

Easter Transition Year Update



- Carrick on Suir motor club, along with Tramore Gardai, visited the Transition Years to run the workshop 'Keep the Race in its Place'. Through talks, video clips and discussion, students were informed about statistics of those injured, disabled and killed on roads through speed. The motor club brought along a road car and a rally car with the sole objective of explaining the differences between normal driving and competitive driving. The two cars demonstrated just how vulnerable drivers and passengers are in a standard vehicle compared to a specially prepared car.
- One of the perks of my job was to be a judge at our Ardscoil Bake Off Final. The top twelve participants spent the morning baking up some fantastic cakes which would not be out of place in a baking shop. The winner, with her Easter themed cake, was Aisling Kelly, followed closely by Aobha Owens.
- The Architects in Schools programme came to a conclusion last week. Senator Grace O'Sullivan, along with two architects, attended an exhibition in our school. We had 6 groups of TY students who have designed models of pavilions for different areas in Tramore. Each group has a model and a design poster and made a presentation about their designs and their work. This was followed by a trip to Charleville Castle, Tullamore where the Irish Architecture Foundation hosted schools from around the country, where they displayed their work.
- On March 20th, our F1 in schools teams travelled to Newry to compete in the National competition. They had to create a 20 page portfolio with information on their team, their roles and their cars mechanics etc. They had to create a miniature F1 car, that was powered by a gas canister and raced them against other teams. They also created a pit display, which was a decorated stand for the teams. Well done to all the teams involved.
- We had our first entry into the PE Xpo this year with a project entitled 'Video Analysis - making the invisible visible'. The team consisted of Caoimhe Graham, Kieran Murphy, Lauren Murphy, Jordan Scholtz and Barry Sheerin. They completed an excellent project

and received high praise from the judges. Hopefully this is a start of many entries in the future.

- There was huge interest in the Sky Sports Living for Sport project day held in the school a few weeks ago. Unfortunately we could only have 20 students involved in it. Noel McGrath, Tipperary hurler, put them through their paces in the hall and the classroom, with the aim of developing six key skills - mental toughness, hunger to achieve, people skills, sports and life knowledge, breaking barriers and planning for success. The six keys to success are designed to help young people develop valuable life skills that will help them in and outside of school, now and into the future.
- 12 of our students are now on the first step of the soccer coaching ladder in the FAI. They completed their Kickstart 1 coaching course and will now use this qualification and develop their skills by coaching in the local primary schools and in Tramore AFC.
- Thank you to 4C and a number of other students who helped out with 2nd Year quiz in aid of the Irish Cancer Society.
- All classes had a chance to participate in a school retreat for a day. They mixed fun and calm together for an overall enjoyable day.
- We were official screening hosts of a documentary called 'Eat. Sleep. STEM. Repeat'. The aim was to encourage female students to pursue careers in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Another area of their future was explored with a visit from WIT, where the whole area of student life, subject choices and career options were discussed. They will be visiting DCU in the coming weeks to attend their Transition Year open day.
- We are very proud of Caitlin Roche who won the overall prize at the Waterford Student Enterprise Final with her skin friendly fake tan remover "Lazygirl". It is a fake tan remover that works in just five minutes. It doesn't exfoliate or damage the human skin as it is a cream and not a scrub. The Waterford Student Enterprise Programme began in September with 1,000 students from 15 schools across Waterford city and county. She will now represent the county at the National finals in Croke Park in May. Well done to all other groups who attended the county final and represented the school excellently.
- The members of our school St. Vincent De Paul committee have been busy organising their presentation for the Young St Vincent De Paul Conference which will take place on the 27th April. Part of their project has involved raising an awareness of those in need and how we as a school community can assist. The students participated in a good wishes day where they posted kind words and mottos in their peers lockers. The committee members are Sophie Ryan PR, Muireann Burns President, Nadine Butler Photography, Niamh McCormack Photography, Sarah Fahey Photography, Jessica

Flynn PR, Leah Walsh Secretary, Jordan Scholtz PR, Charlotte Finlay Treasurer, Aoife O' Hanlon, Arielle Roche, Jack McCusker, Patrick Batho, Ciara McGrath, Bronagh Colman, Lisa Marie Burke, Orla Murphy.

- Their knowledge of law in Ireland went up a notch as they participated in a two day law course at the end of February. This included mock trials where the students played out all the different roles in the court.
- On Wednesday 29th of March, the four Transition Year classes went on an ecology field trip to the Secret Valley Wildlife Park in Co. Wexford. The day consisted of orienteering and an animal behavioural study. Great fun was had by everyone, even with the bad weather. Several groups won prizes for the orienteering challenge, which included searching for flags in barrels of mud and lifting tyres to find flags. We were the first TY group that the park have hosted and we were delighted to trial their TY education package. It was a great opportunity for students to interact with native and exotic wildlife.
- After months of work, 4B and 4D travelled to Lismore Castle to view their finished art pieces in the Artifice Exhibition. The students were very pleased and proud of their pieces and got to experience first hand being involved in an art exhibition.
- The last few weeks have been very busy for the bank team as they have got the school bank up and running. They open every Thursday and all have their individual jobs to work on. For the launch, they worked together as a team to bring their business to the whole school community and have been very successful in this endeavour.
- During the coming weeks, each student will have to do a presentation on their eportfolio. They should have work and projects from throughout the year, along with highlights, reviews etc.
- Thank you to Harry Dineen and Eva Corcoran who spoke very eloquently at the parent's night for next year's Transition Year.
- A number of students have been involved in extra college and work experiences over the last few weeks. These include an Astrophysics Day in Trinity, the Orchestra Programme at Cork School of Music and a prep for med training day in UCC.
- Well done to Chloe Kinsella and Cathy O' Neill who travelled to UL to collect their prize in a Crystal Growing Competition.
- We had the pleasure of a visit from a contingent from Japan. These included two student winners of a story telling competition who performed their Lafcadio Hearn ghost stories

for one of the classes. Thank you to Tara, Chloe and Cathy who made the students very welcome over the weekend and during their school visit.

- A number of TY students welcomed their Spanish students last week and they look forward to their return visit to Spain in October.
- Thank you to all the students involved in selling daffodils for Irish Cancer Society on Daffodil day.
- TY students had a huge involvement in Seachtain na Gaeilge. This ranged from hosting quizzes to teaching Irish dancing to younger students for their ceilis.

We have a busy last term planned with a number of trips organised. It is crucial if a student is not travelling on the trip that they inform the organising teacher and myself as soon as possible.

The students will have many classroom based assessments in subject in the coming weeks in the form of presentations and tests. They should speak individually to teachers to see what the plan for each subject is.

Thank you for your continued support in the TY programme.

Kind regards,

Emily Campbell