



DE LA SALLE COLLEGE

WATERFORD

Issue 17

May 2026

Message from the Principal

Welcome to our Student Council Summer Newsletter 2026, where the Student Council has once again created an edition that highlights the many great activities, achievements, and positive moments that have taken place in De La Salle College throughout this academic year. It reflects the positive news and strong sense of community that we also share through our Instagram and Facebook platforms.

I would like to sincerely thank Ms. Middleton and all members of the Student Council for their tremendous efforts in producing this fantastic newsletter. Your commitment, creativity, and enthusiasm are greatly appreciated.



I would also like to thank the Parents' Association for their continued support throughout the year. Their contribution to school life is invaluable, whether through their involvement in policy development or through the Parents' Lotto Fund, which continues to support student wellbeing within the college. Their efforts strengthen the important connection between students, staff, and parents, and their support positively impacts all members of our school community.

This year, we also acknowledge and thank a number of retiring staff members, Mr. Costello, Mr. Brosnan, Mr. Brady, and Brother Tommy for their extraordinary service and dedication to De La Salle College over many years. Each of them has positively influenced the lives of countless students and has contributed enormously to the spirit and success of our school community. On behalf of the De La Salle community, I wish them continued health, happiness, and fulfilment in their retirement.

It is also a poignant moment for our college as Brother Tommy officially becomes the last member of the De La Salle Brothers to teach on the staff. While this marks the end of an important chapter in our school's history, we are deeply grateful for his immense contribution to the college, particularly through his involvement in basketball, and his ongoing commitment to the Lasallian tradition. We look forward to his continued involvement in the school community in the years ahead.

I would also like to reflect on the very positive Whole-School Evaluation report that the college received during the year. The report highlighted many of the strengths that make De La Salle College such a special place. In particular, the inspectors spoke very positively about the relationships within our school community. They highlighted the encouragement and support students receive from teachers as a key motivating factor and recognised the strong student-teacher relationships that promote belonging, inclusion, and personal growth.

While the inspectors witnessed these qualities during their time in the college, they simply confirmed what we as a school community already know and experience every day. We are extremely fortunate to have such dedicated staff who build genuine, positive relationships with our students and support them in every aspect of school life.

I would also like to thank the members of our Board of Management for the vital role they play in supporting the college and contributing to the ongoing development of our school community.

Finally, I would like to wish all members of the De La Salle College community a restful, enjoyable, and safe summer holiday. Best of luck to all students in their end-of-term exams, and a special word of encouragement to our Junior Cycle, Leaving Certificate, and Leaving Certificate Applied students as they begin their State examinations.

Enjoy the summer break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in August 2026.

Best wishes,

Tom Bourke

Principal

Chairperson's Address - James O' Sullivan

As we approach the end of another active and successful year at De La Salle College, I would like to sincerely thank the students, staff, parents, and wider school community for their continued support, dedication, and trust. It has been both an honour and a privilege to serve as Chairperson of the Student Council since 2024 and to represent the voice of the students within our school community. Throughout this role, I have witnessed first-hand the incredible energy, commitment, and spirit that every member of the Lasallian community brings each and every day.



Serving on the Student Council has taught me a wealth of valuable lessons across many areas of leadership and life itself: when to fight for change and when to make the most of what already exists, when to speak up for those who cannot, and when to stand firm for what is right regardless of the opposition it may create. Over the past number of years, the Student Council has developed not only as a representative body for students, but also as a charitable organisation, a democratic voice, and a safe and welcoming space where students can express themselves freely while making sacrifices to represent their peers with pride and integrity.

Our motto, “Progress, Passion, Pride,” continues to guide every initiative, decision, and goal we strive to achieve. Equally, the school motto “*Praeisis ut Prosis*”, “Lead in order to serve”, remains at the very heart of our work. In a Lasallian school, leadership is not about status, recognition, or being first; it is about service, compassion, inclusion, and commitment to others. The Lasallian ethos encourages us to look out for one another, to respect the dignity of every person, and to build a community rooted in respect, opportunity, and care for all. These principles have shaped not only the work of the Student Council, but also the kind of community we continue to grow into.

One quote that I believe reflects both leadership and the spirit of our school community comes from Malala Yousafzai: “When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful.”

To me, this reflects what student leadership is really about. A Student Council exists to ensure that every student feels heard, represented, and valued. Whether through big initiatives or small conversations, every voice matters, and real change often starts in simple, everyday ways. Throughout my time as Chairperson, I have seen how much stronger our school becomes when students support each other with empathy, respect, and understanding.

As another year comes to a close, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to every new and returning Student Council Representative and every Officer of the Council for their dedication, effort, and commitment throughout the year. The progress we have made would not have been possible without the teamwork, ideas, and effort of everyone involved.

I would also like to thank Sam Maaliw for all the work he put into the layout and formatting of the Student Council newsletter throughout the year. Everyone knows the amount of time and effort that goes into producing it, and it is certainly not an easy task.

Finally, I would like to thank Ms Middleton for her constant guidance, patience, and dedication in her role as Student Council Liaison Teacher. Her support and belief in the Council have played a huge part in helping us grow and work effectively as a team, and it is genuinely appreciated by us all.

As another successful year comes to a close, I look back with a great sense of pride at everything the Student Council and wider school community have achieved together. The spirit of faith, service, community, and respect in De La Salle College is something special, and I am proud to be part of a school that consistently looks out for and uplifts one another.

Br Anselm Barrett Tournament

Congratulations to our students in De La Salle on winning the Br Anselm Barrett Cup for the third year in a row yesterday, after a fantastic final against Good Counsel. An incredible achievement and a testament to the dedication and talent of everyone involved.

With 15 teams competing across the Cup and Plate, it was brilliant to see schools from all over the country including St Benildus (Dublin) and Tralee CBS (Kerry), making the journey for such a special day of hurling. In the Plate Final, CBC Cork came out on top against a gallant St Declan's (Kilmacthomas) side in a cracking contest. A massive thank you to all participating schools, to Aaron Beresford and the team at SETU Arena, our generous sponsors, our top-class referees, and the Order of Malta for their support throughout the day.

The standard of hurling on display would have made Br Anselm proud. Long may this fantastic competition continue.



Congratulations to CBC Cork who took home the Plate at the Br. Anselm Tournament. They put up a great performance. Well done.

De La Salle College Waterford winners receiving the Br Anselm Barrett Cup 2026. Captains Cathal Williams and Daire Herlihy. .

Cross Country Dungarvan Championship

Well done to all the students who competed on Friday at the Waterford Schools Cross Country Championships in Dungarvan. We had four teams entered and every athlete put in a fantastic performance.

A huge congratulations to Bobby Reid, who finished 2nd in the Minor category, helping the Minor team to an excellent 2nd place overall.

Well done also to Ronan Ryan, who claimed 2nd place in the Senior category, with the Senior team finishing 2nd overall.

An outstanding team effort all round



Cross Country Munster Championship

Huge congratulations to all 25 lads who competed at the East Munster Cross Country Championships on 27 January.

The conditions were extremely tough, but the boys showed great determination and spirit throughout.



Team results included:

Minor Boys – 6th overall

- Junior Boys – 11th overall
- (Intermediate & Senior teams also competed, with the Senior team reduced due to illness and mocks.)

Special Congrats to Our Munster Qualifiers:

Andrew Buck (Senior) – 4th

- Kai Griffith (Intermediate) – 5th
- Aaron Hartery (Minor) – 7th
- Finn O'Neill (Senior) – 12th

Waterford Schools Track and Field

Congratulations to our 30 boys who competed in the Waterford Schools Track and Field held in the RSC on 22 April. Especially well done to the minor boys, Aaron Hartery who came 2nd in the 1500m. Bobby Reid and Nathanael Louki who came 2nd and 3rd in the 200m.

In the Junior boys well done to Colm Fortune who came 3rd in the 800m.

In the Inter boys well done to Anton Ciobanu who came 2nd in the Long jump.

In the Senior boys Ronan Ryan came a close second in the 1500m and Shane Wall came 2nd in the 100m and 3rd in the 400m. The lads came 3rd in the relay.

Well done to everyone on their great performance.



2nd Year Boxing

Huge congratulations to 2nd Year student Alfie Swift who was crowned a 4-time Munster Champion this weekend while representing St Paul's Boxing Club.

Alfie showed incredible determination and skill, fighting his way through three bouts, the quarter-final, semi-final, and final, to secure the title.

An outstanding achievement! Alfie has now qualified for the All Irelands. We wish him the very best of luck as he continues his amazing success.

Junior Tennis Team

Fantastic win for our Junior Tennis Team on 18 March, in Cork!

Hugo Ennis, Jack Hatton, James O'Brien and Seán Kennedy showed incredible skill, strength and determination to secure a brilliant 3–1 victory in their opening match of the Munster U16 Boys Shield against a very strong Cork Educate Together side.

A great team performance with 3 wins from 4 matches a superb start to the campaign!



An incredible performance from our incredible team on 7 May, in the Munster semi-final against Bishopstown. After a hard-fought battle, the match finished 2–2, bringing it to a nail-biting super set. The boys gave it everything but narrowly lost 7–5 in the end.

While the result didn't go our way, their effort, determination, and teamwork were second to none. They showed true Lasallian spirit throughout—supporting one another, competing with heart, and displaying outstanding sportsmanship from start to finish.

We couldn't be prouder of this group. They represented us with such pride today, well done, boys!

2nd Year Basketball



A huge well done to the 2nd Years on their excellent 64–24 win over CTI Clonmel. James Burke led the way with 28 points, while Bobby Flynn knocked down three three-pointers in a row to stretch the lead. It was also great to see James Flynn line out alongside his brother for the 2nd Years in a strong all-round team performance.

A huge thank you as well to the TYs for their assistance and support on the day

Huge congratulations to our 2nd Year Basketball team on winning the South East B Boys Junior League! An incredible performance from start to finish, capped off with a fantastic win over CTI Clonmel. Your hard work, teamwork, and determination have truly paid off. We are so proud of each and every one of you!



Congratulations to Finn Purcell

We're so proud to celebrate Finn's fantastic achievement in qualifying as Captain of the U16 Irish Shore Angling Team Finn and his five teammates will travel to Dover, UK this July, where they'll proudly represent Ireland at the Home Nations Championships, competing against England, Wales and Scotland



Noah O'Brien Selected for Irish U18 Soccer Team

Huge congratulations to Noah O'Brien on being selected for the Irish U18 Soccer Team

An incredible achievement and a proud moment for Noah, his family, and our whole school community!

Noah is pictured here with Mr Power celebrating the great news. Wishing Noah the very best of luck as he represents Ireland, we'll all be cheering you on!



Roanmore Juvenile Awards Night



Last 8th February, Roanmore hosted their Juvenile Awards, celebrating the incredible achievements of their young players who excelled throughout the 2025 season across hurling, Gaelic football and camogie

A huge congratulations to Daragh Caulfield, a first-year student in De La Salle College, who was deservedly named U13 Footballer of the Year

The award was presented by Conor Ryan of the Roanmore Senior team, making it an extra special moment for Daragh and his family.

Well done, Daragh! A fantastic achievement and one to be very proud of.

Passage Division 2 Féile

Huge congratulations to the De La Salle students who lined out for Passage and brought home the Division 2 Féile title!

A fantastic achievement and a brilliant display of teamwork, skill, and determination.

Pictured here are our talented players:

Second Years: Aaron Lyons, Mark Casey, Devon Gough, Eoin O'Briain, Harry O'Dea, Dillon O'Brien

First Years: Jack Grant, Richard Power, James Sheehan, Dara O'Dea, Michael Cusack, Oisín Campbell

Well done to each and every one of you, a huge moment for both school and club!



Senior Badminton Team

Huge congratulations to our Senior Boys Division 1 Badminton team for an amazing performance at the All Ireland Finals in Gormanston on Wednesday, 25 March.

The team, Shea Farrell, Adams Dani Cijo, Maksim Sy, and Cathal O'Dempsey, played brilliantly and brought home the SILVER MEDAL after a fantastic win over Naas CBS.

Well done to the champions, Royal & Prior from Ulster.

Chess Tournament

Congratulations to our top six chess players who battled it out in the semi-final and final of our school chess tournament on Friday, 6 March. The standard of play was fantastic and it was great to see such focus, strategy and sportsmanship on display!

Our final standings were:

- 1st Place: Mikey
- 2nd Place: Kishore
- 3rd Place: Stas
- 4th Place: Joel
- 5th Place: Emir
- 6th Place: Colm

A huge well done to all the students involved and congratulations to our finalists on a brilliant achievement!



Cricket Interprovincial Munster Trials



Huge congratulations to three of our students who have been selected to commence Interprovincial Cricket Trials for Munster after impressing during school training sessions.

Motawakal Nasiri (5th Year), Osman Malikzada (2DD) and Emran Azizi (1CQ) travelled to Midleton, where their raw talent immediately caught the attention of Senior Munster Cricket coaches including former international Jeremy Bray!

A fantastic achievement we're incredibly proud of you all. Well done lads!

School Climbing Team

Huge congratulations to our incredible Junior and Senior climbers who took on the All Ireland Awesome Walls School Competition.

The energy, determination, and skill on display were outstanding, with both teams delivering fantastic performances across the routes and speed climbs.

Our Senior team climbed their way to an amazing 3rd place overall, a brilliant achievement!

Even more impressive, our Junior team secured 2nd place in their very first year competing, an incredible start and a sign of great things to come!

A massive well done to all involved:

- Junior Team: Frank Hennigan, Alex Whyte, Alex Curran, Eddie Kiely
- Senior Team: Ryan Moriarty, Jack Redmond, Cathal Finn, Darragh Kehoe



Cycling Star Dylan Murphy

Huge congratulations to our cycling star 3rd year student Dylan Murphy who has been selected for the prestigious Cycling Sierra Nevada cycling scholarship where talented cyclists from all across Europe travel to the Sierra Nevada Mountain range in Spain for a week of intensive training.



Tae-Kwon-Do

On 12 January, Santiago Garduno (1st Year) and David Pacud (5th Year), alongside proud alumni Rodrigo and Diego Garduno from G Force Tae-kwon-Do, were honoured at a special reception in City Hall hosted by Mayor Seamus Ryan.

The reception celebrated their outstanding achievements as they represented Ireland at the Tae-kwon-Do World Championships. The Mayor warmly welcomed the group and praised their incredible dedication, discipline, and commitment, highlighting the hard work behind their success.



We are incredibly proud of Santiago, David, Rodrigo, and Diego for flying the flag for their club, their community, and their country.



Santiago competed on Sunday, 25 January, in Cork at the Scion Tae-kwon-Do Championships 2026 and came home with an amazing DOUBLE BRONZE in Patterns and Sparring.

He proudly represented G Force Tae-kwon-Do and Waterford

David competed on Sunday, 25 January, at the SCION Taekwondo Championships in Cork and absolutely smashed it, bringing home a Gold Medal for Patterns and a Silver Medal for Sparring.

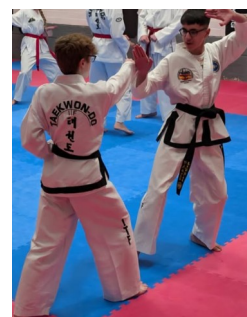


Huge congratulations to one of our first years, Santiago Garduno.

Santiago successfully completed his Tae-kwon-Do grading exam on 12 April, and has been promoted to Second-Degree Black Belt.

His dedication and commitment to Tae-kwon-Do have truly stood out. Time and time again, he has shown real discipline, often putting training first and giving it his all.

Everyone in De La Salle, as well as his family and friends, are so proud of everything he has accomplished so far, and we can't wait to see what he achieves next.



Huge congratulations to David Pacud!

David was graded to 3rd Degree Black Belt with G Force Taekwondo, an outstanding achievement!

After 2 years of dedicated training, hard work, and real commitment, all his effort has truly paid off.

We are incredibly proud of David and everything he has achieved.

Tae-Kwon-Do

Huge congratulations to David Pacud and his incredible team on their fantastic performance at the European Team Championships in Reading, England!

As captain of his Junior Team Laochra, David showed outstanding leadership, guiding his team to an amazing silver medal in patterns and a bronze medal in sparring against England.

An incredible achievement and a proud moment for everyone involved. Well done, David and team!



After an incredible week, in late April, competing with the Irish Tae-kwon-Do Team at the AETF European Championship Maribor 2026 in Maribor, we are absolutely delighted to share that Ben Murphy (5th Year) is coming home with TWO European medals

- Silver Medal – Individual Junior Male Sparring
Defeating competitors from Slovenia, Bulgaria, Wales & Norway

- Bronze Medal – Team Junior Male Sparring
Fantastic wins over Scotland & Germany, narrowly missing out to Romania in a thrilling semi-final.

This prestigious championship ran over 5 days and featured an incredible 1,453 athletes from 32 countries on a huge stage, and Ben rose to the occasion in style!

An outstanding achievement on his first time representing Ireland with the Irish Taekwon-Do Association at European level.

A massive congratulations to Ben, a phenomenal performance and a very bright future ahead!



2PO and 2DMG History Trip



2PO and 2DMG enjoyed a trip to Vinegar Hill and the 1798 Rebellion Centre on 14 May, as part of their history studies. They had an excellent time being enriched by the history, significance and beauty of the area. The school is incredibly proud of how well they conducted themselves. A great day was had by all.

2OMCS Christ Church Cathedral Visit

2 OMCS had a fantastic day out as part of their RE programme with a visit to Christ Church Cathedral.

The group enjoyed an engaging and insightful guided tour, bringing history and faith to life in such a beautiful and inspiring setting. From stunning architecture to fascinating stories, it was an experience to remember!

A big thank you to our wonderful guide for making the visit so enjoyable and memorable.



School Golf Team

Monday, 18 May, was a brilliant day of golf in Faithlegg Golf Club as students from across De La Salle College took part in the inaugural Br Killian De La Salle Golf Championship.

A huge congratulations to 5th Year student Lucas O'Neill, who was crowned Champion Golfer after a dramatic playoff victory. Lucas shot an outstanding round of 2 over par 74 and eventually claimed the title on the 3rd playoff hole after a brilliant contest.

Congratulations also to 3rd Year student Paul Casey, who won the Stableford competition with an excellent score of 43 points.

It was fantastic to see such a strong turnout and great spirit throughout the day. The standard of golf on display was exceptional and the boys represented De La Salle College superbly both on and off the course.

The competition is named in honour of Brother Killian, who did fantastic work for golf in the school for many years. It is hoped that this inaugural event is the beginning of bigger things to come for golf in De La Salle College in the years ahead.

A sincere thank you to Faithlegg Golf Club for their hospitality and support in helping make the day such a success.



Stride to School



Students enjoyed ice lollies for completing the final Stride to School challenge for the final term at school.

Stride to School initiative, launched by Waterford City and County Council in partnership with Waterford Sports Partnership, encourages secondary schools to promote walking and cycling as healthier travel methods to and from school.

The initiative aims to boost students' physical and mental well being, reduce traffic congestion and to reduce carbon emissions.

Well done to all involved! We hope to restart this initiative at school the following school calendar year.

Valentine's Student Giveback Competition

To celebrate Valentine's Day, our Student Council organised a "Guess How Many Sweets Are in the Jar" competition with the beloved 'Love Hearts' sweets. We had some incredibly close guesses, and even few spot on!

The total number of sweets was 93, and after drawing from the correct guesses, congratulations to Cathal O'Sullivan (TY6), who is pictured here receiving his prize.

Thank you to all students who supported the Student Council and got involved!



Student Council Eid Celebration



On Monday 23 March, our Student Council organised a small sweet treat for our Muslim students who celebrated Eid on Friday.

Here in the College, we are proud to foster an inclusive community where we hope every student feels seen, valued, and respected. Celebrating important occasions like Eid together helps strengthen the sense of belonging that is so important to us all.



Student Council Easter Activities



There was great eggs-citement around the College on 26 March, as our now annual Student Council Easter Egg Hunt took place!

Staff and students alike enjoyed searching high and low, discovering sweet treats hidden throughout the day. A wonderful way to bring everyone together huge thanks to our Student Council for organising such an egg-stra special event!



A huge well done to Daniel Doolin (TY2) who won our Eggs in a Jar competition! Daniel's guess was incredibly close, just one off the correct total of 421 eggs. Thank you to everyone who took part and made it such a fun event!

Student Appreciation Day

May 6th was full of excitement for Student Appreciation Day!



From our “Shoot the Frog into the Tub” competitions to “Guess the Sweets in the Jar,” there was plenty of fun and laughter throughout the day. We also handed out lots of positive points to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and achievements of our amazing students.



And to top it all off, students enjoyed ice creams on the way home!

A huge thank you to all of our students for the fantastic year you’ve put in, that day was all about celebrating YOU, the students!



SSE (School Self-Evaluation)

Can you **SPOT**
a great answer?

S State your answer

P Prove it! Evidence!

O Own words

T Tie it back to the Question

SSE Improvement Target:
SPOT check my homework!

This year, we expanded our SSE (School Self-Evaluation) focus to help students reflect on feedback and set meaningful improvement targets across all year groups. Both junior and senior students took part in Feedback Tracker workshops and contributed to our SSE journey through surveys and focus groups — your voice really matters!

We’re very proud of how students have engaged with their feedback and taken real ownership of their learning. The Feedback Trackers have been a great support, helping you keep track of your progress and set personal goals based on class tests and assessments.

Whether it’s revising your Eavan Boland quotes or practising your Respiratory System diagrams, these trackers are a smart way to prepare for summer exams.

Poetry Competition

Congratulations to our winners:

Senior Cycle: Daniel Szabat

Junior Cycle: Shane Lindsay

Their winning poems are now on display on the Poetry Wall of Fame in the library. Both winners received a €25 One4All gift voucher. The standard of entries this year was incredibly high, so we're also displaying some additional standout poems on the wall outside the library.

Special mention: Ronan Collins - for his poem in Irish, Shifath Ahmed - for a powerful poem on Palestine, Timothy McCoy - for his Junior Cycle contribution



Guidance Department Update

It's been another busy and exciting term in the Guidance Department!

Our 1st and 2nd year students have taken part in Guidance classes where they explored their interests and began thinking about potential career pathways. A real highlight was working with college prospectuses in class, giving students a chance to see the wide range of opportunities available to them and even debate what the future of jobs might look like.



We were delighted to welcome a range of guest speakers throughout the term. Representatives from EirGrid, including past pupils Brian Davy and Eoin O'Sullivan, spoke about the exciting opportunities in sustainable energy and engineering. Breda O'Brien met with our senior students to highlight the wide range of courses available in the Business Department in South East Technological University, including the new Career Points programme.

We also welcomed Aaron Beresford, Development Officer with SETU Novus GAA Academy, who spoke to our 5th and 6th year students about sports scholarships available in SETU. Past pupil Harley Barnes shared valuable insights into progression routes and courses available in Waterford College of Further Education. In addition, Bairbre Ruddock met with senior students to outline the wide range of apprenticeship opportunities now available.

Our TY students benefited greatly from attending many of these talks. They also explored the impact of AI on the future labour market and had the opportunity to visit University of Limerick for an engaging campus tour and information session.



Our 5th year students have been busy planning ahead for next year and recently visited both University College Cork and University of Limerick. These visits provided a valuable insight into campus life and the wide range of opportunities available in our local universities across Munster.

Reminders:

- **CAO Free Change of Mind** opens in **May** and closes on **July 1st at 5pm**
- **PLC applications** can be made at fetchcourses.ie

Ms Murphy and Ms Martin would like to wish all our 3rd and 6th Year students the very best of luck in their State Examinations and a relaxing and enjoyable summer to all our students.

1st Year Manchester Trip

They set off from school at 10pm on April 30th, full of excitement, and landed in Manchester ready to go! No time to waste though, on the first day, they jumped straight into a fun-filled day of thrills and laughter at Alton Towers, all under glorious sunshine. The fun continued with a trip to the ever-popular Trafford Centre.



Day 2, an unforgettable experience at the Premier League clash between Wolves and Sunderland. They wrapped up the day with some well-earned shopping and delicious food at the Trafford Centre.



Our Second Years started the day the right way with a fantastic buffet breakfast before heading off to the iconic Anfield Stadium, home to Liverpool FC. The stadium tour was an unforgettable experience, giving the boys a behind-the-scenes look at one of the most famous grounds in world football, a real highlight of the trip! After an amazing few days, it was back to Holyhead and onto the ferry home, bringing a brilliant tour to a close. We are incredibly proud of how well the boys conducted themselves throughout

2nd Year Rome Trip

2nd year students departed for Rome at 2am on 12 February. After a long day travelling, they were settled enjoying life in Casa La Salle. They enjoyed a guided tour of the Colosseum and finished the day with delicious pizza. Their boundless energy and good humour have made for a very enjoyable start to their trip.



Day 2 of the 2nd Year trip to Rome brought them to the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel, a truly memorable experience for everyone. In the afternoon, the boys visited the Mother House, where they toured the museum and viewed the relics of De La Salle. They also enjoyed some time on the astro turf pitches, finishing the day with a lively game of football.



Day 3 in Rome was packed with activity. The morning began with a visit to a busy St Peter's Basilica, including the obligatory climb to the top of the dome, well worth the effort for the incredible views. In the afternoon, a walking tour of Rome's main sights included a surprise visit to a Lasallian school near the Spanish Steps. Some shopping was also



squeezed into the day, and into suitcases ahead of their return home on Sunday. It was wonderful to see the boys confidently navigating the metro one last time. The trip has been thoroughly enjoyable, giving students the opportunity to experience Rome's rich history and culture, build friendships, develop independence, and create lasting memories together.

Attendance Awards

Well done to our 6th Year students who were recognised today for their excellent attendance

Showing up every day, putting in the effort, and staying committed really makes a difference. Pictured here are some of the worthy recipients



A huge well done to all of our fantastic Fifth Year students who received a small reward in recognition of their egg-celent attendance this year!

Your commitment, consistency and positive attitude have not gone unnoticed. Showing up every day really does make a difference, and it's great to see so many students setting such a brilliant example.

Keep up the great work and well done to everyone involved!



Well done to all third year students who were recognised today for their excellent attendance in school.

Showing up every day, staying committed, and putting in the effort takes real dedication. Your positive attitude and strong work ethic do not go unnoticed, and today was a great opportunity to celebrate that!

A number of our second year students received a well deserved treat today acknowledging excellent attendance since the beginning of the school year. These brilliant young men have at least 97% attendance all year. Well done to all concerned.



DEAR

In March students took part in a 'Drop Everything and Read' Challenge for World Book Day to promote literacy and bring back the joy of reading. Organised by Ms. A. Phelan, this library team event is going strong into its third year! Great to get staff and students reading!



World Book Day



World Book Day celebrations have become quite a tradition in DLS College with fun and laughter and memories made with our little friends in St Declan's NS thanks to Ms. A Phelan & Mr. McGrath.

Various groups from Senior infants, 1st and 4th classes enjoyed story time and quizzes on fiction and sports in our Br. Stephen Deignan Library. Our own boys and previous St Declan's students - Andrew, Barry Callum, Colin & Ryan advocated the great link between the schools with enthusiasm and helped ensure literacy and laughter were joined together. It was great a occasion for our students - Andrew, Callum, Joey, Max & Sean to show their younger brothers in St. Declan's a glimpse of their lives in the college and there were a lot of happy faces

World Book Day

Our Junior Book Club did fantastic work organising a display using encyclopaedias for the celebration of World Book Day. Happy World Book Day! We have celebrated with some of our favourite reads – perfect for adventures, laughs, and getting lost in a story. Dive in and let your imagination run wild!



Inclusivity Week

SARI (Sports Against Racism Ireland) delivered fantastic workshops with three of our first-year groups. The sessions were engaging, thought-provoking and thoroughly enjoyed by the boys.



Meanwhile, the Student Council and Ms. Middleton were busy getting hands painted and stamped as part of our Red Hands Against Racism display, which is really beginning to take shape.

Naji kept the energy high by providing some Afrobeats for the students, which resulted in plenty of enthusiastic (and some questionable!) dance moves!



We also received student entries for our “Inclusion” competition, and it’s brilliant to see such creativity and thought going into them.



KPOP singer Shao Hao visited the school today, performing songs from his upcoming EP release.

Shao Hao also shared his personal journey of growing up with autism and ADHD, and his experience as part of the LGBTQI+ community. His message was truly heart-warming, reminding our students that every person is individual and unique in their own way.



As part of Inclusivity Week, we were delighted to welcome the Indian Sangam Community here in Waterford to the Library.

Students learned about Indian culture and traditions in a really engaging session celebrating diversity and inclusion in our school community

Show Racism the Red Card!

Today our school was full of excitement as students set off on a mission to find the hidden “Show Racism the Red Card” cards around the school!

From classrooms to corridors, students searched high and low, and once the cards were found, everyone came together in force to proudly show racism the red card.

To celebrate their teamwork and commitment to standing up against racism, students were rewarded with some well-deserved treats!

A huge well done to everyone who took part as part of our Inclusivity Week activities.



Culture Day

Staff and students thoroughly enjoyed a fantastic celebration of cultures from around the world. The variety of food, drinks, sports, music, traditions and general knowledge on display was phenomenal and created such a vibrant atmosphere throughout the school.

A huge well done to everyone who took part and proudly represented their cultures and countries. We as a staff are so proud of you all.

Celebrating Culture Day during Founders Week made the occasion even more special, highlighting the strength of our inclusive La Sallian ethos and the sense of belonging that exists throughout our school community.

Culture Day in De La Salle is yet another example of the inclusive community we are so lucky to have, full of love, pride, respect and care for one another.



Spinathon Fundraiser

During Inclusivity Week, our De La Salle students took part in a Spin-athon fundraiser and were delighted to present a cheque for €790 to Waterford Special Olympics on Tuesday, 12 May.

The week highlighted the importance of inclusion, friendship, teamwork and community spirit, with students fully embracing the opportunity to support such an incredible organisation.

A sincere thank you to everyone who donated and supported the fundraiser. We are extremely proud of our students and the kindness, leadership and Lasallian spirit they continue to show.



TY3 Sustainability in Action

A huge well done to TY3, who took part in the Bottle Return Scheme on Friday, 30 January, as part of our school's sustainability efforts. Together, they returned an amazing 188 bottles and 119 cans.

Every single return makes a difference, and the money raised will go directly towards sustainability initiatives in the school, helping to make De La Salle an even greener place.

Small actions, big impact, we're so proud of the teamwork and eco-spirit shown



Waterford Trees for Life

Big thanks to Garret Advanced Motoring for sponsoring our trees and to the amazing team at Waterford Lyons Club for helping us plant them!

Together with Waterford Trees, we're making Waterford a greener place, one tree at a time. This time, we planted 10 beautiful birch trees. Here's to a greener, brighter future for our community!



Thermomix Sustainability Event

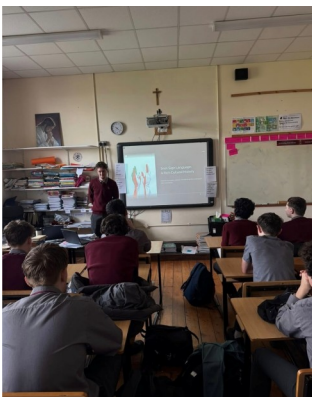
We were absolutely delighted to host a fantastic sustainability event in school earlier last February, celebrating fresh, seasonal food and the power of simple ingredients! Using amazing produce from, delicious artisan bread from Seagull Bakery, and quality ingredients from Ardkeen Stores, our students created a nourishing homemade soup while discovering the journey of food from farm to fork.

RCSI Mini Med Programme

Some of our TY students took part in the Mini Med, Mini Pharma, Mini Science & Mini Physio Programmes online, hosted each day by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. They had an amazing opportunity to hear from leading experts in these fields, ask questions, and get a real taste of what a career in medicine, science, pharma, or physiotherapy is all about!



ISL Q&A with Liam Byrne



A huge well done to our TY Mentor, Liam Byrne, who delivered an absolutely brilliant sign language class to his fellow TY students and our second years, who are currently completing their Lasallian Awards under the core principle of Respect for All.

Liam truly lit up the room with his passion, confidence, and willingness to share his journey of learning sign language. From interactive Q&As to hands-on practice, students had the chance to learn new skills while gaining a deeper understanding of inclusion and communication.

It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm, engagement, and respect shown by everyone involved a real example of Lasallian Leadership in action.

TY French Culture Day

On Wednesday, 4 February, our TY French students, along with their teachers Ms. O. Duggan & Ms. A. Phelan experienced a French Culture Day, which began with a tour of Waterford Treasures museum where their tour guide went through the life of our historic city since medieval times in the French language.

It was a great way for our students to immerse themselves in the language, and connect the knowledge of French they have learned in the classroom to a real life experience of conversing with their tour guide and learning new vocabulary, as well as more about the history of our city. Afterwards they were treated to a typical French breakfast of hot chocolate and croissants.



TY3 students had a brilliant time, getting creative and making St Brigid's Crosses. Huge thanks to our TY5 'experts' who did an amazing job guiding and helping our. Well done to all involved!

TY3 Making St Brigid's Crosses

TY6 CALMAST Session

TY6 I.T. class recently had the opportunity to welcome CALMAST (SETU) and Mr. Ultan Crowe from State Street for an engaging session on cybersecurity. The presentation was highly informative, and students found it both insightful and enjoyable. Building on this experience, upcoming lessons will focus on developing practical skills to address cybersecurity challenges.

TY Observations at SETU

A terrific mid-April week was had by two of our TY students, Shane Kavanagh and Jack Phelan as they embarked on a fascinating insight into the world of South East Technological University.

The boys observed the role of Finance in SETU and in particular the financing of research projects. They visited the South Eastern Applied Materials Research Centre (SEAM), Pharmaceutical & Molecular Biotechnology Research Centre (PMBRC) as well as the Humanities Department, College Street. To top it all off the boys got to participate in two Business Finance lectures also.



We are very grateful to SETU for the fantastic opportunity given to our lucky students. Shane and Jack were wonderful ambassadors for De La Salle College all week and we are very proud of them! Well done to you both!



TY 5 have been exploring leadership in their World of Business classes with Mr. Healy and they presented their findings on Steve Jobs. Great teamwork, confidence, leadership and insight on display today from a fantastic group of students. Well done lads!

TY5 Business Presentations

TY3 Religion Trip

TY3 had an absolutely fantastic day in Glendalough as part of their Religion module!

Students created and delivered truly beautiful rituals, bringing a real sense of reflection and meaning to the day. The atmosphere was so special, and it was clear how much thought, care, and creativity went into every group's preparation.

A huge well done to all involved for making the experience so memorable and meaningful.



TY4 Library Trip



The TY 4 History class had a very educational visit to the Waterford Library, where they were given an excellent presentation by Dr. Bláithín Hurley on the 1926 Census and the research facilities available at the Library. The students used their new Library membership cards to access the available online resources from the Library database to find a primary source document on their oldest family member. A morning full of exciting active learning for these young Historians. Well done to all for their excellent participation.

TY Gaisce Hike

Huge congratulations to our amazing TY Gaisce students who absolutely smashed their 25km walk to Kilmacthomas!

They showed incredible determination, positivity, and team spirit every step of the way, a fantastic achievement that should make them all so proud.

What a brilliant example of resilience and enthusiasm well done everyone!



TY Barcelona Trip

From soaking up the sights on a stunning boat tour to exploring the city's rich history on a cultural walking tour, every moment was packed with adventure. We cycled along the beautiful seafront, felt the adrenaline at , and stepped into football history with a tour of .

Evenings were spent enjoying the lively atmosphere of , with plenty of time for shopping and making memories with friends.

A fantastic trip from start to finish, full of laughs, sunshine, and unforgettable experiences.



Revive Conference

On Thursday, January 15th, our TY students attended the Revive Conference at the SETU Arena. The day was filled with prayer, engaging activities, uplifting music and plenty of fun. Now in its second year, the conference once again proved to be a memorable experience, with Fr John Harris delivering an inspiring keynote address.



The students thoroughly enjoyed the day, and for many it was a truly unique and meaningful experience. We are especially proud to have had 30 students taking part in the John Paul II Awards this year.

TY John Paul II Students Called to Greatness



Some of this year's TY JP II Awards students were delighted to receive their certificates this week after attending "Called to Greatness" at St. John's Pastoral Centre. The students had a fantastic experience and really enjoyed the day, which encouraged them to reflect on their talents, values and the positive difference they can make in the world!

John Paul II Awards

On Wednesday 11th March, in St Mary's Church, Cahir, some of last year's students were presented with their John Paul II Awards by Bishop Alphonsus Cullinane.

Well done to Oscar Jones, Cian Kennedy, Naoise Cooke and Jake Barry, who were there on the night. Congratulations also to Jack Dowling and Alex Reddin, who were unable to attend but who also received awards.



A fantastic achievement for all of these students, who carried out wonderful work during their TY year to

Medjugorje Pilgrimage

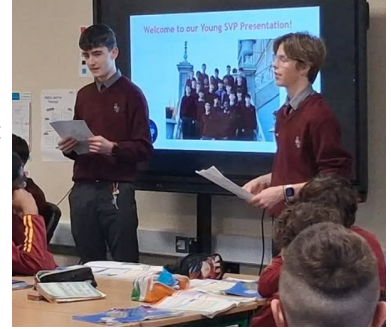


Well done to Jake Tubbritt & Jack Dempsey (TY5) who went on the Waterford Pilgrimage to Medjugorje. They've been taking in every moment and are even remembering us all in their prayers.

These photos were taken on Adoration Hill, which the two lads bravely climbed barefoot, a truly special and memorable part of their journey!

SVP Primary School Visit

As part of their SVP Education Project, 4 members of the young SVP conference Bobby, Ryan, Connor and Kai visited their former primary school, St Stephen's BNS, to speak with the 6th class boys about what SVP is and the work they do. The students had a fantastic experience presenting, building confidence, and developing their teaching skills, while the primary pupils thoroughly enjoyed listening, learning, and engaging with the session."



Teachers Vs Students Football Match

The SVP organised a Teachers vs Students football match in order to raise money for charity. Thanks to all our teachers, students and supporters who participated, played and supported the event!

It was very well attended and all players completed with great passion and skill. Many thanks to all who supported our game. Special thanks to our commentators Jack Phelan and Ashley Janga.



Thanks also to Jackie and Jenny for helping supervise the P.E Hall. We would also like to thank the P.E department for letting us use the facilities. Thanks to Ms Phelan for T-Shirts, Jenson for Photos, Dara and Luke for sound.

Well done to all SVPs and all involved for making this happen. It was a very close match, down to the wire, but overall students and teachers 2 all. It led to penalties ending in 6-3 to the students.

Well done to the students!

SVP Student Activities

Our students with the help of our SVP conference in De La Salle College took part in another great event celebrating the active role and importance of SVP in our community. Moments like this remind us of the strength that comes from unity, when people come together with a shared purpose, anything is possible. It also highlights the incredible work SVP does to support those less fortunate in our community, making a real difference to so many people.

Pictured here:

Mr Bourke and the dedicated SVP committee. A special thank you to Jack Phelan, who very kindly brought in his drone to capture some amazing aerial shots, and to Jenson Hall for the fantastic photos.

Community, teamwork and kindness in action



YSVP First Year Presentations



As part of De La Salle Week, our YSVP visited all first year classes and gave a presentation on one of the core principles of DLS "Concern for the poor and social justice". These inspiring students shared their experiences of their past year in SVP.

Both teachers and students found their presentation informative and educational!

YSVP Conference

The YSVP conference has had a very busy, enjoyable and productive year.

All 28 students were involved in so many ventures and activities from fundraising, teachers v students soccer where students generously raised 220 euro to packing and delivering 115 food parcels to families in Waterford over Christmas. Their work is never done, they organised positivity goody bags for all our 6th years as they prepared for their mock exams, a helping hand and treat will always be welcomed!

They attended many workshops, presented by Debbie O Donohue, Developmental Officer, on Social justice and many other topics.

Raising awareness of the importance of SVP has also been a focus and what better way of doing this than creating SVP with our DLS students!! And capturing this aerial photo with a drone!! During this DLS week, our SVP students will meet all 1st year classes and give a presentation on the continued work of SVP in our college and our community.

So last Friday this group of amazing students of SVP were the worthy recipients of Certificates for their outstanding contribution!

A number of students shared their experiences of the past year. Debbie, Ms Mc Manus, Mr Bourke and Ms Cantwell congratulated this YSVP for their successful year.

A number of teachers also called in to give their support!

The occasion ended with Luke Brown, Dara O'Shea and Jenson Hall singing an Oasis Song where they changed the lyrics to highlight the importance of SVP!

And finally our gathering concluded with well earned and well deserved refreshments!

A great time was had by all!!



50 Years of The Waterford Samaritans

On 27 March, we were delighted to take a moment to acknowledge, appreciate and celebrate an incredible milestone, 50 years of the Samaritans in Waterford. For half a century, the Waterford branch has been there for people when they need it most. Day and night, 24/7, 365 days a year, there is always a listening ear



available. Their phone lines are manned entirely by dedicated volunteers, offering support, compassion and understanding to anyone who reaches out.

To mark this special anniversary, our students came together to form the number 50, recognising and commemorating the 50 years of care, kindness and support the Samaritans have provided to the Waterford community. A huge thank you to the volunteers who give their time so generously. Your work truly makes a difference.



EPAS



Well done to our TY EPAS student Ezzar Kiram who has submitted the following entry to the European Parliament Ambassador School (EPAS) programme photo competition as they celebrate 10 years of the programme.

It is great to see such strong inspiration and creativity. Let Ezzar's own description of his entry speak for itself

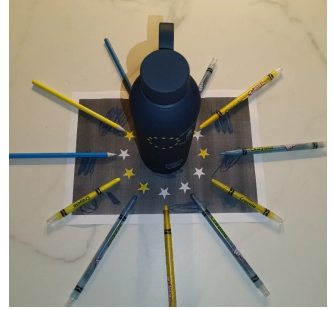
“What does Europe mean to me”. To me, Europe is a symbol of prosperity, support and growth. In my photograph, I have communicated these values. The star symbolises membership of the EU, financial support and hope. It acts as a guide for poor or struggling countries. The bright green bushes illustrate the growth Europe brings. The left hand represents the EU while the other hand symbolises a country in need. Together, they emphasise the support, unity and cooperation the EU provides”

EPAS

Well done to Kai Griffith, our second TY EPAS student who has submitted the following entry to the European Parliament Ambassador School (EPAS) programme photo competition as they celebrate 10 years of the programme.

Let Kai's own description of his entry speak for itself.

“For me, the EU represents unity through cooperation. In the picture, the colouring pencils symbolise the countries of the European Union collaboratively working together to colour in the EU flag. Every different nation adds its own unique contribution, but only through teamwork can the full flag be completed, showing how shared effort creates opportunities and a stronger, more connected



An unforgettable day at the YSI Speak Out event in Kilkenny on Tuesday 24 March, where our TY students took centre stage in front of almost 600 students from across the South East of Ireland.

This event was truly a celebration of student voice. Since September, students have been working through their YSI classes, researching, planning and developing powerful social innovation projects on Build A Bridge, Fast Fashion, Bullying, and Pollution. The journey was challenging, pushing them outside their comfort zones, but their dedication and resilience shone through.



Standing on stage, using creative props and delivering impactful speeches, they spoke with confidence, passion and purpose. They didn't just present projects, they raised awareness, sparked conversation and made their voices heard.

The courage it took to step up in front of such a large audience cannot be overstated and the growth in confidence and communication skills was evident in every moment. These are experiences that will stay with them and support them in all their future endeavours.

Irish Culture Module

On January 28, our International Academy students explored the story and traditions of St. Brigid in their Irish Culture class.

After learning about her life and legacy, they got hands on and created their very own St. Brigid's Crosses using colourful materials, a beautiful blend of history, creativity, and culture.

In May, our Irish Culture class, made up of wonderful exchange students from Spain and Italy, got a true taste of Ireland this week. With the sun making a rare but welcome appearance, they enjoyed delicious Tay-to blaas and finished off with classic 99s! A perfect mix of culture, food, and sunshine.



3NON and 3CM Pizza Party

On Wednesday, 20 May, both 3NON and 3CM enjoyed a longer lunch with pizzas delivered to the school, spending some relaxed time with their class tutors.

A simple but well-deserved way to finish this stage of their journey. Wishing them all the best in their exams.



TY Football Blitz

Some great moments from the TY football blitz. Well done to everyone who took part, plenty of effort, teamwork, and good spirit on display throughout the day.

A special congratulations to TY 4, who came out on top as winners.



Sustainability and Green Schools



GIY is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to food education, sustainability, and empowering people to understand where their food comes from. Their work goes far beyond growing vegetables — they are building food empathy, teaching communities about seasonal eating, soil health, and the importance of nutrient dense, locally sourced produce.

Through their education programmes, they work closely with schools and community groups to reconnect people — especially young people — with real food. A wonderful example of this collaboration is De La Salle College in Waterford, where students have been using their Thermomix TM6 to transform seasonal vegetables from the GIY veg box into nourishing meals. GIY has also supported the school's polytunnel with soil and growing guidance, creating a full-circle learning experience from seed to plate.

The Transition year sustainability class recently made a delicious seasonal soup using their locally grown vegetables — a simple but powerful demonstration of what happens when education, community and the right tools come together.

GIY also operates a café and restaurant that embodies the farm-to-fork philosophy, using seasonal, locally sourced ingredients directly from their own growing spaces and trusted local producers. Their work, led by Mick Kelly, is raising national awareness about healthy eating, reducing food miles, and challenging misleading food labelling practices that undermine Irish growers and consumers alike.

In a time when ultra-processed foods and long supply chains dominate, GIY is doing essential — and often thankless — work to shift mindsets. They are helping people understand that real food is seasonal, nutrient dense, and deeply connected to both human and environmental health.

A Thermomix in the GIY café and education space would not simply be a kitchen appliance. It would be: A practical teaching tool for community and school programmes A way to demonstrate how seasonal produce can be transformed into restaurant-quality meals A support for their sustainable, low-waste food system. A visible partnership between Thermomix and a nationally respected food education movement.

Sustainability and Green Schools - Highlights



This year has been an incredibly positive and energetic one for sustainability and Green Schools initiatives in De La Salle College. Our students showed outstanding commitment to community action, healthy living, and environmental awareness through a wide range of projects and activities.

One of the major highlights of the year was receiving a Recognition Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Future Sparks Competition with the European Investment Bank (EIB). Students were proudly presented with a commemorative plaque in recognition of their innovation and dedication to sustainability initiatives within the school community.

Students also participated in a wonderful food sustainability project in partnership with GIY at GrowHQ, where they received a Grow Box from Mick Kelly and created wholesome homemade soup using locally sourced seasonal ingredients. A special thank you goes to Seagull Bakery for donating delicious sourdough bread and to Ardkeen Stores for generously providing butter and homemade scones. The project helped students understand the importance of healthy, seasonal food and the value of supporting local producers.

Throughout the year, students also used recycled plastic bottle returns to fund healthy food initiatives in the school. Money raised through bottle recycling was used to purchase fresh fruit for smoothie making activities linked to the Sustainable Development Goals of Good Health & Well-Being and Responsible Consumption & Production. Students also created healthy homemade ice cream using just three simple ingredients, comparing it to highly processed shop-bought alternatives and learning how nutritious food can be made affordably and sustainably.

Many of these activities were supported through the use of the school's Thermomix machine, which was earned through the success of previous sustainability initiatives and continues to be an excellent educational resource for healthy cooking projects.

Our students also played an active role in the local community through their participation in the Waterford City and County Council Poleberry clean-up initiative ahead of the Winterval Festival. After six weeks of hard work improving and tidying the area, students were acknowledged for their outstanding contribution to the local community and environment.

We are extremely proud of the enthusiasm, creativity, and teamwork shown by all students involved throughout the year. Their efforts continue to make a real difference within our school and wider community, and we look forward to building on this success next year.

Choir

Every single year, the De La Salle Choir is extremely busy with practising for upcoming events, concerts and competitions. They put in great determination and effort into trying their best in the different pieces that are sung.

On Thursday, 30 April, the choir travelled to Cork to participate in the Cork International Choral Festival. The choir performed 2 pieces, "Caoineadh na dTrí Mhuire" and "Heaven Somewhere". The choir was unfortunately didn't want any awards, but conductor, Max Philpott, had won the Conductor Bursery Award. This award sets out to help aspiring conductors to further their skills and knowledge



Following on, the choir competed at the Navan International Choral Festival on 7 May. They first competed at the Popular Music Competition, they performed "The Impossible Dream" and "Bui Doi". They came out 2nd overall, out of 7 other schools. Later that day, they competed at the Post-Primary Choir of the Year competition. They won 3rd place out of 10 other schools. They sang "Heaven Somewhere" and "Caoineadh na dTrí Mhuire".

Finally, they participated at the Waterford Male Voice Choir Concert at the SETU Chapel, to celebrate the Waterford Male Voice Choir's 25th Anniversary. It was an excellent evening with many people complimenting the boys' singing afterwards.

On behalf of the entire De La Salle Choir, we want to congratulate Max Philpott on being an excellent choral conductor. This school year Max had become the Choir's main conductor, it's extremely uncommon for a person so young to be conducting a choir, especially a student. So we would like to congratulate Max on his excellent achievement and we hope he goes far in life!

De La Salle's Got Talent

Well done to all the students who took part in a very successful De La Salle's Got Talent evening. The standard was excellent and it was great to see such a wide variety of talent on display. A special word of thanks to our guest adjudicators and past pupils Mark Gunning and Hugh Beglin, who had the difficult job of choosing winners from such a talented group.

Overall Winners: Oisín Langford, Luke Brown and Alex Curran for their medley of Stevie Wonder hits performed on bass, keyboard and drums.

Runners-Up: Timothy and Oliver McCoy - Stand-up comedy routine featuring Donald Trump and Joe Biden; Surya Immani, Max Philpott, David Keating and Sam Marsden - Choral quartet performance of Only You; Rajiv Das - Piano performance of Experience by Ludovico Einaudi; Cian Kennedy and Luke Brown - Just the Way You Are by Billy Joel.

Congratulations to all who performed and helped make the evening such a success.



3NON English Quiz

Well done to Ms. O'Neill's tutor class, 3NON, who finished the term today with a fun English quiz. The competition was fierce, and in the end two teams finished in a draw, proving just how sharp everyone's knowledge was!

To celebrate the effort and teamwork, Easter eggs were awarded to all. A sweet reward for a brilliant end to the term!



Five JCSP students, Liam O'Halloran, Dylan Kelly, Michael Burke, Alfie Power and Shane Lindsay, took part in the Oide Make a Book event earlier this year.

JCSP Students Make a Book

Their book, "Pack it Light, Wear it Right", explored how heavy backpacks can affect the spine. They showed the correct way to wear your bag, which is especially important in a school with so many flights of stairs! The students presented their project and enjoyed viewing other schools' work.



A fun highlight of the day was creating Jemily, Queen of the Jellyfish, a big part of the celebrations!

JCSP Lasallian Competition

Huge congratulations to Dwayne Keniry and Charlie Roche, who were crowned overall winners at the Lasallian Competition held in Castletown. With 13 entries from 6 De La Salle schools across Ireland, the boys impressed the judges and came away with the top prize for their fantastic project on the theme "All is Connected".

Well done also to Thrixian Obico, who received Highly Commended for his excellent entry.



The day kicked off with a beautiful guided tour of the Japanese Gardens, followed by lots of laughs and splashes in Splashworld. After working up an appetite, everyone enjoyed a well-earned hot lunch in Massimos, before finishing the day on a high at the driving range. Everyone had lots of fun, and great memories all around, a day to remember.

Fun Day for JCSP Students

Coding Day

Run as part of our JCSP initiative, Coding Day 2026 was all about promoting inclusion, building confidence, and sparking a love for Computer Science across our school community. From problem-solving challenges to hands-on coding fun, students had the chance to explore, learn, and shine.

A huge well done to everyone who took part and made the day such a success, the future of tech is looking bright!



De La Salle Day Mass

Well done to Cian Kennedy (5th Year), Ms Forsey, and Ms Walsh, who together brought a scene from The Call of John Baptiste De La Salle to life for our De La Salle Day mass.

Cian took on the role of Saint John Baptiste De La Salle, Ms Forsey played Sister Louise, and Ms Walsh guided us as narrator. Their performance was a fantastic way to begin our De La Salle Day Mass celebration.

A big well done as well to Trixtan Obico, who presented a painting of Our Lady, for our mass.



SETU Computer Science Awards



There was a great sense of anticipation in De La Salle College during the morning of the 7 May, which turned to excitement later that afternoon at the special occasion of the 'SETU 2026 Computer Science Awards' ceremony.

Five of our students were shortlisted for the awards: Ross Grant, Jack Whyte, Eesaan Moharana, Tom Guiden and Gregor Rabatin. They faced very strong competition from the talented students of St. Paul's and Mount Sion.



We were thrilled to learn that Eesaan Moharana won the overall award and proudly brought the title back to De La Salle College. We are incredibly proud of all the boys, who represented the college superbly throughout the competition. We now wish them every success in their upcoming exams.

Lasallian Core Principle: Respect for All Persons Award

Three students from each year group were specially selected in recognition of the respect they show every single day, to their teachers, their classmates, and everyone around them. Their words, actions, and attitudes truly set the standard for what our school community is all about.

A huge congratulations to these fantastic students, and thank you for helping to make our school such a respectful, welcoming, and positive place for all!



Lasallian Awards

Over 400 students were recognised with Bronze, Silver, and Gold Lasallian Awards, an incredible achievement that reflects months of dedication, effort, and commitment.

Throughout the year, these students have gone above and beyond, completing activities rooted in our 5 Core Principles and truly living out the Lasallian spirit in everything they do.

It was a proud reminder that our community is thriving, full of energy, kindness, and purpose. The Lasallian spirit is not just alive, it's shining brighter than ever!



Student Awards

In May, we proudly celebrated our Student Awards Day, recognising and commending students for their outstanding achievements both inside and outside the classroom.

From academic excellence to sporting success, creativity, leadership, and community involvement, it was wonderful to acknowledge the hard work, dedication, and talent of so many of our students.

Congratulations to all of our award recipients, we are incredibly proud of you all!



2nd Year Monthly Marvels



Our Monthly Marvels initiative for second years came to an end last February, 54 students from second year were recognised for achieving full attendance during the month of January.

They were treated to pizzas, chips and goujons as a reward for doing so well. They all had a lovely time enjoying this well deserved longer lunch, with more initiatives to follow for other year groups during the year.

2nd Year Online Safety and Addiction Talk

On 5th March, our second years had an eye-opening session on "Online Safety and Addiction" with Michael O'Brien. The boys really engaged with the talk, which highlighted the dangers of the online world and offered practical tips for staying safe. It was an impactful session that gave them valuable advice on navigating digital spaces responsibly.



Class 2 DMG students got stuck into a fantastic Litter Pick as part of their Lasallian Award activities. With plenty of energy, teamwork, and community spirit, they helped make our surroundings cleaner and greener.

2DMG Litter Pick

EU Studies Quiz

Great fun was had by our 1st and 2nd Year students who took part in our TY EU Studies Quiz this week to mark the importance of Europe Day on May 9th.

Well done to our TY EU Studies students who prepared and presented the quiz, and congratulations to all of the winners!



First Year JCSP Trip

On Thursday, 13 May, we had a fantastic end-of-year trip to Activate with our First Year JCSP students.

The boys had an amazing time, full of energy, fun, and plenty of laughs a well-deserved day out after all their hard work this year. It was a brilliant way to start wrapping up the school year on such a positive note.



5th & 6th Year Positive Points Breakfast

Last January 16, we were delighted to acknowledge a group of our 5th and 6th year students with a special breakfast in recognition of the number of positive points they have earned since the start of the year.

These points reflect consistent effort, positive behaviour and the valuable contribution these students make to our school community every day. It's important that hard work, kindness and commitment don't go unnoticed, and today was a small way of saying well done and thank you for your efforts.



5th Year Goegraphy trip to Dunmore Cave

Our 5th Year Leaving Cert Geography students enjoyed a trip to Dunmore Cave, Kilkenny today, where they explored the underground features of a limestone landscape. The group took part in a guided tour of the cave and even experienced it in complete darkness. Afterwards, they visited Kilkenny City Centre to examine the origins and development of the city as a settlement, from early Christian through to medieval times.



LCA Hotel, Catering & Tourism Coffee Morning

Our LCA 1 Hotel, Catering & Tourism students whipped up a storm, planning, baking, and serving delicious cookies, croissants & pain au chocolat, alongside perfectly brewed tea and coffee! Huge thanks to the staff who came along to support them, and a massive well done to our LCA students for their dedication, teamwork, and amazing hospitality, a total success!

WCFE Talk From Harley Barnes

Great to welcome past pupil Harley Barnes back to De La Salle College to speak with our 5th and 6th year students! Harley gave a very informative talk on the wide range of courses available at WCFE (Waterford College of Further Education), including Pre-Apprenticeship, Security Systems, Healthcare, Sports Coaching and Fitness, as well as entry requirements and progression routes. We look forward to having Harley back again.



NIBRT Talk and Excursion

We had the privilege of welcoming back past student, Alexander Stotskyy, from the class of 2021, to speak to 5th and 6th year biology and chemistry students about biochemistry and bioprocessing engineering.

Alex is a PhD candidate with UCD and NIBRT and he outlined his journey from De La Salle to his current research on gene therapy. He gave excellent advice to the students who attended his presentation. A huge thanks to Alex for giving so generously of his time, and every good wish in his future studies



Four lucky 6th year students visited the National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT) in Dublin to explore bioprocessing careers. Past pupil and PhD candidate, Alex Stotskyy, led a very comprehensive tour of the NIBRT facilities, including the training and re-search labs. David, Shreyaj, Eesaan and Mikhail enjoyed a wonderful day exploring career pathways in this exciting area of science. A huge thanks to Laura, Robert, Magda, Diego and all the scientists in NIBRT for giving so generously of their time. A special thanks to Alex for the invitation to NIBRT, and the time and effort made for our students, it was a pleasure to spend the day in his company.



Computer Science Talk with Bernie McKeown

We had the pleasure of a visit from Bernie McKeown from the Computing and Mathematics Department in SETU in early March. Bernie visited all three 5th Year Computer Science classes. She gave a great talk on the computing courses available at SETU and what life is like on campus. It's always a pleasure to have Bernie visit us in DLS College!



Queen's University and StudyUSA talk with Ben Keating



We were delighted to welcome past pupil Ben Keating, who is currently studying Accounting at Queen's University Belfast. Ben serves as a Global Student Ambassador for Queen's University and has recently been accepted onto the prestigious StudyUSA scholarship programme. He spoke to our 5th and 6th year students about his experience at Queen's University and the opportunities available through StudyUSA. Ben delivered an excellent presentation, highlighting his studies, the outstanding facilities at the university, and the wide range of career opportunities open to him after his studies.

LCA 2 Results

Some of our LCA2 students celebrated their fantastic end of Session 3 results!

We marked the occasion in the best way possible, with some well-earned pizza for lunch.

A huge well done to both LCA1 and LCA2 for all the hard work, dedication, and great results.



LCA1 Visual Art

A huge congratulations to our LCA1 students on completing their third and final Felting Workshop with our wonderful Artist in Residence, Paulina Katan.

Throughout the residency, students showed incredible creativity, patience, and dedication while learning the art of felting. The final pieces created reflect the imagination, effort, and skill that each student brought to the workshops. We are so proud of the final works created

This inspiring residency was delivered as part of the Creative Engagement Programme, giving our students the opportunity to explore new artistic techniques through hands-on creative learning.



6th year Soccer Blitz and BBQ



On 19 May, our 6th Year students enjoyed a soccer blitz and BBQ to celebrate the end of their time with us at De La Salle College.

Great memories, great friendships, and a fantastic group of fine young men. We are very proud of the Class of 2026 and wish them every success in the future.

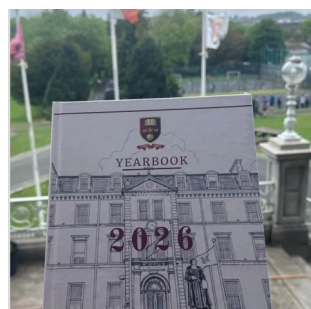


6th year Yearbook

Huge well done to the students who led the 6th Year Yearbook initiative from start to finish.

From designing it, gathering memories and photos, and helping bring it all together, they created something really special for the Class of 2026.

A lovely keepsake of their time in De La Salle and great to see them receive it.



Congratulations to Donagh Myler



Huge congratulations to Donagh Myler, past pupil of De La Salle College, who won the Irish Grand National today at Fairyhouse riding Soldier in Milan.

Donagh, originally from Kilmacow, delivered a fantastic performance on one of the biggest stages in Irish racing. A brilliant achievement and a proud moment for his family, his local community, and everyone in De La Salle College.

Congratulations to Michael Hennigan

We are delighted to celebrate the success of Michael Hennigan, a former De La Salle College student, who is currently studying a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering with Management in Trinity College Dublin.

Michael achieved an exceptional 625 points in his Leaving Certificate and was also awarded the Trinity Entrance Scholarship, a fantastic recognition of his academic excellence and dedication.

Pictured here with Deputy Principal Declan O'Brien, Michael's achievements are a source of great pride for the entire De La Salle community and an inspiration to our current students.



Congratulations to Liam Steenson

Huge congratulations Liam Steenson on receiving the prestigious UCD Entrance Scholars Award. We are incredibly proud of this outstanding achievement. Liam is currently studying Medicine, and we wish him every success as he continues on his career journey.



Congratulations to Fionn McGrath

A huge congratulations to former De La Salle College student, Fionn McGrath, who recently received the Molloy Medal in Physics at an awards ceremony in UCD.

The medal is awarded at the end of Stage One of the Medicine Degree Programme, recognising outstanding achievement in Physics. Fionn, now a second-year medical student in UCD, has done incredibly well to earn this prestigious award.

Well done, Fionn. We are incredibly proud of your success and wish you continued achievements in your studies. Congratulations on this fantastic accomplishment



Les Misérables - AIMS School Musical and Mentoring

The cast of the De La Salle school musical 2025, Les Misérables, bows for the final time as they accept they receive their awards.

The cast of the musical were nominated for numerous awards, and successfully achieved in winning 2, the Best Chorus and the Best Overall Show. The school community is extremely proud of their achievement and their excellence.

The effort and determination that was put into the school show was the driving factor in being nominated and winning these awards.

Once again, huge congratulations to the entire cast of Les Misérables on the excellent achievement!



Passing of Pat O'Mahony

It was with great sadness that we announce the passing of our former colleague, Pat O'Mahony. Pat dedicated his entire teaching career to De La Salle College, serving the school community with distinction from 1962 until his retirement in 2006. He was a devoted English teacher, a committed Year Head, and later Deputy Principal. A true La Sallian, Pat lived the ethos of De La Salle in all his interactions with staff, students, parents, and the wider school community.

He was held in the highest esteem by the Brothers and was a close and valued friend of the late Br Tim.

At this sad time, our thoughts and prayers are with his family. We extend our deepest sympathies to his beloved wife Máire, his sons Michael and Colm, both past pupils of De La Salle College and his daughters Catherine and Niamh.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.



A Message To The Class of 2026

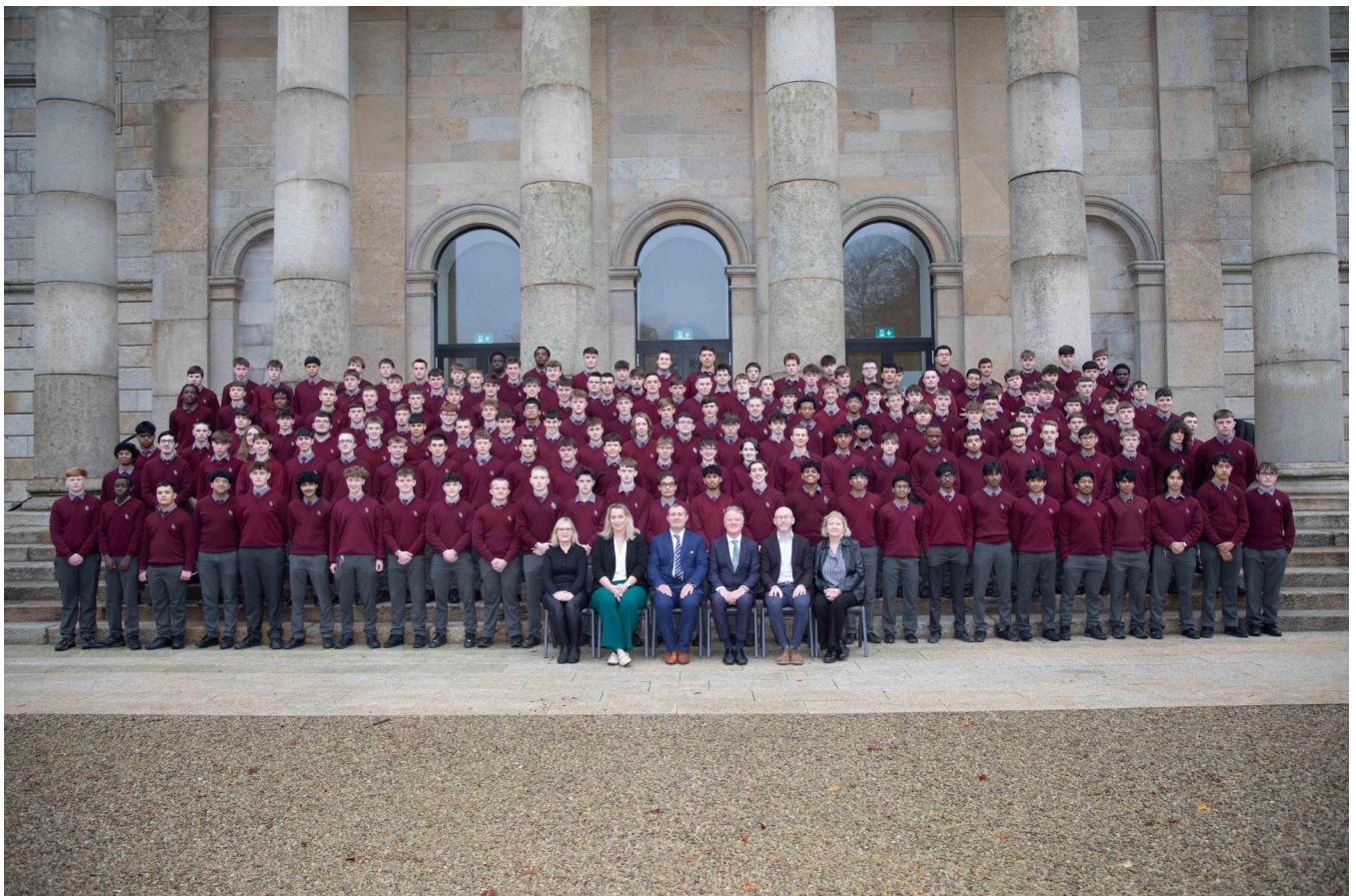
The theme of this year's graduation, "*Wherever you go, go with all your heart,*" perfectly reflected the spirit of the year group. Throughout their journey in De La Salle, our Sixth Years have shown resilience, kindness, humour, leadership, and tremendous character. They have contributed greatly to school life both inside and outside the classroom and have left a lasting impression on staff and fellow students alike.

Graduation evening was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the friendships formed, the challenges overcome, and the growth that has taken place over the years. We are incredibly proud of each and every student and grateful for the positive contribution they have made to our school community.

As they now prepare for the next chapter in their lives, we wish the Class of 2026 every happiness and success for the future. Wherever life takes them, we hope they always carry with them the values, memories, and friendships built during their time in De La Salle College.

Mr Healy

6th Year Year-head





De La Salle College Waterford

Student Council

May 2026



This issue of the newsletter was compiled by Sam Maaliw.
Thank you for reading and have an excellent summer break!