



# DE LA SALLE COLLEGE

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## WATERFORD

Issue 8

May 2021

### **Message from the Principal**

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Coming to the end of my first, not quite full year, I would like to take the opportunity awarded to me by the Student Council to thank everyone for their efforts since I arrived in the school in October. It has been a strange and busy time for me. I have not seen many faces and have been very restricted by COVID. Although it has been busy, it has been very rewarding and the school has been progressing along nicely. Some of the little things that go unnoticed will have positive impacts on learning and teaching moving forward. The new photocopier, the upgraded computer network, the arrival of new computers for both students and teachers and the hours of CPD carried out by teaching staff will enhance our service.



Everyone has been busy. Teachers, students and parents have all helped out in a collective effort. The De La Salle Brothers living among us have brought great tranquility to the College by way of their presence. Many of them have been involved with Le Chéile and the wider De La Salle community worldwide, in efforts to keep in touch with the De La Salle ethos and engage in discussions around social justice and inclusion.

Br. Tommy is currently promoting and fundraising for the building of a school in Africa and could do with any help you may be in a position to give him. The Lasallian women's forum highlighted the inequity in education for girls in developing countries. Hopefully, we as a De la Salle community in Ireland, the UK and Malta will be able to join together in a campaign to raise awareness for the plight of these girls and possibly some money.

Thanks to everyone for their work and support over the period between October and now. I look forward to working with you all in continuing to make the College a centre of excellence where all are welcome and where we strive for fairness in a sustainable environment.

### **New School Initiatives**

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There are always things happening behind the scenes in the College. Enormous credit is due to staff that are working on these projects and have made them happen. These people don't want any credit for their efforts but it is clear their efforts are benefiting our students.

- Currently there is a working group involved in the development of the school pitch.
- One of our teachers has started a relationship with a "Tech for Schools" group. To date the school has benefitted by receiving computers to the value of €10,000.
- The UPMC group in Whitfield Clinic have agreed to come on board with the school as a health partner and sponsor wellbeing initiatives in the school to the tune of €1,000 per annum.

## **ASD Special Class**

Having been approached by the NCSE (National Council for Special Education) in October of last year, we have been asked to introduce a special class for students with Autistic Spectrum Disorders and we are now very close to opening this class. It will commence in August 2021 in temporary accommodation, with a building programme to follow for the provision of a facility with 550 square meters of inside space. The Board of Management building subcommittee is currently working on this behind the scenes, along with working on the additional accommodation that has now gone to tender.

Currently we have five students signed up for the class, and there are two more students who have expressed an interest. Along with the new buildings associated with the class we can facilitate six students (twelve next year), three teachers and up to four SNAs. This is great news for the school and the employment of some excellent people who we would otherwise be unable to keep on staff. The core team of three teachers have been actively upskilling with relevant courses and training. They have also been planning for the transition of the students into the class. There will be three new students in the class along with three more who are currently in the school. For all these students, their families and the wider community the advent of the special class to De La Salle is a Godsend.

## **UCC Past Pupil Enterprise Project**

A former student of the college, Jody Walsh, approached the school recently with an idea for a project he and his colleague were planning to submit to the University College Cork Enterprise and Innovation Division. It involved a “green” environmental initiative where the final year Commerce students planned to collect compostable waste around our College. Their design includes the collection of waste, composting it, collecting the gas and storing it in gas bottles. The gas may then be utilised to fuel some of the energy used in the college.

The students were required to submit their proposals to a board in UCC. There were over one hundred submissions made and Jody was one of the few successful applicants. The students were awarded a bursary of €4,000 to help their plan come to fruition.

Well done to the two students involved in bringing awareness of the issue of waste to the fore and coming up with what is considered to be a good solution. It is also satisfying that De La Salle is been spoken about in the centre for innovation in UCC. We hope to welcome the students to the College during the summer and see what their work involves.



## **School Awards Ceremony 2021**



Due to Covid-19, our Annual Awards Ceremony could not be held as usual this year. Instead, the process was divided for each year group and held over the course of an entire day. These short ceremonies were recorded and are now available online for parents to watch. A massive thank you to Mr. Healy, Mr. Walsh and all who helped to make the day possible, and congratulations to all the winning students!



## **COVID Winter — A reflection by Mr. Walsh**

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The country was locked down as a result of COVID-19 from January until March. School functioned with remote teaching and learning for the duration of this period. Teachers did their best to teach and students did their best to learn, all working away together like Trojans to get the job done. Ms. Doolan and I ventured into school every day to help in the effort to keep things ticking over.

We contacted parents and students, sent emails, made phone calls and kept an eye on things in general. Along with the two of us, the Brothers kept on living their lives in as safe a way as they could. Thankfully, they had received both doses of their COVID-19 vaccine by the end of March, allowing some normality to return for them.

The caretaking staff was also in school for the duration of the closure. They were in every day and worked away looking after various maintenance projects and freshening up the College with a dab of paint here and there. The school was a more inviting place for us all when we were able to reopen.

The school was an eerie place for this period. It was lovely to see the odd teacher coming into the building to run their classes. The dark and dull time of the year made it appear even less hospitable and welcoming. Next year's Transition Year and Leaving Certificate Applied interview processes had to start and finish during these dull and dreary days.

News filtered through around midterm of plans to get back to school again. This was very welcome news for all. Students and teachers returned a few weeks before the Easter break. The nasty new variants of the virus were rampant at the time and unfortunately we were struck with a case. Thanks to the efforts of all in the school and the HSE there was only one confirmed infection. The good news is that we all remained safe and well.

COVID winter brought with it the stresses of accredited grades for sixth year students and teachers. Portals needed to be attended to and life-affecting decisions had to be made. Anxieties rose with students needing to decide whether to sit examinations or not. The remainder of students needed to be kept going and engaged in their work.

Slap in the middle of the return to school we were informed of the schedule for the assessment of the language orals and music practicals along with some LCA tasks. Thanks to the generosity of the teachers who gave up their time off to come to school and assess their students, the job got done and students were happy. Next stop for students and teachers is the conclusion of practical work, and the ordeal of the Leaving Certificate accredited grades and the examinations themselves.

There seems to be light at the end of the tunnel. People are getting vaccinated and people's hopes for better days are growing. That said, we have no idea of how things are going to progress. In all likelihood school will function more or less the same next year as it did this year. One way systems, student based classrooms, sanitisers, segregation in the breaks, students remaining in school, split lunch times, no canteen, masks and social distancing may all return. Hopefully extracurricular activities will return. It was a sad year with no sports, little or no choir and music and no De La Salle show.

What can be remarked on is the dedication of all to their roles during the year. The teachers have been excellent, students have done their best and parents have been very supportive of the efforts of the school and their sons. A huge thank you and a very well done is due to all.



## Brother Tommy's Garden

Over the course of the term and the lockdown, Brother Tommy has been working away at a new project for the school: a beautiful garden area at the back of the campus, behind the outdoor basketball courts. Brother Tommy kindly agreed to take part in an interview about the garden, and what the project entailed for him.

### What inspired you to start the garden?

Covid-19 and the lockdown was the reason why I started the garden. At first the area was a wasteland, so we got rid of all the weeds, brambles, and bushes up the back and made it into a garden.

### What was in the space before the garden?

There was a mountain of rubbish, briars, thorns, bushes, iron, desks, pipes, things thrown away, everything. It was at least 20 feet out from the wall and other than some birds maybe living there, it was all dead. No one went near it, I found slottars and everything underneath it.



### Was it difficult to get started and to source everything you needed?

It wasn't too difficult because I had plenty of time. A former teacher, Mr. O'Neill, brought in a chainsaw, and we spent one day cutting all the bushes and removing them. Then we got in a shredder and got rid of as many branches and leaves as possible.

### Do you think that looking after the garden has had benefits for you, and your wellbeing?

This project kept me sane through the lockdown. Normally, I would be away in India or Africa doing building projects. In 2020, I wasn't able to do that. So to make use of my time I worked on this area. It was a wilderness, and now it has become a paradise. It was definitely a help for my wellbeing, and I think for the students too. Now they can go out and admire what has been done with the area.

### Did you have help with the garden, as it is such a big commitment?

I got help from a number of teachers. Mr. O'Neill with the chainsaw, Mr. Brosnan and Mr. Campbell with the sleepers, they did a lot of that work. I dug out the ground and they came in with cement and chainsaws and everything to put it in properly, so the sleepers are done beautifully. The Corporation gave me the soil free of charge, six loads of it, so I was delighted to utilise it. People were very generous when they heard what I was doing, they were willing to help any way they could.





### **What exactly are you growing in the garden?**

We have a section for vegetables: rhubarb, onions, lettuce, potatoes, sweet peas. We have a huge number of flowers, some of them I don't even know the names of! Some were planted as bulbs and seeds, others were bought. I could recognise the tulips and the daffodils, others not so much. Our cook came and donated some flowers too, which really helped to bring colour to the area. In the lower section we have fruit: blackcurrants, gooseberries, strawberries, and some herbs too. Some students even brought in some plants, and some TYs have planted some sunflowers.

### **Did you learn anything from this experience?**

Be close to nature, have patience, when you start a project give it your best and try to bring it to fruition. It's amazing how many people want to come on board and support you, which helps it to turn out very well. One of the students actually brought in the tyres, which I was able to fill with soil. We hope to paint those soon.

### **Is the garden a finished product now or is there further room for expansion?**

I would love to get some wheelbarrows, and fill those with flowers, fruit, and vegetables, and be creative. I would also love to get a polytunnel, so we could plant some seeds and transplant them all over the place. I'd love to see more flowers around the school, but looking after them can be an issue. Other teachers are also very interested in the project, so we could definitely try to get some flower beds in various places around the school. The weeds are coming up now, which will be a big responsibility! I'm learning as I go along, and that's the beauty of it. I hope that garden will be there for years to come. We're also hoping to create a mural or a mosaic on the back wall. We could also put in a bird table, and maybe some benches like we have at the front of the school. So it's definitely a project to extend!



### **Have students reacted to the beauty of the garden since our return to school?**

Yes, I think a number of classes have been going out to walk there, and the guys are always keeping an eye when they go out for their break. I'd say they're keeping an eye on the strawberries to see when they come up!

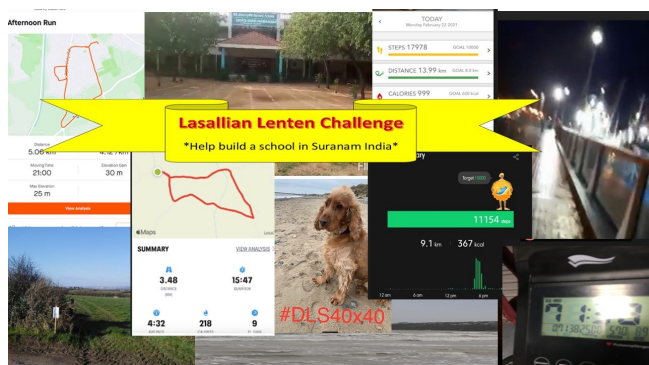


**Before and after - from wilderness to paradise!**

## Fundraising for Lasallian Projects in Suranam, India

There is currently a range of fundraising initiatives taking place to support the building of a new school costing €35,000 in Suranam, India. All funds raised will be used for this worthy cause. Your support is always much appreciated.

The staff and students of De La Salle College Waterford and Lasallians around the world completed a 40-day challenge in conjunction with Lent. So, for 40 days each person participated in 40 minutes of daily exercise and fundraised. You can see some pictures below that were sent in by both staff and students of their participation in the challenge.



When asked about the fundraiser, Brother Tommy said: “It’s been very tough to fundraise this year, as we can’t do sponsored walks, soccer tournaments and things like that. Hopefully we’ll be back to those next year. So we tried to do this #DLS40x40 exercise challenge during Lent to raise some donations, and we managed to raise €2,500. Also, we made another €1,500 with our no uniform day last week, so a huge thank you to all who

contributed there. If we were able to fundraise within our parish it would be a lot easier, but hopefully in the future that will be possible. Last year, we did the Lasallian Shave challenge, which brought in €16,000. That paid for a compound wall around one of the schools in India, which was fantastic to protect all the students. It’s amazing what a fundraiser can do.”

You can still help build a school in Suranam, India by going to our donations page:

<https://gofund.me/707a654a>

Ms. Fowler is also running a marathon for the project, and you can support her cause via the link below:

<https://gofund.me/deacde95>



***All support, no matter how small, is greatly appreciated!***

## Lasallian Awards

This year, the MEL Committee launched their Lasallian Awards Competition for all De La Salle schools in the district of Ireland, Great Britain and Malta. This competition consisted of activities linked to the five Lasallian Core Principles of Faith in the Presence of God, Concern for the Poor and Social Justice, Respect for All Persons, Quality Education and Inclusive Community.

The following Junior Cycle students with the help of their SPHE teachers were presented with certificates for completing their Bronze Lasallian Award:

Adam Finnerty, Bill Halley, Max Philpott, Darragh O' Dempsey, Darragh Houlihan, Nathan Zamora, Patrick Kopec, Jawat Afnan Ali, Rian Alyward, Darragh Hearne, Avinash Manoj, Cathal Murphy, Dean O'Neill and Ben O'Riordan. Congratulations to all on their achievements!



## Br. Tim's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, Brother Tim celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mr. O'Brien and Ms. Doolan brought up all the presents and cards to the Brothers' Dining room mid-morning, which took quite a while! Br. Tim extends his gratitude to all who sent cards and gifts, over 100 in total!

His birthday was mentioned at 10.30 Mass in St. Benildus Church, so a few more presents arrived after that. Many thanks also to Ms. Butler-Kelly, who put together a series of video greetings from school staff and friends of Br. Tim. There was even a video sent in from Br. Tim's home area of Tousist, Kerry! The Student Council gives their warmest regards to Br. Tim and wishes him many more years of health and happiness.



## Student Enterprise - "Bulky Balls"

Bulky Balls is a business that was set up by two students of the College, Alex King and Kieran Houlihan, who are in TY and 5<sup>th</sup> year respectively. The boys make and sell protein balls, which are available to purchase at Under the Clock



Coffee House, The Bia Box Waterford, X91 Coffee and The Dark Horse. They are available in a vast range of flavours, which include Nutella, Kinder Bueno, Chocolate Orange, and Oreo.

When asked about how this all started, Alex said: 'I used to train with Kieran during lockdown as he was in my bubble and one day I brought up some protein balls. He loved them, so it all just kicked off from there'.

The boys have had immense success within the short time of their business' operation so far, and we wish them continued success in the future!





## Ms. Fowler's Wellbeing Initiatives

Over the course of the school closure, Ms. Fowler worked on a number of activities with her 1<sup>st</sup> Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year and TY Students.

<https://online.flipbuilder.com/zpqv/ywqq/>

This student cookbook was created by Ms Fowler's Wellbeing classes during lockdown while studying nutrition. Big thanks to Danny Hagan TY1 for editing and creating this beautiful book.

The 'Take a Moment' presentation was also created by Wellbeing students, signifying happiness and spring time.

## Sunflower Seedlings

Class 1NS recently planted some sunflower seeds in their SPHE class. This activity was done to help raise awareness of the important issues of climate change and decline in pollinators while also showing how connecting with nature can be calming and rewarding.

The sunflower was chosen as they are a symbol of happiness and optimism while also being an invaluable food source for birds, bees and insects.

The seeds were sourced from 'Blooming Native' in Ferrybank, and according to them if you are a sunflower lover you have an infectious radiant and warm disposition. Some TY students also planted seeds as part of their plant biology module.

The students have now brought their seedlings home to nurture them as they grow up to heights of 6ft, adding colour to many a garden around Waterford.



## Silver Gaisce Award

Congratulations to Noah Cowman, 5th Year, who was recently awarded the Gaisce Silver medal, as well as a Silver Lasallian Award. This is a fantastic achievement by Noah who adds the award to his Bronze medal earned in Transition Year. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, it was not possible for Noah to receive his medal at a regional awards ceremony. He was presented his medal in school, and once restrictions are lifted, he will be invited to an acknowledgment ceremony hosted by Gaisce.

## Art Department News

### MTU Art Portfolio Course

The following TY students, **Eoghan Murphy, Daniel Hagan, Liam O'Connell, Ben O'Neill, Hans Gayeta, Jack De Courcey and Calum Flynn** took part in an Art Portfolio Preparation course hosted by MTU, a first of its kind for the Art Department which took place at the end of April. It included six sessions that covered a range of art disciplines and was well received by all participants.

**Session 1:** Introduction: First Impressions

**Session 2:** Observational Drawing: The Art of Looking.

**Session 3:** Figure Drawing: Anatomy VS Character.

**Session 4:** Design: Exploration through Visual Communication and Photography.

**Session 5:** Exploring 3D Media: Drawing through Form.

**Session 6:** Printmaking without a Press: Power in Multiples.



### Valentine's Day Artwork

During lockdown, TY Visual Art students decided to share the love and celebrate **Valentine's Day, February 14th**. Hoping to send some happiness and cheer, students created wonderful **artwork inspired by the theme 'Valentine's Day'**. This work was highlighted through a **video montage** which featured on the De La Salle College official website.

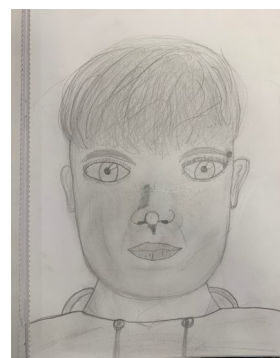
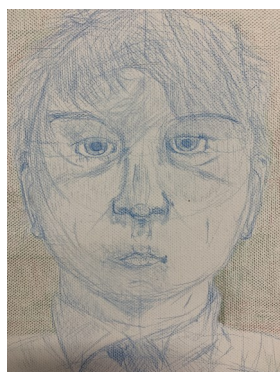
### First Year Family Portraiture

During lockdown, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Visual Art students stayed connected with family members, while being apart, by posting letters requesting their recipients to become part of their **Portraiture Module**.

Grandparents, brothers, sisters, parents, aunts, uncles and godparents agreed and gave us the positive feedback that kept us motivated and made our

learning fun. Once they agreed, portraits were completed and once we were back in the classroom we scaled up to canvas. This proved to be another

fun way of learning online by the Visual Art Department. The students, through this traditional, simple act of writing a letter, addressing an envelope and applying a stamp, made a difference to relatives on the receiving end. The students sent letters near and far, and we were really impressed by the overwhelmingly positive responses.



## Art Awards

The Visual Art Department would also like to congratulate the following students on receiving the following Art Awards.

**Aaron Ryan** - 6<sup>th</sup> Year Art Award.

**Ryan Tubbritt, Aaron Ryan, Dean Hayes** - Junk Kouture Award.

**Cole Campbell** - Junior House Visual Art Award.

**Christian Novac** - Senior House Visual Art Award.



**Mr. Robert Sheehan** joined The Art Department for this year. His students and both of us are sad to see him leave.

**A wonderful role model and teacher for our students and a welcome addition to the Department. Hurry back...**

Ms. Ryan would also like to **congratulate ALL 6th year** students on the completion of their L.C Art projects. **It has been a pleasure teaching you all. Ms. Ryan and the Visual Art Department wish you all the very best in your future endeavours.**



## Br. Tommy's Basketball Training

Since our return to school, Brother Tommy has been lucky to be able to return to holding basketball training for first and second year students.

### What has it been like returning to sport?

It's good! Unfortunately, I've only been able to bring back first and second year training. The first years have had very little to do this year, so they're really keen! I'd love some more time with them, and to give them an opportunity to

play some games. Second years are training too. Under 16s, I'll have to leave until September. Under 19s unfortunately finished up without getting to play any games in their last year. For wellbeing, I think the sooner all kids get back to sports and activities the better. I'm hoping that we will be back to normal in September, and that we will all be vaccinated so that we can take off our masks again!

## 'Memes' as Gaeilge

For Seachtain na Gaeilge this year, students in Ms. Dermody's Irish class created some 'memes' as Gaeilge. Maith sibh a bhuachaillí!



## European Parliament Ambassador School Programme

### Online Euroscola Event

The following four students, **Aidan Burke, Ben O'Neill, Daniel Hagan** and **Jack O'Neill** participated in the **Online Euroscola Event on Friday**



**16<sup>th</sup> April.** This was a great opportunity for the students to learn about the European Parliament and have the chance to ask questions to guest speaker, Mr. Othmar Karas (Vice-President of the European Parliament). Students also got the opportunity to take part in seminars, discuss topics, ask questions, and learn about members and policies of the European Parliament. This year's Euroscola Event topic was 'Cyber Security in the EU: How can we protect our digital future?'. All the students involved thoroughly enjoyed the event!



### EU Information Point

TY4 students participated in a 'Visiting Europe' inspired project for the EPAS Programme. Students created informative posters and brochures highlighting all the

wonderful fun and interesting facts about EU countries. These posters and brochures can be viewed on the school's 'EU Information Point' which can be accessed by all students on the C floor.



### EU Day Quiz

To celebrate **EU day, May 9th 2021**, TY6 students created an **EU quiz** for all students and staff of De La Salle College to enjoy. This was to help improve the schools knowledge of the European Union in a fun and interactive way!



### Junior Ambassadors

Congratulations to the following TY students who were awarded Junior Ambassadors for 2020-2021. This is a great achievement and highlights the effort, commitment and hard work shown by the students.

Donnacha Fitzpatrick  
Ben Hanlon  
Rohit Das  
Dmitriy Nosatenko  
Ben O'Neill

Donnacha Williams  
Jamie Doyle  
Hans Gayeta  
Leon Ogunfeyimi  
Eoghan Murphy

**Overall it was another successful year for all students engaged in the EPAS Programme!**

## Transition Year News

Despite only having returned to school after the Easter holidays, our Transition Year students have had an action-packed few weeks consisting of various fun activities!

### Junior Achievement Ireland Guest Speakers

All TY students attended two online talks facilitated by Junior Achievement Ireland over the term. The first was with Johannes Schweppenhaeuser, Site Head of Sanofi Waterford, and the second was with Susan Millard, of BYN Mellon. These talks were hugely beneficial for the boys and thoroughly enjoyed by all.



### Ritual Trips to Inistioge

On April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>, TY1 and TY5, respectively, had the chance to travel to Woodstock Gardens and Arboretum in Inistioge, Kilkenny. Here, they carried out a special ritual which they planned themselves as part of their 'Prayer and Ritual' Religion Module with Ms. Cantwell.



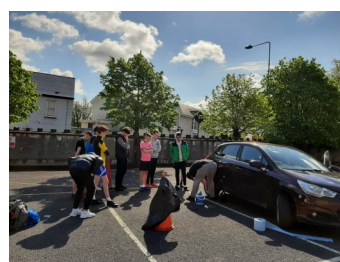
### TY Soccer Tournament

On Monday May 10<sup>th</sup>, TYs took part in a soccer tournament between the classes. A great day was had by all, and a special congratulations to the winners, TY6!



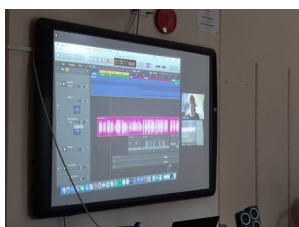
### Car Maintenance Workshop

A car maintenance workshop ran parallel to the soccer tournament, where students learned valuable skills such as how to check oil and change a tyre. A huge thank you to Mr. Brady for delivering this fascinating workshop!



### Songwriting Workshop

On Wednesday May 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday May 20<sup>th</sup>, a number of TY students took part in a songwriting workshop delivered by Andrew Coady. Over the course of the two days the boys wrote and recorded original songs, which were then played at the TY Graduation Ceremony. This was a great opportunity for students interested in the area of music, and the finished songs were really impressive!





### TY4 Family Trees

Pictured are some students from TY4 who created beautiful framed family trees as part of their TY History module. The boys researched their own family history using old records and presented their findings in these projects.

### Bronze Gaisce Awards

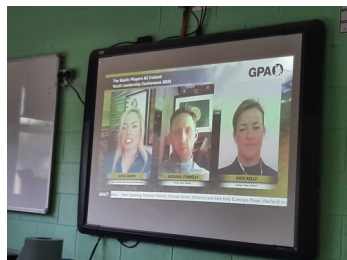
This year, 15 TY students were awarded a Bronze Gaisce medal and certificate at their graduation ceremony. This was an amazing achievement, especially given the difficulty to engage in Gaisce activities due to Covid-19. The boys also received a Bronze Lasallian Award for their efforts.

Well done to all the successful students:

Arthur Moull, Ben O' Neill, Cian Cunningham, Daniel Hagan, Donnacha Williams, Eoghan Murphy, Harry Phelan, Ivan Kiely, Jack Grant, Jack O' Neill, Liam Cotter, Liam O' Connell, Makar Romanenko, Rohit Das and Rory Wymberry.



### Gaelic Players' Association Leadership Conference



On Tuesday May 18<sup>th</sup>, all TY students attended a virtual conference held by the Gaelic Players' Association. The day featured talks and panels with many leading figures in GAA, and contained lots of helpful information and advice on leadership, not only in sport, but in life as a whole.

### End of Year Trip to Ballyhass

On Tuesday May 11<sup>th</sup>, all our TY students travelled to Ballyhass Lakes Adventure Centre as a reward for all their hard work over the year. The boys took part in various activities, such as ziplining, climbing, and an inflatable aquapark. Not only was it a hugely enjoyable day, but it had a range of benefits such as the development of teamwork and other skills.



## Transition Year Graduation 2021

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 our Transition Year Graduation Ceremony could not be held in a traditional fashion this year. Nevertheless, this milestone was still marked in a somewhat different way. Parents were unable to attend and TYs were unable to gather as an entire year group, but instead three separate graduations were held to accommodate social distancing, which were recorded and subsequently made available for parents to watch online.

This was a really special day, and we are so glad that it was made possible. A huge thank you to Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Walsh, and all who helped to make the day a success.



## First Aid Course

In the month of April, both Transition Year and Leaving Certificate Applied students took part in First Aid training delivered by John and Denise Kelly. The boys learned some hugely important life skills, such as basic life support and CPR, the use of a defibrillator, and how to recognise and react to various situations such as cardiac arrest and respiratory arrest. This is undoubtedly a very valuable experience for all involved.



## Safepass Course

Over the course of the term, a number of students from TY, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year had the opportunity to complete a Safepass Course and obtain the necessary training to work in the area of construction. This is a great asset for the boys and we would like to congratulate them all, and thank Ms. Cantwell for arranging this valuable opportunity.



## JCSP Workshops

Students engaged in the Junior Certificate Schools Programme took part in two different literacy initiatives on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, a creative writing workshop with Derek Flynn and a motivational speech from Dan Shanahan on his book and life lessons. This was definitely a very engaging and valuable day for the boys and we thank Ms. Walsh for co-ordinating this experience.

## Leaving Certificate Applied News

### LCA 1 Self-Portraiture

LCA 1 students recently completed beautiful self-portrait paintings on canvasses for their 'General Education Task'. Well done all!



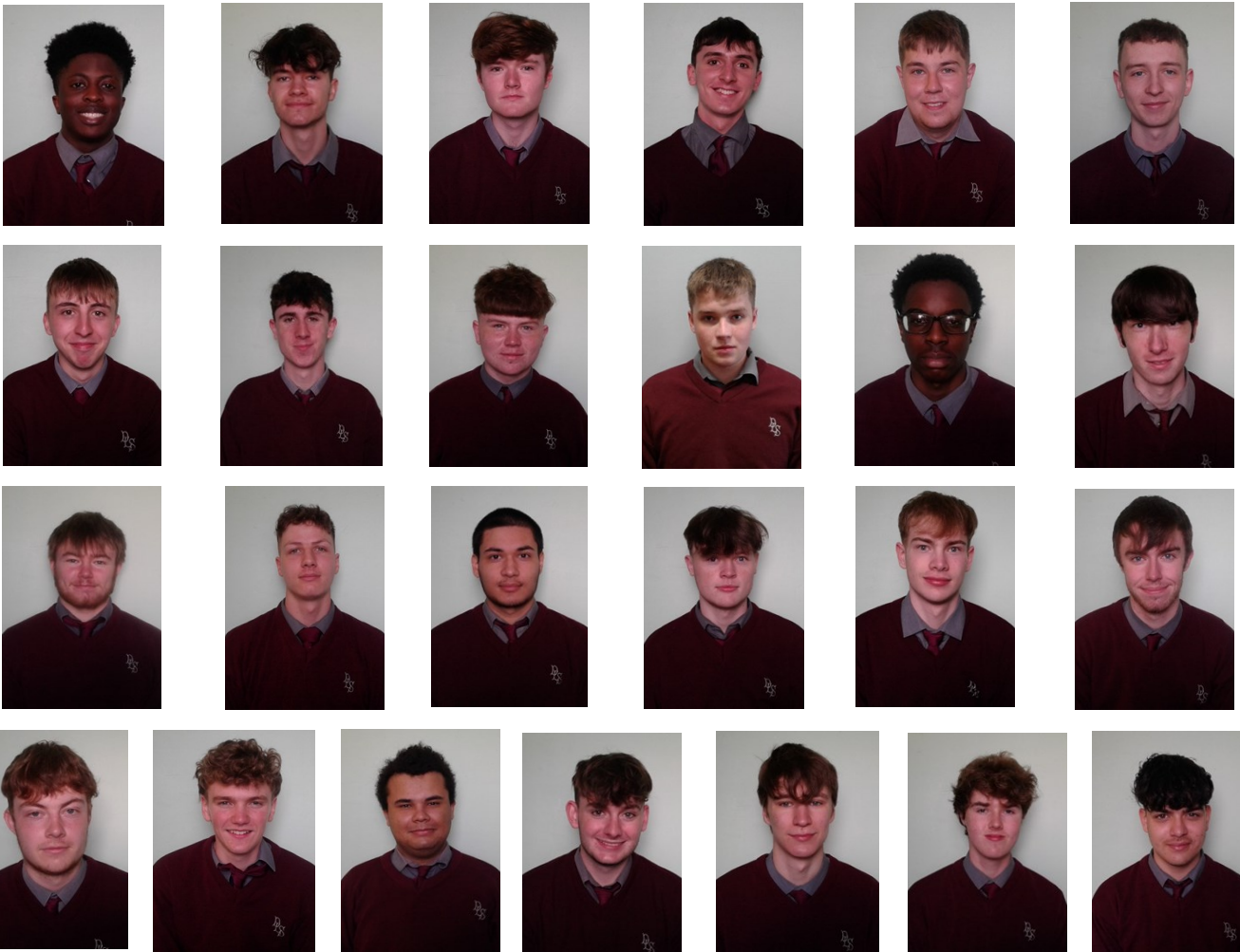
### LCA 2 Final Days

LCA 2 students celebrated the end of their journey in De La Salle College in a number of ways, which included a sports day in the Teachers' Centre and a trip to the Park Lodge Café! Well done to all the boys on their graduation and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.



## De La Salle College Class of 2021

### Class 6.1



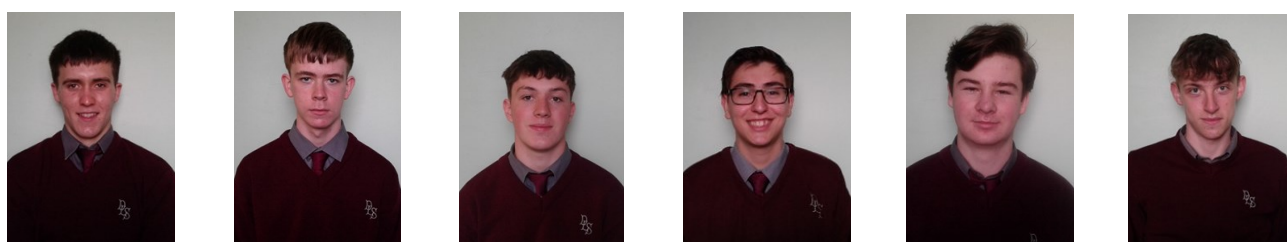
### Class 6.2



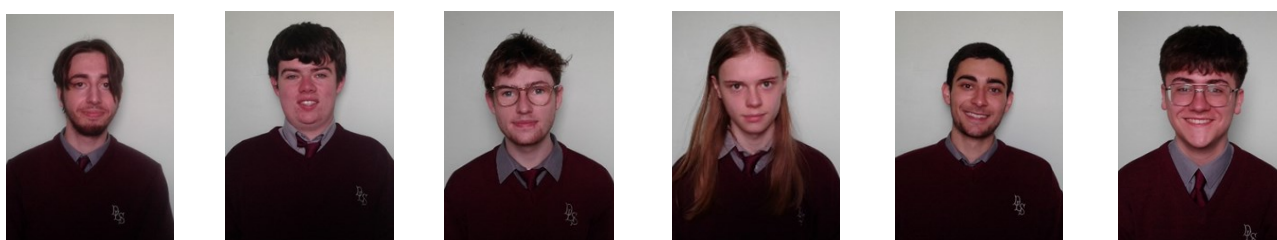


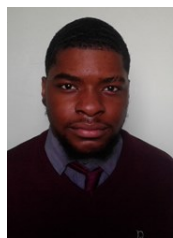
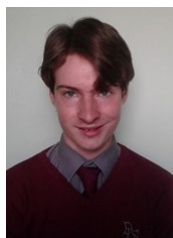


**Class 6.5**

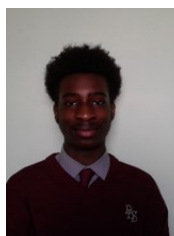
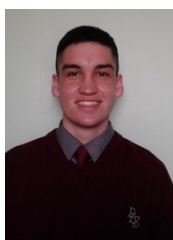
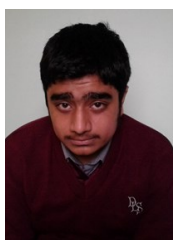
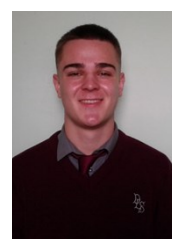
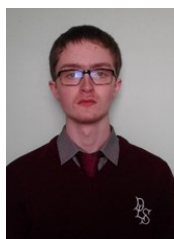


**Class 6.6**

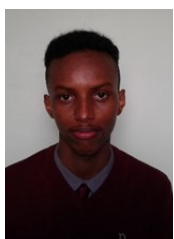




Class 6.7

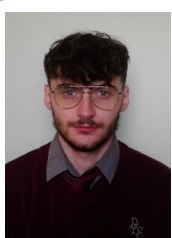


Class 6.8





### Leaving Certificate Applied



### 6<sup>th</sup> Year Graduation Ceremony 2021



Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, a traditional graduation ceremony was not possible for the Class of 2021. Nevertheless, thanks to the efforts of school staff, they were still able to mark the occasion in a special way. Four separate ceremonies were held across Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday May 7<sup>th</sup>, in order to carry it out in the safest way possible.

These masses were recorded, and subsequently made available to families to view online. Although it wasn't the graduation anyone had expected, it was still a lovely day and a nice way to mark the end of the boys' journey in De La Salle College. Thank you to all those who helped to make this event possible, particularly Mr. Walsh, Ms. Ahern, and Mr. Dooley.



**The Student Council wishes all the best to the Class of 2021!**

Timi Adeniji  
 Johnson Adiguin  
 Selim Ahmed  
 Patrick Akinjopo  
 Salman Ali  
 Patrick Andriuca  
 Roland Ardill  
 Kevin Barczak  
 Cian Barrett  
 Charles Baylon  
 Joel Benny  
 Karolis Bertasius  
 Seán Bolger  
 Bill Branigan  
 Mark Breen  
 Alex Browne  
 Gavin Buckley  
 Seán Burke  
 Kian Burke  
 Adam Burke  
 Charlie Byrne  
 Brian Cahill  
 Shawn Callos  
 Isaac Casey  
 Luke Cheevers  
 Evan Cleary  
 Joseph Coghlan  
 David Corcoran  
 Aaron Corcoran  
 Darragh Cox  
 Adam Croke  
 Ely Cullen  
 Connor Cummins  
 Gavin Daly  
 Cormac Dawson  
 Jack Deegan  
 Augustin Delpouve  
 Robbie Devereux  
 John Devereux  
 James Devereux  
 Matthew Donnelly  
 Seán Doocey  
 Jack Doyle  
 Josh Duggan  
 Jack Duggan  
 Daniel Dunne  
 Reese Dunphy  
 Danny Dwyer  
 Jack Feighery  
 Conor Ferguson  
 Alex Finn  
 Mark Fitzgerald  
 Ruairi Fitzpatrick  
 Dáire Flanagan  
 Keith Fleming  
 Ethan Flynn  
 Dean Flynn  
 Brendan Flynn  
 Alex Flynn  
 Aaron Flynn Devereux  
 Jake Foley  
 Robert Forrest  
 Leon Fowler  
 Robert Frost  
 Rhys Fumell  
 Diego Garduno  
 Andrew Gaule  
 Gjorgi Gjorgiev  
 Jamie Grant  
 Luke Griffin  
 David Hale  
 Reuben Halloran  
 Dylan Hayes  
 Dean Hayes  
 Darragh Hayes  
 Jay Hearne  
 Eoin Hearne  
 Seán Hennessy  
 Alex Hoban Maguire  
 Jack Hodgess  
 Matthew Hogan  
 Jay Hogan  
 Rakib Hossain

Aidan Humphries  
 Daniel Idowu  
 Emmanuel Imasogie  
 Samuel Isufaj  
 Simon Jacob  
 Elliott Jordan-Kennedy  
 Maurice Kavanagh

Jack Kavanagh  
 Alex Kehinde  
 Nikoloz Keidia Ruytenburg  
 Josh Kelly  
 Rudy Kennedy  
 Brandon Kennedy-Dunphy  
 Yousha Khalid

# De La Salle College



*Congratulations to*  
*The Class of 2021*

*On your Graduation*



Fiachra Twohig  
 Conor Twomey  
 Evan Tynan Geary  
 Ben Tynan Dunphy  
 Luke Underwood Doyle  
 Sean Upton  
 Aaron Walsh  
 Stephen Walsh  
 Sam Walsh

Conor J. Walsh  
 Conor A. Walsh  
 Aidan Walsh  
 Alex Walsh  
 J.J. Webb  
 Denis Weszer  
 Aaron Wymberry  
 Emmanuel Yartey

Usama Khan  
 Kevin Kivylus  
 James Larkin  
 Nelson Lasko  
 Dylan Lawrence  
 Storm Le Roux  
 Chad Le Roux  
 Tim Lehane  
 Jack Leonard  
 Bogdan Leordean  
 Yankee Lopes Leite  
 Mario Loureiro  
 Luke Lynagh  
 Tommy Lyons  
 David Mahon  
 Allen Manoj  
 Archil Marukashvili  
 Brendan Mayer  
 Ryan McCarthy  
 Conor McDonagh  
 Alex McGrath  
 Ben Meagher  
 Jamie Merriman  
 Craig Morrissey  
 Shane Murphy  
 Scott Murphy  
 Conor Murphy  
 Bill Murphy  
 Adam Murphy  
 Alex Murray  
 Harry Nolan  
 Ben O'Brien  
 Nathan O'Brien  
 Jody O'Brien  
 Colum O'Carroll  
 Oisín O'Connor  
 Odhran O'Connor Colbert  
 Shane O'Donohue Griffin  
 Sean O'Dwyer  
 Ryan O'Grady  
 Harry O'Keeffe  
 Daire O'Keeffe  
 Conor O'Mahony  
 Seán O'Neill  
 Sam O'Rourke  
 James O'Shea  
 Rishi Oben  
 Allen Okhuelegbe  
 Marvellous Okin  
 Emmanuel Onabanjo  
 Jamie Pepper  
 Benn Philpott  
 Ronan Power  
 Lee Power  
 Dean Power  
 Cathal Power  
 Cian Purcell  
 Ronan Quinn  
 Arthur Quinn  
 Peter Rafferty  
 Conor Rea  
 Ben Regan  
 Seán Reilly  
 Cian Rellis  
 David Roche  
 James Ruddle  
 David Ryan  
 Aaron Ryan  
 Patrick Ryan  
 Tony Ryan  
 Michael Scanlon  
 Evan Sealy  
 Jack Sharvin  
 Diarmuid Sheehan  
 Jakub Sieniawski  
 Matej Skorvanek  
 David Smith  
 Dylan Stickel  
 Ruairi Stockdale  
 Alex Stotsky  
 Adam Troy  
 Ryan Tubbritt

## **A Message from Ms. C. Ahern - 6th Year Head**

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Hello everyone,

I just want to say a final few words to wish the 6<sup>th</sup> years all the best as they embark on the next stage of their lives. I have been Year Head to this group since some of the students were in 2<sup>nd</sup> year, while others I have only known since 5<sup>th</sup> year. Either way, I have hugely enjoyed my time working with everyone, students and parents alike.



I spoke at the Graduation about trying to do the right thing, and I feel very confident that the vast majority of 6<sup>th</sup> years fall into this category. They have shown a maturity and determination beyond their years over the last eighteen months as we dealt with the fallout from Covid-19. While two school closures within twelve months came as an unwelcome surprise, the students got on with their work to the best of their ability. Since January 2021, the landscape changed several times and there was huge uncertainty as to what would happen with the Leaving Cert.

We eventually got the information that Accredited Grades and written exams would be the order of the day, and it has been shoulders to the wheel since we returned to school in March. They say you don't miss what you had until it's gone, and dare I say that this expression could also be applied to school. The novelty of teaching and learning from home had well and truly worn off by March 1<sup>st</sup> so there was great joy and relief as we returned to the classroom. The threat of Covid was never far away but it is testament to the work of everyone in the school community that there was minimal impact from that point on.

As I write, 6<sup>th</sup> year students are preparing for their written exams at home and teachers are working hard on the Accredited Grades. I would like to thank the teachers of 6<sup>th</sup> years for their commitment and dedication to their students, particularly since Christmas. School closures and online teaching meant a huge change for teachers and they should be commended for adapting so readily to the challenges that Covid presented.

I would also like to thank the parents and guardians of 6<sup>th</sup> year students who I have worked with over the last few years. It has been very reassuring for me as 6<sup>th</sup> year Year Head to know that parents are supportive of me, of their sons and of the school in general.

Finally, to the graduating class of 2021, it has really been my pleasure to work with you over the last few years. I'm sure every Year Head says it about their group, but you have been great - pleasant, positive, polite, the list goes on. You have worked extremely hard, and deserve to be richly rewarded in every aspect of life. The abundance of talent amongst the 6<sup>th</sup> year cohort is breath-taking, from sport to music, and everything in between. Do not take your talents for granted, grasp every opportunity, and make the best of every situation.

Reach for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll fall among the stars.

Stay in touch,  
Ms Ahern.

## *These are our wishes for you*

May you find serenity and tranquility  
in a world you may not always understand.

May a kind word, a reassuring touch, and a warm smile be yours every  
day of your life, and may you give these gifts as well as receive them.

May you find time in each day to see beauty and love in the world  
around you.

May you find enough inner strength to determine your own worth by  
yourself, and not be dependent on another's judgement of your  
accomplishments.

May you always feel loved.

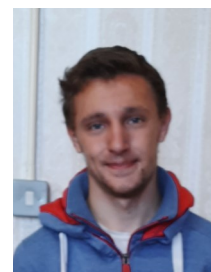
We pray, Lord, for confidence in you at all times.  
When life is frightening, be there as one who consoles,  
bring peace in the midst of anxiety. Give us, Lord, the gift  
of trust in you, that nothing in our lives can take away the promise of  
your presence.

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## **A Word of Thanks**



We would like to say a special thank you to our two committee members who are leaving the school this year, Conor Twomey (Chairperson), and John Devereux (Vice-Chairperson). We thank you for your commitment, your insights and your contributions over the years to the Student Council. Best of luck to you both as you go forward on your journey through life.



We would like to take a moment, to firstly thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, but also to wish all the members of the De La Salle College community near and far a very happy, relaxing and safe summer break after the many ups and downs of the 2020-2021 academic year.

We look forward to being able to connect with you all again in September.

Ní neart go cur le chéile



**De La Salle College Waterford**

**Student Council**

**May 2021**

