

After School Study

There has been an excellent uptake amongst Leaving Cert students to Evening Study once again since our return to the school premises at the beginning of March.



The LC centre in the Library is now fully booked with 24 students consistently attending study on a nightly basis as students avail of the opportunity to complete two hours of supervised independent study.

As per usual, any student who has an interest in booking a spot in Evening Study, they can contact Mr. M. Trainor. Payment for next term's study can be made via the school office or on the Way to Pay system on the school website.

The Joey's on Twitter!



We are delighted to announce the launch of our new Twitter account @Droghedacbs which went live on February 12th with our first tweet. Our Twitter page has since been very active conveying images and news on a weekly basis to all our followers. We are looking forward to developing and expanding upon our new adventure into social media which will provide an excellent source of news and updates on school activities, projects, campaigns and important news notices. Don't forget to give us a follow to keep up to date on our recent school activities.



School Calendar

2020 — 2021

March 2021

26th: Last day of school term before Easter break

April 2021

12th: School reopens after Easter break
30th: School Closed

May 2021

3rd: May Bank Holiday
10th: JCT Staff Training Day. No School
28th: Last day of term

June 2021

7th: June Bank Holiday
9th: State Examinations Commence



Mr. M. Trainor in conjunction with the Student Council is responsible for the production of the school newsletters. If any student, teacher or parent has any

relevant news items they think may be suitable for future newsletters, please contact Mr. M. Trainor or e-mail mtrainor@droghedacbs.ie.

Contacting the School

Tel: 041-9837232 Fax: 041-9843891

E-mail: info@droghedacbs.ie

Website: www.droghedacbs.ie

Follow us on Twitter: @Droghedacbs

If you wish to meet a member of staff, please phone or email to make an appointment.



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Newsletter

St. Joseph's Secondary School

A Message From Our Principal

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and support over the last few months as we all navigated our way through a second closure of our school due to the Covid-19 pandemic. I appreciate how difficult it has been trying to balance the challenges of uncertainty, home schooling and family life. I want to thank our teachers, SNA's and ancillary staff for all of their efforts during this most difficult time.

We have continued to develop our school website and I hope that you find it accessible and informative. Please keep an eye out on our website for updates on Government guidelines regarding the state examinations. We are delighted with the introduction of our twitter feed. We will continue to keep you updated with good news stories as they happen via our twitter account.

I wish all of our students and in particular our sixth years the best of luck with examinations over the coming weeks and months. If we can be of any support to you during this time please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would like to wish you and your families a peaceful and relaxing Easter break. I hope that we will see all students back with us on the 12th April. In the meantime stay safe and have a Happy Easter.

*Le gach dea-ghuí,
Paul Savage,
Principal.*

Remembering our Family and Friends whom we have lost to Cancer on Daffodil Day

Friday 26th March 2021



Check out the latest news on our School's Website www.droghedacbs.ie and on Twitter @Droghedacbs



Leaving Cert Construction Project - Cian Sands 6.2

My construction project involves building a small section of a house which includes the external and internal walls with insulation. This gave me the opportunity to approach Chadwick's Building Suppliers to see if they would consider sponsoring my build. They kindly accepted my proposal and helped start my project as soon as it was possible. To date, I have the internal wall almost finished and I am making steady progress during each class. I hope to finish my project in the coming weeks and hand in the portfolio that contains information, details and sketches of my research on the project.

Chadwick's group is Ireland's leading builders' merchant company, operating with 50 stores and over 1,300 colleagues across the country.



Thanks to our unrivalled knowledge and expertise in the construction sector, we have been part of the fabric everyday life in Ireland for over 200 years, providing building materials to home, hotels, farms, transport networks and every other form of business throughout the country.

Chadwick's kindly agreed to sponsor my construction project this year, supplying me with all the building materials that I needed for my Leaving Cert project. As a result, negotiations have been set up with Chadwick's and the company has agreed to support future Construction Studies students in St. Joseph's with their projects creating an excellent business to school link and I have no doubt that we will continue to work together well into the future with our students reaping the benefits of this valuable connection.



Joey's Against Racism

Students in Junior Cycle Wellbeing classes worked on a *Let's Create a World without Racism* project and through words and images shared their thoughts on this very important issue.

We received some really insightful work and in wellbeing class spent time looking at what the images and words meant to the students.

Well done to all those who participated.

Thanks to the teachers in the literacy group and Wellbeing classes for their work and support of this initiative.

Drawing to the right by Stuart Kinch 3N



Fundraising in the Joey's

St. Joseph's CBS would like to express our thanks to the generous donations received from students, parents, guardians and families towards and number of fundraising activities that have taken place in the school over the past number of months.



The Parent's Council raised €2,777 towards the School's Breakfast Club and Library, The Christmas Card appeal raised €2008 for four local charities in Drogheda; Drogheda Women's and Children's Refuge, The Oncology Unit in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda St. Vincent de Paul and Drogheda Homeless Aid.



Our school non-uniform day on the 18th of December also raised €1690 for the Drogheda Women's and Children's Refuge.



Daffodil Day

This year was the second year running that the Irish Cancer Society's Daffodil Day fell during level five restrictions. Like all voluntary organisations, funds are needed more than ever at the moment.

Here in St Joseph's we wanted to make sure that we marked this very important day – so many of our families have been affected by cancer and we wanted to show them that we care and that we are still here and we are thinking of them all. So we raised funds through a virtual fundraising link on our school website – thanks to everyone for their generosity.

Students and staff in Daffodil Day to work being done by the dents in our ASD classes for staff and encouraged cause. Thank you to Frank port and for the goodies! ses created a remem- will all be able to see after Easter.



school wore yellow on acknowledge the great Irish Cancer Society. Stu- hosted a coffee morning them to support this great in the canteen for his sup- Students in well being clas- brance display that you when you return to school

First year students took initiative during their library class where they submitted words and sentences on the theme of Daffodil Day and we worked on putting them all together into a poem that captures our thoughts and feelings on this very special day – the final piece called Thoughts on Daffodil Day is a lovely piece of work.

We hope that we have shown how much we care for everyone affected by cancer and we remember them and all those who care for them.

Thoughts on Daffodil Day

*There are some words that fill us all with fear
Words that hurt
Words we don't want to hear*

*The news is broken gently but it cuts very deep
There are memories to be made and promises to keep
But we care*

*We care enough to listen and to be with you
through it all
We care enough to walk with you and help you
when you fall*

*We care enough to laugh with you and take
another chance
We care enough to say to you let's sing, let's
walk, let's dance*

*Cancer is an ugly word and it fills us all with fear
But the story of another's life doesn't just end
here*

*There is hope and there is courage
There is time to do much more
For whenever one way closes we just find
another door*

*The time for living is always now
We get to choose the why and the how
And if the journey becomes unplanned
We care enough to take your hand*

*There are memories to be made, there are
promises to keep
For now, rest well, take care and when its time....
just sleep*

**For all our family and friends who have
faced cancer and walked that journey
May we never forget**



Let's Create a World Without Racism

Racism should not be around at all
Even if the minority using it are small
No matter who or where or why
Why do you even bother to try?
Today, it is not as bad as years
before
But still it should not be around
anymore.
Maybe today, Rosa Parks would be
able to sit at the front of the bus
Without being arrested in such a fuss.



By Caoimhín McShane (2R)

When a football team win or lose
Some fans might think that it's fine to abuse
Social media makes it easy for
them
Hiding in their homes is such a
gem.
Martin Luther King started it all
So now, we must answer the call.
To fight racism once and for all
Before it becomes too much of a haul.

ASD Class in the Garden



Despite the lockdown, the students in Mr. McDonagh's Horticulture class continued with their work. Students had been given Grow your own winter vegetable kits prior to the Christmas holidays, which included peas, swiss chard, corn salad and spinach. The students sowed and cared for these seeds at home, using the material provided in the kit. On their return to school, the students



transplanted the winter oats they have grown from seed, from the Glass House to the school Vegetable patch. They have also sowed onion seeds and potted lettuce seedlings. After the Easter holidays, the students will get ready for attention back to the bee hotel, shrubs and flowers in it. Well done Ms. Moore and Niall Leonard for their advice and provision of seedlings.

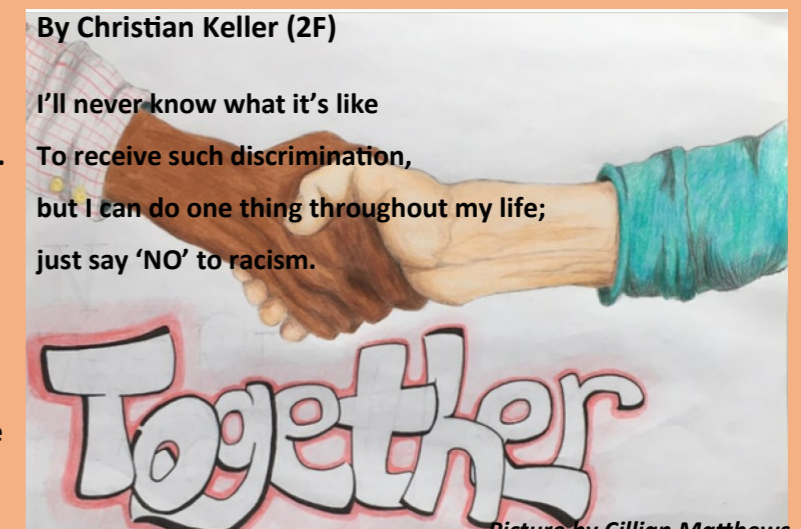


I'll Never Know What It's Like

I'll never know what it's like,
To be on the receiving end of racism.
I'll never feel the hardships, pains,
and struggles of such a situation.
Yet as I watch worldwide news
With stories of public discrimination
I feel nothing short of a burning rage
At those who participated.

By Christian Keller (2F)

I'll never know what it's like
To receive such discrimination,
but I can do one thing throughout my life;
just say 'NO' to racism.



Picture by Cillian Matthews

Transition Year Activities

'Multicords' Student Enterprise Programme - Ben Gordon & Tom McGowan TY2

Hello! Our names are Ben Gordon and Tom McGowan, and we are taking part in the Student Enterprise Programme in TY this year. This programme involves us developing and running our own company. Our company is called Multicords and we make and sell bracelets, key chains and lanyards. We decided on this company as we realized people can buy bracelets, key chains and lanyards but they are not customized. With our product, they can be customized to any design, size or colour. The company is doing very well with a good amount of sales and our products can be found in the shop Pro-lock Drogheda or on our Instagram @multicords2020, we are currently in the process of setting up a website. Our bracelets cost €2.50, our keychains cost €1.50 and our lanyards cost €3.50 on their own or €4.50 with a badge holder or whistle. If you have any enquiries, please contact us on Instagram.

FUTURE LEADERS

TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME

Future Leaders Event 'FIFA Tournament' - Rian Jordan TY2

We started the organisation of the event by watching some videos on event management which gave us some idea of what goes into the running of the event. As the classes were all remote, we had a few classes to decide on what event we would choose. We eventually came up with a FIFA tournament which we developed over weeks. We assigned jobs like event controllers, PR's and people in charge of the fixtures for the tournament. The two people in charge of promoting the tournament created an advertisement which was sent out to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd years and once we reached 32 participants we closed the entries and began the tournament. For the most part it has gone very well with the exception of a few people withdrawing from the competition. There has also been a lot of positive feedback from the participants which tells us how successful the tournament is going from their perspective too. We faced a few obstacles, like getting the numbers for the tournament and getting people to send results in but these were resolved quickly. Overall, I think that the tournament is going extremely well and everyone who took part is really enjoying it.



Transition Year Activities

TYs and the Drogheda Branch of the Irish Alzheimer's Association

The TYs are currently involved in a challenge to reach 1000km in lockdown by walking/running for the Drogheda branch of the Alzheimer's society. They have reached a combined total of 970 km so far so they are nearly there! Some teachers have got involved too and pounding the roads to increase our kms! The goal is to raise funds for the new purpose built premises beside our school. We have had some very generous donations so far from parents and local businesses which are greatly appreciated. We have currently formed a link with the society and St Joseph's is looking forward to building up a strong holistic approach with the Drogheda branch for many years to come.



TY Drumming Workshop Reviews

Review 1: On Friday the 11th December, we attended a drumming and percussion session in the music room. I really enjoyed this as it was something different but it was very enjoyable. I was talking to some of my classmates after we had completed the class and everyone found it very fun. We played the bodhrán for most of it and it gave us an insight into our culture and heritage. We played plenty of beats/rhythms, some more difficult than others but all enjoyable. The teacher was very good with plenty of jokes. I was quite surprised when it came to the body percussion and how everyone went into their different groups and worked together to a very high standard and seeing all the great different performances. It was definitely one of the best things we have done so far in TY and I would do it again without any complaint.

Review 2: All of the TYs took part in an 80 minute session teaching us about drums and body percussion. We were lucky enough to get Niall in to teach us and we all enjoyed the experience. He arrived in prepared with a bodhrán and stick for each of us, which was sanitised after each session for the next group of TYs to use. We started off the session by learning how to hold and use the stick effectively to play. He then taught us some basic rhythms that you can play which everyone took part in and enjoyed. He then got us to do some body percussion rhythms which we then used for our performance at the end. He also split our class into three groups and got us to play different rhythms that go together which we also used for performance at the end. We all enjoyed the experience and hope to do something like that again.

Review 3: I enjoyed learning about making rhythms and beats with the Bodhrán. Niall was very engaging with the class and his jokes kept us interested in what he had to say. I enjoyed the experience of making music as a class and I especially loved the section of the lesson where we were split into groups to make different beats which we combined simultaneously. I believe that this experience has brought us closer together as a group and each of us took a feeling of enjoyment away with us afterwards.

Transition Year Activities

TY Drumming Workshop Activity Photos



TY Radio

In association with Tinpot Productions the Transition Years have been involved in a 6-week online radio workshop. They learned about advertising, commercials, jingles, podcasting, playlists, voice-overs, interactive quizzes and how to prepare for a radio interview during their time with the production company.



TY Cooking Challenge

Rian Jordan's Pizza Challenge



Thomas Flanagan's Pasta Challenge



Tadg Reilly's Spaghetti Bolognese Challenge



Luke Moran's Bolognese Challenge

World Book Day in St. Joseph's

World Book Day was celebrated on March 4th this year. We marked the day with our students who are working at home online and onsite with our ASD classes.

Students at home took part in Drop Everything and Read hour and shared the books that they were reading - they recommended them and reviewed them. Other students designed bookmarks, book covers and posters that celebrated the value of reading.

In school, our students in our ASD classes had a great time celebrating world book day and all things reading. They took part in a Get Caught Reading photo challenge throughout the school grounds.

We had cakes and goodies all with a book theme. The students created a lovely display for their classroom wall and they spent time reading aloud from books they had selected. They all received certificates of participation and really enjoyed their day.

A special word of thanks to all the teachers, SNA's and students who were involved in a great day.

