



Newsletter

St. David's
Holy Faith Greystones

Spring '22

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear students, staff and parents/guardians,

This is the second edition of our new school newsletter, for this academic year, 2021 – 2022. It is wonderful to see the incredible work going on in our school and that every aspect is one of growth, improvement and energy. Every Friday evening, I have the pleasure of outlining to all of you the 'goings-on' in our school and you can see, first hand, what a busy place it is. Fingers crossed, we are through the worst of covid-19, and the light is becoming brighter and brighter, with each day. As we approach the end of January, and enter the month of February, we see the increased light and joy of Spring and ultimately, Summer, coming to the fore. January was brightened up immeasurably by the stunning achievement

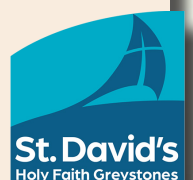
of Sixth Year Scientific Sensation Vagif Aliyev who was awarded the Senior Technology Award at this year's B.T Young Scientist Competition. Our future national holiday, from 2023 of the 1st February, also known as St. Brigid's Day, dating back to the Celtic festival of Imbolc, leads us further into this light. St. Brigid was the Celtic Goddess of healing, renewal and growth. This symbolism represents our great school: new buildings, refurbishment of existing buildings and provision of more space for all of the family here in St. David's. As outlined in her message, Ms. O' Sullivan takes this change, growth and prosperity, further. In the here and the now, we are fast approaching our Third Years applying for Transition Year, 2022, from the first week of February; whole school and mock exams in the second and third week of February 2022; Transition Years completing Fifth Year Subject Choice, from the end of February onwards; I will be meeting with our lovely incoming First Years, in late

March/early April 2022; oral exams for Leaving Certificate students during the Easter holidays; a welcome return to our annual Sports Day in late April (our Second and Third Years will experience this for the first time due to two years of Coiv-19 restrictions); into May, we welcome the return of T.Y Exhibition Night, Presentation Day, and revised and exciting new format to our Sixth Year Graduation (fingers crossed our brand new Sports Arena will be the venue). We now have 60% of the school year complete. I want to thank the extraordinary Transition Team behind this publication, and the dynamic duo of Ms. Courtney and Mr. Ryan, for trojan work with our amazing Transition Year students. Well done to all, and please keep this innovation, ambition and stunning work alive, as it demonstrates how good this great school is!

Simon Carey
Principal

SCHOOL ETHOS

St. David's Holy Faith Secondary School is a Catholic Voluntary Secondary School. We aim as a school community to embody the Gospel Values through our actions, our words and we strive to model ourselves on Jesus, the teacher who taught us with gentleness yet authority to love, give courage and offer generosity and respect. Everyone in St. David's is valued for their unique individual talents and gifts. With our varied curriculum, we offer each student the opportunity to learn about themselves and the world around them. Our school community aims to provide an environment where everyone has the chance to experience psychological, social, personal and spiritual growth. We hope to send out into the world confident young Christians prepared to face the challenges that the world will offer them, with a special place in their heart for those less fortunate in our society and with the knowledge that they have cherished as pupils in our school. "The future is in the hands of those who give coming generations reasons for living and hoping" - Vatican II



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all of you reading this, students, parents, friends, relatives!

I cannot believe the pace of the academic year. It seems that time is going faster than ever and soon it will be summer, days will be longer and brighter, and more hopeful with the subsiding of the Covid pandemic. This wonderful magazine gives us a flavour of the vibrant life within our school. As always the students have been incredibly busy with multiple and engaging activities and initiatives. This Transition Year group are having an absolute ball!

At the moment, there is quite a stunning piece of art in progress. This is part of the BLAST initiative (acronym for Bringing Live Artists to Students and Teachers) for arts education in schools sponsored by the Arts Council and the Department of Education. A team of our Transition Year students have twenty hours of work over a three-week period with Tunde Toth, artist, educator and researcher. They have brainstormed and have been engaged in bringing the concept from idea to reality. To me, it is a symbol

of the juncture in which we find ourselves as a school. The eight-panel polyptych – on 8' x 4' Medium Density Fibreboard – is entitled 'Our Journey' and will reflect something of the diversity and ethos of our school community as it is now and as it will evolve into the future. There is something new emerging in our school but it is based on solid foundations going back to 1906. When we walk in the buildings on our school campus, we are walking on years of tradition with deep foundations and history. Our building is an aspect of this new expansion; our newly configured crest is another; our school and PE uniforms are other aspects. In the middle of the change going on around us, which is so perceptible and visible, are all the people who are such an integral part of this entire educational enterprise and without whom it would cease to exist.

The change in the buildings, the uniform and externals, while so beautiful, will never really transform us until we embrace the change within ourselves, envision a new trajectory going forward of the type of people we want to be.



It's

about asking what characterises and distinguishes our school from other schools: The building? Stunning piece of avant-garde architecture, modernisation of older buildings, state of the art facilities. The uniforms? Very smart, beautiful and elegant. The people? Incredible, wise, funny, hopeful, creative, talented, profound, solution-focused, communicative, intelligent, artistic, looking out for those on the edge, contributing to make our world a better place. So as we move forward on our journey together and as we watch the polyptych unfold before our eyes, let's take some time to think about the kind of persons we would like to be, the type of community of wonderful people we would like to create going into the this newly-configured landscape.

Louise O'Sullivan

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

the 30th of January. During this week we celebrated our school identity being a prevalent catholic school. The religion teachers provided a video reflecting on the wonderful activities that our school community has done in the past year. With the help of the lovely TYs, they helped to show the theme of this year's catholic schools week, "Living Life to the Full". As a school we reflected on our contributions in our local community as well as day to day life. We showed this theme through the acts of charity, team bonding, belief and well being. During the week, a prayer was said each day to celebrate this wonderful week.

Catholic Schools week happened on the 23rd to

SCHOOL BUILDING

Staff are enjoying their new, huge (three times bigger than before building commenced) staff room which has been fully kitted out with a brand new kitchen, thirty individual work-stations for staff, and a further relaxation and 'chill out' area, accommodating a further twenty-eight staff members with new chairs and tub sofas. We are now in the thirteenth month of actual building work of our school, and the in-roads that we are making are huge. Our new sports arena is nearing completion with opening set for the start of May 2022. This architectural gem of a building will provide students and staff with a twenty-first century sports hall capable of hosting all indoor sports and two P.E classes simultaneously. The Department of Education are providing an additional €120,000 for equipment for the hall and the gym, and the school is providing additional funding for carpet tile flooring (an additional €17,000) which can be laid down, so as to ensure assemblies, concerts, exams and recitals can and will take place. Our main school building, which has been partitioned since last April 2021, will see the final and complete refurbishment take place between now and the summer of 2022. This will culminate in new classrooms constructed – a second Construction Studies room (replacing the old Graphics room), a fourth Science lab (replacing the existing Art room), a new Computer Science room and ordering of thirty new desktops and screens (replacing base classroom room 13), new Learning Support room (completed by October 2022 and replacing the old Computer Science room), a second Learning Support room in the main school building.



A second major new school building, the stunning four storey, rising from the floor will contain a new school library, new D.C.G lab, a new Graphics room, two new Visual Art/Art rooms, three standard new classrooms and five new office spaces. This is currently behind schedule by approx. six weeks but with covid-19 I am more than happy that despite a global pandemic, we are striving forward. This is a mammoth task that we are working through and the attitude of students, staff and parents/guardians, is quite simply magnificent. It is this 'can do' and 'let's get on with it' attitude that makes our school so wonderful. A huge thank you to everyone!

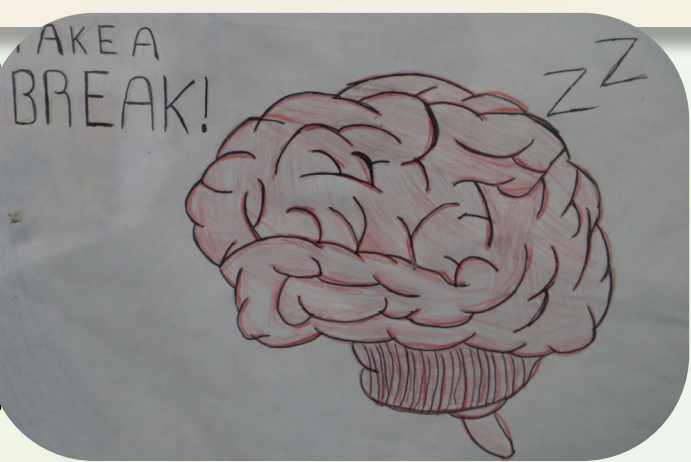




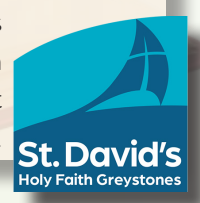
RSE On the first of March, the TY's had their RSE workshop which was about the LGBTQIAP+ community and understanding what the terminology means. They spoke to us about their past experiences and how we can learn from them. We also learned how to be respectful and supportive to all members of the LGBTQIAP+ community. They taught about different pronouns, what they meant and when to use them. This was a great opportunity for students to learn and grow as they learned about diversity and to increase their awareness of people around you. This was a great experience for all students.



MENTAL HEALTH WEEK We celebrated Mental health week here at St Davids on the 17th to the 23th of January. We as a school promote positive mental health and wellbeing through our after school clubs and in school committees. The aim for mental health week was to make every student aware that if they are having problems with their mental health, there is always someone there to listen and to help them. During Mental Health week, we practised different mindfulness techniques and shared some tips with each other on how to cope with stress of exams and personal lives as well. Some of the students in St Davids also made a board which included posters with mental health quotes and advice for anyone who is struggling. This board was displayed throughout the week but it is always important to keep these quotes and advice in mind for whenever you may need them.



MOCKS AND TY EXAM From the 11th to the 16th of January the transition year students of St. David's underwent five days of exams. These exams are going to contribute to the choices of their 5th year subjects, as well as deciding if they are going to be in higher level or ordinary level. Throughout the week the transition year students took part in their maths, Irish, English, computer study as well as the transition year DATS assessment.



SPORTS

Rugby This year in St Davids there have been two successful boys rugby teams. There is the 1st year boys rugby team and the junior boys rugby team. The rugby teams train after school every Monday and Thursday with Mr Davies and volunteers. Throughout the year the rugby teams have competed against other schools in rugby matches and rugby blitzes. There has also been a girls rugby team in St Davids this year. The team trains every Monday and Thursday with Mr Davies. Throughout the year the rugby team has played against other schools in many rugby matches and rugby blitzes. Rugby has been a very important part of St David's this year. It has been a great opportunity to keep healthy, fit and active and it also gives an opportunity for people to get to know new people and make new friends. Mr Davies has put a lot of work and effort into the rugby teams this year and all the students and parents appreciate the work he has done.



Sailing On the 12th of March the St Davids Sailing team competed in the Leinster Schools Team Racing Championships. The event was held in the Royal St George Yacht Club and there were champagne conditions for the races. The team on the day was Eimear Farrell, Sarah Kelly, Matilda Gustaffson, Rory Farrell, Brianna Gallagher Kilbane and team captain, Matthew Lawless along with the coordinating teacher, Ms Cavey. The team raced in 4 races before competing in the semi-final, which was unfortunately lost to St Andrews College. The team all performed really well and got fourth place overall, earning a spot in The Schools Team racing Nationals.



SPORTS

Senior Soccer On the 15th of December St.David's senior soccer team took on Gaelcholaiste na Mara Arklow in their third group game. St David's started well but against the run of play Gaelcholaiste na Mara took the lead and this was quickly followed by their second goal just before half time. David's started the second half brightly but the opposing team went 3-0 up. David's never lost hope and this resulted in Callum Smith converting a penalty for David's. The opposing team reacted to this by scoring another goal of their own. But David's kept going and Callum Smith scored another brilliant goal for David's. Gaelcholaiste na Mara scored their 5th goal just minutes after. Mark Hayden scored David's deserved 3rd goal but unfortunately it wasn't enough as Davids suffered a narrow 5-3 defeat to Gaelcholaiste na Mara.



Junior Rugby St David's junior football team have had a fantastic start to their season. St David's were drawn in a tough group with East Glendalough and St Killians. In their first game St David's had an outstanding 4-2 win against St Killians with goals from Luke Van Den Bergh, Alex Baines, Lucas du Preez and Kuba. In their second game David's had a hard fought 1-1 draw against East Glendalough with a goal from Lucas du Preez. This draw meant Davids finished comfortably on top of their group. They now face Creagh College in their semifinal.



SPORTS

Running Club

This year, St. Davids has had great success with athletics. Ms Clifford set up the girls running club to combat the low activity levels of girls. All

female and mixed ability students were welcome. They meet on a Wednesday after school and run 5k each week along the seafront. We encouraged the girls to walk/ jog/ run and most importantly have fun chatting along the way. Along the 5k we would stop to undertake some additional exercises such as strength and conditioning. Four TY girls and Ms Foynes also work as couches (TY'S as part of their Gaisce awards). They would meet back at school for a cool down and a safe space to share any problems they may have or just a chance to chat before the school day starts again! Their aim is to complete a school 5k this year.



In the recent East Leinster cross country, the school won a clean sweep of the individual placings and the boys took home team gold. Well done to Rian, Conor, Sarleya, Luke and Ben who were presented with their medals on the 10th of February. In first place was Rian, in second place was Conor and in third place was Sarleya.

GAA This year, for the first time, St. David's has managed to field both a boys and girls first year Gaelic team, which is coached by TY students. They train once a week after school on Wednesdays. They have had four blitzes in which they performed very well for a new group of players. It has been lovely to see the players bond together as a team and watch their skills grow over the course of the year. Many thanks to Kevin Spain, the county games development officer, for starting the team. Many thanks also to Mr. Short and Mr. Geoghegan for giving up their Wednesday to supervise the matches.



Tennis Club The St Davids tennis team is a new addition to the many extra curricular sports available at St Davids and is becoming increasingly popular with the junior years. The team has been practising on Wednesdays at Greystones Tennis Club with Mr Fernandez and is looking forward to start playing interschool leagues after the February mid term. The team came about when Mr Fernandez noticed that there was an interest for a tennis team in St Davids so he decided to share his passion with the students and is looking forward to the team becoming popular in the years to come.



NEW JERSEYS



SENIOR GIRLS GAA



JUNIOR GIRLS GAA



JUNIOR BOYS GAA



SENIOR BOYS GAA



SOCCER



SENIOR RUGBY



1ST YEAR RUGBY



JUNIOR RUGBY

Next Year, all teams in St David's Holy Faith will be kitted out with entirely new jerseys. The jerseys will reflect the new colours of St David's and will proudly carry our new school logo. All soccer, rugby and GAA jerseys have been generously sponsored by local and national businesses and we'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for the support they have shown to our school community.

Junior Girls GAA: Sponsored by Accent Consulting Services

Senior Girls GAA: Sponsored by Sonny's

Junior and Senior Boys GAA: Sponsored by SIS Pitches

Senior Rugby: Sponsored by Lyons Insulation

Junior Rugby: Sponsored by Kelly Design

1st Year Rugby: Sponsored by Wildwaves.ie

All soccer jerseys were sponsored by JustEat.ie

CLUBS

CHOIR Choir is a club in the school where students of all years join together to sing and perform together. It is run by Ms. Cunningham, Ms. Murphy, and Ms. Alymer, every Tuesday. New members are always welcome to join the choir. There are 25 students in the choir at the moment. The choir has done multiple events so far, including the school mass in November, and the Christmas Concert. These events helped bring the school community together and closer as a tight-knit community. St David's choir is participating in the Cork International Choral Festival on Wednesday 27th April. This is the choir's first time taking part in a competition. They are taking part in the Mixed Voice competition. The songs they will be performing are The Rhythm of Life from the musical Sweet Charity and Baidin Fheilimidh, a traditional Irish song. The choir and directors are all so excited and preparations are coming along nicely!!



MUSIC CLUB

The Music Club meets every Thursday in the music room. Student's from all year groups play instruments and sing together, often student's give mini solo performances. In 2021/2022 the students practiced for the online Christmas Concert. The Music Club is looking forward to being back performing live next year!

CLUB GAEILGE

The Irish Club is run by Ms Woods and Mr Hallisey. Conor Keogh, a TY, also helps out with the club. It is in Room 8 every Tuesday after school. Any 1st to 3rd year students are welcome to join and learn Irish. At the club, students play games, do activities and are helped out in difficult areas in the Irish language. Every week the teachers and Conor help out the students in learning different parts of the language. They learn about Irish culture as well as many fun and interesting facts about Ireland itself.



'Beatha teanga, í a labhairt'. Bhí an-cheiliúradh againn ar scoil i mbliana le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge. Bhí an deis ag na daltaí ar fad páirt a ghlacadh in imeachtaí éagsúla. Bhain daltaí na céad bliana spórt agus spraoi as tráth na gceist, cluichí biongó agus comórtas póstaer. Ghlac na daltaí sa dara bliain páirt i dtráth na gceist mar aon le cluichí biongó. Bhain lucht na tríú bliana ardchaighdeán amach i gcomórtas póstaer bunaithe ar shaothair litríochta na sraithe sóisearaí. Dhear daltaí na hidirbhliana póstaer chruithaitheacha bunaithe ar a rogha seanfhocal. Thapaigh daltaí sinsearacha na scoile an deis taitneamh a bhaint as scannáin agus cluichí spráíúla. Bhí An Club Gaeilge an-ghnóthach ag ullmhú don ócáid. Chruthaigh siad póstaer agus d'fhoghlaim siad an rince meidhreach darb ainm, 'An Dreoilín'. Bhí seachtain den chéad scoth ag cách.

SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

CLUBS

FIRST YEAR CLUB

The club is run by Fifth Year Prefects. These are Leah Clark, Andrew Boze, Amy Harper, Isla Murphy and Zac Berry. First Year Club is a fun after school activity for first year students. Here they play games, socialise and do stellar activities during the 1 hour. Games like scrabble, card games, and classic games. For example hangman and charades. They also snack on treats and biscuits. The club was a way for the fifth years to help the first years make new friends. Many first year students enjoy the club and have many positive experiences with it.



HOBBIES CLUB

Hobbies club is held in room 8 after school on Wednesdays and is supervised by Ms. McCormack and Mr. Monaghan. The purpose of the club is for students from any year to express their hobbies and enjoy themselves. Popular activities include Dungeons & Dragons, the tabletop roleplaying game, and Magic: The Gathering, a popular playing card game. Hobbies club is a great way for students to connect with their peers and have lots of fun playing many games and activities, and new members are always welcome to attend!



Art Club is an all inclusive, mixed ability after school

ART CLUB

organisation where students have the opportunity to upskill and self direct their own art objectives with the support and guidance of experienced visual art teachers. It is held every Thursday afterschool and offers the opportunity for additional tuition for visual art CBA's, Junior Cycle projects and the Leaving Cert Art curriculum. Many of the students use this time to build a successful art portfolio for application to prestigious universities such as The National College of Art and Design and Dun Laoghaire Institute Of Art Design and Technology. The art club creates a warm and welcoming learning environment to make great art and new friendships.

CREATE SCHOOLS

The fourth year classes were given the unique opportunity to participate in a two day workshop covering advertisement and podcasting. The workshop began with creating an ad for a pizza shop and the different ways adding sounds and interesting imagery really impacted the viewers. We then were tasked with coming up with our own individual product that would solve a mundane problem each person experienced daily. On the second day we then got started creating our own podcasts about stuff that fascinated us and were able to share it with the class.



GREEN SCHOOLS

Green-Schools is an international environmental education programme, offering a well-defined, controllable way for schools to take environmental issues from the curriculum and apply them to the day-to-day running of their school. In St Davids, the green school committee is working towards their first flag which is the litter and waste flag. The committee consists of Mr. Ryan, the TY core members, and the wardens. This term the committee focused on conducting the plan they have constructed from the information from the audit. From the research conducted from the audit, they found that our biggest waste output comes from paper and card, and food waste. While other waste like plastic, glass, and aluminium, didn't have as high of an output. From this they are now on their step. They have started implementing the recycling system into the school. There will be new bins for the entire school, as well as a brand new recycling bin for the entire school. So far the green school committee has brought a positive impact on the school.



GOOGLE SUITE WORKSHOPS

At the beginning of this school year a group of ten fourth years and their year head, Mr. Ryan set up a workshop for first years to teach them how to use different tools on google. These include gmail, google classroom, docs, slides and drive. These workshops would teach the first years how to use these tools, what they were useful for and at the end the first years had an assignment they had to complete. They received fantastic feedback from the first years and they feel this will really help them going forward!



BTYSE WINNERS

The BT Young Scientist exhibition is a great event and an incredible opportunity for Secondary school students to showcase their ideas and explore the scientific world around them. This year, four projects from St Davids had made it to the final with the help and guidance from Ms Keaveney. These projects were: Mr. Vagif Ailyev-Sixth Year-Technology Category: Snapstudy-WINNER OF THE SENIOR TECHNOLOGY AWARD at the B.T Young Scientist 2022. Mr. Matthew Lawless-Transition Year-Covid killing face mask. Ms. Kate Finnerty-Third Year-An investigation into making a natural alternative to chemical fertiliser by creating a seaweed based fertiliser and seeing how effective it is. Ms. Alison Finnerty-Third Year-An investigation into making a natural alternative to chemical fertiliser by creating a seaweed based fertiliser and seeing how effective it is. Ms. Aoibh Anderson-Third Year-Can Kombucha be considered a probiotic. Ms. Alicia Fay-Third Year-Can Kombucha be considered a probiotic. All of these students worked incredibly hard over 6 months to make it to the final but Mr Vagif Ailyev showed incredible skill and research and rightfully won the Senior technology award for his project "Snapstudy". His project was the development of his app called "Snapstudy" which aims to help students study productivity with the use of digital flashcards.



BOWLING On the 21st of January, the TY's went on their second adventure of the new year to Bray bowl which was organised by TY co-ordinator, Courtney. The students had their first two morning classes before they hopped on the dart for a short trip to Bray. All of the base classes enjoyed their day of arcade fun games, laser tag and finally bowling with pizza. Laser tag seemed to be the highlight of the day for some but scoring strikes in bowling brought out everyone's competitive side. Overall, The day was a great start to the new year and was enjoyed by all!



OVOCA On the 18th and the 24th of January, the TY's went on their spiritual retreat to Ovoca Manor. 4B and 4C went on the 18th while 4A and 4D went on the 24th. Both groups had very busy days filled with philosophy workshops, games in the forest and the highlight of the day, the leap of faith and Jacob's ladder. The day was all about focusing on yourself and thinking about what type of life you want to live and how you can make that happen. The workshop really helped with this as the leaders showed us how we can live life to the fullest every day. The day was enjoyed by everyone as it made us think about ourselves and our future.



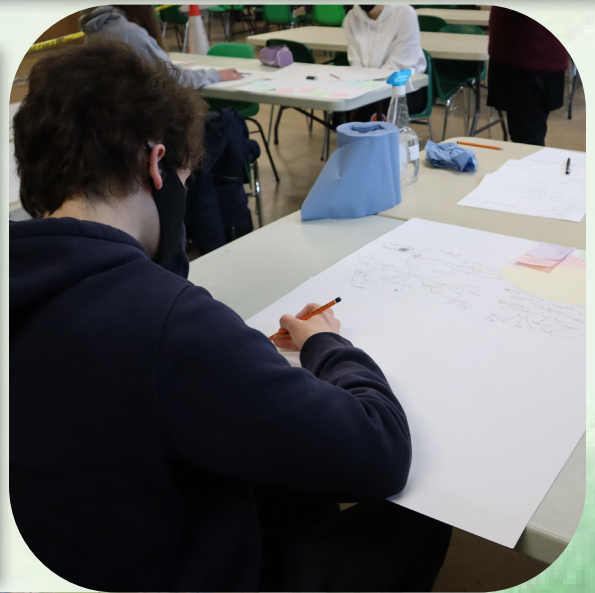
DRAMA TYs have done drama from January 6th to February 10th. It was ran Jo from Joga Yoga. They had it every Thursday for 1 hour during this period. During these workshops, They learned the interesting world of drama. They practiced body language, improvising scenes and they played fun games. They scenarios ranged from everyday occurrences, to heists, to reality tv. The positivity and optimism in the workshop was show every class, and everyone was very open to the ideas and scenarios played out. Jo helped them practise out body language as we took part in the workshop. They saw how our body language effects our every day actions. At the end of each class they played a game to bring up everyones spirits. It was highly enjoyed by the TYs and anyone who took part in it, saw it as a highlight in the week.

FORENSICS On the 10th of January 2022, the TYs had their Forensics workshop. The workshop was enjoyed by everyone and gave us a good insight into what working in Forensics would be like. The workshop was about JFK's assassination and there was loads of different stations to give us clues into who we think it was. Some of these stations included, a fingerprint analysis, a bullet comparison and a video of the assassination site made into 3D. At the end of the workshop we gathered all of our information together and discussed all of the potential suspects. We came to the conclusion that there is no definitive answer, although Lee Harvey Oswald was charged for it.



CREATIVE WRITING The objective of this workshop was to create our own tv show/tv series. First we got into groups of three or four. Once we got into our groups the workshop leader gave us tips on how to create a tv show. We then had to write down a description of what our tv show is about and we presented these to the class. After that we decided who our main characters were going to be and we drew these characters. Finally we wrote down the beginning, middle and end of the tv show. We learnt a lot from this workshop such as improving our creative writing skills.

BLAST ART This year eight talented TY art students are making beautiful murals for the new school building. The theme is 'Our Journey' which each artist took into their own hands to make it unique and either personal or inclusive. Each student has been given around six weeks to make their mural and it can be in multiple media, paint, pencil or even cardboard, the murals are 8ft x 4ft canvases that will be placed in the halls in the new building, two on each floor. They were assisted by the talented artist Tunde Toth who showed them how to make authentic silk paper made of silkworm fibres, which was very interesting. They were also helped out with our wonderful Ms Sheridan, who is really supportive.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

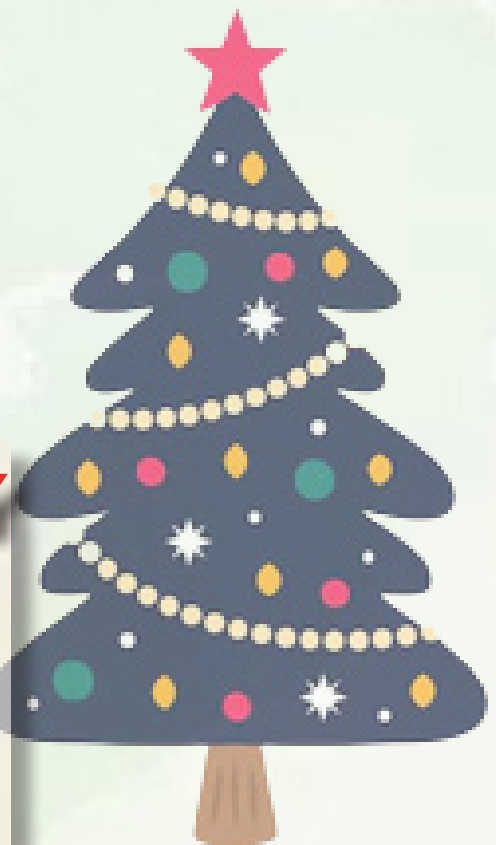
Every year for the last several years the TYs and the Home EC teacher have prepared a lovely Christmas dinner for Home EC sixth years and staff. For the 2021 dinner, Ms Noone and her team of TY's (Mike, Max, Lucas, Ella and Caoimhe) started their preparations at 8:50, immediately after tutorial. They began by starting the ham and turkey and then moved onto the veg while singing and dancing to Christmas music. Halfway through the work disaster struck. First they found out the Turkey was half raw and Mike had to run to SuperValu to get a few rolled and boned turkeys. The second incident was when the team lost power in the Home EC room causing the dinner to be pushed back an hour and a half. Regardless, the dinner was delicious and enjoyed by all including the TY's who put in so much work. Dessert (which was made the day before) was served to a festive atmosphere.



CONCERT On the 22nd of December our school had a Christmas concert on zoom. In the Christmas concert we were greeted by our head boy, Michael Martin, and our head girl, Paris Nevin. They talked about everything that had happened in the first term and showed some videos of what the sixth years did with the St Catherine's Christmas party. A wonderful performance from the St David's choir and pictures from the jumper day and other Christmas events were also shown. The zoom ended with a kahoot between all the classes and a few messages from our principal and deputy principal.

TY CHRISTMAS PARTY

This December, the TY's had their Christmas party. This was a wonderful chance to socialise just before the Christmas break. They started the day in the dining area playing board games with the other classes. Then they had a wonderful opportunity to show their Christmas trivia knowledge in three different trivia games, the winners receiving chocolate and sweets. Finally, they watched a Christmas movie and ate their sweets. They had a vote and almost unanimously decided on Home Alone 1.





THINK LANGUAGES

This year fourth years got to celebrate Think Language day! This is the first time St. David's has participated in this event which is celebrated all around Ireland in many different secondary schools. It is a day where fourth year students get to get involved and learn much more about languages, different cultures and other countries.

Some of the events that took place on the day included Japanese dancing, trying foods from around the world (for example a Spanish class got to try paella), workshops created by fourth year students to teach the class their native language and much more! This was a great eye opener for the students who may have never heard some of the languages before or got to try some native food. It was a fantastic experience for everybody and hopefully will continue for years to come.



5TH YEAR SUBJECT CHOICE

On Wednesday the 2nd of March, a group of 5th year students gathered in the dining hall and the sixth year classrooms to talk to the transition year students about senior cycle subject choices. There were one or two 5th years assigned to each subject, and they set up tables with senior cycle exam materials and textbooks for the TYs to look through. It was the TYs job to walk around and talk to the 5th years about their subject choices, why they chose them, and which ones they thought would benefit the TY students the most. Overall the experience was very beneficial to the TYs, who gained insight on which subjects they might choose for the leaving certificate.

What subjects did you pick? What influenced you to pick them?

I chose home economics, French, geography and biology. I got to try these subjects in TY and I really enjoyed them.



My advice to TYs are to stay organised and on top of things, life will be so much easier. My favourite subject is biology because it's really interesting.



What advice would you give TYs for their subject choice? Do you like your current subjects?



**Proudly produced
by the Transition Year
Media Team**

www.stdavids.ie