

Saint David's Holy Faith Secondary School  
Kimberly Road.  
Greystones,  
Co. Wicklow

ISSUE 4

# CHALKDUST 2018



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STDAVIDS GREYST





# Messages

## Principal's Message



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Nelson Mandela

Firstly I would like to thank all our students in St. David's for what has been a wonderful year.

We aim as a school community to be witnesses to the Gospel values, by our work and by our actions.

I consider it a great honour and privilege to be your principal as you are all shining examples of the ethos of our school; truthful, compassionate, loyal, generous and kind. As we come to the end of this year, you have fulfilled and indeed gone beyond my expectations of being fine human beings. Your work ethic, wonderful academic results, achievements in extra-curricular activities, creative contributions that enrich our school environment and sense of participation, enhance the holistic education in St. David's. In education, relationship comes first. There can be a tendency sometimes to lose sight of the dignity of education as a result of too narrow a focus. Learn to focus on the heart of the person, wrap yourself with a good portion of spiritual, emotional and physical health. Believe in yourselves as we believe in you. Each one of you in St. David's has shown an ability to look outside yourselves which I consider to be the most intrinsic quality we should have as human beings.

This has been encapsulated in your pursuits of charity works, wider inter-generational initiatives in the community and even the simple action of extending a hand of friendship or offering a comforting word

when someone is in trouble.

Respect is built on mutual regard and in this school it is evident every day by your actions, that you hold this virtue in high esteem. The positive atmosphere in our school is due to the relationship between students and staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of staff. They are committed, dedicated and generous. They give their time to you the students, providing extra classes, mentoring and offering you a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

We are also lucky in this school to have a great parent body who act as partners in education. Many thanks to those who supervise study, fundraise for our facilities, cater for school event and act as a conduit between school and home so that we work together in partnership to achieve our goal of continuous school improvement.

'Chalkdust' is the end result of a team effort and on behalf of the school I would like to thank all those involved in producing such a wonderful publication. I would especially like to thank our design team (Niall Sheehy and Patrick O'Toole) and our editors (Carolann McDonald, Laura O'Toole and Ava McGlynn). I would also like to thank the student photography team, reporting team and all other students who contributed to the production of the magazine. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mr. Maguire, without whom this publication would not have come to fruition. Thanks to Mr. Ryan for facilitating design. Many thanks also to Mr. Gardiner who acted as proof reader.

Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you all in August.

I encourage you now to open the pages, read and enjoy!

God Bless you all.



# Deputy Principal's Message

To the esteemed Graduation Class of 2018, it is with great joy that I and our great school community of St. David's Holy Faith Secondary School, Greystones, bid you adieu and farewell, as you reach the end of your post-primary education. You are a wonderful group of 112 men and women who epitomise the wonderful diversity of our nation and country.

As a year group, you are to the fore in so many areas of school, ranging from stunning feats of dancing at our Céilí annually during our Seachtaine na Gaeilge festivities; pioneers in academia with our school's first senior class in Politics & Society; setting up the school's Diversity Club, in response to our country's rapid societal changes and demonstrating great prowess and determination on the sporting field. You, the Graduation Class of 2018, have copper fastened your place in this school's great heritage and history, by your many acts of kindness, openness, humour, respect and engagement, and I thank you!

I started here in St. David's Holy Faith School on Monday morning, 15th September 2014 and, it was your year group, when in Third Year, that I addressed first in

assembly as your new Deputy Principal. Your lockers were based opposite my office and the following year, in Transition Year, I was your Year Head. We dined together al fresco on the cobbled streets of Rome on the T.Y. Italy Trip of 2015. For me, you are a year group that I have had incredibly positive engagements with from day one, and that is very special.

As you prepare for Block Study and your State Exams, you are steeped in a culture of learning and academic excellence, which is fostered, promoted and facilitated by your school and your family. We, as a school, are incredibly proud of all of you and look so forward to you emulating and no doubt, exceeding the previous year groups, who have passed through our school.

Finally, I wish to offer you all my thoughts and prayers over the coming weeks, as you embark upon the State Exams. Be strong and be confident as you strive forward and remember, we your school, wish you all the very best!

Simon Carey  
Deputy Principal





## EDITORIAL DESIGN TEAM MESSAGE

As members of this years editorial and design teams we would like to thank everybody who were involved in the completion of the fourth edition of 'Chalkdust'. Firstly, we would like to thank the reporters and photographers, without whom we would not have been able to complete this years magazine to the standard it has reached. They put in tremendous amounts of effort throughout the year and we are very grateful to have worked with such a hardworking team. Secondly we would like to thank Mr. Gardiner for taking the time to proofread the magazine and also all the other teachers who wrote articles about activities and clubs they are involved in. Lastly we want to thank Mr. Maguire and Mr. Ryan for being very helpful co-ordinators. They made sure everything ran smoothly and played a big role in the completion of this magazine. It was a great experience for all involved and we all really enjoyed ourselves. We hope you all enjoy the fourth edition of 'Chalkdust' as much as we did making it. ~ Niall Sheehy, Patrick O'Toole, Ava McGlynn, Carolann McDonald and Laura O'Toole.

## HIGHLIGHTS



Farewell  
Ms. Kerr



6th year corner

Academic achievements



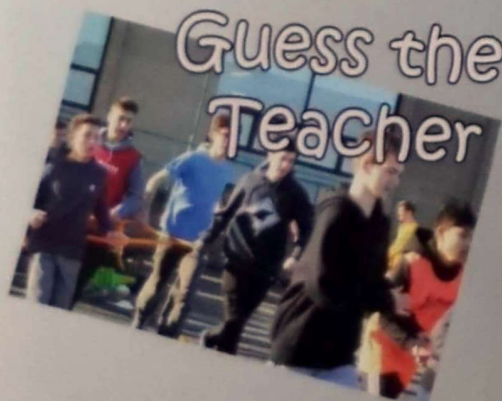
TY

1st, 2nd and 3rd  
year corner



Sport

Languages



Guess the  
Teacher



School Show





# Welcome New Teachers!



**NAME:** Ms. Edinborough

**WHAT SUBJECTS DO YOU TEACH HERE?**

English and CSPE

**WHAT COLLEGE DID YOU ATTEND?**

I attended University College Cork and University College Dublin

**WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS?**

I have lots of hobbies and interests but my main ones would be canoeing, reading, music and travelling.

**WHO WAS YOUR ROLE MODEL GROWING UP AND WHY?**

My role model growing up was probably my English teacher, she sparked my interests and love of English and inspired me to be a teacher. But my number one inspiration would have to be Mr. Maguire as I hope to follow in his footsteps one day and do as good a job with the Ladies' Football team.

ST. DAVID'S  
HOLY FAITH  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

**NAME:** Ms. Keaveney

**WHAT SUBJECTS DO YOU TEACH HERE?**

Biology, Chemistry and Maths

**WHAT COLLEGE DID YOU ATTEND?**

I attended University College of Limerick

**WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS?**

I have lots of hobbies and interests but I love running

**WHO WAS YOUR ROLE MODEL GROWING UP AND WHY?**

My role model growing up was David Attenborough because of his extensive knowledge of animal diversity and his contributions to zoology.....and Beyonce because of women power and all that!



**NAME:** Ms. Gallagher

**WHAT SUBJECTS DO YOU TEACH HERE?**

Religion and CSPE

**WHAT COLLEGE DID YOU ATTEND?**

Mater Dei Institute of Education

**WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS?**

I love GAA and although I can play I love watching the games.

**WHO WAS YOUR ROLE MODEL GROWING UP AND WHY?**

My role model up was my Dad because he was an inspiration but Mr. Hassett is such a superstar and my favourite GAA player!!

**NAME:** Mr. Doyle

**WHAT SUBJECTS DO YOU TEACH HERE?**

Maths, Science, Physics, Biology & Celtic Studies

**WHAT COLLEGE DID YOU ATTEND?**

Dublin City University

**WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND INTERESTS?**

My hobbies are running and reading

**WHO WAS YOUR ROLE MODEL GROWING UP AND WHY?**

My inspiration is a Czech runner named Emil Zatopek because he always tried his best and wasn't afraid to stand up





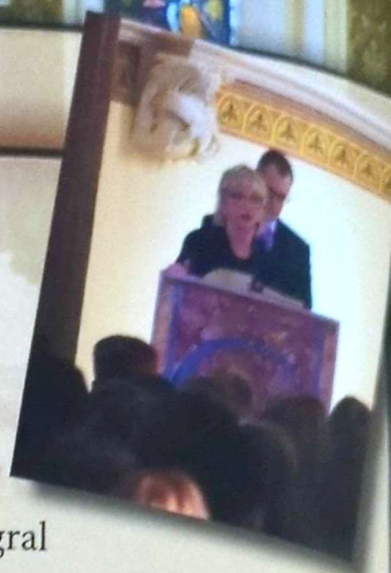
# Religion

## SCHOOL MASS

On the 11th of October, the whole school community was called to the church for the annual school mass. This year the theme of our school mass was 'Hope'. Father John Daly told us to have hope through the miracle he read : the calming of the storm. The bible story caught the attention of all the students and gave us an understanding of the importance of hope in everyone's lives. The entire ceremony was enhanced by the beautiful St. David's choir. Our head boy and head girl were the mass narrators and several students from various year groups contributed to the mass by reading or by bringing up gifts and symbols to the altar. Overall the mass was a great way to bring the whole school community together and prepare students for the academic year ahead. Many thanks to all those who helped out especially to Father John Daly and to the parish eucharistic ministers who assisted at communion.

## RETREATS

Our faith is an integral part of our school community here in St. David's. Every year, both third years and sixth years go on a religious retreat to enhance their faith, release the tension and stress from the pressure of their upcoming exams as well as building up stronger relationships with others. The religious retreats involves team building exercises, personal journeyts as well as group challenges. This year both the the third and sixth years went to Ovoca Manor early in term one and the Transition Year students had their inhouse retreat during term three.





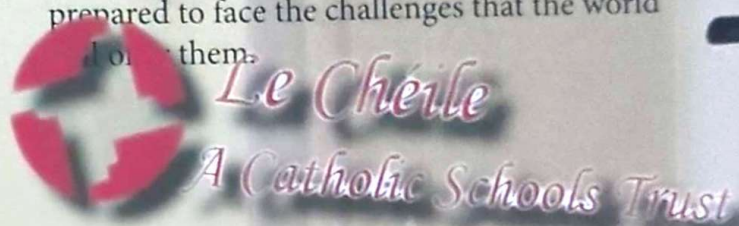
## SCHOOL ETHOS

"The future is in the hands of those who give coming generations reasons for living and hoping" ~ Vatican II

St David's is a Catholic Voluntary Secondary School. We aim as a school community to be witness to the Gospel values, by our work, by our dealings with all those who make up the large school community, by our words and actions, we constantly strive to model ourselves on Jesus, the teacher who taught with gentleness yet authority. Each child is valued for his/her unique individual talents and gifts.

Our school ethos symbolises who we are as a school community.

At St. David's we aim to provide an environment where the child can experience psychological, social, personal and spiritual growth. In our school we hope to send out into the world confident young Christians prepared to face the challenges that the world d on them.



### REFLECTION FOR LOVED ONES WHO PASSED AWAY THIS SCHOOL YEAR

I'm Free  
Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took his hand when I heard his call,  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I've found that peace at the close of the day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My Life's been full, I savoured much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch,  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free





# Academic Awards

## Junior Certificate Awards

The Junior Certificate awards took place on Wednesday 11th October 2017. Both Mr. Carey and Ms. O'Doherty welcomed parents and students to the awards ceremony. The ceremony celebrates the success of all the students who sat their Junior Certificate exam the previous year. An award was given to each student who received at least one 'A' grade at higher level. A

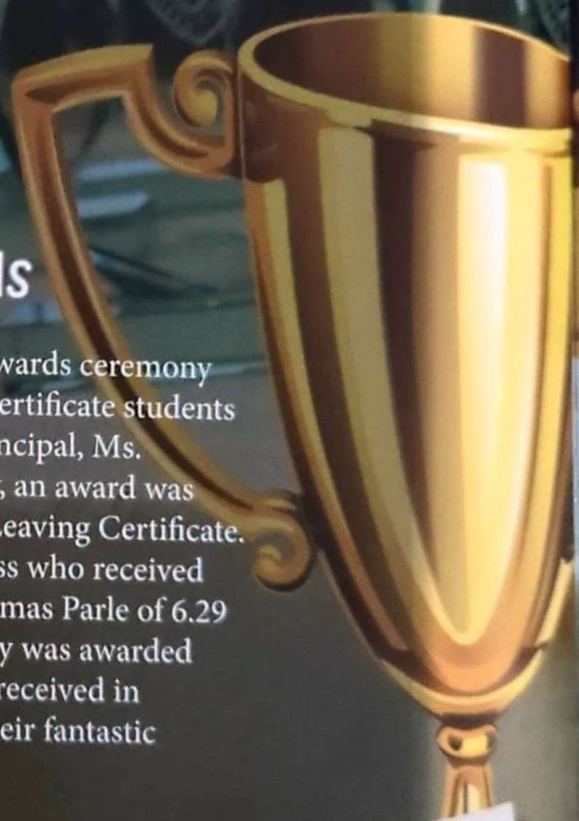
trophy was also awarded to the student in each class with the best results. The winners were Stephen Bowes from 3.13 and Carolann McDonald from 3.13A. The final award was given to the student who received the most 'A's in the Junior Certificate. This award was the Leah Little Award, dedicated to a past student who sadly passed away. An emotional speech was

given by Ms. O'Doherty and the Award was given to Carolann McDonald who received nine A's at Higher level. The day's proceedings ended with all the students and their parents being invited to the dining hall for refreshments.



## Leaving Certificate Awards

On Tuesday 12th September 2017, the school held an awards ceremony to acknowledge the achievements of the past Leaving Certificate students in their examinations. The ceremony was led by the Principal, Ms. O'Doherty, and the Deputy Principal, Mr. Carey. Firstly, an award was given to each student who achieved a H1 or H2 in the Leaving Certificate. Secondly, an award was given to the student in each class who received the highest results: Nathan Davis Dempsey of 6.38, Thomas Parle of 6.29 and Aran Stokes of 6.10. Finally, Nathan Davis Dempsey was awarded with the prestigious Ellis Trophy for the highest points received in the year. Well done to the Leaving Cert class 2017 on their fantastic achievements!





# Student Council

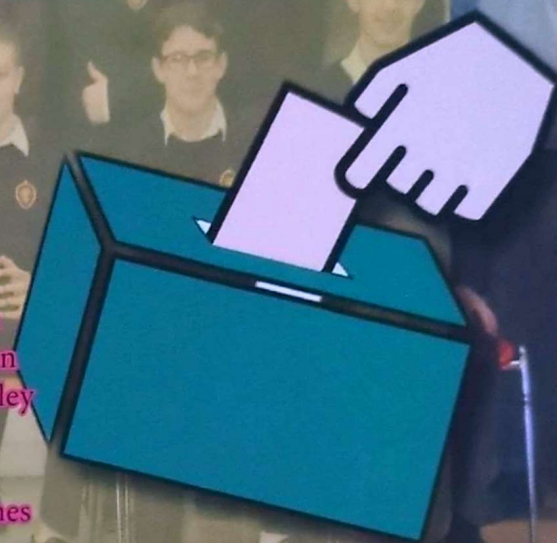
Each year a number of students from our school put themselves forward to be elected for student council. Each class has a number of representatives who would like to be elected. They prepare a speech outlining why they should be elected to represent their class. Class by class, the students made their way to the library where they cast their votes and placed them into a ballot box. The fifth year students counted the votes and the following day we found out who had been elected. The main aim of the student council is to improve school life for our student body through the eyes of other students. Once every fortnight the panel meet in the liaison teachers room who for the last few years has been Ms. Ni Mhaoilechiaráin, and they discuss ways in which they can improve the school. Well done to everyone who put themselves forward.

## 2017-2018 Student Body Councillors:

- |                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1.6 - Aoife Reilly         | 4.13 - Norbert Stochla                |
| 1.10 - Stephen Mullen      | 4.13a - Jason Ren                     |
| 1.29 - Ellie O'Malley      | 4.21 - Harry Fortune Chea             |
| 1.37 - Hannah Carroll      | 5.2 - Naoise Luby                     |
| 2.7 - Conor McGillicuddy   | 5.23 - Andrew Smith                   |
| 2.9 - Enrique Perez-Vargas | 5.28 - Tim Nolan                      |
| 2.16 - Michael Martin      | Deputy Head Girl - Emer Nolan         |
| 3.4 - Cianan Power         | Deputy Head Girl - Doireann Brosnan   |
| 3.5 - Aoife Finnegan       | Deputy Head Boy - Elliot Devon-Hurley |
| 3.8 - Alex Demery Vaughan  |                                       |

Head Girl - Eve Berney

Head Boy - Cian Gaines



## GAISCE THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

On 29th September 2017, a group of very excited 5th & 6th years and their President's Award Leaders (PALs) headed to Glendalough on the annual St. David's Gaisce Adventure Journey. The bags were packed, the shopping was done and they were ready to spend two days hiking in the beautiful surroundings of Glendalough National Park.

The first challenge for some of them was to figure out how to make up the beds in the hostel but once this was accomplished and all the food

was put away we headed off on our first hike. Glendalough National Park has numerous walks and trails marked off so navigating our way

around wasn't too difficult. After a few hours of hiking we returned to the hostel and while most of us relaxed the 'dinner group' set to work producing a fab meal for us all. Once we were all full and after a table quiz we retired to our rooms to get plenty of rest for the 'big hike' on Saturday.

Saturday's hike up the Spink was a challenge but bolstered by our packed lunches and lots of good humour we completed the route in great time, taking in the stunning scenery as we hiked. We had finished the last part of the President's Award challenge we had set ourselves during Transition Year: Community Involvement, Personal Skill, Physical Recreation and the Adventure Journey.

We would like to thank our PALs, Ms. Bailey, Ms McAuliffe, Mr O'Dowd and Mr O'Muirgheasa and also Ms Courtney and Ms Ni Chatháin who came to Glendalough with us. Huge congratulations to Alexander Hamilton from 6th Year who has completed his Silver Award - Well done Alexander!





# Fundraising

## Shoe box appeal

Christmas is a time for giving and this year the community of St. David's gave to those in need through the shoe box appeal. A member of Team Hope came to the school and talked to the Transition Year students about the prospect. She asked for all students to try fill a Christmas shoebox with small items items such as teddies, toothpaste, pencils and much more. These boxes would then be sent to children in countries less fortunate than us including Congo and Kenya.

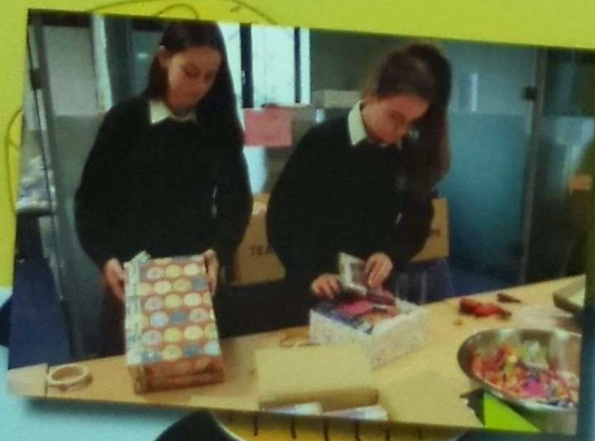
As well as students giving these shoe boxes filled with things to wash, wear and write. TYs were given the opportunity to help out with packing the shoe boxes and loading the van that would transport the shoe boxes to their destination. The students devoted their time and had the chance to do an amazing deed this Christmas.

## Vincent de Paul Hampers

Every year each class puts together a food hamper to give to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Every student brings in one food item to put in the hamper which is then wrapped to make it look more appealing. The hamper includes a wide variety of items from sweet to savoury foods such as crisps, beans, tea bags, coffee and packet sauces. Each tutorial class produced one hamper.

## BAG PACK

Every now and again the students of St. David's are encouraged to give back to the school community. From the 13th to 15th of October students from different year groups volunteered and held a bag pack in Tesco Greystones. Each slot was two hours long and some of the volunteers gave up their weekend to help raise money for their school. The event raised funds from the generous community which will be put to good use.



St.



# Farewell Mrs. Kerr



St. David's secondary school has been greatly privileged to have had the opportunity to have Ms Kerr as one of our teachers. Over the last number of years Ms Kerr has been a central figure in the school community and has helped students and staff in many ways. She is a kind and gentle person with a giving personality and nothing was too much trouble for her as she took on challenges with a smile. She played a major role in fundraising within St. David's. From bake sales and collections to table quizzes, Ms Kerr was one of the best people for the job. One of the main areas of fundraising she was involved with was Daffodil Day where she organised classes to make the most delicious cakes and goodies. Every challenge was taken on with enthusiasm and efficiency. Nothing was left to chance and everything was done with style.

For many years she coordinated (enthusiastic and committed) Amnesty groups within the school, showing keen awareness of social inequality and her desire to make a difference in the world. Not only was she a much beloved member of staff, she was also an amazing



teacher in the subjects Irish, History, English and CSPE. She loved her subjects and delighted in passing on her knowledge and enthusiasm to each new class. She was also a great Year Head. Students looked up to Ms. Kerr for guidance and help. On her retirement, she was Year Head for

the current second years. Here are some quotes about Ms. Kerr from the second years:

~'Ms Kerr was a great teacher, always taking time to explain, very patient.'

~'Ms. Kerr was a wonderful, understanding teacher and Year Head. She was always there for us, helping with whatever problems we faced.'

~'Dear Ms Kerr, thank you so much for being a wonderful Year Head. You were a credit to the school and you will be missed.'

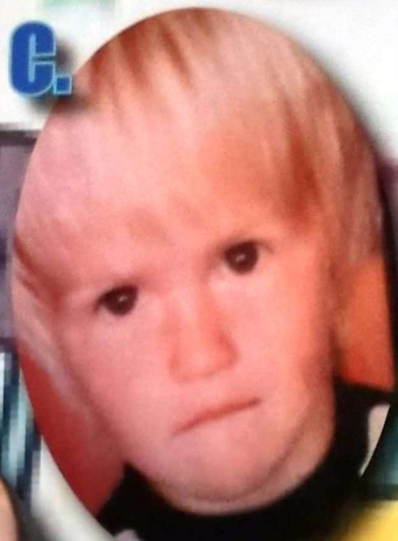
We will all miss Ms. Kerr and the various ways she helped us all but at the same time, we hope that she is enjoying a restful and happy retirement. For everything she has given to St. David's, she deserves it.

From all at St. David's

Thank You  
Ms. Kerr



Guess Who?



Mr. Ryan

Mr. Carey

Mrs. O'Doherty

Ms Ni Chathain

Mr. Boland

Mr. Davis



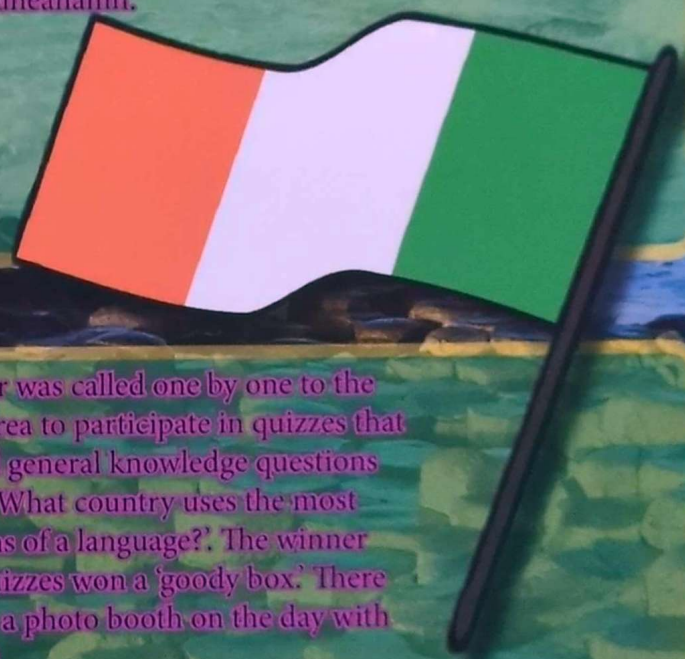
# Gaeilge Conas atā tū? Failte! Dia dhuit

## LÁ SPRAOI

Bhí Lá Spraoi sa scoil ar an 29 Meán Fómhair 2017 don chéad bhliain ar fad. Don lá, bhí céilí agus Tráth na gCeist ar siúl ó rang a 6 go dtí a 9. Chaith na daltaí ón gcéad bhliain dhá rang ag foghlaim na céimeanna do na damhsaí cosúil le Amhrán and Dreoilin, an Staicein Eorna, lonsaí na hInse agus críochnaigh muid an céilí le Damhsa na Deilbhí, bhí cuid de na daltaí an-mahith aige seo! Bhí an-spórt agus spraoi acu leis an rince go léir agus bhí siad tuirseach traochta ina dhiaidh. Tar éis an damhsa ar fad bhí Tráth na gCeist ar

siúl ar feadh dhá rang go deireadh an lae. Bhí ceisteanna bunaithe ar gach rud ó stair na tíre go Dingbats. Anseo bhí iomaíocht ghéar idir na foirne agus ní raibh mórán eatarthu ag an deireadh.

Fuair daltaí duaiseanna le haghaidh an tráth na gceist agus don damhsa sa chéilí. Bhain gach duine ar an lá taitneamh as na himeachtaí agus thug sé seans do na daltaí a gcuid scileanna damhsa a thaispeáint agus cairde nua a dhéanamh.



## EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

On the 29th of September the whole school participated in activities and quizzes in relation to The European Day of Languages. Before the school day started, the students were handed out stickers with sayings and phrases in all sorts of languages, some that needed Google translate to be understood!

Throughout the day,

each year was called one by one to the dining area to participate in quizzes that included general knowledge questions such as 'What country uses the most variations of a language?'. The winner of the quizzes won a 'goody box.' There was also a photo booth on the day with different

European props such as different jerseys and flags.

Overall, the students enjoyed their

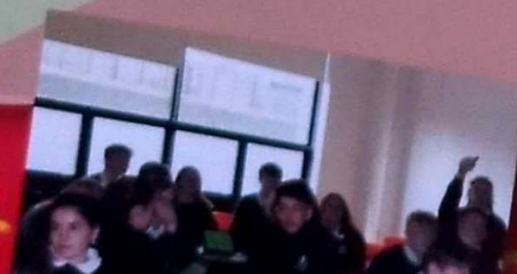




# Español

## VISIT TO SEK

At the start of the year, a number of students from St. David's were invited to SEK for a day to celebrate the Spanish language. There was a mixture of students from different years from 1st to 4th year. When they got to SEK they were greeted by the Principal and other members of staff. The day was full of fun activities and all of our students were very active. At the start of the day everyone was brought into a classroom where the SEK students gave presentations on Spanish culture. They taught the Irish students a lot about famous Spanish buildings, music, food and clothing. The Irish students also showed off their talents to the students and staff of SEK. This included a performance by Darcy Potts and Gracie O'Sullivan. The duo sang the Irish song 'Abair Leat' for everyone. Shortly after the presentations had ended they were brought downstairs for lunch. The school had prepared traditional Spanish food for everyone. Both the Spanish and Irish students played games, such as basketball. After lunch they went back up to the classroom to do some activities to get to know each other. The students asked each other questions in both Spanish and English to further help develop their language skills. When the activities were over, the two schools went outside for a Spanish vs. Irish football match. There was a great effort from both sides but the end result wasn't in St. David's favour as SEK won the match. When the match was over, SEK treated the students to more food and drinks before St. David's had to leave. It was a great day out that was enjoyed by all involved.



## TY TRIP TO THE CINEMA

On the 27th of February 2018 the TY went to The Mermaid Theatre in Bray to see the movie 'La Jaula de Oro'. The movie is about a young group of friends and their journey to leave their country to have a better life in America. It explores the struggle many people face every day trying to cross the border in hope for a better life. The students started the day off by getting the DART into Bray and walking up to The Mermaid Theatre. The movie was approximately 1 hr and 40 minutes long and it was thoroughly enjoyed by the entire group. Afterwards they all went to McDonald's for lunch.

## SPANISH CLUB

Spanish club takes place after school on Tuesdays for juniors and Wednesdays for seniors for any student from any year group who wishes to take part. It is a great way to help them to improve on their Spanish through fun activities. They take part in various activities such as interactive learning games. They also learn about Spanish culture.

## PEN PAL EXCHANGE / DELE EXAM

This year the TY students got the opportunity to take part in two new Spanish activities: a pen pal exchange with a school in Spain, Santa Maria in La Guardia, Galicia, and taking the DELE exam. The students write an email and send it to the Spanish student they are assigned to. They exchange letters with each other learning new things about their pen pal. The DELE exam is a great experience for the TY students to take part in as it helps them improve their Spanish. If they pass this exam they will be awarded with a certificate which is recognised around the world. They will sit this exam on the 18th of May - good luck to all!!!





# Français

## FRENCH EXCHANGE

This year was the third year of the French exchange. In October seven Transition Year students travelled to Lyon, France to stay with a French family. Each student was paired with a French student. It was an amazing experience for all involved. The students arrived in Lyon and for the first week they attended school in the college Fromente, an old castle converted into a school. The students experienced French culture and lifestyle while sightseeing the beautiful city. Throughout the school week they went on excursions. The second week was spent with the family. From trips in the snowy mountains to the circus, all of the students had an interesting experience and greatly improved their ability to speak French. The memories made will last forever. In April seven French students came to Ireland. They were shown around Wicklow and Dublin on trips such as the cliff walk. In the end some of the students had made life long friends.



## FRENCH CLUB

In the school there is a wide variety of clubs. French club allows students to work on their French outside of class in a good environment where everyone wants to learn and improve their French. French club offers a great way to improve French through games and apps on the iPad. This fun learning style can help students to improve their French greatly.





# 1st Year Corner

Class 1.6



Mr. Lawlor



Cian Bollard



Rohan Byrne



Caitlin Cahill-Creen



David Cojocar



Sam Condon



Leah Duffy



Emilie Fahy



Fiona Fichett



Kyle Gilbert



Michael Glynn



Donnchadh Hargan



Alex Hassett



James Hayden



Lucy Kelly



Shauna Mitchell



Dónal Murray



Sophie O'Sullivan



Regan Bartley



Aoife Reilly



Lucy Roberts Kunz



Callum Smith



Daniel Tierney



Luke Whelan



# Class 1.10



Mr. Gardiner



Riona Aivalikli



Abigail Azzopardi



Zac Berry



Euan Brady



Jasper Brezina Conniffe



Deanna Clarke



Dylan Barnes



Eoghan Doyle



Abbie Cooke



Ellen Finnerty



Alannah Foy



Amy Harpur



Mark Hayden



Jamie Mason



Stephen Mullen



Cian O'Longaigh



Dylan Potts



Aisling Power



Lucy Raspersaud



Michael Shannon



Tom Sheerin



Luca Toth



Brian Woods





Class 1.29

Ms. Keavaney



Daniel Callister



Leah Clarke



Anna Cochran



Jude Fleming



Liam Doyle



Martha Doyle



J.P. Egan



Julian Meehan



Kane Flynn



Millie Fortune



Owen Gaynor



Reece Gaynor



Leah Gibbons



Chloé Gillespie



Sarah Hayden



Alex Kelly



Ellie O'Malley



Tom O'Malley  
Maguire



Cathan McCarthy



Jacob Mclean



Alanna McDonald



Henry McElroy



Ava O'Brien



J.P. Perez-Vargas



Andrea Ryan



Kaelah Vallom





# Class 1.37



Ms. Gallagher



Andrew Bowes



Kaya Gunn



Alex Y.C. Huang



Chloe Hughes



Jessica Brady



Niamh Brady



Hannah Carroll



Tadgh Carson



Ciara Dardis



Alicia Ivory



Anna Kavanagh



Darragh Kelly



Ciara Kirkpatrick



Samuel Langran



Faye McElroy



Ciara McGovern



Ross Murphy



Alex Nolan



Oskar Pilipczuk



Keela Saunders



Robert Shparuta



Jakub Stanicki



James Stubbs



Ugne Valantinaviciute



# 1st and 2nd Year Trips

## 1st Year

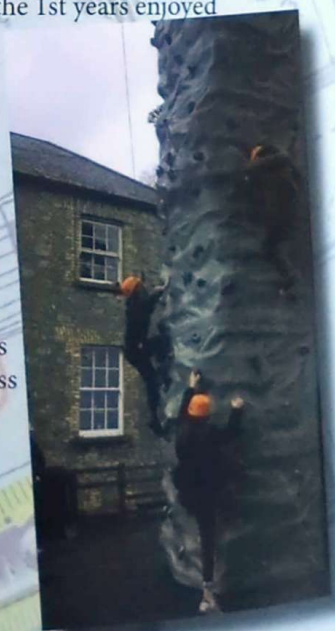
The first years had an action packed year that was filled with lots of activities and trips. The year started off with a workshop about cyberbullying in which the students learned about internet safety and how to stay safe online. The woman presenting the workshop was very impressed with how much the students knew about internet safety and praised their knowledge. After the presentation they answered a quiz and gave feedback on how they felt the workshop went. Overall the students enjoyed their day. Next up was a Sticks 'N' Stones workshop which was another workshop based around bullying and how to stay safe. The speaker set out only one ground rule which was "Listen when others speak". The day started off with a game to get to know each other better and then progressed on to learning about the six types of bullying. This was followed by the year being split up into four groups and acting out a role play with the main theme being bullying. The students learned a lot from this workshop that will help them deal with problems they may face in later life. The final workshop the students took part in was the Ceilí. During this day the students took part in many activities in relation to Irish culture such as Irish dancing and quizzes and the group who won was rewarded with sweets.

On 1st May, the 1st year students headed to the Irish National Heritage Park to learn about the history of vikings in Ireland and religious worship in the neolithic period. The first part of the tour showcased different viking artefacts such as longships, weapons and clothing. It also involved studying neolithic structures, which gave an insight into how humans once worshipped both the earth and the sky. The second part of the trip showed us a video about structures like Newgrange, and how they were designed to let sunlight pass on the summer and winter solstices. Next, a historian showed us all about everyday life for a viking. He showed us typical clothing and weapons, and how these differed between peasants and nobility. At the end of the day, the 1st years enjoyed their trip and gained greater knowledge about life in the Middle Ages.

## 2nd Year

Lilliput Adventure Centre on the first of May 2018.

The 2nd years went on an exciting trip to the Lilliput Adventure Centre in Westmeath. You could tell everyone was ecstatic from the electric atmosphere on the bus. Although the weather was terrible, everyone still managed to have a great time. There were lots of activities available such as canoeing, rock climbing, aeroball, archery and the most fun of all....an assault course that left everyone dripping in mud. Luckily there were warm showers and changing rooms. The day ended with everyone getting a nice pizza and a drink. Needless to say no one left unhappy.





# Third Year Trips

## KILMAINHAM GAOL

The third years also had a very busy year filled with lots of trips. They kick started their year with a trip to Kilmainham Gaol where they were met in the courtyard by their tour guide. They were told lots of interesting facts about the buildings history and about the prisoners that used to live there. The next trip on the agenda was the mosque trip. The students visited The Islamic Centre in Dublin in the hope of helping them with their Junior Certificate Religion course. They learned about the basis of Islam and their important practices, before entering the mosque and seeing the interior architecture. Next the students went on the annual religion retreat to Ovoca manor. The day started off with the year being split up into 6 groups and taking part in different activities throughout the day such as climbing walls and obstacle courses. After getting feedback from some of the students that participated it was clear to see that this was the highlight of the year for many. One of the last trips for the 3rd years was their trip to The Dáil for their CSPE action project, which they organised themselves. The students arrived at their destination and were met by an usher who guided them around the House of Oireachtas. They then got to sit in on a debate about The Road Traffic Amendment Bill before getting on the bus and heading back to school.



## DUBLIN ZOO

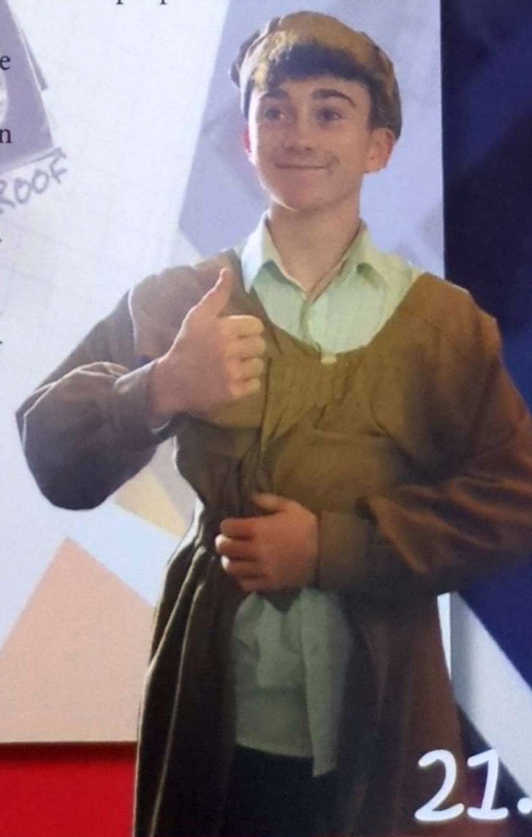
On the 21st November another third year group visited Dublin Zoo in Phoenix Park as part of their CSPE action project. The project was based on the CSPE topic of stewardship and endangered animals. As humans, we have a responsibility to care and protect all species on earth. They arrived early at the zoo where a zookeeper welcomed them to the educational building where they were presented with a PowerPoint on animal conservation and the history of Dublin Zoo. Afterwards they were brought to the Asian Elephant enclosure. There they observed that the zoo enriches the habitat of the elephants. This means they make the environment similar to their natural habitat and make the elephants work for their food by hiding it. The whole class greatly enhanced their knowledge of Stewardship and animal conservation by their visit to the zoo and are thankful to Ms. Courtney, Ms. Doughty and the school for allowing them to have a wonderful experience.

## TAYTO PARK

During the month of April, the Third Years had a trip to Tayto Park. Although the weather wasn't the best the spirits were high, and after getting their wristbands as well as the food vouchers. Most of the students started off with some of the smaller attractions such as the thrilling Air Race or the magnificent Viking ride. For people that aren't that into rides there was attractions such as the petting zoo or the 5-D cinema.

Even though all the rides were amazing there was ride that stole the show was the Cu Chulainn, it is known as the biggest wooden roller coaster in Europe and it surly lived up to the name. The ride starts by steadily going up, making the person in the cart anxious as well as excited and before you even realise you are already going down at what seems the speed of sound. Before you react you see yourself shrouded in darkness as you speed through a dark tunnel. After you scream your lungs out due to the hype and fear, you can finally get off the ride.

When all the attractions concluded the students had the opportunity to get their meal using their voucher on top of that, the students took part in the tradition of the park which was getting their very own Tayto crisps.







# TV Modules

## Causey Farm

The students were given a chance to get a feel for the farm life experience on Causey Farm in County Meath. They participated in soda bread baking, farm animal sight-seeing, followed up by some traditional Irish dancing to loosen up before the bog.

Finally after completing nearly all the activities

the students were ready for the long awaited highlight of the trip, bog diving. No one expected how hard the bog would be to master. Once a person jumped in they sunk waist deep in an instant. Getting in was the easy part, getting out was the real challenge. The students tried their hardest not to move a muscle, as even the smallest movement would make them to sink even faster creating an endless loop of struggling and getting nowhere. To get out of the bog a person was forced to lay down and roll. After a good wash and a change of clothes everyone safely returned home.



## Sailing

The Transition Year students hit the ground running in September. Sailing with Greystones Sailing club (G.S.C) was first on the agenda. All of the students were very excited to take part in sailing as it was a first for the majority. It was a really enjoyable day for everyone with varying degrees of success due to the weather. The day began with the instructors Carl, Aaron, Gráinne and Conor showing everyone how to rig their boats. They then taught them the basics of how to work the boats such as using the gybe and tack and they then practiced around in the harbour. After a quick warm-up and lunch break others were considering whether or not they would brave the open sea. Most of the students decided they would bite the bullet and head out of the harbour and sail in the open waters. Some of the students were towed back in by the instructors. Everyone had an amazing experience and most said they would have a go at it again.



## RSA

On Friday the 15th of September, the 4th year students attended an exhibition organised by the RSA (Road Safety Authority) to help raise awareness and educate people how to be safe on our roads. The exhibition took place at Lidl in Greystones. It included activities that the students could participate in such as car and motorbike driving games, virtual reality simulations, knowledge tests and even a mock car crash. The students enjoyed all activities, particularly the mock car crash, which was demonstrated by flipping a car over.







## Song School

One of the first big activities that the TY students took part in this year was Song School. Each class had two days each for this workshop and in these two days the students had to create a song and a music video to go together. The two instructors of Create-School Paul and Dave made the workshop highly enjoyable with their enthusiasm and encouragement that encouraged everybody to take part. Once the lyrics of the songs had been written, it had to be recorded and then a one take music video had to be made. All the students that took part really enjoyed the whole experience from making the music video to sitting down and watching them together.

## Bubble football

In March the TYs took part in an activity called bubble football. Although it got delayed a couple of times due to insurance reasons, it was worth the wait. The students put plastic bubbles filled with air over themselves and then attempted to play football, this wasn't the case as not only could you barely see out of the bubble but also the smallest impact sent a person flying across the court. As the games went on people stopped playing football and just started bashing into each other making it even more fun. The sun was beaming down on the day which resulted in a lot of sweaty but content students.

## First Responders

The TYs received a comprehensive workshop all about what to do if they were in a situation that involved someone having passed out. They were taught how to properly give CPR and also how to operate a defibrillator. They also learned and practised how to do the Heimlich

Manoeuvre on different people such as an adult, child or baby. Although it was a light-hearted workshop, the material learned was seriously important. The students were also given the chance to do a short course that would qualify them to be a first responder. This took part after school and had high attendance.

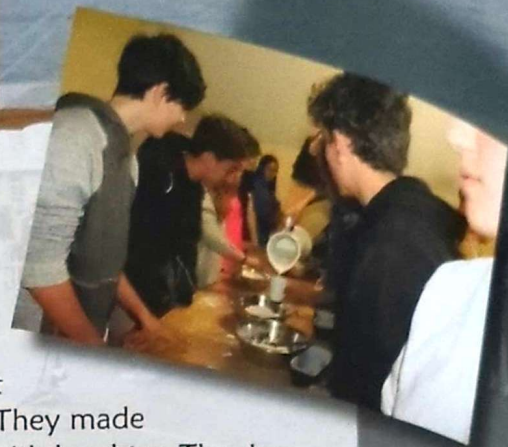




# TY DIARIES

## September

In the month of September the TY students took part in many new activities and events such as sailing, Song School and Causey Farm. The year started off with the TY's annual trip to Causey Farm which took place the day after receiving their Junior Certificate results. This was a fun-filled day that consisted of making traditional Irish soda bread, learning Irish dancing and bog jumping which seemed to be the highlight of the day for most students. The TYs then took part in sailing. They made their way down to Greystones Sailing Club for a full day filled with laughter. The day started off with the students getting into wet suits and going sailing within the harbour walls. After lunch the students went sailing outside the harbour walls which was fun.... when they weren't toppled over. Finally the last activity the TYs took part in during the action packed month of September was Song School. Song school is a Create Schools workshop run by a man called Peter Baxter. During this workshop the TYs had to write and record a song that also included a one take music video. The workshop went on over six days that were really enjoyed by everyone involved.



## October

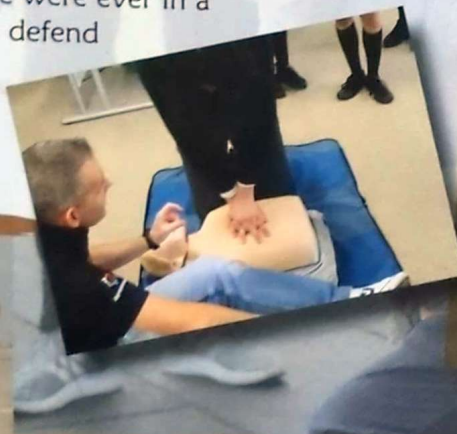
Although the month of October was not as thrilling as the action packed September the Transition Year students had various different talks and activities. These were: a Geography field trip, a fire safety talk and a talk from an ex Dublin football star John Leonard. The TYs took the short trip to Greystones Beach where they completed several activities including measuring and sketching the landscape of the beach. This field trip included a write-up which would be graded when complete. They then had the privilege to have a fire safety talk from two firemen from Greystones Fire Service. This talk was made up with a PowerPoint presentation outlining how to prevent fires and what to do if a fire was to occur. The firefighters also talked about road safety rules and showed images of local car crashes. The final activity of October was a talk from ex Dublin football star John Leonard. He told us his life story and how even though he had an amazing life playing football for the Dubs, underneath it all he wasn't so happy. He explained to us how drugs and alcohol changed his life for many years and how he overcame it all. According to John Leonard everyone should have these three things in their life: something to look up to, something to look forward to and something to chase.





## November

This month was spent taking part in workshops that helped us improve our own everyday lives. It included workshops such as a first responders course, a personal safety workshop and a healthy lifestyle workshop. The first workshop was the healthy lifestyle workshop run by a man named Jeff Allen who is ex-special forces and Agatha Hidalgo a Spanish nutritional therapist. The workshop consisted of talks and sporting activities that taught the TY's about fitness and what foods are good and what foods are bad. The year was split into 7 teams, all of which took part in a group of events called "The Hunter Games" where the winning group received a trophy. The 2 day workshop was widely enjoyed by the students. Up next was a very important workshop, the First Responders course. With this course the students were taught how to give CPR, how to use a defibrillator and how to do the Heimlich Manoeuvre on people as small as babies to people as big as adults. Although it was a light hearted workshop the material learned was not to be joked around, the students of TY found this workshop very useful. Lastly came the Personal Safety workshop run by two men called Alex and Nick. They told stories all about their younger lives and how previous experiences led them to start their company "Personal Safety Ireland". When the talk was over the students learned physical moves to perform if we were ever in a situation where they needed to defend themselves. The workshop was immensely enjoyed by everyone who took part.

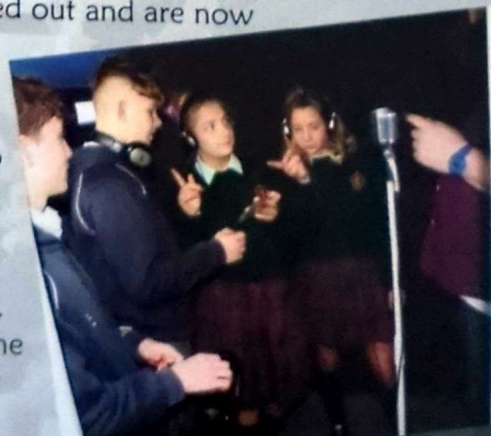


## December

As Christmas was approaching, December was a quiet but very enjoyable month. The workshops for December were: A forensics workshop, a TY Transmissions workshop and a stop motion workshop. The first of the workshops was forensics. This included a crime scene in which the TY students had to solve a case involving a 17 year old girl from Australia who went missing. The main clues that needed solving were: How she died, when she died and who murdered her (if that was the cause of death). The case was based on a real life murder from Australia with the identity of the deceased changed. It was clear to see there were forensic scientists among the TYs as many solved the case within half an hour. This was enjoyed by all involved. Next up was the stop motion workshop, run by Peter Baxter. This included creating your own stop motion movie using Lego characters. Some students really impressed themselves with how well their movies turned out and are now

considering studying stop motion design in college. The final workshop of December and 2017 was the TY Transmissions workshop also known as TY Radio. With this, the students had to create their own radio ad and record it in a recording studio located on the Fun Factory bus.

Even though it was the last workshop of December the TY students didn't feel down as Christmas was just around the corner.





January

After a well-deserved Christmas break the students were ready to come back and hit the ground running with A 'New Year, new me attitude'. The TY's had the DATs and the e-portfolio interviews. The DATs are exams that study the students' intelligence to help them with their subject choice by showing their strengths and weaknesses. The students had their e-portfolio interviews this month. The objective of these interviews is to see the growth of the students during the year and to get feedback on what was most enjoyable and what wasn't so enjoyable.

## NEWS

February

February was an interesting month. The month started off with work experience. Every student had to find a work placement which suited them and experienced what working in real life was like for one week. Soar was next on the list, the objective of this workshop was to allow the TY's to express their feelings as well as learn something new about positive mental health. It allowed all the students to bond together and show that they weren't alone. Brain boot camp followed the Soar workshop. Everybody that took part was taught the difference in making decisions and how important decision making is through an interactive PowerPoint presentation. Finally, Yoga started in late February and was to continue for four weeks every Thursday afternoon. It allowed the TY's to get a taste for what yoga really entails and it also helped relax and de-stress students during the school week. Unfortunately, due to the instructor being unwell, there was only two yoga sessions in total.





# March

CHALKDUST

ST. DAVID'S HOLY FAITH  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

2017-18



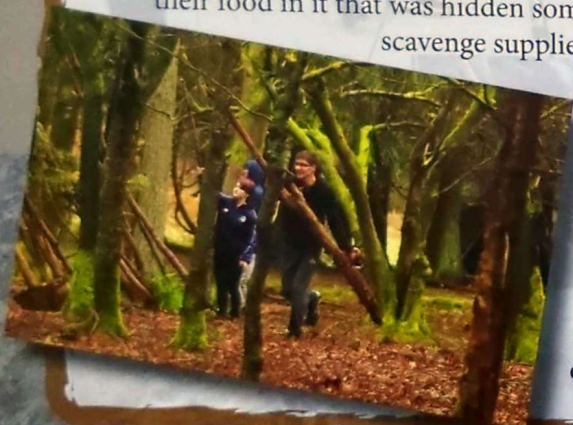
March was a quiet month for the TY students, they took part in very few activities one of which was bubble football. This activity consisted of the students making their way out to the basketball court where they were in for a day filled with laughs and fun. Each class was given a two hour slot and in this two hours they got into a plastic bubble that covered their heads and attempted to play football, although it was clear to see after about 20 minutes that the students gave up on the football aspect of things and just focused on knocking each other over. On Friday the 9th of March, the TY's had a guest speaker come in to talk to them. Conal Finn is a past student of St. David's and is now a successful engineer, who has worked on projects such as Intel and the AVIVA stadium. He is currently working on remodelling a building that is to be the tallest in Ireland. He talked to the students about a career in engineering and what it would entail, as well as the many fields available, such as chemical, was followed by questions from the students. The talk was very enlightening and the all the TYs showed an interest in learning more. Yoga also continued through the month of March, before they TYs hopped on the plane to Italy.



civic and structural engineering. This

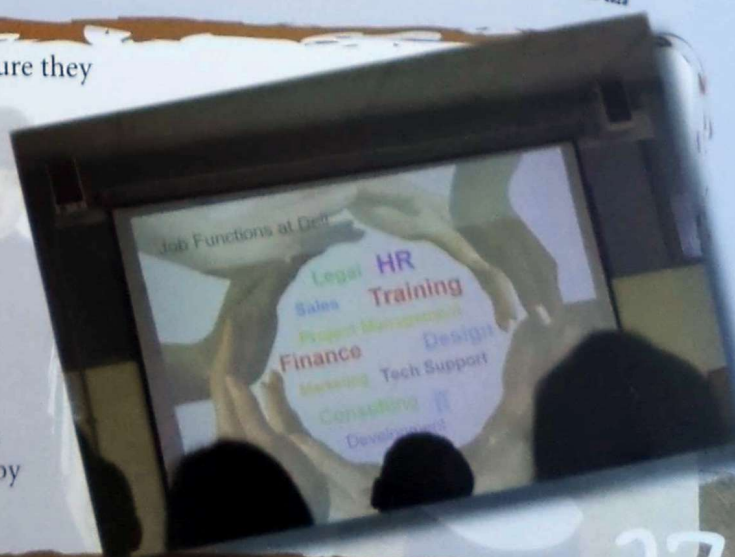
# April

On Tuesday 10th of April the TY students got the chance to partake in a survival guide experience. The year was split into groups of 8, 3 people from each team were given a map and had to orienteer to find their teams box with their food in it that was hidden somewhere in the forest. While the others had to set up camp, they had to scavenge supplies for a shelter that had room for everyone on their team, they also had to prepare a fire for the teammates returning with the food for a meal to be prepped and tested by the judges. Some shelters were well built and others ... had a little draft. It was rainy throughout the whole day but that just added to the survival challenge. The TYs also headed out from the 16th to the 20th of April for their final work experience of the year. It was enjoyed by all and some people got the great opportunity of a job.



# May

Although it was their last month of TY the students made sure they would enjoy it just as much as the others. They had many fun activities planned, the biggest being TY graduation. They also went rock climbing, had a matrix and Dell workshop and participated in sports day. Rock climbing took place on three different days with the students taking part with their class. It was a very exciting activity and all students who took part enjoyed themselves greatly. The matrix workshop was the second of the year for the TY students which was enjoyed just as much as the first one as they reflected back on TY. Finally the TY Graduation was a great success and showcased all the great work carried out by students in TY this year.







# Italy 2018



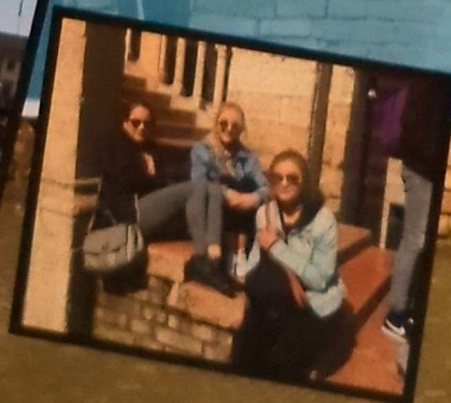
## A TY GUIDE OF ITALY:

To try and describe the Ty trip to Italy in a page is impossible because the students fit so many activities into such a short period of time. They bonded as a group and have become closer as a result of it. There were lots of early mornings, late nights and long bus journeys but they were made a lot easier spent with such an amazing group of people.

Nobody that went on the trip regretted it because everyone had such an amazing time. This was a once in a lifetime experience that the TYs were all so lucky to be a part of because they chose to do TY. They saw parts of the world together as a year which made the whole experience more fun.

You also get to spend more time with the teachers and you begin to learn that they are just normal people who are just as happy to be on holidays with a group of friends as you are and are able to have a laugh. They joined in playing pool and cards with the students and as a result they also bonded.

There were lots of activities planned for the trip such as: shopping, guided tours of some of Italy's most beautiful cities, cable car rides and cruises on Lake Garda. The TY students were in for a busy couple of days with this action packed holiday that the teachers had planned.





## DAY 1: MILAN

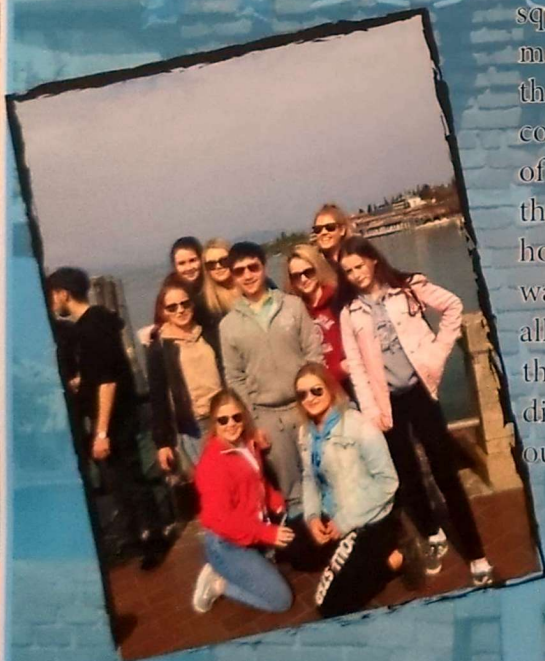
The students arrived in Milan airport at 10:30 Italian time where the bus driver greeted them and brought them to Milan Central where they visited Il Duomo Cathedral and Di Vinci Science and Technology Museum. When they arrived outside the cathedral they were given some free time to get lunch before heading inside to see the interior. While inside, the TYs saw the beautiful stained glass windows which they learned were the largest of their kind in the Christian religion. Students also lit candles inside. After they walked around the cathedral, took photos and then made their way to the Di Vinci Science and Technology Museum. There was many different things on display such as models of machines Di Vinci designed, his artwork such as the Last Supper and even interactive games and movies.

The museum had three floors so the TYs took their time walking around and looking at all the amazing inventions. After looking all around the museum they walked back to the bus where they had a very long journey back to the hotel. After checking into the hotel the students went for a buffet dinner. After the dinner was finished they gathered together in the games room where they played pool and cards before heading to bed.



## DAY 2 VENICE

On the second day of the trip, the TYs went to Venice for the day. Venice was approximately one hour and 40 minutes from the hotel. They got to the port and got a boat to Venice. The boat was small and the group was divided into two, half sat at the front and half sat at the back. They then went to St. Mark's Square and were amazed by the beautiful architecture of the square. They were given time to explore the city. During this time most students went to get traditional Italian food for lunch. After that they went shopping and sightseeing. Venice is a city full of colour and history. Many decided to get gelato after lunch. Some of the group decided to feed the pigeons with pringles because they had no seeds. Many students bought souvenirs such as Venice hoodies and the traditional Venetian masks. As the group were walking around they saw a few of the many gondolas in the canals all around the city. Not many of us got the opportunity to go on the gondolas as they were very expensive, although a few people did in their free time. Venice is a very beautiful city with many outstanding pieces of architecture.





## DAY 3: LAKE GARDA

The third day of the trip was set to be the most fun filled day as the students had two very exciting activities planned. Everybody woke up and hopped on the bus that would take them to their first destination. The students finally arrived at Lake Garda and got to spend some free time roaming around the town while eating some Italian gelato, before heading to a dock where they would get on a cruise that would take them around the lake. The cruise was thirty minutes late but this time wasn't wasted as the students took this opportunity to have a photoshoot and take photos with each other. When the cruise arrived the students hopped on and enjoyed the beautiful sights of Lake Garda.

The cruise ended where the next activity began. When the students got off the boat they got to spend some time getting lunch before getting back onto their bus and heading to Mt. Sirmione, where they went cable carting. At the top of the mountain there was snow for miles where the students spent hours messing about before heading back down in the cable cars and heading back to the hotel where they had dinner and spent the rest of their night in the hotel's games room playing cards and pool.



### TY TRIP ADVISER

'It was the highlight of TY for me as I feel I bonded a lot with my classmates and got to see one of the most beautiful countries in the world' -  
Ava McGlynn

'I felt that the trip wasn't long enough because everyone was having so much fun and didn't want to leave when the day came' -  
Niall Sheehy

'It was a great experience and I would highly recommend it to anybody thinking of going on it in the future' -  
Laura O'Toole

'It was really enjoyable trip that I learned a lot from and I wouldn't hesitate to go back in the future' -  
Aoife Lennon







## DAY 4: VERONA

On the last day of the trip the students took a short bus journey to the town of Verona where they had a guided tour by an Italian women called Aurora. This tour started off with the students seeing some of Verona's most famous and beautiful sites. They first saw Castelveccchio which is Verona's most famous castle. They then moved onto look at The Amphitheatre and some Italian architecture such as different types of windows and frescos before moving onto the highlight of the day which was visiting Juliet's house. In Juliet's house the students got to see the famous balcony and the statue of Juliet which they had studied in third year. When the tour ended the students got some free time to explore Verona for themselves before hopping onto a bus which took them to a shopping centre where they spent their last few hours in Italy. The plane was due to leave for Ireland at 10:30 Italian time, the students arrived at the airport a few hours early to avoid any delays. The last highlight of the trip was the teachers

treating the students to their last Italian ice cream before boarding the plane and heading home.







# Rugby - Senior Boys

The boys had a great start to the year when they defeated Moyle Park from Clondalkin on home Grounds at Greystones Rugby Club. The final result showed the boys great effort as they won 69-0. The game showed a great display of teamwork and individual performances on the day went to Chad Tanner and Zach White. The boys went on to play Presentation Carlow on the 22nd November 2017 in Greystones. Both teams played well but St. David's came out on top with a final winning score of 18-15.

This put the team through to the Leinster Shield Quarter Final but unfortunately they lost in a close encounter.

The whole squad have been fantastic all year and are great ambassadors for the school.

Team captain Zach White led the squad from the front all season and there were star performances from new comers Niall Sheehy, Aaron Jeffries and Craig Boshoff, with experienced players Tom Cleary, Jan Osinski and Hrysian Ivanoff. Best wishes to 6th year players who have played their last matches for the school - James McCormack, Cian Dunleavy and the mighty Ryan Whelan.





# Junior Boys

The junior boys had a great start to the year when they faced Woodbrook College on the 3rd of October in Greystones Rugby Club. The St. David's boys put in an excellent performance throughout the whole match, the winning score was 65-0. The boys who scored on the day were Dylan Thompson, Ben Hogan, Thomas Keedwell, Gary Wheelan, Juan Pablo Vargas and Jack Rigley. The boys then went on to play their next opponent in New Ross Co. Wexford. St. David's were again victorious in an excellent display. They lost their next match but can be proud of their efforts all season. Star players included Neil Browne and

Rory Ward. The last match of the year for the boys was in Greystones against Coláiste Bhríde, Carnew. Unfortunately it wasn't our day and the boys only managed to score one try. Even though we were defeated, the boys showed great team spirit till the end.



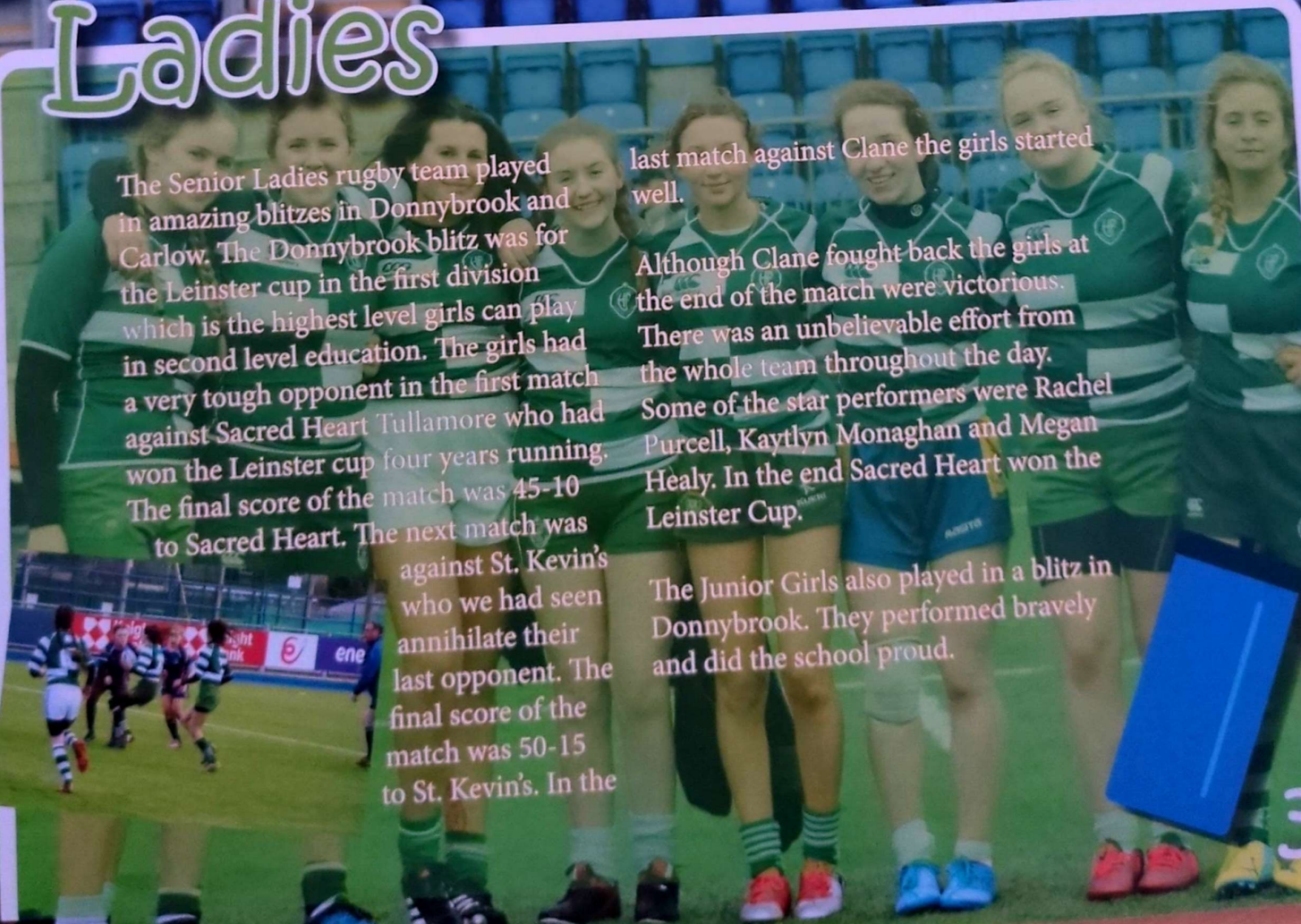
# Ladies

The Senior Ladies rugby team played in amazing blitzes in Donnybrook and Carlow. The Donnybrook blitz was for the Leinster cup in the first division which is the highest level girls can play in second level education. The girls had a very tough opponent in the first match against Sacred Heart Tullamore who had won the Leinster cup four years running. The final score of the match was 45-10 to Sacred Heart. The next match was against St. Kevin's who we had seen annihilate their last opponent. The final score of the match was 50-15 to St. Kevin's. In the

last match against Clane the girls started well.

Although Clane fought back the girls at the end of the match were victorious. There was an unbelievable effort from the whole team throughout the day. Some of the star performers were Rachel Purcell, Kaytlyn Monaghan and Megan Healy. In the end Sacred Heart won the Leinster Cup.

The Junior Girls also played in a blitz in Donnybrook. They performed bravely and did the school proud.







# Senior Boys

The senior boys had a very quiet year, only playing one match. On the 7th of December they took the short bus journey to WoodBrook College where they took on a strong side. The match started and Alan O'Donovan won the ball from the throw up and passed it onto Daniel Clarke who won the first score of the match. The score at half time was 3-8 to 3-3 in our favour; this annoyed the Woodbrooke side which resulted in them putting in some hard tackles. The St. David's boys didn't let this phase them and they continued kicking scores in the second half.

Luca Rampersaud scored 3 goals in the second half alone while Woodbrook only managed to score 1 point thanks to amazing defending skills from Eoin O'Longaigh. The match ended with a final score of 7-13 to 3-4 with St. David's being the winning side. Star performances went to Luca Rampersaud and Fionn O'Carroll.

Overall the boys were happy with 1 win out of 1 match but they do hope to have more matches next year.



# Senior Girls

The senior girls had a very busy and successful year playing 3 matches and reaching a county final. The first match was against Colaiste Cill Mhantain (CCM) at home. It was clear in the first half of the match that St. David's were the stronger side coming out of half time with a score line of 6-3 to 1-2 which was only widened in the second half to a final score of 9-13 to 1-2. The star performance for this match went to Ellie O'Neill. The next match was against the team's biggest rivals Colaiste Craobh Abhann (CCA). The girls went into the match with their nerves high as they were missing two star players, Sarah O'Toole and Katie Lawless. At half time CCA were winning by 3 points but Rachel Purcell was having none of this and scored 3 goals in the first couple of minutes of the second half. The final score of the match was 33-22 in our favour and star performances went to Rachel Purcell and Laura O'Toole. The girls were now into a semi-final against St. Kevin's who were a tough side but were no match for the St. David's girls. They proved to be the stronger team from the start by opening the scoring and working well together. The girls came out victorious and were now into a county final against CCA. The final was due to take place on the 26th of April and has been re-scheduled for the 10th of May. Best of Luck Girls!





# Juniors

## Gaelic football

The junior Girls season started quickly with the 1st match in October. The girls were nervous going into the game because it was their first time playing a competitive match as a team. The match was against Colaiste Cill Mhantain away to Rathnew. The match started and St. David's won the throw up and the 1st score of the match. A huge loss was suffered in the first half when star player, Iscult Brosnan came off injured but the girls carried on with their heads held high and finished the half with a lead of 5 goals. This lead was only widened in the second half resulting in a final score of 8-7 to 2-3 to St. David's. Star performances went to Megan Maguire and Aoife Reilly.

The junior boys started off their season with a match against Colaiste Raithin away to Bray Emmets. It was clear in the first half who the dominant side were as St. David's were upholding all the possession. The boys went into second half with a large win margin and their heads held high. This win margin was broadened in the 2nd half which led to a 10-8 to 1-3 win in our favour. The star performance for the first match of the year went to Callum Smith.

## Hurling

In early November the senior hurling team went to Arklow to play a match against a mixed school team. It was a cold morning which just motivated the boys to get out there. They got changed really quickly and were ready to take their opposition by storm. The match started and the opposing team showed how serious they were with a quick goal and a few points. This was a wakeup call for St. David's as they started to really get into the game which resulted in most of the half being played in the opponent's half. Mr. Curran intervened during half-time and gave one of his

motivational speeches which caused the team spirit to rise as the lads prepared for the second half. The boys started off strong with a few good chances and even raking up some points, which started to effect the opponents on a mental level. One of their players couldn't handle the pressure of the amazing St. David's spirit which led him to attack our goalkeeper. Thankfully the ref stopped the fight and quickly booked the player and sent him off. Although the lads tried their hardest it wasn't enough and we lost by a narrow margin.





# Soccer



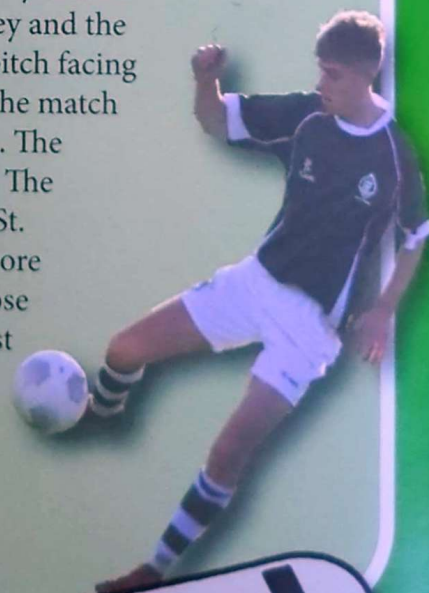
## 1ST YEAR

The 1st year boys competed in the Wicklow/ Wexford league this year and got their season off to a start on the 17th January when they played against St. Killian's. The match became a stalemate since neither side could get a goal in the first half. The second half became more eventful however as a goal was scored by St. David's, sealing the match as a 1-0 win. Their next opponent was Dublin Oak. They got off to a very bad start conceding goal after goal and went in at half time trailing 5-0. They were given a boost of confidence from an inspirational speech by Coach Mr. Gardiner and Captain Robert Shparuta. After the break they gained more hope from an unbelievable strike from. As St. David's were just getting into the game Dublin Oak hit the back of the net twice leaving the final score at 7-1. Although they suffered a tough loss they never gave up and fought right until the end but the score line didn't reflect the overall performance on the day and star performances go to Callum Smith and Robert Shparuta.



## JUNIOR

The junior boys got their season off to a rocky start when they faced off against Temple Carrig at home. The game started poorly as three goals were scored by Temple Carrig, and play didn't get much better during the second half as another two goals were conceded. Even though the team didn't play at their best, a strong performance was put in by Kristian Currie. The next match was played on a cold morning in Greystones United Football Club, the sky was grey and the rain was falling hard. The St. David's U15 boys' team took to the pitch facing a tough St. Killian's team. The boys had great team spirit starting the match off. They knew it would be challenging opposing the Killian's team. The match kicked off and Killian's scored the first goal, taking the lead. The St. David's boys fought back, working together but unfortunately St. Killian's pushed forward scoring another goal. Even though the score had widened the boys continued on and scored a goal. It was a close call but overall the Saint David's boys faced a narrow defeat against the Killian's team with the score finishing 2-1 to Killian's.





## SENIOR

The first competitive soccer match of the year was played by the senior team against East Glendalough. The team got off to a strong start and scored in the 5th minute, though they couldn't hold out until the second half, conceding a goal. In the second half the team bounced back however and managed to score four more goals to achieve a win of 5-1. Mercil Kersi and Luca Rampersaud put in excellent performances, each scoring a goal.

suffering the same mistake from the first half and not organising their side quickly enough at the start, another goal was conceded from an unlucky free kick being given. The team's overall morale was dropping lower and lower as they were on the receiving end of a beating. Slowly,

more and more goals were conceded with a full time score of 8-1 to Killian's. Overall, there was strong performances from Fionn Carroll, Drew Campbell and David O' Sullivan

Their next match was against their neighbours in Bray, St Killian's. The game started off with a shaky start with a goal being conceded within the first 10 minutes with an error from the defence and a penalty being given. However, the lads from St. David's kept their heads up and put up a strong fight, being dominant on the ball for the majority of the first half. The St. David's lads were very strong in their counter attacks and transferred a corner into a goal. With a good cross from Steven Anderson, Fionn O'Carroll put the ball in the back of the net with a strong header. With a half time score of 1-1, St. David's were looking for the win. Unfortunately,





# Athletics

On Thursday the 17th of April a group of students made their way down to Charlesland running track to participate in the annual athletics competition. This year students from 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th year took part. After departing the school at 9:30 and arriving at the running track for 10:20 the competition got underway. The day was filled with lots of different activities that included long jump, high jump, shot put, 100m sprint, 800m, relay, tug of war and the javelin throw. All students that took part did very well on the day, but a special

congratulations to our medal winners who will be representing us at the East Leinsters, Aoife McTague (gold) in the 800m. Megan Healy (gold) in the high jump. Katie Lawless, Ellie O'Neill, Aoife McTague and Megan Healy (Silver) in u20 relay. Iseult Brosnan, Nell Berney, Ava Stokes and Aoife Finnegan (Bronze) in u17 relay. Iseult

Brosnan (silver) in 100m sprint. Nell Berney (bronze) in 100m sprint and (silver) in the high jump. Katie Lawless (silver) in 100m sprint. Jack Dye (bronze) in the high jump. Dylan Anderson (silver) and Gary Whelan (bronze) in high jump.

## EAST LEINSTER ATHLETICS COMPETITION

St David's went out to Santry where an athletics competition was held in Morton Stadium. There were an abundance of schools attending from the Dublin region with Blackrock, Pres and Loreto Dalkey to name a few.

Although only 4 students travelled, an exciting day was had. Out of 4 of the

students, 3 of the students partook in running with the fourth doing high jump. The high jump competitor (Gary Whelan) reached a personal best of 1.55 meters. The competition was slightly delayed but that didn't stop 2 girls (Iseult Brosnan & Nell Berney) making it to the finals

of their groups. Unfortunately due to delays the students had to forfeit and return to school.

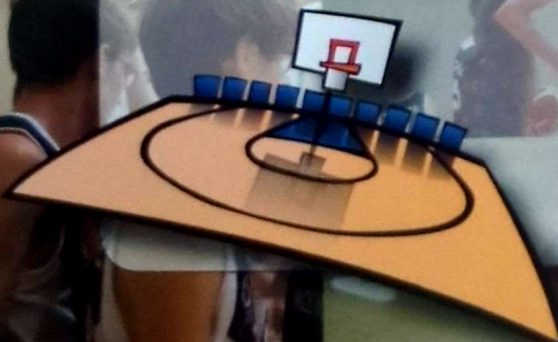


# Basketball

This year the basketball team was run by Ms. Courtney and Ms. Edinborough. After preparations in the early months of August and September, St. David's started off their campaign against East Glendalough. The U16's couldn't recover after a rough start although Dylan Anderson showed promise. The U19's were next and learned from the younger players mistakes by taking an early lead. The Bowes twins, Christopher and Stephen, kept St. David's in front until the last two minutes but East Glendalough couldn't miss. The teams faced off against CCM in Wicklow for the next match. It kicked off with the U16s team whom struggled to match up to their opponents, until the end of the game with valiant efforts coming from young Akash Kumar and the debut star Fergal O'Sullivan. The U19's game was a different story, the game started off pretty even with both teams scoring back and forth. However, it was at the start of the final quarter where the U19's team lost their grip on the game. However, one final push by Donagh Kelly and Gracjan Stanicki led to a couple more baskets for St. David's. Star performers include Donagh Kelly, Gracjan Stanicki and Josh McDonald. Unfortunately the game ended at a close score of 32-28.

Despite the results, St. David's has seen a big improvement in their game and the future is only looking up.

The First Year Basketball team had a great year. They improved greatly over the year and performed amazingly during matches despite many of them having never played basketball before. Through the coaching of Ms. Courtney and Stephen and Christopher Bowes they have flourished, improving all their skills and teamwork immensely. With time they will grow into an amazing team. All the players played fantastically with especially great performances from Luke Whelan, Euan Brady, Andrew Bowes, Sam Condon and Daniel Tierney. They played league matches against East Glendalough, Avondale and Woodbrook and although the results were not always in our favour, every player gave it their all right up to the end and never gave up.







# CLUBS

## CHESS CLUB

We have had another great year of Chess this year, with many new students getting involved in the club and students who are old hands at this stage playing to a very high standard. The Ladder Competition has been ongoing as ever, and the students experimented with a box league format after Christmas too. Chess is an excellent way of developing logical thinking and strategy, as well as fostering a friendly, competitive spirit. The top player in the club for most of the year has once again been Cian Gaines, however a recent upset placed Nicholas Orr in the top spot. Six Years ago when the club was set up, Cian and Nicholas were in first year, and were immediately among the strongest players. Alexander Hamilton is another 6th year who has put in 6 years with the club, and currently sits in third place on our ladder. His commitment to the game has seen steady progress to the point where he is one of our best players. With these students leaving us this year, we lose a lot of knowledge and experience, it will be up to the younger students to step up and see if they can play to the same standard!. Nicholas also won the senior knockout competition at the start of the year, with Sean Fagan taking silver and Jack Cunningham taking bronze. In the Junior League Competition, Andrew Bowes, Tiernan Nolan and Ross Murphy played to a tie.



## ASTRONOMY CLUB

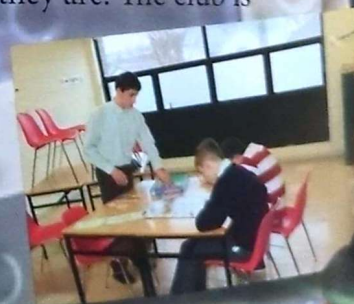
Astronomy Club is held every Monday after school and it allows young scientists from all years to learn about space - the final frontier, and maybe gain an interest in a subject that they never had before. It is a fast growing club with the numbers increasing each year.

## PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Photography Club takes place once a week after school. Students from all years are encouraged to mix and to learn the skills of capturing images with their cameras on the manual settings. A theme is set for every meeting of the club and students are free to capture any image that they believe suits this theme. After every session the photographs are displayed on the school's walls for all to see. New members are always welcome!

## DIVERSITY CLUB

Diversity club is all about acceptance. It was built for absolutely everybody and anybody who wants a place where they're not judged for who they are. The club is great for anyone who has an issue they want to face, but they might not know who to talk to about it as many topics are discussed anonymously.





# School Concert

During the last school day of 2017, St Davids reenacted one of their best traditions the Christmas Concert. The Christmas Concert is a thrilling event which allows



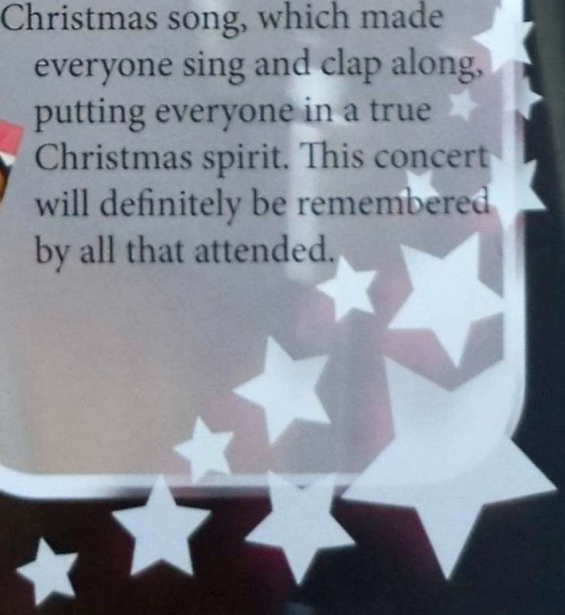
our musically talented students to perform in front of all their curious and supportive colleagues. In other words it was great fun for everyone present.

The concert started off strong with a stunning performance by the members of the music club. Everyone was perfectly insync making it an experience to remember. After that we had a few solo performances which were so good that it was hard to believe the performers weren't professionals.



It was obvious by the reaction that everyone in the audience agreed with this statement. Halfway through these outstanding musical acts we heard a few words from the vice principal and the principal. They talked about the importance of school life and family and how it's life changing. After that brief but meaningful speech we got back to the stellar performances. Which continued with more solos and duets from both the young and older students. We even heard some instrumentals of different theme songs of movies and TV series.

Finally when the audience thought they couldn't be more surprised and in awe. The teachers performed a lively Christmas song, which made everyone sing and clap along, putting everyone in a true Christmas spirit. This concert will definitely be remembered by all that attended.





# POP STARS!

The 90's Musical

Boyband

VS

Girlband

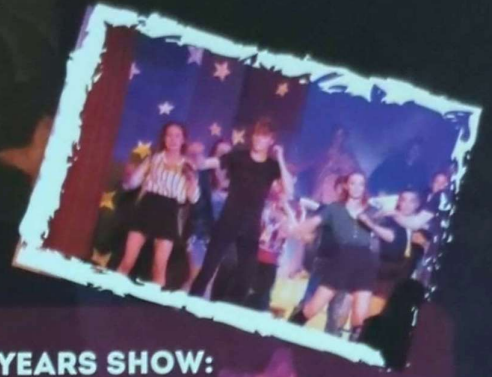
## School show

THE SHOW IS A HUGE PART OF ST. DAVID'S AND THIS YEAR IT WAS NO EXCEPTION. FOR MORE THAN 5 MONTHS, ST. DAVID'S STUDENTS HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD ON PERFECTING EVERY ASPECT OF THEIR DANCING, SINGING AND ACTING ALIKE. THIS YEAR, THEY PUT ON A SHOW NEVER PERFORMED IN EUROPE BEFORE: POPSTARS THE 90S MUSICAL. IT WAS A BATTLE OF THE BANDS, GIRLS VS BOYS. MARK, LEADING THE BOY BAND AND SHANNON, HIS CRAZED EX LEADING THE GIRLS. THERE'S JUST ONE PROBLEM. THE GIRLS ARE AS TONE DEAF AS CAN BE WHILE THE BOYS STRUGGLE TO PULL OFF ANYTHING THAT RESEMBLES A DANCE ROUTINE. SOME OF THE POPSTARS INCLUDED DARCY POTTS AS MARK, NIAMH REDFORD AS SHANNON, ALICIA IVORY CHARLES AS ELLA AND SIOBHAN HEGARTY AS CHARLIE. THESE STUDENTS PERFORMED MANY TOP HITS FROM THE 90S SUCH AS 'HIT ME BABY...', 'I'M TOO SEXY' AND 'LET'S GET LOUD', THIS SHOW HAD A SONG FOR EVERYONE. OVERALL, THE SHOW WENT DOWN VERY WELL WITH EVERYONE AND WAS A HUGE SUCCESS.

FOR THE SHOW TO BE POSSIBLE HELP WAS NEEDED FROM THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY. TRANSITION YEAR STUDENTS WORKED HARD ON MAKING THE PROGRAMME AND SHOW SETS WHILE STUDENTS FROM FIFTH AND SIXTH YEAR WORKED BEHIND THE SCENES, DOING BACKSTAGE, RUNNING THE SHOP AT THE BREAK AND DOING THE CAST'S MAKE UP. EVERYTHING CAME TOGETHER AND THE SHOW FINISHED AS A SUCCESS. FOR MANY THE SCHOOL SHOW IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THEIR YEAR. THE CAST WORK FROM SEPTEMBER TO JANUARY TO PERFECT THE MANY NUMBERS TO BE PERFORMED BUT IT IS WHEN THE CURTAIN OPENS AND YOU ARE STANDING ON THE STAGE WHEN YOU FORGET ALL THE HOURS OF REHEARSAL AND ALL THE HARD WORK PAYS OFF. THE ATMOSPHERE AND ADRENALINE WHILE PERFORMING IS AMAZING AND THE MEMORIES MADE ARE THERE FOREVER.







**HERE ARE SOME OF THE CASTS OPINIONS ON THIS YEARS SHOW:**

*"The show is a great and different experience that pushes people out of their comfort zone".*

*"By taking part in this year's show I made lots of friends and I think that it pushed me out of my comfort zone and I loved it".*

*"I really enjoyed taking part in the school show this year because it was a really fun experience and it was really cool to perform in front of a live audience".*

The Bray people wrote about our production of "Popstars" and this is what they had to say....

"The young people of St. David's School showcased their talent at their recent school musical 'Popstars! The 90's musical.' The transition year students had been working hard for months to prepare the show. It was boyband vs girlband in this hilarious musical. Packed with hits from The Spice Girls, Backstreet Boys, N\*Sync, Britney Spears, Mariah Carey and in the words of the article our St. David's wannabe popstars hit the right notes.





# 6th year Tutor Messages



Dear 6.24,

I can't believe that we're coming to the end of this school year already, it has really been a pleasure to be your tutor for the last two years. You are all so lovely, such a pleasant and friendly group even first thing in the morning, I will miss seeing you in tutorial every day.

I hope you have enjoyed lots of good times at St. David's and that you have learnt a lot both academically and personally. Take away lots of good memories, remember all the friendships you have made and all the times you've shared together. I have taught some of you in class over the years and I think I've gotten to know most of you pretty well at this stage. I hope that you make the most of your talents in the years to come and that you always do your best no matter what you decide to do with your life. Work hard to live a happy and healthy life and remember that sometimes things don't work out how you expect them to but that's not always a bad thing.

I wish you all the very best for the future, you have so many happy and exciting times to look forward to, I hope all your hopes and dreams come true.

The best of luck with your exams, be positive and patient, try not to stress too much and do your best.

Guím gach rath agus sonas oraibh!

Go n-éirí go geal libh i gcónaí,

Máire Bríd Ní Mhaoilchiaráin

Dear 6.26,

So, we've reached the end of another school year, and for you, this year is your last. No more classes, no more homework and best of all, no more Leaving Cert. Leaving school probably feels like a huge relief, and of course you are all looking forward to what the world has to offer. That said, I hope you can all look back on your time in St. David's and say you enjoyed it. I hope you can all look back on the school tours, the sports days, the classes you enjoyed (and the ones you didn't), the friends you made and everything you have learnt and say "that was six years well spent". I hope that when you look back on your school days in the years to come, you will be able to say that the St. David's community taught you to be hardworking, resilient, compassionate, forgiving and decent.

One of my fondest memories of the last two years was the St. Catherine's Christmas party. The huge effort put into dressing up, decorating, and organising that party was an inspiration. Personally, I took a lot of pride in seeing 6.26 student Orlaith Purcell take on the role of Mrs. Claus for those children. There are plenty of other 6.26 students I could mention as well; my applied maths class is pleasingly full with 6.26 students, and we have both the head and deputy head boys from this group too. I know each of you has things in your life, big and small that you have achieved, and I hope that even if they are not publicly acknowledged, you still take pride in your achievements over the last six years.

I wish you all the best as you begin the exciting journey of adulthood. Look after yourselves and each other, and I hope that if I meet you in the future, I will meet people who are healthy and happy, who treat others well and have gone out into the world with the goal of leaving it a better place than they found it.

Sincerely,

Mr. O Donnchadha





Dear 6.18

It is hard to believe that our two years as a tutor group is coming to an end. It has been a great pleasure for me to greet you all every morning and to get to know you all a little bit better during our five minutes together. Despite the morning ritual of chasing up missing absentee notes, you have all been extremely co-operative and a pleasure to deal with.

I have always been very proud of the students of Saint David's in the way you treat each other with dignity and respect. You always look out for each other, especially when faced with challenges. As a group I can only say that you lived up to this tradition in the best possible manner. Keep looking after one another in the years to come and always remember the importance of the friendships you have made throughout your time in secondary school.

I will always have fond memories of the Saint Catherine's Christmas party where each of you gave of yourselves to make the event so special. The atmosphere in the dining area was a testament to the efforts you made in all aspects of the preparations. Thank you also for not having me collect the wooden spoon on presentation day! (Hopefully I am not premature in offering this thanks!)

As you embark on the next step in life's journey, I wish you all the very best on whatever path you choose. I hope you keep following your passions and find opportunities which give you great enjoyment and satisfaction. Continue to work hard along the journey and always strive to be the best version of yourself. I wish you all happiness, success and fulfilment in your future.

Mar fhocal scoir, guím gach rath oraibh sa todhchaí. Go n-éirí go geall libh go léir.

Mr Ó Muirghéasa



Dear 6.38,

It has been a pleasure being your tutor over the past year. Ms. Doyle was right in singing your praise. I didn't teach any of you this year and have only taught a few of you in past years. Our five minutes flew by each morning so I really only got to know you more as the year went by. Many happy, friendly greetings as our paths crossed on the corridors of school.

You gave it your all for the St. Catherine's Christmas party, which was wonderful, with lots of you helping out in many ways throughout the school.

You are a great bunch of students who, I'm sure, have made some very good friends during your time in St. David's. Some very happy memories, I hope. Of course, there may have been some challenges along your journey but very often these make us stronger. I wish you every success and happiness as you enter the next stage of your journey.

All the best in your exams and future lives.

Go n-éirí libh,

Mary Carmody





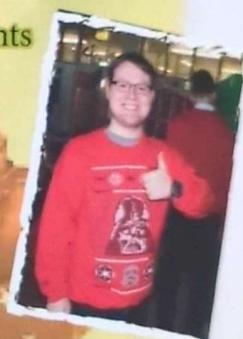
# St. Catherine's Party



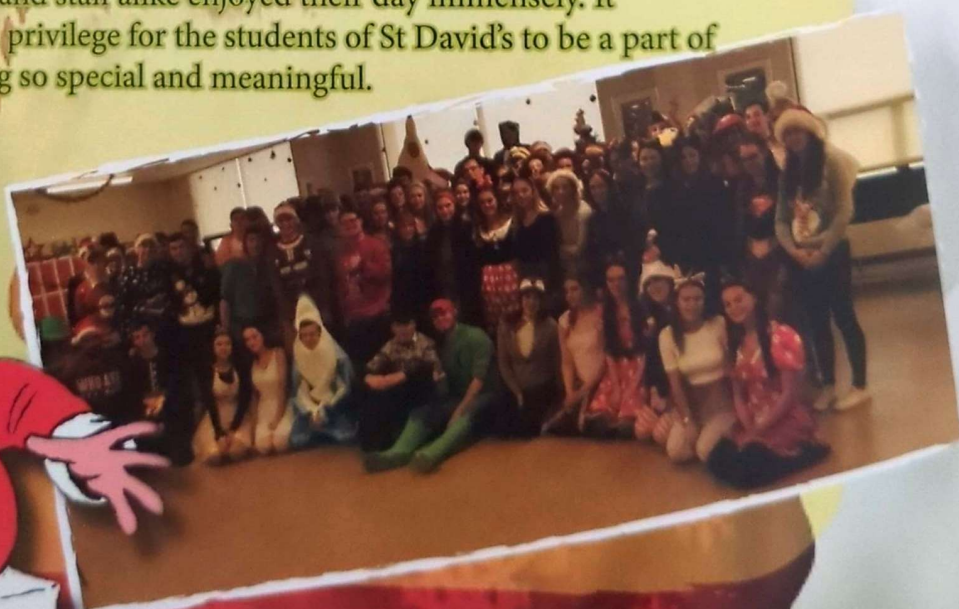
One of St. David's proudest and most memorable traditions is the St Catherine's Christmas party. This year it took place on the 13th of December and proved to be one the highlights of our school year. The day before, all 6th year students gathered together to decorate the dining area, transforming it into a Christmas-themed wonderland. Each year, children from St. Catherine's School in Greystones come to St David's for a day of fun.



The day featured a huge variety of activities. Students provided an array of entertainment, including games, music, dancing and food. The children met Santa and Mrs Claus who arrived in a fire truck. After greeting the children they began distributing presents in Santa's grotto. All students made a huge effort to dress up in a variety of costumes including sharks, princesses and leprechauns.



There was an incredible atmosphere on the day as children, 6th years and staff alike enjoyed their day immensely. It was a real privilege for the students of St David's to be a part of something so special and meaningful.





# Sixth year Ovoca Retreat

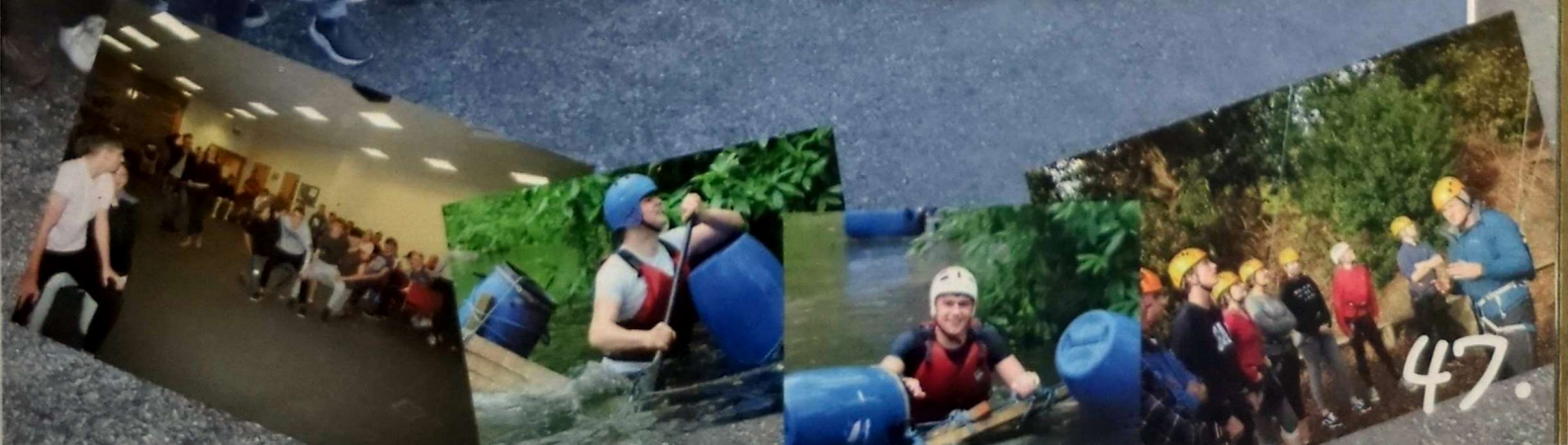
On the morning of Tuesday 14th November, spirits were high as the 6th Years piled onto buses, eager for their well-earned break from study. The destination was Ovoca Manor, a retreat centre tucked away in the heart of Wicklow. Upon our arrival, before jumping into a day of activities. We were split into groups, seeing our courage tested on the Leap of Faith, and teamwork skills come into play with the Low Ropes and Jacob's ladder. After hours of climbing, running and following each other blindfolded, we gathered for dinner. Games were played and stories shared between the students and the organisers at Ovoca. We laughed and chatted together, as well as having a moment of reflection on the few months that had passed of our last year in St. David's.

We were then given the evening off, playing cards and snooker, and hearing the occasional cheer or groan from those watching the Ireland vs. Denmark match. Once the game ended, we ventured out into cold evening to the campfire site, to share stories and marshmallows. By this time, most of us were sufficiently exhausted after the long day. We headed back to the Manor, and some of us retired to bed. Others stayed up singing and talking with each other and the teachers.

We were set tasks of completing the activities that we had been introduced to the day before, some of which were familiar and some were not. Under time pressure we raced around the grounds of the Manor, hitting targets at the archery station, dragging logs up a hill and racking

our brains to solve puzzles. The competitive spirit was high and we could hear other groups shouting, laughing and motivating each other, until we had all completed our tasks. We returned to the Manor, having a quick lunch before joining into a meditation with the organisers. This was a nice way to clear our heads as we contemplated the year that was to come, and the challenges it would bring.

We regrouped for our final activity of the day – raft-building. The winning teams of the earlier competition were gifted with the finest in raft-building technology – rope, barrels and a few planks of wood, while everyone else scavenged for what they could find. After our 15 minutes of construction, we dragged our creations to the nearby pond. There was quite a variety of designs, and the worried faces of those piloting the rafts didn't inspire us with much confidence! They soon set off, one by one, paddling, swimming and cheating their way around the course. Much to the spectators' amusement, the rafts slowly broke apart, leaving our brave pilots in the ice-cold water, shivering as they dragged the mess of knot work and wood to the finish line. We then trudged back to the Manor, and once we had cleaned up and packed our bags, we said our goodbyes and climbed back on the bus. It had felt like we had been there for only a few hours, but as we chatted and snoozed on the way home, we realised how enjoyable the past couple of days had been, and how we would have liked to stay there longer!





# Sixth Year Geography Trip

The 6th years as part of their Leaving Certificate course are required to carry out a geographical field study on a given title. This year's field work investigation was on river erosion and landform development in a fluvial environment. An early morning was in store for our 6th year Geography students as they travelled to the K Estate to carry out their geographical study on the river Liffey and its tributaries. The located site was the Athdownbrook River. The students were given waders by the Kippure staff and they made their way into the river themselves and for the most part avoided getting wet.



The students were divided into different groups and were brought to their first field study site. A number of tasks had to be completed such as river velocity, bedload analysis and river gradient. Everybody learned a lot from the day as all experiments were completed successfully. Later on in the year students will use this information when filling in their Geography write up. It is worth 20% of their overall exam that they will sit in June.







# Year Head Farewell

"Great memories of an exemplary group of students will come flooding back when ever I think of the class of 2018. Your character, your trustworthiness, your cooperation, your care for each other and your never-failing good humour and courtesy mark you out as a truly memorable year group. That's why I cherish the honour I've had to be your Year Head, if only for the last two years of your time in St. David's. (My thanks to Mr. Carey and Mr. Maloney who took such good care of you through TY and Junior cycle.)

And now you're leaving us for the outside world. It's a world that's yours as much as anyone's, so show that world what you're made of: in your Leaving Cert, your future studies, your career and in everything you do. And remember, St. David's will always be your school, where there will always be a warm welcome back from your proud Year Head.

All the best for your great futures!

Mr. Reynolds

Sixth Year Yearhead







Conor Alas



Luke Brady



Carolyn Byrne



Lauren Carroll



Jack Cunningham

# Leaving Certificate Class 2018



Conor Doyle



Sean Fagan



Brandon Galligan



Gaylan Garratt



Murai McCusker



Emily Harpur



Jake Kennedy



Garpin Langton



Sophie McDevitt



Rayna McGlothin





Sean Mooney



Earmuid Mearns



Reisin Ní Sheáin



Eóirse O'Sullivan



Adam O'Toole



Anna Lucia Pérez Varga



Gracjan Antoni Poterlowicz



Aoife Rainey



Dumitru Rimbă



Angel Thomson



Ryan Whelan



Zach White



Kirstin Bailey



Paige Howard



Katie Byrne



Alan Cafolla



Daniel Clark



Niamh Daly



Keith Doyle



Eian Dunleavy



Zac Gooker



Michael Green



Alexander Hamilton



Tara Houlihan



Eiril John James



Harry Kennedy



Clara Kennedy



Lorena Mallon



James McCormack



Eamon McDonald





Eamon Mervin



Sam Moller



Daniel O'Brien



Sam O'callaghan



Alan O'Donoghue



Luca Rampersad



Conor Scanlan



Jenny Sheehy



Chad Tanner



Katie Ward



Daniel Blackenssee



Harry Boyne



Cian Brennan



Joshua Daly



Mathew Daly



Elliot  
Devon Hurley



Ruairi Doyle



Conor Fagan



Jane Flaherty



Cian Gaine



Anson Gallagher



Cian Hanlon



Craig Holmes



Foin Lennon



David Lisovski



Sean Maguire



Poin Mallon



Aoife McCann



Conor Murphy



William O'Brien





David O'Connor

Eughan O'Donnell  
Robinson

David Parkinson

Orlaith Purcell

Michael Quinn

Alex Sherlock

Richard Slevin

Emma Smith

Saoirse Ward

Eve Berner

Ellen Bollard

Daireann Brosnan

Empna Caffrey

Thomas Callister

Emma Duggan

Ana Escribano  
Navajas

Alex Gaughan

Callum Goldsmith

Sean Gurrin

Dean Harris

Ruth Hart

Olivia Horowska

Ryan Hudson

Jefil James

Riona Joyce

Donagh Kelly

Isabel Leonard

Andrea Lewis

Conor Lynch

Barraigh McKenna





Robert McMillan



Ben Mullen



Emer Nolan



Neil O'Regan



Nicholas Orr



Donal Shortt



Grant Tria





# Farewell to the Class of 2018

Class of 2018, it has been my privilege and joy to have been your Principal for the last five / six years. My job has been a very pleasurable one. I would like to take this last opportunity to thank you all most sincerely for your co-operation, kindness, courtesy, good humour, generous nature, and positive attitude which has been evident throughout your years in St. David's.

Your journey resembles that of a star. You entered St. David's with a big goal to graduate with pride and dignity. This journey brought many challenges, like decisions to be made and feelings to be nurtured. Nevertheless, the heavy demands of rigorous academics, and the inevitable influences and demands of modern society and technology were all necessary elements in your journey.

The following personal qualities define you; faith, integrity, respect, dignity, compassion, generosity, truth, kindness and loyalty which is the cornerstone of a well-rounded and good individual.

Of these I would like consider these two, Faith and Integrity. Faith - sustains our soul. In times of tribulation look to your faith to comfort you. Prayer can be a great source of consolation. Our faith provides us with our moral compass, it guides us and gives us peace. Your Catholic education has given you all the values necessary for integrity to be at the heart of you. Many of you have already called on your faith to enable you to stand up for justice. Taking such a stand is required of you, you will need to continue using your reserves of strength resilience and resolve. Abraham Lincoln once said 'I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to what light I have.' Live the way of our Founders - The Holy Faith Way - individuals of faith, love, loyalty and service. Integrity - is difficult to define. Although we can recognise it easily in people who embody it. These are individuals who are true to themselves, they are honest, upright and decent in their relationships and dealings with others. Their words and actions are congruent. Their actions speak more eloquently than words. Integrity demands consistency, it means being truthful, faithful and loyal. Integrity always demands courage. My greatest wish for you all is for contentment and resilience in your life. I wish that you might influence the proclaiming of truth, fairness and making a significant difference to our world. Never underestimate the impact you have on others. Your influence has the power to bring about great change. In education, relationship comes first, not intelligence. There can be a tendency sometimes to lose sight of the dignity of education as a result of too narrow a focus on the economy, where schools are seen as vehicles for the provision of knowledge. However, I hope that in your years here you have learned to focus on the heart of the person and the needs of society.

Your wellbeing takes priority in your life. Wrap yourself with a good portion of spiritual, emotional and physical health. If you do then you will have a capacity to cope with life's challenges and thrive in an ever changing complex world. I hope that your years of schooling in St. David's have been happy ones. Always remember that each one of you is unique - there has never been and never will be another human being quite like you. You are all blessed with many gifts and talents

and I hope that you will continue to develop as people when you leave this school. Believe in yourselves as we believe in you and embrace the future with optimism. The support of family, friends and school will motivate and inspire you to continue your journey to the galaxy full of boundless possibilities and new horizons. As you walk through our school for the last time, be grateful for what you have become, think of those who have helped you on your way, share your gifts with generosity. Love each other and talk to one another when in need or crisis. Mental health and wellbeing are the basic ingredients for happiness and contentment. I wish you all success in your Leaving Certificate examination. Do your best and then you will be happy with the outcome. I hope that whatever paths you choose in the future will bring you happiness and fulfilment. Live the honest but sometimes difficult Christian way of life.

Finally, I would like to share with you, one of my favourite prayers, which I recite regularly:

"Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous:  
Teach me to serve you as you deserve;  
To give and not to count the cost,  
To fight and not to heed the wounds,  
To toil and not to seek for rest,  
To labour and not to ask for any reward  
Save that of knowing that I do your will."  
St Ignatius of Loyola.

Ráth Dé oraibh í gcónaí

Mary O'Doherty





# The Gold Duke of Edinburgh School Alliance Badge.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON, SIXTH YEAR

Hobbies Club runs in Room 5 once a week for 60-90 minutes after school. We have around 18 students who regularly attend and play strategy battle games against each other. These games involve cunning and logic and are not for the faint hearted!! For the first time this year we ran a competition against a similar club from another school. 20 students from Woodbrook College in Bray visited St. David's and battled fiercely for over 2 hours in the games 'Magic-The Gathering' and 'Warhammer 40k!' There were some great wins for St David's (as well as a few losses) but a brilliant evening was had by all involved.

For the past six years, Alexander Hamilton has been a dedicated member of the St. David's Hobbies Club (formally known as Warhammer Club). Alexander is an avid collector of Warhammer armies and a skilled player in the area. He furthered this skill throughout TY and Senior Cycle and has completed his Silver Medal in the Gaisce Awards using Warhammer/Hobbies Club as the personal skill.



I wanted to recognise the contribution that Alexander has made to Hobbies Club and St. David's throughout his six years. I wrote to School Alliance in Britain who are part of Games Workshop, the company who design Warhammer. School Alliance send out resources and advice to schools running clubs for Warhammer. They were delighted to hear that we have a student with such a great passion for the game and they replied to my request with the following:



"I can send you out a limited edition School Alliance Badge that can only be achieved by students completing their gold Duke of Edinburgh Award (this is the equivalent of the President's Award in Ireland). There are only currently 70 of these in production in the whole of the world. As it takes so long to earn a DofE Gold award, no student owns one of these yet, he'd be the first."

I am delighted to have awarded Alexander Hamilton with the first gold School Alliance badge in the world on Presentation Day in St. David's! Congratulations Alexander and best wishes in your future endeavours, from Ms. McCormack and all in Hobbies Club.





# Sports Day

Sports Day took place on Friday the 4th of May in Eire Og GAA club. As normal, students were in school for tutorial and then made their way down to the venue. You could already feel the excitement in the air, which was boosted even further when the music began playing through the speakers. There were lots of events in store on the day such as the 100 and 200m sprint, relay race, javelin throw, welly throw, tug of war, sack race, three legged race and an obstacle course. All the students gave it their all on the day and did their best to try to steer clear of the wooden spoon plaque by collecting as many medals as possible for their class. As always a great day was had by all who participated and we would like to thank Eire Og for facilitating our event along with St. David's P.E. Department, Mr. Dunne and Mr. Boland for organising such a great day.

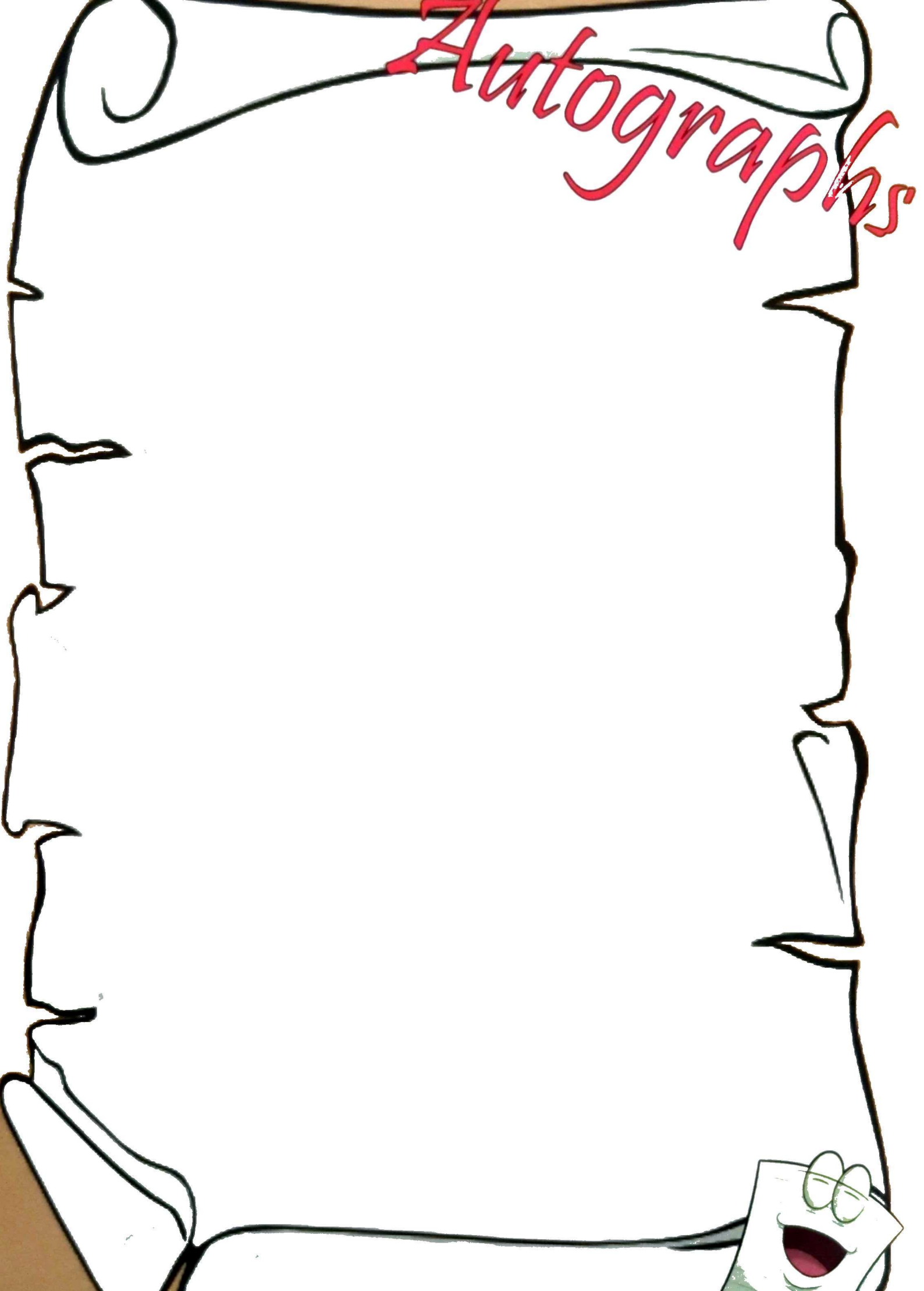


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# Autographs





# Class of 2017/2018





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