Great Famine, and the 1916 Easter

REUBEN ROSS POEM



Rising. So, the most logical assumption would be that future generations would learn about this, right? Right. The fact that one day, people will hear of how we faced this. Won't it help us, as human beings, develop? I know it sounds like I'm making this whole pandemic seem like it's a good thing; then again not all of its effects are bad.

There have been noticeable increases in the cleanliness of our environment. In addition to this, once I step into my back garden, as the cold air hits my face, I can't help but think that this was meant to happen.

Although there are plenty of scientific reasons for the pandemic, I think of it as our punishment. Before, animals were caged up, watching as humans paved the world, gradually destroying it in the process.

And now? Now, we watch as birds soar through the sky, without a care in the world.

I know I'm not an adult. I know I don't have the best knowledge on this matter. However, that doesn't mean my opinion doesn't matter.

This experience will continue to give us strength and build our trust in each other. No matter what anyone thinks, this feels to me like a warning and there is no possible way I can shake off that feeling as it lingers in my mind.

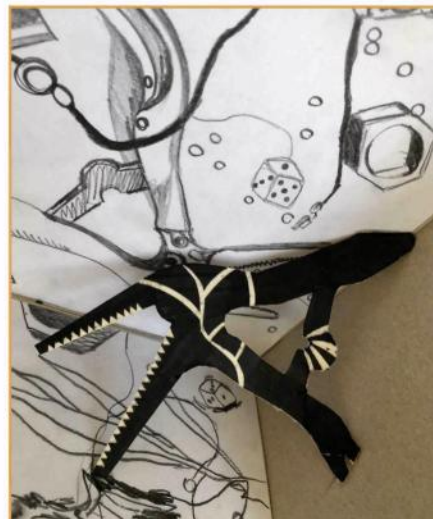
This is not the end of the world. There is so much hope for a good future for us and we can make it happen.

Enaya Samaranayaka

DREAMING OF THE OUTDOORS

Deep pine grass hides in the shade of people and the trees, it cradles my mother and me as we perch on the verge of the sunlight's glare. I lean my head into the beams and feel the warmth spread through my cheeks. The air tastes fresh and smooth as it rolls to us from the lake. The tree we are concealed beneath creaks and stretches with the sweet soothing breeze. Stimulated yet tranquil we observe each other and bask in our own presence. Some stand or sit like us, shielding themselves from the friendly afternoon sun, while others sprawl on lime green grass feeling its springy bristles between their toes. I watch the lake and the dainty white boats as they drift through the surface like flimsy clouds. They are surrounded by a deepened mottled blue imitation of the sky that dances on the water like sapphires in the light. A man near me smokes a pipe and a plume of tobacco washes over me. The rainbow of flowers in my hand resemble the vibrant clothes covering the people around me, my own clothes boring in comparison. I dig my nails into their stems – they are cold and wet inside like a vein and smell like summertime. A man and a woman have positioned themselves stiffly in the shade of our tree. Their clothes are deep sad hues of exciting colours and they bring a strange energy to our mellow midsummer's evening. The landscape is harmonious, compact yet calm. A crimson butterfly and a scarlet red girl parade their bold colours loudly in the rays. A smaller girl in beaming white strolls contentedly with her elegant mother through the varied speckled light. I breathe in deeply as they pass, and the smell of floral perfume and fresh laundry fills my nose.

Rosie Shankey



POETIC SENSE

The water was cold,

I looked to the sky,

And I saw the beauty unfold,

As I looked to the lights,

I was in awe as I saw Venus in all her glowing delight.

I looked to the village – it was soaked in darkness. It was a bleak image. I heard the waves crashing against the shore. The wind carried the sound to me. They sounded like they were calling my name. The smell of the river invoked memories of summer days swimming in the local stream. I saw a boat coated in darkness, contrasting with the dappled reflections of lights on the water.

The wind was whistling through the rigging. The boat lightly rocked on the waves as if it was a cradle. I saw a couple disembarking from the boat in a rush to get to land.

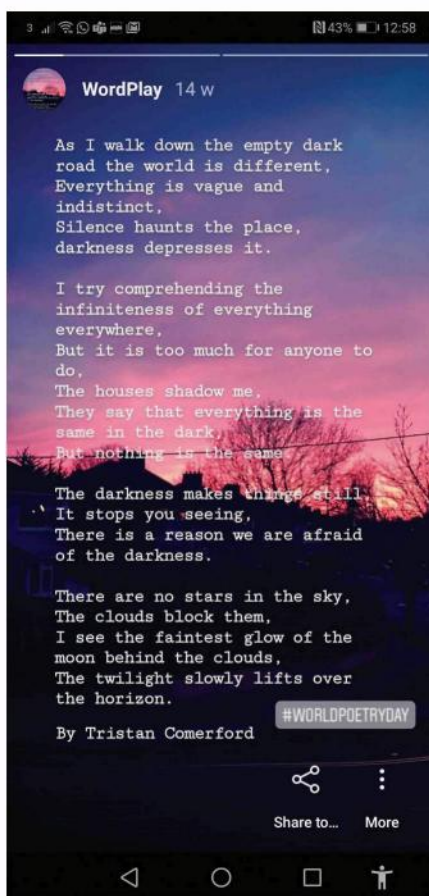
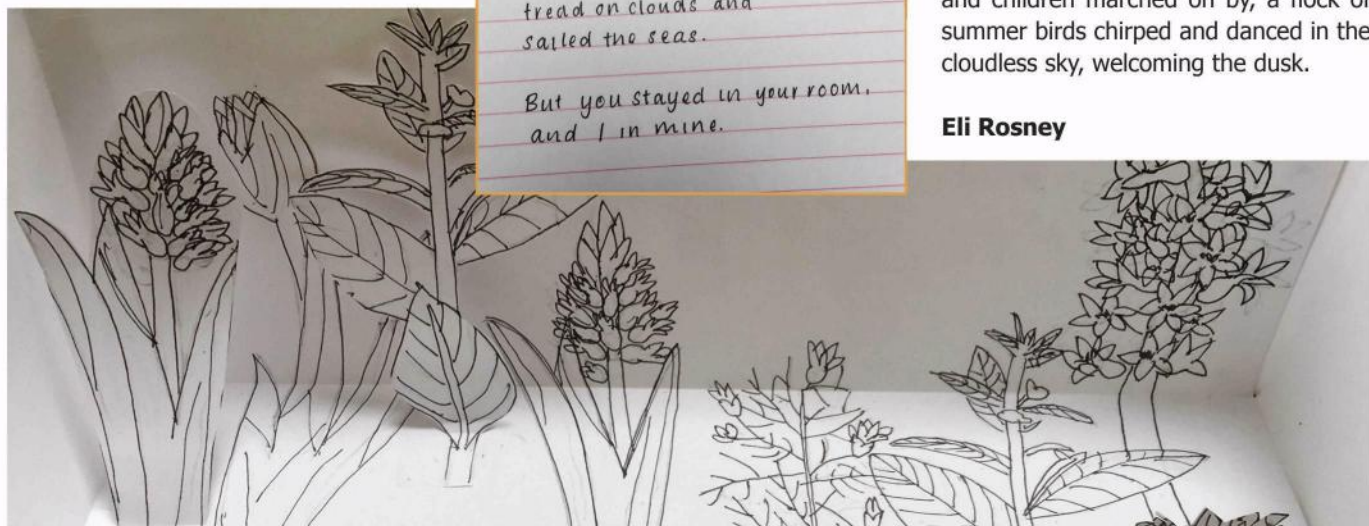
In the distance, I could hear a fox screaming, as if it was a baby crying for its mother. A whiff of fish from yesterday's markets filled my nostrils. The pungent smell of the working class chimneys overwhelmed my senses.

The natural light of the stars shone like street lights.

The contrast between the blue of the river and the stars' light was mesmerising. The whole image was a once in a lifetime experience.

The sheer beauty of it was breath-taking.

Cian Ziglinski

ISOLATION POEM
PATRICIA YANG

*Orbiting different solar systems,
we remained anonymous, hidden
from each other, until
per chance, our paths
crossed and like stars,
we collided.*

*An ephemeral entanglement –
taken, before you were
made mine.
Providence bade me forget
you, but I, too enamoured,
endeavoured to rewrite
our stars.*

*Now you occupy my dreams,
and in my dreams we have
tread on clouds and
sailed the seas.*

*But you stayed in your room,
and I in mine.*

SUNDAY

There was a healing energy in the air that Sunday. The sun shone down brightly on the sea, which was especially colourful, showing impossible pinks and yellows and greens. Every highlight and reflection beamed with a magical iridescence. An aura surrounded the scene. It was a perfect moment in time. The light breeze and the shallow waves moved in such synchronicity, it was as if they were following one another. The naked children were nurtured by the water, cradled in its maternal embrace. The mothers need not have worried, as the warm waves would bring them safely back to the shore, when the time was right.

The late afternoon sun didn't scorch, but comforted, like a warm blanket draped over all of Valencia. Its gentle warmth healed all wounds and solved all problems. Any false or malevolent intentions faded away with the crashing of the waves. All that was left was pure and honest, like the children who were unaware of the falsities of the world, and only knew the feeling of the heat on their backs.

The world decided to take a breath and let it be summer, if only for one afternoon. The women sat languorously, dressed all in white. Half covered by their umbrellas, they let the sun reach their skin for the first time that day, looking over at the contented children every so often. The fabric of their elegant dresses seemed suspended in mid-air, billowing and swelling to the rhythm of the waves. The deepening colour of the sky and the sound of the church bells marked the end of the day, and the sea swept the children in. They greeted their mothers lovingly, tired from the rigours of the day spent in the sun. As the women and children marched on by, a flock of summer birds chirped and danced in the cloudless sky, welcoming the dusk.

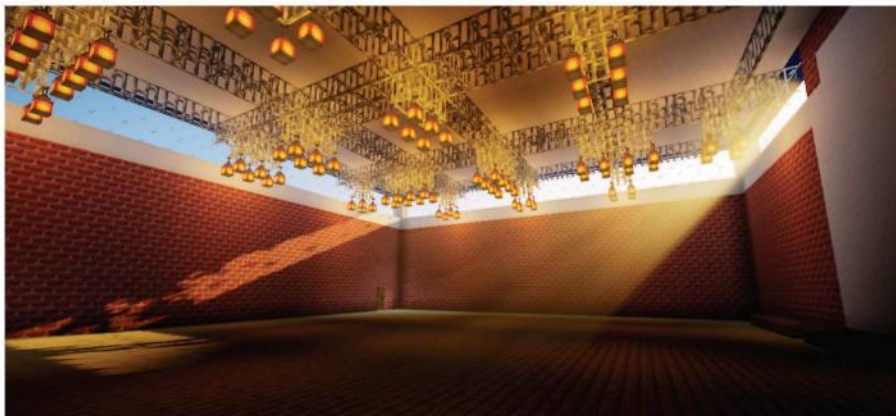
Eli Rosney

MINECRAFT

I first had the idea to build The High School in Minecraft when I was in a group call with a few of my classmates. We were discussing a book we were reading in class when I got the idea to build the house belonging to the main character of the novel in Minecraft and with the help of my classmates, we successfully built the house. The small build sparked something within me that made me want to build something on a grand scale, so that night I decided to build The High School in Minecraft.

At the beginning, I was unsure that I could complete such a complex project but the more time I invested in it, the more determined I became. Initially I relied on my memory and some photos from The High School Instagram page. I occasionally held video calls with my classmates who offered their opinions regarding the build accuracy. This method was mostly successful, but small errors would occasionally occur and at one point I had to rebuild almost the entire project due to a misaligned door! But when I was introduced to Google Earth by a classmate, everything changed! The resource has a measuring tool which allowed me to build structures with precision. That really made all the difference. The project quickly progressed from there and in total I spent approximately 50 hours building the school. It was very exciting to watch the reaction to the project unfold. Current and former pupils sent me numerous messages of encouragement about the project, all of them positive. As it stands, I have completed the school campus, including the Technology and Music Blocks as well as the rugby and hockey pitches. It has been a pleasure to complete this project: I am delighted that so many people enjoyed it too. I'd like to mention fellow pupils Aidan McNeill, Oliver O'Duffy, Sam Redmond, and Aviv Sivak and to thank them for their support and help with the project.

Roger Sun



ORCHESTRA

We gained a huge influx of Form 1 pupils this year to the Orchestra which has boosted our numbers significantly. Everyone has worked extremely hard as we took on some very challenging pieces this year including 'In the hall of the mountain king' and 'Pirates of the Caribbean'. We started off the year by performing at the Young Performers platform concert at Cork School of Music which we were invited to by Feis Ceoil. We came second at the Wesley Interschools Music Festival where we played 'Celtic Carol' and we were the featured orchestra on the online Feis Ceoil competition.

We even carried on our practice online and pupils came together to produce a virtual performance of the 'Game of Thrones' theme.

This year also saw the creation of The High School Chamber Orchestra, a group of several musicians ranging from Form 1 to 5 who come together every Wednesday morning to rehearse advanced chamber music. They made their debut at the Interschools Music Festival and came second in their category with 'Danse Bacchanale'.

Every pupil showed outstanding commitment and dedication to the orchestra this year which was reflected in their brilliant performances throughout the year.

Ms Phillips



MUSIC

GREASE THE MUSICAL

On 24 September, members of Form 4 and Form 5 attended a performance of 'Grease The Musical' in the Bord Gáis theatre. We were seated high up, meaning we had a great view of the stage. The performance provoked mixed reactions from the group, as it wasn't the best performance of the famous musical. However, the costumes and make-up seemed to hold everyone's attention, along with a guest appearance from Peter Andre, which definitely kept some of the older people in the crowd entertained. Overall, it was an enjoyable experience and a great opportunity to see a live production.

Abigail Kenna



ISOLATION 2020

A few weeks into lockdown, pupils from different form groups at The High School put together an album called Isolation 2020 on Soundcloud. We decided to do this to express what it is like to live in lockdown through music and to accomplish something creatively as a group. A number of pupils produced music on their own while others collaborated online using digital technology. Even parents were recruited to lend a helping hand, so it became an activity that was engaging for all the family. Past pupils were also asked to participate and happily donated recordings. It was a lot of fun to create and it allowed us to feel a sense of achievement and togetherness while at home. There is an eclectic mix of musical styles making it a truly unique recording. We are very happy with the result and hope that you will enjoy listening to it as much as we enjoyed making it. It is available for everyone on Soundcloud!

Leah McGrath

FIACHRA DE HÓRA

Congratulations to past pupil Fiachra de hÓra (HSD, 2011–2017) who was among three violists to reach the final at the Dutch Viola Festival's 6th National Viola Competition at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam in The Netherlands which took place from the 13–17 of November. His performance of Brahms Viola Concerto (arr. Berio) Op. 120 was awarded the Audience prize. Earlier this year Fiachra spent a week at the National Concert Hall playing at their inaugural master class course with renowned soloist Maxim Rysanov. He was awarded a valuable bow for his viola which was donated to the course and presented to Fiachra for life. He attended the Clondeboy Festival in County Down, taking part in their young musicians programme, and gave his own recital at the Westport Festival of Chamber Music. Fiachra came second in The Flax Trust Music Awards in Belfast recently playing the Walton Viola Concerto with the Ulster Orchestra. This is an exciting competition for exceptionally talented young musicians who have completed or are completing their secondary education on the island of Ireland. Our past pupil is currently studying viola under the tutelage of Japanese classical violist Nobuko Imai at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam.

ROCK-POP

Since the beginning of the academic year, pupils from Form 4 have been working together to plan and prepare for the Rock-Pop Show in December. They learned how to arrange songs, work as a team, and perform in front of a live audience. Their choice of material varied from alternative rock anthems from bands like Muse and Two Door Cinema Club to 1970s folk-rock classics like 'Country Roads' and 'Sweet Home Alabama'. The audience happily sang along and waved their arms in unison with the music. It was a joyous affair and the concert ended on a high note bringing to a close the first rotation of the Form 4 Rock-Pop module. Well done to everyone who helped make the concert such a resounding success!



SILENT KNOCKERS PERFORMANCE

Some of us from Form 5, who call ourselves 'the Silent Knockers', played our first gig on Thursday 5 March at a charity tribute event at the Dropping Well. There was George Britten on vocals, Sam Redmond, Roger Sun, and Aviv Sivak on guitars, Tom Wang on drums, and myself on bass. We played some great songs such as, 'Dancing in the Moonlight' by Thin Lizzy and 'What You Know' by Two Door Cinema Club. We had a lot of fun performing and I hope that the audience enjoyed it too. It also ended up being a very successful night as we raised over €4,000!

Josh Rance

LOCKDOWN INTERVIEWS – MUSIC DAY

FRANCES
INTERVIEW

Kayla Kennedy: Could you tell us a bit about how your music career began and when you first became interested in music?

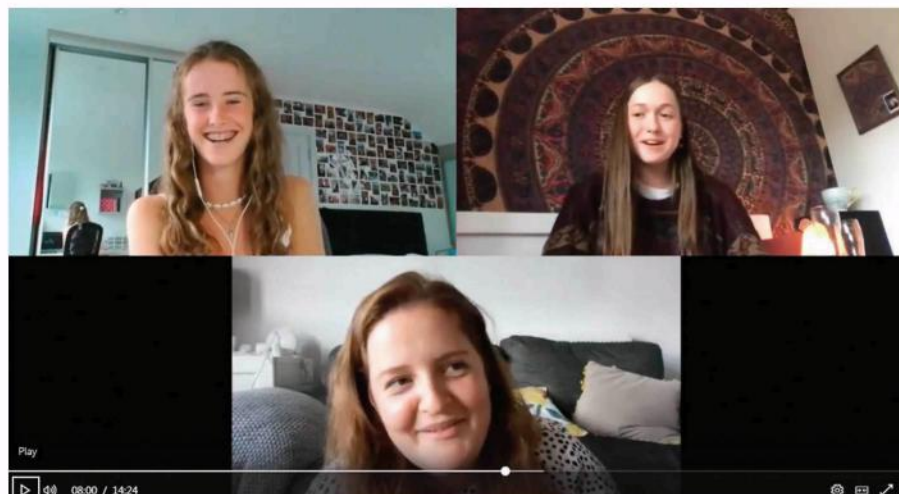
Frances: I started playing the violin when I was about eight, but I'd always done music. My parents were really into it and were always playing it in the house. I started piano when I was 10 or 11 and when I could play well enough, I started learning piano parts to songs I loved. I started writing my own songs when I was about 12 or 13. I went to LIPA for university and throughout my time there I did lots of gigs, played in bands, and wrote loads of songs. My manager and I ended up moving to London in 2014. It was like the snowball effect; we slowly built our network and we still work together now.

KK: What do you write about?

Frances: It's always personal experience when I'm writing for myself. If I'm writing with another artist, I'm trying to put their emotions into words, which is interesting and different but good fun. It's lovely to be able to help people put their feelings into song.

Emily Pryce: What artists have you worked with?

Frances: I worked with Jess Glynne; she's super talented and an amazing writer. She has so many ideas and she's amazing with melodies. She's fun to work with. I've done a bit with Dua Lipa; she's



an amazing writer as well, she comes up with amazing lyrics. It's fantastic to work with lots of different people.

KK: Do you help them write songs or do you play or sing in the background?

Frances: It really depends on the day. It could be anything; it's about playing to people's skills and making sure everyone can shine in their own way. If there's someone else in the room who's an amazing pianist, they'll play the piano because that's their thing and maybe they're not a writer in terms of lyrics or melody, so I'll do that instead.

KK: Who inspired you to start writing?

Frances: I think Adele's first album came out when I was 15 or 16, I heard that she had written these songs and she wasn't much older than me. That was quite inspiring.

KK: What advice would you give to any young musicians that want to follow that path?

Frances: You have to write all the time and that sounds dull because it's a long process, but you have to do it. You'll get better and find your creative space. Try to listen to different music, go to gigs, collaborate and post videos, do covers, put things on SoundCloud or Spotify. There's no reason why you can't start a career from your bedroom. You can find anything online. You can find the address of a publisher's office and just go there. They might turn you away 50 times but the 51st time they might let you in. Don't wait for opportunities. Build a community of fans, even if there's 10 of them. Those are your fans, get them to tell their friends, give them a reason to talk about you.

SUMMER CONCERT

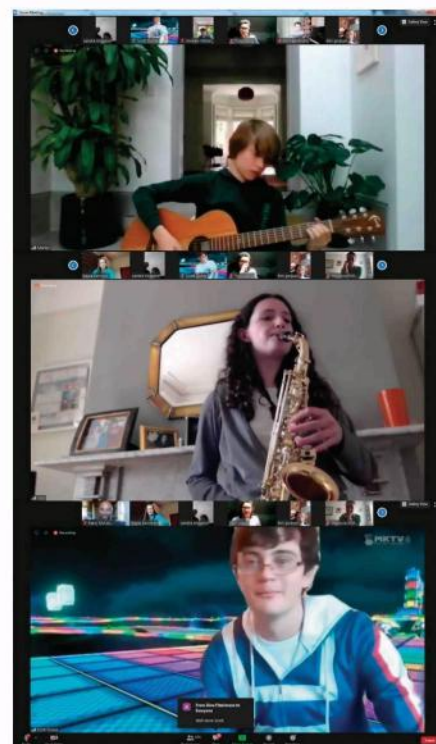
For The High School Activity Week 2020 Music Day there were a few very exciting activities planned. Emily Pryce and I logged onto Zoom and interviewed six musicians who all had different careers and many interesting stories to tell. This was so inspiring and amazing to hear about how these musicians got to where they are today and what they plan for the future. They each had some great and invaluable advice from their own experiences of the music world for anyone with an interest in following a musical career along with a few very funny stories! We even got to speak to some past pupils of The High School who enjoyed all the musical benefits the school has to offer in their time there.

We also hosted a virtual summer concert in place of the annual concert in school. Over 100 people logged on to watch



the talented performers of the school sing and play their instruments. Despite expecting the Zoom call to crash at any moment the concert went very smoothly, and everyone enjoyed themselves. There was a huge variety of music performed and it really showed the musical talent in the school. A huge thank you to all of the music teachers, performers, and to everyone that tuned in to watch.

Kayla Kennedy



JOE WALL INTERVIEW

Kayla Kennedy and Emily Pryce:
How did you get started as a musician?

Joe Wall: I suppose from the age of around 12 I got quite interested in music. My dad had bought a guitar and my brother Steve and I got quite engaged with that. It was a cheap guitar and difficult to play, it needed all your might to get a sound out of it, but we persisted with the guitar and listened to lots of music over the year and we steadily grew to love music. We had lots to listen to. We had six aunts who were all mad into bands like The Beatles and soul music and the house where our grandmother lived was full of all of their records as well as my grandfather's stuff like Frank Sinatra records and everything else from sixties pop to jazz and some classical music too. When we moved from Dublin to County Clare it was a big change and we now had more time on our hands which we could use to listen to the radio. We would even record songs off the radio, the quality was bad because of the cassettes, but we used them to learn songs. In a way, it was good training for your ears. These days people put the song into Google and search to get lyrics and chords, but back then you had to use paper and pen to write the lyrics and try to pick out the chords in the music. I can't read music at all and Steve doesn't either so everything we do is pretty much by ear. But I didn't start playing in a band till after school. I went to art college in Galway for a year and then went to art college in Limerick and I dropped out a year later. Eventually while hitchhiking in Europe I got a letter from Steve saying he wanted to start a band so I came back and met him in Galway and we started the Stunning. We put an ad in the local paper, which is a thing people used to do back in those days, saying we were looking for musicians. We found some people and that was the start of it.

KK and EP: How did you make your band bigger?

Joe Wall: We started with covers, we didn't write many songs. Our band members had diverse tastes including Soul, African Music, and Punk Rock. It was a mixed bag so we used to pick obscure covers. It probably would have been a bigger commercial success if we played well-known songs, but I don't think we were interested in being that kind of band. We didn't want to play at weddings and parties. We used to do a

lot of jamming in a place on the outskirts of Galway, it's completely concreted over now with housing estates, but it used to be a farmhouse with sheds, a few farms, and a donkey around it. We converted one of the sheds into a rehearsal room and would jam out ideas endlessly and let them evolve into songs, sometimes they would, sometimes they wouldn't. From there we wrote our first single and things started to click. We started to do some local gigging in the towns around Galway and then Galway city and we started to make a name for ourselves. The first single was a success on the radio, it got a lot of airplay. I think it went to the top forty which isn't an amazing chart position but it put our name on the map. We then released three more singles over two to three years. The second song 'Half Past Two' did well because it was a kind of easy listening song, day time radio song. The third song was called 'Romeo's on Fire', a party song, and it did well also. Our fourth single, probably our best-known song, 'Brewing up a Storm', was a flop when it was released on the radio stations. They said it was too guitar-y and in your face for airplay. But it slowly filtered onto the radio after some live shows. We did things a bit back to front, we released a lot of singles and then decided to release an album. It was a case of we had 4 singles and we needed more tracks so we just went and recorded more songs. In fact, our first album had only eight songs on it which is kind of unusual since now most have a minimum of 10 songs. We saved up our gig money and recorded the four songs in a studio in Dublin. The album was then released in 1990. This is the album's 30th anniversary and we re-released it on vinyl. We also made a book to mark the anniversary. It has the story of the album, lyrics, chords, and sheet music.

KK and EP: What was it like collaborating with your brother?

Joe Wall: It has its pros and cons. In family, the honesty is a little brutal. If you don't like something you would say it and if people were there their jaws would drop at the lack of decorum. Other people would be more diplomatic, they might go along with something to humour you. It's not always bad, you can waste a lot of time with bad ideas. Sometimes though it comes down to a songwriter's determination. Maybe the idea is good, but it's not finished or you didn't play it well.

KK and EP: Would you have any advice for young musicians?

Joe Wall: I think training your ear is a good thing to do. Maybe resist the urge, if you like a song, to Google the chords and try to figure it out yourself. I believe it does refine your ability to listen. The other thing I found is that by working with music that isn't written down you tend to hit on things accidentally and I think that's what makes a song special. A mistake could have been the best part of a song. It comes from experimenting. I also think it's good to play different instruments otherwise you develop these habits, these go-to chords, sequences, and rhythms. If you can play another instrument you can hear it differently. A lot of musicians who only play acoustic guitar tend to play very rhythmically and sort of strum, but if they say go on the piano they are forced to be more melodic. I think for songwriters it's also important to listen to different genres to get different ideas. The better stuff tends to come from musicians with a broad taste of music, you tend to get interesting results from that. If a songwriter, say, writing pop only listens to pop it begins to feel repetitive.



FLO MCSWEENEY

INTERVIEW

Emily Pryce: How did your music career begin?

Flo McSweeney: When I was about your age, I hate to say I wasn't the most academic, but put it like this my head was always elsewhere and it always in the arts. I was about 17 and I loved singing, and over the summer I answered an ad in a newspaper for a band. I met these guys and joined the band and that was it, I never looked back.

Kayla Kennedy: How does a music career take off, when you're going from band to band like that?

Flo McSweeney: It tends to evolve, with hard work of course. After that band, I did festivals – one in Donegal with Clannad sometime in the eighties. From there, I started working as a session musician particularly with Bill Whelan as a backup singer on various albums. I joined Moving Hearts in the late eighties, and we toured all around the world. When I was around 30 I worked with a touring band as a backing singer with the Commitments. There was a motley crew of different musicians who had never been in the film. We were in a massive big tour bus with sleepers – I used to call them the coffins – where you had a tiny little cubbie with a curtain and that was your only private space. It's not always easy, and it's rarely ever glamorous.

KK: Is there anywhere that stood out to you as your favourite place to perform?

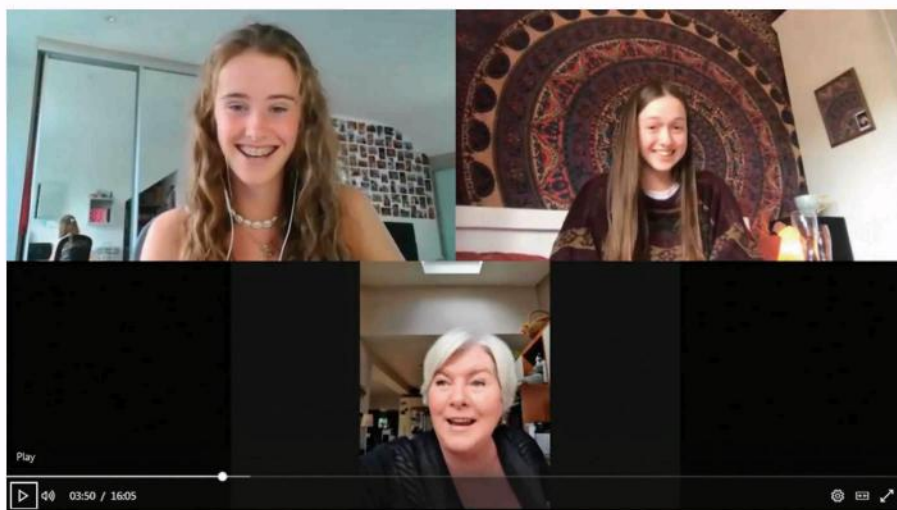
Flo McSweeney: It's funny, as I've gotten older I've grown to love the smaller venues like jazz clubs. I've performed in the Olympia, I've done plays in the Gate and the Abbey, but you could never beat a small jazz club.

EP: I read somewhere that you were a TV presenter – what was that like?

Flo McSweeney: I was! I never had a yearning to be a TV presenter, I just sort of fell into it. My best gig was when I presented 'No Frontiers' for four years. There was this one moment when we were flying over Victoria Falls and at the edge of the waterfall I saw a family of elephants. I thought to myself, treasure this moment because one of these days you'll be at home scrubbing your kitchen floor and these experiences will just be fading memories. You know what, I was right!

KK: Do you still play music and sing in your spare time?

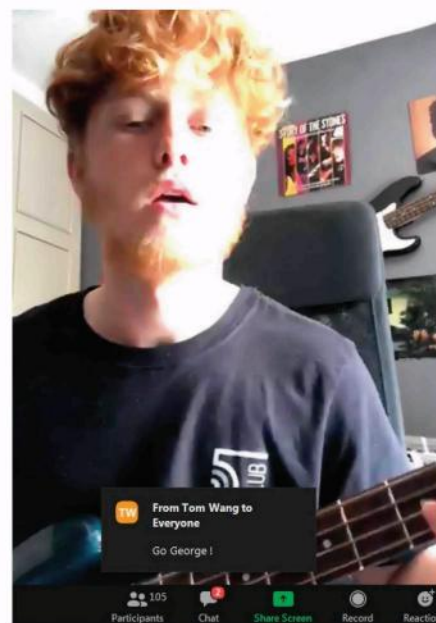
Flo McSweeney: I do indeed. Touring



was hard and it almost knocked the love of music out of me. I took a break for a while when the kids were young, but I was still doing things like voiceovers and animation work. For my fiftieth I gave myself the gift of starting music again. I released an album last year which you can stream on all digital platforms.

KK: As someone who's been everywhere and done everything, what advice would you have for someone who would want to do the same?

Flo McSweeney: Don't ever let what anyone thinks you are define who you become. Arts and music are what keeps us going. If music is what you love to do go for it and work hard for it. Value your opportunities, they only come once so you have to grab them when they're there.

LENNY ABRAHAMSON
INTERVIEW

Past pupil and Oscar-nominated director Lenny Abrahamson (HSD, 1973–83) joined a Zoom call yesterday with a selection of eager pupils from Form 5 and 6. They discussed the world of filmmaking, including directing, filming, locations, casting, and rehearsing. He spoke about his film projects including Academy Award Nominated 'Room' and the very popular series 'Normal People'. The pupils agreed that it was a wonderful opportunity to speak with such an acclaimed director for more

than 90 minutes. It was an insightful conversation with fantastic questions and fascinating answers. What a treat!

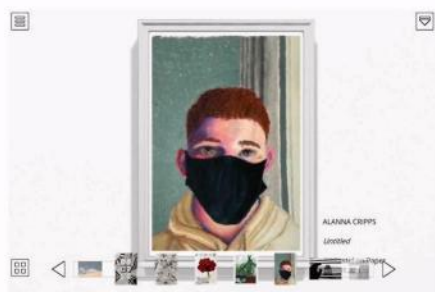
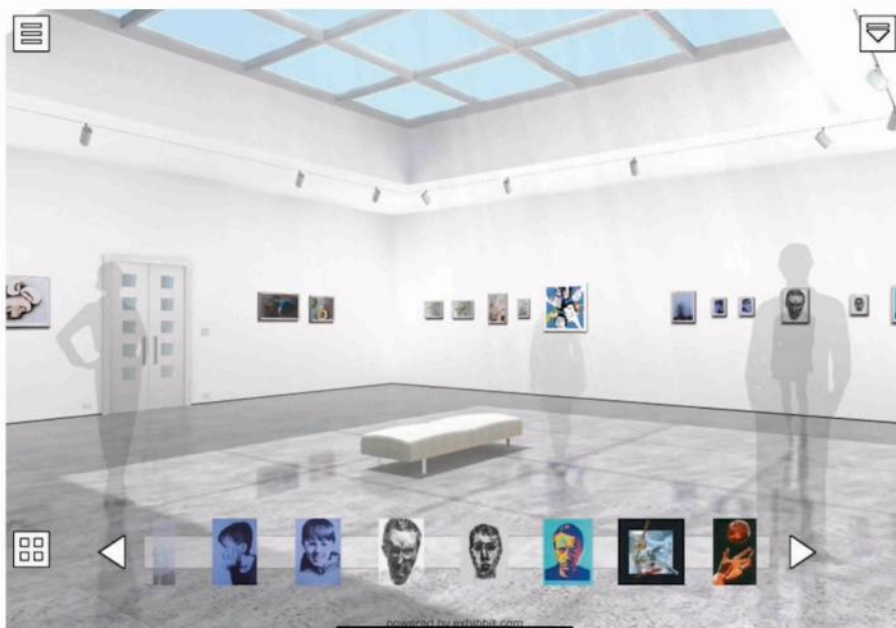
We should like to thank Lenny for sharing his time with us so generously. He gave his best wishes to all current High School pupils and sent particular regards to the pupils of Form 6 and wished them the best of luck on the exciting journey that lies ahead.

Mr Milofsky

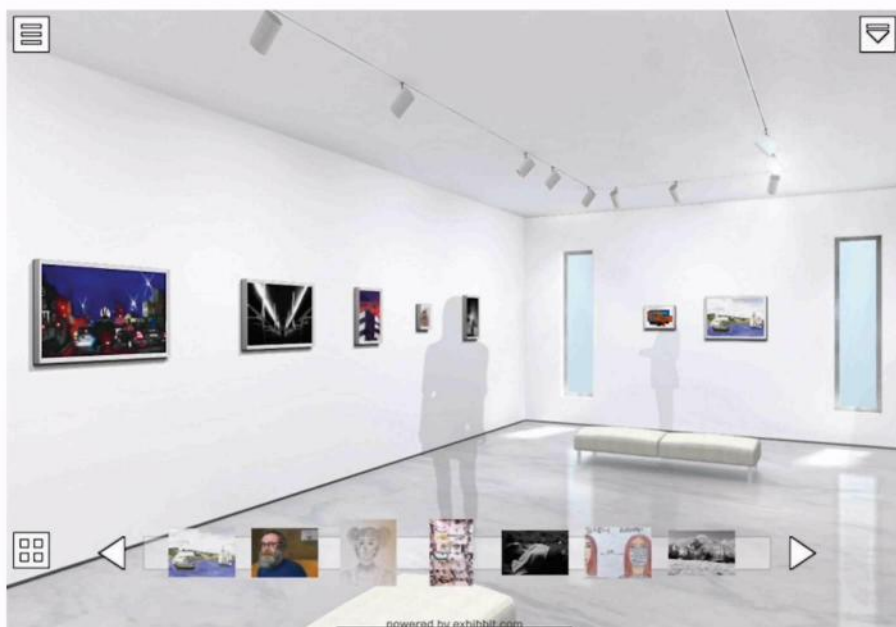
VIRTUAL ART EXHIBITIONS

'In the Making' was an exhibition of artwork made by The High School Form 6 art pupils. Over the past two years they have committed themselves to the process of making art for their coursework, for portfolios and often just for the joy of it! This exhibition is a celebration of their creativity. Many of the participants are going on to study art at third level. The pupils involved are Adam McGuire, Tommy Myles, Rosie Gillis, Thomas Kelly, Joey Chong, Alanna Cripps, Giulia Guastalla, Anna Lyons, Teia Marsh, and Isobel Harrison.

'Mixtape' is an exhibition featuring works from Form 1–5, showcasing the rich talent at The High School and their diversity of styles and interests.



MIXTAPE EXHIBITION



LOCKDOWN INTERVIEWS – ART

RIA CZERNIAK LEBOV
INTERVIEW

Ms Rogers: Annie Sun and Ria Czerniak Lebov, thank you so much for joining me for a chat about Ria's work. Annie worked with Ria for a while during work experience in the graphics studio where she works as the technician. Ria has also been working as a printmaker for several years. How are you staying creatively motivated at the moment?

Ria Czerniak Lebov: I think for me it's actually been really good because in the last two years I've been working from imagery that I sourced from Google Street View. So I was kind of observing how we look at the world through a digital interface. So I can hypothetically still sit in my bedroom at my desk and be anywhere in the world if I go onto Google Street View.

MR: Annie, how are you staying motivated making your work at the moment?

Annie Sun: I've also been using the Google Street View. I've been making watercolours based on the images.

MR [to AS]: When you were making

prints with Ria in the graphics studio, what was the thing that you really liked about that process?

AS: It was interesting to see all the tools that I've never seen before, and just all the sophisticated things you needed just to make something so small. It was all very intricate.

MR: Yeah, one of the things I love about printmaking is that there is a moment where you have to translate a drawing into something completely other, in order to make a replication of that drawing. But it also creates something completely new. It's really an interesting process, and in that sense it's very good for your brain. To finish off, I was wondering if you had a task for someone who's interested in making art over the summer, are there any little projects that you think would be interesting?

Ria Czerniak Lebov: I would definitely encourage people to do research from making. I think that sometimes in school we're too focused on researching an array of areas and then it leading towards the piece. But no matter how

good at drawing you get, the first handful of things you make on a new subject, you're not going to be happy with, and it's just through teasing out all those problems and even the way you source research that helps to distil which part of it you were interested in, so it doesn't matter what the subject is. I think it's about holding how the aesthetic is and isn't doing what you wanted to do, and to just keep on trying. And the more you draw or the more you do anything you will find a style.

MR: Annie, anything that you think could be an interesting little project for over the summer?

AS: Just draw everything and anything and then eventually ideas will start forming.

MR: It's all about getting started, and then going through the process of ruling things in and ruling things out. Finding different materials and a medium that you really like. And that's when it becomes really good fun.

ALAN PHELAN
INTERVIEW

Adam Maguire: What's your main medium?

Alan Phelan: I kind of go from project to project so I use whatever medium or materials required of the topic I'm interested in. So that has meant that I've used sculpture, installations, public art, and now photography. I never got into painting or drawing.

AM: Why is that?

Alan Phelan: I studied Communication Studies at DCU and then I did a Masters in Photography in New York. It was an unusual program as it was also called imaging arts. I was lucky to be in the year where there was a group of visiting professors from California who were more interested in conceptual photography, how it's not just about making pretty pictures but exploring ideas through images and image making. This means that you don't have to take the photograph, you can use existing images and re-purpose them, or appropriation as it's called. I have an exhibition right now at the Royal Hibernian Academy which is based around other pictures – all the photographs reference other existing images, photographs, or paintings.

Isobel Harrison: Why did you pick the flower paintings in general?

Alan Phelan: A big reason was that the funding came through a Creative Award from Meath County Council. The purpose of the award was to work with local groups as I really like working with other people. For this project I collaborated with an amateur flower arranging club which is where that theme came from.

AM: Do you collaborate a lot with other artists?

Alan Phelan: Yes, lots of different people, in lots of different ways. Most activities involve other people, so you can't really make anything without help from fabricators and technicians and lots of other areas of expertise that you draw together. So a lot of the work of the contemporary artist nowadays is that you are sometimes just a studio manager where you've got a team of people working around you to make the finished thing. So there are different ways that you can get people involved, either just as hired help to do a particular task or get them involved in figuring out what the thing is as well, where you are taking on board their creative inputs.

AM: What would you recommend, to young artists, to try and see as much art as they can?

Alan Phelan: Yes, visual art is there to be seen and the best way to figure out what you do and do not like is to see as much as possible. It's really important to go to museums and galleries to see the thing for real. Seeing something in person allows it to come alive and helps you understand how and why it was made.

AM: I saw you studied in New York, and I was wondering would you recommend going abroad?

Alan Phelan: Studying abroad is super important especially at a Masters level. It's good to get the foundation at home and then take that experience somewhere else and build on it. I would totally recommend going abroad because you get to see different things and that helps you understand the world differently. Also, a huge amount of art is about networking, like any industry, it's about the people you meet and the friends you make. There are always networks of individuals from curators to artists to museum directors who help each other out.

SPORT



TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS

WINTER AND SUMMER SPORTS

There are many team photos missing this year as the COVID-19 Lockdown began the week before the final scheduled photo shoots and curtailed some summer sports entirely. We have made do as best we could with match group photos and Zoom meets. Reports explain more on what happened.



U14 GIRLS' BADMINTON

BACK ROW: ALEX DUNGAN, LUCY BRACKEN, LOUISE FARRELLY, ALANNAH SMALL, DEIRBHILE WOODS, RYANNE STANLEY, FIONA JEPSEN, TAMAMI GILL
FRONT ROW: EVE SKELTON, KATE RUTLEDGE, ABIE SIBERRY, CHARLOTTE FLEGG, REBECCA KNIGHT, AVA O'BRIEN, PEARL SWEETMAN



U16 BOYS' BADMINTON

BACK ROW: EVAN LOFTUS, HUGO CHALONER, ROSS WILGAR, RYAN WYNNE
FRONT ROW: DAVID LAWLEY, RYAN BOYD, JOHN KELLY, THOMAS NICKELS, NATHAN PRIESTLY



FORM 3 AND 4 BOYS' GOLF

RYAN BOYD, EVAN LOFTUS, DAVID LAWLEY



ROWING

ALISON DALY, LUKE SHANNON, SARAH DALY



MINOR BOYS' TABLE TENNIS

ERIC HAN, CIAN GREGAN, JAKE WALSH, DIEGO ZABALA GONZALEZ



SENIOR 1 GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: EMILY PRYCE, MIA MCCULLOUGH, BEVIN DIXON, JENNIFER PILLOW, ANNA LYONS, ROBYN PEMBROKE, ZOE DUNNE, ROSIE SHANKEY, ELLA PASLEY.

FRONT ROW: SOPHIE DOYLE, ORLA BAGNELL, IZZY BOWEN, KATIE DUNNE, ELLA MAXWELL.

ABSENT: ELÉ NÍ CHONBHUI, EMMA JENKINS LEESON, ELEANA MCGRATH



SENIOR 2 GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: CATE DOOLEY, ALANA CRIPPS, ANNA O'SHEA, JULIETTE CHRISTLE, AMELIA DURAC, ORLA PRENDERGAST, ISABEL O'DONOVAN, ROSIE GILLIS, EVA LAYTE, KATIE O'BRIEN, LEANNE O'BRIEN, EMILY FITZGERALD.

FRONT ROW: NICOLE HOLLAND

ABSENT: ENYA MAK, ISOBEL HARRISON, GEORGINA MCCARTHY, ABIGAIL KENNA, KAYLA KENNEDY



SENIOR 3 GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: AMY MCCRACKEN, LAURA MITTEN, EVE SISSON, EIMEAR QUINN, LAYLA KENNY, HANNAH KENNEDY, KATIE LARKIN, ABIGAIL SYKES, AMY STEVENS, JODIE MCAVINUE
FRONT ROW: LUCY BRENNAN, ÉABHA HUGHES, EVA VALENTINE, GIULIA GUASTALLA, NAOMI DALY, GRACE SHEEHAN



JUNIOR C GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: CHARLOTTE MACDONNELL, HANNAH MCCARTHY, ESTHER OLANIYAN, NIAMH DOHERTY, AMELIA POSKITT, ZOE ROBERTSON, AVA RYAN, SOPHIE PEARSON, EMILY CURRAN, CHARLOTTE GUCKIAN, MS GARLAND
FRONT ROW: FAVOUR KEHINDE, JESSICA NEEDHAM, LEAH MCGRATH, LIBBY PERDUE, FAYE O'ROURKE, FREYA FETHERSTON, TARA CAREY
ABSENT: ELLA O'FLYNN, ENA Ó FOGHLÚ, CLODAGH SOMERVILLE



MINOR A GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MS GRAY, JOANIE MCGRATH, EVELINE WALSH, ISEULT FITZGIBBON DUNNE, BETH FLYNN, AIDEEN CASSIDY, EMILY LEONARD, SOPHIE DONNAN
FRONT ROW: ANNA HOEY, ELLA ROCHE, KATIE HOPKINS, KATE CAMPION, SARAH SMYTH



MINOR B GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: AMELIA BARRETT, CHLOE O'CONNOR, JENNIFER BURNS, ALEJANDRA COSIJN GÓMEZ, HEATHER COYLE, ALEX DUNGAN, MS GRAY
FRONT ROW: ELLA MARIE CULLEN, SORCHA MURPHY, AOIFE TRIMMER, MIA O'MAHONEY, KATIE MILLAR, EMMA FITZPATRICK, HELEN FARRELL



MINOR C GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MS NICHOLSON, ZOE NUGENT, REBECCA HOWE, BRYANNA O'CONNOR, ALISON HALPIN, GRACE MCKENNA, KATE TAYLOR, MS CLARKE
FRONT ROW: ISABEL SHEEHAN, ABIGAIL BIRNEY, ELLA MELEADY, AMELIA QUINN, KEIRA ROSS, ROBYN NOLAN, HELEN FARRELL



MINOR D GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MS NICHOLSON, DAISY KIRK-GILLHAM, CYAN BACIK SAUL, JENNIFER BURNS, SAOIRSE BURNS, MS CLARKE
FRONT ROW: ERICA MERRIMAN, LAUREN FOY, AOIBHÍN CHAMBERLAIN, ELEANOR WRIGHT, ELLEN HOGAN, ISABEL SHEEHAN, EMNA HAJAJI
 ABSENT: SADHBH BRENNAN



FORM 1 A GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MS JONES, LOUISE FARRELLY, VIVIA BELAVUSAVA, GRACE BEATTY, AVA BAILEY, ANNA BUCKLEY, FREYA MCNEILL, OLIVIA PODDER
FRONT ROW: PEARL SWEETMAN, AVA O'BRIEN, EVA FITZ-SIMON, CIARA KELLEGHER, ESMÉ DONAGHY, AVA DEACON, SADHBH YOUNG



FORM 1 B GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MS JONES, FREYA MCNEILL, ABIE SIBERRY, REBECCA FEIGHERY, RYANNE STANLEY, SÁERLAITH DIXON, EVE SKELTON
FRONT ROW: ROXANE VANCE CRONIN, CHARLOTTE FLEGG, HEDDA VERCAUTEREN, LIBBY KENNA, REBECCA KNIGHT
ABSENT: FREYA BOYD, ÉABHA DEELY



FORM 1 C GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MS JONES, ABIGAIL LYNCH, ROSA BELL-MEGAW, JESSICA MCLUSKIE, FAYE O'HARE, FIONNUALA O'KELLY, ELSA HARDIMAN, MARTHA WAGHORN
FRONT ROW: MATILDA DOYLE, ROSE GERAGHTY, ALANNAH SMALL, SAIRSE REILLY, ELLA DAVEY



FORM 1 D GIRLS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MS JONES, LUCY BRACKEN, LAURA KENNINGTON, FAYE O'HARE, AOIFE ADETONA, CIARA MORTON, CLARA O'HANLON
FRONT ROW: MATILDA DOYLE, KAITLYN LEONARD, LAURA SHANNON, KATE RUTLEDGE, FIONA JEPSEN



SENIOR BOYS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MR FITZPATRICK, CHARLIE BEATTY, JOE MURPHY, ALEX LYNCH, AIDAN DOYLE, CIARAN ADAIR, MARCUS EMPEY, DARRAGH SULLIVAN, HARRY LYNCH, ROSS HOWARD (CAPTAIN), PATRICK RYAN, MR HOWARD
FRONT ROW: BEN PASLEY, ALEX O'CONNOR, BEN WHELAN, EVAN JENNINGS, ELI BREEN, OSCAR LOFTUS, MAX WRIGHT, ETHAN FLYNN



MINOR A BOYS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: ZAC REID, MATTHEW O'DOHERTY, ISAAC LINDSAY, MARCUS GERAGHTY, SAMUEL MAXWELL, OLIVER KENDRICK, DANIEL TALLON, BARRY KENNEDY, CALLUM LENNON, MS DEACON
FRONT ROW: ADAM HEARNE, THOMAS BOUCHER, ZENAN SPAIN, TOM WHELAN, ANDREW ROBINSON, CHARLIE O'NEILL, OSCAR PASLEY



MINOR B BOYS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: JACK DARMODY, MARCUS GERAGHTY, SEAN AIGBOBOH, ZENAN SPAIN, MATTHEW O'DOHERTY, MS DEACON
FRONT ROW: ADAM HEARNE, THOMAS BOUCHER, ZAC REID, CALLUM LENNON, CHARLIE O'NEILL, DANIEL TALLON, BARRY KENNEDY



FORM 1 A BOYS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MR KEEGAN, LEO MELLON, DYLAN MCGOVERN, MAX LYONS, OSCAR O'SHEA, DWAYNE KAMAI, BEN HEWSTON, EDMUND QUIGLEY, DANIEL MOANE, QUINCYN KAMAI

FRONT ROW: SEÁN HESSION, LOUIS HANNON SMYTH, SHAUN O'FLYNN, SAM SHEPPARD, ANDREW MILLAR, BRENDAN KELLY, LEO SHORTEN

FLOOR: LUCAS VERCAUTEREN, JOSHUA DONOVAN



FORM 1 B BOYS' HOCKEY

BACK ROW: MR KEEGAN, HARRY GUCKIAN, JAKE TIPPING, FREDDIE ROBINSON, FINN Ó FOGHLÚ, THOMAS BOUCHER, MARK MCKEON, JAKE WALSH

FRONT ROW: NAOISE GORMAN, SANJAYE KALIRAJA, ISAAC LINDSAY, OSCAR PASLEY, JAMES ARMSTRONG, ORIN HURLEY, JACK BOYD

ABSENT: SAM DEALE



MINOR BOYS' RUGBY

BACK ROW: NICOLAS RUS, MEDHANSH AGARWAL, DANIEL CARTER, OLIVER KENDRICK, SAM KELLY, SAMUEL MCNAMARA, ALEX BOWDEN, ZACK HOPKINS, NOAH HESLIN

MIDDLE ROW: SAMUEL MAXWELL, LUCA HAYES, LUÍ RYAN, ADAM JORDAN, BENJAMIN HAMILTON, SAMUEL NEELY, DANIEL SHEEDY, CHARLIE MILLER, OISÍN GOLDEN, ELLIOT TUIE, MR MCBRIDE

FRONT ROW: EVAN KELLEHER, ANDREW SYKES, JAMES COX, MILO LAVELLE, ANDREW ROBINSON, ZENAN SPAIN, JACK DARMODY

FLOOR: CHARLIE O'NEILL, ZAC REID



SENIOR 1 SCT BOYS' RUGBY

KARO OTOBO, JAKE HICKEY, ROBERT CLOUGHLEY, DAN WALSH, JULIAN HAUXWELL, MARCO LYONS, CONOR SCHMIDT, JACK FARRELLY, SAM DUNNE, SOL BELL MEGAW, BEN HOPKINS, LORCAN TWOMEY, ADAM KILLEEN, LUKE HARDY, BEN SHAW, MILO MOYNIHAN, LOUIS O'LEARY, ANDREW BROWN, CONOR MOORE, OISIN STAPLETON DOYLE, NIALL HEALY, BRIAN CARTER, MORGAN PEMBROKE, MATTHEW GILLIS

SENIOR 2 SCT BOYS' RUGBY

BEN HOWARD MCCLEAN, ROBERT CLOUGHLEY, LOUIS O'LEARY, OISIN STAPLETON DOYLE, AIDAN MCNEILL, JULIAN HAUXWELL, ROBIN DAVEY, CONOR MOORE, SAM REDMOND, ROSS MOLLOY, MORGAN PEMBROKE, NIALL HEALY, SAM MAWHINNEY, LUKE HARDY, BRIAN CARTER, ANDREW BROWNE, PADDY PLOCKELMAN, DARAGH MCGRATH, MATTHEW GILLIS, LUKE EGAN, LOUIS O'NEILL, LOUIS CHRISTLE



JUNIOR A BOYS' RUGBY

ARTHUR FEENEY, OLIVER DAVEY, CHRIS CHONG, FERGUS KELLY, LUKE MURPHY, SAM NEALY, DAVID ODEKUNLE, CHARLIE BEATTY, MATTEO SANVITO, CHRIS DE LACY, ANDREW FARRELLY, ZACK HOPKINS, JACK BARLOW, SAM KENNEDY, ARCHIE SHERIDAN, ALEX STEWART, GARY MEANEY, SAM HUTCHISON, ETHAN JONES, JACK MCGINN, EVAN KELLEHER, ANDREW DONAVAN, LUKE STEVENS, SEAN O'BRIEN, ALEX O'HARE

JUNIOR B BOYS' RUGBY

LUKE STEVENS, OLIVER DAVEY, JACK MCGINN, OSCAR HANNON SMYTH, SEAN O'BRIEN, RYAN BOYD, ANDREW DONOVAN, JERIMIAH EDUNPETERS, SEAN WINSLOW, JACK O'RIORDAN, CHRIS DE LACY, ETHAN JONES, GARY MEANEY, SAM HUTCHISON, DANIEL O'LEARY, ALEX O'HARE, CIARAN MCCARTHY, DARA FITZPATRICK, CALLUM GILMARTIN

TRANSITION YEAR BOYS' RUGBY SQUAD

BEN MCCLEAN HOWARD, LOUIS O'NEILL, CHRIS CHONG, OISIN STAPLETON DOYLE, COLM COONEY, JULIAN HAUXWELL, DAVID FLYNN, PADDY PLOCKELMAN, SAM REDMOND, ANDREW BROWNE, JONATHAN LEES, LUKE HARDY, MATTHEW GILLIS, LUKE EGAN, CHARLIE MCNAMARA, ANDREW WHYTE, OLIVER MARJORAM, DARAGH MCGRATH, LOUIS DUNNE

COBRA BOYS' RUGBY SQUAD

KARO OTOBO, DANIEL GUASTALLA, MILO MOYNIHAN, FERGUS MCDONAGH FOX, LOUIS CHRISTLE, AIDAN DOYLE, JAMES O'CONNOR, JACK BURKE, MAX WRIGHT, JAKE HICKEY, DAN WALSH, LIAM IRWIN, MORGAN PEMBROKE, TRISTEN DE BEER, ALEX O'CONNOR, LOUIS O'SULLIVAN, STEPAN LETSKO, SAUL LYSAGHT, JOE MURPHY, NATHANIAL KAYE MELLOR, DANIEL AWODE



FORM 2 BOYS' RUGBY SQUAD

ALEX BOWDEN, DANIEL CARTER, OISIN GOLDEN, NOAH HESLIN, ZACK HOPKINS, EVAN KELLEHER, MILO LAVELLE, SAMUEL MAXWELL, CHARLIE MILLER, MEDHANSH AGARWAL, JAMES COX, JACK DARMODY, BENJAMIN HAMILTON, LUCA HAYES, ADAM HEARNE, ADAM JORDAN, EOIN KELLY, SAM KELLY, OLIVER KENDRICK, SAMUEL MCNAMARA, SAMUEL NEELY, CHARLIE O'NEILL, ZAC REID, ANDREW ROBINSON, NICOLAS RUS, DANIEL SHEEDY, ANDREW SYKES, DANIEL TALLON, ELLIOT TUIITE, ZENAN SPAIN, LUI RYAN



FORM 1 A BOYS' RUGBY

BACK ROW: MR MCNAMARA, DYLAN MORRISSY, CALLUM MCLOUGHLIN, HARRY KYLE, JAKE WALSH, OISIN BURGESS, LUCAS D'ARCY, FINN GILMARTIN, LINUS FEENEY, HARRY GUCKIAN, MR SULLIVAN
FRONT ROW: EDMUND QUIGLEY, ISAAC LINDSAY, ELLIOT WALSH, TOMÁS TAYLOR, FREDDIE ROBINSON, JAMIE MORTON BAILEY, GEORGE KENNEDY
FLOOR: FINN MAGUIRE, BRENDAN KELLY, CHRISTIAN WALSH, ORIN HURLEY



FORM 1 B BOYS' RUGBY

BACK ROW: MR MCNAMARA, EDMUND QUIGLEY, GEORGE JAMES, CIAN SMITH, OISIN BURGESS, SEÁN HESSION, KILLIAN WALSH, SAM SHEPPARD, LUCAS SWAN, SHOURYA NARANG, ANDREW MILLAR, MR SULLIVAN
FRONT ROW: SANJAYE KALIRAJA, MICHAEL BINCHY, FINN MAGUIRE, CHRISTIAN WALSH, ORIN HURLEY, NAOISE GORMAN, SHAUN O'FLYNN

SPORTS REPORTS

ATHLETICS AND CROSS COUNTRY

Against fierce competition, The High School cross country and athletics team entered a number of events throughout the year, including the Brother Schools Cross Country and the East Leinster Cross Country School Championships. Meeting every Monday after school to run, the team represents some of the finest athletes attending the school.

In cross country, the highlight of the year was the senior team placing bronze at the East Leinsters, allowing them to qualify for the Leinster Cross Country School Championships. The eight-man squad consisted of Patrick Tallon, Patrick Ryan, Ian Mayrs, Michael Holland, Robert Hackett, Scott Dunne, George Britten, and Shane Reid. I can tell you first hand, that finding out that we had qualified was very exciting. Also, special mention to Patrick Tallon and Patrick Ryan, who both qualified individually as well! We wish them all the best for the future.

Unfortunately, track and field events did not take place this year due to lockdown. Even so, Activity Week ensured that the show would go on, with challenges and activities for pupils to complete. Thanks to all those involved in the organisation of events. On the subject of acknowledgements, I would also like to thank Ms Hutchinson Edgar, Ms Fallon, and Mr Irwin for the coaching and support, and I would recommend to anyone who is interested to come along and try it out!

Scott Dunne



U14 GIRLS' BADMINTON

When we started badminton most of us did not know how to play, but we were very excited to learn a new sport. We trained very hard and by Christmas we had improved a lot. The coaches were very good at planning our matches, being patient with us, and making badminton a great experience. We all really enjoyed the year and playing matches. We had a few victories and had a good time. Thank you for a great year and we look forward to next season.

**Charlotte Flegg
and Eve Skelton**

U16 BOYS' BADMINTON

We went to training every Tuesday. In our matches we won some and lost some, but we all tried our hardest whenever we played. Thanks to our coaches Ms Williams and Ms Topping, we all got a lot better throughout the season. We all hope to do better next season as well.

Tom Nickels



BOYS' BASKETBALL

The High School had an excellent year in basketball this year with the senior team making the semi-final of the National Cup and the Form 2 team getting to the semi-final of their Plate competition.

SENIOR BOYS' BASKETBALL

The seniors started their campaign in September with a 47-29 win over St Tiernan's Community School. Saul Lysaght and Stepan Letsko led the team as they would throughout the season. Wins versus St Mary's College (66-47), De La Salle College, Churchtown (44-42), and Ballinteer Community School (47-41) followed to see The High School win their pool. This saw them qualify for the Eastern league semi-final. With Adam Maguire and captain Tommy Myles to the fore the game was level at halftime. Unfortunately the team fell away in the third quarter to go down 58-68.

Attention then turned to the National Cup where The High School had qualified for the quarter-finals. There they met Beneavin De La Salle College away. Stepan Letsko got the team off to a great start and they led by 10 at the end of the first quarter. With Fergus Fox and Saul Lysaght dominant inside, the team extended their lead at halftime. Beneavin made a rally in the third quarter but baskets from Oscar Moholo and Martin Krancz saw The High School safely home 57-40.

In the semi-final the lads were up against Ballymakenny College, Drogheda. A good start from Saul Wright-Brennan outside and Saul Lysaght inside saw The High School lead by one at the end of the first quarter. Stepan and Saul kept the scoreboard ticking in the second quarter to go in four down at the half. Tommy Myles came to the fore in the third quarter but the Monaghan side

kept inching ahead for a 46-56 scoreline going into the fourth quarter. The lads kept battling bravely but couldn't get back into the game and went down 52-69 at the end.

After Christmas The High School had qualified for the All-Ireland league series. In the quarter finals we travelled to Salesian College in Celbridge. A slow start saw the lads five down at the end of the first quarter. Adam, Stepan, and Saul started the fightback which saw us go in one down at the half. Yuri and Tommy kept the fightback going in the third quarter, seeing us go ahead at the end of the quarter. Max Hauxwell and Oscar Moholo made sure there was no way back for the Celbridge side and in the end The High School qualified for the pool stage semi-final with a 42-33 win.

To qualify for the final the team had to win a three team pool semi-final in Monaghan. The first game was versus St Colman's College, Newry. This was a nip and tuck affair. Newry took an early four point lead but Stepan and Adam led The High School comeback and at halftime there were just three points in it. A great third quarter led by Tommy and Oscar saw just one point separate the teams going into the last two minutes. However then disaster struck as Saul got injured and Oscar fouled out. The Newry team got the vital basket in the last minute for The High School to go down by three, 43-46. Unable to qualify after this loss, and without the injured Saul and Stepan, The High School lost the last game 53-66 to home side Coláiste Oiriall, Monaghan. Though the season ended without a trophy, many of the lads are back again next year and we will be looking to go one better when the season gets going again.



U16 BOYS' BASKETBALL

The U16 team were in a tough league pool as only one of three teams would go through. In their first game, led by Sean Omoruyi and Cian Ziglinski, they got off to a great start to beat St Tiernan's 37-26 but then they went down to Old Bawn 27-35 to end their season.

FORM 2 BOYS' BASKETBALL

The Form 2 team got off to a tough start when they were beaten 31-61 in their first game versus Salesian College, Celbridge. However, they recovered well from this start in their second game versus Tallaght Community School. Though behind at the end of the first quarter, Saul Wright-Brennan and Stefan Maier led a comeback which saw us go one ahead at halftime. The second half remained close all through but Stefan was the hero of the day, scoring the winning basket with just seconds left. Next was another close game versus Old Bawn Community School, Tallaght. Again, Saul and Stefan led the team but were ably backed up by Marcus Geraghty and Tom Whelan. However, in this game the hero was Dan Carter, who scored the winning basket in the last few seconds as The High School won by two, 30-28. Tom Whelan and Dan Carter were the top players as we beat Celbridge Community School in the next game. This saw The High School qualify for the Plate where we travelled to Wicklow to play Avondale Community College. Tom and Dan were again on top of their game but Finley Fry also had a fine game as the lads won by 36-20. In the semi-final the opponents were again Old Bawn Community School. But this time the lads would come out the wrong side of a very close game. The efforts of Tom, Saul, and Dan were unfortunately in vain as we went down 29-32. This ended the season but shows great promise for the future.

Mr Boylan
(all reports)



BOYS' CRICKET

Over the past few years cricket in The High School has been very successful, not just for the Senior Boys, but for all teams. After joining the school in Form 3, I didn't know what to expect from the cricket season, but within the blink of an eye the Senior 1's cricket team managed to get into the Plate final against Sandford Park School. The game was very intense and we ended up going into a super over. I was selected to bowl the over for us. With a few good balls and a good catch from David Hogan we managed to hold them down to a low score and we ended up winning the 2017 Plate final with good runs from Ben Shaw.

Remarkably the following year we managed to get into the Plate final again against Belvedere College, and we followed on with a really good performance to win again and to become The 2018 Plate champions.

With no surprise in good form we marched our way to yet another Plate final for the third year in a row. Unfortunately we lost out to Ardgillan Community School in a very close game. On the other hand the Senior 2's had a great unbeaten season captained by Alex O'Connor, and had a great final win over Wesley College to claim the league title for 2019.

Overall cricket in The High School is improving with a lot of talent coming through the years. I can't wait to hopefully come back in future years to see the progression. I'd like to give a big thanks to Mr Malin for helping out with good gear and giving us his time to umpire, coach, and for organising all the games. I would also like to thank Conor Prendergast for giving his time as well to umpire our games.

Tristen De Beer



GIRLS' CRICKET

My time as a cricketer in The High School was both rewarding and extremely enjoyable. This was helped hugely by the perfect balance High School teams had between experienced cricketers and newcomers to the game. There was always an atmosphere of fun along with a competitive drive to win.

The highlight of my time at The High School was winning the Leinster School Girls Senior Cup, beating a strong St Andrew's College side in the final. Prior to that we had also won the First Year Cup, beating Mount Anville in the final, and the Leinster Junior Cup, after a very close, fought decider against Wesley College. In later years we were not as successful but we never lost our competitive and optimistic attitude.

Ms Gray, who coached all of these teams, was enthusiastic and helpful, always encouraging players regardless of the result. Her cheerful attitude played a huge role in creating such an enjoyable cricketing environment and all players, both experienced cricketers and complete beginners, benefitted greatly from her advice.

Mr Malin also worked tirelessly behind the scenes organising training sessions, matches, and equipment for us.

I am extremely grateful to all involved, both coaches and team mates, for making my time as a cricketer for The High School so memorable.

Orla Prendergast

SENIOR 1 GIRLS' HOCKEY

We congregated in early August to start our pre-season. Having narrowly missed out on a senior cup final the previous season, we were excited about the season ahead. Girls across Form 4, 5, and 6 started putting in hours in the gym and training on the pitch to prepare for the season, and before we knew it, a squad had been selected and the season began.

Looking at our League group, we were hopeful. I, alongside my wonderful vice-captains, Robyn and Jennifer, set out a plan for the season, and we started to think about where we wanted to bring it. The team bonded in no time. Looking back on it now, it's hard to believe that there was a time when we weren't all best friends.

We got into the swing of things quickly, with gym sessions every Monday morning, training on Mondays and Thursdays, and of course matches every Wednesday and Saturday. We played several promising friendlies against other schools, and it seemed as though we were shaping up to become a true threat to the League and Cup. Looking at the team, we were undoubtedly a force to be reckoned with, with dominant and impressive players across the field. With the team looking this good at the start of the season, it was exciting to think about just how much damage we could.

We came up against Loreto Beaufort in our first League game and won a decisive 4-1. However, due to some injuries, our momentum was interrupted and we unfortunately lost our next game to Holy Child Killiney. Our next few league games were a win, win, and a draw, putting us in a great place to secure a spot in the Claudia Tierney semis. It all came down to our match against Wesley College, of which the winner would gain a place in the semi-final. We played some of the best hockey we had all season, and all who were there would say that it was a brilliant game to watch. The game went back and forth with both teams narrowly missing out on goal opportunities. Unfortunately, it was Wesley's day, as they managed to put the ball in the net late in the second half. Needless to say, we were devastated to put the League to rest, but I can honestly say that no game throughout the season made me prouder of the brilliant team we had become. We played some great hockey, and at the end of the day, that's all you can ask for.

In the first round of the cup, we came up against Loreto Beaufort, a team we thought we knew well. However, it seemed as though we were facing a different team to the one we had faced earlier on in the season. They had a new-found determination which led them to score two goals early on. After that, we found our feet, but unfortunately were forced to chase. The game ended 3-1 to Beaufort, and they deservingly proceeded to win the cup.

Although our season was brought to an end early, and we didn't achieve, on paper, what we wish we could have, we left smiling. Every minute we spent together was an enjoyable one, and through our ups and downs, we remained an incredibly close-knit group. As a captain, I got to appreciate leading some incredible people and watching some players make astounding improvements, and I can wholeheartedly say that I am excited about seeing what those girls will do for High School hockey in the years to come.

To Ms Gray, you have been a wonderful coach and friend to us. Although often harsh, towards your beloved Form 6 in particular, I think we can all agree that you have taught us valuable lessons on and off the hockey pitch. On behalf of the team, I cannot thank you enough for the effort and countless hours you put into this season, and there is no doubt that you will be greatly missed.

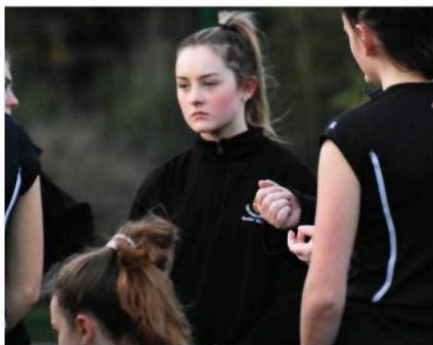
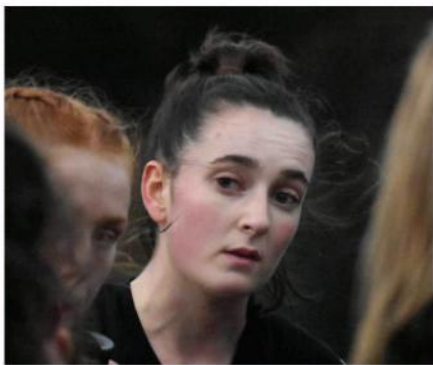
To everyone else who put work, time, and faith into the team this season, thank you. Ms Jones, Ms Rugg, Mr Fitzpatrick, Mr Howard, Mss Meeke (Ali and Jess), you have all been an incredible help and have provided the team with an amazing support system; we truly couldn't have done any of it without you. To Mr McDonnell and Mr Henry, our great personal trainers, thank you for always putting smiles on our faces, even on the grimmest of Monday mornings, and actually making the gym an enjoyable place to be. To our parents, our biggest fans, who drove us to and from countless trainings, matches, and gym sessions, thank you; we literally couldn't have played a game without you.

Needless to say, the team behind the team this season was a vital one. However, it is to my team that I owe the most thanks. To the 18 girls who worked so hard to make this season as enjoyable as it was, I cannot thank you guys enough.

To Jennifer and Robyn, my vice-captains and best friends, this season could not have been as pleasant as it was without you two. To Form 5, Izzy, Bevin, Ele, Mia, and Orla, I truly can't wait to see all that you will do next season. And last, but not least, to the army from Form 4 we had on the team this year, Zoe, Katie, Emily, Sophie, Rosie, Emma, Ella, and Ella, you all truly stepped up to the plate this year, you improved quicker than any group of players I have ever seen and I'm so excited about seeing all the amazing things you will do in the years to come. I will miss you all so much, you have made me so proud, and I wish you all the best success in the future.

Anna Lyons





SENIOR 2 GIRLS' HOCKEY

This 2019–20 season was a fun and exciting year for the Senior 2nd XI. We had bonded so well the year before and loved to be welcoming Form 4 pupils to the team so we were all very excited about the season ahead. We played our first match against Newbridge College which unfortunately ended in a 2-1 loss. Following a rocky start and a few ups and downs we really started to come together as a team during the latter part of the season and began to finally experience some wins that were well deserved.

With the league not going the way we wanted, we were thrilled to find out we would again be playing in the South Dublin League. With such a successful ending last year, placing second, we were determined to succeed and get the win this year. We got off to a great start and had some of our best performances of the year. We played our most exciting match against Holy Child Killiney, drawing 2-2 and then going on to win in 1v1s. This would bring us into the semi-final, inching us closer to the win.

We were very disappointed to hear that we would be unable to play our next match, with the hope that we would go on to win the league, due to COVID-19.

I would like to thank our coaches, both the Meekes, Ms Gray, Ms Rugg, and Ms Jones for all the hard work they put into our team. On behalf of Form 6, we would like to thank our whole team for making this one of our most memorable years of hockey in The High School. Best of luck girls, for the season ahead.

Rosie Gillis



SENIOR 3 GIRLS' HOCKEY

The Senior 3rd XI hockey team had an enjoyable season. As the season advanced the team really bonded and a lot of laughs were had. While we may not have always been triumphant, our positive attitude towards the game made us successful as a team. We would like to thank our coaches Ms Deane and Ms Rugg for all the effort they put into improving our team and ensuring we were always having fun. On behalf of Form 6, we would like to thank the girls for all the memories and making our last season in The High School a wonderful one. We wish the team all the best of luck in the new season.

Eva Valentine



JUNIOR A GIRLS' HOCKEY

The 2019–2020 season with the Junior A team was good, a real journey with many positives. After a disappointing start to the season, we bounced back to win our first two league matches with a 2-0 win against Loreto Dalkey and a 3-0 victory against The King's Hospital. We ended up finishing third in our League just behind Loreto Beaufort. Unfortunately, we were knocked out in the first round of the cup to a very strong Alexandra College side. We received a bye in the first round of the plate and beat Loreto on the Green 2-1 playing some of our best hockey of the season. We made it to the semi-finals of the Plate, losing to Loreto Foxrock to end our season.

The Junior A team has been great to be a part of and throughout the season we have grown a huge amount, and as a team we improved so much. I would like to say a massive thank you to our coach Ms Meeke for her constant hard work, dedication and belief to help us improve week after week and make it an incredibly enjoyable season for us.

I wish all the girls the best of luck for next year!

Ella Pasley



JUNIOR B GIRLS' HOCKEY

The Junior B hockey team had a good season with a few great wins and a couple of narrow losses. Although the season was cut short, the team worked well together and had great fun. The team was a mixture of both Form 4 and Form 3 and despite hardly knowing each other prior to the season we bonded quickly and really well. On behalf of the team I would like to thank both Alex Flynn, our coach, and Ms Garland for all of their hard work and commitment. The training sessions and matches were always enjoyable and I think we'll all remember our time on the team fondly.

Naomi Wilson



JUNIOR C GIRLS' HOCKEY

While the Junior C team is big we hardly ever had a goalie so we worked extra hard in training to make up for that. We qualified out of our group in the league and beat St Andrew's College 2-1 in the playoffs for the quarter-final. We were beaten by Mount Anville in the league quarter-final. Ms Garland coached us very well and always kept the team spirit up for every match. It was a great year and the team cannot wait to get playing again.

Libby Perdue



MINOR A GIRLS' HOCKEY

This year has been a very enjoyable one for the Minor A team. We started the season with a couple of friendly matches – we won some, others we lost. We then entered the cup and won our first cup match against St Raphaela's Secondary School. The match went to 1v1s which was very nerve-racking but a good learning experience for all of us. However, we didn't win the next round, playing a tough match against Loreto College Foxrock which ended in a close score of 1-0.

We would like to thank our coaches Ms Jennings, Ms Cunningham, and Ms Murphy for being such great help this year. A huge thanks also to Ms Gray for making this year so enjoyable no matter what the outcome from our matches. She always made sure we kept our heads up and we are so grateful to have had her as a coach this year.

**Katie Hopkins
and Ella Roche**



MINOR B GIRLS' HOCKEY

This year the Minor Bs have had an enjoyable and fun season of matches. Our positivity and team work progressed through training and our amazing coaches Ms Jennings and Ms Cunningham really helped to push us to be a great team. We are so grateful to our coaches for the amount of support and we are looking forward to playing with the Juniors next year. Through training twice a week and regular matches, our team bonded really well to make friends for life. Our favourite match was against Loreto College, St Stephen's Green, because we played so well as a team and all our hard work finally paid off.

Mia O'Mahoney

MINOR C GIRLS' HOCKEY

The Minor Cs had a brilliant season this year. It was amazing to see everyone's improvement from the beginning. Our team displayed great dedication and determination in the matches and training every week. We played a lot of matches this season and one that stood out was the final game. The match had a very positive atmosphere and our team showed outstanding cohesion resulting in a terrific win. It was a great way to end the season.

Through training and playing matches we all bonded as a team and as a group of friends. We showed each other great support and had the most fun. The Minor Cs are more than a hockey team, we are friends for life.

**Amelia Quinn
and Ella Meleady**



MINOR D GIRLS' HOCKEY

We really enjoyed this season. The Minor Ds worked well together and had great fun training and playing matches. We smiled a lot and had many laughs. We managed to stay positive even if it rained or we didn't win a match. We are sad to say goodbye to our favourite coaches who supported us even when we forgot to wear our hockey shoes. They taught us lots and the whole team is very grateful. We are all very excited for next year's season and hope to have as much fun as we did this year.

**Daisy Kirk-Gillham
and Eleanor Wright**



FORM 1 A GIRLS' HOCKEY

We started our season all ready and excited to play. In our first match we played Loreto College Foxrock and lost 4-0. As the season progressed we improved and even won our first cup match against St Killian's College 5-0. Unluckily in the second round, we lost out to Muckross Park College. This year we have grown as a team and made so many memories. We would like to thank Jess and Ali Meeke and Ms Jones for teaching us so many new things and introducing us to many new experiences, like the very successful trip to Cork which we enjoyed hugely.

**Ciara Kellegher
and Grace Beatty**



FORM 1 B GIRLS' HOCKEY

When we started playing hockey at The High School we were excited to learn new things. Some of us did not even know how to play. In the first few weeks we learnt so much, made new friends and developed as a team. We had many great victories, such as beating Alexandra College. After a hard year we all needed a break so we went on a hockey weekend to Cork. We had the best time, winning all our matches as well as really enjoying the hotel. Lastly, we would like to thank all our coaches for their time, effort, and support. Thanks for a great year.

**Hedda Vercauteren
and Charlotte Flegg**

FORM 1 C GIRLS' HOCKEY

When we started off the season we did not really know each other, so hockey was a great bonding experience. Some of the team had not played before but we have grown and developed so much as hockey players and also as a team. We've had many great experiences and wins, like against Bandon Grammar School on our hockey trip. After a difficult year of training and matches we needed a break, so we went to Cork with all the Form 1 girls' hockey teams. It was great fun with all our friends. Lastly we would like to thank the coaches for making The High School such a great one. They have given up their time and supported us throughout the year. Thank you so much.

Allanah Small

FORM 1 D GIRLS' HOCKEY

At the beginning of our hockey season we started off rough because most of our team had not played hockey before coming to The High School. After many training sessions we built our strength and skills up. We then won many matches after that and at the end of the year we went on a trip to Cork and played against two schools. On behalf of the D team, we would like to say thank you.

Laura Shannon



SENIOR BOYS' HOCKEY

At the beginning of the season, our team had great ambition for success and the belief that we could win trophies. We began our pre-season with a trip down to Villiers for a friendly match. We played Sullivan Upper School, Newpark Comprehensive School, and Wesley College in a tournament in Three Rock.

Our first big competition was the All Ireland, which was held in Dublin this year. We were placed in a tough group featuring both of last year's finalists. We got off to a good start, beating Newtown 5-0 in The High School, and then beating Methodist College Belfast. This set up a crunch match against Banbridge Academy which we won 3-1 in front of a big home crowd, securing our place in the semi-finals. We then drew The King's Hospital which was a tough game that we won 1-0 from a late short corner goal. This was the first time The High School had ever qualified for the All Ireland final. Playing against a strong St Andrew's College side in torrential rain we found ourselves 2-0 down at half-time and spirits were low in the team. After a few encouraging and motivational words from Mr Fitzpatrick, the team was raring to go. We began the second half with a new-found intensity and hunger. A third-quarter goal from Ross Howard and a fourth-quarter goal from Evan Jennings tied the game up. Tensions were high in the final minutes with St Andrew's College applying pressure and Ethan Flynn provided a game-defining moment as he saved a late shot off the line. The tournament was to be decided by a shoot-out of 1v1s.

After the first five it was all square at 4 all. This meant that we were headed for sudden death. Two more were converted by each team and, after this, goalkeeper Ben Whelan made an excellent save, allowing us to seal the historic victory.

After the highs of the All Ireland our focus shifted to the league and cup. We reached the semi-finals of the league after topping our group. This set up a home semi-final against St Andrew's College which we narrowly lost 1-0.

We beat Newpark Comprehensive School in the quarter-final of the senior cup and were looking forward to playing against Wesley College in the semi-finals and reaching the final to defend our title. Unfortunately we were unable to do so due to the unforeseen circumstances.

Overall, we had a very successful season this year. I'd like to say well done to Form 3 pupils for stepping up and playing for us this year and as well to the rest of the team for a great season.

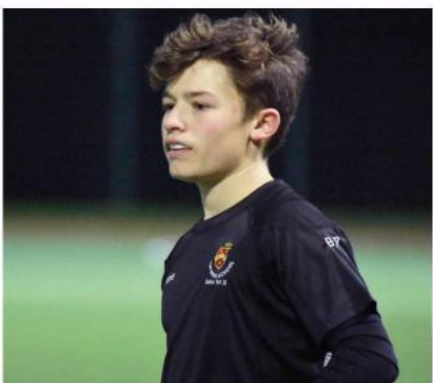
On behalf of the team I would like to thank Mr McDonnell, Mr Howard, Mr Miller, Mr Keegan, Ms Rugg, and Ms Gray for all the work they put in this year.

Lastly I would like to thank Mr Fitzpatrick for everything he has done for us over the last six years.

Ross Howard







JUNIOR BOYS' HOCKEY

The Junior hockey season started well. We started the league off well, making it to the quarter-finals where we played The King's Hospital. We won 2-1 and made it into the semis. We played Wesley College where we won in extra time. We played St Andrew's College in the final where we unfortunately lost due to a last-minute goal from Andrew's making it 3-2. Nevertheless, we started the cup with high hopes. We won every match in the lead-up to the semis where we unfortunately lost to St Andrew's College again. Overall it was a great year of fun and hockey. While both league and cup ended with loss there were still a lot of wins and it gives great promise for the future of the team.

Marcus Empey



MINOR A BOYS' HOCKEY

This year was a very progressive year for Minor Boys' Hockey. We did not have the start we wanted due to an early loss to The King's Hospital. We were disappointed but knew if we trained hard we would get the results we wanted. This showed when we played The King's Hospital again and drew 1-1 which was a massive confidence boost. Overall it was a good season and we would like to thank Ms Deacon, Mr Howard, Mr Empey, and Mr Fitzpatrick for coaching us all season.

**Tom Whelan
and Sam Maxwell**



MINOR B BOYS' HOCKEY

We had a good season. We finished a lot better than we started at least. Throughout the season we worked hard which paid off in the end. We had great gains, especially against Sandford Park School and St Columba's College. There were some good goals during the season. We worked together and made some great plays which was something to be happy with. We would like to thank Mr Howard, Mr Empey, and especially Ms Deacon for giving us a great season and improving our skills.

Callum Lennon





FORM 1 A BOYS' HOCKEY

Even though the team did not play a lot of games we had great team spirit. Everyone attended training regularly and had a lot of fun. I would like to thank our coach for all the commitment he showed in getting us to improve. Thank you also to my team for all their support and for playing their best throughout the season.

Sam Sheppard

FORM 1 B BOYS' HOCKEY

We had a great season this year. We had a rough start but we began to focus and we did a lot better. We had a few close matches especially against Newpark Comprehensive School. We got to the semi-final of the league but unfortunately lost out to St Andrew's College. Overall we had a fun season and improved a lot.

Oscar Pasley



ROWING

After a long nine months of submitting ergometer tests and racing 6 km trials in Inniscarra in Cork, Alison and I were finally selected in June to represent Ireland for the Coupe De la Jeunesse. We had been selected for the Junior Women's Coxless Four and would be rowing the boat alongside two other girls from Castleconnell, Limerick. We were also rowing in the Junior Women's Sweep Eight as part of the opening ceremony. The Coupe De la Jeunesse is a Junior European Rowing event. This year it was held at Lake Corgeno, Italy. However, before the event we attended a two-week camp at the National Rowing Centre in Cork, where we trained with high-performance athletes including the O'Donovan brothers and Sanita Puspure. We trained twice a day, nearly every day, with only two days off in two weeks. We would aim to be rowing 18–20 km in the first training session and another 10–12 km in the race preparatory session. Every training session involved washing the boat, a debriefing on that session reflecting on improvements our coach suggested, a warm-down stretching session, and finally, after all that, we were allowed to eat our lunch. We flew out with the Ireland team on 1 August. We went from training in 16 degrees in Cork to 34–36 degrees in Italy. Thankfully the morning was only 28 degrees and it wasn't as hot as the day before. We practised a few race starts and did some drills while out on the water. By the afternoon there was a sudden change of weather with thunder and lightning. We took shelter at the boathouse, hoping that the weather would change by the time the opening ceremony of the event rolled around. Thankfully, by 5:00 pm the weather had calmed down enough for us to be allowed to row on the water. We came fifth in the eights race with Spain, Netherlands, and Great Britain winning the sweep eight category. On Saturday our race began at 10:40 am which meant we would have to go out on the water 40 minutes before our race was scheduled to start. This was to allow us plenty of time to warm up and practise race starts before we would finally have to line up. We brought single-use ice packs in the boat to allow us to cool down before the race to prevent us from overheating. We practised methods to prevent overheating by dipping our t-shirts in the lake and then putting them on while soaking wet to keep us cool while we warmed up. The water in the lake was actually quite warm and the insides of

the boat usually became scalding hot by the time we rowed up to the start. We came fifth in the heat which meant we qualified for Final B. In Final B we came second to France. It was a tough start to the event for us but we were determined to do better on the next day of the event. On Sunday our race began at 9:40 am, so we went out on the water at 9:00 am. We came fourth in the heat and were less than three seconds off qualifying for the A Final. However, we won the B Final with Poland and Norway hot on our heels. We thought the event was a great experience especially for our first time representing Ireland. Hopefully, we will be selected to compete at this event again next year.

We are all members of Commercial Rowing Club and had hoped to compete in the Schools' Regatta in April which was sadly cancelled due to the COVID-19 lockdown. Previously we have won the J16 women's final and the J15 women's double at the Schools' Regatta. We hope to enter the junior women's pair and junior men's single scull. Unfortunately, last year the event was cancelled due to unsuitable weather but we can always look forward to 2021.

Sarah Daly



RUGBY

SENIOR 1 BOYS' RUGBY

Pre-season began in usual fashion at the end of July. We began the journey of regaining the fitness that had been lost over the summer. After many fitness blocks, and some sideline spews, we were ready.

We kicked off our league campaign against St Fintan's High School. A solid performance led to a convincing victory. It was the ideal start and led us to two further bonus point wins against Gorey Community College and Skerries Community College. Next, we hosted Temple Carrig School and were on the end of a thumping. A lackluster display by all was no match for their energised performance. We followed this up with a dismal display against Salesian College. It was a game we had no right to lose but complacency led us to our second loss of the season. Two weeks later we had a must-win game against an unbeaten Newpark Comprehensive School team. We bounced back brilliantly from our losses to beat them at home. There were some outstanding performances, none better than a barbaric Milo Moynihan on the day. We had made the league semi-final and had to travel down to Greystones to play Temple Carrig School. It was a hugely physical game where we found ourselves on the end of a tough loss as they crossed the line in the final play to win by two. They went on to win the final comfortably.

Preparations began over Christmas for the first round of the Vinnie Murray Cup. We had a few poor training sessions which showed in a friendly against CUS. In the aftermath of this game we rallied together and picked up the intensity in the weeks running up to the Cup.

Our Cup campaign began against St Paul's College in Donnybrook. We were at it from the off, outplaying and completely overwhelming our opponents, winning 52-7. We faced Newpark Comprehensive School in the next round and knew we had a much tougher game coming our way. It was a tense game where we seemed to be throwing away chance after chance in the early stages. Some vital conversions from the boot of Adam Killeen proved invaluable as we showed the composure needed to close out the game.

Next on the cards was Temple Carrig School in the semi-final, a team who



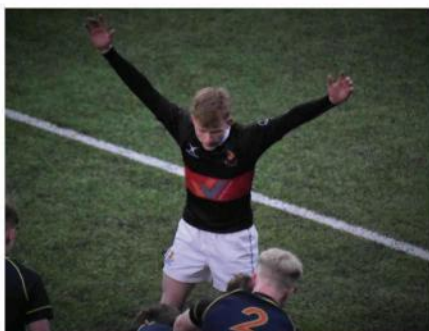
had gotten the better of us on two previous occasions. A win would lead us to the Senior Cup for the first time in ten years. We were seven points down within three minutes. Karo Otobo's quick thinking from the base of a ruck got us back to level. Dan Walsh and Jake Hickey led the team on with some rampaging runs through the Temple Carrig School defence. We conceded two soft tries but Jack Farrelly capitalised on an opportunity after a period of sustained pressure. One last push was made in the final ten minutes but their defence held firm and we failed to cross the whitewash. The final score was 21-14. Just like the league, they went on to win the Cup.

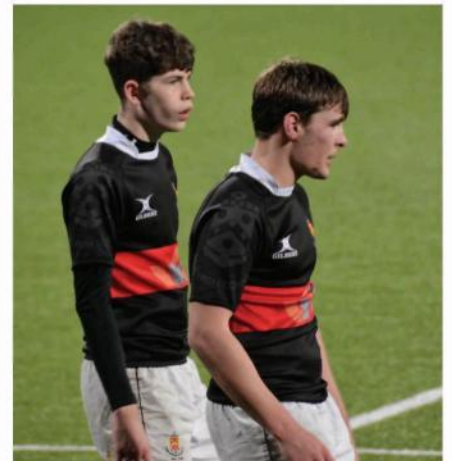
Unfortunately, that was the end for Form

6. We have some great memories on and off the field and I could not have asked for a better group of lads to share that with.

I would like to thank Mr Tevlin, Mr Sheridan, Mr McDonnell, and Dewald Bernard for coaching us over the last two years. On behalf of Form 6 I would also like to acknowledge all the work Mr Malin has done for us throughout the years, none more memorable than bringing us on an epic trip to the United States. I wish next year's team all the best in their endeavours and would like to thank everyone for showing their support this year.

Sam Dunne





SENIOR 2 BOYS' RUGBY

We played a number of friendlies before Christmas, trying to build the seconds squad for the league which starts post-Christmas alongside the cup. We had a mixed bag of results due to our unusually small squad. The league started off with a disappointing loss in tough conditions to a very strong St Mary's College. We then continued our losing streak with a close and very controversial loss to Wilson's Hospital School. But in our first home game, and last game of the season we made up for our losses with a satisfying win against Terenure College, finished superbly with a cross field kick try to secure victory. Weeks later, we were supposed to welcome a touring side from Canada, but the coronavirus pandemic cut our season short. However, we hope our excellent performance against Terenure College can be replicated in next year's all-important league and cup matches.

Niall Healy



FORM 4 BOYS' RUGBY

This year's Form 4 rugby team had a great year of competitive and fun rugby. We began our season playing a touring team from Argentina which we narrowly lost but it was a very competitive match and very enjoyable. We also played our league matches which we lost most of them but drew one and won one – was a very good result considering we had members of the squad playing with our senior cup team. We did get into the semi-finals of the league away to Cistercian College Roscrea, which was a really well-played game in which every player on the team played their part and gave it their all on a slightly miserable day but ultimately we lost by one try. Despite the defeat, it was an enjoyable experience that year to try different things and give people different positions and roles in the squad and to ultimately just have fun which everyone on the team did.

On behalf of the team I would like to thank all the coaches who helped us throughout and for Mr Malin organising the league.

Luke Hardy



JUNIOR BOYS' RUGBY

The High School Junior Cup season began with a pre-season training camp at Killashee Hotel in Naas. After three days of training with expert coaches, combined with a summer's worth of hard work, we were full of confidence for the upcoming season.

The season began with an away league game against Gorey Community College. It was a tightly contested game, ending in a 12-12 draw. After a loss against Templeogue College in our next game, we were under pressure to get a result against Naas CBS, our final league game. The team put out a fantastic performance to draw the game. This result put us into the quarter-finals of the league. It also qualified the team for the Father Godfrey Cup.

The league quarter-final against St Fintan's High School was a well-fought game, played on the all-weather pitch in front of the school. The High School were victorious and progressed into the semi-finals against Wilson's Hospital School. It was a tough game played in very difficult conditions. Unfortunately, Wilson's pulled away right at the end of the game to win.

One of the highlights of the season was when the team met to bond by eating pizza and hanging out. It was a great experience that everybody thoroughly enjoyed. It was also great to be able to relax, as we would be playing the first round of the cup just two days later.

A week after school had restarted after Christmas, The High School played Templeogue College on a crisp afternoon in Lakelands. A strong performance from the team was too much for Templeogue. A fantastic finish from Sam Kennedy in the left corner put us out of reach at 19-7. This victory advanced us into the second round.

The High School played Temple Carrig School in a packed Lakelands. The High School were down 12-10 with ten minutes to go when Chris Chong released David Odekunle to run underneath the posts and score. Some great defence from Fergus Kelly, Matteo Sanvito, and the rest of the team put The High School through to the semi-final of the Father Godfrey Cup, a feat not achieved since 2016.

The semi-final was played in St Mary's Rugby Club against CUS. It was a well-fought game, but CUS scored twice in quick succession just before halftime and went on to win the game.

It has been a fantastic season and we would like to say a huge thank you to Mr O'Sullivan, Mr Kingston, Andrew Brennan, Mr Malin, and Ronan for coaching us and making our rugby experience so enjoyable for the last two years.

**Charlie Beatty
and Fergus Kelly**



JUNIOR B BOYS' RUGBY

This year the Junior Bs had a fairly successful but, most importantly, a fun season. We showed our skills with wins over schools like CUS, St Michael's College, and St Mary's College. Although the team was fairly slow to start, as soon as we found our feet we were a pretty good and skilful team. The pinnacle of the season was a match against CUS Bs which was fairly close but an almighty solo effort by Ciaran McCarthy sealed the win. The season was great fun and I would like to thank the coaches for their support throughout the year.

Ethan Jones





COBRAS BOYS' RUGBY

What a year it was for the HSD Cobras. Although there were only two matches played due to COVID-19, we couldn't have asked for a more exhilarating pair. Each match was a rollercoaster ride in its own right, just like Cobras games are meant to be.

The first Cobras game of the season saw The High School take on Gonzaga College at home. After an over-the-top adrenaline-packed warm-up involving the practice of infamous line-out calls such as "RIP Kobe" and "Penguins" the team headed out to face "Zaga". It was a bittersweet victory, with the Cobras coming out on top with a 46-38 win but at the cost of losing their almighty captain to a hip injury that would end his school career. What a way to go out.

The next and final game for the HSD Cobras saw the underdogs take on school rugby behemoth St Michael's College. The Cobras fought hard to the last whistle, with bodies being put on the line left, right and centre, reminiscent of the previous game. However, it wasn't enough for the boys in red and black, who lost out narrowly. A disappointing end to such a memorable season.

If there's one thing to take from the 2019-20 Cobra season it's that each player proved to be amazingly skilled and committed in their own right. Even those who'd never even played rugby before turned up and proved their worth to the team. Hopefully next year will be half as memorable as this one.

Louis Christle



MINOR BOYS' RUGBY

Our season kicked off with a tough encounter away to Terenure College, where we were beaten narrowly, but showed many positives that we could use to build upon for the rest of the season. Over the next few months, we improved greatly and had a stand-out win at home to Presentation College Bray, which included a Zack Hopkins hat-trick. The second half of the season proved more difficult as Milo Lavelle broke his leg in the game that Alex Bowden returned to play after a third broken collarbone.

Strength and character was shown throughout the group however, as we came together and produced some courageous performances, including a spirited contest away to St Andrew's College.

It was a disappointing end to the season with the postponement of our trip to Wales, but it will undoubtedly give us something to build from next year. We would like to thank Mr McBride, Ross Stewart, David Donnelly, and Mr Malin for their hard work throughout the campaign and we look forward to next year's Junior Cup season.

**Alex Bowden
and Milo Lavelle**



FORM 2 A AND B BOYS' RUGBY

One of the highlights of this year was the trip to watch Ireland's victory against Wales in September, which was also Rory Best and Joe Schmidt's last game at the Aviva Stadium. The season also got off to an exciting start with the Rugby World Cup in Japan. We came together with our team mates to watch the Ireland vs Japan game in the school hall, but even the bacon breakfast rolls couldn't make up for the loss.

We had a difficult season this year; training was much harder than in our previous season and the teams we played were much more difficult. Even though this season was much more difficult than last year's, we all enjoyed it.

In November we played host to Haberdashers' Abraham Darby team from Shropshire in England and enjoyed the victory in a good-natured match. Sadly, our planned tour to Wales had to be postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but we look forward to a trip in the future.

We played very well and unfortunately had to learn to play without our best players due to injury and the JCT. Even with this obstacle we managed to win a good few games. We also had many close losses which came down to a few points' difference on the scoreboard. All in all, the team played well throughout the season and we improved a lot of our skills together.

This year we had many coaches to help us through the season. On behalf of the team I would like to thank all of our coaches for training us and preparing us for our next season.

**Noah Heslin
and Andrew Sykes**



SWIMMING

This year got off to a brilliant start as we welcomed loads of new pupils to Terenure Pool for after-school swimming. Everyone involved in junior swimming brought serious energy and enthusiasm to the pool each week and improved dramatically. Some of our Form 1 pupils even challenged the seasoned pro swimmers. Throughout the year the junior swimmers improved each of their different strokes and there was even time for all the usual fun weeks and games. Our Christmas and Easter themed weeks were a huge success. Everyone brought their "A Game" for the individual and team races. Next year there will be even more chances for pupils to develop their skills and their competitive edge. The swimming team are hoping to introduce a certificate of skills acquired for all pupils.

The loyal group of senior swimmers never failed to bring their skills and dedication on a Tuesday evening. Form 4 who took swimming as part of their Gaisce improved so much during the year. Swimming has always been the perfect afterschool sport to take up in Form 4. This year's senior group were particularly impressive and consistently swam 500m or more in a series of timed challenges. Form 4 and 5 water polo was a particular hit this year along with each of the fun weeks. Competition between Form 4 and 5 continued in our individual and team races, with Form 5 just about holding on to first place. The swimming team are looking forward to introducing more competitions and certificates for both junior and senior swimmers next year.

Ms Jones



BOYS' TABLE TENNIS

This year we had a great season. We came runner-up in our league table. We lost our first game but our determination and commitment brought us through the year with many wins. We played St Vincent's College Castleknock which was a difficult loss. Marian College, St Benildus College, and Terenure College were all wins. We disappointingly lost our cup game against Griffeen Valley Educate Together National School. Overall we had a really great time this year and we would like to thank our coach Mr Bowe and Ms Jones for organising everything. We would not be here without you.

Jake Walsh



ATHLETICS

Due to the COVID-19 school closure Sports Day did not happen and prizes were not awarded.

BADMINTON

Hennessy Cup – Senior Boys
Thomas Kelly
Alex O'Connor

Hennessy Cup – Senior Girls
Patricia Zhang

Factor Cup – Junior Boys
David Kelly

Hennessy Cup – Minor Girls
Alex Dungan

BASKETBALL

Senior Boys Trophy
Tommy Myles

Senior Girls Cup
Issie Hayes

Junior Boys Cup
Saul Wright Brennan

Junior Girls Cup
Fiona O'Gorman

CRICKET

Davies Cup – 2nd XI Boys
Alex O'Connor

Dawson Cup – Form 2 Boys
N/A

De Vere Shortt Cup – Batting
Tristen De Beer

Hanly Cup – Fielding
Patrick Ryan

Ridgeway Cup – Senior Girls
Anna Lyons
Jennifer Pillow

Junior Girls Cup
N/A

HOCKEY

Neville Davin Cup
Senior Boys
Evan Jennings

Jean Scott Cup – Senior Girls
Anna Lyons

Jean Scott Cup – Junior Girls
Emily Brennan

Andrew McKay Cup
Junior Boys
Luke Stevens

Minor Boys Cup
Thomas Whelan

Diocesan Cup – Minor Girls
Anna Hoey

Karen Eppell Cup – Fair Play
Rosie Gillis

RUGBY

Dawson Cup – Form 2
Zac Hopkins

Evans Cup – Place and Drop
Ben Shaw

De Vere Shortt Cup
Player of the Year
Jack Farrelly

Holmpatrick Cup – 7 a side
N/A

Turner Cup
Most Deserving Team
SCT Captain
Sam Dunne

Mark Cabena Memorial Trophy
Matteo Sanvito

SWIMMING

Liffey Cup – Senior
Daniel Hudson

Dodder Cup – Juniors
Esme Donaghy

John Phillips Cup
Survival Skills
Josh Rance

TABLE TENNIS

Evans Cup
Thomas Nickels

TENNIS

Sealy Cup – Senior Boys
Harry Lynch

Smith Cup – Senior Girls
Giulia Guastalla

Harcourt Cup – Junior Boys
Leo Vaughan

Jagoe Cup – Junior Girls
Elodie Ryan

Shield – Minor Boys
Luca Hayes

Minor Girls Cup
Chloe O'Connor

White Shield
Evan Byrne-Jennings

ROBIN DAVIES SPORTS AWARDS 2018 – 19

The Robin Davies Sports Award acknowledges the achievement of pupils selected for full international representation in any recognised field of sporting endeavour. The recipients in 2018–19 are as follows:

Cricket:
Ella Pasley, Orla Prendergast

Diving: Isabel Feeney

Hockey:
Isobel Bowen, Alistair Empey,
Evan Jennings, Harry Lynch,
Ben Whelan

Mountaineering:
Thomas Myles

Rowing:
Alison Daly, Sam Daly,
Sarah Daly

Soccer: Orla Prendergast

Squash: Scott Gillanders

SPORTS CAPTAINS**2018 – 19****Athletics****Patrick Tallon****Badminton – Boys****Alexander O'Connor****Badminton – Girls****Rachel Low****Basketball – Boys****Matthew Thompson****Basketball – Girls****Alison Daly****Cricket – Boys****David Hogan****Cricket – Girls****Anna Lyons****Hockey – Boys****Alistair Empey****Hockey – Girls****Sauna Power****Rugby – Boys****Niall McDonnell****Rugby – Girls****Aileen Nagle****Swimming – Boys****Sean Maguire****Swimming – Girls****Eileen Curran****Tennis – Boys****Lorcan Twomey****Tennis – Girls****Siobhan Trimmer****REPRESENTATIVE SUCCESS****CRICKET IRELAND**

Congratulations to High School pupil Orla Prendergast who has earned her first cap for the Ireland Women's cricket team which is an outstanding achievement. We wish her and the Ireland team every success as they compete in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier in the coming weeks. Congratulations are also due to Ella Pasley who represented the Ireland U15 cricket team in The Netherlands this summer.

Orla Prendergast was also named Female Youth International Player of the Year at the Irish Cricket Awards. Her debut match for the Ireland Women's team was in June 2019 against the Netherlands. She has represented Ireland at U15 and U17 level and her proudest moment was scoring a century for Ireland U17 against Scotland. We wish our pupil every success as she continues to excel in this field of sport.

U18 IRELAND HOCKEY REPRESENTATION

Congratulations to Evan Jennings and Harry Lynch who were selected to compete with the Ireland U18 hockey squad against Scotland as well as in the Six Nations Tournament in Eindhoven this summer. Isobel Bowen represented Ireland U16 at the Six Nations Hockey tournament in Holland as did Ben Whelan. It was also wonderful to see recent past pupils Alistair Empey (HSD, 2013–19), Conor Empey (HSD, 2011–17), and Alex Flynn (HSD, 2012–18) represent Ireland in the U21 Euro Hockey Championship in the Czech Republic. We wish our pupils every success as they compete for further honours at international level in the 2019–20 season.

Mr P Fitzpatrick**LEINSTER HOCKEY REPRESENTATION**

Congratulations to Ella Pasley who has been selected to represent The High School on the Leinster U16 hockey squad. Congratulations too to Charles Beatty, Alex Lynch, and Ben Pasley who have also been selected to represent The High School on the Leinster U16 hockey squad. Ethan Flynn, Evan Jennings, and Ben Whelan have been selected to represent The High School on the Leinster U18 hockey squad. Congratulations to these fine players. We extend best wishes for success to our pupils as they compete for team selection in future international competitions at this age grade.

Recently several High School pupils represented Leinster in the hockey interprovincials at Stormont, Belfast. Evan Jennings, Ben Whelan, and Ethan Flynn represented the U18 team, while Ben Pasley, Alex Lynch, and Charles Beatty were playing for the Leinster U16 team. On Friday the latter played Ulster in a very close game. It ended 2-1 to Ulster. The next day we beat Munster 4-1. On Sunday morning we played Ulster for the interprovincial title. Unfortunately, we did not play as well as we could and lost the game 6-0. That afternoon we played Munster in a frustrating game: we just could not score. It went to 1v1's which we won with The High School's Ben Pasley scoring. We finished second in the tournament as did the U18 team. It was a good weekend and a great experience.

Charles Beatty**MOUNTAIN BIKING**

Congratulations to recent past pupil Harry Byrne (HSD, 2013–19) who won the 2019 Gravity Enduro Ireland Series for the first time last week. Along with the Gravity Enduro crown, Byrne also came to the fore at Scotland's Tweedlove Enduro, winning the Under 21 category in one of the UK's most prestigious events. Harry's success earned him a sports scholarship at the Technological University of Dublin (TUD), where he is studying Marketing. The scholarship provides Harry with free gym membership and access to an academic tutor, a physio, and a nutritionist. We wish Harry every success as he competes in the Mountain Biking World Series in Switzerland.

OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS

Congratulations to all members of the Ireland Women's hockey team who have successfully qualified for the Tokyo Olympics in 2021 and especially to past pupils Nicola Daly (HSD, 2000–06) and Alison Meeke (HSD, 2003–09). We wish the team every success in the lead up to the Olympic Games.

SENIOR GIRLS' HOCKEY TRIP

Senior 1 hockey teams enjoyed a super pre-season trip to Limerick recently. We arrived at school early on Friday morning to take a coach down to Villiers School in Limerick. It was a really fun way to see our peers again and start the new season. The senior boys' team played first with the girls cheering them on and they supported the girls when they played their match. It was a great way to start the season with wins for both teams.

Nicole Holland



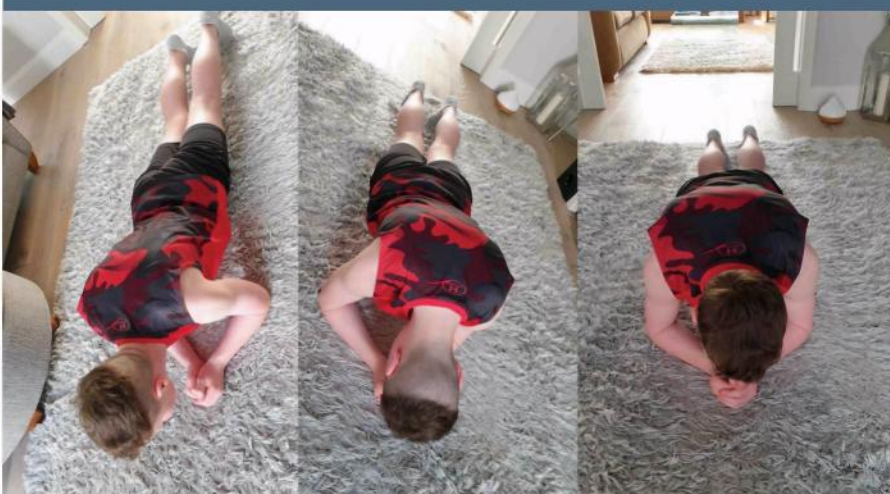
RETIREMENT MATCH

In September, The High School rugby players travelled en masse to Donnybrook Stadium to support Ms Deacon and the Leinster Women's rugby team against Connacht in the All-Ireland League Final. It was a thrilling game and especially poignant as it was Ms Deacon's final game in the sport. We were not disappointed. Leinster thoroughly defeated the opposition 25-12. We wish Ms Deacon all the best in her retirement from rugby.

SPORTS ACTIVITY DAY DURING LOCKDOWN

HSD Activity day was held on Monday 25 May 2020. Pupils had to complete 24 activities on a form and fill in results to send back into the school as well as compete against family members to see who was the best in the house. Here are the many tasks and some stills from the video submitted. **Well done everyone!**

1. Plank – how long can you hold it for?
2. Step-ups – in one minute.
3. Keepy uppys – with toilet roll!



4. Wall sit – how long can you hold it for?
5. How many push-ups in a minute?
6. Standing high jump – how high can you go? Record your jump.
7. Bucket throw – 4 metres away. 10 attempts. How many did you get?
8. Sit-ups – how many in one minute?



9. Test your strength: hold your arms out straight in a T-shape. **Hold for as long as you can.**

10. Burpees – **how many can you do in a minute?**

11. How many spider climbers can you do in one minute?!

12. Alternate wall toss – four metres away from the wall, with a tennis ball. **How many can you do in 30 seconds?**

13. Skipping Challenge – **how many jumps in a minute?**

14. Balance the book challenge. Make out a 10 metre line. Get three old books about the same size. Start with one book, then two and then three. **If you make it across with one you get 5 points, turn and go back with two books, you get 10 points and turn and go back with three books 15 points.**

15. Wheelie bin challenge. From 10 metres away with a football off the ground or rugby ball kick out of hand 20 metres away try and get it in the bin. **How many attempts did it take?**

16. Standing Long Jump. **How far can you jump?**

17. 1 km running challenge. Download a running app: Nike Run, Strava, etc. **Run 1 km and record your time.**

18. 2 km Running challenge. Download a running app: Nike Run, Strava, etc. **Run 2 km and record your time.**

19. 5 km Running challenge. Download a running app: Nike Run, Strava, etc. **Run 5km and record your time.**

20. Gymnastic Challenge. Hand stand or hand stand walk. **Hold for as long as you can, send us your clip.**

21. Finally, videos were made of completed challenges and emailed to activity2020@highschool.ie. **Here are some photos from the videos.**



PUPILS



HEAD BOY REPORT

I received the call the Friday before school started back up. I was both nervous and intrigued to find out why I had been called in for a meeting. I was chuffed and very proud when I was offered the role of Head Boy. I understood that the role would bring lots of new responsibilities and challenges, but I couldn't wait to get started. I was over the moon when I heard that Jodie McAvinue would be Head Girl, with Adam Maguire and Éabha Hughes as deputies.

The year began by welcoming the new Form 1 to The High School. It still feels like yesterday that we were in their shoes beginning our High School journey. All the prefects were assigned forms and we tried to help our "buddies" in any way we could throughout the year.

At the end of September, our senior prefect team attended the Head Prefects Conference at St Columba's College. We spent the day learning about leadership and the role and responsibilities of a good leader. We also got to meet the senior teams from lots of different schools which was very enjoyable. It was incredibly beneficial in giving us useful information that we could bring back to The High School.

In October, the entire prefect team was involved with the Parents' Evening and Prize Distribution. We were assigned to an array of different tasks including directing traffic, leading people to seats, and keeping the event running without a bump. Jodie and I were involved in giving out the prizes and photobombing the majority of the photos.

In November the senior team was lucky enough to attend a service in St Patrick's Cathedral to mark the anniversary of World War 1. We were asked to take part in the collection and listened to readings. The service was exceptionally moving, and it was a privilege to talk with many of the attendees after the service.

Christmas at The High School was no different this year with the carol service marking the beginning of the holidays. Jodie and I both did readings in which I struggled to say "treasure chests" however I'm relieved other heads of year have struggled with this too. The prefects were also involved in proceedings with everything running very smoothly.



In early February, Jodie, Éabha, and I had a very enjoyable evening at the 150th Anniversary dinner. We helped to draw numbers in the raffle and were treated to delicious food and interesting conversation with various High School Alumni. It was a good break with the mocks on the horizon.

In early March, Jodie and I made speeches at the Introduction Evening for upcoming Form 1 pupils. It was our first speech and we were both nervous but excited at the same time. We both spoke about our early experiences at The High School and our journey throughout the past six years. Little did we know it would be one of our final acts at school this year.

A few weeks later, we received the news that school would be closing. The entire school community had to adapt to a "new school". In true High School Spirit, pupils and teachers alike made the most of the situation. From group calls to Kahoot and everything in between, The High School community adapted to working from home. For the Form 6 pupils it was a particularly stressful time with postponed orals and uncertainty about the Leaving Certificate.

I'm extremely thankful for the countless memories and moments I've had in The High School. The last six years with my Form 6 will always be remembered fondly. The ending to our time here was unexpected but it doesn't take

away from the amazing times we've had together. I would like to thank Mr Forrest for giving me this opportunity. It's been a privilege to represent the school. Thank you to all the amazing staff who have each played a role in my time, from Form 1 to Form 6. Thank you to Dr Whitford as our wonderful year head who gave us so much support and guidance throughout the past two years. Thank you also to Ms McPhillips, the Principal's Secretary, for all the help you gave us over the year.

Thank you to Adam and Éabha for all their work this year. It was an honour to work alongside them. Lastly, a massive thank you to Jodie for everything that she has done this year. I couldn't have asked for a better Head Girl and friend to work alongside. I've been so lucky to work with her and it's been an enjoyable experience throughout. Good luck to next year's Head Boy and Head Girl, as well as to the entire High School community in whatever the future holds. Finally, best of luck to the Class of 2020 with the next step in our lives.

Sol Bell-Megaw

HEAD GIRL REPORT

In late August last year, just three days before the Form 1 Induction Day, I was asked to come into school bright and early at eight in the morning for a meeting with Mr Forrest. When I was offered the position of Head Girl I was shocked and absolutely delighted. I felt so honoured to even be considered for the role. At first, I didn't know what to expect, but I was excited to see what the year had in store. I was thrilled to find out that I would be working with Sol Bell-Megaw as Head Boy and Adam Maguire and Éabha Hughes as our deputies. I knew that we would face some challenges along the way so it definitely came as a relief to know we could work together to overcome whatever obstacles we faced.

The Form 1 Induction Day was our first event. The prefects were divided up and were assigned a group of four Form 1 pupils that we would be mentoring for the year. We gave them a tour of the school and we spent some time together trying to get to know each other. That was quite a nostalgic day for us, as we were starting our final year in The High School and the Form 1 pupils were at the very beginning of their journey in The High School. As clichéd as it sounds, it really does feel like yesterday that it was us who were starting in Form 1.

In late September, with the first month of our last year in The High School almost behind us, I, Sol, Éabha, and Adam were invited to the Head Prefects Conference in St Columba's College. Here, we met other Head Prefects from different schools around the country, and even a school from London. Our "ice breaker" activity for the morning was talking about our ambitions and dreams for the future, which was inspiring, and I truly enjoyed hearing about everyone's backgrounds and their hopes for the future. It was an enjoyable day and we picked up a lot of advice and tips about personal development, leadership, and communication skills, which we were able to apply throughout the year.

Our next big event was the Prize Distribution where we had all hands on deck to showcase the achievements of pupils in The High School. The guest for the evening was the Most Reverend Patricia Storey, Bishop of Meath and Kildare, who gave an uplifting and thought-provoking speech. The evening was a huge success and ran smoothly thanks to the hard work of all the staff



and the prefects. It's always a pleasure to celebrate the academic, sporting, and musical successes of pupils in every Form.

In November, Sol, Éabha, Adam, and I were invited to a special service in the beautiful St Patrick's Cathedral to mark the anniversary of the First World War. Here, we heard some readings, as well as some lovely choir music. This was a very moving event and we were all honoured to be there.

After a busy autumn term, our events schedule was quiet for a while as we tackled the mocks, and the workload of the Leaving Certificate felt like it was increasing by the day. Little did we know that there was a pandemic around the corner, and the goalposts were suddenly moved for us, before disappearing completely. This was a worrying and stressful time for us as a year group, as we felt as though our fates were hanging in the balance. Suddenly the much-anticipated graduation ceremony, debs, and all of the end of year festivities were taken away from us. However, we were still determined to make the end of our High School journeys a special celebration, so I, Sol, and the self-titled "Dream Team", together with Mr McCaughey, created a "Farewell Film", edited by a High School past pupil, Gavin Thornberry. This was an amazing project to take on during the lockdown and I was definitely grateful to have something to get stuck into. We all had great fun looking back at old photos and videos to compile together for the film. We had some words of wisdom and advice

from the teachers and some musical performances as well. The finished product was a very emotional watch, but we were all very proud of how it turned out.

I would like to thank Mr Forrest for giving me such a unique opportunity. I really enjoyed being Head Girl and I learned so much from the experience. I'd also like to thank all the teachers and staff for their endless support, guidance, and advice, especially at the end of the year. They worked so hard all year and it is so inspiring to be taught every day by people with such passion and commitment to what they do. Thank you also to Dr Whitford, our amazing Year Head, who was such a great help to Sol and me from day one. We appreciated all of her support. And a special thank you to Mr McCaughey for all of his work with the prefect team. Finally, I would like to thank the Class of 2020. What an incredible group of people! We finally made it to the end of our journey and it has been an absolute pleasure to share it with them!

I'm going to miss The High School dearly; it has been such a big part of my life for so long and it will always have a special place in my heart. I wish the very best of luck to the next Head Girl and Head Boy; it's a crazy adventure but I promise you it's worth it!

Jodie McAvinue

GRADUATION SPEECH
DR CAROL WHITFORD
 FORM 6 YEAR HEAD
 THE HIGH SCHOOL, DUBLIN
 29 MAY 2020

Edited remarks from the graduation video which can be seen at HSD Stream.

It seems that so much has happened over recent weeks and I just wanted to commend you all for your resilience and patience through all the events of the last few months. Form 6 is a tough time even in normal times and you have had a mountain of uncertainty, media speculation, and extra stress to deal with. I'm so proud that you've reached this point in your lives, but sad that we haven't yet been able to give you the graduation you deserve. But you have shown such determination, and I'm certain that you will carry all you have learned from walking through this emergency into your future lives and Ireland will undoubtedly benefit from your future contributions and insights. I'd like to say a huge thank you to all of you. Firstly for being a friend to your fellow students, giving advice, listening, supporting, being there in the good times, and the challenges. But learning and appreciating the value of our family and social networks in negotiating whatever life has to throw at us. Secondly, thank you for keeping going, persevering, even when the goal posts kept being moved, and even when the goal posts were taken away halfway through the match. Be proud that you didn't give up, and remember that sense of satisfaction next time the path ahead gets less clear. Finally, I really want to say a special thanks to Jodie, Sol, Éabha and Adam together with a fantastic team of prefects who demonstrated a willingness to lead, to help, to do what was needed. Thank you for your outstanding commitment to The High School and your teamwork and your pastoral care of the younger pupils. So it's goodbye and good luck for now. It's not a final goodbye as we will have our day to mark the graduation of the class of 2020 when the circumstances allow.

Can I leave you with part of a poem by the Irish poet John O'Donoghue:

"If you remain generous, time will come good. And you will find your feet again on fresh pastures of promise, where the air will be kind and blushed with beginning."



MR WILKINSON

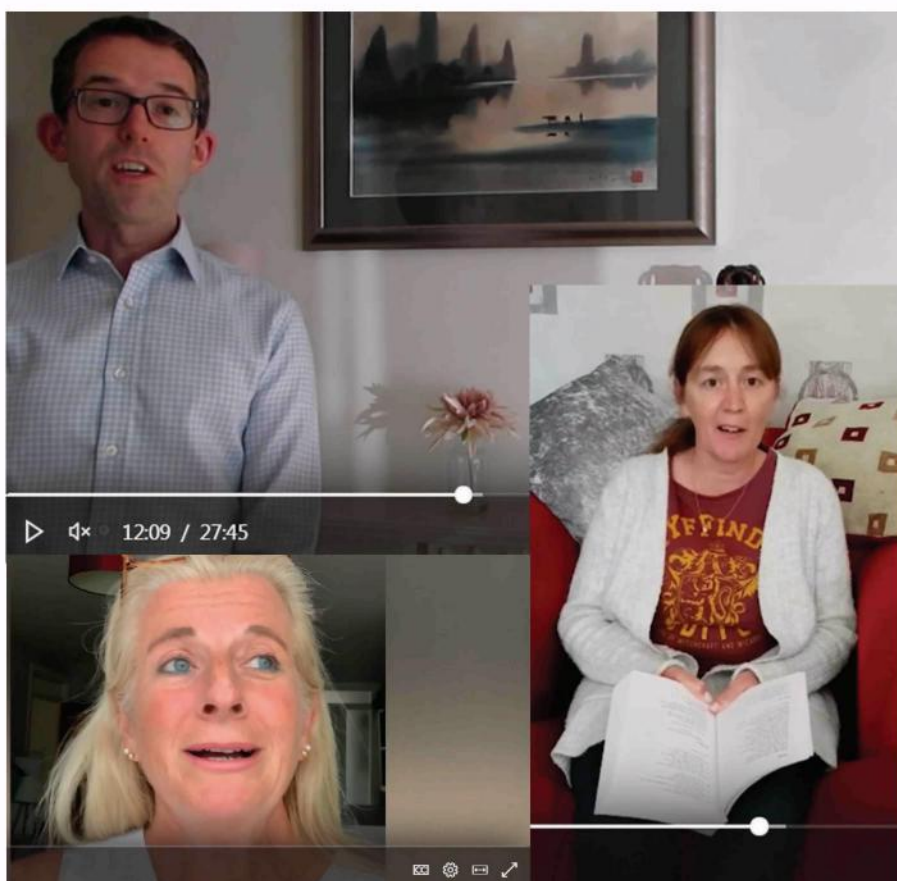
The biggest contribution you made to High School life has just been being your decent selves. It's been a privilege to be your form teacher these last couple of years and I have high hopes of where you'll end up in the future. I'm expecting actors and artists, scientists and lawyers, teachers, architects, and maybe even a pastor. I also have high hopes that when this madness comes to an end and the world keeps spinning that you keep being yourselves wherever you end up. So all the best, class of 2020, we will really miss you.

MS HUTCHINSON EDGAR

Class of 2020, you got there. You did really well to get this far and you've got bright futures ahead of you. I wish you all the very, very best, in education, in life and whatever adventures the future holds for you.

"Though we live in a world that dreams of ending, that always seems about to give in, something that will not acknowledge conclusion, insists that we forever begin".

You're beginning bright new futures and I wish you all the very, very best.







PREFECTS

NAMES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER:

CAMILLA ANELE, JORDAN BAILEY, SOL BELL-MEGAW – HEAD BOY, LUCY BRENNAN, JACK BURKE, THOMAS COSTELLO, ALANA CRIPPS, JACOB CULLINGTON, ALISON DALY, SARAH DALY, TRISTEN DE BEER, ISABEL DUNNE, SAM DUNNE, ROSIE GILLIS, GIULIA GUASTALLA, ISOBEL HARRISON, NICOLE HOLLAND, BEN HOPKINS, ROSS HOWARD, ÉABHA HUGHES – DEPUTY HEAD GIRL, NATHAN HUTCHINSON EDGAR, LIAM IRWIN, EVAN JENNINGS, ADAM KILLEEN, ALISON LANDY, KATIE LARKIN, HARRY LYNCH, ANNA LYONS, ADAM MAGUIRE – DEPUTY HEAD BOY, AELA MAHON, ENYA MAK, JODIE MCAVINUE – HEAD GIRL, SADHBH MILTON, JOSEPH MURPHY, MIA MURPHY, RUTH NINAN, KATIE O'BRIEN, ALEX O'CONNOR, HEATHER O'CONNOR, ISABEL O'DONOVAN, DEBBIE OGUNKAYODE, KARO OTOBO, ROBERT PEARSON, MORGAN PEMBROKE, ROBYN PEMBROKE, FAITH PETERS, JENNIFER PILLOW, ORLA PRENDERGAST, LISA ROCHE, PATRICK RYAN, CONOR SCHMIDT, BEN SHAW, NATHAN TIMMINS, LORCANTWOMEY, EVA VALENTINE, DANIEL WALSH, SARAH WEBB

DEBATING

This year the Senior Debating team had an enjoyable and interesting time. I and Daniel Fiala Li captained the team during our participation in the Concern inter-school debating competition. Pupils had to struggle with motions such as "Does The EU Need An Army?" and "Is Nuclear Power Ireland's Energy Solution?". We even had to try and prove "Volunteering Abroad Does More Harm Than Good" to a panel of Concern (a volunteering charity) judges! Unfortunately, we didn't make it through to the next round, but I feel we all did a good job in debating these controversial and stimulating topics.

After this, an in-school debating competition took place between Form 3, Form 4, and Form 5. While the standard was high unfortunately circumstances beyond anyone's control meant we couldn't finish the competition. Thanks to everyone who took part in both competitions as debaters or as helpers when we were

hosting. A special thank you to Ms Hutchinson Edgar for organising and running the whole thing and to Ms Wiggle who helped out and let us use the Library. I enjoyed my stint in the debating team and would recommend to everyone with an interest in lively and fascinating conversations on topics from climate change to the UN to join.

Nathan Hutchinson Edgar

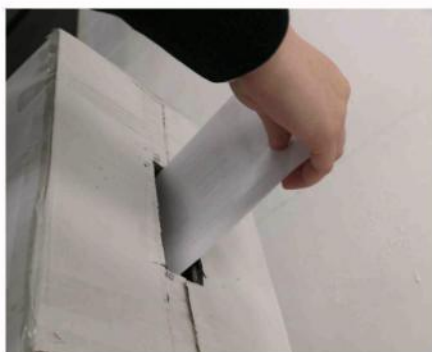
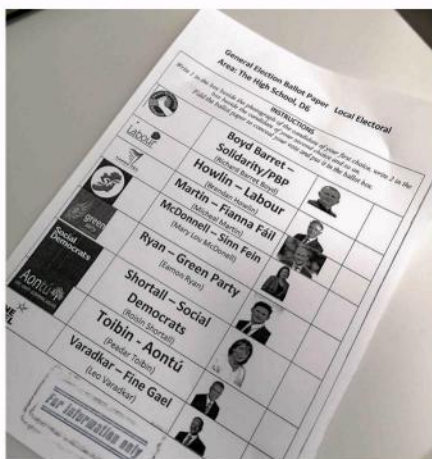


YOUTH POLITICS

MOCK GENERAL ELECTION

A group of Form 4 volunteers ran a mock General Election in anticipation of the 2020 General Election. All pupils from Form 1 to 5 were invited to take part in a secret ballot and vote for a range of political parties. After six counts the Green Party reached the quota with 51% of the votes cast and emerged victorious; Fine Gael were in next place with 32%. Thank you to all pupils who voted. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and educational experience.

Kayla Kennedy



YOUTH CLIMATE ASSEMBLY

On Friday 15 November I was lucky enough to be part of the 157 delegates specially selected for the Youth Assembly on Climate Change. After a rigorous application process and a series of workshops the day had finally arrived. It started with introductory speeches, made by some particularly eloquent delegates, and then we broke off into our five groups. I was part of the food and farming group and my proposal was one of the top six voted by my peers to be debated at the Oireachtas Committee rooms. Each of us had ninety seconds to present our idea and we then had ten minutes to answer any questions from the other delegates. My proposal had to do with urban farming in public spaces. After an hour and a half of debates and presentations we had a vote. I didn't make it to the final two from our group that got to speak in the Dáil chambers. However, it was still an incredible experience for me to be part of the thirty people that got to present their own ideas at the first ever youth assembly of its kind in the world. At the end of the day we returned to the Dáil chamber to hear the ten ideas from food and farming, education, economy, environment, and power. These ten ideas were presented to the Ceann Comhairle as the proclamation of the Youth Assembly. This proclamation includes policies on refrigeration, importing fracked gas and oil, sustainability classes, media campaigns on climate change, a tax on industrial greenhouse gas emissions, economic endorsement of sustainable products, reforestation campaigns, for ecocide to become criminal law, climate labels on all our foods, and increased industrialisation of hemp products. All in all, it was an unforgettable experience and a very successful day.

Éile Ní Chonbhuí

EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Over the weekend of 24–26 January The High School sent a team of three delegates to take part in the European Youth Parliament (EYP) 2019–20 Dublin regional session in Coláiste Éanna. The EYP is an organisation which facilitates weekend-long sessions for young people across Europe to discuss various topics. Their aim is to give young people an opportunity to develop skills, share ideas and opinions, and offer the tools necessary to enact change. Friday evening mainly consisted of team building. The group was divided into committees which then focused on the key issues: "How can the EU address China's human rights violations while maintaining healthy trade relations?"; "How can the EU ensure the protection of the data of all of its citizens?"; and "How can the EU sustain the fisheries sector while protecting marine ecosystems?"

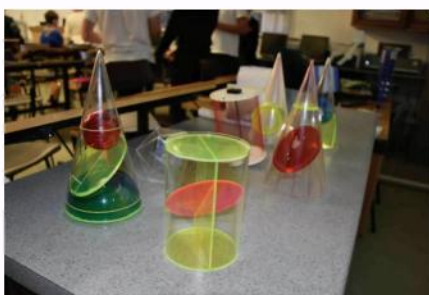
Saturday commenced with an opening ceremony and the rest of the day was spent outlining the important background to the issues and developing proposed resolutions. Sunday was spent debating the resolutions proposed by the ten committees in a General Assembly followed by a closing ceremony. I found EYP to be an incredible experience. I feel I learned so much there and would strongly encourage any pupils to participate in the next academic year.

Abigail Sykes



OPEN DAY

In September we welcomed incoming Form 1 pupils (2022 entrants) and their parents to The High School for our annual Bright Futures Open Evening. Current pupils brought tours of visitors around the main school building, Technical Block, Music Block, Gymnasium, and Archive. There they were met by helpful members of staff who spoke passionately about their subjects and answered the many questions that came their way. Pupils demonstrated their knowledge on an array of topics and issues. They presented gymnastic displays, performed musical pieces, sang, and painted while others encouraged visiting pupils to participate in quizzes and games, and to imagine what it will be like to attend The High School. The building was a hive of colourful activity and hummed with giddy excitement all evening. We hope that it revealed just a little of what we do at The High School and that our visitors enjoyed themselves half as much as we did!



STUDY SKILLS

On Friday 8 November The High School held a study skills day for Form 2 pupils. The day consisted of learning different study skills and techniques to teach us how to tackle examinations with a clear mind. During the first half of this day 2W were presented with a topic that we needed to write notes on. This topic was Acid Rain. First, we wrote what we knew about the topic before reading about it and making notes. We studied our notes and wrote down everything that we remembered. Then we circled everything that we forgot in our second set of notes which helped us remember the things we had forgotten. We also participated in a yoga session which showed us how to relax and clear our minds whenever we become stressed. It is sometimes easy to get stressed while doing examinations, but the irony is that being stressed can prevent you from completing the examination successfully. The yoga exercises consisted of relaxing and concentrating on our breathing and clearing our minds of stresses and commitments. Next, we tested our previous notes in a mini-mock test. This helped us to put our skills into context. Afterwards we went to the Library to have time to relax and socialise with our classmates. There were board games, colouring sheets, pencils, and paper. This activity was fun, recreational, and helped us bond further with our classmates. I liked this day because it gave me helpful tips for studying and ideas about how to relax when stressed.

Emna Hajaji



LEGO CLUB

2020 was another successful year for the Lego Club.

This year's Lego League was built around the theme of "City Shaper", which focused on sustainable, urban development. This brought with it new challenges for our robot to complete, as well as the topic for our research project this year.

We reused our robot from the previous year, "Johnny VI", which was designed with versatility and reusability in mind. We focused our efforts this year on designing new attachments for the competition's new challenges, like constructing a tower of blocks or carefully hanging a bat from a tree.

For our research project, we developed the concept of an automated river-cleaning machine. We used the River Dodder as an example of a river in need of cleaning, recording the amount of rubbish we could find on the shoreline near the back gate of the school. We researched existing river-cleaning systems before developing our own and creating a Lego model for demonstration.

The competition was far larger this year, and as a result, both provincial and national competitions were held. We won the "Core Values" award in the Leinster competition, securing our place in the All-Ireland competition, where we went on to win the "Bechtel Award for Safety" for our river-cleaning research project.

In the brief amount of time between the All-Ireland competition and the closure of schools, we took time to look back and find ways to improve for next year. We're very happy with our accomplishments this year and hope to build on these successes in the years to come.

Barry Kennedy



ISSU REPRESENTATION

Congratulations to Tom Wang on his election as one of two ISSU (Irish Second-Level Student Union) Regional Officers for Dublin South. The ISSU is the national umbrella body for Second-Level Student Councils in Ireland which plays a vital role in representing and giving pupils a voice. We wish our pupil every success in this important representative role.

Ms Hutchinson Edgar

CAMBRIDGE SUCCESS

Congratulations to past pupil Andrew Canning (HSD, 2013–19) who has been admitted to read for an undergraduate degree in Engineering at Magdalene College, Cambridge. We wish him and all other past pupils of The High School every success in their academic studies and future careers.



FORM 1 TEAM BUILDING

This school year Form 1 went on a trip to Larch Hill. The annual Form 1 Larch Hill trip is to do team-building activities. Every pupil on the trip is placed into a group depending on the first letters in their surnames. Some of the activities we did this year included: a downhill race in which a team is made from two or three pupils and you push a teammate in a cart down a hill against the other teams in your group, a Lego building competition to see which team can build the best Lego construction, capture the flag, and various puzzle-solving activities. This year's Larch Hill trip was enjoyable. A thank you is due to all the teachers who helped organise it.

Sean Hession



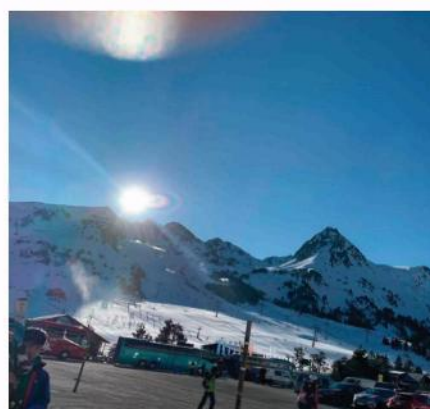
FORM 2 SKI TRIP

The annual Form 2 Ski Trip took place during the February half-term break. forty pupils, most of whom had no skiing experience, travelled to Andorra. We arrived at Dublin Airport early in the morning and flew to Barcelona. We then took a bus from Barcelona all the way to Andorra. When we got to the hotel, we dropped off our luggage and went straight to get fitted for our ski gear. It was a long day. Over the four days that followed, everyone was split into either beginner or advanced groups and we started learning to ski. Even the teachers went into either the advanced group or the beginner group. We had skiing in the morning and an activity in the evening, like bowling, shopping, a table quiz, or the spa. It was great fun and we were all kept busy! The time flew by so quickly. The skiing was definitely most people's favourite activity. By the end everyone was definitely better at skiing than when they had arrived. When it was time to go home, we were all extremely tired. We had to wake up incredibly early to drive to Barcelona airport. By the time we arrived back in Dublin, it did not feel like a week had passed.

A huge thanks to the teachers for organising this trip, and a special thanks to Mr Fitzpatrick. The Form 2 ski trip was a great experience for all involved.

Eoin Kelly

ARGENTINA SCHOOL VISIT



ROME TRIP

During the February midterm break, 24 pupils and three staff were lucky enough to go on a Classics trip to Rome. Before COVID-19 hit just a few days after we left, Rome was a hubbub of tourists and Italians alike. Over the course of our four-day trip, we got to visit lots of amazing sites in the city. As a student of classics, it was incredible to see all the art and architecture that we study in real life. Mr Milofsky always says that classics is the study of humanity, through the lives of people in the Ancient World. To have the chance to walk the same streets, stand underneath the same doorways, and be in awe of the same art and sculpture as the people we study, was extraordinary.

On our first day, after a particularly early start, we set off to see the Colosseum. Our pleasant walk through a public park in the slight heat was a nice change from the miserable weather we had been experiencing in Ireland at the time. Soon, we rounded a corner and the iconic ruins appeared in all its glory. My favorite part of the Colosseum was not its gruesome history, or even its feat of architectural achievement, but the graffiti left by spectators more than two thousand years ago. There was something endearing about the 'Herodotus was here' (in Latin) carved into the stone benches, a reminder that we aren't all that different to what we were. Unfortunately, the Forum was closed by the time we left the museum, but we set off around the corner to get a closer look from a better vantage point. There we also saw Trajan's column, a commemorative column of Trajan's victory in the Dacian wars. All the classics pupils gathered around this amazing work of art to see its details up close; the others spent time with Mr Rankin testing the zoom on his digital camera.

The next day was spent in the Vatican, with everyone's favorite tour guide Roberta. We listened through headphones as Roberta explained everything we needed to know about the tiny country. There are 60,000 works of art in the Vatican, spanning from sculptures to paintings, frescos and ornaments. Roberta took us through endless expansive rooms ornately decorated with the most beautiful works of art I've ever seen, by some of the world's most famous artists: Raphael, Michelangelo, and Caravaggio among many more. There we got to see the famous sculpture of 'Laocoön and his sons'. This a masterpiece carved from Greek marble found alongside orange

trees in one of the Papal courtyards. When we entered the Sistine Chapel, we stood among the swarms of tourists in awe of the astonishing paintings done by Michelangelo. Afterwards we began a walking tour to the Pantheon, Spanish Steps, and Trevi Fountain. Our new guide taught us words like "palazzacho" and "Andiamo" as we sauntered past gorgeous buildings, bridges, and churches. At the Trevi Fountain we threw in our coins, two for love and three for divorce, and made our wishes.

On the third day we went to Ostia Antica, an ancient city just outside Rome that we study as part of the Leaving Certificate course. There we saw ancient mosaics, takeaways, homes, and some questionably placed wells. It was here in particular that you felt you were walking through time; we knew for certain that Roman people used to walk through the very streets that we were on. We then headed to the Ara Pacis Museum, which contains the beautiful Ara Pacis Augustae, guarded by some very surly people, an altar made in dedication to Pax – the Roman Goddess of peace. The relief sculptures on the east and west walls contain images of members of the senate and the normal Roman people. The depictions of Mother Earth, Romulus, and Remus and altogether beauty was quite astonishing. We then set off to get some gelato in a shop that had over 150 flavours. After that, we went to a pizza-making class; the highlights included Hannah's failed attempt at a stuffed crust, an intense game of Uno, and reminiscing over 1990s Snickers ads. On our final day we went to see the Circus Maximus, or the cheerco maximo according to our guide, and we headed to the Capitoline Museum to see 'The Bust of Commodus as Hercules', an arrogant portrayal of a sadistic emperor. Soon afterwards we headed to a large shopping centre, which seemed like an odd way to end our week of experiencing rich cultural history.

All in all, it was a really fun trip. Everyone agreed that the atmosphere was lively and upbeat whether it was at a restaurant, cultural site, during a game of heads up or contact, or even when Mr Milofsky interrupted our tour guides. It was nice to see the mix of pupils from Form 5 and 6 get along so well, and it was entertaining to see the teachers crack each other up.

Éile Ní Chonbhuí





ACTIVITY WEEK

Following weeks of long hours at a computer, logging into Teams and the terms "schoolwork" and "homework" having less and less relevance, Activity Week 2020 was organised as an opportunity to be part of The High School community and join in some activities together. The idea was that we could feel that we are not alone, and that we could celebrate what is good within the school community. The themes for the activities focused on friendship, coming together, and celebrating those around us, during a time of distance. The activities were designed to be done alone, or in contact with friends in pairs, groups, or even with your family! It was hoped that they could even be done outdoors with friends while still staying appropriately physically distant. Physically distant did not have to be socially distant.

There was also a sadness that pupils would miss out on some wonderful experiences that make school special, for example, the Summer Concert, the Final Assembly, Graduation, or Mental Health Week. It was really lovely to experience the level of positivity when people were asked to help out with the week and it was clear that there was a desire to be part of a caring and vibrant community.

Finally, it was hoped that the activities would provide a positive end to what had been an incredibly challenging and demanding year. The week was an opportunity to remind ourselves, during those times of distance and isolation, that The High School is more than just computers, homework, and schoolwork, it is a community of people experiencing challenges and successes together.

Activity Week started with Activity and Sports Day. There were 21 different events including sit-ups, doing the plank, running 1 km, and many others. There were opportunities to compete individually, against different Forms, and even against teachers! It was not a fair contest really as Ms Roulet was on the staff team – they were never going to be beaten! To unwind, the Pupil Council organised a movie night and pupils joined together across Teams to watch 'Paddington 2'.

Tuesday was Music Day and it kicked off with videos and interviews with famous musicians such as Joe Wall from The Stunning, Flo McSweeney from Moving Hearts, Caoimhín O'Raghallaigh from The

Gloaming, song-writer Frances Cooke, past-pupils composer Sebastian Adams, and singer Fiadh Rua Gregg. There were videos of current pupils also posted onto the HSD Activity Week Stream. The inaugural virtual Summer Concert took place, with 15 wonderful pupils taking part in a live concert all done through Zoom. The talent was incredible and it was hosted magnificently by Kayla Kennedy and Emily Pryce of Form 4. The audience topped at over 120 people viewing the Zoom call!

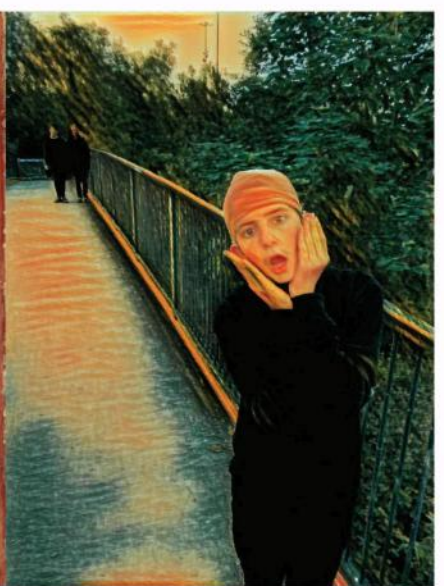
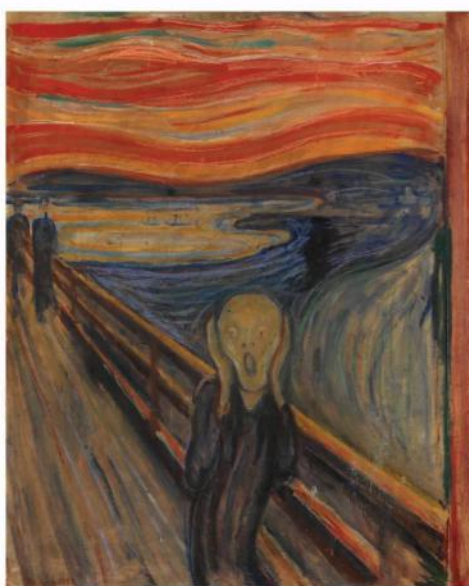
Wednesday began a little more quietly, with a Drop Everything And Read hour, followed by numerous library-based events such as extreme reading, creating poetry using book titles, and to celebrate The High School's 150th anniversary, pupils were asked to submit the 150th word on the 150th page of the book they were reading Librarian Ms Wiggle is going to have great fun turning all those words into a poem! (See page 52 for the result). The day ended with a gaming competition organised by the Student Council and the winner was Orin Hurley.

Thursday saw the launch of the first ever Virtual Art Exhibition at The High School. Not one, but two, shows exhibited the work of pupils from Form 1–5 (entitled 'Mixtape') and Form 6 (entitled 'In the Making'). The art department also asked past pupils who are now working or studying as artists to be interviewed and these videos were posted on the HSD Activity Week Stream. These included recent graduates Leah Merriman, Catriona Brennan, and Eva Kenna, and printmaker and technician at the Graphic Studio, Ria Czerniak Lebov. Adam Maguire and Isobel Harrison, along with Mr Hanan, interviewed visual artist, and our resident archivist, Alan Phelan about his exhibition, 'Folly & Diction', which was still running in the RHA, although in lockdown. There were art competitions running throughout the day, and the winner of the 2020–21 school journal was announced. The day culminated with a school quiz for both junior and senior sections of the school which was run by the Student Council.

Finally, on the Friday, we had the Form 6 'Final Farewell Film'.

Mr McCaughey





ONLINE SCHOOL

COULD YOU SURVIVE ONLINE SCHOOL WITHOUT FAILING YOUR LEAVING CERTIFICATE?

Sample answers and questions:

1. You have a class call at 9:30 am – do you answer straight away?

Yes = Fool, now you are stuck in a horribly awkward conversation with your teacher until more pupils join. You never want to do another online class again. You fail your Leaving Certificate.

No = Smart, you wait a few minutes and join in with some other pupils to start your class.

2. For this class, do you turn on your camera?

Yes = Instant failure. During your time in lockdown you've gained a stone, cut and dyed your hair badly, and your room is a complete kip – you're so embarrassed by your appearance you hang up immediately and you're bullied out of all your online classes. You fail your Leaving Certificate.

No = Good move – you stay unseen and even mute your microphone for good measure.

3. Your online class has finished, but you have loads of assignments to do. Do you wait for later in the afternoon or get started immediately?

Get Started = Good shout, you get your work handed in on time and have a decent portion of the day left to relax.

Wait = Idiot, somehow all your assignments have multiplied and the hand-in time is drawing near. You send your work in, pressing the 'hand in late' button, full of shame and aggravated by the tantalising pizza slice that appears on an arcade crane.

4. You've finished your homework and now it's time to relax – do you check your phone?

Yes = Terrible idea, your friends have tagged you in endless Instagram stories and you now have to run 5k and drink a raw egg. You're allergic to eggs – you spend the next few weeks in hospital and fail your Leaving Certificate.

No = Instead you decide to read or watch TV with your family and you end up having a very enjoyable evening.

5. It's the next morning, you have another online class – do you answer instead of having a well-deserved lie-in?

Yes = Well done. Although you may have fallen asleep in the middle of the class anyway, you learned everything you needed to know. You pass your Leaving Certificate with flying colours.

No = Imbecile – you have missed out on a crucial piece of information that forms the basis of your entire Leaving Certificate. You fail and have to repeat the whole miserable process all over again.

HSD 150 BEANIE



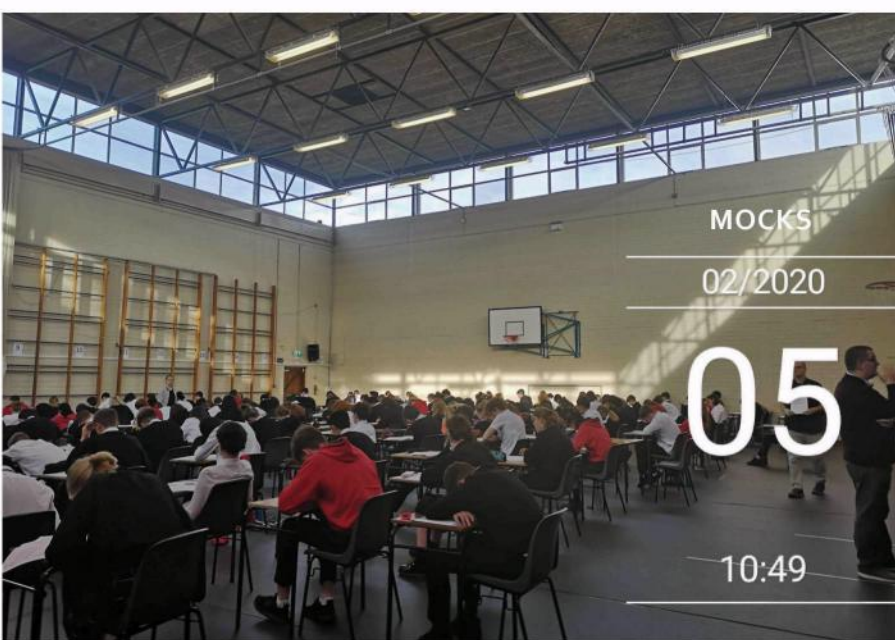
ONLINE DANCE TUTORIAL



HSD 150 DRONE PHOTO



HSD 150



CHRISTMAS MARKET

On Wednesday 11 December the Transition Year language classes held a Christmas market in the Reynolds hall. There were stalls of all kinds, Christmas music, and decorations everywhere. All of the pupils and teachers had a chance to explore the various stalls over the course of the morning. There were different sorts of foods from France, Spain, and Germany and everyone could get a taste of the different cultures. It was a great success and truly put everyone into the Christmas mood! Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped to make the market such an enjoyable event – Joyeux Noël, Fröhliche Weihnachten, and Feliz Navidad!

Kayla Kennedy



FORM 6 CHRISTMAS LUNCH



TRANSITION YEAR



TRANSITION YEAR AWARDS

GAISCE 2019 Form 4 Participants

Emily Brennan
Jordan Brislane
Andrew Browne
Sam Byrne
Lyla Corcoran
Michael Courtney
Katie Crosby Dillon
Luke Dee-Brown
Harry Doran
Zoe Dunne
Marcus Empey
David Flynn
Josh Hayes
Beth Heslin
Sam Hutzler
Conleth Law
Faye Leavy
Edie Leavy
Jonathan Lees
Oscar Maharg Bravo
Ella Maxwell
Amy McCracken
Charlie McNamara
Ross Molloy
Honor Nolan
Caroline O'Connor
Ella Pasley
Paddy Plockelman
Cillian West
Shane Burke
Liam Butler
Laura Cole

Sam Courtney
Sid Cruickshank
Ross Deegan
Joe Devereux
Katy Donnelly
Katie Dunne
Kim Dunne
Isabel Feeney
Tom Garvey
Aoife Geoghegan
Christina Govaerts
Robyn Hamilton
Luke Hardy
Abigail Kenna
Kayla Kennedy
Tom Layte
Sophia Leonard
Aoibh Mahon
Oscar Martin
Daragh McGrath
Nathan McLoughlin
Roisin Murphy
Ellie Needham
Sean Omoruyi
Louis O'Neill
Emily Pryce
Rosalind Reddick
Shane Reid
Adam Reid
Finn Reilly
Kirsten Sargent
Rosie Shankey

Nathan Shaw
Ruth Stewart
Darragh Sullivan
Sam Walsh
Andrew Whyte
Kelly Jo Wilson
Naomi Wilson
Siofra Young
Patricia Zhang
Eli Breen
Aoife Cahill
Chris Chong
Colm Cooney
Robert Courtney
Isabella Doyle
Sarah Doyle
Sophie Doyle
Louis Dunne
Luke Egan
Maya Feighery
Hugh Geraghty
Matthew Gillis
Arianna Gorman
Matthew Hackett
Julian Hauxwell
Oscar Loftus
Omowumi Obi
Ailbhe Smith
Derek Ukagba
Leo Vaughan
Mona Webster
Scott Wilgar
Michelle Jiaqi Yang

Young Entrepreneurs 2019 – 20

Emily Brennan
Shane Burke
Liam Butler
Claire Cahill
Michael Courtney
Robert Courtney
Katy Donnelly
Sara Dunne
Zoe Dunne
Aoife Geoghegan
Matthew Hackett
Joshua Hayes
Conleth Law
Edith Leavy
Oscar Maharg Bravo
Ben McClean Howard
Eleana McGrath
Honor Nolan
Emily Pryce
Julia Rodrigues
Derek Ukagba
Zaman Zaidi

Elijah Breen
Andrew Browne
Chris Chong
Laura Cole
Sam Courtney
Sidney Cruickshank
Ross Deegan
Katie Dunne
Marcus Empey
Isabel Feeney
Matthew Gillis
Robyn Hamilton
Justin Hanney
Luke Hardy
Caoimhe Lowry
Ella Maxwell
Caroline O'Connor
Louis O'Neill
Ella Pasley
Paddy Plockelman
Kirsten Sargent
Cillian West
Kelly Jo Wilson



GAISCE

SILVER GAISCE AWARD

On Thursday 7 November Gaisce – The President's Award held one of its largest ever Silver Award ceremonies to celebrate the achievements of 148 young people from throughout Ireland who have achieved their Gaisce Silver Award. Silver awardees who were honoured on the night hailed from nine counties across the four provinces of Ireland. They were celebrated for their commitment to personal development through community involvement, improving their personal skills, and increasing their physical activity. Each awardee successfully completed at least 26 weeks across these three Gaisce challenge areas and undertook a three-day adventure journey. The event was hosted by Spin 103.8 DJs Graham and Nathan and took place in the O'Reilly Theatre. The awards were presented by Yvonne McKenna, CEO of Gaisce. Speaking about the achievements of the Awardees, she said, "I heartily congratulate this evening's Awardees on their achievements. It's fantastic to be honouring so many young people

tonight for their dedication to personal development, and I think it's a testament to the tenacity of young people today that we have so many Awardees here tonight. I hope they have made lasting memories and gained invaluable self-knowledge through their Gaisce Journey." The High School recipient noted on receiving the award that: "I really enjoyed doing Gaisce. For my community involvement I helped the Cubs in my Scout group. I helped with their games and taught them some scouting skills. For my personal skill I went to a science club. We did Maths, Physics, Technology, and Engineering. For my recreational skill I did Kenpo Karate and this was useful in helping me prepare for the recent European Championships. We are taught self-defence and competition skills. For my adventure journey my school group and I climbed Carrauntoohil. The weather was great, and the views were amazing, but it was a real challenge getting down. It's a great experience."

Mr Miller



THE HELEN KANE MEMORIAL CHALLENGE

Shortly before Christmas 2019, Form 4 fundraised for the Helen Kane Memorial Challenge. The aim of the excursion was to do something challenging and fun in aid of charity. Form 4 had a choice of doing a sponsored swim at the Forty Foot or a hike up to the Sugar Loaf Mountain in Wicklow. Each pupil was given a sponsor card to collect as much money as possible for their activity.

The group from Form 4 doing the swim took a bus down to the Forty Foot in Dún Laoghaire. It wasn't long after they arrived that someone jumped into the cold winter sea. It was a cloudy afternoon and it started raining as everyone began to hop out of the water. However, the swimmers were rewarded with hot chocolate and biscuits while wrapped up in their towels.

The rest of Form 4 headed up to the Sugar Loaf for their hike. However, soon after starting they had to turn back because the weather became too bad to continue. Fortunately for the group, they stopped off at McDonald's for a snack on the way back to the school. Despite the bad weather, both groups had a great day and enjoyed it very much. All money raised was donated to The Friends of St Luke's. The Form 4 charity challenge 2019 was a great success and each pupil enjoyed themselves while completing it.

Louis Dunne

FORM 4 INDUCTION

To begin our Transition Year journey, all members of Form 4 were tasked with making their own way to Airfield Estate in Dundrum on the first day of term. Meeting all our classmates in such a different environment set the scene for the exciting year to come.

Once the fun of finding out our new forms was complete, we created goals which we hoped to achieve during Transition Year.

Emily Pryce

FORM 4 CAMPING TRIP

The Transition Year camping trip started with arriving onto the site and unloading all our bags. We then sorted ourselves into groups that we would spend the night with. After doing this we were given tents and were taught how to put them up properly. Next we set off into the woods and learned survival skills such as cleaning water, setting up shelters, and making a fire. We also gathered wood for a fire that would take place later that night. When we got back from the wood, we were given sausages, burgers, and potatoes and set to cook our food over a big group fireplace. It was great fun although we were a bit smoky. After dinner we gathered around the campfire that we had been gathering wood for. We sang songs, ate marshmallow, and went to bed. The next morning, we took down our tents, had breakfast, and started the hike to the bus home.

Marcus Empey





TY PHYSICAL EDUCATION



TY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE





COMMUNITY

#Staying

#STAYING HOME

#STAYSAFE

#stayhome

#STAYING@HOME?

#STAYINGHOME

Staying Home

#Stayinghome

StayingHOME

#Staying home

#STAYINGHOME

#STAYING@HOME?!

STAY AT HOME!!
Social Distancing is the only way to get!

#Stayinghome

#Staying home

#staying home

staying home

#Stayinghome

#Stayinghome

#STAYING HOME

#STAYING HOME

#stayhome
FROM ITALY
WITH LOVE

#stayathome
From Italy
with love

Stayinghome

#Staying Home

Staying Home

Staying
At Home

#STAYINGHOME

#STAYINGHOME

#STAY HOME

Stayinghome



GREEN-SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

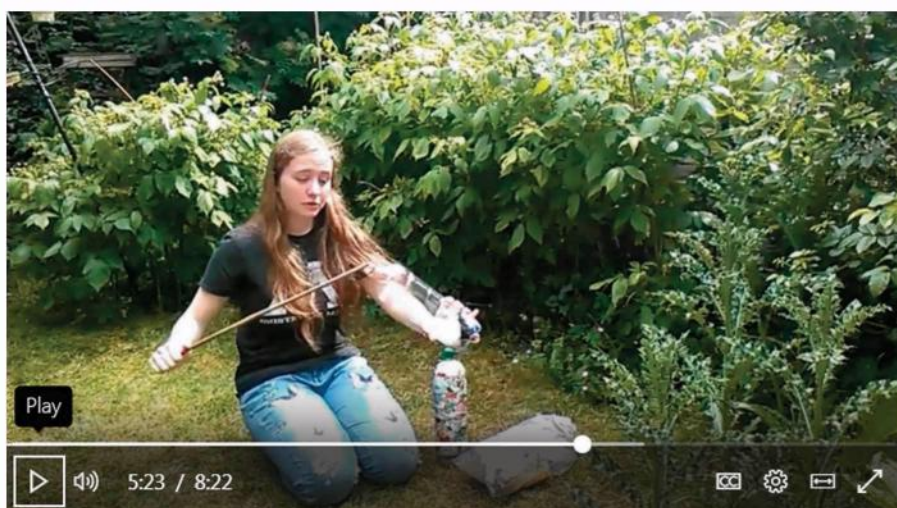
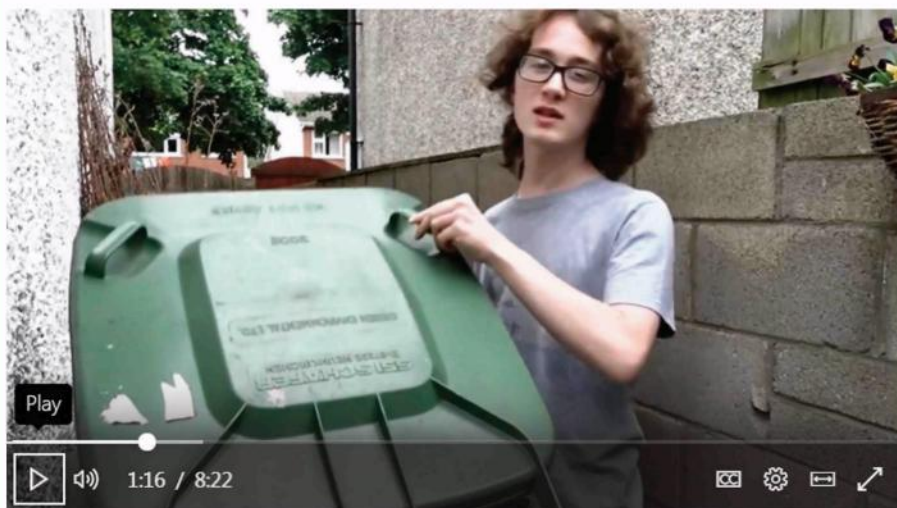
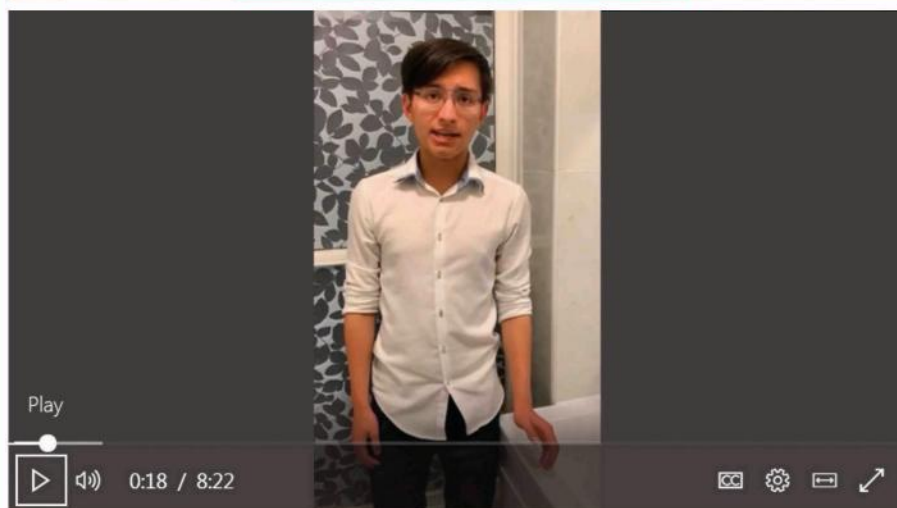
The Green-Schools Committee has immersed itself into the continuous effort of improving the school's eco-friendliness. I am delighted to see that many of the school's pupils have recently joined the Committee, bolstering our numbers and showcasing a small sample of the interests of the pupils in the environment as a whole.

This year we started tackling the prodigious opponent that is single-use plastic. We began our efforts to remove them entirely from the school through the promotion of reusable bottles and adjustments to the vending machine and canteen items by seeking alternatives where feasible. This is a process that may take years to complete, but if the entirety of the pupils as well as the faculty apply themselves the process is sure to be expedited.

Furthermore, a group of the pupils involved in the Green-Schools Committee took part in a Walkability Audit in which we inspected the practicality as well as the safety of walking to school. If the school is made more pedestrian-friendly it is sure to increase the number of walkers. Various issues requiring recommendations were then summarised and sent to Dublin City Council in the hopes of improvement.

The journey of environmental friendliness is long and arduous, but it is the dedication of pupils and faculty alike which push it onward. As ever, I invite any interested pupils from any year to participate or join the Green-Schools Committee if they hold any interest in the environment. A special thanks are also due to Mr McBrien for managing the position of coordinator for the Green-Schools Committee.

Daniel Fiala Li



THE DUBLIN SIMON HOME RUN 2020

On Saturday, the 7 March, the annual Simon Home Run took place. Runners of all different abilities and volunteers from all over the country came to take part in this five mile run to raise money and awareness for the vital work done by the Simon Community in helping homeless people. The event took place in the week before the government announcement that schools would close due to COVID-19, so there were concerns about whether it would happen, but luckily it went ahead and many people came out to take part in this enjoyable run. Around 30 pupils from Form 1-6 and teachers from The High School took part in this year's Simon Home Run. The event had a great, feel-good atmosphere and was enjoyed by all who took part. Congratulations to Pearl Sweetman who came in the top ten women's finishers and Patrick Tallon who came in the top ten men's finishers. We all had a great time at this event for a very important cause and I would encourage everyone to take part, no matter what your running ability. I hope to see many more High School pupils and teachers out running next March!

Tirzah Hutchinson Edgar



THE DUBLIN SIMON COMMUNITY AND THE HIGH SCHOOL

Dublin Simon is a very important organisation that The High School has had a long relationship with. We support the organisation through different events throughout the year. One of the biggest is the annual Home Run which takes place in the Phoenix Park. The school has been one of the top supporters of this event in recent years, raising thousands of euro to support their vital work. This event is not just about the money but about showing people experiencing homelessness that they matter and that they are not invisible. It shows that we do not accept this and that we want to help give everyone a home. Pupils who take part are always delighted that they did so, the atmosphere is amazing, there is lots of fun, goodie bags, food,

music and of course a T-Shirt for all participants. We would love to get even more people involved next year. Parents, sisters, brothers, and friends can come along and either join in or support. #show you care and take part!!

THE HISTORY OF THE DUBLIN SIMON COMMUNITY

Dublin Simon Community was founded by a group of Trinity and UCD students in 1969, who began by providing much-needed soup and sandwiches to people who were sleeping rough in Dublin city centre. In addition to the Soup Run, which still goes out 365 nights of the year, Dublin Simon Community provide many services which aim to help those who are sleeping rough on the streets, people who are in their own accommodation but at risk of homelessness, and those who are at any of the stages in between.



MODEL UNITED NATIONS TERMUN

The new MUN season kicked off with Terenure College hosting the opening conference of the year in September. MUN stands for Model United Nations, simply put a junior version of the UN. The whole event is run entirely by pupils. All those participating in the event itself act as delegates of a designated country. For TERMUN 2019 The High School was assigned the countries Pakistan, Slovakia, and Chile. All delegates choose a group that they would like to participate in as a representative of their designated country. These groups are known as committees. For TERMUN there were seven committees in total – DISEC (Disarmament and International Security Committee), Ecology and Environment, ECOFIN (Economics and Finance), SOCHUM (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural), Health and Youth, and Security Council. Questions discussed in these rooms were topics such as the question of education in war zones, the question of dismantling North Korea's nuclear arsenal and the question of global terrorism. The committees are chaired by pupils from Form 5 and 6 from schools across the country who have experience in MUN. In addition, all the behind the scenes jobs for each conference are carried out by pupils.

To kick it off on Friday evening The High School delegates arrived at Terenure looking very formal and excited about the conference ahead. We went straight to our committee rooms and began our debates. The first day was almost entirely spent in the committees discussing proposals called resolutions. As well as that we attended the opening ceremony (the official start of the conference) where two guest speakers told us about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are goals the UN set for every country in the world to try to achieve by 2030. The conference's theme was sustainability and everything that could be recycled or reused was used and any unnecessary waste was avoided.

We arrived back at Terenure College for 9am the next morning to continue the debates. We went to our committee rooms and didn't emerge until around noon. We then grabbed some lunch and headed to General Assembly. At this assembly all the delegates at the conference come together and one resolution from each committee is discussed. The writer of

the resolution first makes a speech on what they are proposing. Once they have finished the rest of the delegates can raise their placards (pieces of paper with their country's name on it) and make a Point of Information (POI). If you are for what the speaker is arguing, you may use a POI to highlight a key factor that they have missed in their speech. If you are against the speaker's opinion you might use a POI to try to point out a flaw in their argument. The resolution then moves to open debate where anyone can speak for or against it. Once open debate has concluded the resolution moves to voting procedure to see if the resolution has passed or not.

At the very end of the conference prizes are given out to delegates who performed well in the debates. The High School received three prizes:

Distinguished Delegate
Yuri Wright-Brennan

Distinguished Delegate
Daniel Fiala Li

*Best Junior Delegate
at General Assembly*
Jake O'Loughlin

By the end of the conference we were all tired but wishing it wasn't over. Luckily, TERMUN was only the beginning of a great year of conferences. MUN teaches public speaking and research skills and teamwork. But most of all, MUN is an immensely fun activity that everyone who attends thoroughly enjoys. New members are always welcome!

Jake O'Loughlin

ROCKMUN

The High School took part in the Blackrock MUN conference 2020 (otherwise known as ROCKMUN). We were lucky enough to get three great delegations, Russian Federation, Austria, and Slovakia. The conference was two jam-packed days of debating, discussing, and amending where all delegates wore formal clothes. There were many different committees to choose from including ecology and environment, political, and security council.

Each committee was debating different resolutions on the different topics chosen for that committee. The topics included: The Question of Honour Killings, The Question of the Situation in Yemen, and The Question of Funding the UN Budget, to name but a few. After committee, the delegates all headed off to General Assembly, where all of the delegates at the conference came together to debate and discuss more resolutions. During the closing ceremony of the conference, The High School won a distinguished delegate award. The food at the conference was excellent as well!

Overall, I would say that everyone who attended the conference would agree that it was a very enjoyable experience. The conference was very well-run by Blackrock College. I would strongly encourage everyone to join MUN and anyone interested in joining should contact Ms Lowry. I look forward to another year of MUN!

Eoin Kelly



RADMUN

We arrived at Rathdown School fashionably late as always. The High School pupils were ready for two days of fruitful and productive debate, and that is exactly what we received. The conference by all accounts was a roaring success. This event had a record number of pupils attending from The High School, eighteen in total. One of the highlights was Daniel Fiala Li preparing to attend the conference as a delegate, meaning that he would take part in the debate. However, at the last moment he was made aware that the conference was low on the number of Chairpersons. He immediately, without a thought to the significant amount of preparation needed, volunteered to be a Chairperson. The High School was, unfortunately, unable to bring home the distinguished delegation award, despite one of The High School's delegates, Yuri Wright Brennan, winning a Distinguished Delegate award. By The High School's normal standards this was a slight disappointment. Yet, next time we know we will do better.

Yuri Wright-Brennan



WCDMUN

Pupils from The High School participated in Wesley College's MUN conference, on 29 February and 1 March. It was two days filled with fruitful and constructive debate showcasing the best of our abilities. Wesley, following their tradition, hosted a Crisis instead of the usual General Assembly, this year's being the brainwashing of the public by media corporations, putting our creativity and quick wit to the test. The topics ranged from The Militarisation of The Arctic to Animal Welfare in Agriculture, but despite the broad scope of the conference our delegations showcased immense capability and focus, securing three Highly Commended Delegate awards, one Commended Delegate award, and one Junior Delegate award – a first in The High School's history. I would always encourage any pupil interested in MUN to join up by asking Ms Lowry.

Daniel Fiala Li



STAND UP WEEK

The 11–15 November was Stand Up Week for the LGBTQ+ community. We kicked off the week by handing out lollipops to pupils as they came in to school, then encouraged everyone to express themselves freely by playing 'Just Dance' during lunches.

On Tuesday we used the song 'Belter', performed by Louis Christle and Jordan Bailey, to spread the importance of standing out and not hiding who you are. During lunch everyone could sign our blank outline of a rainbow to add the colour and show the school's pride and support.

In Wednesday's Assembly Amelia Durac, Sarah Heeran, and Laura Mitten performed Diamonds and throughout the week we showed videos from BeLong To's Come In series. That evening we had a charity screening of 'Love Simon' for BeLong To.

On Thursday Mia Murphy and Lucy Brennan sang 'Dancing on My Own' to highlight the isolation LGBTQ+ young people feel and reiterate how the week was about coming together. During lunch everyone got to display their support by having pride colours and flags face painted on.

Finally, on Friday Alex Dungan and Eoin Kelly performed 'Take Me to Church' to lead us in a moment to appreciate that this week wouldn't have been possible just a few years before us.

Then the whole school came together to take a photograph, each year wearing a different colour of the rainbow to make a human pride flag!

Alison Landy





INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY = EQUALITY =





HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

MALAWI 2020

The road to the Habitat for Humanity 2020 trip to Malawi was undoubtedly one filled with various obstacles and challenges! When we first received news of the Habitat team last year, everyone set about fundraising from the jump. Bag-packing was one of the most common ways of fundraising (Supervalu probably never wants to see us again) and everyone did their bit to help others out. There were the infamous Habitat parties to raise money, known to the pupils as 'Habi-gaffs', as well as live gigs and coffee mornings galore. Each member of the team came up with new and inventive ways to reach their target with crucial help from parents and the pupil body of the school.

Our Habitat trip this year was to Malawi in Central Africa. As most of the team had never been to Africa before, the excitement was palpable. We each undertook our own research into the country and its culture with some members learning phrases in the national language Chichewa. As a team together, we got to know each other through long days bag-packing side-by-side and fun team-bonding games. Everyone understood the importance of co-operation and friendship the trip would bring and jumped with enthusiasm at the chance to get to know one another.

Once COVID-19 reached Europe we were informed via Habitat for Humanity that the trip would no longer be going ahead and would hopefully be postponed

to a later date. While the team was understandably disappointed with the news, we understood the insignificance of our trip in comparison to the real-life devastations of the virus. The main aim of our fundraising is to help a worthy cause, and knowing that the funds we have raised will be helping others, regardless of whether we will be there to see it first hand or not, is a reward in itself.

The future of our Habitat experience is shrouded in much doubt, with every Habitat trip worldwide put on the backburner amidst the ongoing pandemic. Whether or not the seemingly endless injections we had will be put to any use yet is unknown! But in any case, I think I speak on behalf of the whole Habitat team when I say we are just grateful for the experience Habitat for Humanity has brought thus far and satisfied that the money we have raised will go towards a wonderful and deserving cause.

We would like to thank everyone who helped our fundraising efforts and to the teachers for organising the trip for us: Ms Browne, Ms Gray, Mr Howard, Mr McBrien, and Mr Kingston.

Eva Layte

FUNDRAISING FOR BARNARDOS



MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2020

From 5–8 May Form 5 held a rather unusual Mental Health Awareness Week. Due to the fact that our schooling was entirely virtual, the usual activities were replaced by videos and posts on The High School Instagram and Microsoft Streams. The week had the overarching theme of "Connect" and each day had its own sub-theme. The Mental Health Week Committee worked really hard to make the week happen and we would like to say a special thank you to Mr McCaughey, Ms Burrowes, Ms Whelan, Ms Hutchinson Edgar, and Ms McDonnell for all their support and encouragement!

The week started off with "Stay Active" day! Exercising is so important for your mental health, and it's imperative that everyone try to get out of the house at least once a day, or work out at home. To help with at-home workouts, Michelle, the yoga teacher, kindly recorded a 30-minute beginners' yoga class. We also held a talent show, which was promoted by a video of pupils showing off all their talents. The next day was "Keep Learning". We wanted to encourage people to improve their skills, so we held a Minecraft tournament and a bake-off. On "De-stress" day we had another great video from Michelle on Mindfulness and the school Instagram posted two recipes for homemade face masks, and a list of feel-good movies and books. These uncertain times can sometimes be overwhelming – it's important that people take the time to relax and focus on themselves. Finally, we had "Reach Out" which was focused on getting people to stay connected with their friends and family. We held an art competition and we also got people to recreate old family photographs. In the evening, we lit candles to honour the essential workers. The week ended by waking up at dawn to take part in 'Darkness into Light'. Although we couldn't walk with others, there was still something very special about watching the sunrise on your own. Although we faced various difficulties in producing Mental Health Week, it was worth it in order to shine a light upon the important issue of mental health. As a team, we certainly got a lot out of it and we hope our fellow pupils did too! Don't forget that there are always people in the school who are available to talk if you are struggling. Do not be afraid to reach out; we're all in this together.

Mental Health Week Team 2020



INTERVIEW WITH A HEALTH WORKER

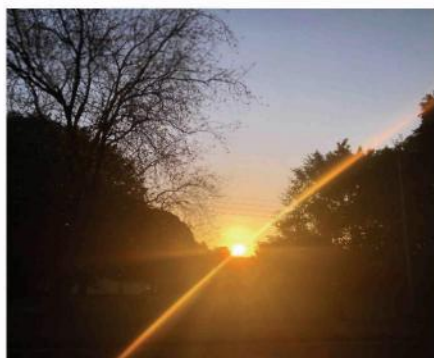
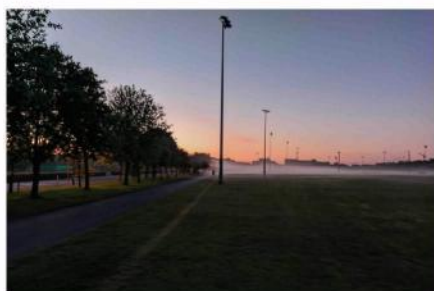
Kate O'Marcaigh is a HSD past pupil (2004–2010) who just completed her Medical Finals in the University of Limerick. Kate is now working as an intern at Tallaght Hospital.

Are you trained to deal with a pandemic in medical school? Were there warning signs?

Kate O'Marcaigh: I'm going to say no, in the sense that we weren't trained to deal specifically with a pandemic. We are certainly educated about pandemics and we take different public health modules, but the rule with medical school is that you're always trying to get to the next step, and as an intern you wouldn't usually be dealing with pandemics. In terms of education we were aware of previous ones and the different public health approaches and measures that they take. Were there warning signs? I mean for me, not particularly, I didn't see it coming.

Do you think there will be more or fewer people applying to do medicine in the next few years?

Kate O'Marcaigh: To be honest I don't think there will be a change. I would be inclined to say that if anything there will be more people applying for medicine, there's a really positive buzz around health care workers at the moment and I think the pandemic has shown how important a role doctors play in society. Also, they've been shown so much respect publicly, which can appeal to people. So my answer would be, if I had to pick, more people applying.



Do you know anyone on the 'frontline', how are they coping?

Kate O'Marcaigh: I do! There's a couple of people in the year above me who are working in the emergency department. They're coping okay, we've been trained to deal with sick people. However, having to move out of home and not being able to see their friends and family is really difficult. Doctors are being praised and represented really well in the media but when friends are getting together do they want their doctor friend to come, the "infected" friend? To answer the question, I think they're coping okay with the workload, but it's the other side of life that they might not be coping as well with, the social deprivation and things like that.

How did you do your finals from home? How did they know you weren't cheating?

Kate O'Marcaigh: I did 11 exams for my finals at home. You had to have a laptop, you had to have a working microphone and a working camera, you had to sign an oath beforehand saying that you wouldn't cheat. You had someone watching you at all times, they would message you to say if there were any discrepancies, you were allowed one sheet of rough paper which you had to hold up at the beginning and at the end. You weren't allowed to take any bathroom breaks, you weren't allowed to leave the picture – if you did, it was flagged and brought up at the medical board. They didn't really know that we weren't cheating, but I just don't think anyone would have. They were strict on the proctoring and the invigilation, there was always someone watching who could contact you directly. There were a few times that we got emails reminding us, saying, "Just so you know, you're not allowed to do x, y and z", but I don't think there were any major incidents which was really good.

Have you had any perks from being a health worker yet?

Kate O'Marcaigh: I am technically a doctor, but I'm still not registered onto the medical council until next week when I actually start working. I suppose I've been over and back in town to get blood tests and when you're stopped by the guards, to ask where you're going, as soon as you say "It's in relation to my incoming job as a doctor" they immediately say "Thank you and congratulations", they're always very kind. I don't know if that's necessarily

a perk, but I suppose there is a lot of societal appreciation, but not for me quite yet.

What's the first thing you're going to do when we get a vaccine?

Kate O'Marcaigh: I guess for me personally, we were supposed to start working on 1 July and have a two and a half month break in between, and now we've only had less than a three-week break since our exams. I suppose what I'll do is properly celebrate the graduation after four years of work, counting the undergrad seven years of work and study, to get where I want to be. I've managed to somewhat celebrate in a socially distanced situation but I'm really looking forward to celebrating with my friends because they went through the same thing I did.

How would you rate the government's response so far?

Kate O'Marcaigh: I'm proud of what we've done and the measures that we have taken so far. There are of course slips and blips that can be criticised but I think in comparison to other countries, particularly the UK, I feel really proud and lucky to be from Ireland and to have leaders who have recognised that this is a crisis and have taken everything very seriously. I think we would be in a very different situation if they had not taken the actions. Some people might say that it was excessive and overreacting, but I think in this sense that's good. So as a whole, I'm really impressed with the government's response so far.

What's your favourite High School memory? (It has to be PG)

Kate O'Marcaigh: I'd better just say that my favourite memory from The High School as a whole was playing hockey. I played hockey in school from my first day to my last and I absolutely loved every minute of it, and all the trips that we went on, we went to Scotland when I was in Form 4. I was lucky enough to be able to play Juniors and Seniors for Form 4 as well. You know I just made some of my best friends on the team and I really treasured all those memories and trips to Grange Road, and it gave a really good sense of community within the school too. So that's my favourite High School memory, that I'm allowed to say.

Éile Ní Chonbhuí

CAROL SERVICE

This year's Carol Service was the festive, jubilant celebration that we have come to know. The usual collection of readers from each year group read a series of excerpts from the Bible, readings, and Irish poems. We sang all the best carols and got to enjoy performances from the choir and the orchestra. It was a lovely way to start off the Christmas holidays.



TEAM HOPE THE HOPE FOUNDATION SHOEBOX APPEAL



PRIZE

In Memory of

LEGACY



H. J. P. ROGERS,
Scholar 1915 - 1918.

1918 FLU PANDEMIC

HJP ROGERS (HSD 1915 – 18)

(text on the verso of the framed photo)

It is seldom that we have to announce the death of one who is taken from us while still at school. Handel John Phillips Rogers (Jack) died as a result of influenza on Friday, November 1st, barely a month

after his sixteenth birthday. He was always rather a delicate boy, and he had grown rapidly, but he was fond of games cricket, swimming, gymnastics, and he seemed to have become stronger. He was always a good worker, conscientious, high-minded and determined, and he was looking forward with good hopes to

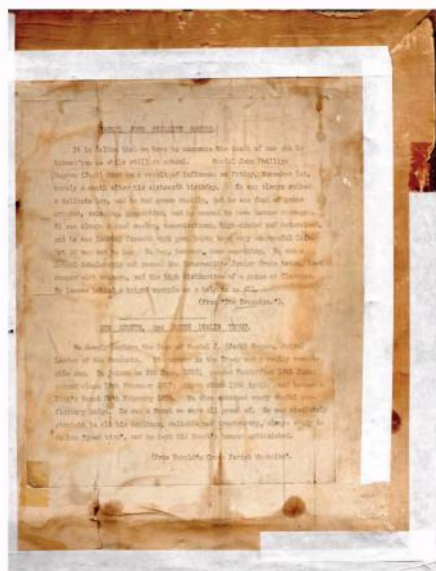
a very successful life. But it was not to be. He had, however, done something. He won School Scholarship and passed the Intermediate Junior Grade twice, last summer with honours, and the high distinction of a prize at Classics. He leaves behind a bright example as a help to us all.

ARCHIVE REPORT

Like many articles this year I begin with a comment about the global pandemic that still engulfs us all. The previous page however is a reminder of the last one over a hundred years ago when the Spanish Flu had much more devastating consequences than COVID-19. The High School commemorated Jack Rogers (HSD, 1915–18) who fell victim and the rather less than compassionate accompanying text from the previous page is augmented by the following on his involvement with the scouts:

"BOY SCOUTS, 3rd SOUTH DUBLIN TROOP. We deeply deplore the loss of Handel J. (Jack) Rogers, Patrol Leader of the Peacocks. His career in the Troop was really a remarkable one. He joined on 5th June 1916; passed Tenderfoot 19th June, second class 19th February 1917; first class 16th April; and became a King's Scout 25th February 1918. He also obtained every useful proficiency badge. He was a Scout we were all proud of. He was absolutely straight in all his dealings, reliable and trustworthy, always ready to do his "good turn", and he kept his Scout's honour untarnished. (From Harold's Cross Parish Magazine)."

The Erasmian from December 1918 was mostly still consumed with the end of World War 1, but the opening "School Notes" records a three-week closure on account of influenza from 18 October – 16 November and notes that "In consequence the whole term's work was disarranged". The following March 1919 issue notes the death of pupil Herbert (HCH) Molloy (HSD, 1914–19) on 12 March who died of pneumonia, following influenza, as well as his mother six days later. Below is the text on the rear of the Jack Rogers portrait.



The date 12 March re-occurs in 2020 as the date of the start of the national lockdown and school closures to fight against the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The archive was shut during the entire lockdown and remains closed to researchers. A certain amount of requests could be answered by email but some research needs to occur on site. Looking through boxes and ledgers is vital for research. Finding that needle in a haystack is still what happens here. The already limited days and capacity suit the current health protocols as only one researcher can be accommodated at a time. Additional use of latex gloves and limited research visits are amongst measures taken to allow physical research again on site in September.

There was only one injury in the Archive during lockdown and that was the framed photograph below which fell off the wall (only broken glass, no other damage). Otherwise the building remained safe and sealed and only needed a good dusting and cleaning when I returned in late May.

The Archive is very analogue, as I mentioned above, with over 1,000 boxes of letters and related documentation, and many thousands of individual



items. Digitising specific collections has been a long-term goal and was to be fulfilled this year working with the Digital Repository of Ireland and the Irish Architectural Archive to photograph, scan, and catalogue plans of Erasmus Smith Schools. All of this got put on hold as cultural institutions closed. DRI were kind enough to host several training sessions by Zoom to familiarise new users with their systems. Hopefully work can pick up again on this in the autumn. Queries into archive holdings continued throughout the year from around the world including Australia, the USA, and South Africa. Most queries were from Ireland and included research requests into Rathbarry English School, Co Cork; Collon English School, Co Louth; Philipstown/Daingean English School; Templemore English School, Co Tipperary; Belturbet English School, Co Cavan; Agherton English School, Co Derry. There were tenant record queries from former estates in Drumbane, Co Tipperary, Galway harbour and grounds of the former Isolation Hospital, Pallasgreen, Co Limerick. There were



also past pupils queries from The High School, Dublin; The Abbey School/ Tipperary Grammar School; former testimonial of a former head teacher at Galway Grammar School; World War 1 and 2 records of past pupil service.

In February the Archive helped Ms Burrowes' English TY class in tracking information on famous past pupils for the 150th school anniversary. It was the first time many had written a formal research request to an archive. Earlier in the academic year, I visited Mr Miller's Form 1 History class, for an introduction to primary research, showing pupils original documents and subsequent published texts from an Estate Agent report to the Board of Governors in 1840 to the crisis we now know as the Great Famine.

The Archive will not be open for Culture Night this year but hope that we can participate in 2021. Last September the Archive had a busy evening attended to by some trusty Form 5 pupils who guided visitors past the bunting into the Archive.

The death of Robin Miller came as a great shock to all. As a retired HSD teacher and good friend of the Archive he made several donations of PPU OBU material over the years.

Julian Reynolds continued to make interesting donations which have included a painted portrait of his father, former Headmaster RW Reynolds, and the two colour photographs above which show Mr Reynolds with teacher SS Evans and Miss Pamela Harte (in both photos and aunt of Mr Forrest) and Miss Dorothy Blakeney.

Other photograph donations were these hockey and rugby team photographs from Galway Grammar School (1940–41), kindly donated by Rachel McConnell. These also include some gym formation photographs as well as an egg and spoon race from 1937.

A final note to say the Archive always welcomes donations from past pupils, staff, and friends of The High School and Erasmus Smith Schools. If anyone has memorabilia, invitations, or photographs of any previous centenary celebrations the Archive would be delighted to see what you have. Looking forward to the year ahead and getting back on track with 150th Anniversary celebrations and returning to some kind of normal again.

Mr Phelan



For more information on the Erasmus Smith Schools Archive see:
www.erasmusmithschools.ie
 or contact Alan Phelan at:
archive@erasmusmithschools.ie
 or by phone at
 +353 1 492 2611 x131
 or the new direct line:
 +353 1 499 7531

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS



NOTES FROM BOARD REGISTERS IN 1870

The photograph above is undated but is one of the earliest in the Archive. It was badly faded (right) but digital restoration brings out the detail and faces are more legible. Headmaster Rev Dr SF Cresswell is second from the right and the array of personalities are clear from the casual stances adopted. Some of the boys listed in the Class of 1870 are no doubt in this image. Below are the entries from the Board Registers during the opening year. A richer account of the early days of The High School can be found in WJR Wallace's book 'Faithful to Our Trust', available as a free PDF on the Archive website (as the book is now out of print).

At a Meeting of the Governors of the Schools founded by Erasmus Smith Esq. held at their Board Room No 11 Kildare Street on ...

10 January 1870: various drafts were drawn down by builder Samuel H Bolton who had been authorised a spend of £2,500 the previous March.

10 May 1870: resolve to open a school at Harcourt St in accordance with the

Prospectus prepared by the Governors.

27 May 1870: bills continue from Bolton and are paid, the architect Mr M McCurdy is also paid £100.

11 June 1870: four candidates for Headmaster are under consideration by the Standing Committee, interviews scheduled for a week following; the committee also requests that various offices be set up at Harcourt St.

17 June 1870: The Rev SF Creswell is appointed as the Head Master of the Harcourt Street School.

11 July 1870: The Rev B Carson is appointed Classical Master with a salary of £150 per year.

12 August 1870: the Treasurer is requested "to make all arrangements for the opening of the school and to make such purchases for the purpose as may be required". Rev Carson resigns and is replaced by Mr WB Wallace starting on the first of September. Teachers are to be recruited for English, French and German.

26 August 1870: interviews are held for a teacher in Writing, Arithmetic and Book Keeping; Charles J Hinkson is



appointed, as is Oscar Krahmer as French and German teacher. Mr Henry Crawford is appointed as the school accountant at a salary of £35 per year.

14 October 1870: applications are requested for Free Pupils (a five year fee waiver) with various conditions and circumstances. The school prospectus is to be advertised in the Sander's Express and the Evening Mail newspapers. The roof also needs fixing as "late rains have entered the Room" and the heating system needs attention.

7 December 1870: applications have been reviewed for Free Pupils and five are recommended to be awarded to FE Austin, AE Fossett, JJ Haughton, SS Moss and AB Spiller, to begin schooling on 9 January 1871.

CLASS OF HSD 1870

The first pupils recorded in 1870 number 51 boys. Their ages range from 8 to 19, born between 1852–62. It is a very interesting list of names, as many are now uncommon to Ireland, reflecting the many changes in common names and indeed demographics since the 19th century.

Charles Marcus (Norman) **Benson**
George (Salisbury) **Brookes**
Charles Graham **Brown**
George Robert **Carroll**
James Seymour **Carson**
Henry **Collot**
Charles Samuel Wills **Cradock**
Hugh Hyacinth Talpoor **Crofton**
Charles Frederick **D'Arcy**
Harry Carter **Draper**
Hamilton **Drummond**
Arthur **Drury**
Francis Barker **Drury**
Ernest Adolphus **Eades**
Frederick Talbot **Eades**
John D'Arcy **Evans**
Michael Henry **Fitzgerald**
Richard Langford **Fitzgerald**
Edwin **Gray**
Frederick Edward **Greene**
Charles Thornton Primrose **Grierson**
Henry John **Grierson**
Charles Wisdom **Hely**
Walter Robert John **Higginson**
Thomas **Hopkins**
George Henry **Johnston**
John **Kingston**
William Hamilton **Lowry**
James **Mackay**
Henry **McGill**
John David **McGill**
Edward James **McNaught**
Frederick Josiah **McNaught**
Henry Havetock **McNaught**
Arthur Trevor **Owen**
Richard J **Purdon**
William Stanley **Purdon**
John Sherivine **Richardson**
Richard Henry Stewart **Sawyer**
Winton **Seton**
Stanley **Shaw**
Edwin **Simpson**
Alfred Ernest **Smythe**
Charles Arthur **Syms**
Gerald Cairnes **Webb**
George Robert Finucane **Whitestone**
Henry **Williams**
Oliver **Williams**
Frederick Westropp **Wilne**
Henry James **Wyatt**

BILL O'CONNOR OBITUARY

Fear ilghnéitheach ab ea Bill O'Connor—múinteoir den scoth, Ceannaire Roinn na Gaeilge san Ardscoil, fear spóirt, lúthchleasaí, ionadaí cheardchumainn ach thar aon rud eile, ba scéalaí é. Bhí scéal de gach saghas ag Bill, faoina óige, faoi seal a chaith sé in Ontario, Ceanada, faoi na samhraidh a chaith sé i nDún Chaoin i gCiarraí, faoina bhlianta i gColáiste na hOllscoile ag imirt spóirt agus ag baint taitnimh as saol a mhic léinn agus go háirithe faoin múinteoireacht. B'iadsan na scéalta is greannmháire!

Bhuail mé le Bill don chéad uair i Lúnasa 1986 ar na céimeanna os comhair na scoile. Bhí mé aon bhliain fiche d'aois ag tosú mo chéad phost. Dúirt sé liom gan bheith neirbhíseach, go dtabharfadh sé aire dom. Bhí a fhios aige gur pheileadóir a bhí ionam agus chuir sé ceisteanna orm faoi sin. Bhí scéal difriúil agam maidir le mo chéad lá san Ardscoil i Lúnasa 1996. Labhair Bill liom ag am lóin agus thuigeamar go tapaidh go raibh grá againn araon don Ghaeilinn agus do Chiarraí, go háirithe Daingean Uí Chúis. Bhí aithne againn ar na daoine céanna sa Daingean. Bhí scéalta ag Bill fúthu. B'shin Bill - dúil mhór sa scéalaíocht; scéal a chloisteáil, scéal a insint, scéal le roinnt. Rith sé liom ar mo chéad lá go mbeimis inár gairde.

B'fhear fáiltiúil, gealgháireach é Bill agus thóg sé gach múinteoir Gaeilge nua faoina sciathán ag tairscint nótaí agus comhairle, i gcónaí ag glacadh daltaí trioblóideacha ina rang féin chun brú a laghdú ar na múinteoirí eile. Ní h-aon ionadh gur ghlac sé ról mar ionadaí ASTI sa scoil, ag obair ar son a chomhmuinteoirí agus ag cosaint a gcearta. Bhí súil gear aige agus féith an ghrinn iontach freisin (an scéalaí arís!) agus bhain sé taitnimh as na caractair eagsúla a tháinig os a chomhair ina sheomra ranga. Fear cneasta, cinnte, foighneach ab ea Bill. Bhí sé éirimiúil, cliste agus léannta. Bhí sé eolach mar mhúinteoir, agus bhí fhios ag a dháltaí go raibh an t-ádh leo bheith faoina chúram. Labhair siad faoi le ceannas agus le hómós.

Chuamar go Teach Molly i nDún Chaoin leis an Séú bliain chun blas a chur ar a gcuid Gaelainn roimh an mbéaltríal. Bhí turasanna eagraithe chuig Contae na Gaillimhe agus Inis Mór, Oileáin Árann leis an Idirbhliain. Thug Bill cuireadh d'aoichainteoirí chun teacht chuig An Ardscoil chun labhairt linn, Maidhc Dainín Ó Sé ina measc.

Ach thar aon rud eile b'fhear clainne é Bill. Phós sé Ciarraíoch, Maureen, agus bhí teach saoire acu i nDún Chaoin. Sin an áit a bhí formhór ina chroí ceapaim, leis an saol saibhir, bríomhar atá ann agus an grá láidir a bhí aige don teanga Ghaelach. Ach an rud ba thábhachtaí ina shaol, sin Maureen agus na paistí (Fiachra, Neasa, Cian agus Eoin). Ó am go ham, d'insíodh sé scéal faoi dhuine dá pháistí. Scéal greannmhar, b'fheidir ón scoil nó ón ollscoil, scéal a bhí i gcónaí lán le bród.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam,
'Ní bheidh a leithéidsa arís'

Sinéad Quinn agus Peter Prendergast

ROBIN MILLER OBITUARY

I am writing on behalf of the school community to offer my sincere condolences following the death of Robin. I should like to extend our deepest sympathies to Jonathan and Andrew, members of the immediate and extended family, as well as to his many friends and colleagues of long standing.

We recall with pride and affection that Robin was an academically distinguished Old Boy (HSD, 1951–58) who became a much-loved member of staff at The High School. He went on to make an enormous contribution to the life of the school between 1963 and 2004.

We also acknowledge with gratitude his remarkable commitment to the school community in the role of Honorary Secretary and latterly joint President of The High School and Diocesan Past Pupils' Union.

The High School will always have reason to be thankful that Robin chose to dedicate his professional life to this institution where he is fondly remembered as a loyal, intelligent, knowledgeable, and empathetic colleague of the highest integrity. We remain grateful for his kind, caring, thoughtful, and compassionate example in engaging with the generations of staff, parents, and past pupils who mourn his loss to the school community today. You may be assured that we will continue to keep all of you in our thoughts and prayers at The High School whilst wishing you every strength and comfort during the months and years ahead.

Mr Forrest

HSD SPEEDSTERS

Considering the school's 150th anniversary it seems like an opportune time to recall some of our past pupil achievements. Looking back, we can see individuals such as Jonathan Garth or Nicola Daly, who played cricket and hockey respectively, but also there were individuals who took things a degree faster. We have had multiple notable motorsport racers in our school's history who have won various races in their careers, (some of whom have sadly passed away).

EDDIE LAYCOCK (1961 –) HSD 1973 – 77

It was in 1987 that Eddie Laycock won a Time Trial, the first Southern Irish rider to win one since Reg Armstrong, who achieved the feat in 1957. It was the following year when he won the production 250 Time Trial. He soon made the transition to the top of world motorcycling when he raced a private Honda in the 500 Grand Prix class.

After Eddie's racing days he joined a Moto Grand Prix commentary team with Peter Collins on RTE.

After fighting through a rough patch in his life with cancer he eventually retired in 1992 and now lives in Templeogue with his wife and two sons.



STANLEY WOODS (1903 – 1993) HSD 1915-20

Stanley had his début on the new Isle of Man Snafell Mountain Course in 1922 at the age of 17, finishing fifth in the Junior Time Trial even though his machine was on fire at a pit stop and he was finishing the race without brakes. The following year he won the Junior Time Trial. Through the years 1926–1934, he successfully won four of the 1927 Grand Prix for Norton and then in 1935 he won a Time Trial race for Moto Guzzi.

Stanley was described as the Irish Dasher, but he was of humble origins, he himself being a toffee maker, and as Isle of Man history states he would often bring a few boxes of toffee for the Scouts who manned the scoreboards.

He was also for a period of time the president of the Time Trial Riders Association and was also in charge of training the first Irish Army Cavalry Squadron's Motor Squadron personnel during The Emergency as the presidential Escort of Honour.

Woods was named greatest of all the island's competitors in 1968 by a panel of experts.



ARTHUR JOLLEY (1925 – 2020) HSD 1936-42

Arthur was born into a farming family and later began studying Commerce at Trinity College Dublin in 1942. Upon finishing his studies he went on to work in insurance in his father's firm, Robert J. Jolley Insurance. As wartime restrictions eased, competitions restarted, and in 1948, anxious to start racing, he won his first major Dublin University Motor Cycle and Light Car Club event.

In 1951 Arthur acted as navigator to the driver Cecil Vard and came third in the Monte Carlo Rally which at the time was a milestone achievement for Irish racers.

Arthur Jolley partook in motorcycle Time Trial events for 50 years and performed excellently in the Scottish Six Day event. He acted as chairman of the Royal Irish Automobile Club Archive for 10 years, helping to preserve Irish motorsport history.

Our school has been filled with numerous notable past pupils throughout our 150 years such as these history-making motorsport racers. I am certain that in the next 50 years pupils shall look back at our past pupils and stare in awe at their achievements.

Daniel Fiala Li

PPU & PA



DEBUTANTES' RECEPTION



THE HIGH SCHOOL AND DIOCESAN PAST PUPILS' UNION

PPU REPORT 2019 – 2020

GREG HOPKINS
PRESIDENT

I look back at our AGM in May 2019 when I accepted the chain of office from my predecessor, Dorothy Rolston, and how I felt it would be both a honour and privilege as president representing the PPU on this very special year celebrating the 150th and following in the footsteps of the many great past presidents who went before me.

As I reflect on the year, which has been significantly curtailed due to the global pandemic causing the cancellation of many events planned during 2020, there has been the highlight of the 150th Gala Ball, which took place in the school gym on the last Saturday in January.

The Committee started planning for this, dinner back in September 2019 and felt a dinner for all past pupils of the school was the way forward as we enter another decade which coincides with celebrating 150 years of the school. I was blown away by the response of past pupils – we had over 300 people attend this incredible event. It was great to see so many past pupils ranging from classes from the 1940s to the present time and so many of my own class of '84 who have supported me in great numbers at the dinner. The work that the PPU committee put into this was extraordinary and made it such a special night. We also had wonderful support from the school, and I would like to thank Keith Poole and Jean McPhillips in particular.



I thoroughly enjoyed my first year as President, even though it was cut short due to COVID-19. I did get the opportunity to represent the PPU at other schools, PPU dinners before lockdown, which I thoroughly enjoyed and got to know the other presidents.

As a committee, we met monthly throughout the school year and one of our goals was to communicate better with the past pupils and I believe we have done this. The committee are actively sending out information through social media and email and, for the first time, we have a newsletter which we send out to our database quarterly.

I would urge all past pupils, if you have not registered your contact details with us please do by either sending us an email (hdsppu@gmail.com) or contacting one of the committee members.

I would like to thank our PPU committee who helped me throughout the year, their dedication and commitment is unparalleled and I very much appreciate the work they put in for the union.





Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 many planned events were cancelled but before this the following events took place:

In September, we had our **High School Past Pupils Annual Golf Outing in Rathfarnham Golf Club**. My first official engagement as President. Once again, we were blessed with super weather, the course was in great condition, we had great numbers, and a wonderful meal followed. Our thanks to our sponsors of the event, Andrew Miller of Folens and Jamie O'Hanlon of Avid Partners. The winner of the Old Boys' Trophy was Ian Power and the winner of the Ladies' Trophy was Margaret Worrall.

Christmas Carol Singing took place in December in the Orwell Nursing Home. We had a great turnout of past pupils. The evening was enjoyed by singers and residents alike and was a lovely way to kick off the Christmas celebrations.

HSD Past Pupil 150th Anniversary Gala Dinner was held on Saturday 25 January. Our guest speaker was Paul Howard (aka Ross O'Carroll-Kelly) who had the audience captivated. This was a very special event which kicked off the 150th celebrations of the school. Due to the unprecedented demand for tickets we had to move the event to the gymnasium which was transformed into a fantastic function room. Special thanks to all those people who made this event happen. We had a drinks reception in the Reynolds Hall followed by a trip down memory lane for past pupils as they made their way through the school to the gym.

Having my parents, wife Amanda, son Aaron, and brother and sister (both former pupils) attend the dinner made this a special occasion for me.

A fantastic night was had by all and we received great feedback from those who attended. We had a raffle during the evening, and I would like to thank all those who donated prizes. A



substantial cheque was handed over to the school which went towards the Bursary Fund.

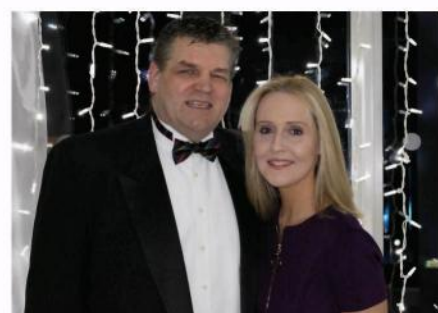
Whilst the year ahead may pose some challenges with regard to what events we hold with whatever restrictions

are in place at the time, I am greatly looking forward to representing the school again and hope you will join us, either at an event or by joining our mailing list by contacting us by email.

hsdppu@gmail.com

150 GALA JANUARY DINNER











THE HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

REPORT 2020

NIGEL DONOVAN

PRESIDENT AND CHAIRPERSON

The Parents' Association activity across the 2019–20 school year was challenging, as it was for the wider community. Multiple events and planned sessions fell victim to the COVID-19 related lockdown, across Terms 2 and 3.

However, throughout the disruption, we endeavoured to continue with our key focus involving the promotion of effective communication across the school body. Our primary role is the representation of the educational and wider interests of parents, guardians, and pupils at the school.

Joyce Farrelly, Melody Chinenyanga, and Vincent Landy stepped down from Parents' Association activities, which saw our membership updated at the 23 September 2019 AGM, where we welcomed Avril Robinson, Susannah Love, and Debo Adeduntan, following election.

Thanks to Joyce, Melody, and Vincent for their contribution, support, and input to the Parents' Association!

The new additions ensured our ability to operate at full strength and continue to provide parent representation on each of the School Board's four sub-committees – Education, Sports and Recreation, Grounds and Property, and Finance. Gavin O'Duffy focused on the Education sub-committee, Steve Wilson continued with Property and Grounds, Susannah Love engaged with Sports and Recreation, and Evelyn Foley represented us on Finance.

At School Board of Management level, Evelyn Foley and Nigel Donovan continued as the parent representatives.



Looking more widely across the school population, we continued with our connection and alignment with each of the year groups, to foster effective two-way communication with parents/guardians and further develop solid working relationships with the teaching staff, as follows:

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2019 – 20

Avril Robinson

Form 1 Representative

Gavin O'Duffy

Form 2 Representative/Education Committee

Linda O'Connor

Form 3 Representative

Ray Stewart

Form 4 Representative

Steve Wilson/Debo Adeduntan

Form 5 Representative/Grounds and Property Committee

Elaine Costello/Birgitta Lee

Form 6 Representative

Evelyn Foley

Vice Chair and Finance Committee

Susannah Love

Form 2 Representative/Sports and Recreation Committee

Nigel Donovan – Chairperson

With the end of the 2019–2020 school year, Birgitta Lee, Elaine Costello, Evelyn Foley, and Linda O'Connor will step down from the Parents' Association, resulting in four vacancies for the 2020–2021 and subsequent school year, so we hope to see any interested parties at our next AGM. Further details will follow here, given ongoing social distancing requirements, but those interested can also contact us directly at committee@hspdparentsassociation.com. We're happy to chat.

2019 – 20 ACTIVITY REVIEW ACROSS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION FOCUS AREAS

ENABLING EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

We continued to work closely with the School, in support of parent/guardian facing updates and opportunities for information cascade. The big ticket items here related to implementation of the revised ICT policy, incorporating mobile device usage, and ongoing updates/provision of feedback, to school management, as the coronavirus lockdown took hold in March.

Our main focus here was twofold – firstly, to ensure that your voice was heard as part of the wider input process, as events unfolded and plans were developed for implementation, and secondly, to ensure that school management understood wider concerns and the need for ongoing communication, to keep the entire school community updated.

As a reminder, we push parent updates through our social media channels, across Twitter and Facebook, so please make sure you are aware and following, as appropriate.





Remember also, to visit the Parents' Association website regularly for up-to-date news, items at www.hsdparentsassociation.com. Here, you will also find the Parents' Association direct contact email address.

Thanks to the school Administration team for their ongoing support here and to the teaching staff for their partnership.

SUPPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS, WELFARE, AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF THE PUPILS

We continued our partnership with the school and Deputy Principal, Vanessa Connolly, making sure we had ongoing access to StudyClix pupil log-ins, across 2019–20, as well as providing some educational tools and puzzles for the school library.

Additional activities the Parents' Association supported included the Junior Certificate Results paintballing day on 4 October, and wider recognition of pupil achievements, across sporting, academic, and other fields.

The Parents' Association also partnered with our Form 6 pupils, to produce the end of year video and sweatshirts. As the normal school leaving rites of passage

could not be implemented this year, we felt it appropriate to make sure there were some lasting memories of their time at The High School. We wish them every success as they embark on the next leg of their journey!

Recognising our year was cut short by world events, we're looking forward to engaging in a wider set of activities, in the upcoming school year.

ORGANISING SOCIAL EVENINGS AND EVENTS

The Parents' Association hosted a social evening for Form 1 parents/guardians on 7 November at the Dropping Well, as part of our approach to build connections across the school.

Student Enrichment Services and Rory Mulvey delivered a session on "Study Skills and Your Child", on 14 November. This session was well attended and continued our approach of tying together pupil and parent facing messages, in support of conversation and awareness.

Here too, we saw impact due to the lockdown and school closures, so Term 2 and 3 planned parent evenings and activities were cut short, including our end of year parent social, which this

year was marking 150 years of The High School.

We're very keen to come back with a full schedule next year, wider circumstances permitting, so again, we would ask, please let us know if you become aware or hear of quality topics/speakers that may be of interest to the wider school parent body.

Thanks to Kerrie and the catering team for the ongoing partnership across our engagements this year.

PROMOTING PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE SCHOOL

The annual Parent-Teacher Meetings continued to benefit from Parents' Association support, across all year groups, ensuring smooth running and a helping hand where needed.

Plans to host the annual used book and uniform sale, in June, were also postponed, due to ongoing COVID-19 requirements, but we will review opportunities with school management, including ability to re-unite named lost property items with owners.

Remember, if you are missing something, please check in with lost property and make sure items are visibly named!

To close, I'd like to offer a big thanks to the entire Parents' Association committee for their continued input and efforts. It takes time and energy to represent the wider parent body, with ongoing engagement at school sub-committee meetings and wider interactions, ensuring relationships are nurtured and the parent perspective is put forward and understood.

We're hopeful that the 2020–21 school year will see us return to a more familiar landscape, so please reach out to us, online or through our Form Representatives, if we can be of assistance, or to provide feedback/inputs.

Our goal is to make sure you are connected and any feedback or requests are channelled to the relevant school resources.

Looking forward to hopefully seeing you in September, at our 2020 AGM.



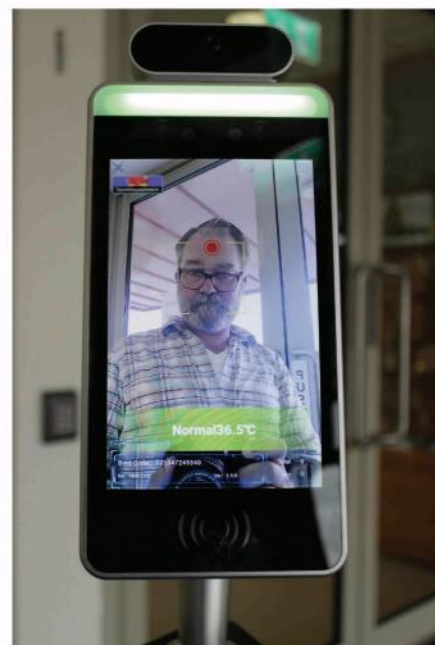
SCHOOL REFURBISHMENT

There have been a number of important projects completed during the last six months including the refurbishment of two classrooms, the completion of a new pedestrian pathway from Hockey pitches to Orwell Road entrance, and the installation of floodlights on the 4G rugby pitch.

There have been many Covid-19 related improvements at the school, including signage throughout the building to promote social distancing, hand sanitising, and to reinforce the new one-way system of movement. The drinking fountains are now hands-free and can be operated using one's knee. Plinths have been removed from classrooms to create more space and Perspex screens have been added to pupil desks, in the staff room, in the canteen, and in the office for additional safety. Five digital temperature control stations have been put in place in key positions around the school such as the main entrances and at the Nurse's Room. An Isolation Room has been set-up at the Cricket Pavilion to facilitate up to four pupils presenting with Covid-19 symptoms such as high temperature. An enhanced cleaning regime has been put in place, and additional waste bins, wipes, cleaning solution, and "hands free", automated sanitisers are located in every classroom. A large marquee has been rented to provide additional space for dining and locker storage. The canteen has been reconfigured to allow for social distancing during lunch breaks.

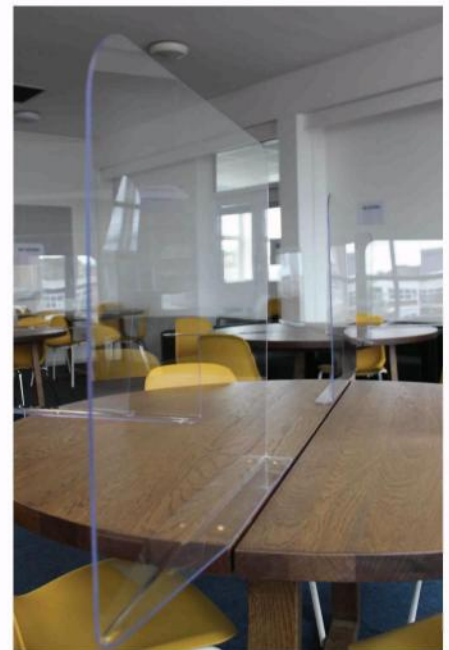
During the year a cashless system in the canteen was also introduced, where a pupil canteen account can be topped up through a secure online system. A pin number on payment brings up a photograph of the pupil to verify the card user. The school also installed electric power points for charging electric and hybrid cars which are available to use by parents, teachers, and visitors with a key that can be retrieved from reception.

Mr Poole





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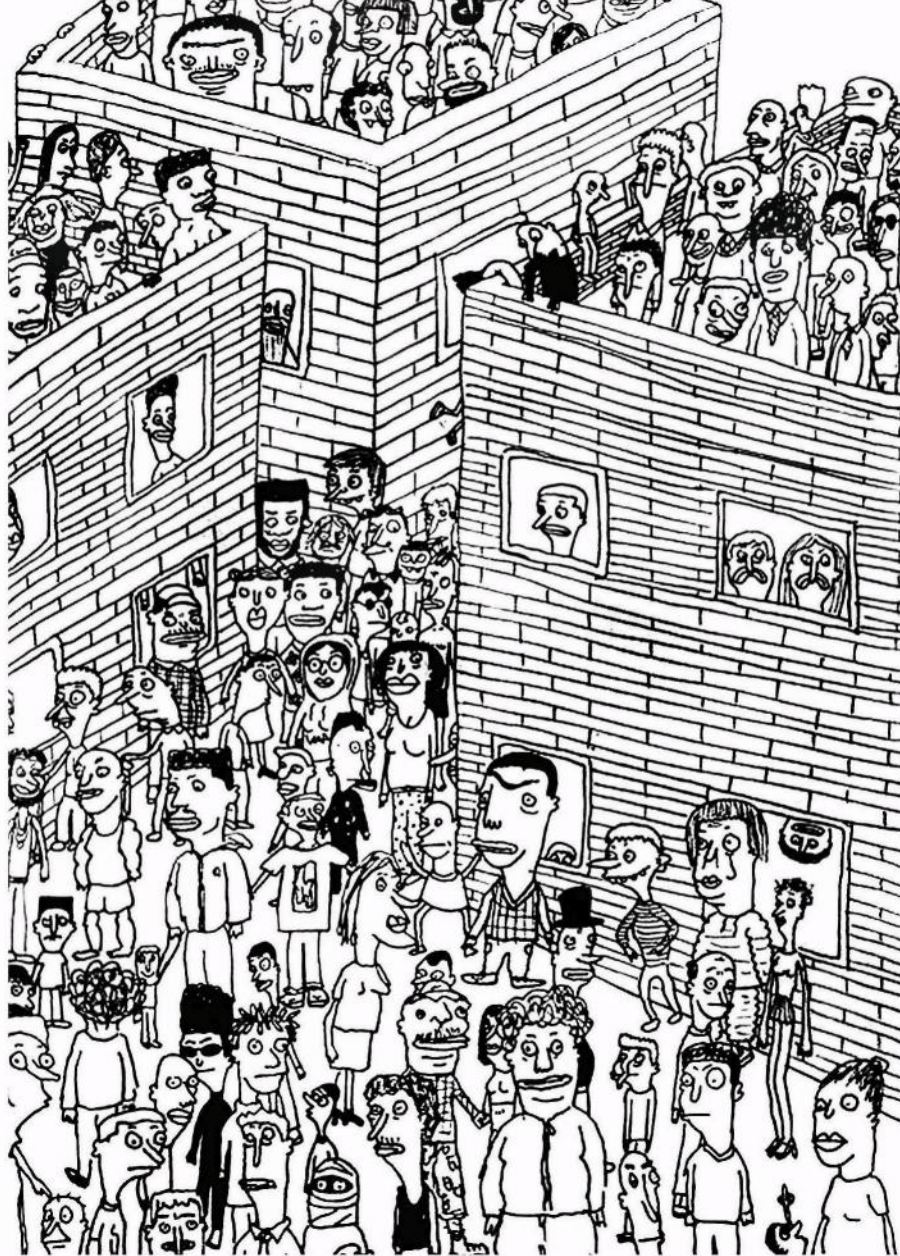
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ADMISSIONS

If you are interested in
applying for a place at
The High School
please feel free to contact
the Admissions Officer

telephone:
(01) 4922611 (ext 150)

or by email to:
admissions@highschool.ie



