



De La Salle College Newsletter



Autumn/Winter 2021 Edition

Inside This Edition

- ◇ **Message from the Principal.**
- ◇ **Our new 1st years**
- ◇ **The Class of 2021**
- ◇ **The Class of 2020**
- ◇ **Autistic Student Support Centre.**
- ◇ **Seomra Sualmhnlis**
- ◇ **Our New school App.**
- ◇ **Transition Year News**
- ◇ **Green Schools News**
- ◇ **TY Upcycling Competition.**
- ◇ **Our Air Quality.**
- ◇ **Student Council News.**
- ◇ **Sports Round Up.**
- ◇ **Open Day 2021.**
- ◇ **Maths Week 2021.**
- ◇ **Science week 2021.**
- ◇ **College Awareness Week 2021.**
- ◇ **Trick or Treat for Temple Street.**
- ◇ **Stand Up!**
- ◇ **Visit to Pearse Museum**
- ◇ **New Music Room**
- ◇ **3D printing**

WE CARE



Live the
La Sallian way



Respect yourself,
your fellow students
& staff at all times



Hands Up -
One Voice



Green-Schools
"C'An Teisce"
Eat in designated areas only
Keep Salle
Clean & Green

WE PREPARE



Wear your
full uniform
with pride



Turn off mobile phones
and electronic devices
before entering
school grounds



Be on time for school
and class. line up and
enter class respectfully



Have your Journal,
books, copies and
pencil case
on your desk

WE ACHIEVE



Respectfully follow
staff instructions
at all times



Complete your class
work, homework & revision
daily to the best
of your ability



Become a leader,
get involved in
school activities,
committees and events



Healthy Schools

Healthy Body, Healthy Mind
Take part in sport and
physical activity
and eat healthy



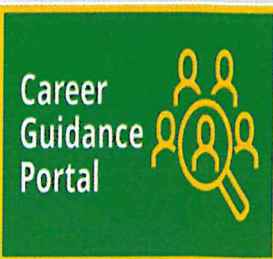
@DeLaSalleCtown



@DeLaSalleCtown



@DeLaSalleChurchtown



Message from the Principal

Welcome to the latest edition of the De La Salle College Newsletter, a roundup of some of the many events and that have happened throughout the 2021 Autumn/Winter Term.

It was unfortunate that we had to begin yet another academic year with having to continue to implement the restrictions and Covid Prevention Protocols. Of course as Principal, I could be accused of bias, but I cannot speak more highly of our students and how they have adapted and complied without complaint, with these additional rules and regulations right throughout the pandemic up to the present day. The support and cooperation from parents has also been so appreciated. As a result we have in the main, kept Covid-19 away from DLSC, with only a few isolated cases this term and once again zero spread in the school.

Covid did not stop our students and staff from embracing all the term had to offer, and they have without doubt made the very most of the opportunity to be together again, teaching and learning on the school campus.

With each passing year we try to increase the resources for our students and to make more improvements to the school buildings. Noel and Frank, our Caretaking Team have worked hard throughout the summer months to keep the grounds in order and to refurbish more rooms and



This term we were also delighted to open the doors to the new Art Room and Music Room in our new Creative Art Building on campus. Music is now part of the Wellbeing programme for 1st and 2nd Years and we have a new Lunchtime Music Club for all our budding musicians. We look forward to showcasing their talent later in the New Year, perhaps with the return of Salle's Got Talent?! Ms Kelleher is delighted to have at last, the space, light, materials and resources to help her students unleash their creative and artistic genius. Children and their parents from the local primary schools were really impressed with the new facilities when they came to see the school on our Open Day held in early October.

I would like to thank past pupil Joe Ryan of Hanley Pepper for his kindness and hard work as Project Manager on the renovation of the building. We hope to have an official opening when Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.



Our Technology Teachers Mr Kinsella and Mr Broderick continue to lobby the DES to get as many machines and resources as they can for the DCG and Woodwork Classrooms. In this newsletter Mr Broderick describes the 3D Printer and how it benefits the students and their course work.

Mr Boyd has recently been appointed as the coordinator of the new student support class Autistic students. He writes about the new specialised classroom and the sensory room available for our students. We were also very lucky to be granted extra SNA support and are delighted to welcome two new SNAs to the staff. Natalyia, Emma and Sharon now join John, Declan, and Edel. DLSC has a team of six SNAs who offer tremendous daily support to students throughout the six year groups in the school.

In spite of restrictions teachers still managed to bring classes on educational trips and outings this term. Our new first years and the second years were brought on a trip to Go Quest to help them to bond in their year groups and to form friendships. Mr Cronin, Year Head of First Years, has written a piece about the great gang of brand new Lasallians who have joined us this year from the many different primary schools in the local community.

Our Science teachers Ms Normile, Ms Tully and Mr Murphy brought the Junior Science Classes and Senior Biology classes on very enjoyable and educational ecology trips to Dublin Zoo. Mr Chambers our newly appointed acting Year Head of 3rd Year brought his History class on a very informative walk to visit the local Pearse Museum, while Mr Brennan, Ms Plunkett and Ms Egan our new TY team, kept the Transition students busy on hikes to Ticknock and the Hellfire Club. TY Year Head Mr Brennan gives us an overview of these trips and all the other events that our TY students have been involved in to date

As always the staff and students continue to be committed to keeping Salle Clean & Green. In this edition of the newsletter the Green Committee tell us about their latest initiatives to conserve water, reduce plastic and their quest to achieve the third Green School Flag. Our new Geography & Science teacher Ms Foyle writes about the TY's testing of local Churchtown air quality as part of their involvement in the Globe Programme. Ms Egan introduces the new TY Sustainability Module and the great work the students completed this term, which resulted in them winning 1st prize for an Upcycling project they entered into a competition run by My Waste Ireland. A very big 'bualadh bos' and congratulations to all involved!! Another driving force behind all these initiatives and more in DLSC, are the student leaders in the school. I would like to congratulate all our student leaders in their roles on the Green Schools Committee, the Student Council, 5th Year Mentor Team and 6th Year Prefect Team and to commend them for their great Lasallian spirit and ongoing contribution to our school improvement plan. We look forward to working with these students for the rest of this academic year.



5th year Mentors

Speaking of great leaders it was fantastic to be able to welcome a group of fine Lasallian young men back to the college this term. The Class of 2020 were unable to have a proper graduation back in the May 2020 due to school closures so we hosted a welcome back reunion in early November to catch up and see how they were getting on in the world beyond DLSC. It was also an opportunity to present awards to the very worthy prize winners of the Class of 2020



Daniel Stroia	Student of the year	Law in UCD
Jack Kenny	Spirit of Salle	Aviation studies DCU
Maverick Labastilla	Spirit of Salle	Mechanical Engineering TUD
John Loy	John Corbet Award	Journalism DCU

We want to wish all the students of the Class of 2020 every success in the future. Please also read Mr Garrett’s piece about the great achievements of last year’s Graduates-Class of 2021. We look forward to welcoming our past pupils back in the future to DLSC to guide and inspire students as they make decision about subject choices and college choices.

As always during our Autumn / Winter term students participate and enjoy events organised by different subject departments. Ms Egan recounts the students’ involvement during Maths Week, Ms Tully describes the fun and events held during Science Week, and Ms Fitzpatrick outlines the many initiatives that took place during College Awareness which included the hosting of an information night about Colleges and CAO applications for parents.



This year thanks to the efforts of Ms Plunkett, Mr Brennan and the TY students DLSC hosted our very first 'Stand UP Week' in conjunction with Belong To, as part of our efforts to stand up against prejudice and bullying. I hope you enjoy the photos that capture the spirit of that week. I would like to thank the teachers and students for all the work that goes into planning and hosting the many events during these themed weeks. DLSC is certainly always a hive of activity during the lunch breaks! In true Lasallian spirit our students also managed to think of the welfare of others this term. As always our students and teachers alike enjoyed dressing up for Trick or Treat and raising much needed funds for Temple Street Children's Hospital. Thanks to the LCVP students who organised the cake sale and the Halloween events for the day.



No DLSC Newsletter would be complete without an update on sport and all that happens after school. Staff and students alike were delighted when we got the go ahead from the Department of Education to run both indoor and outdoor sports. I hope you enjoy reading Mr Boyd's (After School Sports Coordinator) account and photos of the many sporting activities that took place throughout the term. We are also delighted that the College Sport Centre now has a new state of the art weights and keep-fit circuit centre and refurbished changing rooms, shower and toilet facilities. I also know our new soccer teams were happy when the new soccer goals finally arrived! A huge thank you to all the staff and PME students who give their time after school to coach and train all the various teams and a special word of thanks to past pupil Brian McMahon of Total Tree Care who very generously sponsored three sets of football kits for our teams.



As this edition goes to print the Season of Advent is approaching. Our Advent Wreath and Jesse Tree are ready for classroom based and whole school prayer and reflective moments, the Crib will soon be given prominence of place in the school reception area and our Christmas decorations are being put up around the school. I also have no doubt the Christmas jumpers are being hunted out from the back of wardrobes in preparation for our next fund raiser – Festive Jumper Day to be celebrate Christmas later on this month. Holidays are coming...



But this also means that Christmas House Exams are also fast approaching!! I want to remind everyone that there is supervised study available every day after school in the Study Hall. I urge as many students as possible to avail of this support. All year groups are welcome. 3rd and 6th Years have had their November Exams, Term Reports are currently available on Vsware and Parent Teacher Meetings have taken place for these Year groups. We ask that all students in exam years attend their block classes which are timetabled during the Christmas House Exam Week. This is vital time with teachers in each of your exam subjects. The next focus for exam year groups are the Mock Exams which will be held before the February Mid Term Break which will give students more time to prepare for Orals in March. It is vitally important that study plans and routines are established and followed. Please do not hesitate to contact Niamh in reception if you want to make an appointment with me, Mr Kirwan or any of your son's subject teachers. Our primary concern is to ensure we offer the best possible educational environment and support to help your son achieve his full potential academically as well as in every other way.



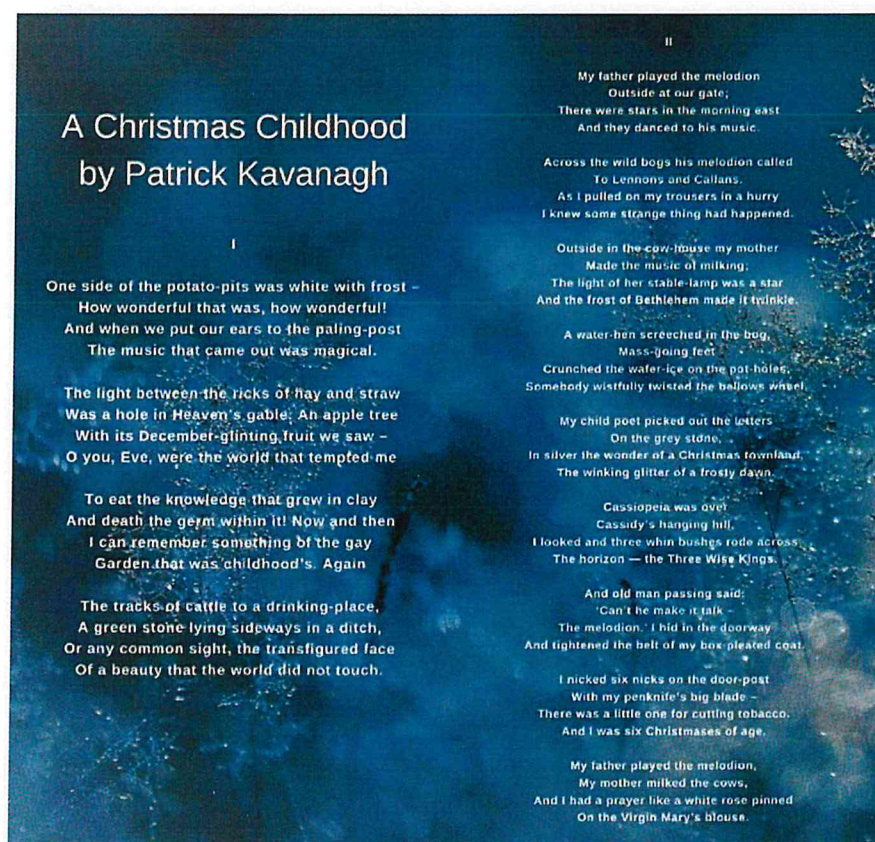
I would like to end by thanking all the staff in DLSC – Teachers, SNAs, Caretakers, Niamh and Gertie for their hard work and commitment to the care, welfare and well being of all the students in the college throughout the term. I would also like to thank the students for their endurance, resilience and good spirits during these stressful and challenging times, and to reassure them that together with you the parents/guardians we will continue to support and help them.

I want on behalf of the staff to wish all the students, families, friends, past pupils and retired staff of De La Salle College every blessing and joy over the Christmas Season.

Live Jesus in our hearts forever.

Siobhán Foster

Principal



Welcome to our new 1st years

By Mr T Cronin

In late August we welcomed our new First Years to our Lasallian community. During the three days of induction, the lads were introduced to secondary school life and were assisted in this transition through workshops and extracurricular activities, superbly guided by our Fifth year mentors, tutors and teachers. Most importantly the First Years were afforded the opportunity to get to know each other in a fun and relaxed manner and this allowed them to hit the ground running when their full timetable commenced.

We are so proud of all of the First Years who have settled so well and are contributing wonderfully to school life considering that they are experiencing a different kind of schooling with new subjects and teachers, let alone mask wearing for the majority of the day.

The boys have been working hard in class and their teachers are really happy at their progress and effort so far. They have had plenty of fun occasions this year, allowing the boys to strengthen friendships and collegiality. The Fifth Year Mentors organised a table quiz early in the term and a trip to GoQuest, a Pizza Party and Tag Rugby tournament served as a really enjoyable and worthwhile bonding day.

The boys also took part in *Trick or Treat for Temple Street* and Stand Up Day with enthusiasm and it showed their empathy and understanding of the wider community and of our Lasallian Ethos.

Most of the boys are involved in extracurricular activities and we have some wonderful athletes who have shown great talent, dedication and teamwork on the fields and courts of De La Salle College, Churchtown. Many of the boys have taken part in debate club and music club and this highlights their varied interests, hobbies and talents. Testament to their determination to make De La Salle College, Churchtown the best possible place, First Years secured three places on the Student Council and this bodes well for the future.

Again, we are so proud at how well the First Years have settled and we look forward to seeing them progress academically and personally and become





Another year brings with it another set of graduates. Despite the obstacles faced by students last year, be it remote learning, limited social contact, or exam anxiety, the class of 2021 met the challenge head-on.

Graduates excelled, with the majority of the year group receiving more than 400 points, with many attaining in excess of 500. Our two top students of 2021 achieved 611 points and 625 points, they were Cathal Kelly and Russel Flores respectively, both students are studying Science in UCD.

In DLSC we are committed to providing pathways to as many 3rd level options as possible and the class of 2021 have gone on to enrol in a variety of high-point courses, as well as PLCs and apprenticeships across differing fields. Of these recent graduates, many have reported that they are happy with their courses and are content with their progress into the next step of their academic and professional lives. Now studying a range of disciplines in a variety of institutions, De La Salle graduates have written to the school, expressing their thoughts on life after school and their reflections on their time spent here.

Enda Carberry, who now studies Geography & Sustainability in UCD, remembers the balance maintained between academic work, sporting activities, and personal relationships, explaining that “it was vital in making my experience at De La Salle as productive and enjoyable as it was.”

Jack McDonnell was accepted into an FAI Player Development course commented on the Leadership opportunities afforded to him during his time in DLS “Being both a mentor and a prefect supplied me with many useful skills that I have since used many times after finishing school, skills I will continue to use and carry with me throughout my life”.

Diarmuid Balfe, who is enrolled in UCD’s Architecture course, wrote that he values the chances offered by the school for personal development. Having been a Mentor, Senior Rugby Captain, and Prefect, Diarmuid explained that these roles provided an opportunity to “develop leaderships skills that cannot be taught.”

And Shamel Khan, who is now studying Biological and Biomedical Sciences in Trinity, noted that he valued the amicable atmosphere of the school, writing that it was not “just a learning hub, but a community of students and teachers working diligently, but also enjoying ourselves.”

We congratulate all of the class of 2021 on their results and wish them well as they carry the De La Salle spirit with them in their future endeavours.

Class of 2020



On November 11th 2021, almost 18 months after the Graduation Ceremony for the class of 2020 was due to take place, we finally got an opportunity to welcome back the year group

Whilst an online Graduation was held in May 2020 we felt it was important to recognise this unique year group in person, in particular to announce the prize winners.

Congratulations to our prize winners; Our Student of the Year was **Daniel Stroia**, our two Spirit of Salle winners were **Jack Kenny** and **Maverick Labastilla** and the John Corbet Award for contribution to the Arts went to **John Loy**.



Congratulations



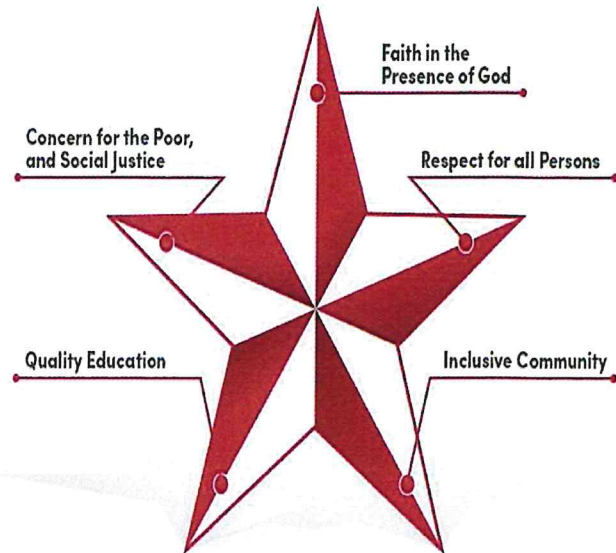
Autistic Student Support Centre

For many years De La Salle has been a place of inclusion, whether it be culture, creed, ethnicity, background and also need.

We have done so much to support students with additional needs but now we officially for the first time have an Autistic Student Support Centre. This centre was created for exactly that, supporting students who have been diagnosed with autism but want to partake in mainstream education. We therefore have built a bespoke educational experience for a small number of students that can access mainstream learning, need some individual support and want to do the best they can.

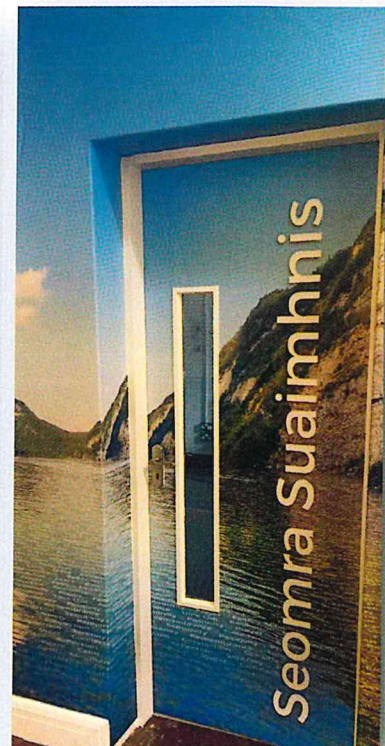
Our goals are aligned to theirs and we therefore are proud that we now can tailor our school to their needs. The centre has created a space that helps learning take place in various forms and the students already are feeling at home and blossoming. Therefore, we are not just talking the talk but walking the walk and are creating and supporting an inclusive educational environment.

Mr C Boyd



Seomra Suaimhnis

Another new addition to our campus is our 'Seomra Suaimhnis', this is a quiet space where students can go for some quiet time. This is a particularly welcome resource for Autistic Students who now have a space to go to for sensory regulation. At the moment the room is equipped with bean bags, fidget kits, weighted blankets and lava lamps, over time we will add different sensory equipment to cater for the individual needs of our students.



De La Salle College School App



De La Salle College Churchtown App

The School's Official Platform

The App is the school's official platform. It is private and secure. Only current parents/guardians, students and teachers have access.

Parents/guardians and students know with certainty that all school published information is available in the one place – the School App.

The features and functions include:

- ✂ Communications
- 📄 Digital Attendance Forms
- 👤 Digital Sign In/Out for Students and Visitors
- ⚙ Digital Forms
- 👤 My Student
- 🔗 Link to VShare
- 📅 Parent Reminder Dashboard
- 📖 Booklist
- 🏫 School Information
- 🌐 Link to Website

The De La Salle College School App was launched at the start of the school year in order to make communications between the school and home more efficient. Every Parent and Student must download the App and have Notifications turned On!

Digital Attendance Forms

Parents/guardians **MUST** submit attendance forms through the App **BEFORE 08:15am** to allow school staff time to process the form.

Security – PIN

The App includes an optional 4 digit PIN security on all forms and payments. Parents/guardians can turn this on in their profile.

- 📝 Absence Notes
- 📅 Late Notes
- 🗨 Permission To Leave Early includes QR code for parent/guardian to Digital Sign Out student
- ➔ Return after Absence

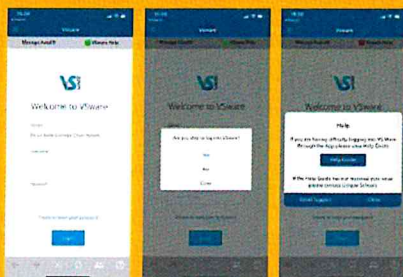


The monitoring of attendance is now done through the school app, parents will receive a notification if their son is marked as absent. Parents are asked to inform the school of absences via the app, all other notes (Lates, Appointments etc.) can also be sent via the app.

VShare

You can quickly and seamlessly access your student's VShare details through the App.

- 1 VShare on the home screen
- 2 Your username will be automatically populated by the App
- 3 If you have previously saved your password into the App this will also auto populate and simply login
- 4 If you have not previously saved your VShare password to the App tap "Manage AutoFill" at top of screen and save your password
- 5 Password issues - Create or reset your password
- 6 VShare Help on top right
- 7 support@uniqueschools.ie



VShare can now be accessed via the VShare tab in the school app, please ensure you have access to VShare to view term reports



Transition Year News

By Mr C Brennan



The first school term was a busy couple of months for Transition Years as they enjoyed their first block of modules including Cooking & Gardening; C.S.I; Sustainability and Journalism. These give our students an opportunity to sample some fun & interesting new areas of study they would not normally have in other academic years and perhaps develop or spark a passion for a new hobby or career prospect later in life. This year Work Placement takes place every Friday, which has given the lads the chance to find part time jobs in a wide range of workplaces such as Barbershops, Construction, Retail and corporate environments.

Sports Coaching & Social Work

Outside the classroom, the lads set out on Tuesday afternoons to do their bit to give back to the community. Some students have been completing a Sports Coaching Programme to prepare for going into primary schools to volunteer as coaches in sports like rugby & GAA. Jonathan Sharkey from Leinster Rugby delivered his Clue Programme with the lads to teach them about peer coaching.



**FROM
THE
GROUND
UP**



Other students have been using their Tuesday afternoons for Social Work by volunteering in charity shops including NCBI and Oxfam or assist those less fortunate in their local community including elderly neighbours and family members or even helping younger students with this homework in the school homework club. This has been fantastic for teaching them the importance of giving back to society, especially in current times.



Workshops & Guest Speakers

The students began the term welcoming **Gerry Cooney of the Ruland Centre** who spoke to them about various forms of addiction that affect young people today including gaming, social media, drugs and alcohol and how best to deal with peer pressure in today's climate.

To develop stronger bonds between the TY groups, all students partook in the unique **Teamworks** team-building workshop, which saw students work together in their class groups to complete short sharp challenges in a fun, memorable way. This was a fantastic experience for all involved!



As TY is about broadening the student's awareness of the world and wider community one key topic we focused on in October was Autism awareness. The school welcomed Denis Sexton of the Irish Society for Autism to speak to the lads about the work he does and to provide them with some information about the condition. Building on this, the students also completed the immersive AsIAm workshop, which educates them about what it is like living with Autism so they can better understand how people on the spectrum experience the world.



Activities

Thursday afternoons are all about getting out and about and active to develop a healthy body and mind. Students have been enjoying 4-week blocks of fitness-based activities.

Alan Martin from the Dublin School of **Judo** is giving the lads a taste of Judo, which incorporates a mix of basic Judo techniques to bring out their competitive side and teaching them the history of the Sport and Japanese culture.

Other students have been getting their heart rates up in **Boot Camp** with Rocky Fitness, where students complete a variety of cardio-based and strength-building exercises and short sport-based activities to encourage a more active lifestyle.

Students have also been having great fun developing their aquatic fitness with **Swimming** at Swan Leisure in Rathmines. This course teaches beginners the basics of swimming and more proficient swimmers the opportunity to get their swimming to the next level.

Aside from the set activities the lads completed two hikes this term to get some well needed fresh air and some bonding time with their peers and tutors Ms Plunkett, Ms Egan and Mr Brennan. The first was a start of year hike to Ticknock in September and then another to the Hellfire Club in October to mark the end of the term at Halloween.



Green Schools News



This year our Green schools committee are working towards their third flag! This year's focus is Water. The students have been working tirelessly to ensure our school is conserving water.

We are educating students about the importance of conserving water. We have installed a new water fountain and so far we have saved **12,345** plastic water bottles!



The committee researched and purchased Water Butts with the aim of collecting rainwater for use in the beautiful school garden, which was renovated by our TYs last year, and other areas such as the flowerbed that is planned next to our newly refurbished Arts Block.

Our Green Schools Committee have researched high quality reusable Water Bottles to improve sustainability and reduce single-use plastic that ends up littering our rivers and damaging the ecosystems in our oceans. **The official school water bottles are available to purchase from Mr Brennan or via Easy Payments on our school website.**

The specially-designed logo on the bottles represents the school's crest, the Water theme for green schools and the Plastic-free schools initiative with the fantastic motto "Be Plastic Free in DLSC!"



1st place in Upcycling Competition



Sustainability is a new TY module this year in which students take action to make De La Salle College a more sustainable school. This involves completing projects in the school in order to make the school a more sustainable environment, but also educating the school population about how they can live more sustainably.

TY(S) took on two projects this year, one of which was to upcycle some school furniture. They undertook to upcycle the outdoor board games area which had been getting great use this year by students playing their favourite games. The group surveyed the 1st year students to find out their favourite board games, which were chess and checkers. They then sourced old classroom tables and stools that were not being used and planned how to upcycle them, with the help of the woodwork teachers! After lots of sanding they painted the tops of the stools black and white to match the chess boards and varnished the legs. They then used a cardboard template to spray paint the chess boards onto the tables. They also reused bottle caps and spray painted them black and white to form checkers pieces. They demonstrated great creativity and artistry to get this project completed.

They decided to enter their Upcycling Project in a competition which was being run by My Waste Ireland. The final was held on 23rd October, and we are delighted that De La Salle College came 1st in the schools category! The prize of €700 will be used to fund further Sustainability projects in the school, we can't wait to put it to good use. Congratulations to the TY students involved, in particular Pavel, Bilal, Jaden, Lee, Lathan and Samuel. Their contribution to making De La Salle more sustainable is highly commendable!

Ms D Egan



mywaste

How good is our air quality?

On October 13th 2021 our TY group received diffusion tubes from The Global Program organization.

The tubes are designed to capture a sample of the air over a short period of time. Our TY Sustainability class placed three tubes in strategic places around the school campus. The tubes were attached, using cable ties, 3 metres above ground level.

On the 10th of November 2021 the diffusion tubes were removed from their locations and sent to the Globe Program for analysis. We look forward to hearing back from them about the quality of our air here in Churchtown.



What is the Global program?

The Global Program is a worldwide hands-on, science and education program focusing on the environment. To make this project possible the global program worked with NASA to make the diffusion tubes so they can be easy to set up and be sent out all over the world.



Student Council News

The new year marked the start of a new student council. With several meetings already under their belt the student council kicked off the year (pun intended) with the planning and organisation of a FIFA tournament.

Topics discussed during the meetings include return to Supervalu, reforms to the canteen and plans to fundraise for the purchase or construction of a bicycle shelter at the back of the school.

The student council has also kept up to date the student council notice board to ensure that it's workings are as transparent to the student body as possible.



Eoin and Dylan recently represented our Student Council at the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown branch of the Irish Secondary School Union Meeting in UCD



ISSU
IRISH SECOND-LEVEL
STUDENTS' UNION

Sports Round Up

Game game game! The sports year thus far has been a busy one and we are very proud of all teams who have worn the wine and gold! Nearly half our school will have worn those colours and done so with a smile and a bit of grit.

With the introduction of football to our sports we have seen our students play some very competitive games. The three teams of the U19, U15 and also the 1st years have been training and playing the FAI schools league for the first time. Our U19s played exceptionally well vs St. Kevin's and our U15s scored some impressive goals against Presentation Terenure.

Equally impressive has been our rugby teams. With three teams playing, 1st year, junior and senior we have also seen some incredible games. Our 1st years have played in some rugby blitzes with notable performances vs Sandford, Newpark and Benildas. Our junior rugby team has been getting better with every game showing some free flowing rugby and our seniors too have come on leaps and bounds with some new faces and energy to the team.

Our two basketball teams U16/19 too have improved as the year has gone on. The U19 will now face St. Colmcilles in the semi final of their respective cup. Our table tennis league has been slow to start but we are glad to announce that our U14 will travel to Castleknock this week and we wish them the very best. Lastly our badminton teams on the back of a strong tradition have done exceptionally well and we are now competing consistently at U19/U16 and U14 level. Some great games vs St. Marys, Terenure, Wesley College and lots more.

Overall we are delighted to see that nearly half of our school has had the opportunity to play these games and wear the wine and gold of De La Salle College Churchtown. This tradition and emphasis on being active and playing team sports has long been at the centre of this school and we are delighted to say that it continues. Well done to all teams thus far and a big thank you to all coaches who do all the things that need to be done in order to keep the tradition and good times rolling. We Are Salle!!

Mr C Boyd





6th Year student Tadhg Finlay Representing Connacht U-19



Open Day 2021

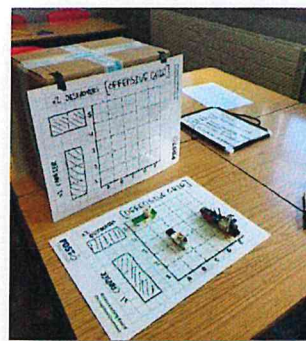
On Tuesday October 5th we were delighted to once again host our Open Day. Having Covid protocols meant we were able to host the event in a safe environment.

Our Open Day is an excellent opportunity for Primary school students and their parents to meet our students and staff and view our facilities. As always the day is student led and as always the many students who helped out on the day giving tours or classroom presentations did a fantastic job!

It was a pleasure to welcome many students and their parents from our local feeder schools, our visitors were treated to a wide variety of fun activities in all our subject areas and got to sample the many Extra Curricular activities we offer in the school.

The day was a great success thanks to the hard work of our teachers and students, we look forward to welcoming many of our amazing visitors into 1st year in August 2022.

Mr M Kirwan



Maths Week 2021

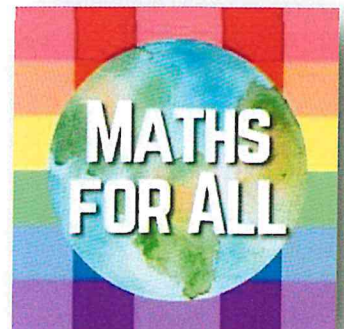
Maths Week, now in its 16th year, took place in October, with over 400,000 students across Ireland taking part! The week-long event has been growing in success in Ireland since it began, and the last 3 years in De La Salle have been no different. Maths Week aims to promote positive attitudes towards maths and further students' understanding of the impact maths has on the world. During maths week, students take part in various maths challenges and activities to give them an opportunity to experience maths in a fun manner that is accessible for all.

This year, all students took part in Maths Trails, Tarsia Puzzles and Maths Relays during maths class, which developed their problem-solving and collaboration skills. 1st and 2nd year students also entered the An Post Brain Busters Literacy and Numeracy competition - a National Competition which will see qualifying students going on to compete against other students in the country. The daily Numeracy Moment questions on the school's instagram page encouraged students to engage with maths from home, and exposed them to maths on their social media feeds. Well done to all students who took part but in particular to the daily winners - Ben Boylan, Basil Sunny, Mahdi Bouakaz and Charlie Nolan.

The Number Rumba League was a great addition to Maths Week this year, with Keith Perocho coming out as the Champion - very well done! Students also had great fun guessing how many jellybeans were in the jar, with Jakub Latoszek taking home the jar at the end of the week for his (almost) correct guess of 1000!

As always Maths Week was a great success, it gave students the chance to experience Maths in a different way and improve their attitude towards the subject. We are looking forward to its continued growth and success in the future!

Ms D Egan



Science Week 2021

Science Week is a week-long event in Ireland each November, celebrating science in our everyday lives. It involves students stepping outside the general Science curriculum to engage with tasks and concepts that they might not come across in the course of their regular Science studies. Science Week includes a variety of events revolving around student participation and fun.

This year 1st and 2nd year students were challenged to design their own paper roller-coaster. This project asked students to make a roller-coaster out of paper and tape and learn about roller coaster physics along the way! I'm not saying that I would want to ride any of the rollercoasters, but looking at the finished products we might have the making of some fine architects or structural engineers in our midst. In terms of bragging rights, the 1st years out papered the 2nd years.

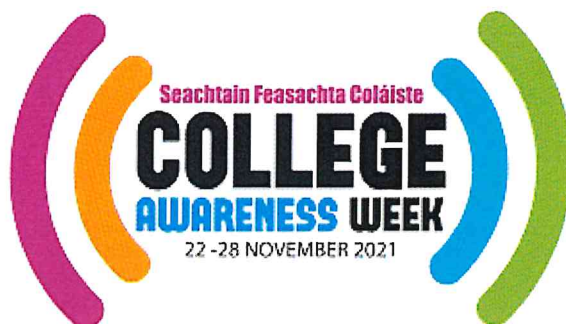
Our TY students took on the challenge of building Da Vinci bridges. While there were some sticky moments, they persevered and with a few pencils and some elastic bands they were able to produce some impressive structures.

Daily puzzles were available to all students via school noticeboards and social media, as was the photo competition. Many students participated in this initiative and it was a tough job picking the daily winner. Not to be left out, there were also puzzles for teachers. The less said about that the better.....

Congratulations to all who participated and especially our Science Week winners.

Ms S Tully





COLLEGE AWARENESS WEEK 2021

College Awareness week is a fantastic opportunity to get the message out that college is a very realistic option for all our students. Some of the most important facts about college that we want our students to know is that:

- College can be free to attend.
- College is accessible to all regardless of ability.
- There are many different pathways into the same course at college.

Who better to give all these facts to the students than **DeLa our Career Coach**. He delivered many, many facts to our students. While many of these facts were related to colleges DeLa also gave information about different career options like apprenticeships and told us where some of the famous alumni (past pupils) are now.

There are career visuals all over the school. This allows students to be immersed in career information as they walk around the school

First years did a little piece on Their **Dream Job**. It will be interesting to look back on this when they are in 6th year!





Our **Teacher Pathway** sheet saw students guess the teacher based on the courses they had undertaken at college.

A large number of our teachers were kind enough to let themselves be filmed talking about their college and career experiences. This will be a great resource for our students.

On Friday afternoon all the students from 1st year took part in a **Bumper Quiz**. Three hours of college facts. Our winning team was:

Yosif Aljanaby: IL

- **Eamon Ali: 1S**
- **Ryan Robins IL**
- **Yosef Alzubaidy: IS**
- **David Sanabria Tovar: 1S**

We were extremely impressed with the amount of knowledge they gained during the week.

When Covid numbers ease we hope to visit primary schools to do a careers modules with the senior classes.

Ms M Fitzpatrick



Trick or Treat for Temple Street

Friday, October 22nd was our annual Halloween dress up day in aid of Temple Street Children's Hospital. A great day was had by all to end a very busy term, thank you to our 5th year LCVP class for organising the festivities.



Well done to our 'Best Dressed' winners especially ABBA! Congratulations to our poetry comp winners who produced fantastic spooky poems (see below) and to our Halloween raffle winners. We are always delighted to raise funds for Temple Street Hospital, this years total was €450.

5th year LCVP Class



LGBTQ+ Stand Up Awareness

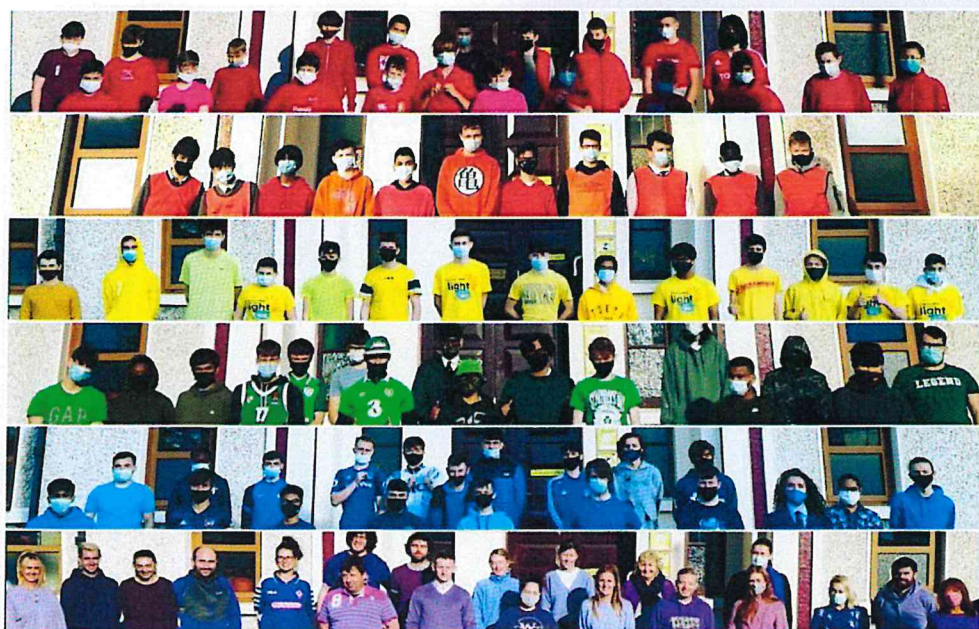
This year The College Celebrated our first 'Stand Up Awareness Week' in association with Belong To.

The school community came together to stand up against bullying and to celebrate, recognise, and stand in solidarity with members of the LGBTQ+ Community.

Events took place throughout the week including a Pride Flag Raising Ceremony, We had an LGGBTQ+ Wall of Fame. The week culminated in a colour day where each year group was asked to wear a different colour of the Pride Flag.

Our first 'Stand up Awareness week' was a great success and we look forward to building on this next year, well done to all involved.

Ms A Plunkett



3rd Year History

Pearse museum

On the 16th of September Mr.Chambers' 3S class made use of the rich history in the local area while enjoying the beautiful scenery of St.Enda's park , once the location of a school who's headmaster was none other than Padraig Pearse, one of if not the most important figures in our nation's struggle for Independence. Our 3rd years got to hear all about how the school which still stands today as a museum served as a hub for the Celtic revival and how the Pearse brothers Padraig and William helped spread the Irish language and culture which was in sharp decline at the time. It's amazing to have places of such historical importance right on our doorstep, here's hoping more trips like these can help us better get in touch with our Irish identity and the people who gave their lives for our freedom.



Our New Music Room

By Mr M Forde

The Music Department has been very busy this term. This year we have been very lucky to have the luxury of a well resourced music room and two separate practice rooms consisting of ukuleles, keyboards, piano, xylophones, glockenspiels, brass instruments, woodwind, guitars both acoustic and electric and a new drum kit. A music module has been incorporated into our wellbeing programme in DLSC in 1st, 2nd and Transition Year. Music club has also be included as an extra-curricular activity for all students. The music room is now open at lunchtime on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday due to popular demand.



New 3D Printer For De La Salle

New year, new equipment in the Technology Department. Great to get our 3D printer going in the first term. Fantastic opportunity to show our students the skills involved in creating pieces in 3D and now being able to print them and bring them to realisation. Detailed produced is unbelievable. It has led to great conversations during the classes, going through the process involved in printing and the advances in modern technology. Early in the new year we hope to install our new CNC Machine in the Woodwork which is a super high tech machine which will no doubt add to the marvellous work the lads are doing already. These updates were secured to department funding by the DLSC Technology Department.

Mr D Broderick & Mr a Kinsella



WE CARE



Live the
La Sallian way



Respect yourself,
your fellow students
& staff at all times



Hands Up -
One Voice



Green-Schools

An Taisce

Eat in designated areas only.
Keep Salle
Clean & Green

WE PREPARE



Wear your
full uniform
with pride



Turn off mobile phones
and electronic devices
before entering
school grounds



Be on time for school
and class.. line up and
enter class respectfully



Have your Journal,
books, copies and
pencil case
on your desk

WE ACHIEVE



Respectfully follow
staff instructions
at all times



Complete your class
work, homework & revision
daily to the best
of your ability



Become a leader,
get involved in
school activities,
committees and events



Healthy Schools

Healthy Body, Healthy Mind -
Take part in sport and
physical activity
and eat healthily



**We hope you
enjoyed our
Newsletter.**

