

Transition Year Spring Newsletter

Activities from last term!

The TY's have had several speakers in, over the last term including people from The Bank of Ireland regarding setting up a school bank and St Vincent de Paul, where a group of students are engaging with an initiative run by them. They will attend an event in May.

In February, the TY Girls took part in a coding initiative in conjunction with Trinity College for three days here in the school. They engage with basic coding with programs such as python. They also looked at computer science as a career and had a female speaker who worked in the area. Thanks to Sally for engaging with the girls and facilitating the project.

Well done to the 13 students that helped out with the community text alert awareness morning in Edgeworthstown library on the 23rd of February. The students helped many retired people to download and set up the app on their phone. All the students were excellent but two students in particular, Liam O'Hara and Adam Galligan, were hi-lighted as being particularly helpful on the day! Well done to all involved and thanks to Tracy from Granard Garda Station for organising the students to help out.

Longford Text Alert is a free app with notifications on crime, safety, and community updates from across County Longford.



At the end of February, a group of students went on an agri-aware farm walk and talk in Tullamore in conjunction with the Irish Farmers journal. Students learned about production systems, machinery, careers in agriculture to name but a few topics.



On the 6th of March, TY girls were invited to St Mary's Campus Edgeworthstown to celebrate International Women's Day and Women in Sports Week. Our TY girls spent the day alongside the girls from Mercy Ballymahon, Scoil Mhuire and Lanesboro taking part in sporting activities such as zumba, functional fitness, fun games and ending the day with yoga. Thanks to Longford Sports Partnership for inviting us, the girls had a brilliant day. The boys were not left unoccupied while the girls were away with The TY Cup Final (gaelic match) taking place with the Gowna and Mostrim team defeating the Granard and Mullahoran team. We have heard there were some controversial decisions made by the ref but a fun afternoon was had. Thanks to Mr Carroll for organising the game. The boys then had some pizza for lunch to round off their mental health day!



The students travelled to Colaiste Uisce on the 12th of March for 3 days/2 nights. The students had a great few days engaging in lots of land and sea activities, such as,

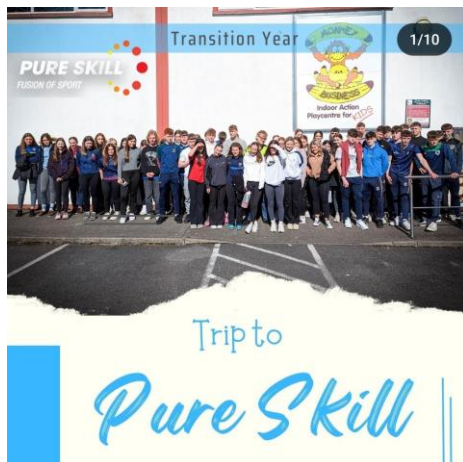
bodyboarding, cave jumping, human foosball, to name but a few. Thanks to Ms Hawkins and Ms McGauran for attending the trip with them.



As part of Seachtain na Gaeilge, TY group took part in Poc fada and Cic fada. Well done to Kayla and Liam on winning Poc fada and Clodagh and Daniel on winning the Cic fada."



The students attended Pure Skills as part of their Maths's module. The students got 10 opportunities to engage with 10 different sports. The students took part enthusiastically and had a fantastic day out. Thanks to Mr Carroll and Mr Masterson for attending with them.



Competitions

The Certified Irish Angus, ABP and Kepak, run the Certified Irish Angus Schools Competition which aims to encourage second-level students to gain an understanding about the care and attention that is required to produce and market the highest quality Irish Angus beef for consumers. After an initial application was complete, 43 groups out of 155 were called forward to exhibit project ideas at the next stage of the Certified Irish Angus Schools Exhibition to a panel of Agri-food industry experts in Dublin on the 1st March, 2024. Three TY students, Alice O'Neill, Shauna McCormack & Keeva Macken were picked to do just this and after a copious amount of work from the girls, they braved the snow to travel to Croke Park for the [@certifiedirishangus](https://www.certifiedirishangus.com/) competition to showcase their project. A Special thanks to their Ag Science teacher Ms Byrne who drove them in the terrible conditions. Unfortunately, the girls did not move to the next round but we are so proud of their hard work.



Four groups of Ty's got through to the Longford Enterprise awards on the 29th of February this year.

Congratulations to the TY student enterprise 'Bear Buddies' for winning the Innovative award at the Longford finals! Well done to Ms. Byrne, Liam O'Hara, Mel Mulligan, Eoin O'Hara and

Noa Salopek! Well done to all the mini businesses who did great work this year. There was a range of amazing products created and sold throughout the school and beyond!



Congratulations to Chantel Higgins on qualifying for the Relove Fashion Final, which was held on March 21st in the Rediscovery Centre in Dublin. The judges were very impressed with Chantel's outfit and she did very well at the interview stage. Chantel then went on to win the 'Best Tailoring' Award at the [@relovetofashion.ie](https://www.relovetofashion.ie) Grand Final on the 21st of March. Chantel has worked so hard this year and this is a deserved reward for an amazing outfit. Thanks to Ms. Hetherton for her support of Chantel this year and a special nod to Gary Brady from Longford County Council who informed us of the competition!



Junk Kouture

In Junk Kouture news, a huge congratulations to "Too Hot to Handle" (Róisín, Alice and Ellen) and "Soother or Later" (Kayla, Clodagh and Katie) who advanced to the Junk Kouture

Regional Finals. It was a massive achievement for the girls involved who were amongst those selected this morning from the 1200 entries nationwide.

The girls will showcase their designs on the 4th of March at the Helix in DCU where Róisín and Kayla took to the catwalk with 78 other dresses from around the country. Very excitingly, "Soother or Later" was one of only 6 dresses selected from Western Region to advance to the Dublin Final in May.

Thanks once again to Ms. Hetherton for the guidance and support she has given to the girls (along with the countless sacrificed evenings since September) and to all those who have contributed materials to all of our costumes. Finally, hard luck to the 6 wonderful entries who did not get through. All the girls have put in unreal work this year.

All the girls' outfits can be seen on our instagram and we hope to showcase them on the graduation night.



A.O.B!

Finally, well done to all the TY's that have engaged in a range of school events, extra curricular activities etc., this term. From Catholic schools week, helping out with the grandparents coffee morning, serving tea/coffee at Parent-teacher meetings, helping out sports teams with warm up, taking photos etc., to playing in the Céilí band, playing sports including running, GAA, Rugby & swimming to name but a few.

There are just too many individuals to mention but thank you for taking part in school events & in the extra curricular element of school life and for being important members of our school community!





Remember to keep an eye on our Instagram and Facebook pages for photos of all the activities the TY's are taking part in.