



# DE LA SALLE COLLEGE

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## WATERFORD

ISSUE 2

MAY 2018

### Message

Welcome to the Student Council De La Salle College Summer Newsletter. Another year of many successes to celebrate, both academic and in the area of extra-curricular activities. Summer tests are currently underway and Junior and Leaving Cert Exams are starting on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Wishing you all a restful summer break.



### In memory of Mr Frank O'Callaghan

This was a sad year in De La Salle College due to the untimely death of former Acting Principal Mr. Frank O'Callaghan on the 20<sup>th</sup> January. Frank graduated from UCC in 1973 and came to the College that September. He spent the whole of his working life in De la Salle College until his retirement in 2015, a remarkable 42 years of continuous loyal and dedicated service. He taught Geography and Gaeilge to all levels and students with Special Education Needs. Frank was thoughtful, fair and compassionate when dealing with students, parents and staff members in his role as a teacher, Yearhead, Deputy Principal and in his last year as Acting Principal.

Frank had a keen interest in sport and the game of hurling in particular. This was hardly surprising as he was born and raised in the shadow of the Glen Rovers club and remained a loyal Glen man

throughout his entire life, including the lean years they endured from 1989 to 2015, when to his great delight they won their first "county" in 26 years.

Although he was a Cork man through and through and supported them accordingly, he was also very much a Déise man and took great pride and pleasure in their progress over the last 20 years.

Frank trained and managed hurling teams in De La Salle College for many years and enjoyed notable success when winning the White Cup (Munster Colleges Under 15 A championship) in 1990 and the Dean Ryan Cup (Munster Colleges Under 16 1/2 championship) in 2005

Fear fíor—Ghaelach ab ea Frank agus bhí suim ar leith aige ins gach rud Gaelach, an cultúr, na cluichí ar ndóigh agus an teanga ach go h-áirithe.



The students in 6<sup>th</sup> year who were members of the Student Council organised a Cherry Blossom tree to be planted in his memory on the 26<sup>th</sup> April. Frank's memory will always be present in the College.



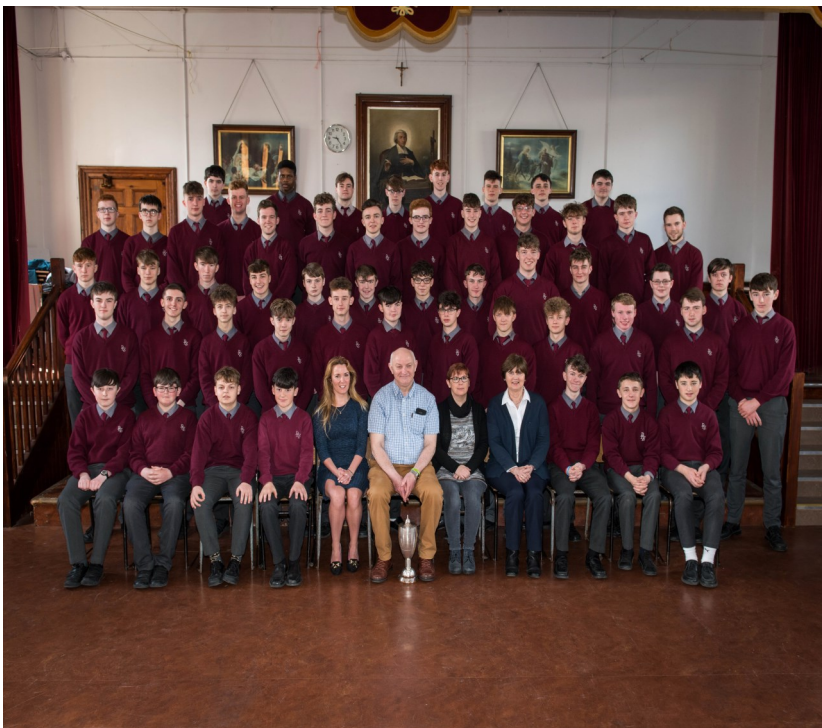
## De La Salle College Senior Choir

De La Salle College, Senior Choir won on the double at this year's Navan Choral Festival, coming first in two of the festival's three competitions for secondary school choirs. They didn't enter the third competition!

Three choirs competed in the Irish Song competition. De La Salle came first with a mark of 88. Later in the day, the Waterford choir performed in the main competition which had 17 entries. De La Salle out-performed some of Ireland's top second-level schools such as Wesley College, Alexandra College, Ursuline Thurles and Maynooth Combined Community Colleges, coming first in the competition. They are now the 2018 Navan School Choir of the Year.

This is not their first success this year. In April, at the Cork International Choral Festival, they won the prestigious Irish Federation of Musicians Associated Professions Trophy for the best performance of a song in Irish by any school choir competing in this year's festival.

Congratulations to the boys and their mentors. This is a great achievement.



De La Salle College Senior Choir with Br Ben Hanlon, Ms Harrison, Ms McCann and Ms Ní Chinnéide

## Rugby

Rugby in De La Salle College has exploded on to the scene this year. Both the u15 and u17 teams made a huge impression both in Waterford and beyond. The u17 team missed out on a place in the Munster finals by one score which was difficult for us all.

We managed to regroup and celebrate getting that far. Both Ms Walsh and Mr. Brady have so much admiration and respect for the boys. The u15 team were able to take their 17 wins to the Munster finals and beat a very good opposition from Midleton in the final. Ms Walsh and Mr Brady knew before the game something magical was going to happen that day. The boys were not leaving without a win. It was fitting that the entire team heaved to push Brendan Flynn over the line in the

last second of play to score the winning try. We don't think we will ever forget it...

This is the first time we have won any cup or trophy it is simply huge for us. All of the time spent standing in the rain on cold winters evenings suddenly seemed to make sense! In addition to the cup the boys also won tickets to see Munster take on Ulster. We had a great day out and the icing on the cake was to sit back and watch Jack O Donoghue captain the Munster team. Jack was captain of De La Salles first rugby team, that is something that we are very proud of. There are many boys breaking through to the Munster

team and indeed the Irish team. To say that in some small way we played a part is just magical. We look forward to building on this year's success next year and for the senior boys we are as proud of you as the u15 team. You carried yourself with dignity, you played with passion and we know the best is yet to come. Thanks everyone, have a lovely summer.

Ms Walsh and Mr Brady.



U15 Team with Ms Walsh, Mr Brady and Mr Jay Traynor

## Br Tommy

Congratulations to Br Tommy Walsh who has been awarded the “Tom Collins Award” by Basketball Ireland. This is a very prestigious award which recognises his immense contribution to basketball at Post Primary schools level. To quote Dean Kavanagh *“Basketball would not exist in the southeast without Br Tommy”*

Thank you Br Tommy for your outstanding commitment to basketball in De La Salle College.



Br Tommy Walsh

## Jay Kavanagh

Congratulations to Jay Kavanagh one of our 5th Year Students who has been selected to play for Ireland on the U18 Men’s Basketball National Team.

Best of luck to you and the Irish team in the European Championships in Prishtina, Kosovo on July 22nd—29th.



Jay Kavanagh

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## Interview with Ms O’Shea following her recent selection to play on the

Congratulations Ms O’Shea on being selected to play on the Senior Women’s basketball team for Ireland. This is a fantastic achievement.

### How did you get interested in playing basketball?

I began playing basketball at 13 years of age when I attended Our Lady of Mercy secondary school in Waterford. My PE teacher, Ms. Furlong, approached me and asked me would I be interested in playing.

### Can you tell us about your most memorable moment playing with the WIT Wildcats?

My most memorable moment would be when we won the under 20 National Cup in Dublin.

### What are the most important skills that are needed for basketball?

Basketball is an extremely skilful game but for me, it’s important to master the basics such as dribbling, catching and passing. Having an awareness of the court is paramount also.

### Can you tell us about some of your other achievements so far?

I recently won the Superleague ‘Player of the Year’ award with WIT Wildcats. I am also the youngest player to have made a starting five on the Senior Women’s Irish team. This was a great honour for myself and my family.

### What would you consider to be the highlight of your career, to date?

Even though I have played basketball with Ireland in the past, being selected to play with the Senior Women’s team this year means a great deal more to me as I have put in many hours of training to achieve this.

### You are a member of the PE staff in De La Salle College and are involved in coaching basketball with Brother Tommy. What do you try to instil in the players you coach?

I always tell the players to do the

simple things well. Not only that, but I firmly believe that hard work and lots of heart outweighs skill at underage level. The boys here are so passionate about basketball and give it their all. We are very proud of all they have achieved so far.

Thank you Ms O’Shea and congratulations on behalf of the staff and students of De La Salle College. We are very proud of you.

Cormac O’Mahony



Miss Stephanie O’Shea



## German Exchange

On Sunday 7th April 13 boys and two teachers from the Willgis Catholic Boys School in Mainz arrived in the College for our annual German exchange. During their stay the boys and their exchange partners visited Tramore, attended a Mayoral reception, visited Cork city gaol, U.C.C and the German boys learned how to play hurling! Their host families brought them on various cultural outings and extended a typically warm Irish welcome to the boys and their teachers. It was a wonderful experience for all concerned and the De La Salle boys are looking forward to their visit to Mainz in October

Ms E Walsh and Ms A Conway



## Ski Trip 2018

The Annual Ski trip is now in its 4th Year at De La Salle College. This year 41 students travelled with Mr. Healy, Mr. A. O' Brien and Mr. Brett for a week of skiing to Andalo in Italy where they spent 4 hours each day taking lessons from the Topflight Instructors. The snow conditions were excellent this year and it suited the beginners as well as the more experienced in the group.

The students enjoyed the luxury of skiing right beside the village prior to advancing to higher, more challenging slopes on the Gondola. All the students really excelled on the slopes, with no less than 11 long red slopes taking them from the top of the Paganella at 2,125 meters all the way back to the village. Those that were brave enough, even tackled the black Olimpica which tested their abilities.

*"The Ski Trip was a great experience which allowed me to learn new skills, develop new friendships and was a very enjoyable and worthwhile trip with great people" (Cormac Power 5th Year).*



## Junk Kouture

Bank of Ireland Junk Kouture is a national contest which encourages young designers in second level to create striking couture designs and impressive works of wearable art from everyday junk that would normally find its way into the bin. De La Salle College's

### 'RED WEATHER YELLOW WEATHER'

(Wayne Pepper Craig Cunningham and Tom O Hanlon)

and

### 'STEAM PUNK'

(Angel Agheria, Sam Walsh and Edward Mullaly) made it to the grand final of the Junk Kouture competition in the 3 Arena on April 19th.

Representing not only De La Salle College but all of Co. Waterford .

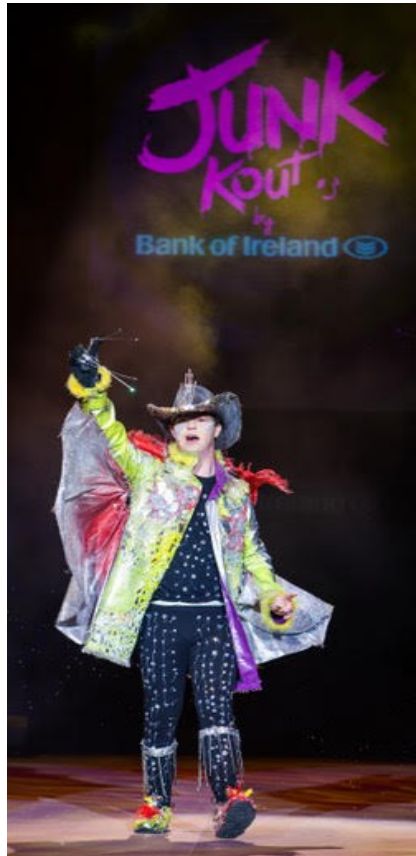
Both teams are students from Ms Lee's art class.

'RED WEATHER YELLOW WEATHER' was created from old raincoats and umbrellas and highlights the effects of climate change on our weather.

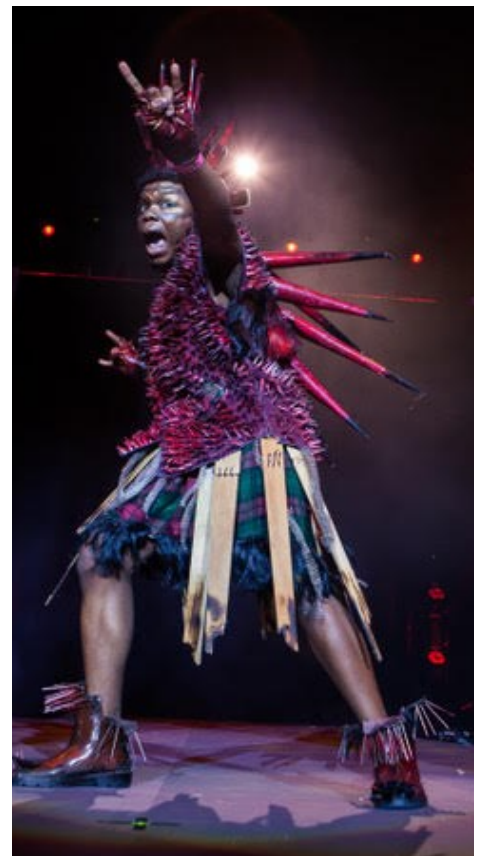
STEAM PUNK was created from discarded or worn out elements of each of the STEAM subjects Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths.

We had great support from staff and students and a fantastic night was had by all.

Roll on to next years designs....



Wayne Pepper



Angel Agheria



Wayne Pepper, Mr Louis Walsh and Ms N Lee.



## Awards Night

The annual Awards ceremony was held on the 14th May. Thomas Barr past pupil gave the keynote address. Thomas is a very accomplished athlete. Thomas won gold in the 400 metres hurdles at the 2015 World University Games in South Korea with a time of 48.78 seconds. In April 2015, Thomas was named the European Athlete of the Month for, in part, being part of a national relay record and having a world-best time in the 400 metre hurdles. On 15 August at the 2016 Summer Olympics, Thomas finished second in his heat of the 400m hurdles. The following day he broke the Irish record and won his semi-final to qualify for the final in a time of 48.39. He finished fourth in the final.

The Junior Cycle Awards Scheme aims to recognise a pupil's contribution to class and school life. The following criteria are used by teachers to nominate students for a Junior Award - courtesy, co-operative attitude, punctuality, attendance, classroom effort, excellent homework, improved be-

haviour, appearance/neat uniform, initiative, leadership qualities and extra-curricular involvement.

Students are nominated by their teachers for Academic Awards at senior cycle. Extra-Curricular Awards are a very important part of the Awards scheme and include Sports awards, Young Scientist, Science Olympiad, Junk Couture Award, Chaplain's Award, Community Spirit Award, Lasallian Award, Senior Debating, Green Schools, Student Council Award, Construction Studies and Technology Wood best project awards. Specialist awards include Year Head Award,



Oran Kelly with Brid Mulhearn who presented him with a Music Bursary.



David O'Hare with Thomas Barr Winner of the 'Principal's Award'.



Andrew Mulhall with Kim Leahy who presented him with the 'Lesley Leahy Award'.

## 6th Year Graduation Photo 2018

