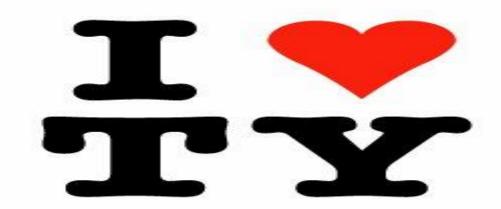
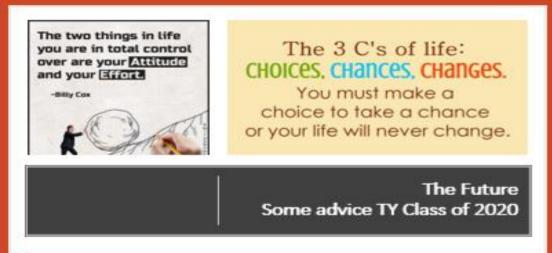
TY Bulletin

Spring & Summer 2020







TY Grad Programme Coordinator Speech – which was recorded for TYs on the week of their grad in May 2020

By Ms. Caroline Mathews

2019-20 has been the smallest TY Year Group since I started in this role as Programme Coordinator, and so our journey began in late August 2019...... with an email or 2, and 4 tutor groups called after trees.

The TY Class of 2020 have had a fantastic year with lots of activities, trips, guest speakers, projects, events, achievements, and voluntary work. This is despite our time in school ending on 12th March 2020. There have been many highlights, too many to mention them all....... work placement including the GAA and FAI Coaching Programmes, Causey Farm Team Building Trip, various fundraising activities including the Aoife's Army Bake Sale and 1st Year Table Quiz, Bank of Ireland School Bank, Digital Skills for the Elderly, Dental Health Peer Education, First Aid Certificate Course, Dublin Zoo Trip, Drumming Workshop, Whizzkids ICT Workshop, Movie Magic Workshop, Skipping Workshop, GAA Future Leaders indicatives, YSI projects, Ski Trip, Cinema Trips, Spanish Dance Workshop, TY Show Practices, 25th Anniversary Mural, Green School and our Climate Ambassadors, achievement of our sports teams in GAA, camogie, rugby and soccer..... to mention but a few. It has been a pleasure to work with you.... to see you mature, advance your skills, learn new skills, become more confident, make new friendships, and move out of your comfort zones. To those who could have done more and have regrets, move forward and make the changes that are needed – do not let any more opportunities pass you by in the future.

Many thanks to the TY students, parents/guardians, teachers, support staff and management of ACS for all their input and assistance this year. My job was made easier with the support of the 4 TY tutors: Ms Vipond, Ms Kavanagh, Mr Murphy and Mr Sheerin, and all the senior management team in ACS. Ms Butterly and Mr Stewart, in particular, have been a great support to me with every project, initiative and idea I had all year.

At the end of the TY Student Evaluation I have emailed TYs in late May 2020 to complete, I asked you to type a paragraph on "you get out of TY what you put into TY". Remember you get also out of life what you put into life. Finishing TY so abruptly, missing out on the planned end of year events and your Graduation Day brings with it a rollercoaster of emotions for you and our families. As you finish TY, remember all the fun you had, the lessons you learned and all your achievements. Also think about your hopes for the future.

I wish all the TY Class of 2020, the best of luck as you head into 5th year. I hope that the confidence and knowledge you have gained, together with the new friends you have made, will encourage, and inspire you towards success. I hope you will not miss my emails too much! You have taught me a lot, and I will remember you all fondly. Listening to teachers all year say "I just love my TYs" was great to hear. I will miss you and I am very proud of you. Finishing TY is a milestone. Look at how far you've come. Keep learning, keep trying, keep accomplishing, and keep venturing on through your journey. Be good to each other. Be grateful for all you have and finally....... the Class of 2020— some advice...... The 2 things in life are in total control of are your attitude and your effort. Best of luck and thank you

Ms Caroline Mathews

25th Anniversary Mural

The Art Department were asked to create a mural to celebrate and document 25 Years of Ashbourne Community School. We choose to ask TY students to be involved. Seeking students that had completed Junior Cert Art and who would have skills in drawing, painting, researching and who were willing to take on the challenge of reflecting 25 years of life in ACS as a visual image. Anna Skelton and Niamh Redmond were the TY artists who embraced the task. They began by ordering the wood, a large MDF board 6' by 4' and brainstorming the type of scene we could build a wide variety of imagery around. Every subject in the school needed to be included, extra-curricular activity and school life needed to be reflected. Anna and Niamh decided to create a scene with 3 students that would be practical for visual imagery to be added. They asked 3 students, carefully chosen to reflect ACS in 2020. Marie Heffernan, our Head Girl this year, Jessie Huang in 5th Year and Hammed Oluwamayowa Ganiyu from 2nd Year. Marie, Jessie and Hammed graciously created a scene designed by Anna and Niamh that would act as a template. They documented the scene by photographing it from different angles and heights until we picked the most successful image. The image was projected onto the white painted MDF and painting began. Anna and Niamh painted while continuing to research. They looked through years of archived photographs, school annuals and talking to senior management, teachers and students about memories and important events that have happened in the life of a super busy school that is 25 years old. We have not as yet completed our mural, it is nearly complete.

Anna Skelton and Niamh Redmond need to be acknowledged for their enthusiasm, insight, patience, independence, organisation, reliability, and a steadfast positivity. They have been a pleasure to work with and we look forward to completing this for all of us next year.

Written by Ms Iseult Aiken

Thanks to Ms Aiken and Ms Maher who have assisted and supported the girls for the past few months. Anna and Niamh, you have created a piece of history that we will always cherish in ACS. Well done.









Look Into Law Programme

Thanks to TY student Sophie Lee for this reflection on her experience on the Look into Law TY Work Placement Programme. A wonderful opportunity for Sophie. From the 3rd to the 7th of February 2020, I attended the Look into Law TY Work Placement Programme ran by the Bar of Ireland. There were 100 students from all over the country taking part in the programme. This programme gave me a great insight into all aspects of the courts. On the first day I had talks from Senior Council members, a member of the Garda Síochána and a recently qualified barrister. Over the next couple of days, I got to shadow a barrister around the counts. We went and watched trials in the Four Courts and the Central Criminal Courts. I got to see lots of different types of trials and how a court room works. I got to go sit in on murder trials

TY Work Placement Reflection
Thanks to all organisations, businesses and schools who have taken on our students for weeklong placements and Friday placements. We are very grateful. Thanks to TY student Aimee Ennis for this reflection on a weeklong work placement she did in

October 2019 in Groupon.

I completed work experience in the company Groupon from the 21/10/19 until 25/10/19. I was able to get this work placement through a family member and thoroughly enjoyed myself. We investigated the area of marketing during this period. We were given brief talks by each different members of each section of marketing. Some of these talks included: advertising, social media, gift bundles, etc. At the end of these talks we then were put into groups of 4 to then come up with our own idea on how to bring in new consumers. I found this a really great experience as I was able to work on my communication skills with people I had never spoke to before. This was a great learning experience and I made friends with other students there. At the end of the

and see a jury being sworn in too. I also learnt that all trials, apart from rape and family cases, are open to the public. In the afternoons I went and did tours of the Four Courts, the Kings Inn, the cells within the courts and participated in a mock trial. It was a fun week and made me really consider becoming a barrister.

Written by Sophie Lee, TY student



week we had to present our ideas in a PowerPoint form in front of the staff members would had spoken to us previously. This was one of my most enjoyable work experiences because I felt that I learned a lot from it. I gained knowledge, confidence, communication, and teamwork skills which I will be able to use in the future.

Written by: Aimee Ennis, TY student



Self-Care during Lock Down 2020.

Times are tough and scary at the moment. Boredom and fear are just two things that we are and will experience over the next few weeks or months. Looking after ourselves and each other is very important at the moment. Ms McLoughlin has put together some great tips for Self Care. Look after yourselves and look after each other.

+‡+

Ashbourne Community School's SIX STEPS TO SELF-CARE



1. ROUTINE

Set an alarm in the mornings; get up and go to bed at a reasonable hour.

2. WORK

complete tasks set by teachers before the given deadline... remember they are only an email away between 9 and 3.45!

3. FRESH AIR

get outside! Sit in the garden, walk, run... anything! But remember to avoid crowds and adhere to social distancing.

4. HELF

Offer to help around the house or deliver necessities to neighbours in isolation.

5. SOCIALISE

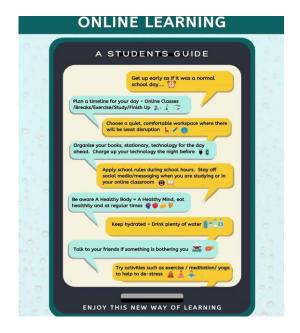
make a phone call, take the time to have a chat... this can be a very lonely time for people.

6. REST

take time to do things you're always 'too busy' to do... read, play a board-game, make a jigsaw, listen to podcasts, watch a series on Nefflix

Online Learning

A few tips for online learning and some etiquette for students to follow if participating in online classes were sent to students during the school closures! Teachers were sending work to students over the weeks of school closures. Students continued to engage with this new way of education as we have had to all adjust to.

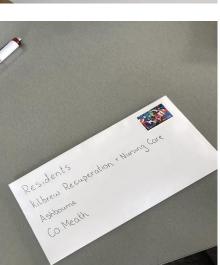


Kilbrew Recuperation & Nursing Care

In late March 2020, we asked TYs as a Life Skills assignment to write a letter, draw a picture, colour a picture, do a sketch, etc, and post it to the residents of Kilbrew Recuperation & Nursing Care to brighten up the day for staff and residents there at this difficult time. Here we have a few samples of work which was posted off by the TYs. The students wish to remain anonymous, but we think they have done a great job. Many wrote fantastic letters, showing a great level of maturity at this time. More will be posted off this week, as we wanted all students, including TYs to take a break over the Easter holidays. Thanks to all the TYs who posted off their letter or artwork. We did get permission from the management at Kilbrew to go ahead with project in advance.

<u>#TYclass2020</u> <u>#BeKind</u> <u>#WellDoneToAllFrontlineStaff</u>







TY Online Certificate Courses

Our TYs got the opportunity to complete 3 certificate courses online during school closures.... 1 on wellbeing which they started before Easter, and another on radio broadcasting and podcasting which they started and finished the week after Easter. In early May they completed an online certificate course in podcasting and movie making. Great opportunities for these





students at this difficult time, plus certification to add their CVs. #TY2020



TY Science

Ms Hughes set her TY Science Class an assignment to show the CO2 produced during the manufacturing of runners. The students took a picture of their runners and calculated the volume of CO2 this made. They then converted this to km driven in a standard family car (simply as this is easier to relate to). The photos show 2 TY students work. Worth thinking about. Well done to Ms Hughes and her TYs. #environment





Senior Prefects

Application forms for Senior Prefect positions were completed by interested TY students in May 2020. Good luck to all who applied.



STEPS Engineering Your Future

STEPS Engineering Your Future Home videos went live in May 2020. All details including the video and how to enter the challenge were emailed to TY students. These challenges replaced the weeklong TY programme in colleges that interested students would attend at this time of year. #STEM



Darkness into Light

Students in ACS have participated in Darkness into Light over the past number of years. Keeping up the tradition Ms Kavanagh captured this spectacular sunrise over ACS on her DIL run on Saturday 9th May 2020. It was great to see so many parents and students also marking this beautiful sunrise. #Darknessintolight #wellbeing



Green Schools

Congratulations to our Green School's
Committee, who have just achieved green
Flag status for ACS for an incredible 8th time.
Pictured are students involved in some of
their many actions and events throughout the
2-year cycle. Global Citizenship and the
Marine Environment was the theme. A huge
thanks to the students involved and their
mentors, Irene Hughes, Maureen Flanagan,
Niamh Dornan, Caroline McCarthy and Megan
Roberts. Celebrations and Flag raising to
follow in the autumn. Well done all. Pictured
on the far right is TY student, Emma Donovan.



Well done to the TY Class of 2020 who completed TY ePortfolios on OneNote in May 2020, which they started in early April 2020. These included a TY Personal Reflection document, a Work Placement Reflection document and an ePortfolio of memories, assignments, projects, trips, initiatives, certs, speakers, workshops, etc. Although the students would have used OneNote in class, it was the first time we in ACS used OneNote for TY ePortfolios - normally we would have portfolio boxes and scrap books, and face-to-

Congratulations

Congrats to the TY Class of 2020. TY summer reports and end of year TY award certs were made available on each TY parent/guardian's CloudSchool account on Monday 18th May 2020. Links to a TY Parent Evaluation Form and a TY Student Evaluation Form were also emailed to all TY parent/guardian(s) and TY



face end of year interviews. The standard was excellent so well done all. This work will be 50% of their final TY award, with 50% based on subject credits given in January and May. #TY2020



student email accounts. Your feedback is important to us. Thank you.



Extracts from TY students' Spanish assignment on the film the Motorcycle Diaries 'Los Diarios de Motocicleta'

Thanks to Ms Slevin for this work.

The Motorcycle Diaries is a stunning film, laden with great storytelling, funny, well-written dialogue, awe-inspiring cinematography and thought-provoking scenes. It is about Ernesto Guevara, known as Fuser, and his good friend Alberto Granado, and it follows them on the journey they embark on around South America in Ernesto's final year of medical school. They depart from Buenos Aires, Argentina, and it depicts their travels to places like Miramar, Lago Frias, Los Angeles, in Chile, Chuquicamata Mine, Machu Pichu, Cuzco and perhaps most notably, San Pablo Lepers Colony in the Peruvian Amazon.

The film is based on a diary written by Ernesto about this period in time. He later became a world-renowned revolutionary under the name of Che Guevara, a socialist with a goal to be a reformer, a cultural icon and symbol of change in the 1960s. He was eventually executed with permission from the CIA in 1967, only fifteen years after the film is set.

While the feel is mostly free from any mentions of Che's revolutionary work in Cuba, and hardly hints at it as to keep its spirit as a coming of age road film. However, as the two travel around the continent and bear witness to the injustices faced by people who are disadvantaged, Fuser's trajectory shifts slightly, from wanting to become a doctor, to wanting to help people in a more complicated, wider sense, in the context of fighting for justice for them in society, in the bigger picture. It is worth noting that many of the people we see facing hardship throughout the film are South Americans of indigenous ancestry, and Fuser sees and questions this.

I thought the film was amazing. It was gripping in its narrative, and I thought it was fascinating to see stories from a part of the world who's history doesn't get shined upon very often. It was deeply touching, and made me question society, and the world we live in today, which is always a good sign from a film. I think it's great that the director decided to blow the dust off Che's diary, and portray it in a beautiful new light, for people today to see another aspect of his story. It plays out as both a love letter and a lament to South America and South American life. I learned many new things from the film. While I know a fair amount about South America today, and about its ancient civilisations, I knew practically nothing of its recent history, as it is something we learn nothing about in school. I feel lucky and happy that I was educated on those things.

I would most definitely recommend the film to somebody. I watched it with my dad, who had read Che's diary before, and he agreed that it was a faithful adaption. I had never heard of the film before, leading me to believe it's definitely underrated, so I would recommend it to anybody looking for something different, something real, to watch.

Written by Neil Finnegan

Hobama to moron

I learned a lot about Che Guevara that I didn't know before and also I had never known about the leprosy crisis in San Pablo before watching this film.

I really enjoyed this film and would recommend it as it encourages you to open your mind to different people and cultures and to find out about the world by exploring it.

Written by Rianna Dolan

I think it was interesting as it showed the not only the beginning of Che Guevara's revolutionary beliefs, but how these beliefs were developed. It delivers the story of Che in a way that is easy to understand, but also encourages you to learn/research more about the trip and the locations. I would recommend this film to anyone who has an interest in Latin America, history or politics as all these themes are explored throughout the film.

Written by Caolan Kearney

I thought the movie was brilliant. it was brilliant because it showed all the good values in humans such as honesty and kindness. The story had so many ups and downs and moments that you were moved by. This meant that you wanted to continue watching it and were nearly disappointed when it was finished. Because of this, it leaves a lasting impression on you that you will not forget and for the right reasons.

I learned many new thing from the movie. I learned that there was tension between Argentina and Chile. It showed this when the Chile people chased Ernesto and Alberto out of the party shouting the "Argentinians" which is aggressive instead of them men. I also learned that at that time, communists were being arrested in Chile so people had to flee their homes. It showed this in the movie when Ernesto and Alberto came across a communist couple in the Atacama dessert who were going to look for work with the miners who did not care what party you were from as their work was so dangerous anyway. And I also learned how the Inca people in Peru have suffered terribly since the Spanish settlers ruined there civilisation when they invaded and continue to do so by bullying the natives and giving them no chance to prosper as a civilisation. It showed this in the book when the people in the villages, towns such as Lima and the farmers were all living in poverty with nothing coming easy to them. And finally, I learned that there was a leper colony in San Pablo, Peru where healthcare staff took care of the lepers which was shown ash the end of the movie. I did not even know that there was any such thing as a leper colony.

I would recommend the movie 'The motorcycle diaries'. It is a brilliant story that you will not be able to take your eyes off but most of all you will feel better for it because you will remember all the good values of life.

Written by James O'Sullivan

Extracts from a Spanish assignment

Sample of the questions and answers that students gave about being in Lockdown.

Thanks to Ms Slevin for this information and TYs great answers, well done.

- 1. ¿Qué es lo que más echas de menos durante la cuarentena? What do you miss the most during quarantine?
- Echo más de menos pasar tiempo con mis amigos. Lidia Gatica Burke
- Echo más de menos salir cuando quiera. Celine Cristea
- Echo más de menos jugar partidos de fútbol. Matthew Doran
- Echo de menos tener la rutina que solía tener con la escuela y el entrenamiento de fútbol.
 Rebecca Kane
- 2. ¿Qué es lo peor de la cuarentena? What is the worst thing about quarantine?
- Lo peor de la cuarentena es no puedo ir al gimnasio. Aaron Clarke
- Lo peor de la cuarentena es no fútbol gaélico. James O'Sullivan
- Lo peor de la cuarentena es no ver a mis amigas y no hay libertad. *Rianna Dolan*
- 3. ¿A quién echas más de menos durante la cuarentena? Who do you miss the most during quarantine?
- Echo más de menos mis amigos. Éabha Delany
- Echo más de menos mis abuelos porque las veía todos los días antes de cuarentena. Kate Beggy
- 4. ¿Qué has aprendido de ti mismo en cuarentena? What have you learned about yourself during quarantine?
- He aprendido que no necesito ver a mis amigos en persona para divertirme con ellos.
 Christopher Adams
- He aprendido que soy buen cocinero. *Cian Lawless Hanlon*
- He aprendido que estoy automotivado. James O'Sullivan
- He aprendido que soy perezosa sin escuela. *Matthew Doran*
- He aprendido que disfruto estar ocupado. Neil Finnegan
- He aprendido que puedo hornear. Niamh McKenna
- He aprendido que me preocupo mucho. *Rianna Dolan*
- **5.** ¿Hay algunas cosas imposibles de encontrar en el supermercado? Are there any things that are impossible to find in the supermarket?
- Es imposible encontrar papel higiénico y leche. Kate Beggy
- No hay muchos huevos en el supermercado. *Neil Finnegan*
- 6. ¿Crees que serás diferente después de ésta experiencia? Do you think that you will be different after this experience?
- Creo que voy a estar muy agradecido después de ésta experiencia. James O'Sullivan

Here are examples of some work produced by a range of students during the Covid 19 School Closures March-May 2020 – some students wished to remain anonymous Well done to ALL the students in ACS, including those in TY who have worked well during these difficult times.

Life Skills Assignment – 300-word short story on any topic Written by Eimear Monaghan

I ran as fast as I could, given my wounds. The fight had been brief, but brutal. Ahead of me, the nightcrawler stalked the forest, searching for what had been stolen by the humans. Its huge limbs scoured the ground, releasing poison that ran like water wherever it fell and was deadly to all forms of life. Any resemblance to the serene, deer like creature, this spirit once appeared as was completely gone as it was blinded and changed by its anger at the impertinence of the humans that sought to destroy it. The village was in chaos, people ran back and forth across the top of the walls, panicked and disorderly without their lady to lead them. I needed to get to them fast before they brought about their own demise. Wolves howled in fury in the mountains. The boars squealed and roared as they attempted to stampede the village, mourning the loss of their leader to the recklessness of human behaviour. As the forest shriveled and died the leaves fell and ran down the mountain in clumps with a creaking, screeching noise. I needed to move faster to return the nightcrawlers head so it would return to the benevolent spirit of the forest. But before I could get to the village the forest was completely gone, leaving only a blackened spot where it used to be. The boars were unhindered by trees or plants and the wolves joined them in their stampede. The humans were fleeing the town in huge crowds, heading to the lake where the animals could not follow, and the water would neutralise the nightcrawlers toxins that had already killed the forest and driven the animals wild. I was too late. The forest was gone and there would be no escape for the humans who had attempted to kill a god. My vision swam in and out of focus as I found my elk and mounted him, to run far away from this cursed place.

Life Skills Assignment – 300-word short story on any topic Written by Cormac Doyle

I ran my hand along the steering and felt its leather exterior brush against my palm. Everything outside of the small car was a blur. The sound of engines roaring from behind me came into earshot as my attention was drawn towards the black and white checkered flag waving in front of me. The other racers filled in the empty spots remaining on the track as I adjusted my seat into position and fixed my mirrors. My mind still hadn't registered that I was here, on the very track I watched on television as a child, the track I watched next to my father on the couch every Sunday. My father always wanted me to follow in his legacy, keep up the family tradition. He spent countless hours before his death in the garage working on this little car. My mother never understood the obsession, would lecture him about not spending enough time with the family, but nothing could get him out of his garage. I suppose my father always assumed it would be my older brother to carry on his legacy, but all hopes were destroyed after he moved to the city for college. This left it all up to me. After my father's crash, my mother found it hard to cope and wanted to sell the car and make sure me and brother never touched a racetrack. I had to convince her to keep it. The car was destroyed after the crash and I put any money I had into repairing. I was determined to finish the race my father started but would never finish. The crash happened on turn 14, one of the tightest turns on the track. My father came in too fast, the car spun out and struck a wall. No man would ever be able to survive a crash that bad. As my mind reflected on my father's life, a loud siren sounded and the cars around me sprung into gear, the race had begun.

Life Skills Assignment – 300-word short story on any topic One Small Virus – Written by Oscar Jarvis

It's mad to think that all this was caused by one small virus. Ireland was once an economically successful country with a thriving community, but now not so much. It's been two years since the virus hit. It started as a joke people making memes and laughing about it "haha corona like the beer" they would say but there's nothing funny about the word corona today. At first the schools closed, but what seemed like a short holiday away from school soon became a never-ending isolation from everything that gave you joy. After a while kids started missing school and parents their jobs. Then came the shortage of foods and supplies soon enough this "Little Virus" started turning into a big problem. Looting became fairly common you couldn't walk down the road without fearing that somebody was going to shoot you for a chocolate bar. Then Ireland became a no-go zone for any travellers, brave enough to travel and the economy went to ruins. Communications went down around five months in, and we lost contact with the rest of the world. Stuck on an island with nowhere to go, people started to get restless. About a year in the government stopped trying to cure the disease and started trying to eradicate it but not in a good way. All the once called "quarantine centres" became death camps. Basically, it went from self-isolation to if you cough you get shot and burned. Thankfully all of these closed down, but not because people were outraged, but because they knew they couldn't fix the problem and started focusing on a way to live with it. That's what it's like now in the year 2022 a society full of introverts and psychopaths all from "one small virus"

Life Skills Assignment – 300-word short story on any topic The Draft – Written by Ben Duffy

All the time and effort I have put into my career so far is about to pay off. All the training sessions, all the sprints, all the gym sessions are all about to pay off. Tonight, is the 2022 NBA draft. I have sacrificed a lot to come over to the states to play college basketball. I haven't seen my family in a year, but they are flying over today. I have all my fancy clothes ready and I am sick with nerves. I have been ranked in the top 3 prospects for this year's draft. I am in UCLA at the minute and the Los Angles Lakers have the number 1 pick this year. It has always been my dream to play for the Lakers as a kid, following in the footsteps of the late Kobe Bryant. Just at the Conference Centre in New York with my family. I have been giving interviews for the first time in my short career and I have to say everyone over here is very positive and very encouraging about everything. I'm just sat here at the table typing every word of this into my phone so that I never forget my day here. I am trying to eat but nerves are getting the better of me. I'm anxiously waiting for this to start and to get the hard part out of the way, to hear Adam Silver say with the first pick in the 2022 NBA draft the Los Angles Lakers select......

Life Skills Assignment – 300-word short story on any topic Written by Anonymous

It was a calm Wednesday morning as the Wright family got ready to head out to the forest for their camping trip. The mother was calling for the 4 kids to hurry up as the father waited calmly in the car with everything but the rest of the family. At around 11:30 am was when they started to leave their house for the 2-and-a-half-hour drive to the forest in Fermanagh. They finally arrived at about 2:00 pm. As soon as they arrived, they started to set up the tent and get everything ready. The family got frustrated while setting up the tent and the youngest daughter who was 10 stormed off into the forest and sat on a log. She began to hear ruffling in the leaves, and she saw something running in the distance that she described to her family as a mixture of a 8 foot man and a bear. As soon as she had saw it, she ran back to her family. They told her it was just her eyes playing tricks on her, but she was convinced she had seen something. That night they all had great fun, but they could hear some noises but took no notice of them. They were assuring each other that it was just the wind. They all went to bed that night. They struggled to get to sleep at first but managed to sleep in the end. The family woke up in the middle of the night to the tent shaking and a shadow of a

huge figure shone on the tent. The figure was shouting and growling. The father cautiously opened the tent to find that it was their uncle who played a joke on them and followed them out to the woods!

Life Skills Assignment – 300-word short story on any topic The Man – Written by Anonymous

It was 11pm. The park was eerily quiet, and all that could be heard was the crunching of leaves under the man's foot as he quickly walked through the park on the Autumn night. The man was dressed in all black: shoes, jeans, a t-shirt and a hoodie with the hood up to hide his features. He's a tall man, just over two metres in height, and with a stocky figure. His face is covered in scars, with the longest one stretching from his left eye to the far side of his mouth. He looked at his watch. 11.05pm. 10 minutes to reach it. He decided to pick up the pace a little as there was still some distance to cover. He reached the end of the park and turned left, onto the main road. The only people outside were couples and drunken mobs of teenagers and young adults. He walked past a group of 6 lads and one of them shouted "Cover your face up you freak", with his mates laughing as they walked away. The man stopped for a second, and then continued walking. Normally he would have dealt with the man, either with his fists or the knife strapped to his leg. But tonight, he had somewhere to be. He'd deal him later. As he walked briskly down the path, he got a few frightened looks from passers-by. They could look all they like, but he didn't care. He finally arrived at a dark alley, littered with broken bottles and cigarette butts. He went to the end of the alley and saw steps leading down to a door. As he was about go down, he heard footsteps behind him. He only managed to turn around and glimpse the face before he was knocked unconscious and dragged away.

Life Skills Assignment – 300-word short story on any topic Written by Anonymous

I sit at the end of my bed looking down at the ground. My breaths are shallow and shaky. The bed is just a metal frame with a blanket. The room I sit in is barely furnished and all I can describe it as is grey and cold. What did I do in my life to deserve this cruel punishment? Was it my attitude? My need to lie compulsively? Could it have been that I was at a certain place at a certain time? Like a butterfly effect; a butterfly flaps it's wings and it caused a hurricane hundreds of miles away. I cannot help but blame myself for my situation. A lonely man in an empty room. It sounds like something you'd be made read in school as a lesson about some meaningless life metaphor. Maybe I should have listened in school. By 'listen', I mean actually go to school. I hear people scream from somewhere outside of the room. That is going to be me. And for what reason? I did nothing out of the ordinary. An innocent man in a cage. My parents were always good to me, although I never went to school, they didn't care. Looking back now... maybe they weren't that good. It's too late to do anything about that now, isn't it? The metal door to the room opens. A prison guard emerges. I stand up. My hands and feet tied with hand cuffs, there is no getting out of this. "I didn't do anything." I mumble. The prison guard scoffs. "Tell that to your parents. You're disgusting." He replied aggressively. The guard pulls me into a room across the hall. He pushes me onto a chair, and he steps back. He looks disgusted. I know why I am here now.

Life Skills Assignment – 100 words What I am now grateful for and why Written by Anonymous

Over this tough period with the Corona Virus and the lockdown it has really made me realise what I am grateful for and how I miss even the small things in day to day life. I am so thankful that the Corona Virus hasn't affected my family in anyway and everyone is healthy and well. I know how hard it must be on the families who have lost a love one through this really tough time. I am also very grateful for all my friends. I have stayed in contact with all my friends and have been "facetiming" and "texting" them all the time so we can still have our weekly catch ups. I have really missed

playing sport and football. I am grateful that I live an area with lots of fields so I can practice and still improve even if I am doing it myself. I am also so grateful for technology. If it wasn't for phones, iPpads, laptops, etc, we would not be able to keep in contact with our friends and family and even teachers like I am now. I would not be able to do any online work or finish the TY course, so we are very lucky on how advanced technology is during this time.

Life Skills Assignment – 100 words

What I am now grateful for and why – Written by Anonymous

Obviously during the quarantine, I've gained a greater appreciation for all the positive things in my life that I sometimes tend to take for granted. Those being my parents and siblings, mostly. I'm always glad that we get on well together. I can only imagine how hard this time must be for people in lonely houses. But I've always really been grateful for that. My gratitude has increased, certainly. One thing, however that I regularly forget to be grateful for is my friendship with my best friend. Of course, I miss my school friends right now and texts and calls can't replace real life, which is why I'm so grateful for my best friend and her house's location. Our (socially distanced) chats are all that's keeping me sane at the moment. I don't know what I'd do without her.

Life Skills Assignment – 100 words

What I am now grateful for and why – Written by Anonymous

I'm very grateful for everything I have, sometimes I don't appreciate all the things I have until I realise how much I have compared to some people. I'm grateful for my family and friends and all they do for me. I'm grateful for my house and that I can have my own space especially during these rough times. I've only realised now how grateful I am for school; I miss seeing my friends every day. I'm grateful that I can play football because now that I can't play it, I miss it so much and I will be appreciating everything so much more when everything goes back to normal.

Life Skills Assignment – 100 words

What I am now grateful for and why - Written by Anonymous

Over these few weeks in quarantine I have realised a lot of things that I am grateful for such as... Having such great coaches from gymnastics as they have been giving us challenges and conditioning to keep us active and busy. I am also grateful for my parents, my Mam who I get to spend more quality time with now she is not busy with work. And my Dad who is working hard by going into his job every day. I feel as although this is a hard time, there is also positive ways to look at it and become more grateful for the things we used to take for granted in our daily lives.

Life Skills Assignment – 100 words

What I am now grateful for and why – Written by Anonymous

During these hard times in lockdown, I think about what I am grateful for. I am grateful for having a comfortable home to stay in during quarantine. I am grateful to have plenty of food to eat during the lockdown. I am grateful for my family and friends who keep my occupied and check on me every day. I am grateful for electricity and smart devices to be able to keep in contact with my friends. I am grateful for the essential workers who are still working through these hard times for us. I am also grateful for the people obeying the quarantine rules; the closer we follow these rules the quicker it will all be over.

Life Skills Assignment - 100 words

What I am now grateful for and why – Written by Anonymous

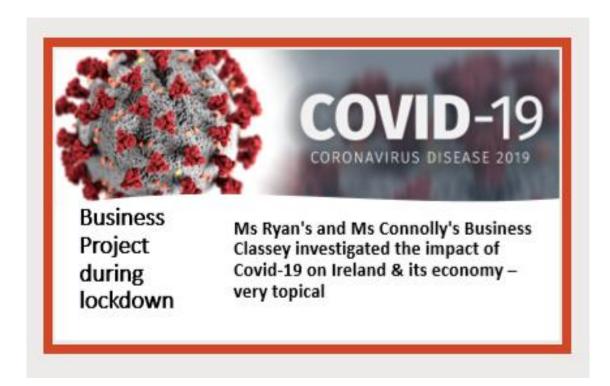
In these weird and troubling times, I'm very grateful to have my family with me and people who care so much and want the best for me. I'm grateful to have them so I never feel lonely and always have someone to talk too. I'm grateful that we're still safe and well and none of my family sick. I'm also grateful for technology so I can contact my friends, family and school so I can keep in contact with

people. I'm able to FaceTime my Nanny and Grandad and keep the company and still talk to them. I can call my friends for catch ups and still able to contact teachers for work. With everything that's happening in the world it makes me very grateful for everything I have and not to take anything for granted.

Life Skills Assignment - 100 words

What I am now grateful for and why – Written by Anonymous

What I am very grateful for is school. School is very important to a lot of people around the world. Many are not so grateful for it, but I am because around the world other kids aren't so lucky. They are too poor to attend or cannot due to age, gender or race. In Ireland school is definitely taken for granted but from now on I will not take it more granted because when I do my Leaving Cert, I will have lots of opportunities in the world to work travel, etc. So, I am very grateful for school.







Life Skills Assignments

- School Swap Analysis
- Motivational College Videos Analysis
- 300 Word Short Story
- Letter or Artwork to Kilbrew Nursing Home
- 100 Words on "What I am now grateful for?"



Key Dates Calendar Spring 2020

February 2020

Tuesday 25th February 2020

- TY Show practice in GP, rotational 40minute slots from 9.50-12.45 am
- Marie Keating Foundation Talk in GP 12.05-12.45 pm – TY boys
- County Meath Apprenticeship Expo in Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim 10.00 am-12.00 pm OR 1.00 pm-3.00 pm – group of TYs

Wednesday 26th February 2020

- Camino Warm-Up Trip to Howth 11.45 am-3.45 pm – 25 TY students
- Spanish Dance Workshop in GP TY Spanish classes

Thursday 27th February 2020

- Oesophageal Cancer Fund Lollipop Day in Dunnes and Mall area of Super Valu
- Think Pink Bake Sale in aid of Marie Keating Foundation – group of TY girls
- TY Show practice in GP, rotational 40minute slots from 8.50-11.45 am

March 2020

Monday 2nd March 2020

- IFI Spanish Cinema Tip to Solstice Navan
 9.30 am 40 TY students
- YSI Young Social Innovators Speak Out,
 The Round Room at the Mansion House –
 24 TY students
- Day 1 Sports Leadership Programme 19
 TY students
- Consent Youth Panel in DCU 8 TYs

Tuesday 3rd March 2020

 Day 2 Sports Leadership Programme – 19 TY students

Wednesday 4th March 2020

 Day 3 Sports Leadership Programme – 19 TY students

Thursday 5th March 2020

- TY Show DANCE practice in GP, rotational
 40-minute slots from 8.50-11.45 am
- TY Show DRAMA practice, rotational 40minute slots from 8.50-11.45 am

Friday 6th March 2020

 Coffee Morning in aid of St. Francis Hospice in Ashbourne House Hotel 10.00 am-1.00 pm – 10 TYs and LCAs instead of work placement with no work placement or flexible work placement

Monday-Friday 9th-13th March 2020

Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 10th March 2020

- TY FAI Coaching Programme present and past
 meeting with Donal Murphy in GP 10.25-11.05 am
- Ash2020 Committee Meetings with mentors, 10.25 am – Education with Ciaran Flynn, 11.05 am – Science and Technology with Sean Mitchell

Thursday 12th March 2020

 TY Show practice in GP, rotational – 40minute slots from 8.50-11.45 am

Closure of schools announced



Trips

Apprenticeship Expo

The Apprenticeship Expo took place on Tuesday 25th February 2020. It was a one stop shop for everything you need to know about Apprenticeships and 100's of opportunities to #EarnandLearn with #LocalBusiness. https://countymeathchamber.ie/meathapprenticeship-expo.

Our LCAs, a small group of TYs, and students from 5th and 6th year attended the event in Knightsbrook Hotel Trim. Thanks to Ms Rahilly for organising the trip and to Meath Chamber for the invite. Thanks to Mr Howlin and Mr Walsh for accompanying the students.

Camino

Our first Camino warm up trip took place on Wednesday 26th February 2020 to Howth. Great day had by all! Students really enjoyed it and gelled well as a group. Fun times ahead for this group of TY and 5th years. Thanks to Mr O'Shea for the photos and info. Thanks to Mr O'Shea and Ms Vipond for accompanying the group to Howth. #Camino











TY Opportunities

Monday 2nd March 2020 was another busy day for our TYs. 40 TY students went to the IFI Spanish Cinema Trip to the Solstice in Navan. A group of 20 TY students completed Day 1 of their 3 day Sports Leadership Programme with Meath Sports Partnership. 8 TY students attended DCU to be part of a Consent Youth Panel. Finally, 24 TY YSI Young Social Innovators took part in their Speak Out Event in The Round Room at the Mansion House. Thanks to Ms Slevin, Mr Cullen, Ms Hanahoe and Ms Jupe who coordinated these 4 activities respectively. #TYopportunities





Believe in it. Act on it.















Well done to our 8 TYs who attended an Active Consent Workshop in DCU on Monday 2nd March 2020. Thanks to Ms Gannon for accompanying the students and for the photos, as well as to the 2 facilitators Sinead and Siobhan. Thanks to Ms Hanahoe for facilitating and working on this project through SPHE. A wonderful opportunity for these students. The students involved were Aoife Byrne, Aimee Ennis, Jack Walters, Flynn Munroe, Tadhg White, Leah Duffy, Kate Beggy and Neil Finnegan.









Talks, Workshops & Courses

Marie Keating Foundation Talk

TY boys attended a talk with Liz from the Marie Keating Foundation on Tuesday 25th February 2020. The boys were very attentive and learned about being aware of different cancer signs and healthy living, including self-examination. Thanks to Mr Newman for organising the talk and to Liz for visiting ACS again this year. Mr Stewart and Mr Newman commented on the excellent behaviour of our TY boys, as did the facilitator Liz. Liz also commented on the amazing artwork all around our school building. Lovely feedback to get. The Marie Keating Foundation





TY students enjoying a Spanish dance workshop today. Thanks to Arantxa López from ID Languages, Bundoran. Thanks to Ms Slevin and Ms Oates, for inviting those not studying Spanish to join the workshop! Great fun and active learning! #TY









FAI Coaching

On Monday 9th March 2020 there was a meeting in the GP at 10.25am for those who are currently doing or have been involved in the FAI <u>Ashbourne United F.C.</u> Soccer Coaching Primary Schools Programme over the last 3 years in TY. Thanks to the representatives, form Ashbourne United FC who went through all the possibilities ahead in terms of working with the club, and training available. #CommunityLink



From Monday 2nd-Wednesday 4th March 2020, 19 TY students took part in a Sports Leadership Programme with Meath Local Sports Partnership. Over the 3 days, we made our own sports sessions and coached our own sessions for the group. The sessions were all about having fun while also getting warmed up, improving the skills and doing a cool down. We also looked at what makes a good leader and how we have developed as leaders throughout the course. The Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership is accredited by Sport Ireland partners – Sports Leader UK. For students wishing to pursue a career in sports, management, or leadership, this is their opportunity to get ahead in terms of their own career pathway. The Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership is a practical award in which learners must demonstrate their ability to lead others in simple sport/activity. The award consists of 2 Units of work (22 guided hours): Unit 1 -Establishing leadership skills (8 hours guided learning). Unit 2 - Plan, assist in leading and review sport/physical activity sessions (14 hours guided learning). On completion of the 2 units, students must also log a minimum of 1-hour demonstration of leadership in order to receive the award. Thanks to Lisa and her team from Meath Sports Partnership for working with us, thanks to Mr Cullen for organising the course,







and thanks to <u>Ashbourne Community Centre</u> for the use of their sports hall, across the 3 days. Written by James O'Sullivan, TY Journalist

GAA Primary Schools Coaching Programme

TY students, Laura Fitzachary, Emma Flynn and Mary Jane Clerkin in St Mary's NS on Wednesday 11th March 2020 as part of the TY GAA Primary Schools Coaching Programme. Thanks to Martin Lynch, GPO, for the photo. #CommunityLinks



Thankful and grateful

We are thankful and grateful for all the opportunities that our TY class of 2019-20 has had. Thanks to all the organisations, businesses and schools, we have worked with. We look forward to continuing these links in the future.







Initiatives

Irish Heart Foundation

On Friday 14th February 2020, a group of TY, LCA and 5th year students helped out at a bag pack in Dunnes in Ashbourne to support the Go Red Campaign for the <u>Irish Heart Foundation</u>. We received confirmation in late February 2020 that €1730.98 was raised in Ashbourne on the day. Thanks to everyone who supported this worthy cause in Ashbourne. Thanks to Luke, Samuel, Colin, Scott, James, Caolan, Jack and Alex. Missing from the photo is Princess who also helped out. <u>#volunteering #fundraising</u>



Justice Week

#justiceweek

TY student Sophie Lee recently took part in the TY Look into Law Programme. ACS will this coming week, support and participate in this year's Justice Week 2020 awareness campaign, of which the TY Programme forms an important element. The aim of Justice Week is to promote awareness of access to justice issues and the rule of law. The focus of the 2020 campaign is to engage with our younger citizens to improve their understanding of the importance of the justice system, and to demonstrate the possibilities that the law can provide in protecting their fundamental rights and freedoms. #justiceweek











PenPal Letters

TY PenPal letters posted on Tuesday 25th February 2020 to Holy Rosary College Mountbellew. Keeping the art of letter writing alive. #LifeSkills #penpals



Lenten Campaign

This year, ACS's Lenten Campaign stems from the recent #bekind movement, which has dominated social media over the past number of weeks. As a school of many and no faiths, we are encouraging staff and students to embrace this simple message and #bekind to one another; in school, at home, on social media and within the wider community. There are several visual reminders around the school, as well as the heart display at reception, offering some practical suggestions as to how we can all #bekind. Thanks to Ms McLoughlin and the RE Department. Remember to #bekind



BE

Think Pink Bake Sale

A group of TY girls held a Bake Sale on Thursday 27th February 2020 for the The Marie Keating Foundation. This follows on from the talks on the topic of cancer which TY girls and boys had before and after midterm. It was a hectic week for TYs this week - so a big well done to the girls. We will continue to sell merchandise (key rings, pins, etc) for the next week and give a total amount raised after that. €130 was raised at bake sale for the Marie Keating Foundation.









Lollipop Day

PHIKK

On Thursday 27th February 2020, groups of TYs sold lollipops outside Dunnes and Super Valu for Lollipop Day in aid of Oesophageal Cancer Fund. Although they forgot to take photos, they did a super job raising awareness of the work of the organisation. To date €1.8 million has funded research into better understanding this difficult cancer. Your donation will continue to help impact the lives of anyone affected by this disease. Thank you for the

support. #LollipopDay2020

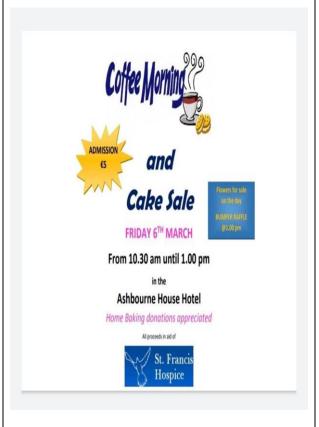
Coffee Morning for St Francis Hospice

Coffee Morning Fundraiser for St. Francis Hospice in Blanchardstown took place on Friday 6th March 2020 from 10.30 am to 1.00 pm in the Ashbourne House Hotel. Admission was €5 and flowers will be on sale on the day. Our TY and LCA team of volunteers are pictured before they headed down to the Ashbourne House Hotel on Friday 6th March 2020 to help out at the Coffee Morning in aid of St Francis Hospice Blanchardstown. Thanks to Aimee Ennis, Emily Simpson, Lidia Gatica Burke, Princess Gabari, Éabha Delany, Jade Garland, Wiktoria Grabarczuk, Diana Tudorache, Rianna Dolan, Jake Farrell, Leon Kinsey, Aksels Radionovs, Neil Finnegan and Jack Dwyer. Fantastic feedback from the organisers. #CommunityLinks

Big big thanks to our TY and LCA students who were baked with Ms Kelly the Coffee Morning in the Ashbourne House Hotel.....what a great group of students helping St Francis Hospice Blanchardstown. Thanks to Madeleine for the photo.









TY Show 2020 - date for your diary

"The Genre Battles"

Thursday 26th March 2020 at 7.30 pm in Sports Hall

There will also be a matinee show during the day for invited guests.

Anti-Bullying Week

"Bullying is an unwanted negative behaviour; verbal, psychological or physical conducted by an individual or group against another person(s) and which is repeated over time." Anti-Bullying policy ACS. This week is Anti-Bullying week in ACS. We would like to remind students, parents/guardians to review and consider the anti-bullying policy in the school journal. <u>#standuptobullying</u>



On Monday 9th March 2020, our first 2 TY groups met with their mentors from

the Ash2020 Committee, for our 2070 project. ACS will look at the 5 chosen areas of Education, Science and Technology, Environment, Sport, and Health..... looking ahead to 50 years time in Ashbourne 2070! We are delighted to work with the first principal of ACS Ciaran Flynn, who is the mentor for the Education group. We welcome Sean Mitchell to ACS, who is the mentor for the Science and Technology group. Thanks to Helen Myer and Jack Holmes from the committee who also attended these first meetings, for their support, advice, and guidance. A wonderful community link. A chance for approximately 20 interested ACS TY students to research, analyse and produce a presentation as a team to exhibit to the wider community in May 2020. The students are the people who will hopefully be part of shaping the future of Ashbourne, so it is important that they look to the future of the town and society in general.

#CommunityLinks



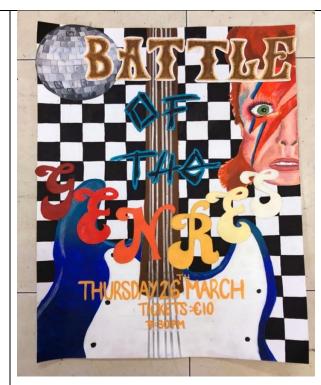






TY Show

Well done to TY students Kate Beggy and Aimee Ennis who designed this fantastic poster for our TY show, Battle of the Genres - hours of hard work. Looks amazing girls. We want to acknowledge the hard work and all the practice that the TY students have completed in October and since January 2020 for their TY show with Grainne Kennedy, our TY show producer. On Thursday 26th March 2020, we were due to welcome 5th class students from 3 local primary schools for a matinee show. We were also due to welcome the public to our evening show. It is disappointing for the TYs and the staff involved. Priority now for everyone is that we stay apart to stop the spread of this virus. #TYclass2020



Future Leaders

Mr. Newman and his TY Future Leaders class took part in several GAA initiatives starting on Monday 30th March 2020. They were set a weekly challenge by the programme co-ordinator. The first week's task was the Bucket/Bin challenge. There were great prizes on offer for the most creative videos. Mr. Newman started it off.......hitting the target with his first attempt into his neighbours bin! Thankfully for #GAAFutureLeader TY students were able to work on the mobiles to finish their "My Future Leaders Journey" ePortfolio online during lockdown.

Project One Sky Wellbeing Online Certificate Course

All TYs had the opportunity to complete an 8 module online certificate course called Project One Sky starting on Wednesday 25th March 2020. Lessons included in the course are: Sleep, Nutrition, Conscious Breathing, Mindfulness Meditation, The Great Outdoors, Truth Telling, Ethical Smartphone Use, Resilience and Competence. There were 2 assignments per week for 4 weeks. A certificate was issued on completion.





TY Transmission Radio Broadcasting and Podcasting Online Certificate Course

From Monday 20th April 2020, the TYs had the opportunity to complete a 4-module online certificate course called TY Transmission Radio Broadcasting and Podcasting. ACS was one of the first schools to get the chance to complete this course. Another achievement for the students for their CVs.

CreateSchool Movie Making and Podcasting Online Certificate Course

From Monday 27th April 2020, for 2 weeks, the TYs had the opportunity to complete another 4-module online certificate course called CreateSchool Movie Making and Podcasting. Yet another achievement for the students for their CVs.



TY Grad Tuesday 19th May 2020

On Monday 18th May 2020, all TYs received their summer report of Session 2 credits and their final TY award certificate through the Parent/Guardian CloudSchool. On Tuesday 19th May 2020, our TY class of 2020 would have celebrated their TY Graduation. The official certificates will be given to TYs when we are back in school. To mark the week of the TY Graduation 2020, Rory O'Connor of Rory's Stories recorded a video message for the TY class on 2020 which was uploaded to social media and emailed to TY students. Ms Mathews finished a TY Photo Presentation (over 180 slides), which Niamh Battersby had started when we were in school. Video messages were recorded for the TY Class of 2020 by TY Tutors, Ms Vipond, Ms Kavanagh, Mr Murphy and Mr Sheerin, along with Ms Mathews, Programme Coordinator, Ms Butterly, TY Year Head, and Mr Stewart, Deputy Principal. This was shared with TY students and their parent/guardian(s) by email on Tuesday 19th May 2020. Although we did not officially get to celebrate your TY Graduation, we are very proud of you all.



Tutor Group Awards 2020

TY Class (Tutor)	Award of Excellence	Outstanding Application to TY	Tutor Award	Tutor Award
A . I.			C D I.	Characa Barall
Ash	Cormac Doyle	Siobhan Brady	Sean Doyle	Shannon Russell
(Mr Murphy)				
Cherry	Niamh Battersby	Jake Farrell	Clodagh Millington	James O'Sullivan
(Ms Vipond)				
Oak	Leah Duffy	Aibhe Cronin	Kate Beggy	Princess Gabari
(Mr Sheerin)				
Rowan	Neil Finnegan	Ciara Wilde	Josh McGrath	Sophie Lee
(Ms Kavanagh)				

Extra-Curricular Awards 2020

ACS AWARDS



Congrats to the TY students and teams who were recognised in the Extra-Curricular Awards for 2020. Thanks to Mr Finnegan for putting the video together to replace the Awards Ceremony.

https://spark.adobe.com/video/8VNofJ6INOpk6





Senior Debating Award 2020 Neil Finnegan

U16 Boys Basketball MVP Ciaran Galvin





U16 Girls Basketball Most Improved Player Mary-Jane Clerkin





Summer holidays

The summer holidays officially started on Friday 29th May 2020. It has been a strange, and difficult few weeks for everyone. Staff, students and all families of ACS and our local community, be very proud of your efforts. Thinking of those who were or are unwell or have lost loved ones. Stay safe. Enjoy the holidays. Look after each other. Wishing you and your families good health and happiness. We will see you all very soon. #WeAreACS



What an eventful February and March, we had in TY in ACS! It was an abrupt end to the year for TY students. Thank you for embracing the online learning and doing the best you could.

We have attempted to include as much as we can in this final Edition of the TY Bulletin for 2020 for the TY Class of 2020. We hope that we have given a flavour of life as a TY student in ACS. Thank you,

Ms Mathews and TY students, Niamh Battersby, Jack Dunne and Scott Sweeney.

