

## *I shared the daily lives of secondary school students in Ireland*

*I was welcomed by the Brothers, teachers and educators of De La Salle College in Waterford, a port situated in the south east of Ireland. This secondary school has 90 teachers and 1,200 students from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> year.*

What stands out is the peace, the tranquillity. The young students wear a uniform, grey shirt and trousers and a wine jumper and tie. I think that this uniform contributes to the atmosphere of learning and lends to a certain strictness, politeness and manner of being in this school, in the south of Ireland.

This school is an establishment that resembles ours; “The aim of this school is to give a human and Christian education to youths. Inspired by the vision of Saint Jean Baptiste de la Salle, this lasallian school prepares young people to take a mature and productive place in society while at the same time being free and responsible citizens”.



The teaching delivered there is of quality and the establishment has a very good reputation in this town which has a population of 50, 000.

Self-discipline is very present here, and is always being supervised. The 40 minute classes begin at 9 am and finish at 3:10 pm or 3:50 pm. It is interesting to see the importance also given to different activities; music, choir, sport, clubs, meditation.....In their school bag, the students have their “hurley” or stick for “hurling”, a sport which they play during the breaks.

If you want to meet a teacher, drop by at the Friday morning break and you can take advantage of the “Happy Friday” tea and cake, to celebrate the approaching weekend!