

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020



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Photo taken Jan/Feb 2020



Photo taken Jan/Feb 2020



Photo taken Jan/Feb 2020

From the Principals Desk



One of the highlights of a particularly difficult year was getting our school reopened in late August. The challenge that we

all faced was to ensure that every member of our school community was safe to come to school. School is a very special and important feature in the lives of young people, and I am beyond grateful to everyone who supported us in making our reopening safe and sustainable. It is important to extend a special word of thanks in this regard to Brendan Barry our Facilities Manager. Brendan ensured that each room was fitted with a sanitising station, he organised one-way systems throughout the building as well as ensuring that the school was 'hospital clean'. I am pleased to advise you that we have recently appointed an Assistant Facilities Manager Eoin Wright.

Our teachers were exceptional in the manner in which they met the new challenges of teaching in a very changed environment. When our school reopened our teachers sought to meet the students 'in the moment'. The temptation was to hurriedly race through material to make up for the lost tuition time. Our teachers resisted that temptation and instead checked in with students to identify where they were at. This created a positive engagement which led to sustainable progress. Teaching with a mask to students wearing a mask is tough on everybody. Teaching is a human engagement and facial expression is a very important feature of communication in a classroom setting. Our teachers have worked tirelessly to develop their professional pedagogical practices which focus on enhancing the social and emotional dimension of learning. Collectively we have researched and shared practice in this area so that we can provide an enriched learning experience for each of our students.

Our students have been truly inspirational. They have demonstrated great appreciation for all that school has to offer, and all that has been done for them to keep them safe. They have been

extraordinarily compliant in all requests made of them in respect of the safety of every member of our school community. A lot has changed for our students, yet they continue to make the best of every opportunity provided to them.

Making opportunities available to students is what we have prioritised. Our Transition Year students made their way to Ballyhass every day for a full week in September. Rehearsals have commenced for our forthcoming musical. We have also introduced new dimensions into our TY programme such as bike maintenance as well as attracting funding for TY initiatives such as the Creative Cluster grant and the Creative Engagement grant. We are in the process of constructing a recording / broadcasting studio where students can produce podcasts as well as broadcast live radio. We anticipate that we will have a broadcasting module built into our TY programme in next year's curriculum. As a measure to provide a sheltered safe place for students we have installed a heated atrium structure with a motorised retractable roof. This is a very dynamic space where students can learn, socialise and be creative in an outside sheltered environment.

Our Open Evening was showcased on-line this year and it received very positive comment. The Open Evening production is currently available through our website and I would actively encourage you to view it if you have not already done so.

I want to extend a hearty congratulations to the Leaving Certificate class of 2020. It was very regrettable that we were not in a position to bid these students the traditional Kinsale Community School farewell last May and that they were also denied the celebration of their graduation ball.

I am very grateful to the teachers who provided the Leaving cert class of 2020 with calculated grades to enable them to attain their college places and to move on to the next exciting phase of their lives. The Leaving Cert class of 2020 obtained remarkable grades across the entire curriculum and we were delighted to acknowledge their achievements during

our Annual Awards Evening on October 16th 2020. Our guest of honour for this year's event was the managing director of Microsoft Ireland, Ms Cathriona Hallahan. Cathriona shared her own life story and her very powerful message was 'be authentic and be true to yourself.' A number of our former students called into the school to receive their award in person and it was great to catch up with them. It was great to meet up with dual Cork superstar Fiona Keating Sports Person of the Year, Daniel Keating Student of the Year and Dara Wall overall Academic Achievement Award in recognition of her 625 point Leaving Cert.

During this term we said farewell to our esteemed colleagues, Geraldine Sheehy and Rob Bergin as they both drew the curtain on their respective teaching careers at Kinsale Community School. Both of these teachers gave great service to our school community and the students provided them with a fitting tribute as Geraldine and Rob completed the 'final lap' on our running track.

On behalf of the Board of Management and Sr Rita, Chairperson of our Board of Management, I want to express our sincerest gratitude to our entire school community for all that you do to make this school such a wonderful place to work and to learn in. Schools are magical places. Students ensure that schools remain forever young. We are particularly blessed in Kinsale Community School in having a student population which is bright, polite, creative and kind. It is therefore our responsibility and duty to ensure that we continue to provide a world class educational experience for our students. We take this responsibility and commitment very seriously as we continue to provide guidance and support to those who will shape our future.

I want to thank Maria Brosnan for all of her work in putting this impressive publication together year after year.

Finally I wish to extend every blessing to you and your families for Christmas and the New Year. Ba mhaith liom Nollaig Shona agus Athbhlian faoi mhaise a thabhairt díobh go léir.

Deputy Principals Desk

Claire Sheehan

I hope you and all your families are well at this time. It has been such a challenging time for everyone in so many different ways. The students I am dealing with everyday have been exceptional. They have shown great courage and resilience through the last 9 months. They have adapted to so many new norms, they have hidden strengths. I would like to acknowledge the growth mindset of our students. They have learned so much in such a short time, changed their approach to school & study and developed new skills. Research shows that those with a growth mindset are more persistent and better equipped to deal with setbacks & they know hard work and practice can help them to reach their goals. While they all wear masks and go about the day sanitising their hands & desks the culture of our school has remained the same. It is a place of friendship & support. They continue to meet with friends, work hard and commit to school as they did in the past. Inside the walls of our school we have some semblance of normality which we are so grateful for. Their social interactions outside school are not the same and this has caused stress & a build up of anxiety which we are very aware of.

These are some useful tips issued by the HSE to help our students who are feeling anxious as a result of Covid 19.

- sometimes accepting that what's happening is not only tough, but also outside of our control can help ease the pressure and allow us to see more clearly
- to take notice and be aware – take some time everyday to check in with how you're feeling. Being able to recognise and name how you feel can help you to deal with it. You can find some great tips [here](#)
- give yourself some credit – sometimes we are our own worst critics. Taking a moment to stop and think of what we have done to get through the past few months can help us see that we are probably doing better than we think we are
- write it down – sometimes writing things down can really help. It can be a good way of getting our anxious thoughts out.
- take a break from the news - We are



bombarded with information through TV, radio and social media, and this can be really overwhelming. While it is important to keep up to date with the latest messages, it is also important to step away. Schedule a time every day to check your social media, and the latest news and make sure to you rely on trusted sources such as the [HSE](#) and the [Department of Health](#), as misinformation and rumour can cause extra stress and anxiety

- a problem shared is not necessarily a problem halved, but it does help. Friends and families can be a good source of support and talking to someone can really help you to realise you're not alone. Sometimes a different perspective can make things seem much better and easier to cope with
- There are a number of service providers that offer online and phone mental health supports and services. These include online counselling, phone and text services as well as online supports which can be found on www.yourmentalhealth.ie. Your GP is a key person in the students life if they are not feeling themselves.

The Government Plan for Living with COVID-19: Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021 highlighted the important role that individual and community resilience will play in contributing to our ongoing

response to COVID-19. We are very lucky in Kinsale to have KYSS to offer support to students but there are many other services available.

The HSE are launching a new, free, online mental health and wellbeing programme called **Minding Your Wellbeing**. This evidenced based programme, consists of 5 video sessions, each 20 minutes, is accessed through yourmentalhealth.ie.

50808 is a first of its kind for Ireland: a free 24/7 text service, providing everything from a calming chat to immediate support for people going through a mental health or emotional crisis - big or small. From breakups or bullying, to anxiety, depression and suicidal feelings, crisis volunteers are available 24/7 for anonymous text conversations. Start a conversation by free-texting the word HELLO to 50808 any time, day or night.

Pieta provide professional one-to-one therapeutic services to people who are in suicidal distress, those who engage in self-harm, and those bereaved by suicide. All services are provided free of charge and no referral is needed. Call free 1800 247 247. Text HELP to 51444.

Cont. overleaf

Claire Sheehan Cont.

Barnardos provide a national telephone support service for parents, in response to the challenges they are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Freephone 1800 910 123 (from 10am to 2pm, Monday to Friday). Referrals will be accepted for children up to the age of 18 who have parental/carer's consent.

Jigsaw is a mental health charity focused on providing expert advice and support, online and in person, to young people across Ireland aged 12 - 25 years-old. Talk to one of the team through 1:1 Live Chat by visiting jigsaw.ie/livechat. Contact our support line on freephone 1800 JIGSAW (544729) (1pm to 5pm Mon to Fri). Text CALL ME to 086 180 3880 and one of the team can call you back when it suits you. Visit jigsaw.ie for more information or email help@jigsaw.ie

MyMind provides free online and phone supports, psychotherapy services for children, adolescents and adults under the COVID-19 project. Clients of age 16 and above can use free-of-charge online counselling. If you would like to book an appointment you can do so by contacting

MyMind through email at hq@mymind.org or calling the office at 0766 80 10 60 (9am - 5pm).

BeLONg To Youth Services provide support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI+) young people in Ireland between the ages of 14 – 23 years. Text LGBTI+ to 086 1800 280 to chat in confidence with a trained crisis volunteer (anytime day or night, standard SMS rates may apply). Visit www.belongto.org for more information.

SpunOut.ie provides a wide range of articles and information for young people aged 16 – 25 years, on many different topics, including mental health. Free-text SPUNOUT to 50808 to chat anonymously to a trained volunteer 24/7. Visit www.spunout.ie for more information.

Aware undertakes to create a society where people affected by stress, depression, bipolar disorder and mood-related conditions are understood, supported, free from stigma, and are encouraged to

access appropriate therapies. Free phone 1800 804848 or email supportmail@aware.ie

Shine provides information and support through regional offices and offers counselling and support to individuals living with mental illness and their families and carers. If you are in distress or seeking information you can contact Shine at any time for confidential support at phil@shineonline.ie

Childline (ISPCC) is Ireland's 24-hour national listening service for young people up to the age of 18.

Freephone 1800 666 666 (any time, day or night). Text 50101 (from 10am to 4pm every day). Chat online at www.childline.ie (from 10am to 4pm everyday).

Turn2Me are a community of fully qualified and accredited mental health professionals working online to provide a high quality, safe, anonymous and confidential space for you to gain support - wherever you are, whenever you need it, for whatever you are going through.

Counselling options for individuals, couples and young people aged 12-17 offered. Log on to www.turn2me.ie.

Stress Control is an accredited free programme that teaches you life skills to deal with stress. The programme helps us recognise the signs of stress and covers topics including how stress affects our bodies and thoughts. It teaches skills to overcome panicky feelings and tips to getting a good night's sleep.

Mobile apps to support your mental health

These mobile apps can help you manage anxiety. They have been reviewed and approved for listing by a group in the HSE (Mental Health Apps Review Sub Group).

Mindshift (by Anxiety Canada)

A user-friendly self-help tool based on proven scientific strategies, MindShift CBT teaches about anxiety, helping users to engage in healthy thinking and to take action. Users check in each day to track

their anxiety and work with tools in the app.

If you have an Apple phone - you can download the app by clicking here.

If you have an Android phone (most brands that aren't Apple), then you can click here to download it to your phone.

Clear Fear

Clear Fear is an app developed for teenage mental health charity Stem4 which uses the evidence-based treatment CBT to focus on learning to reduce the physical responses to threat by learning to breathe, relax and be mindful as well as changing thoughts and behaviours and releasing emotions. You can personalise the app if you so wish and you will be able to track your progress and notice change.

If you have an Apple phone, you can download the app by clicking here.

If you have an Android phone (most brands that aren't Apple), then you can click here to download it to your phone.

Headspace

Headspace is a well-known mobile app that teaches meditation and easy to use mindfulness skills. Map your journey, track your progress, and reap rewards in your overall health and wellbeing. You can even 'buddy up' with friends and motivate each other along the way.

If you have an Apple phone you can download the app by clicking here.

If you have an Android phone (most brands that aren't Apple), then you can click here to download it to your phone.

Senior Cycle is a very important and challenging time for teenagers, I hope some of the above will help you and them if they need some extra support.

Wishing you all a very happy and safe Christmas

Claire Sheehan, Deputy Principal

Ger Hogan



Reimagining Education through Blended Learning at KCS

KCS Digital Technology Journey in recent years

2017/18: KCS was one of just 20 post primary schools who piloted the Digital Learning Framework prior to national implementation.

2018/19: Integration of Microsoft Office 365 virtual learning environment to support teaching and learning. All staff and students set up on Office 365, which has enhanced both teacher and student collective and collaborative practice.

2019/20: Developed the 'KCS DreamSpace' in our McAuley Suite. Collaboration with Microsoft helped us to create what is now a very exciting 'STEM' facility. Kinsale Community School bestowed with 'Showcase School' status by Microsoft, an elite group of schools that exemplify the best of teaching and learning in the world today.

2020/21: Blended Learning model of teaching and learning embedded in KCS through Microsoft Teams and OneNote and an increased use of digital learning in school and at home.

Student Devices

The students of KCS have benefited greatly from our partnership with Microsoft and our recent collaboration with Wriggle is another initiative that we are pleased to make available to parents to enhance your child's learning experience in KCS. Purchasing a device through Wriggle enables KCS students to access online pedagogical content safely in school and at home. Wriggle is a Microsoft Gold Partner for Education working with over 300 schools throughout Ireland.

Presentation by Director of Wriggle, Beryl Furlong (from a Webinar presented to KCS parents last June)
<https://tinyurl.com/y2hk2u2f>

Presentation by Mr Farren and Mr O'Reilly to Showcase the use of Teams/OneNote to support teaching and learning at KCS (from our Virtual Feilte Scoile 2020) <https://tinyurl.com/y43x9g4k>

We will host another Webinar like the above for KCS parents later this academic year before the Wriggle store opens for new orders, with updated information and advice.

Points to Note:

- A Surface Go 2 will be added to the KCS Wriggle Store for 2021 as an alternative option for students along with the latest Lenovo device.
- With an increasing number of students using devices in KCS, having a managed device through Microsoft Intune means that Wriggle can resolve a technical/connectivity issue on devices seamlessly thus reducing disruption for the student.
- The device is configured specifically by Wriggle as advised by KCS and connects automatically to the school's secure WiFi.
- The device is managed so the app store is disabled and only apps and resources for school are on the device.
- Microsoft 365 apps for Students (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, OneNote etc.) downloaded on the device for online and offline access (full licence).
- Students cannot install social media apps.
- Device is configured in line with GDPR regulations, so your child's data is safe and secure and not shared with third parties.
- The warranty included is an 'enterprise' grade warranty so includes a quicker response and turnaround time.
- Wriggle's offering includes training for students and parents in the use of the device/apps for learning, which is being enhanced for 2021.
- eBooks are not part of the KCS Wriggle package. Including eBooks on the device as standard, would cost an extra €300-€400. Alternatively, we have negotiated with our book publishers to supply KCS with extra eBook codes for students on our book rental scheme. All parents in the Junior school are invited to request such codes as required and we will supply same. This is a prudent measure that KCS has developed to minimise expense

incurred by parents. eBooks have become more popular this academic year and many parents of first year students, in particular, have expressed a desire for eBooks to reduce the weight of school bags. eBooks work well for some students while others prefer a physical book depending on their individual learning styles.

• Although it will not be mandatory, we are encouraging all students to have a 'device for school'. Access to online content and submission of schoolwork through Teams/OneNote has increased significantly this year. Many students are using their smart phones for this now, but this is not a long-term solution.

• Students having a 'managed school device' is preferable.

We are confident that with further planned enhancements to Wriggle's 'Digital Technology Support Service' with our oversight and advice, then their product represents the best overall service to support the learning of students in KCS.

Launch of the KCS app - Our school at your fingertips



Available on your app store soon... Kinsale Community School App - helping parents/guardians, students and staff to stay up to date with the latest school news and upcoming events. Receive important information and relevant push notifications straight to your mobile device. Watch the latest videos on the school's YouTube channel, find school contact details and other useful information from within the app. As we roll out further features, parents/guardians, staff and students will also be able to submit digital forms directly from the app, reducing paperwork. Users who set up a profile (not mandatory) can choose for which news feeds they wish to receive push notifications, enabling them to tailor the information they wish to receive. The EasyPay portal will also be accessible directly from the app. Please check our website for further information on downloading the app in the coming weeks.

Gerard Hogan, Deputy Principal

Kathleen O'Brien

School Self Evaluation Update

This year we continue our School Improvement process focussing in particular on the areas of Teacher Collaborative Practice and Learner Experiences. We are refining our practices and aim to be highly effective in these areas.

We are actively engaging with a number of different School Improvement projects including a Feedback project through Forbairt with the PDST, a Student Voice project with the ILP and the development of a Middle Management Training Programme with the ACCS.

We are using School Self Evaluation to embed relevant aspects of the new Framework for Junior Cycle, to monitor the Literacy and Numeracy strategies, to develop our use of Digital Technology to enhance our teaching, learning and formative assessment practices. We are also focusing on the area of Student Voice to empower students to take ownership of their own learning and increase student agency.

Some examples of rolling and new actions in the area of Numeracy and Information Technology we have worked on since September include:

- Organisation of Maths Week whole school activities and quizzes run by Ms Cooper and the Maths Department
- A numeracy intervention programme was developed by three experienced maths teachers focusing on key areas of fractions, decimals and percentages. This will be delivered after Christmas to a targeted group.
- 5th and 6th class teacher workshops run by Ms McKenna
- Y1 parent's maths initiative, which was moved online this year and delivered by Ms A. O'Mahony
- Mr O'Reilly piloted the use of Surface Go's in conjunction with One Note to enhance the learning of Maths. Now, since August, this practice has been integrated into mainstream teaching across the

school.

- Cognitive Ability Testing results will be shared with current Y1, Y2 and Y3 parents through CloudSchool with the Christmas Test Results this year to empower parents to support the learning of their children

- Targeted and layered whole school Professional Development has been provided to all staff on using 365 following the surveying of staff and students on their experiences of online Learning since March, in particular the effective use of Teams and One Note

- Addition of Computers to the Y1 Wellness programme since September

- Provision of Digital Media Literacy & Coding as Short Courses at Junior Cycle level

- TY Computer Science Module and then consequently introduction of LC Computer Science this year in 5Y taught by Mr Corcoran and Ms Cooper

- Vex Robotics has been again provided as a TY module this year with Mr Farren including participation in competitions, introduction to coding and activities with spheroballs

- We are continuing to develop and invest in the Dreamspace in the McAuley Suite

Information Technology and Numeracy are intrinsically linked as both require logic and problem solving skills. With 25 extra points still given to Leaving Certificate students who opt for Higher Level Maths, there are lots of ways you can positively impact on your child's Numeracy too:

- Talk to your child about how you use maths everyday so they can see how the maths they learn at school relates to real life.

- Talk about numerical information, statistics and data that you see in newspapers and online (such as sporting statistics, or weather information or recipes!)

- Talk positively about mathematics and take an interest in your child's maths homework.

A significant focus of the SSE working group this term has been in providing staff with CPD and mentoring to enhance their approach to Blended Learning and their engagement with Teams and OneNote for teaching and assessment.

On surveys the staff completed after the lockdown period, it was evident that there is excellent engagement with the use of Microsoft 365.

Interestingly we discovered that more than half of students surveyed use their phones to do their schoolwork through 365. This is convenient but we would prefer to see students using devices as this would enhance their learning experience.

Surveys clearly indicated to us that both teachers and students needed more training in the area of One Note (see below). As a result, we targeted out Féilte workshops towards this and we provided staff with simple short training videos to watch their teaching groups.

We look forward to further developments in this area as the year rolls on and Digital Wellbeing is at the top of our priority list.

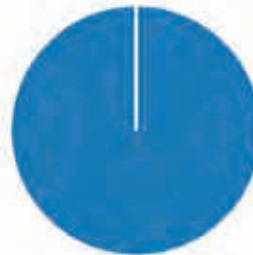
Kathleen O'Brien, Deputy Principal

Kathleen O'Brien | Teacher Survey:

1. Do you actively use some applications in Office 365 e.g email, onedrive, onenote etc?

[More Details](#)

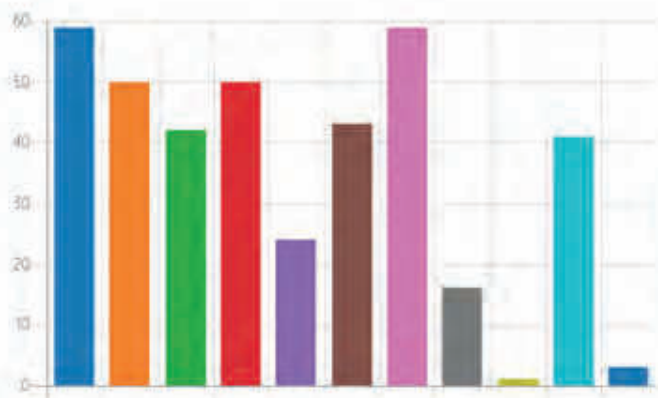
Yes	59
No	0



What Office 365 applications do you use? Select as appropriate.

[More Details](#)

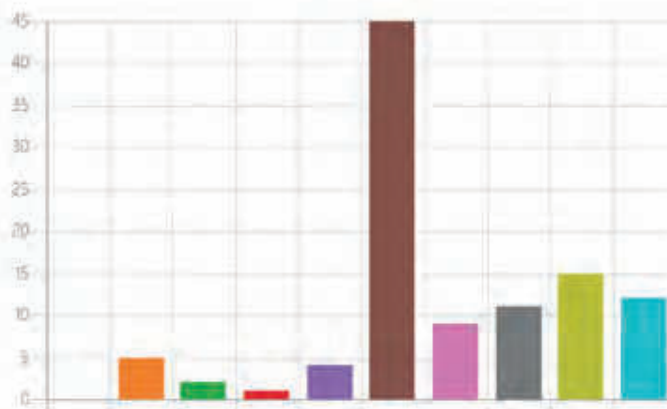
Outlook (emails)	59
OneDrive	50
Powerpoint	42
Word	50
Excel	24
OneNote	43
Teams	59
SharePoint	16
Sway	1
Forms	41
Other	3



What Office 365 apps do you need MOST CPD on right now? Select as appropriate.

[More Details](#)

Outlook	0
OneDrive	5
Powerpoint	2
Word	1
Excel	4
OneNote	45
Teams	9
SharePoint	11
Sway	15
Forms	12



Kathleen O'Brien | Teacher Survey cont.:

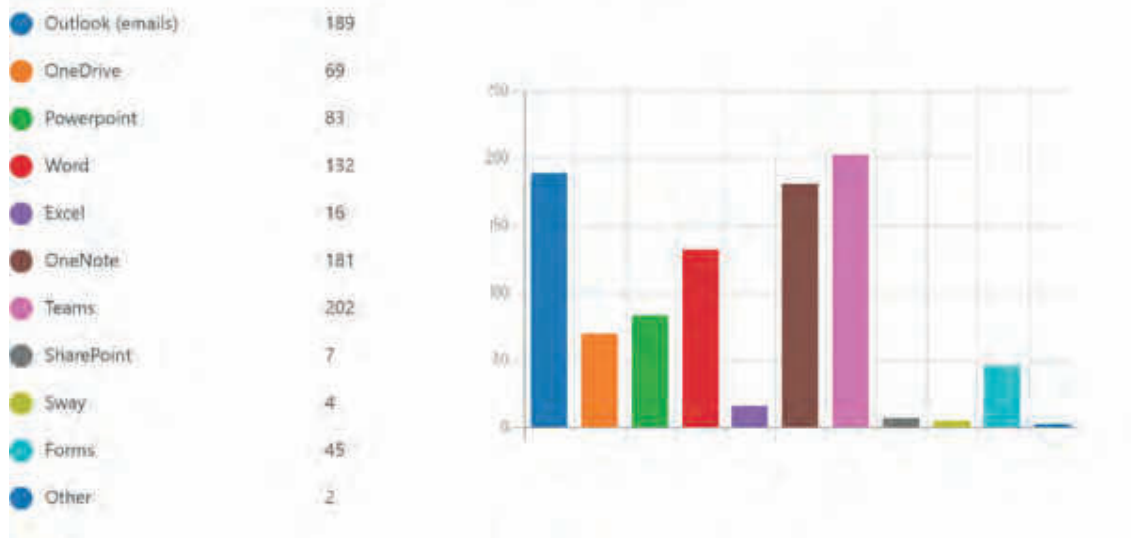
What do you use to do your schoolwork through Office 365 mostly?

[More Details](#)



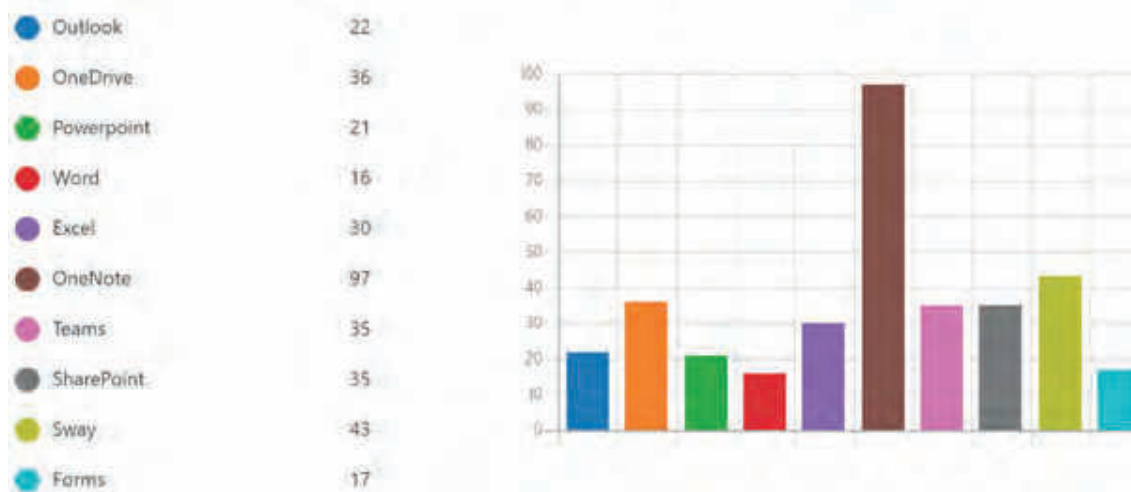
What Office 365 applications do you use? Select as appropriate.

[More Details](#)



What Office 365 apps do you need MOST help with right now? Select as appropriate.

[More Details](#)



Aerprize Scholarship

Congratulations to our former pupil Patrick Gowran who was chosen as an Aerprize Scholarship recipient 2020 last May. Patrick is invited to join Aero City for six weeks while earning his Private Pilot Certificate at Angel City Flyers in Long Beach, California.

***Photo taken prior to Covid Pandemic*



History

History Centenary Commemorations Group

100 years ago in the shadow of a global pandemic, Ireland was in the midst of a brutal struggle for independence against arguably the most powerful empire to exist on planet earth. The Rebel county played one of the most prominent roles in the clash, with many men and women from the west Cork locality playing their part in the war of Independence. From Kinsale, Belgooly, Tracton and Balindee, to Clonakilty and Kilbrittain, those who made up our community 100 years ago were heavily involved in the conflict. Almost everyone in our school community has a family story based during this time, passed down from generation to generation like a beloved heirloom.

This year harbours many centenaries

of the War of independence, such as the hunger strike of Terrence McSwiney, Bloody Sunday and the Burning of Cork city. To many of us, these events will be merely a page in a history book, or a passing news headline. Many of the ceremonies that would have marked these events or honoured these men and women have been cancelled due to Covid-19. Of course, there are plenty of online commemorations and such, but these tend to be only sought out by lovers of history.

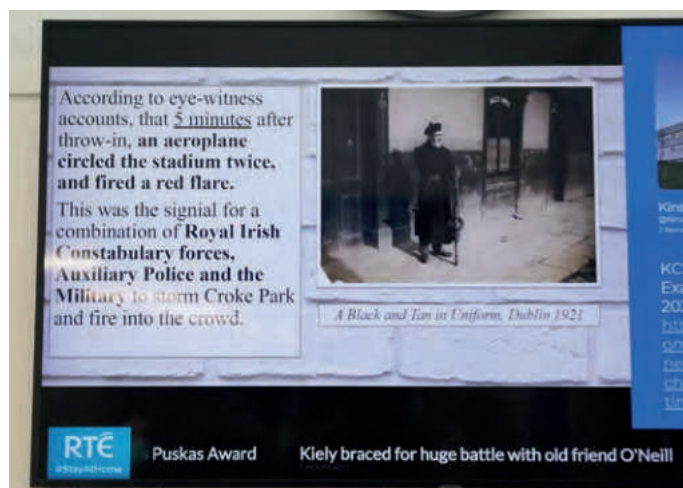
From this need to bring our history to the forefront, especially for young people, emerged to KCS Commemorations Committee - nicknamed 'The Squad' (after Michael Collins' infamous team of assassins). Spearheaded by Mr O'Donovan, 'The Squad' is made up of

nine members - Siomha Wilson, Abby O'Donovan, Evan Daly, Emma Hurley, Jack O'Donovan, Lily Fitzgerald, Sarah Fitzgerald, William Walsh and Nick McCleod.

Of course, there isn't much we can do due to current circumstances. The committee produces PowerPoints commemorating the centenaries of various events, which are available to view on the screen by the entrance of the G corridor, and will soon be able to view on the A Corridor. Perhaps in better times the committee will be able to engage in more fitting and substantial commemorations.

Pictured are: L to R (Back): William Walsh and Jack O'Donovan; L to R (Front): Nick McCleod, Lily Fitzgerald, Siomha Wilson, Abbey O'Donovan, Sarah Fitzgerald and Emma Hurley.

Emma Ní Muirthile (5th Year)





Junk Kouture 2020

Junk Kouture is a national contest which encourages young designers in second level education to create striking couture designs and impressive works of wearable art from everyday junk that would normally find its way into the bin. This competition aims to inspire and ignite passion in these teenagers while at the same time educating them about the importance of recycling and reusing waste. A class of Transition Years was made at the beginning of the year under the guidance of Ms. Hazel Quigley and Ms. Deirdre Kelly. In order to enter the competition pupils create their designs during one double and one single class a week. Students have been hard at work on their designs at home also. A variety of materials is being used this year including shoes, cotton balls, rope, old jeans, playing cards, and much more! It's been difficult this year to source materials in a safe way. Students are ensuring that the materials gathered are sanitised and quarantined before beginning to work with them. Best of luck to all our Junk Kouture entries this year!



Mural

Artist Audrey Cantillon is working with 2 transition year groups to design and execute a mural for our newly canopied courtyard. The mural will include the 3 rights of the students of Kinsale Community School the rights:

- to be happy
- to learn
- to be different

Thanks to the creative engagement NAPD for a grant to make this all possible and we are all looking forward to the developing design.



Portraits



Anna Ormston - Y2



Kelly O'Shea - Y2



Manuela Saiz - Y2



Sophie Hurley - Y2



Isaac Rahilly Scully - Y2

Still Life



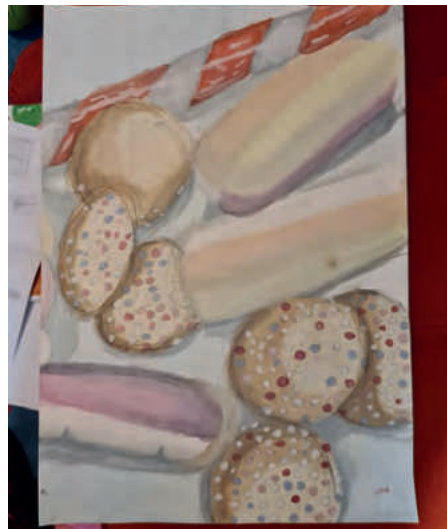
Alyson Cremin - Y2



Dionne Collins - Y2



Hannah Ganly - Y2



Jessica Bronikowska - Y2



Nora Gould - Y2



Amelia McCarthy - Y3



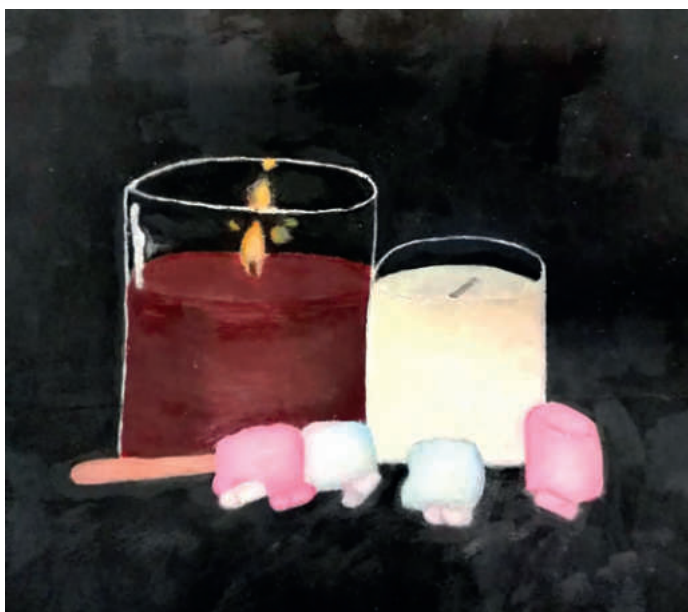
Anna O'Mahony - Y3



Kali Woodcock - Y3



Luka Foley - Y3



Sarah Lukacova - Y3



Sophie Peare - Y3



Tamara Kruslin - Y3



Zoe McLaughlin - Y3

ÉACHT NA SCOLÁIRÍ 2020

This year's awards ceremony took place via an alternative online medium. We were delighted that it could continue in a socially distant environment while also bringing a wider audience together to acknowledge the achievements of our students. Our MC for the evening was Deputy Principal Ms. Kathleen O'Brien.

Our guest of honour was Ms. Cathriona Hallahan MD of Microsoft Ireland. Kinsale Community School is very fortunate to benefit from the privileged status of being a Microsoft Showcase School. This has seen a significant investment of intellectual and innovative capital in our school and as a result of this link forged with Microsoft, our students were able to seamlessly continue to learn remotely during the school closure.

Ms Cathriona Hallahan is a remarkable role model for all women. Her values, vision and vital insight has helped to enhance pedagogical practice and revolutionise learning.

Ms Hallahan and her colleagues have created a virtual learning environment, which reminds us that we are participants in a global community experiencing an evolution to learning and teaching as we have known it.

Microsoft Teams facilitated student engagement and enabled staff to support student wellbeing during the national lockdown. It is now firmly established as a key teaching tool to unlock learning potential and digital media literacy has evolved to become a passport to future study and the world of work.

This year we introduced a new award- The Principal's Award. This year principal Mr. Fergal McCarthy wanted to recognise the positive contribution and academic progress that Meabh Aherne a student in 6th year has made in our school. It is very fitting that in its inaugural year this award was presented to a very diligent student such as Meabh who has immersed herself in so much both within and outside the classroom throughout her time in KCS, namely Meitheal programme which aims to mentor 1st years and volunteering in the school shop at lunch time.



1st Year Winner - Gemma Whelan



1st Year Winner - Isabelle Hurley



2nd Year Winner - Gemma Sadler



3rd Year Winner - Rachel O'Brien



4th Year Winner - Ben Langford



5th Year Winner - Paulina Maticinskaite



BT Young Scientist Winners 2019 - 2020



Bank of Ireland Award Winner - Conor Green



6th Year Winner - Daniel Keating

Nominees / Winners 2020

The full list of nominees and award winners is as follows:

First Year Nominees: Aoibheann Ferguson, Aoibhinn Keating, Aoife Cotrell, Gemma Whelan, Hannah Ganly, Ian Cullinane, Isabelle Hurley, Jack Harrington, Jake Grace, Louise Lordan, Lucy Kelleher, Luke Farley, Mark O'Driscoll, Meadhbh O'Sullivan, Róise O'Donovan and Tadhg Cronin

1st Year Winners: Isabelle Hurley and Gemma Whelan

Second Year Nominees: Daniel Mallon, Denise Scanlon, Eimear Dineen, Eliza Duncan, Evan Kelly, Gemma Sadler, Isla O'Sullivan, Jane Fehily, Luka Foley, Niamh Barry, Ross McCarthy, Saoirse O'Brien, Sarah Lukacova and Ted O'Callaghan

2nd Year Winner: Gemma Sadler

Third Year Nominees: Arlen O'Kennedy, Catherine Cadogan, Clara Hennessy, Lucy Crowley, Rachel O'Brien, Sadhbh Humphreys, Sean Moru and Tessie Scanlon.

3rd Year Winner: Rachel O'Brien

TY Nominees: Ben Langford, Chi Chi Nnamani, Elizabeth Gleasure, Emma Hurley, Emma O'Callaghan, Grainne Corrigan, Jake Allen, Joanna Tocka, Joseph Brennan, Lily Fitzgerald and Niamh Brennan.

TY Winner: Ben Langford

5th Year Nominees: Ava McCarthy, Charlie Grainger, Charlie O'Shea, Cordelia Foody, Diana Harrington, Hannah Hayes, Lara Helbrow, Matthew McCarthy, Michael Murphy, Millie Allman, Paulina Maticinskaite, Rachel Fox and Roisín Nyhan.

5th Year Winner: Paulina Maticinskaite

Sixth Year Nominees: Andrew O'Connell, Cathal Flynn, Cian Murphy, Daniel Keating, Dara Wall, Donna Thorpe, Eoin Redmond, Ethan Coughlan, Evan Wrenne, Harry McCarthy, John Walsh, Katie Murphy, Kelly Coghlan, Lilianne Cronin, Michelle Collins, Mikolaj Miga,

Nelle Creagh O'Mahony and Rebecca Cahalane.

6th Year Winner: Daniel Keating

Sports Awards

Junior Sport Nominees:

[Sponsored by AIB]

Aoife Cottrell, Cassius Healy, Ciarán Fitzsimons, Joe Sheehan, Meadhbh O'Sullivan, Noah Ryan, Rory Deegan, Senan Aherne, Caoimhe Heffernan, Hugh Hoare, Mary Clare Murphy, Megan Doody, MJ Fitzgerald, Simonas Bruzas, Sophie Collins, Ted O'Callaghan, Zach Allen, Cameron Lovell, Clare Cronin, Emma Casey, Jason Russell, Kian O'Callaghan, Kris O'Callaghan, Lucy Crowley and Orlagh O'Mahony.

Junior Sports Winner: Mary Clare Murphy

Senior Sport Nominees: [Sponsored by BOI]

Ann Marie Collins, Anna Fahy, Arianna Price, Eoin O'Donovan, Geraldine Tyner, Grace O'Rielly, James Murphy, Kate Redmond, Louise Allman, Paul Graham, Charlie Grainger, Lara Helbrow, Michael Murphy, William Jeffery, Amy Murphy, Aoife O'Leary, Dara Tyner, DJ Twomey, Ellen Maguire, Eoin Redmond, Faye Aherne, Fiona Keating, Jessica Corkery, Lorraine Collins and Orlaith Cummins.

Senior Sports Winner: Fiona Keating

Joe McGrath Memorial Award: Jessica Corkery and Lorraine Collins

Catherine O'Byrne Memorial Award: Cian Murphy

Kilian Ryan Memorial Award: Cathal Flynn and Georgina McCarthy

Science & Technology Award: Nelle Creagh O'Mahony

O'Brien Biotech Technology Award: Shane Collins and Oisín Coyle

Young Scientist Winners 2019/20

Sylvie Plant, Mia Casey, Ian Cullinane, Noah Dennehy Bailey, Jake Grace, Ben Loughnane and Ellen Crowley

Continued Overleaf..



Bank of Ireland Award Winner - Dylan Collins



Civic Virtue Award - Oisín Coyle and Shane Collins



Don O'Shea Memorial Award - Cordelia Foody



Junior Academic Award - Tara Gleasure



Junior Sports Winner - Mary Clare Murphy



Killian Ryan Memorial Award - Georgina McCarthy & Cathal Flynn

Sci Fest Winners 2019/20

Anna Peare, Sarah Fitzgerald, Eva Crowley, Rachel Henderson, Meadhbh Hurley and Aoife Walsh

Kinsale Historical Society Award: Cathal Flynn

Civic Virtue Award [Sponsored by Kinsale Lions Club]:

Recognises their response to the lack of PPE during the pandemic by designing, manufacturing and delivering vital resources for frontline workers.

Winners: Oisín Coyle and Shane Collins. Bank of Ireland Community Awards For their assisting with the making of the visors in KCS. Both students are also very involved in other community initiatives namely Irish Red Cross and Scouting Ireland. Winners: Dylan Collins and Conor Green

Academic Awards:

Dara Wall (Irish, Maths, French, Art, Chemistry, Accounting), Cian Murphy (Irish, English, German, Chemistry, Biology, Business), Lucy Plant (Irish, Maths, French, Biology, Music), Kelly Coughlan (French, Chemistry, Home Economics, Religion), Freyja Hellebust (Irish, English, History, German, Religion), Orlaith Cummins (Maths, Physics, Accounting), Emily Smith (French, Chemistry, Music),

Mael Kenneally (Physics, Biology, Construction), Harry McCarthy (Maths, Accounting), Cliodhna Doyle (Physics), Keith Webb (Engineering, Business), Nelle Creagh O'Mahony (Ag Science), Cathal Flynn (Irish, English, Chemistry, Biology, Business), Madilynne Hayes (Physics), Faelan Stewart (Engineering, DCG), Michelle Collins (Home Economics), Eva Fahey (Biology), Daniel Kelleher (Maths), Gavin Langford (Engineering), Eoin Redmond (PE), Aoife O'Leary (Biology), Sean Rua O'Donoghue (Biology), David Higgins (Geography, Construction), DJ Twomey (Construction), Patrick Gowran (Engineering), Rachel O'Keeffe (Business, Home Economics), Sean Domoney (Music), Amanda Draper (Geography), Rebecca Kidney (Biology), Mikolaj Miga (Engineering) and Kiia Greenway (Art).

The Principal's Award: Meabh Aherne

Don O'Shea Memorial Award: Cordelia Foody

Junior Academic Award: Tara Gleasure

Leaving Certificate Applied Award: Jennifer O'Shea

Senior Academic Award: Dara Wall



Kinsale Historical Society Award - Cathal Flynn



O'Brien Biotech Technology Award - Oisín Coyle



O'Brien Biotech Technology Award - Shane Collins



The Principals Award - Meabh Aherne



Sci Fest Winners 2019 - 2020



Senior Academic Award - Dara Wall



Senior Sports Winner - Fiona Keating



*Ellen Crowley 3rd Year on violin and her sister
Eva Crowley 5th Year on piano playing for staff
and students as they come into school*



*Chloe Carroll, Grace Monaghan and Jessica
Moloney playing for staff and students as they
come into school*



Lucy Crowley - TY



Maebh O'Leary - 6th Year



*Mark O'Driscoll 2nd Year playing the piano for
staff and students as they come into school*



Some members of the Trad Group playing for our virtual Open Night



Grace Hynes - 6th Year



Kiely Lehane - 2nd Year

Magical memories from Ballyhass Lakes

Wake-boarding, zip-lining and axe throwing were just some of the amazing activities we undertook during our unforgettable TY trip to Ballyhass. At first, I thought the four days would be quite restricted due to the Coronavirus. I'm glad to admit that the trip greatly exceeded my expectations.

Everyone was eager with excitement as we departed the school for Ballyhass. When we arrived, there wasn't a moment wasted. The friendly instructors introduced themselves and we were separated into groups and commenced our first activity of the day.

Kayaking, nature walks, team games, climbing activities...all went by so quickly because of all the fun we were having. During our time on the water, we all learned how to paddle in a kayak and how to manage a capsized and even got to experience the kayaking instructors participating in a hilarious race and nearly

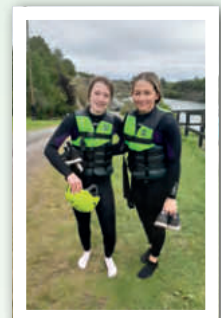
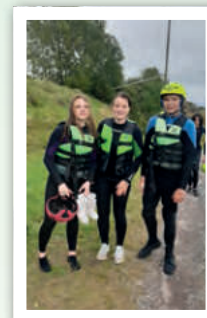
crashing into each other! Axe throwing and archery were my highlights. We listened to music, danced so much and each group had a competition to see who would achieve the most points or even hit the bullseye!

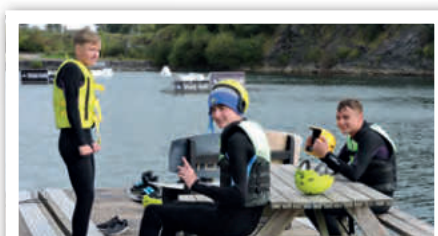
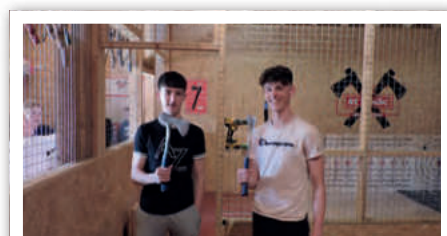
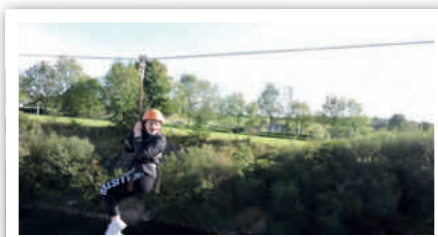
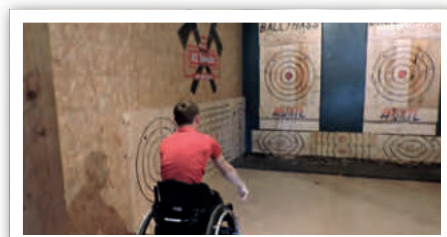
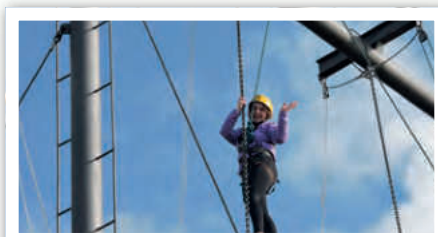
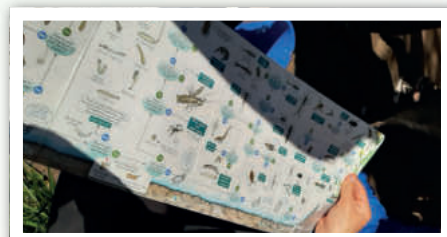
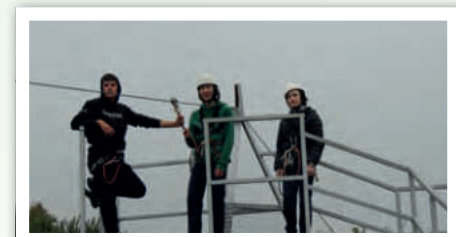
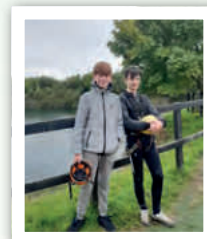
Each day brought a different activity and something to learn. It was exhilarating. The fact that we got to spend time and create new, indelible memories with our closest friends and people we previously didn't know so well is what brings a smile to my face. One thing I remember is when we were about to go on our last zip-line. My group told our instructor that we were the best group that he would ever have the privilege of being in charge of and he just laughed and agreed. For some reason that stuck with me because he agreed either because he thinks it was true or because he didn't want to ruin our moment of happiness. I like to believe it's because he meant it.

This trip impacted my life in a really positive way, I think everyone who went really needed the trip. It taught us all so much about new activities and how to handle certain situations such as: how to turn around to float on you back after you've fallen face-flat into the water during wake-boarding. It brought us closer to new people and our teachers, and best of all it gave us the chance to bounce our friends into the water off of the floating mushroom during the aqua park!

The fun-filled four days tested our skills in so many ways and challenged us to try things we've never thought of attempting during the pandemic! It was educational and enjoyable. Ballyhass certainly hit the bullseye!

Victoria Ciolkosz (TY)





All- Ireland Champions

February 25th 2020 was a landmark day in Kinsale Community School as the Girls Senior Basketball Team were crowned All- Ireland Basketball Champions for the first time in the school's history in the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght, Dublin.

Circumstances since then, due to school closures, did not allow for the achievement to be recognised in our School Newsletter and archives. Moreover, the event organised and afforded to this team and their coaches by School Management, staff and students in their Homecoming celebrations requires to be acknowledged. It demonstrates one of the areas that Kinsale Community School emulates best, the recognition and celebration of our students' and their families' dedication and successes. Thus we return to those fantastic days of colour, togetherness and triumph.

The team were undefeated throughout their season, resulting in their crowning as County, Regional and All- Ireland Champions. The team comprised of students from Third Year to Sixth Year with the addition of an International student, again confirming the school's motto of "All together in learning".

During their campaign, another school first was accomplished when the school hosted the Inter Regional Finals in its new state of the art gym, a facility which emphasises the importance our school places on the physical and mental wellbeing of our students. In hosting this tournament, all hands were on deck to give visiting teams a welcome and caring visit to be remembered. This resulted in Transition Year students providing refreshments to our visiting teams, the P. E. Department, Basketball Staff and Caretaker Brendan Barry, his son Richard and past pupil Tadhg McCarthy ensuring facilities and games ran to schedule. The responsibility of Table Officiating was undertaken by the Kinsale Community School Boys Basketball Team. Many staff supported us over the weekend coming to cheer on the team. Parents/ Guardians throughout the year attended games and



Pictures taken Jan/Feb 2020

were a constant support to the team and coaching staff. Safe travel to and from events was ensured by Kiely's Coaches.

Hundreds of supporters, including parents and past pupils travelled to Dublin for our All- Ireland Final Vs St. Nathy's Ballaghaderren, Roscommon. A sea of blue and white entered the arena in Tallaght making us feel like it was a home game. Some students arrived in their Kinsale Community School blazers demonstrating their pride in the school crest. Mr. McCarthy, Principal and Deputy Principal, Mr. Ger Hogan even got involved in the face painting!!!!-showing their pride in our school.

Standing in the National Basketball Arena in Dublin facing the Irish flag as the National Anthem played soon made all present realise that this educational school of excellence was again at the pinnacle of excellence in sport. And it was game time!!!

A final which was dominated by defensive tactics saw Lorraine Collins and Arianna Price scoring vital baskets to settle the team, with Lorraine being a colossus on the rebounding front and Arianna executing interceptions at vital times during the match. Geraldine Tyner as point guard ran the offences practiced throughout the year, contributing on the scoring front also. Aoife O' Leary was introduced during the game and was a steadying influence also adding to the team's scoring. Fiona Keating, demonstrated her excellent athleticism on both the defensive and offensive ends of the court, displaying perfect shooting technique from the free-throw line. As the game entered the final quarter and

leadership was required, Captain Dara Tyner took control of procedures on the court, maintaining possession and calming her team. The final whistle saw Kinsale Community School supporters and team celebrating with a final scoreline of Kinsale Community School 30 St. Nathy's Ballaghaderren 23. Excellent displays by Third Year students Orlagh O'Mahony and Emma Casey in the National Basketball Arena defied their age and showed a maturity beyond their years. During countless games to reach their goal the entire team panel played in games and demonstrated high levels of dedication at training sessions. Slotting into their positions, when called upon, understanding and performing their roles to the highest level Millie Allman, Ava McCarthy, Lilly Patton, Jessica Corkery, Katelyn Forde, Alice O' Callaghan, Annemarie Collins, Grace O' Reilly, Antonia Assler, Kenzie Desmond and Clare Cronin profoundly displayed a strength in depth to the team which proved the ultimate challenge for their opponents on the team's march to the All- Ireland Final. Hours of coaching on school evenings and weekends was undertaken by Team Coach Elaine Bennett. Assistant Coach Marie Hayes contributed to team tactics and defensive systems on game days.

One of the final school days, before school closure due to the current pandemic, saw the team recognised for their achievement by the Management, staff and students of the school. The team are most thankful for this celebration. Dara Tyner, Team Captain, provided an inspiring speech to her peers and younger basketball players in the school. An emotional speech which demonstrated to all present the

importance that sport can play in one's life providing skills and attributes to young people vital for their life ahead. Fittingly the Homecoming Celebration ended with a presentation of Captain Dara's and Vice- Captain Lorraine's jerseys to Junior School players from the Girls and Boys Basketball Teams in the school, thus leaving the team's ultimate wish evident to all- a lasting legacy of the value of sport to young peoples' lives in Kinsale Community School.



Pictures taken Jan/Feb 2020

All-Ireland Champions: Dara Tyner(c), Lorraine Collins, Arianna Price, Fiona Keating, Geraldine Tyner, Aoife O'Leary, Katelyn Forde, Jessica Corkery, Lilly Patton, Alice O'Callaghan, Annemarie Collins, Emma Casey, Antonia Assler, Millie Allman, Clare Cronin, Grace O'Reilly, Kenzie Desmond, Orlagh O'Mahony and Ava McCarthy, Coach: Elaine Bennett, Assistant Coach: Marie Hayes.

Senior Ladies Football

2020, was an exciting year for the senior ladies football team. Having been unbeaten in the group stages, they qualified for the knockouts. In January, the KCS ladies played Blackwater Community School in the Munster semi-final, a good game despite the poor conditions ended in victory for the KCS girls. In early February the team travelled to Cill Na Martra, to play Mercy MountHawk secondary school, Tralee, in the Munster Championship Final. This was a huge occasion as it was the first time a Senior ladies team had qualified for Munster final. These teams had 2 years previously met in the Junior final, and this time we were hoping to be the victors. The wet

and windy conditions did not deter the large crowds from attending and creating a terrific atmosphere. Both teams battled hard and there was very little between the sides throughout the game. However, in the closing stages KCS found themselves trailing by two points. All was not lost as some severe pressure by the forwards resulted in a turnover which was quickly transferred to none other than Fiona Keating who knew exactly what to do and buried the ball in the Tralee net. As soon as the kickout was taken the final whistle was blown and Kinsale CS had made history in dramatic fashion.

The girls progressed to the All-

Ireland semi-final playing St Claire's Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim, both teams played a great game but sadly on the day St. Claire's were the stronger team. The All Ireland final was never played due to COVID-19.

This game marked the end of the road for our 6th year players: Lorraine Collins, Ellen Maguire, Aisling Hurley, Clare O' Dwyer, Faye Ahern, Charlotte Galvin, Fiona Keating & Dara Tyner. We wish these girls all the best in their future careers, both on and off the pitch.

Ms. Normoyle & Ms. Dullea



Pictures taken Feb 2020



‘Daring to Be Creativity in Life and Business’ with Lord David Puttnam

Tuesday 20th October was an exciting day for Ms Brosnan and Ms Fleming’s TY enterprise students as they eagerly awaited to take part in a live master class delivered by Oscar winner Lord David Puttnam. The event was organised by the West Cork Schools Enterprise Programme with the running theme ‘Daring to Be ... Creativity in Life and Business’.

The event opened with a welcome from Kevin Curran (Head of Enterprise, West Cork Local Enterprise Office) who highlighted Lord Puttnam’s many successes in the film industry producing award winning films including *The Mission Fire*, *Midnight Express*, *The Killing Fields*, *Bugsy Malone* and West Cork’s favourite, *the War of the Buttons*. Lord Puttnam’s films have won 10 Oscars and 25 BAFTAs and he is also a member

of the House of Lords in Westminster.

Lord Puttnam is also chairman of Atticus Education an online education company which was founded in 2012 and delivers audio visual seminars to students globally. Mr Curran also highlighted the importance of creativity and adaptability in business particularly during these testing times.

Lord Puttnam delivered a truly inspiring master class regaling the audience with his passion and work in the film industry and life experiences that led to his success. He spoke about his love of film from an early age where he spent most of his time enjoying the movies with friends. At 16 he worked in an advertising agency which encouraged staff to be ‘fearless’ and to take chances to do things.

Lord Puttnam’s masterclass focused on four topics including resilience, adapting to change, creativity/innovation and digital technology. Some key messages he gave to students included ‘Creativity is a muscle and like any muscle you must work at it to improve’ and he identified that resilience was a key component in life no matter what you do: ‘You have to be become extraordinarily resilient. You will have to deal with knockbacks’.

Other notable references made in his masterclass included:

- *‘The only thing that is constant is change’* – Heraclitus, 500 BC
- *‘If it’s not true don’t say it, If it’s not right don’t do it’* – Marcus Aurelius



It was a very interactive event for students who had the opportunity to take part in a Q&A session with Lord Puttnam. The event concluded with a closing comment from Lord Puttnam ‘There is nothing out there that is impossible if you really believe in yourself’.

A special thank you to Christine Duggan and Kevin Curran (West Cork Local Enterprise Office) for organising the event and providing our students with this fantastic learning experience.

Social Enterprise Award

On Thursday 27th February 2020, two TY mini-companies travelled to Fernhill House, Clonakilty with their enterprise teachers Ms Sinead O’Donovan and Ms Maria Brosnan to represent KCS at the West Cork Student Enterprise Competition 2019/2020.

The Student Enterprise Programme is an initiative run by Local Enterprise Offices across Ireland with over 26,000 second level students taking part each year. Students get to set up and run their own business, make sales, manage finance,

market and promote their product and prepare a business plan.

Adam Buckley of Horizon’s Photography combined his passion of photography and the outdoors to create a top quality range of photographs for customers to enjoy which capture the beauty of many scenic locations of the Wild Atlantic Way. Judges were very impressed with the quality and creativity of his range of photos and the presentation of his display. Well done Adam!



Social Enterprise Award - Meadhbh Hurley & Anna Peare (Picture taken prior to school closure)

Congratulations to Meadhbh Hurley and Anna Peare of Button Up mini-company who were awarded the Social Enterprise Award. Anna and Meadhbh produced an authentic and unique range of handmade cards using recycled buttons. The range included Christmas Cards, Birthday Cards and Valentines Cards to name but a few! Their product was a big hit with not only the judges, but participants and teachers alike, with many placing orders by the end of the competition. The Social Enterprise Award recognises the positive impact of their mini-company as they donated over 50% of their net profit to Pieta House.



Due to the pandemic, Meadhbh and Anna were unable to present their donation to Pieta House until they returned to school as 5th years. Pictured are Meadhbh and Anna presenting cheque of over €250 to Darran from Pieta House in October.



Adam Buckley - Horizons Photography



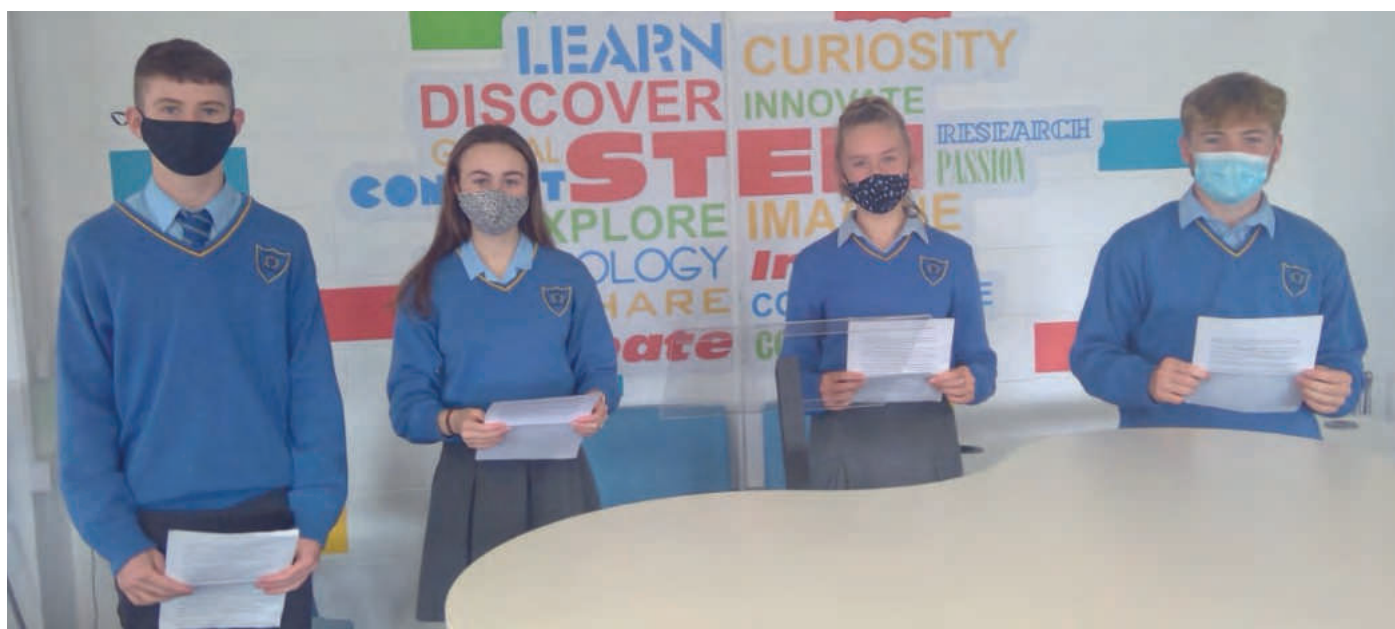
Button Up Mini Company



Horizons Photography Mini Company

*** Some photographs taken prior to school closure last March*

Concern Debate



TY students Cathal O' Leary, Caoimhe McGuinness, Cliona O' Donoghue and Riordan Stewart all took part in the Concern Debate Team this year. They won the debate against Abbey Community College in Boyle (through an online debate). They were opposing the motion Criticism of the WHO over its handling of Covid-19 is irresponsible and unfair. Well done to all students involved.

Chaplain's Corner

The Season of Advent is upon us, and now more than ever, after such a difficult year, we need something positive to look forward to. Advent marks the beginning of the Church's New Year, and as we await the coming of the Christ-child, we are reminded that, as Christians, we are people of hope. Advent is characterised by this tension of expectancy, of anxious waiting, for the light of the world to come among us. Let us pray that this Christmas we can enjoy all of the good things that the Season has to offer us, in our families and communities, and that we can share our joy with all.

Happy Christmas!

Brian Pentony
Chaplain



This is our Remembrance Tree for our deceased. We remember all of our loved ones, especially those who have left us recently. Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamnacha dílse.



Here is a place for you, Lord Jesus.

*Just as our hands have made it ready,
so make our hearts ready
to love and to welcome you.*

*Be born again,
not in a manger,
but in us.*

*Make us your Bethlehem,
where God is personal
and all things and all people
are made new.
Amen.*

Go raibh síochán na Nollag agus Bliain Nua
faoi shéan 's faoi shonas ort 's ar do mhuintir!

CSPE

Ms McCarthy's 2A5 CSPE class have been busy raising awareness about sustainable development. Having explored the United Nation's 17 global goals, the class decided that more people needed to be knowledgeable about the solutions and actions required to tackle poverty, inequality, injustice and climate change.

The class took a modern and relevant approach to spreading this very important message. Each student was involved in the creation of posters for use in a short video clip. The students put great thought into the delivery of their message and demonstrated a variety of key skills that were linked to the new Junior Cycle. Also, thanks to An Post's Community



Focus the class were able to send letters to local care homes for free! The student's composed anonymous messages, pictures and poems to brighten up the lives of

people living there reminding them that they are loved and remembered.

Erasmus Programme



In March 2020 just as Covid-19 was hitting the headlines we applied to the EU to participate in an Erasmus+ programme. As many of you (especially parents) will know, an Erasmus programme entails travelling abroad to a European country to engage in cultural, social and academic activities. At second level, an Erasmus+ programme involves the exchange of students over the course of a week to collaborate with partner schools on a common project.

We have partnered with schools in Germany, Sweden and Poland to work on a project entitled 'Challenges, Choices, Change – Our Mutual Footprint'. This is a climate themed project which aims to get students to:

- 1) Accept the CHALLENGE to fight for environmental protection
- 2) Make a CHOICE about what should and can be done/changed by us
- 3) Effect CHANGE
- 4) Be strong and efficient in working TOGETHER transnationally.

During the project, five major environmental topics will be addressed. These are: nature conservation, waste, water consumption, sustainable food and

renewable energies. Besides making the Choice to reduce waste & recycle more within our school community, we also hope to produce an Eco app that will help raise awareness of sustainable living (the Challenge).

22 enthusiastic TY students are part of the project, guided by teachers Ms. Joanne McCarthy, Ms Eimear Murphy, Mr. Shaun Holly & Ms. Mairéad Dullea. We are timetabled to host the first mobility (exchange) in March 2021 and timetabled to travel to Sweden in May 2021. Hopefully these plans won't be severely hampered by the current travel restrictions due to Covid-19. In any case we have the technology at our fingertips to engage in a blended approach for the time being and given this is a two year project the likelihood is that travel abroad will be possible at some stage.

The themes of the exchanges are:

1. Recycle today for a better tomorrow (Kinsale)
2. Always think outside the sink (Sweden)
3. It's always better when it's natural (Germany)
4. Renewable is the future (Poland)

Students are working in their chosen area of interest and will also collaborate with the Green Schools team with the aim of achieving a Green flag for the school. During the course of the project we will share our progress through the eTwinning TwinSpace platform, but you can also follow the project on Twitter @KCSetwinning.

The students involved are: Aoife Hynes, Catherine Cadogan, Gabriella Bowen, Madelyn Fahy, Declan Horgan, Thomas Brennan, Ciara Ryle, Maja Hermanska, Lucy Crowley, Orlagh O Mahony, Ailish Murphy, Alana Reardon, Emily O Regan-Leder, Fionn O Connell, Riordan Stewart, Ruairi Devlin, Nicole O Halloran, Ben O Reilly, Ben Loughnane, Jason Russell, Oisín Hayes & Harry Vincent.

Ms. Dullea



Erasmus Conservation Group



Erasmus Eco App Group



Erasmus PR Group



Erasmus Recycling Group

Feilte Scoile 2020

Our 6th annual Feilte Scoile was held on October 7th, 2020, and since 2015, when we hosted our very first Feilte Scoile, close on 60 teachers in this school have shared their expertise with colleagues.

This collaborative collective process is a key element of the culture of our school community. It is a culture of cooperation and sharing designed to enhance the educational experience of our students. This culture was never as important as it is now. The pandemic has had a seismic effect on how we teach and how we deliver the curriculum.

It is because of the culture which Feilte Scoile created that we chose the 'digital champions model' of CPD and capacity building amongst our staff. We share our expertise with one another because we recognise that collectively our sum is greater than our individual parts. The


structure of teacher groups for this year's Feilte Scoile was organised on the basis of our digital champions groups.

The advantage of organising the event on this basis was that the digital leaders were well placed to discuss the content of each workshop with their individual groups as this session was progressing. This enabled further collaboration so that each teacher's understanding of the various features of this year's celebration was enhanced.

We are very fortunate that world acclaimed educationalist, Professor Andy Hargreaves joined us to provide us with a very valuable insight into our important work as we adapt our practices to meet the need to support and guide each other in the context of integrating technology into our praxis.


Professor Hargreaves very generously shared the Chenine Charter with us. This charter sets out 10 key principles in respect of the use of technology in an ethical sense while ensuring that inclusivity is core. The charter also recognises that nothing supplants or replaces good quality teaching and the primacy of physical schools.

We are very grateful to the teachers who presented at Feilte Scoile 2020 and who shared their expertise, experience and insight with us. We are especially grateful to the students who participated. Student voice in respect of our work at Feilte Scoile allows us to reflect on learning as well as teaching and this is very important as we endeavour to pursue excellence as a learning and teaching community in a world which has changed and requires us to change accordingly.

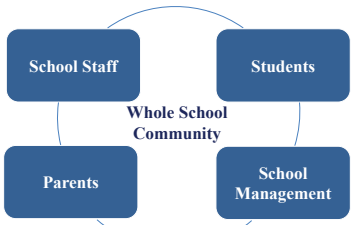


Kinsale Community School

Anti-Bullying Charter



1 Who is involved in our Anti-Bullying Campaign?



This is a key element of *effective practice* to prevent and deal with the problem of bullying behaviour

2 What is Bullying?

Behaviour which is

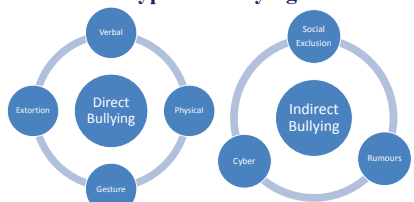
1. DELIBERATE
2. HURTFUL
3. REPEATED OVER TIME

If **all three aspects** are present together, whatever else the behaviour might be called **it is bullying** and must be dealt with as such.

If you see it don't support it!

RECOGNISE IT, REJECT IT, REPORT IT!

3 Types of Bullying



- In class, where very subtle, sly and calculated gestures can be made.
- In the toilets, locker areas or changing rooms.
- The school yard - most physical bullying takes place here, but students may also be isolated or excluded from games which is a form of bullying.
- Outside the school, at local shops, in the neighbourhood.
- By phone and online through social media-bullying is no longer restricted to school. Cyber bullying can affect students when they are at home.

4 Psychological Impact of Bullying

- Feelings of insecurity, nervousness, being 'on edge,' less trustful.
- Damage to self-confidence, stops getting involved, becomes a loner.
- Lowering of self-esteem, unhappiness with oneself, more self-critical.
- Unexplained mood changes, mood swings, less relaxed and less happy.
- Behaviour changes, becoming suddenly aggressive or cranky.
- Stress/distress, inability to cope, lacking motivation, giving up.
- Extreme anxiety/panic attacks, getting away, opting out, 'mitching.'
- Nervous breakdown, inability to function normally even at home.
- Depression requiring psychiatric intervention, maybe hospitalisation.

Bullied students feel so hurt, humiliated and isolated that they find it hard to 'admit' they are being bullied!

This is usually why they need someone like you to report the bullying!

5 Things I could do if I am aware of a Bullying situation

1. Make sure I **do not join** in the bullying behavior.
2. Make sure I **do not show support** for the bullying by laughing along.
3. Make sure I **do not avoid** and so further isolate the targeted student.
4. Always **treat the targeted student with respect** even if I don't like her/him - I don't have to like everyone but I should still respect them.
5. With my friends present **remind the bullying student(s) about how harmful bullying is** - even when it seems to only involve 'little things.'
6. Suggest that the **bullying student(s) go and do something else**, maybe with me and my friends.
7. As soon as I get a chance, **report the bullying behaviour** so a teacher can investigate it and then, if it continues deal with it.

Bullying is usually secretive. It is hidden from teachers - or they are not there to see it repeated since they move from class to class.

You see it so the targeted student may need You to RECOGNISE IT, to REJECT IT because of the damage it can do . . . and then REPORT IT.

6 'REFORM NOT BLAME'

- Any students found to be involved in bullying will **not be punished** provided they **promise to stop the bullying** and keep that promise. (This '**Reform, not Blame**' approach is necessary so students will feel able to give **honest information**).
- Students **usually know if someone is treating others unfairly** but may be reluctant to report it, for various reasons, if perpetrators are likely to be punished.
- In the event that there has been bullying taking place, the student is asked to complete and sign a '**Student Behaviour Promise**' form and the relevant Year Head countersigns it.
- If the student **breaks this promise**, then a **second form must be signed** by the student and also signed by his/her parent/guardian.
- In the unlikely event that this fails, the **school's code of discipline** will be referred to.

Do you want to begin to make our school a better, safer place? You can prove it . . . by how you treat each other from now on!

Geography Field Trip

On Monday 14th of September, the sixth year Geography classes went on a field trip to Garrylucas beach. We started the day by gathering in the courtyard to receive our data recording booklets, before getting on the buses at around 9:30. We were all pleasantly surprised with the weather; it was quite warm and sunny, and it didn't start raining until the very end of the trip.

We began our geographical investigation by measuring the profile of the beach. As we'd practiced using the equipment in class, we all knew how to place the ranging poles and read the angle using a clinometer. We then analysed the beach

fabric by measuring different rocks and pebbles. After drawing a sketch map of the beach, we took the opportunity to sit on the rocks and have a snack. Our next task was to use oranges to measure the rate of longshore drift. It seemed an odd choice of equipment, but the oranges worked perfectly. A few brave students then volunteered to go into the freezing cold sea and measure the height of the waves, while the rest of us had the far easier job of counting the number of waves.

Upon returning to school, we had lunch, before writing up the results of our geographical investigation. This was an

easy and enjoyable process, as we had Monday afternoon and all of Tuesday to finish the write up.

We're very lucky in Kinsale Community School to be located so close to Garrylucas beach. It was a great opportunity to consolidate the knowledge we had from studying coastal processes in fifth year. It was brilliant to be able to learn about geography through a field trip rather than through a text book. We're all extremely grateful to our Geography teachers for putting in so much work to make sure that the trip could still go ahead this year.

Cordelia Foody (6th Year)



Green Schools

Green Schools Committee

The Green Schools Committee came from very humble beginnings; a desire for change and a passion to act. But the Committee has grown over the past term, and I believe the potential of the group is huge. Now that the committee has been formed; with Aoife Walsh as Chairperson, Mia Casey and Rachel Henderson as Data Advisors and Lucy Crowley and Eimear Hayes on Online PR, the only way forward is up. With the help and support of several enthusiastic teachers everyone is eager and excited to embark on this journey. Our first focus will be litter and waste, with the aim of improving these

areas in the school with the help of you; our school community. Limiting our waste and becoming more mindful of our waste-related environmental practises is key to ensuring a sustainable future, and the Green Schools Committee aims to target this issue over the coming months. We have designed a litter and waste survey for our school community and hope that this will aid us in our work and give us ideas for the future of our committee. We are also going to work closely with the TY Community Classes, who have already been doing tremendous work to tackle litter and waste in the school

and wider community. The Tidy Towns groups in particular have been focused on the theme of litter and waste in our community and have visited both Kinsale town and the local estates to ensure a cleaner environment for all. We hope that together we can initiate positive change and create life-long habits that will be kinder to our planet. We ask everyone to keep an eye on our newly created Green Schools Noticeboard, which features in the B corridor near the staffroom, for any updates! In the meantime, stay green!

Sarah Fitzgerald (5th Year)

Guidance Counselling



How can we help our students?

- Assist with Personal Growth and Development
- Help with the exploration of their personal life situation.
- Guide and support students as they prepare for life beyond Kinsale Community School
- Provide advice and help in relation to study and exam techniques.
- Carry out Assessment and Aptitude Testing and Career Interest Inventories.

Guidance and Counselling in Kinsale Community School:

The school Guidance and Counselling service is an integral aspect of student life in Kinsale Community School. The primary aim and function of the service is to support and guide students in the areas of Educational choices, Vocational options and Personal/Social Guidance and Counselling.

The Guidance and Counselling process aims to help students to grow in self-knowledge and self-esteem by helping them to understand their abilities, interests and special aptitudes and to provide students with opportunities to help them investigate their personalities, personal values, opinions and belief systems.

Guidance and Counselling is at the core of our pastoral care in Kinsale Community School. The three Guidance Counsellors; Lisa Daunt, Ailish Egan and

Aisling Murray work collaboratively and creatively to ensure that every student in the school can obtain advice and support on a range of various issues. These issues vary from relationships to study skills, family difficulties to college advice and information. The Guidance Counsellors meet with students in a confidential setting where each student is cared for and supported throughout their time in school.

Counselling helps students explore their thoughts and feelings in a safe and supported environment. The main objective of Guidance Counselling is to provide support to students who are learning to navigate the difficulties associated with growing up, school life and their individual personal circumstances.

Guidance and Counselling activities September – December 2020:

Guidance and Counselling has been effectively delivered through a variety of blended learning since the return to school in September. Students across all year groups have had the opportunity to meet with the Guidance Counsellor assigned to their year group and class in person, should they require it.

As a result of the Global Pandemic, colleges and universities have delivered their Open Days and information sessions virtually. Students have been afforded the opportunity to engage with many providers of Higher Education including UCC, CIT, NUIG, UL, LIT and Trinity

College, Dublin. Students have also been introduced to various apprenticeships and traineeship programmes. These online events were carried out as part of College Awareness Week in conjunction with the various providers of Higher Education and Further Education and Training. In addition to that, 6th Year students have received talks on the application process associated with CAO, UCAS and EUNICAS.

All 2nd, 5th and 6th Year students received targeted study skills sessions which were delivered by the Guidance Counsellors throughout the First Term. Transition Year students have undergone CAT4 Aptitude Testing. The date obtained from the testing process will form the basis of subject choice for Leaving Certificate. The assessment will also identify strengths and weaknesses of the student. Furthermore, Aptitude testing plays an instrumental part in highlighting potential career paths that may be of interest and suited to the student.

All three Guidance Counsellors have an open door policy. Students are warmly invited to schedule an appointment with their assigned Guidance Counsellor to avail of the many services that we offer. We thoroughly enjoy working with our wonderful students and are delighted to offer help, support and guidance to all.

*Ms. Lisa Daunt, Ms. Ailish Egan and
Ms. Aisling Murray.*



Ms Ailish Egan



Ms Aisling Murray



Ms Lisa Daunt

Why Exercise and Mental Health are the Perfect Pair

Exercise is an important part of improving or maintaining mental health and wellbeing. Finding the motivation to lace up your runners and do whatever kind of exercise you're most inclined towards is not always easy but sometimes it can be a little easier to find that motivation when you know that exercise can strengthen your body and mind all at once. Exercising to boost mental health can be especially helpful for people who are facing mental health concerns.

Exercise can have a major impact on your mood and wellbeing. Studies have demonstrated that aerobic exercise like jogging, swimming, cycling, walking, gardening and dancing, can reduce feelings of anxiety and depression. When you do aerobic exercise, you increase blood circulation to your brain and influence something called the hypothalamic-pituitary adrenal axis, and these two factors combined can reduce stress on a physiological level.

Exercise can also improve self-esteem, increase social interaction (if you're doing a group activity) and be a great distraction from stressors. You don't need to be a marathon runner or bodybuilder to reap the benefits of regular exercise. Researchers have found that 30 minutes of moderate exercise, like power walking, three times a week, is enough to see these health benefits.

The health benefits that come with regular exercise positively impact both physical and mental health. Some benefits include improved sleep, better endurance, stress relief, improvement in mood, increased mental alertness and reduce tiredness.



UCC

Pictured are some students taking part in a UUC Online Presentation as part of College Awareness Week.

Home Economics



All the Home Economics students have been making a huge effort social distancing during practical classes and are busy baking Christmas Treats and learning how to help out on Christmas Day. Here is a selection of gingerbread men made by Ms. Prendergast's 2nd year students.

HI SCHOOL MUSICAL

In December 2019, Kinsale Community School put on a production of 'Hi School Musical'. Our TY students jumped into the roles as the auditions began the third week in September under the direction of Ms Brid Kearney, Ms Maria Kennedy and Ms Sinead Brennan. With a large TY number, a lot of talent and so much enthusiasm, it was very difficult to choose our main cast! Eventually we decided to split the roles into two casts to give more students the opportunity to shine on stage. We also had two chorus groups, which meant a lot more rehearsals!

We began in September, and it was full steam ahead right up until the week of the show. Students and teachers fully committed to a schedule of rehearsals which took place most evenings after school and at weekends. Our Art Department, Ms Kathleen Fitzpatrick and Ms Deirdre Kelly began creating a beautiful set, designing and painting and making our show come to life. The woodwork department, under the direction of Adrian O'Connor and our caretaker Brendan Barry built a fantastic set for us. The Home Economics department began to make, order and organise costumes under the direction of Ms Eimear Murphy and Ms Niamh Hay, who spent many evenings and weekends at rehearsals measuring and fitting the theatrical TY's!

The week of the show arrived with gusto and with a live band consisting of staff members, students and past pupils, under the musical direction of Ms Brid Kearney, it was a wonderful week. The



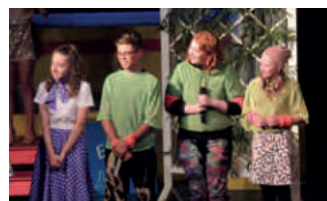
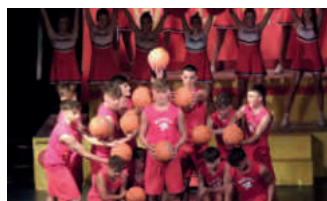
students shone on stage and received standing ovations. It was a fantastic learning experience for the students and a wonderful opportunity for them to bond as a year group and to try something new.

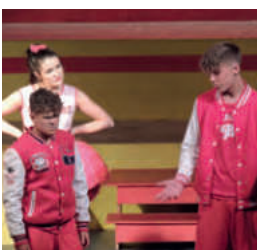
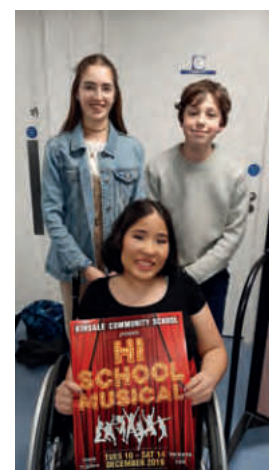
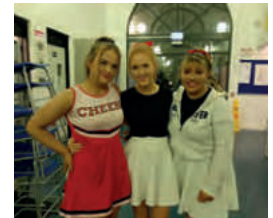
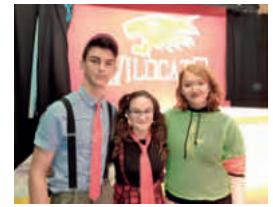
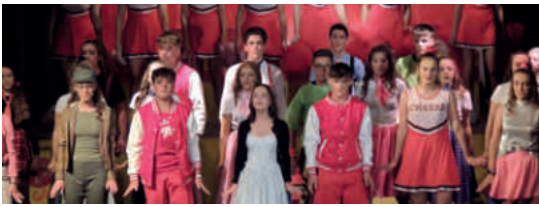
Many thanks to the PE Department for allowing us the use of the gym to rehearse, as well as providing basketballs for the 'Wildcat' dance - 'Getcha Head in the Game'. Thank you to Maria Brosnan for publicity and PR and to Tony Leahy, Damien Sweeney and Jamie Torpey for lights assembly guided by Tony Cierans. A huge thank you to Niamh Hay, TY Year Head and to Maria Brosnan and Tony Leahy, Deputy Year Heads for their continuous help and support.

Many staff members and parents assisted with hair, make-up, catering, front of house, ticket sales and supervision, which we are so grateful for. The closing number 'We're All in This Together' really rang true! Overall, it was a wonderful opportunity for students and they did Kinsale Community School Proud.

Maria Kennedy - Script Writer & Director
Brid Kearney - Musical Director & Producer
Sinead Brennan - Choreographer & Co - Director

***** Photos taken in December 2019





Bebras Computing Challenge National Finalists

Meadhbh Hurley, Jack Weitzman, James Gill, Tessa Worth, Ethan Quarry, Ciaran Moloney, Cathal McCormick and Alex Connolly successfully qualified for the Bebras Computing Challenge Final 2020.

The Bebras® Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students, by allowing them to solve interactive tasks. The aim of Bebras is to get students all over the world excited about computing.

The finals were due to take place on 19th September 2020, in Maynooth University but were cancelled as a precautionary measure. Over 6,000 students took part in last year's Challenge so it's a real achievement to have qualified for the National Final.

Our qualifying students received a certificate of qualification for the National Final. Pictured are some of the students with their Certificates.



Meadhbh Hurley and Jack Weitzman



Tessa Worth and James Gill

School Digital Champions

As part of the National Digital Strategy the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, in collaboration with Department of Education, has developed the School Digital Champion Programme. The Programme aims to promote digital adoption and encourage the productive use of technology by students. Students' projects are based on showing how technology can be used to find a solution to day to day problems.

Tessa Worth, Dylan Collins, Zach Allen and Morgan Caraher Represented Kinsale Community School as our School Digital Champions 2019/2020 with their project "For-Ever Green". They attended a workshop day in Thomond Park conference centre on: Communications and Presentation skills, Principles of good

web design, App Inventor, Video editing, design an infographic and microbits. They also had a site visit to Microsoft Dreamspace in Dublin to see technology at work.

This year's Digital Champions, currently working on their projects are Ian Cullinane, Fionn Lichtsinn Doyle, Ronan Hawkins, Dylan Hennebry, Senan Ahern, Anthony Coughlan, Tadhg Cronin, Lee Kiely Callanan and Jake Grace.

Pictured are Dylan, Tessa, Morgan and Zack with their certificates.



MOS Ireland & UK Finalist

The Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) course completed by TY students has received a number of successes in 2019/2020. In June last, we were contacted by Prodigy Learning who advised that one of our TY students, Eoin O'Mahony was selected as one of 30 finalists across

Ireland and the UK to compete at the Microsoft Office Specialist Four Nations Championship Finals on 25th June.

Eoin was selected based on his top score and record time in completing the Microsoft PowerPoint certified examination. Unfortunately, due to Covid19 restrictions we could not attend the finals in London but participated virtually in one of our computer labs at KCS. It was a fantastic experience and Eoin did KCS very proud.



National Scratch Coding Competition, 1st Place

Congratulations to Conor O’Leary, 3rd Year, who we are delighted to announce was winner, of this this year’s National Scratch Coding Competition, in the 1st – 3rd year category.

Conor was selected as one of 30 finalists in the country to proceed to the National Scratch Competition for Coding. Conor attended the National Awards which took place virtually on Wednesday 4th November. Every year the standard of Scratch projects is high, with the judges having a really difficult job selecting 30 projects out of 500 entrants to proceed to the national finals. Having been awarded as the winner, Conor was commended for his excellent work and highly creative and entertaining Scratch project named ‘Don’t Fall Off’.

Scratch helps young people learn to think creatively, reason systematically, and work collaboratively – essential skills for life in the 21st century. Scratch teaches

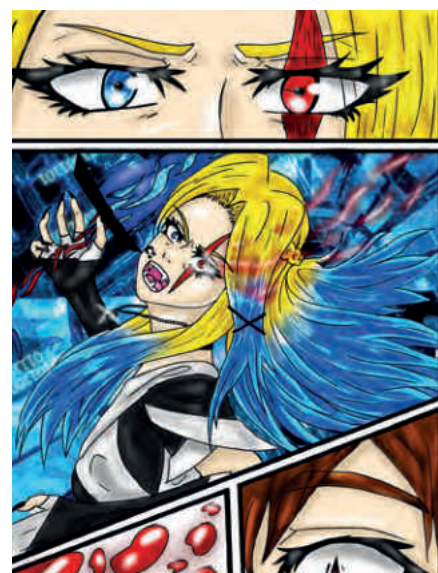
computational thinking and problem-solving using a powerful yet simple-to-use building block approach to app creation. Scratch is a fun and interesting way to introduce software development to students. Students experience Scratch as part of their Junior Cycle Coding course at Kinsale Community School.



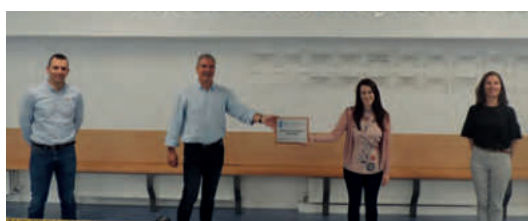
ICT and Art

I loved to draw since I was little and was always inspired by professional artists to try improve my skills at art. I only started drawing people one or two years back and before that I only drew animals due to the fact that I didn’t understand human anatomy as well as I do now. One of my main inspirations are anime and manga (comics). ICT has also helped me to predict the right proportions for my drawings. The app that I use is called Ibis PaintX and it has helped me improve my art massively.

Kate Morrissey (1st Year)



Centre of Excellence Award



In August, KCS was presented with the Prodigy Learning Centre of Excellence Award. This was received in recognition of the delivery of over 250 MOS Certifications to TY students in the 2019/2020 academic year. Well done to all the successful students and MOS teachers Ms Brosnan, Ms Cooper and Ms Mullaney.

SID Ambassador Leadership Award

Congratulations to TY 2019/2020 student Sarah Fitzgerald who was shortlisted for the best social media campaign and most-effective anti-cyberbullying campaign for the Webwise Safer Internet Day Awards [SID] 2020! Sarah also became a member of the Webwise Youth Panel following the SID Ambassador Programme.

All Award winners were due to be presented with their certificates at a very special event in Facebook HQ last April, however, due to the pandemic, the awards have been postponed until a more suitable time. Well done Sarah!

Europe Code Week

#CodeWeek Bringing Ideas to Life
Kinsale Community School is delighted to be an organiser in this year’s EU Code Week. EU Code week is a grassroots initiative which aims to bring coding and digital literacy to all learners in a fun and engaging way. Learning to code helps us to make sense of the rapidly changing world around us. Learners at Kinsale Community School are joining other participants across Europe to inspire the development of coding and computational thinking skills in order to explore new ideas and innovate for the future.

Virtual Open Day at Kinsale College

On Monday 9th November, Leaving Cert Applied students took part in the first virtual open day with Kinsale College. They were shown around the campus in the comfort of their seats in KCS. Alayne Hynes, their Guidance Counsellor, brought the student around to different courses and they got to see a live demonstration on how to make quiche from the professional cookery course with their teacher Jennifer. Then they got to see where the Creative Drama and Theatre Arts students perform. They got to hear from a teacher and a past student and heard how they make their own props and costumes also.

Then they got a tour of the Sustainable

Horticulture and Permaculture site including a sustainable building they made and inside a poly tunnel. They heard about other courses Kinsale College offer including Art, Office Administration, Early Childhood Care & Education & Special Educational Needs, Film & TV production, Healthcare, Digital Media Production and Outdoor Adventure Education.

The event was meant to take place on site but due to current restrictions, student benefited from technology and got the next best option. Hopefully, the students will be able to attend in person later in the year, but it was a great start for the senior students in deciding their options when

they leave KCS.

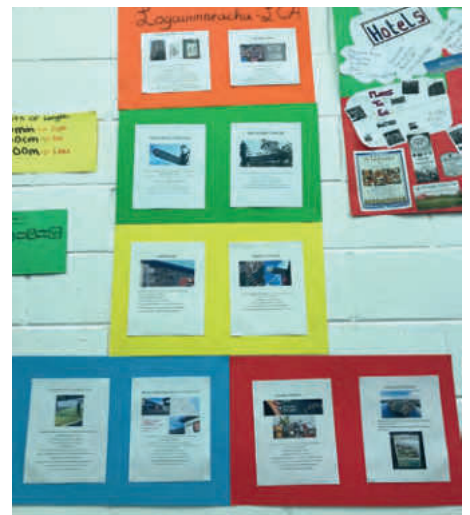
'The Virtual tour of Kinsale College was very interesting and entertaining. We've learned a lot about the various departments in Kinsale College. The cooking demonstration in the professional cooking department was interesting. The Amphitheatre was amazing to look at and very interesting to learn about. We learned about the various plants and food grown in the gardening class. They showed us the drama department. They also showed us the art department and a display of art inside the art department. In conclusion, the tour was amazing to watch' - Meabh Aherne, 6th Year LCA

LCA Gaeilge Chumarsáideach

The students of Ms McCarthy's LCA Gaeilge class have enjoyed learning about Irish culture by exploring the meaning behind some well-known logainmneacha (place names) around the town of Kinsale. Students ventured around the town together to find signposts written as Gaeilge. They then researched these place names and unveiled to themselves some of the town's rich history!

Cionn tSáile = Head of the sea
Dún Cathal = Charles Fort

Cnoc na Chompáis = Compas Hill
Tithe na mBocht = Alms Houses
Páirc na mBól = Bowling Green



LCA Mini Company

LCA2 decided to set up a mini company for their Vocational Preparation Enterprise task to produce and manufacture Halloween trick or treat sweet bundles. Due to Covid 19 restrictions and to ensure the safety of staff and students put the bundles together in a safe and sanitized environment. In line with Covid guidelines as there was no trick or treating permitted, it was agreed it would be a great idea to maintain the Halloween spirit and a win for the class and a win for the

school to distribute the bundles and make a profit too!

In order for the above to happen a lot of backstage research, interviews, screening, phone calls and follow up needed to take place. This consisted of suppliers (Musgraves, DEALZ, Amazon) being chosen as they already have an established place in the market and the best price as they were able to source large quantities of bags and sweets at a good rate. The student's roles were chosen through an interview process. (CEO, Finance Manager, Production Manager, Safety Officer, ICT specialist, Secretary and Coordinators). Each of the students

invested 10 euro in the company bank to help cover set up cost expecting a return on their investment. This entire process took many weeks of educated discussions and debate.

The outcome was highly successful as both as those who purchased the bundles were happy and the investors were equally happy. This entire set up exposed all of the LCA students as excellent leaders in both teamwork comradery and hopefully taught them some good life skills.

Diana Harrington (6th Year)

General Education Task

5th Year Leaving Cert Applied Art students have made a beautiful collection of porcelain decorations for their General Education Task. Pictured are some pieces created by Alannah, Lucy and Ronan. Well done to all.



Alannah Phelan



Lucy Quinlan



Ronan Doyle O'Donovan

Literacy

A statistical and experimental analysis of the link between reading for pleasure and problem-solving skills

Starting TY of 2019, we both decided to enter the BT Young Scientist, with a project that would look at the link between reading for pleasure and problem-solving. Whilst this was an area we were both passionate about, we could never have dreamed the results that we would encounter. We put plenty of work into our background research and designed our surveys and tests with care, before embarking on a journey that would take us up until now, November of 2020.

After 665 surveys and tests we discovered that reading does indeed improve one's ability to problem-solve, as well as many other aspects of one's cognitive and mental processes. We had tremendous fun with our project and thoroughly enjoyed the Young Scientist Exhibition in January, sharing the exhibition hall with many other KCS projects, some of whom went on to sweep up at the awards ceremony! We were thrilled to be highly commended at the Exhibition ourselves.

Following on from this, any further progress was halted with the onset of the pandemic, but Cork's CIT SciFest still managed to find a way to hold their regional SciFest fair in an online manner. We were delighted to learn that a number of KCS projects received prizes at these awards as well, and we were afforded the opportunity to present our project at the National SciFest Final this November, having won the SFI Best Project award at the regional fair. Though it required a lot of extra work on our part, we enjoyed having another outlet at the beginning of 5th year and also enjoyed the whole process of the National Final; from the zoom judging

to the live streamed awards ceremony, it certainly was a new experience!

We are both avid readers and very enthusiastic about our project and the results we discovered. We were keen to share these results and promote reading as a past-time, and so when Mr D. O'Donovan approached us to present our findings as part of his Literacy booklet for first year parents, we both jumped at the chance. We hope to share the gift of reading and encourage others to do the same! To quote Rick Holland; "The world belongs to those who read."

Anna Peare and Sarah Fitzgerald
(5th Year)



Soccer

Well done to Matthew Healy who made the bench for Ipswich Towns first team vs Crawley Town in the EFL trophy cup. We are all very proud at Kinsale CS of his achievements and many young players in the school aspire to be a professional athlete like Matthew. Keep up the good work!!





Maths Week

The corridors of KCS were a hive of activity during Maths week in October, from the Transition Year Maths Table Quiz to the Maths Task Wall and ever popular Treasure Hunt, students put their Maths knowledge to the test.

The G-corridor was the problem solving centre of the school that week. Students were weaving their way from clue to clue, armed with calculators, pens and paper, to complete the Maths Treasure Hunt. A variety of maths skills were put to the test and challenged students of all levels and abilities.

The puzzles and challenges set throughout the week were endless as our brilliant enquiring minds manipulated theorems with hopes of solving the various tasks in front of them. Our budding geniuses worked in teams to solve the mental challenges. This intensive brain training tested even our most brilliant minds, asking them to think outside the box.

Many thanks to the Maths Department for all their hard work making Maths Week such a success.

Maths Workshop for First and Second Year Parents

On the 11th and 12th of November over 140 first year and second year parents attended two online Maths Workshops through our virtual platform of Office 365. The aim of this workshop hosted by Ms Aoife O' Mahony, was to support and inform parents while guiding their child around Maths and their homework.

Maths teaching has evolved in a very positive way in such a short time, with students now taking part in active and student-centred Maths lessons, in the place of rote learning. Parents were made aware of strategies and questions that they may find useful when supporting their child when doing his/her homework. Parents were also given access to many resources such as notes and videos that they can use at home to help support their

child's learning as it is so important to teachers in KCS that a positive culture is created around homework.

Parents were given the opportunity to experience life in KCS when they took on the role of student and enthusiastically engaged in a Maths lesson. The topics of Natural Numbers, Integers, Fractions and Applied Measure were revised using the methods and best practice the first and second year teachers are implementing in class.

It was lovely to see a great turnout and after receiving such positive feedback, another Maths workshop for both First and Second Year Parents will be held in the coming school term.

Find The Path ☆ 1

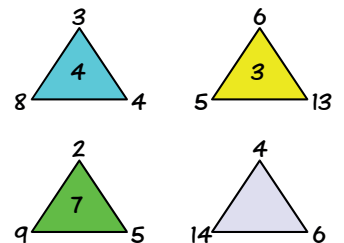
Start at the bottom left square and move up, down, left or right until you reach the finish.

	4	9	7	7	4	◇ Finish
	8	9	4	5	7	
	6	6	4	9	9	
	7	8	8	8	6	
Start ◇	5	5	6	5	5	

Add the numbers as you go. Can you make exactly 53 ?

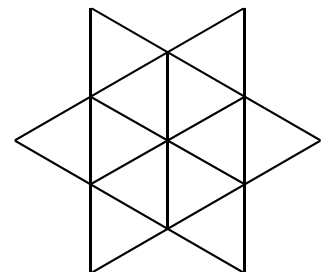
Missing Number ☆ 2

Which number should go in the empty triangle?



How Many Triangles? ☆ 3

How many triangles can you see in this picture?



Times Table ☆ 4

There is something strange about this addition square. Can you work out what the missing number is?

+	3	8	11
3	6	11	2
8	11	4	7
11	2	7	

Solutions on Page 57

Picture Puzzles

Spot the difference

Puzzle 9: Undercover Café

Bright, patterned umbrellas against the brilliant colors conceal the many changes in this puzzle.



© iStockphoto.com/Stephan E. Krenner



Puzzle 10: Wrap It up!

Don't get yourself tied into knots over the "presents" of all the changes in this puzzle.



© iStockphoto.com/Bliss Photography



Sting like a bee with your solving skills by spotting the one photo that's different.



© iStockphoto.com/Alamy

Picture Puzzles

Spot the difference

Puzzle 12: Hats off to the Ladies!

Proof that women are better drivers than men.



© iStockphoto



1 2 3 4 5

Puzzle 13: Oil Can!!

Recycling apparently means different things to different people.



© iStockphoto



1 2 3 4 5

Puzzle 14: A Royal Pair

You can have a ball spotting changes with these two belles.



© iStockphoto



1 2 3 4 5

Puzzle 15: Furry Valentine

You have to find the one picture that isn't purr-fectly like the others.



© iStockphoto

Meitheal Team

Last year's Meitheal team finally got their awards presented to them in school. While their year was cut short, the work they put in until March was more than a year's worth! They were very diligent in their care of the 1st Years, and organised lots of events, with the stand out being the Christmas Lip-Synch competition. The school is very grateful for their service.



Meitheal Team 2019/2020



Grace Hynes, Caitlyn Kelleher & Rachel Fox



Meabh Aherne, Emma O'Keeffe, Niall Stokes & Matthew McCarthy



Niamh Domoney, Nessa Ryan Malone & Oisín Coyle

Religion

Jewish Museum of London Workshop

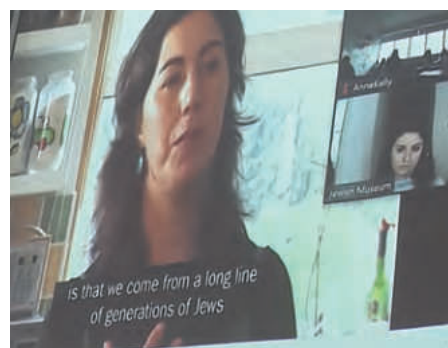
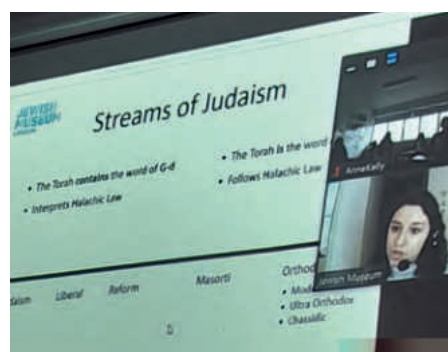
Sixth Year Exam Religion students recently took part in a virtual workshop hosted by the Jewish Museum in London.

Eliana Mendelsohn, a Learning Assistant at the museum, provided a great insight into the experience of being a young Jew in contemporary society. She gave us an overview of the various groupings within Judaism. She highlighted the variety in approaches within Judaism to following their scripture/laws and this was further outlined in the approach taken to how dietary rules are interpreted and how the Torah is followed by each group. Adherence to Kosher rules is one of many challenges facing members of this minority religion today. Students felt that it had allowed them to gain a deeper awareness and understanding of the ongoing living religion that is Judaism. The workshop was both thought provoking and eye opening. It was

interesting to learn about the various streams of Judaism and some of their existing challenges from the perspective of a young Jew today.

Eliana gave us a realistic interpretation on the rules of Kosher and tolerance of others' beliefs and how being part of a minority can be positive or negative. There was a recognition by her that she, as a Jew will always be a minority and a this could lead to a sense of feeling intimidated or alternatively to a strengthening of belief. We were reassured to learn that she had experienced tolerance of beliefs and a healthy respect for different faiths.

As a result, we all have a fuller perspective on the Jewish faith and this workshop helped to create a profound appreciation for and acknowledgement of this thriving religion.



Kinsale Community School now has state of the art sporting facilities including a new running track, an AstroTurf pitch, two full size outdoor basketball courts, a new full-size sports hall and a fitness suite. Now more than ever we see the importance of PE and Sport in our lives for physical wellbeing. These amazing facilities have ensured that PE can continue, and we can adhere to the social distancing guidelines. PE classes have been adapted over the last number of months and equipment is sanitised before and after every class.



Leaving Cert Exam PE

Kinsale Community School has been recognised by the Physical Education Association of Ireland as one of the 64 schools in Ireland who pioneered both the introduction of Leaving Cert Exam Physical Education (LCPE) and Senior Cycle Physical Education (SCPE).

Leaving Cert Exam PE is now offered as a Leaving Cert subject in KCS where students study topics such as Health Related Fitness, Performance Related Fitness, Designing Fitness Programmes, Analysing Sporting Technique, Psychology, Diet and Nutrition, Ethics, Drugs in Sport, Prompting Physical Activity etc.

The Leaving Cert class of 2020 were the first group ever in Kinsale Community School to complete the Exam PE course under tutelage of Mr O'Callaghan and Mr. Abbott.



Couch to 5K

Senior Cycle PE classes have started taking part in the couch to 5k challenge. The programme is designed for beginners to gradually build up their walking/running ability so they can eventually walk/run a 5km distance at their own pace. This challenge encourages students to improve their overall fitness. Students are using our new running track to improve for this challenge.



New track & Facilities

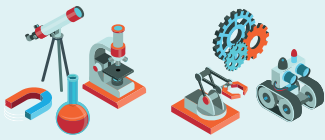
Our new running track has recently been lined and finished for use. The track is 300m in length and has 5 running lanes. Students have been using the track since September for Athletics and have lots of space to keep socially distanced for PE class.



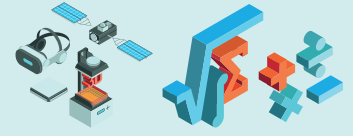
Golf

Eoghan Cassidy of Transition Year was selected for the Munster U17 Golf Squad recently. Eoghan has been a member of the underage Munster teams for the last number of years. A huge achievement. Well done Eoghan!





STEM in KCS



Biology Field Trip

All of our 6th year biology students were lucky enough to travel to Fota Wildlife Park to carry out their ecology field work in Biology this October. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day out. They learnt important information for their leaving certificate paper during lecture and while completing various field work activities in a woodland. They also got time to adventure around the park and visit the animals.



BTYS Business Bootcamp Winner

Congratulations to Ben Loughnane who was announced as the individual winner at the BT Young Scientist Business Bootcamp 2020 for his project 'Electric Paint - How much graphite is needed to heat your home?'



BTYSTE 2021

Congratulations and best of luck to Anegus Price, PJ Crowe and Christina Hurley who will be representing the school in the BT Young Scientist Exhibition which will be held online in January 2021.

Anegus' project is 'Are Casein based plastics a viable, sustainable and eco-friendly alternative to oil-based plastics? PJ's project involves using Near Field Communication (nfc) to reduce learning time lost taking the school register. Christina is doing a statistical study into the use of CPR and Aeds. Best of luck to all involved!



‘Best School in Ireland’ at the BTYSE 2020

Kinsale Community School continued its long standing success at the BT Young Scientist Exhibition in January 2020. The school qualified 14 projects for the exhibition which in itself was a great success as it represented the highest number of projects from any school.

At the awards ceremony in January Ellen Crowley came 2nd in the Social and Behavioural category for her project titled ‘The Latte Levy’ - What is the cost tipping point and why do we not always use reusable cups?

Ben Loughnane came 1st in the Social and Behaviour intermediate individual category for his project on heart calcification titled ‘The Power of 0’. Ben also claimed the ‘Health Research Board’ award.

Ian Cullinane, Jake Grace and Noah Dennehy Bailey came 1st in the junior group technology category for their project ‘Energy Efficient Fridge’.

Emer Heery, Sylvie Plant and Mia Casey won the ‘Greencoat Renewables Plc’ award for their project ‘Investigating the feasibility of turning Kinsale into a

Virtual Power Plant in order to reduce our carbon footprint’.

Six other projects also achieved the hard won ‘highly commended’ award.

- Can Yawning help improve our learning? – Saoirse Hayes and Kiely Lehane
- A Statistical and Experimental Analysis of the Link Between Reading for Pleasure and Problem Solving Skills – Anna Peare and Sarah Fitzgerald
- Climate Change Education Gone Too Far? A statistical study of the links between Climate Change Education, Locus of Control, Eco-Anxiety and effects on Youth’s actions – Rachel Henderson, Aoife Walsh and Meadhbh Hurley
- A Statistical Study of the Public’s attitude towards testing drugs for contaminants at Music Festivals before and after being informed about this harm reduction methods – Caoimhe Lynch
- Do-re-mi or ABC: A Statistical Investigation on whether using song as a mnemonic device is effective for learning – Eva Crowley
- Investigating the Feasibility of

Converting Kinsale into a Virtual Power Plant in order to Reduce our Carbon Footprint – Mia Casey, Sylvie Plant, Emer Heery

The largest cheer at the awards night was when Kinsale Community School’ was crowned ‘Best school in Republic of Ireland’. This is another huge achievement and it reflects the great work done by all the students that qualified projects for the exhibition and the special place that the BTYSE is held in the school.

‘We are beyond proud of the achievement of our students at the BTYSTE 2020. Winning yet again, the award of ‘Best School in Ireland’ is something that we are particularly pleased about. This is a special award as it reflects the great work done by every teacher in the school in respect of shaping the students participation in the Young Scientist exhibition. For example students that provided statistics to support their research were taught that competence in Maths. Each student needs to communicate their findings with confidence. The competence and confidence required to compete at this level is a learned skill, taught by each teacher. This award as the Best School in Ireland reflects on each teacher in our school.’ - Mr Fergal McCarthy, Principal

*** Photos taken in January 2020*



Science Week 2020

Science Week 2020 had a digital theme this year as students were encouraged to mix Science with their digital skills. The activities included a Scavenger Hunt using QR codes, a FlipHunt using the Flipgrid app, Tik Tok Investigating Science challenge, Kahoot quiz and a Build an Atom activity.

FlipHunt

A FlipHunt is a scavenger hunt using the Flipgrid app. It is a fun way of getting students out of their seats to demonstrate their understanding and application of a topic. Students had to record short videos in response to challenges set by teachers. Some of the challenges included Say something humorous while pointing to your humerus, Describe a solar eclipse using suitable props, and Describe proper lab safety attire. Students produced some very entertaining videos and had lots of fun while sharing their scientific knowledge.

Ms. Dullea



Tik Tok

The Tik Tok Science video challenge was created for students to showcase their Science investigation skills using IT. This is reflecting some of the novel ways students have been engaging in blended learning in the Science classroom. There were numerous creative entries covering the whole spectrum of Science from the benefits of slurry to non-Newtonian fluids and the repellent force of hand sanitizer on germs. Students were able like the TikTok videos, which are available to view on TikTok at #kscscience. The best TikTok video was awarded to Sean Woodworth and Malachy O Daltuin for their excellent Elephants toothpaste TikTok showing the effect of a catalyst on a chemical reaction.

Ms. Harvey & Mr. Bowen

Royal Institute of Physics - Christmas Lecture



Each Christmas the Royal Institute in London hold Christmas lectures on various Science themes and are broadcast on the BBC at Christmas. This year the focus of the lecture was Planet Earth. The lectures were started by the great scientist Michael Faraday in 1825 as a way to promote science. It was a great honour that Dr. Tara Shine invited Mr. Holly's physics class to be members of a virtual audience during the filming. It was a lovely experience to see the behind the scenes of programming at the BBC while also learning about Planet Earth. Thanks to Mr. Bowen for looking after the IT requirements. Keep an eye out for the lecture over Xmas!

Youth Environmentalist Awards

Congratulations to Aoife Walsh, Meadhbh Hurley and Rachel Henderson who were runners up in the Youth Environmentalist Awards in the Senior Climate Change category on 21st May.

Scavenger Hunt

This year's Science scavenger hunt challenged students to use their scientific knowledge to find the answer to clues hidden around the school. Each clue consisted of QR codes which students had to find and decipher. Each clue led students to their next answer leading to great excitement and competition among students. Students from all year groups thoroughly enjoyed the scavenger hunt which included topics from the periodic table, the cell, force and famous scientists.

Ms. Coughlan

SCI-FEST National Final

Anna Peare and Sarah Fitzgerald represented KCS in the National Finals of the Sci-fest competition which was held online during November. The girls' project was on how reading for pleasure can potentially improve problem solving ability. This was the first time KCS had qualified for the national



finals and the girls project was at a third level standard and shows the importance of reading for students.

Kahoot Quiz

The Irish Manufacturing Research Organisation designed a STEM themed Kahoot Quiz for students. Aimed at Junior Cycle students, the questions were challenging but very informative. It didn't take them long to show their competitive

streak with all students hoping they would be at the top of the leader board at the end of the 27 questions!

There were high levels of student engagement across all activities and lots of fun was had while learning Science. Some of the feedback from students about the various activities included "it was

good fun with friends, I also learned new things as well"; "it was enjoyable doing the puzzles and working as a team with my friends" & "I enjoyed making the videos".

Well done to all students who participated in the activities.

Transition Year Musical

The show must go on!!

Covid or no Covid Transition Year students will have a school show! And judging by the response of students to the auditions this will be the biggest show ever held in KCS.

The initial round of auditions for principal acting and singing roles drew over 70 nervous but enthusiastic hopefuls to the stage where they sang their hearts out to impress the judges who would have the difficult job of assigning parts. The second part of the audition consisted of an acting improvisation where once again even the shyest student went way beyond their comfort zone. At this early stage in the process we were genuinely touched by the efforts of the students to act and sing in such a stressful environment. In adult terms it must be akin to going for an interview where you know everyone else going for the job!

Then followed the call backs for singing and acting where the task of allocating names to parts became even more difficult so fabulous was the talent of the 40 plus called back. When we previously produced Mamma Mia in 2011 there were 12 speaking parts. This year to cater for the growth in numbers in TY and increased interest in the show we rewrote the script to include a further 23 parts bringing the total to 35. Now some have just a few lines while others will be busy learning lines right through the winter!

These auditions thus far did not include those who wanted to be in the all singing all dancing chorus. So the next call out went for all those wishing to be part of this group. Holy god..another 60 turned up for the dance off!! The enthusiasm and energy was tangible as the size of the impending show began to take shape. So we can confirm that a total of over 130 students will take to the stage in the 2021 TY school show!

The show which is as yet untitled is essentially Mamma Mia with all the familiar ABBA hits from the famous stage show such as Dancing Queen, The Winner

Takes it All, One of Us, Waterloo and many many more. We will also include scenes and songs from the sequel Mamma Mia Here we Go Again including:

- When I Kissed the Teacher
- Andante Andante
- Why Did it Have to be Me
- I've Been Waiting For You
- Angel Eyes
- Fernando

We hope to go live in the Spring of 2021. Depending on government guidelines at the time we will either perform indoors with reduced numbers or if necessary outdoors where we have identified a space where we could put a stage and seat an audience of approx. 150

Transition Years are very excited about being part of this mammoth production and we expect it to be the hottest ticket in town!



Student Council 2020/2021

Matas Gudauskis, Fionn Burke, Lucy Kelleher, Meabh Aherne, Solomon Li, Chloe Bollard, Rachel Fox, George Lordan, Marissa O'Donovan, Eamonn O'Leary, Caoimhe McGuinness, Ben Loughnane, Emma Meaney, Chinemerem Nnamani, Lydia O'Sullivan, Grace Monaghan, Kate Redmond, Sarah Deasy and Daniel O'Brien.

Vex Champions

VEX Irish National Champions

Feb 14th was a great day for Kinsale Community School when our 3 Vex Robot teams swept the board at the Dell organised national Vex Robotics competition which was held in CIT. Category awards won by our 3 teams included the Tournament Winner, the Think Award, the Amaze Award, the Design Award, the Robot Skills Award, and the Top Tournament Excellence Award. KCS was once again crowned Irish National Robotics Champions.

Following on from the success of 2018 and 2019 when KCS represented Ireland in Kentucky USA, this year's 3 teams had a lot to prove in this year's Irish final. This year also saw the first all-girls robot team in KCS. After years of mixed teams we decided it might encourage girls to take



Photo taken Feb 2020

lead roles in the robot build if we allowed them the space and the opportunity to do this with their own robot. The result was that this year with the All Girl team we won the Engineering Notebook award for the very first time, something which had eluded us up until now.

Our 3 qualified teams were set to represent Ireland at the Vex Robotics World Championship in the USA in April when COVID scuppered our plans. This was the third year in a row that

Kinsale Community School would have represented Ireland in this competition. No other Irish school has ever won an award at the World Championships. KCS was proud to win the World Community Award in 2018 and 2019. And we would have loved to bring home a similar or better award this year but alas we hadn't counted on a pandemic. Hopefully once the world returns to normal we will resume our campaign to keep our Irish National Robotics Champion status.



Bike Workshop

One of the positive side effects of the COVID pandemic is the increase we have seen in teenagers taking to the roads on their bikes. With this in mind, this year for the first time KCS are running bike activities in TY for all students. Working closely with Ruth Herman from Wild Atlantic Sports we chose a combination of a bike maintenance session and a followed by a cycling skills session. During the maintenance session students learned how to remove bike wheels and tubes, fix a puncture and reassemble the wheel. Students worked in teams of 4 on each bike. For the activity session Ruth ran a number of skills challenges from braking challenges, slow races and circle getting smaller all aimed at improving the students' control of their bicycle. It was great to see students having so much fun while also learning some valuable life skills. The success of this activity has encouraged us to include this activity for future TYs.



CATs

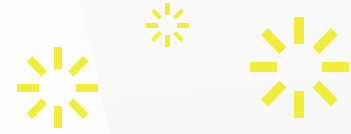
Another change in TY this year is the introduction of online CAT4 testing. Previously we used DATs in TY to test students but have found it cumbersome to deliver and takes months for results to return. Aptitude testing can be more accurate in delivering insights that curriculum tests can't. CAT4 is one of the world's leading tests of reasoning abilities, measuring the four main types of ability known to make a difference to learning and achievement. It provides an independent perspective on potential student achievement and can identify where to provide extra support or set more challenging targets. It will give more informed guidance to students for choosing leaving cert subjects, in a year without JCT results this may be more important than ever.

Community Work

Community work has been offered as a TY option for the past few years and due to its success, saw an increase in popularity this year with over sixty students applying to participate. Students had to attend an interview, from which two classes of community work emerged. Students work in groups of five and contribute to their local community by involving themselves in different projects and organisations. Each group will rotate after Christmas and by the end of the year students will have experienced working in several community-based activities. They are awarded a certificate of achievement for their contribution and broad development of appropriate skills. This year the organisations that we are working with include: The Alzheimer's Association of Ireland, Simon, KYSS, OEC, Share, Haven Bay, Tidy Towns, Green Flag/Recycling and the Youth Cafe.



Formula 1



Kinsale Community School has for the second year running entered Teams in the F1 in Schools competition. This year we have 6 teams entered and all teams are busy with Mr. Duggan in the woodwork and DCG rooms getting ready for the regional finals in Limerick in March.

F1 in Schools is the only global multi-disciplinary challenge in which teams of students aged 9 to 19 deploy CAD/CAM software to collaborate, design, analyse, manufacture, test, and then race miniature compressed air powered cars made from

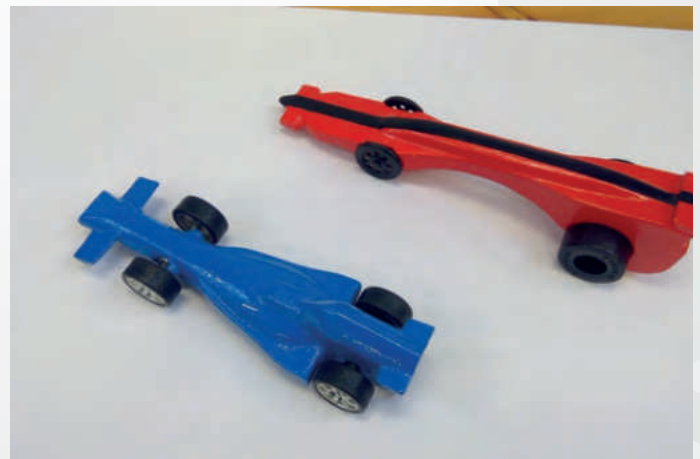
F1 model block. It is a unique global platform for the promotion of Formula 1 and partners to a youth market.

Teams must raise sponsorship and manage budgets to fund research, travel and accommodation. The challenge inspires students to use IT to learn about physics, aerodynamics, design, manufacture, branding, graphics, sponsorship, marketing, leadership/teamwork, media skills and financial strategy, and apply them in a practical, imaginative,

competitive and exciting way.

One of the teams - Team Bolt is the first all-girls team from KCS and comprises of: Team Manager - Bo Collins; Design Manger - Rachel O'Brien; Graphic Designer - Clare Cronin; Resources and Manufacturing - Rachael Luke and Sponsorship and Media - Leah Horgan.

Best of luck to all the teams involved this year.



Cork Young Filmmakers

Each year the film making workshop proves a popular activity for TY students. This year 45 students said they'd like to do it so for the first time we booked a 3rd session with the Cork Film Centre.

The Cork Young Filmmakers (CYF) project is a series of one-day filmmaking workshops throughout County Cork. It is managed by Cork Film Centre, and funded by Cork County Council Arts Office and SECAD (South & East Cork Area Development). It has been run annually since 2006. First Cut! Youth Film Festival emerged from this workshop programme and continues to showcase films made as part of it. Each of the 3 workshops consisted of two tutors, professional filmmakers, engaged by Cork Film Centre, travelling to work with us in KCS. The day was split into two halves. The morning consisted of a workshop in film technique, which gave participants enough information to be able to plan a film of their own, and a hands-on workshop in the use of camera and sound equipment. The afternoon was devoted to filming an exercise which allows participants to put their newly acquired skills into practice. The one-day workshop is designed to give students a solid introduction to the basics of digital filmmaking. Each student had a chance to experience scriptwriting, crewing and acting.

Each year, the films produced in schools as part of the CYF programme receive a special screening at First Cut where the participants from the workshops have the opportunity to see their work on the big screen. Unfortunately the 2020 screening did not go ahead due to the Covid-19 crisis but fingers crossed the 3 films made by our groups this year will be seen on the big screen at the film festival in Youghal next year.



Greater Chernobyl Cause

We were delighted to welcome guest speaker Fiona Corcoran, founder of The Greater Chernobyl Cause who spoke to our transition year students. The Greater Chernobyl Cause was set up in 1999 as a response to the world's worst nuclear disaster but has now widened its mission to concentrate on the human casualties of the break-up of the former Soviet Union.



Students learned about the plight of the people of Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine and the suffering that exists there. As part of the educational programme, students were shown a documentary about the work

of the organisation and a photographic presentation. The documentary provided a phenomenal insight into the work of

young TY volunteers in Kazakhstan and truly resonated with the students.

Mini Company

The ever popular Student Enterprise programme is running again this year and students will get to do everything an entrepreneur would experience in real life including coming up with a business idea, marketing their product, selling and preparing a business plan.

In September students took part in a zoom workshop with Christine Duggan of the Local Enterprise Office who provided them with valuable advice on brainstorming

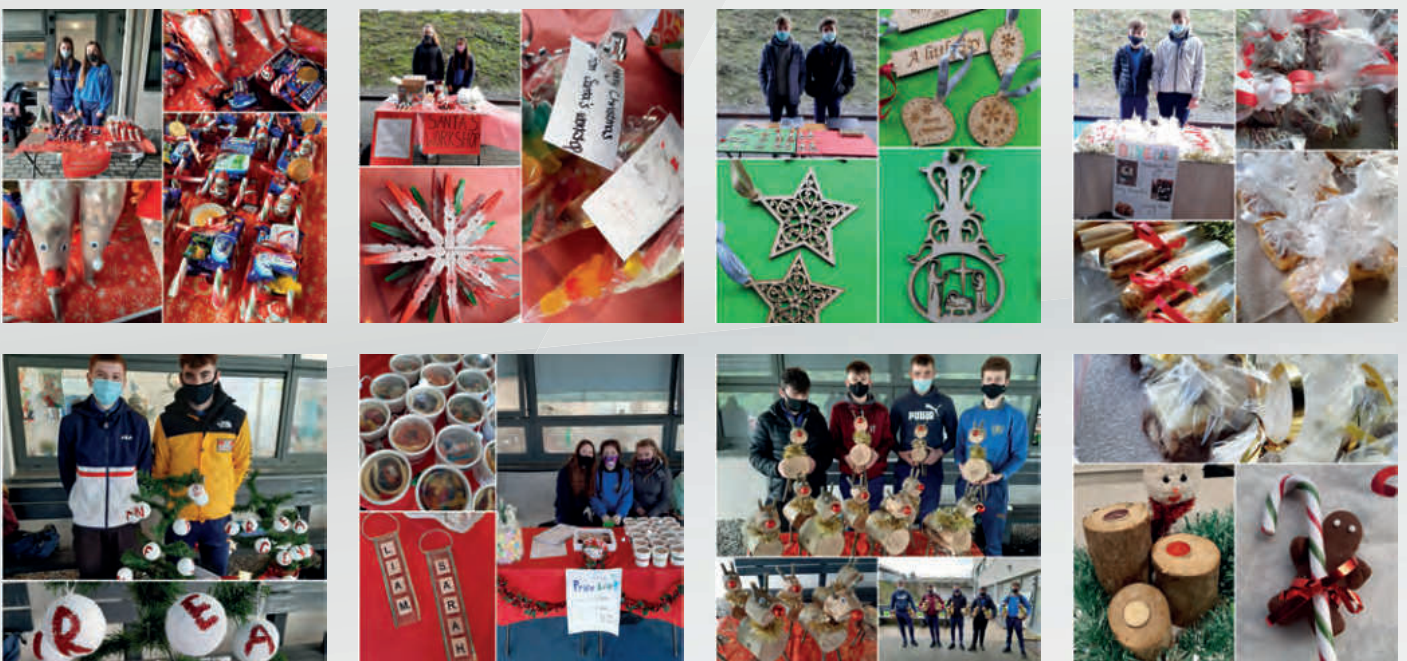
ideas and selling techniques. Following this, students formed their companies, selected a business idea, invested capital into the enterprise and assigned roles including CEO, Secretary, Finance Manager, Marketing Manager, Sales Manager and Production Manager.

Each group then carried out research to source raw materials; carried out a cost analysis and also produced a prototype for testing and quality control. Covid and safety guidelines have been put in place to ensure all products have been produced in a safe and clean environment.

Just before going to print 11 mini-companies had the opportunity to sell and

deliver pre-ordered products in our new outdoor heated atrium area at a Christmas Market. Thank you to our caretakers Brendan Barry and Eoin Wright and our TY Covid Compliance Marshals for their assistance in setting up and preparation of the market area. Strict covid safety guidelines were enforced to ensure a safe and enjoyable event. It was a huge success with companies selling out in under an hour.

Thank you also to Ms Brosnan and Ms M Fleming for organising the event. We wish all our enterprise students every success in their business ventures and look forward to seeing their innovative ideas over the next few months!



Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)

This year's TY cohort will be the second year group to complete the new MOS course (replacing ECDL) which was introduced to support the roll out of Office 365 at Kinsale Community School.

The MOS course provides students with recognised certification in Microsoft Office applications including Powerpoint, Word and Excel and is a valuable asset

to any CV. Students complete the course using a blended-learning approach using specialist software in our computer labs along with online access at home to reinforce learning. Preparation for certified exams involves a combination of teacher-led demonstrations, guided online video demos and lab exercises along with practice or 'pre' examinations. Students sit a certified exam and on successful

completion they receive an official Microsoft Certificate for each module.

TYs are currently completing their PowerPoint module and over 100 students have gained certification over the past 6 weeks. Well done to all the students and teachers involved.

Microsoft Ireland Work Experience

From November 23rd to 27th, Microsoft Ireland ran a pilot online program for TY students to learn what it means to design products. The program was intended to act as a week-long work placement and they selected students with a flair in technology, in design, in enterprise. During the week, the 8 students worked in pairs to do the job of a Product Manager. The students designed a mobile app of their choice, produced storyboards

for the user experience, researched the competition, and make a pitch for their app at the end of the week. A combination of presentations and hands-on mentoring in small teams was provided by Microsoft product managers. The Microsoft culture is one that focuses as much on how you help others do great work, as it does on the quality of individual work – so the week provided a supportive atmosphere that encouraged the students to share

ideas and help other teams refine their ideas too. This program was excellent for our students who are interested in a future career in Product Design, Product Management, Digital Design or Technology as it gave them a good idea of what the real job involves, by letting them to do a scaled down version of it for a week.

TY Retreat

Our TY groups had a very enjoyable retreat at Sáile this term. There were six retreats in all, facilitated by the Ennismore Team. Many thanks to Aiden, John, Brenda and Stephen, as well as David O'Donovan of Sáile, who made us feel very welcome. The feedback from the Transition Year students was very positive.

Virtual French Exchange

22 KCS TY students are currently participating in an E-Exchange with 22 students from Lycee Audiberti Antibes. Students filled in a form online with their interests and things about themselves. The French did likewise and the teachers did the match based on the info on the forms. Once the matching is done the exchange group will meet P10 every

Monday during French class time and will do zoom calls initially as a group and then individually. The hope is that the group might eventually meet up next year if Covid restrictions are lifted.

Poetry Slam Workshop

Another first for TY this year was the arrival of Poet Stephen Murray to deliver 6 separate workshops to all TYs. When we booked the workshops most TYs were underwhelmed at the prospect of sitting listening to a poet for 2 hours. However Stephen dispelled all their preconceptions in the first 5 minutes. I have attended comedy gigs that were not as hilariously funny and as entertaining as what we listened to for the 2 days. He encourages

young people to write without judgement. No subject matter or language was taboo during the sessions as he treated the TYs like adults and challenged them to act like it. His topics bounced from self-image, equality, bullying, addiction, identity and much more. He encouraged the students to see the poetry that is all around them: in the rap songs they listen to, and the video games they play, quoting from Xbox games and rebellion verse

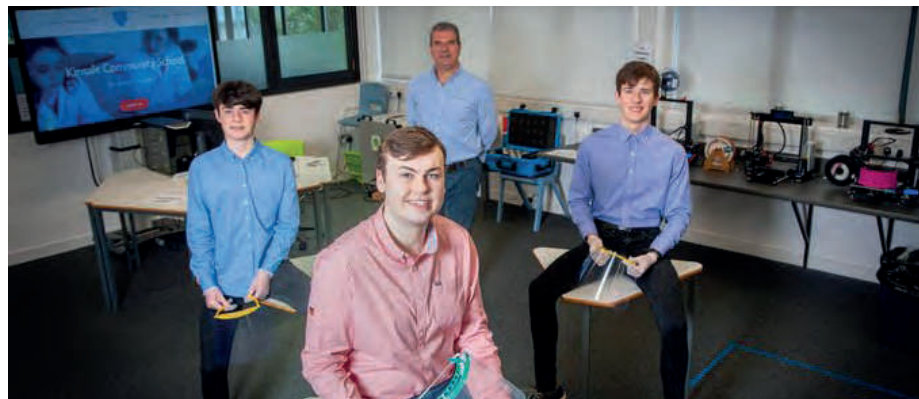
interchangeably.

He enabled them all to write poems to express their emotions, emphasising that they don't have to be academically brilliant to be able to write. He showed them how to discover their very own voices. The poems written at the workshops have been published on the Inspireland website.

KCS: ALL TOGETHER IN LIFESAVING

At the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic there was a national emergency in respect of the provision of personal protective equipment, (PPE). The shortage of PPE presented a particular concern for the safety of frontline healthcare workers. Oisín Coyle, a Fifth-Year student at the time, was particularly accomplished in 3-D printing and problem-solving. Oisín researched a design for a face visor and found one which had medical council approval in the Czech Republic. Oisín reached out to his former mini-company teacher Ms Maria Brosnan as he required acetate to fit the headband that he was manufacturing and Ms Brosnan made contact with all teachers in the school to source acetate. The school principal, Mr McCarthy contacted Mr Gerry O'Dwyer, CEO to the Southern Region of the HSE. Mr O'Dwyer identified that this visor design was eminently suitable for use in Irish hospitals and he requested that we commence the production of the visors with immediate effect. Oisín then made contact with Shane Collins from the Transition Year group as he knew that Shane was also very competent in the use of 3D printing technology. A number of teaching staff, namely; Maria Brosnan, Aaron Bowen, Jamie Torpey Adrian O'Connor and Thomas Clancy set up an assembly line and ensured that appropriate safe infection control measures were put in place.

The production, which involved strict social-distancing, initially consisted of five 3D printers operating in the Microsoft Digital Hub. The printing process of headband pieces was overseen by Oisín and Shane. Each individual piece of



equipment took approximately 1.5 to 2 hours to manufacture.

Mr Clancy sourced an alternative design prototype for the visor headband. This prototype was manufactured using the laser cutting technology in both the metalwork room and woodwork room. This breakthrough increased our output. The Kinsale and District Lions Club funded 10 additional 3D printers and Eli Lilly did likewise. This meant that we now had 25 x 3D printers, which allowed us to meet the huge demand for the visors. This enabled our school to produce in excess of 12,000 visors for frontline healthcare workers.

During this time the country was in lockdown. Transporting the visors to healthcare settings was a challenge. We were greatly assisted in this regard by Chief Inspector Con Cadogan and our local Juvenile Liaison Officer, Mr James O'Mahony also arrived to offer his practical support.

Simultaneous to this work, the Infection Control Team at CUH reached out to our

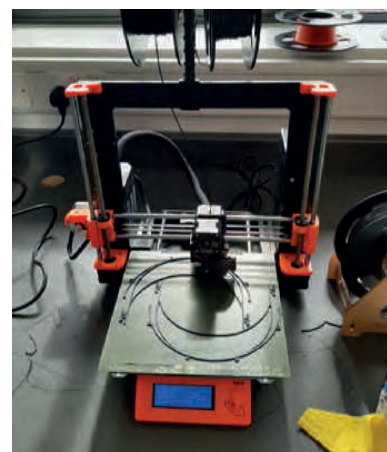
school to retro-fix a consignment of 10,000 face masks which arrived to Ireland from China. The issue with the face masks is that they were not safe as they could not provide an effective seal around the nose and mouth of the healthcare worker.

The solution to the problem was identified by our caretaker, Mr Brendan Barry. Brendan identified that a thin stainless steel strap inserted into the mask across the bridge of the nose, in conjunction with a 3D manufactured mask tensioner resolved the issue and sealed the mask.

The 10,000 masks were rectified in 7 days. This work was attended to by Oisín's family members, Shane's family members, Conor Greene and teaching staff.

School Principal Fergal McCarthy, who co-ordinated the initiative, stated that he was: "Proud of the ingenuity and selfless dedication of the two students and the staff involved".

Everybody at Kinsale Community School is so proud of the ingenuity and inspiration which our students have demonstrated.



A small selection of photos of some of the donations of visors made by KCS students and staff at the beginning of the pandemic:



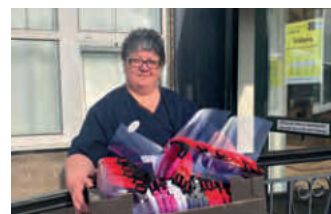
CUH Cardiovascular Unit



CUH Dialysis Unit



Clonakilty Community Hospital



Clonakilty Community Hospital



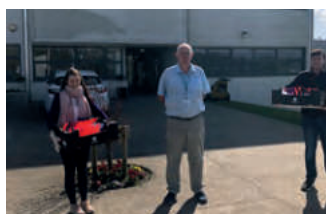
Cork City Fire Brigade



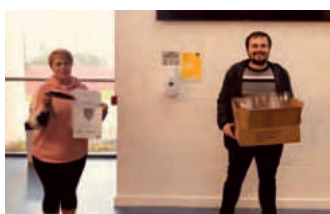
Cork University Hospital



Enable Ireland



Irish Wheelchair Association



Kinsale Volunteer Group



Heartbeat Trust



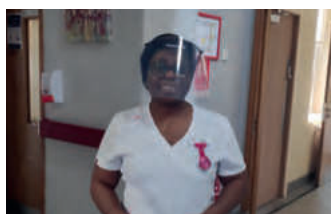
Marymount Cork



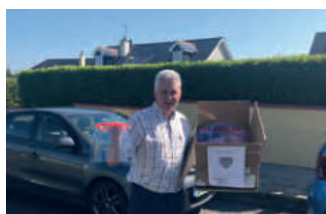
Mater Private Hospital



Mercy Hospital Cork



Midleton Hospital



Skibbereen Hospital



South Infirmary Victoria Hospital



University Hospital Kerry Delivery



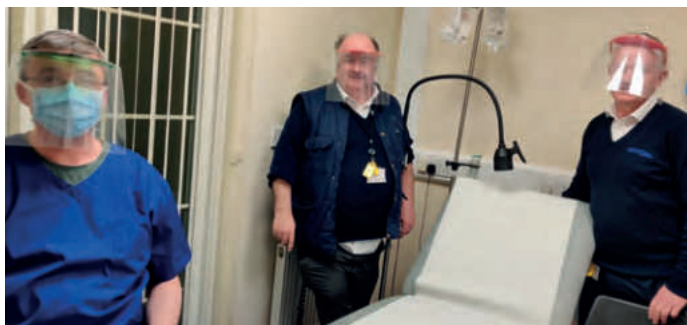
Kinsale Hospital



Cork Penny Dinners



Haven Bay Nursing Home



Marketplace Surgery



University Hospital Kerry

Clippings from the Press

Cork Students Doing Ireland Proud As They Roll Out PPE Production In Kinsale Community School

- Gavin O'Callaghan (Cork Beo)

Two Cork youngsters are doing Ireland extremely proud as they've led the charge producing much-needed PPE equipment for those helping to fight the coronavirus pandemic. Full-scale production is underway in Kinsale Community School after the brilliant Oisín Coyle and Shane Collins did some research and started making up protective face-shields using their 3D printers.

The lads, who are in fifth and transition year, have teamed up with teachers Maria Brosnan, Thomas Clancy, and Aaron Bowen and expect to have 100 pieces available by Thursday evening.

The phenomenal work has been going on in the school's Microsoft Digital Hub and this morning a GP looked at the gear and agreed they were perfect for use in a medical setting.

Proud principal Fergal McCarthy told CorkBeo they'll be made available "wherever the need arises". He said: "Fifth year student Oisín Coyle came up with the profile from research in respect of what was necessary for medical practitioners and those on the frontline of healthcare.

"A colleague of his Shane Collins in Transition Year collaborated along with teachers in the school. "We set up an assembly line in our Microsoft Digital Hub and we've gone into full scale production of them. "A local GP this morning looked at them and feels they're perfect to be used in a medical setting.

Principal McCarthy went on to say that they're making about seven units every two hours, and of course they're all observing social distance while working

away in the lab. He said: "We will be making them available wherever the need arises. So nursing home settings, medical practitioners, the HSE are welcome to them, hospitals, and pharmacists. We hope to get them to anyone that needs them".

"Obviously our supply chain will be slow, we have five 3D printers in operation so we're working steadily". "We're hoping about 100 will be available by Thursday evening. We produce seven every two hours. "Them and three teachers have been in the lab, observing the social distance for it too of course."

The school's Twitter account uploaded images of the teams' work and received a great reaction from impressed users. Microsoft Specialist Niamh Ni Mhaille congratulated them all saying it's "incredible what we can achieve when we all pull together." UCC Lecturer Helen Hynes was also impressed while teacher Aaron Bowen, who is part of the project, said he's "so proud" of what they're achieving.

Kinsale students face up to pandemic with 3D Masks

- Kieran O'Mahony: Southern Star (April 2020)

THE principal of Kinsale Community School has said he is 'beyond proud of a school community' who are producing protective visors for frontline medical staff, using 3D printers at their school.

Fifth year student Oisín Coyle and TY student Shane Collins, along with staff members, began producing the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) using five 3D printers at the school's Microsoft digital hub early last week.

And with 20 new 3D printers ordered, production will be significantly scaled up, meaning they will be able to produce 250 protective visors every day. 'I am beyond proud of a school community that can turn around and produce these resources for people at the frontline of this crisis and that we did it in such a quick and responsive way,' Fergal told

The Southern Star.

'I'm also so delighted that I'm dealing with young people, who not are not just incredibly clever, but also incredibly passionate and know that this is the right thing to be doing and giving up their Easter holidays to do it.' Oisín came up with the design for the 3D printing of the visors and enlisted the help of Shane's technological expertise and, by bringing on board Fergal and staff members, an assembly line was set up in the school.

The printing process of headband pieces was overlooked by Oisín, Shane and teacher Thomas Clancy, while the remaining staff formed segregated assembly lines to create the plastic visors. Cutting equipment was used to attach the shields to headpieces before attaching elastic to complete the process.

Masks take approximately two hours to manufacture. 'We have been producing these masks since last week and sending them to hospitals across Cork. We want to thank Kinsale Lions Club and Eli Lilly have come on board to help with the cost of purchasing the additional 20 new 3D printers too.'

Fergal said the feedback from health professionals from an infection control perspective has been fantastic. He said they will continue to make the protective visors as long as the need is there. 'We're here everyday until at least after 6pm and were here all last weekend too. Oisín and Shane have the expertise and experience to do this thing right and Shane's brother Dylan has also been helping them. 'It's a fantastic story of students in West Cork prioritising the needs of health care workers and assistants in West Cork.'

‘They Stepped Up To The Plate’ - Secondary Students Making PPE Equipment For Medics Fighting Coronavirus - *Ralph Riegal Irish Independent (April 2020)*

STUDENTS at an Irish secondary school which operates as a Microsoft digital hub have unveiled a remarkable production line for personal protection equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers battling the Covid-19 pandemic.

The two students at Kinsale Community School (KCS) in Cork have started making 3D printed face shields in order to protect front line staff in hospitals and nursing homes.

Fifth year student Oisín Coyle and Transition year pupil Shane Collins contacted their principal last week about the possibility of making vital protection gear for healthcare workers given their science knowledge and the 3D printer provided for the school.

An assembly line was set up and a trial production run worked as planned. Now, the shields will be distributed to doctors, nurses, pharmacists and healthcare workers in the coming days.

Principal of KCS, Fergal McCarthy, said

he was “blown away” by the quality of the shields produced by just two pupils at their makeshift assembly line in the school. “What happened as you know is that we have a shortage of PPE in the country,” he said. “Two of our students stepped up to the plate with a design they obtained online. It is approved from the medical perspective. We have had doctors locally examine it here and they feel it is absolutely perfect.”

“It is to be used in conjunction with a face mask at front line level. But at administrative level or at pharmacist level it can be used independently. “We currently have about 63 or 64 produced. We are hoping to have 100 by tomorrow. We want to distribute them as needed within the medical community.”

President Michael D Higgins visited Kinsale last year for the official launch of a collaborative relationship between the local community school and Microsoft. KCS boasts a proud record in the Young Scientist of the Year competition - and students have shown a tremendous

aptitude for science and innovation over the years.

Mr McCarthy says they were very fortunate to be chosen as a Microsoft Digital Hub. “We are very lucky in that we are a Microsoft Showcase School. We have cutting edge technology in our school. We are in a great position to support others at a time when the need is greatest.”

Mr McCarthy emphasises that social distancing was adhered to during the production of the shields. He has paid tribute to the two pupils involved in the venture for showing such concern about the needs of medical workers. However, he said their empathy wasn’t a source of surprise to him with communities right across the country displaying enormous altruism since the outbreak of Covid 19. “Here are young people who are in a position to assist and are minded to do so. From a societal perspective in general people have been very good in responding to this virus. All of these efforts will help flatten the curve.”

Cork Students Upgrade Ill-Fitting Face Masks – *Jennie O’Sullivan RTÉ (May 2020)*

Thousands of imported faces masks which did not meet the expectations for use by frontline hospital staff have been upgraded thanks to the ingenuity of staff and students at Kinsale Community School in Co Cork.

The 10,000 masks were part of a consignment ordered from China for use at Cork University Hospital but were found to cause nose and ear irritation. Since the end of March, a small team has been making and supplying some 6,000 visors designed by two students at the school using 27 3D printers.

These have been sent to medical staff in hospitals and care homes across the country, among them CUH. Recently

they were approached to see if a device designed by the same students, Oisín Coyle and Shane Collins, could be used to improve face masks that had arrived in a consignment from China.

The ‘Earsaver’ sits on the head as opposed to behind the ears. But there was still a problem with venting at the bridge of the nose and this is when Principal Fergal McCarthy said the school caretaker Brendan Barry had a eureka moment. “He suggested replacing the wire at the nose with a stainless steel strap. Using stainless steel cable ties we cut them into 80mm lengths, removed the wire and fitted the strap,” he said. “Infection control in CUH is ecstatic as we have been fixing

these masks at a rate of 1,000 per day.” Mr Barry says: “Its great to be doing something for the frontline workers, there’s great satisfaction.”

One of the two schoolboy designers, 16-year-old Transition Year student Shane Collins, says they have now amended all of the 10,000 masks. “There is multiple other designs of masks that we are now working on ‘Earsaver’ prototypes to help with them.” His design partner, 17-year-old Oisín Coyle, a fifth year student in the school, says the best bit is when they get photographs from frontline staff wearing their visors or amended masks. “We don’t get to see who gets to wear them so when pictures come in from hospitals or places like that with people wearing our visors or the face masks, it makes us feel great,” he said.

Transition Year Peer to Peer Wellbeing Action Groups 2020/21

As part of formulating ongoing Wellbeing initiatives at a whole school level, I have been working to empower student groups to activate change at the whole school level. Two Transition Year classes have been in the process over the last two months of discussing and identifying wellbeing issues that are impacting the post-primary student body, especially in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic. Issues such as contending with masks and identifying teachers and students, improving sleep habits, promoting regular exercise and using art and literature to brighten the school's physical environment have all been identified as issues that might be practically addressed which would help students to work to overcome these obstacles to their educational wellbeing. Innovative solutions and practical ideas were identified and processes have been put in place to try to make them a reality for the benefit of the student body.

Two Transition Year classes have each been divided into three groups, who each have a theme and a practical social project to implement over the coming months. Each social wellbeing project involves planning, research, implementation and feedback. At the end of the year, the groups will be assessed on the success of their projects under various criteria including planning, research, implementation and efficacy. The group who garner the highest marks will receive a prize for their efforts. Below are some of the projects and ideas that we have been working to bring to fruition. These projects are still at the early stages of development, but we are already seeing positive results from the early work of the groups' projects.

TY 4:

1. Art, literature and the School Environment. This group identified the need to brighten up the physical environment of the school with an art project that would combine poetry and literature containing themes of hope and resilience with colourful images from the natural world. Calling their group 'Bizarre Beezart' they have set about

creating beautiful and hopeful creations on all sorts of visible surfaces around the school buildings. Windows, walls and everywhere in between are being adorned with colourful images and messages of hope and inspiration for students from all years to enjoy. The members of this group are Victoria Ciolkosz, Gabriella Bowen, Catherine Cadogan, Grace Callanan, Saoirse Casey, Harry Vincent, Kelly O'Neill and Hannah O'Brien.

2. With level 5 lockdown in place for most of the term this group recognised that opportunities for sport, exercise and competition are difficult to pursue in school. In response to this issue they are organising a KCS Freestyle Sports Competition. This will involve students and staff sending a 30 second clip of themselves doing a series of skills with a ball (of any type) to a dedicated email controlled by the organising group. There will be a boys' category, a girls' category and a staff category and it will be open to everyone in the school community. Clips can be sent in over Christmas and judging by a panel of students and staff will decide the winners, who will each receive a 50 euro voucher for a local sports shop. This group consists of Riordan Stewart, Cathal O'Leary, Jason Russell, Fionn Ahern, Rian Crowley, Beau Healy and Liam O'Riordan. Their message? – 'Show us your skills!'

3. In order to enliven the winter terms for Transition Year students, this group proposed an online talent competition. They are calling themselves 'TY's Got Talent' and will run the competition along similar lines to the freestyle competition. TY students can submit a clip of less than two minutes of themselves performing a piece of their choice to a secure email address. The submissions will be judged by a group of students and staff, with a nice prize going to the winners. It is hoped that this will create a bit of a buzz for the TY group during January and February, and maybe even help to prepare them for the show! This group is made up of Aaron Ganley, Sophie Horgan, Sean Quirke, Orla Madden, Mark Foster and Aineras

Milius. Their message? – 'GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER!'

TY 1:

1. This group explored a couple of ideas before settling on one that was suggested by Ms. Leona Forde at a staff Wellbeing meeting at the beginning of the school year. At that meeting we identified the issue of the wearing of masks leading to a lack of recognition of staff to students. We felt that this issue, while being very necessary, was a major barrier to the staff/student relationship. It was suggested that photographic portraits be taken of staff members and a collage of these photos be displayed in the school building so that both students and staff would have ready access to them. In this way staff could be easily identified without their masks on by students, and indeed by newer colleagues. Over the past weeks this group has worked hard to arrange for portraits to be taken of each participating staff member in a very professional environment. They will be collated into two alphabetically ordered prints, which will then be framed and displayed prominently in the school building. This will function to further personalise the student/staff relationship and to unify the staff in one place in the school building. This group includes Nicole O'Halloran, Ruairi O'Donoghue, Eabha O'Regan, Emily O'Regan-Leder, Ciara Ryle, Orla Good and Sarah Redmond.

2. This group were concerned that First Year students would find their transition to secondary school more difficult due to the measures in place to combat the pandemic. They are working on a plan to spend a day with each first year class doing fun outdoor activities when the weather improves in the spring term. It is intended that this will be a planned and safe way to give the each first year class group a day to look forward to that will be an opportunity to socialise, exercise and have fun at the same time. The members of this group are Aoibhe Coleman, Claire Cronin, Emma Casey, Jamie Cochrane, Sarah Desmond, Fedor Druba, Luke

Finnerty and Ciaran Maloney.

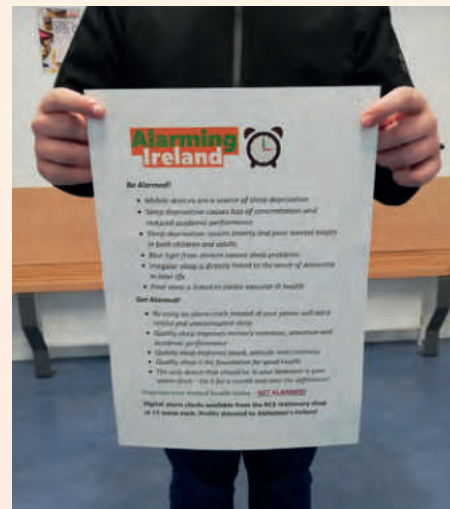
3. This group is called ‘Alarming Ireland’ and they are running an education campaign to encourage adolescents and their parents to improve their sleep routines so that they can improve their overall quality of life and sense of wellbeing. This campaign was started last year by a different TY group, but this

year’s students are confident that they can take it to the next level. Sleep forms the foundation for good physical and mental health, and subsequent academic performance. The group will be working on poster campaigns, social media, film and other creative ways to highlight that better sleep habits lead to a better sense of wellbeing and enhanced performance. Their message? – ‘Sleep Better, Feel

better!’ The members of this group are Samuel O’Brien, David Kelly, Kyle Gray, Rowen Fitzpatrick, David Looney, Luke Hayden, Gearoid Kearney and Darragh O’Leary.

Mr Diarmaid O’Donovan

Alarming Ireland Group



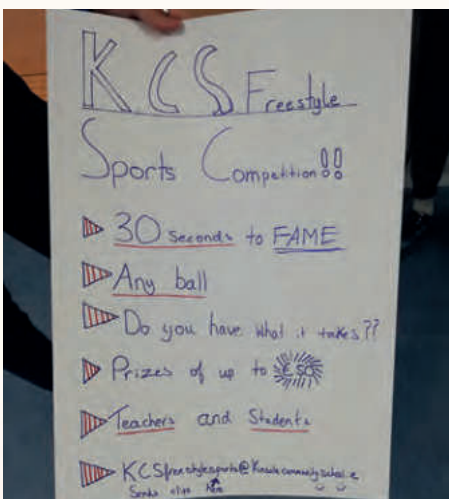
Postive Quotes Campaign



1st Year Sports Group



Sports Freestyle Competition Group



Staff Portraits Group



TYs Got Talent



Bizarre Beesart

Adding bright colours and spreading lots of positivity to a dull situation makes everything so much better, it focuses on illuminating the good side and revealing a side that isn't looked at as much as the negative side.

We, Bizarre Beesart, are a group of transition years working on laying out the benefits of having colour and positivity in the school environment during the

pandemic that is among us to lighten the mood and motivate students and teachers or anyone that sees our art. Hannah O'Brien, Kelly O'Neill, Harry Vincent, Saoirse Casey, Grace Callanan, Catherine Cadogan, Gaby Bowen and Victoria Ciolkosz have been going around Kinsale Community School drawing and writing motivational quotes and extracts from poems on the windows of classes and hallways.

We understand how hard the time that we

are living through right now can be and we are hoping to make a small change just to affect people's mood for the sake of how they feel during the day or to improve what they think of life with corona virus in this given moment. We as a group of students, that are also struggling though the pandemic, have found positivity in making other people at least a small bit better with our art around the school and hope to make our small change effective.

Victoria Ciolkosz (TY)



Picture Puzzles

Solutions

1. Find The Path

Here is one solution:
 $5 + 7 + 6 + 6 + 9 + 4 + 5 + 7 + 4 = 53$

4	9	7	7	4
8	9	4	5	7
6	6	4	9	9
7	8	8	8	6
5	5	6	5	5

A tougher challenge is to find a route to make 60.

2. Missing Number

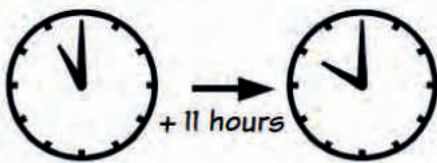
The missing number is 5 (add the bottom two numbers and divide by the top number). Students may be encouraged to come up with puzzles of their own.

3. How Many Triangles?

$$12 + 6 + 2 = 20$$



4. Times Table



$11 + 11 = 10$. This could clearly be extended to other moduli. The more observant students may spot the clue in the title.

Puzzle 9: Undercover Café!



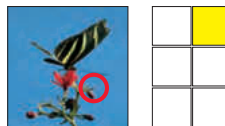
A3: Top missing on building. **A3:** Line missing on roof. **B4:** Sign made larger. **B4:** Railing made shorter. **C2:** Color changed from purple to blue on umbrella. **C5:** Post added on stairs. **D2:** Top of umbrella changed from white to black. **D3:** Black bag made larger. **D3:** Part of manhole missing. **D4:** White swirl missing on umbrella. **E5:** Design on chair missing.

Puzzle 10: Wrap It Up!



B1: Pink string removed. **B4:** Pink ribbon added. **C1:** Flower changed from pink to blue. **C2:** Yellow flower added. **C5:** Wrapping paper square changed color from blue to yellow. **D4:** Crochet ribbon added to flowers. **E3:** Leaves added. **E4:** Leaves removed.

Puzzle 11: Float Like a Butterfly



Missing a flower bud.

Puzzle 12: Hats off to the Ladies!



A1: Balloons added. **A1:** Eyes closed. **A2:** Orange cone added. **A4:** White tent added. **B4:** Oval logo added to jacket. **C3:** Silver bolts removed from blue on cart. **D4:** Extra bolt added. **D5:** Number 32 sign changed colors. **E2:** Powersports logo removed. **E3:** Wheel enlarged. **E4:** Rims changed color from tan to purple.

Puzzle 13: Oil Can!



A2: Purple flower added to straw hat. **A4:** Flag with red cross added. **B2:** Blue scarf changed to green. **B4:** Holes added to straw hat. **B4:** Letters reversed. **B5:** Lock on door moved. **C2:** Gray shirt made longer. **C3:** Colors reversed on dogs eyes. **D4:** Extra wheel added to lawn mower. **E5:** Dog bowl moved.

Puzzle 14: A Royal Pair



B1 and B2: Flowers in pot changed color from pink to white. **B2:** Earring color changed to blue. **C4:** Missing ear. **D2:** Bracelet changed from pink to purple. **D3:** Character on button changed to blue flower. **D5:** Second ruffled removed from shoulder of dress. **E4:** Missing blue flower on brush. **E5:** Missing pink beads.

Puzzle 15: Furry Valentine



Flower added to box.

Past Pupil

Congratulations to past pupil Karen Briscoe who graduated with Masters in Mathematics and Philosophy from Worcester College Oxford University last August. She completed her Masters thesis in Bias in algorithms. Karen has also worked in Operations Research/Data analytics with the UK Civil Service.



Social Media Ruining Our Younger Generation

The negative effects social media is having on teenagers

Hello my name is Diana Harrington I am a 6th year in LCA 2 and today I am writing this article to raise awareness of the negative effects of social media on teenagers.

So, what is social media? Social media defines it as an array of Internet sites that enable people from all over the world to interact. This interaction can take place through discussion, and the sharing of photos, video, and audio. Nowadays social media is huge with more apps and platforms coming out every year. The most popular ones this year are Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, Tic Tok, Facebook and YouTube. These platforms are all huge and extraordinarily rich from the explosive success. All these platforms have things in common such as ads pay to be featured on their platforms, they are very addictive, and how much of your life can we get you to give to us and most of all they are selling their users.

In fact, a 2019 research has shown we check our phones 96 times a day. 96 times!!!! With every year that is passing more teenagers like me and you are getting addicted to these apps and what is our reward? Likes, comments, sharing, being recognised this all gives us a rush of dopamine. We think this is value to us. To put it in blank words social media is a drug of dopamine. They take advantage of you and use it against you e.g. When you type something in google there will be suggestions on what you like come up. How is that possible? It is possible as the more time you are on your phone liking and commenting and searching things the more these “people “know what you like. They predict your actions. These platforms only care about, engagement, advertisements, growth. These algorithms are there to get your attention. These platforms are exposing generations to danger, to compare ourselves to others, bullying, self-harm, suicide, lose the sense of time and it distracts you and you lose the ability to interact with others, you

also spend hours on social media. It digs deep into our mind and the way you think, act, look and behave, and worst of all they expose you to the unknown. More news on social media is more fake than you would think.

Social media is getting to the point that is not safe anymore. Everything is recorded, nothing is safe. They can know where you are with location meaning you are not safe. This is getting extremely dangerous and unhealthy to be on. Yes, these platforms have positives such as we can now communicate across the world, education, bring loved ones together and so many other things but what people did not think about is the “flip side “of these platforms and what damage they could do. People and especially teenagers wake up nowadays and feel like they cannot wear this or “I better cut my hair to be cool or get a tattoo or wear makeup to hide my acne or I’m too fat or I need to be skinner”. Even you tubers are selling / promoting products and this image of “oh buy this and it will make you prettier etc.” Brands such as Oh Polly clothing and Abercrombie and Fitch are putting out the unrealistic image of bodies such as small waist, perfect face, skinny legs, broader shoulders, abs, toned bodies and tan etc.

As a teenager myself, I have struggled

with all this growing up and now being 18 I can understand why this must stop. In fact, I cannot even put in everything in this one report as the amount of problems are so large. My advice for you today is to think about how social media is; that nobody is perfect everyone is unique and perfect in their own way; you don’t have to follow this image of having a perfect body or acting like someone you’re not or being skinny or that you have to do any of these things to fit in. The only ones that are lying are these companies who do not care as they are getting money and publicity. We all must do better in helping ourselves and others with this issue. Social media is not the only thing to do nowadays there are so many things to do outside of the world of social media. Minor changes such as a few hours off your devices can improve your mental health and self-esteem. Let us look forward to a brighter future in 2021.

If you feel that your mental health has been affected by social media please seek help below:

24/7 Mental Health Support - Mental Health Support
Free-text HELLO to 50808

Diana Harrington (6th Year)



Racism and The Black Lives Matter Movement

As part of my contemporary issues task I decided to raise awareness about the topic of racism. So, what is racism? Racism is a form of discrimination against people of colour.

From my research I found out some very disturbing facts. Did you know that black skinned people are stopped by police at 6 times the rate of white people in the United Kingdom. In addition Asians are stopped at almost twice the rate of Whites. In Granada, Spain, people of Roma decent are 12 times more likely to be stopped than White people. While 79 % of border guards at EU airports rate ethnicity as a helpful indicator for recognising persons attempting to enter the country in an irregular manner. From the articles I read

and the research I undertook I learned that black people are discriminated against almost every day of their lives. Racism is a huge contemporary issue and it is something we must all be aware of and help eradicate.

One organisation trying to do just that is the Black lives matter movement. Black Lives Matter is a decentralized political and social movement advocating non-violent civil disobedience in the form of protest against incidents of police brutality and all racial violence against black people.

A well known quote by Martin Luther King, American Civil rights activist, that many of us may have come across is, ... “I

have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today. This is our hope”. Martin Luther king made this speech in 1963 and yet today we are still trying to educate people about racism. Together as a community let us help him make this dream a reality. Let us treat everyone as equals, Let us judge, not by colour, but by character, Let us treat each other how we want to be treated.

Meabh Aherne LCA2

Gaeilge

Gaeilge24

Ar an 14ú Samhain, ghlac rang Ms Ambrose agus rang Ms Hayes sa séú bliain páirt sa dúshlán Gaeilge24. Mar chuid den dúshlán seo, bhain siad taitneamh as bricfeasta Gaeilge ar maidin agus cluiche cispheile ar na cúirteanna cispheile. Chaith siad an lá ar fad ag labhairt as Gaeilge agus bhí an-lá acu!

Ghlac daltaí ó rang Ms McCarthy san idirbhliain páirt i nGaeilge 24 i mbliana, e dúshlán náisiúnta chun an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn i measc dhaoine óga na

tíre. Is í aidhm an dúshlán seo ná daoine óga a spreagadh chun labhairt as Gaeilge amháin ar feadh 24 uair a’ chloig. Sa rang Gaeilge, d’ól siad caife, d’ith siad bia blasta agus d’imir siad cluichí trí mheán na Gaeilge.

On the 14th November, Ms Ambrose and Ms Hayes’ classes in sixth year took part in the Gaeilge24 challenge. As part of this challenge, they enjoyed a breakfast “as Gaeilge” in the morning and a basketball match on the basketball courts. They

spent the day speaking “as Gaeilge” and they had a great day!

Students from Ms McCarthy’s transition year class took part in Gaeilge 24 this year, a national challenge to promote Irish among young people of the country. The aim of the challenge is to encourage young people to speak only Irish for 24 hours. In Irish class, they drank coffee, ate tasty food and played games through the Irish language.



