

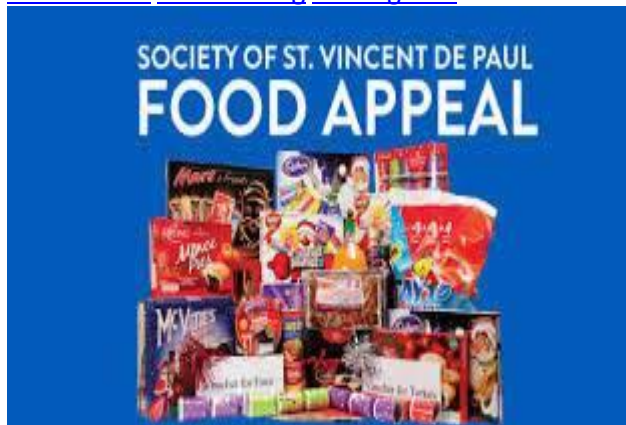
TY Bulletin

Winter 2019

SVP Appeal

€2000 was the total amount raised at ACS for SVP Ashbourne in December 2019. €1265 was collected from the Non-Uniform Day on Thursday 12th December 2019. €505 was raised at the Christmas Concert on Thursday 5th December 2019. A donation was made by our BOM of €230. 45 large boxes and bags of food and toys was also donated. Thanks to all who donated. A hugely successful campaign. Thanks to Ms Mathews 5th year LCVP class who completed this for their enterprise task, as well as the TYs and LCAs who helped out also.

[#WeAreACS](#) [#fundraising](#) [#GivingBack](#)



Climate Ambassadors

Featured in [Irish Examiner](#), our 3 fantastic outgoing Climate Ambassadors, current 5th years Faramade Owoade, Jessie Huang and Alice McGrath receiving their most recent award. As they near the end of their 1-year term, we thank them and Ms Hughes for all they have done as Climate Ambassadors. Here's to the next chapter. Well done girls. [The Climate Ambassador Programme](#) [#BeTheChange](#) [#LifeSkills](#)

What an incredible year these 3 @ashbourne_cs students have had as @climate_ambass. Well done to @AnTaisce for how they empower and facilitate all members. These 3 ladies are just beginning. Let's hope many more like them begin similar journeys in January. Keep up the great work



Every School Day Counts

The National Campaign "every school day counts" aims to highlight the importance of school attendance with regard to achieving positive educational outcomes for students. There are posters displayed throughout the school building and this topic has been highlighted at assemblies.





JC Business Studies Awards 2019

Congrats to our Business Department and 18 students who got the top results in the Junior Cycle Business Studies 2019 exam paper in ACS. Maynooth University in association with the Business Studies Teachers Association of Ireland wants to publicly recognise excellence in Junior Cycle Business Studies and acknowledge all students who achieved a Distinction or Higher Merit grade in their 2019 Business Studies Junior Cycle. The Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting, School of Business and Department of Law have invited a representative from our Business Studies teaching staff and 2 students to attend a presentation ceremony in Maynooth University, in February 2020. These 18 students will receive a certificate and the school will receive a framed certificate including all their names. Well done to all. [#BusinessStudies](#) [#JC](#) [#WeAreACS](#)

Aoife's Army

ACS TY students Clodagh Millington and Siobhan Brady who visited Aoife Hughes on Tuesday 19th November 2019 to give her a get well soon card and a cheque from the students and staff of ACS. €787 was raised through 2 bake sales and the sale of the green Aoife's Army t-shirts in ACS in November 2019, all coordinated by a team of TY students. This is the largest amount raised through a bake sale in ACS to date. We wish Aoife a speedy recovery and good health. We hope that our donation helps in some way to raise her spirits. We are very proud of the efforts our TYs went to last week, to show one of their peers that they are thinking of them. This is what community is about. This is what the TY theme for 2019 is all about, BE THE CHANGE. At times there are no other words. Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh siad - praise the young and they will flourish.

[#WeAreACS](#) [#CommunityLinks](#) [#AoifesArmy](#) [#Teamwork](#)



TY Work Placement Reflections

Thanks to all the TYs who submitted evaluations on their experiences in work placements. Work placement is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about the world of work and potential careers. As always, a big thanks to all organisations, businesses and schools, who take on our students for work placement. We really appreciate it

Thanks to TY Journalist **James O'Sullivan** who tells us about his experience working with [Donaghmore Ashbourne GAA](#) as part of their primary school coaching programme.

This primary schools TY coaching programme work experience course is facilitated by Donaghmore Ashbourne GAA Club GPO, Martin Lynch. My fellow TY coaches and I attend the local primary schools in Ashbourne weekly on Fridays. During the work experience, I have learned from Martin to become a better coach, while also improving the children's GAA skills. At present, I am based in Gaelscoil na Cille where we are coaching the 5th and 6th class children the basic skills of hurling, as Gaeilge. After 2 weeks, the skills of dribbling, catching and

hand passing have already been mastered by the children, while raising and striking are still to be mastered in the coming weeks. I am really enjoying my work experience and am grateful for the opportunity.

Written by James O'Sullivan, TY Journalist



Thanks to TY Journalist **Lisa Golden** for this work placement evaluation.

I recently completed a week long placement at St. Mary's National School in Ashbourne. The work was enjoyable but challenging. My job was a teacher's assistant in different classrooms. I mostly stayed in with the junior infants but sometimes went up to 5th class to help the teachers. While with the junior infants, I mostly did Christmas artwork, maths and helped them learn how to write. As there are 3 different junior infant classrooms, I rotated between the 3 classes.

During the time of my Friday placement in the school before the week long placement, I also helped out at their annual Christmas Bizarre. I was in one of the classrooms with 3 of the teachers making crepes for all the children. This was a new experience as I got to experience what it was like to be working under pressure while it was very busy.

I found this work placement very interesting since I am considering going into teaching after school. It was very fun to work with the children and learn some new life skills.

Written by Lisa Golden, TY Journalist



Thanks to TY Journalist **Emma Donovan** for this work placement evaluation.

I had my first TY work placement in Ratoath Dental and Implant Centre from 20th of September until 15th November 2019. I spent time in the surgery observing the dentist at work and the role of the dental nurse. I also worked on the desk, helping to book appointments and set up recalls on the database. I got to see the dentist perform a crown prep and an extraction. I designed a Christmas promotional poster for teeth

Thanks to TY Journalist **Neil Finnegan** for this work placement evaluation.

I am currently doing my weekly work placement at Diem Pottery in Ashbourne. I find it to be very interesting because I did Art as a subject for Junior Cert and really enjoyed it. It is great to get to experience art in a career setting. I get to be involved in whatever is going on in the studio that day, whether that be cleaning pots to be fired in the kiln, or prepping pieces to be painted. Last week, I got the opportunity to use a potter's wheel to throw a cup. It was a completely new, gratifying experience for me as I had

Thanks to TY Journalist **Ciara Wilde** for this work placement evaluation.

For every Friday for a month, I worked in my local pet store, Equipet. Every day I would take care of their animals and help clean around the store. First, I would clean out the rabbit and guinea pig pens. Along with that I would refresh and clean their litter trays and give them fresh food and water. This always took the longest but once I was finished, I would move onto giving every hamster, rat and gerbil fresh food and water. I liked this the most as I love rodents. If I had time before my break, I would clean all the glass on the rodent and rabbit cages. After my break I would then give all the different birds fresh food and water. Then I would ask the staff which cages needed to be cleaned out that day. This would take the longest as doing the

whitening during my time. Overall it was a great experience and found it very beneficial.

Written by Emma Donovan, TY Journalist



never used a potter's wheel before. I am really enjoying my placement there and looking forward to the remainder of the weeks I have there to see what else I will get to do.

Written by Neil Finnegan, TY Journalist



task alone was quite troublesome. Once that was completed, I would clean the glass doors, inside and out, of both the bird cages. I would sweep the floor around the area I was working in, to clean up any mess I had made during the day. To finish off my day I would bring out all the full bin bags I had used that day and put them in the dumpster outside. I thoroughly enjoyed my placement there.

Written by Ciara Wilde, TY Journalist



Thanks to TY student **Eric Gough** for this work placement evaluation.

I did a week long placement from Monday 16th to Friday 20th December 2019 in Murphy Surveys Ltd in Dublin which is a surveying company. I gained a lot of experience from my placement there. I developed my communication skills, observation skills, planning skills and my patience. I also learned about the word of work - it can be very daunting as it is all new. People work very hard and work well all day in this business. I also learned about health and safety in the workplace, and how with rights comes

responsibilities as well. I learned some new IT skills and I learned to work as a team. I really enjoyed the week long placement and I am very grateful for them taking me on. I also received a great evaluation from the employer.

Written by Eric Gough, TY student



Thanks to TY student **Laura Fitzachary** for this work placement evaluation.

I did my placement in [CEVA Logistics](#) with my cousin. She works in logistics and warehouses. I asked to do work experience here because I wanted to experience what an office job is like. I had to go through training charts to see if people that work in the warehouses were qualified or needed to update their qualifications to continue to work in there. I also had to go through health and safety in the workplace. I picked up skills when I was working there. I learned more computer skills and was given more responsibility. I had to

type up different notes and security codes and had to make sure not to mess it up. If it was not correct, the wrong packages or pallets would be sent out, which would not be good for customer relations. I also learned communicating skills from talking to different employees in the workplace. I learned about the world of work. Although office work may not be for me long term as I am more an outdoors type of person, I learned a lot about teamwork, employee responsibilities and the importance of checking your work. I am very grateful to the team at CEVA Logistics.

Written by Laura Fitzachary, TY student



Thanks to TY student **Rianna Dolan** for this work placement evaluation.

For my week long work placement I worked with a psychologist. I had to create different mindfulness exercises for groups of young people. I had to research different games and activities that would help the groups be present and interact with each other. I gained the ability to work on my own initiative and planning skills. I can now appreciate how much time and preparation it takes to be a psychologist. I learned that the world of work can be daunting but I enjoyed my work

placement because I have never done anything like it before and gained a valuable insight on what work as a psychologist is like.

Written by Rianna Dolan, TY student



I completed my first set of Friday work placements with the FAI and [Ashbourne United F.C.](#). I wanted to do my work experience here because I enjoy playing football. Each week myself and other coaches taught new skills to children in different primary schools throughout the area. While working here I learned how to deal with different situations, such as when a child falls over or if a child didn't want to play. If a child fell over, we would ask if they were alright and then bring them over to their teacher. I found working with the coaches and the children great fun because I liked teaching the children all the different drills. Sometimes the coaches would get involved in the drills and

For my week long work placement in December 2019, I went to eBay in Blanchardstown. It was a surreal experience. I was given a warm welcome and was introduced to the office in which I would be working. Everyone was nice and helped me whenever I needed. I was working with the culture crew for the week. It was a great time to go to eBay because the culture crew were focused on Christmas. We took pictures of people in their festive poses. I moved on to making candy cane messages for charities. I got invaluable experience with the IT, Concierge, Security and Culture

Written by Amy Jordan, TY student



Written by Shane O'Sullivan Duke, TY student



Thanks to TY journalist **Leah Duffy** for this work placement evaluation.

At the end of December 2019, I worked in St. Mary's National School Ashbourne for a week. The work was much more challenging than I expected but it was incredibly rewarding. I got to see a different side of the work done in schools than what students usually see. I spent most of my time with the Junior Infant teachers who were always very busy. Observing them teach their classes taught me a lot about leadership skills and time management. One of the most interesting experiences I had in my time there, was helping teachers prepare for the next day after their students went home at 2 o'clock. This was something I had never thought of

before as when you are a student in school you believe that the teachers leave work when you do! It helped me get a clearer understanding of what teachers are required to do. After my work placement I was much more motivated to consider a career in teaching.

Written by Leah Duffy, TY Journalist



Thanks to **Aibhe Cronin** for this work placement evaluation.

I did my week long work placement in December 2019 in the [T.L.T](#) Tommy Leddy Theatre in Drogheda. I helped with preparations for their Pantomime which was Cinderella. I showed people to their seats which improved my communication skills. I was also the prompter which means that if one of the actors forgets their lines, I had to tell them the line. Thankfully I did not have to do any prompting as everyone knew their lines. I also had to pull the curtains. I found this work placement very interesting because

I got to learn a lot about all the effort and planning that goes into a pantomime. I really enjoyed my work placement because I got to meet lots of new people and learned what it is like to be in a real working environment.

Written by Aibhe Cronin, TY student

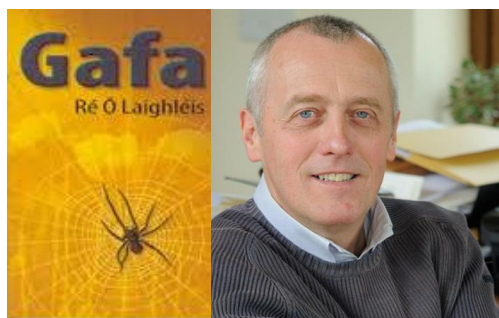


Seasons Greetings

Wishing the students, staff and families of ACS and the community of Ashbourne, a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year. Thanks to everyone who has supported ACS in any way all year. It is much appreciated. Enjoy and look out for each other. [#WeAreACS](#)



GAFA LE RÉ!



Bunaithe ar chomhrá ranga leis an Uasal Ó Maitiú 7 Eanáir 2020.

1. Cén t-ainm bhí ar an aoichainteoir i Mí na Nollag?

Ré Ó Laighléis an t-ainm a bhí ar an aoichainteoir.

2. Tabhair sonraí beatháisnéise an údair.

Scríobhann Ó Laighléis as Gaeilge agus as Béarla. Tá clú agus cáil ar an údar agus tá a lán duaiseanna náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta buaite aige. Tá sé ina chónaí in aice le Baile Uí Bheacháin (Ballyvaughan) i gContae an Chláir. Bhuaigh sé duais Oireachtais don úrscéal *Máchail* i 2019.

3. Bhí Ó Laighléis ag caint le do rang Gaeilge i Modúl a haon. Cad é teideal an mhodúil seo?

An Scéalaíocht agus an Iriseoireacht an teideal don mhodúl. Labhair Ó Laighléis leis an rang ar an 11 Nollaig (Dé Céadaoin) agus ar an 12 Nollaig (Déardaoin), 2019.

4. Cén aois a bhí Ré nuair a scríobh sé an t-úrscéal *Gafa*?

Scríobh sé an leabhar roimh 1996, nuair a bhí sé sna daicheadaí, ceapaim.

5. Déan achoimre ar a léigh tú de *Gafa*.

Léigh mé dhá chaibidil sa leabhar. Feicimid máthair Eoin, Eithne ag glanadh sheomra codalta Eoin. Is duine grámhar, tacúil (supportive) í. Is é Eoin a mac. Tá Eithne pósta le Breandán. Tá iníon acu freisin, Sinéad. Aimsíonn Eithne mála de phúdar bán, snáthaid, páipéar tinsil, steallaire (syringe) agus rudaí eile faoin leaba. Tagann inní an domhain ar Eithne. Tá sí buartha faoi Eoin. Níl Eoin ag déanamh go maith ar scoil. Ba mhaith le hEithne cabhair ó Bhreandán, a fear céile. Mo léan, ní thugann sé aon chabhair practiciúil di. Is duine leithleach (selfish) é Breandán. Tá Eoin gafa le drugaí agus is duine leithleach é siúd freisin.

6. Ar thaitin *Gafa* leat agus cén fáth?

Thaitin sé liom mar bhí sé éasca a thuiscint agus suas chun dáta.

7. Ar thaitin an aoichainteoir leat? Cén fáth?

Thaitin Ré Ó Laighléis go mór liom. Tá pearsanacht álainn aige agus tá sé bríomhar (lively). Mholfainn an t-úrscéal go láidir (I would strongly recommend) don Ard Teistiméireacht.

Foclóir: aoichainteoir = guest speaker; gafa = addicted; beatháisnéis = biography.

Scríofa ag Mr O'Maitiú, Múinteoir Gaeilge

YSI Young Social Innovators

Innovation is something everyone can do!

Social innovation learning gives both the young people and educators involved a new perspective of change and their own ability to make a difference. Young Social Innovators (YSI) promotes education for social innovation. YSI gives everybody an opportunity to use their creativity to respond to social issues and contribute to building a fairer, more caring and equal society. YSI empowers and support young people to realise their potential as social innovators, giving them the skills and confidence to tackle the social issues facing them, their communities and wider society. Social innovation learning builds wellbeing amongst young people and communities and helps build a more inclusive, empathetic, fair society. In ACS, we have 3 YSI groupings within the YSI class.

Group 1: Teaching 6th class students in St. Declan's National School CPR training. They organised a 1st Year Christmas Movie night on 10th December 2019 to raise money towards a defibrillator for outside of Ashbourne Community Centre. They also hope to provide CRP training to 1st years in Ashbourne Community School.

GAA Future Leaders

Our TY Future Leaders are over halfway through their course. They have completed 3 modules so far, Sports Journalism, Performance Analysis and Sports Administration/Event Management. In Sports Journalism, they got to attend matches and comment on games, interview players/managers and watched clips of the preparation that goes into journalism on the day of a match. In their Performance Analysis module, they learned how to create a statistics sheet, record statistics at a match and analyse why they are commonly used in all sports. In their Sports Administration/Event Management module, they have learned about the different roles with the GAA,

Group 2: Raising awareness of the

accessibility for people using wheelchairs in the area of Ashbourne. They interviewed Lisa to start off their research. They gave talks for 1st year SPHE classes outlining simple things students can do to make the school more wheelchair friendly, such as not leaving bags lying on the corridors. They have also organised a staff V student wheelchair basketball game that will be held on Friday 17th January 2020 that will raise money for the Irish Wheelchair Association.

Group 3: Raising awareness of homelessness.

Hope to organise a sleep out in the school on 28th February 2020 to raise awareness of homelessness and money for Focus Ireland.

Written by Ms Jupe, YSI Teacher



were asked to pick out key skills and characteristics needed for these roles and had to identify which role they may be suited to in the future. They are currently planning a 1st year GAA blitz, where they must plan it from start to finish.

Written by Mr Newman, GAA Future Leaders Teacher



FUTURE LEADERS

TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME

Key Dates Calendar Winter 2019

November 2019

Monday 4th November 2019

- Gary Tyrell Talk about Climate Ambassadors and Kenyan School Link 8.50-10.10 am in GP
- Focus Ireland Talk 10.25 am-11.45 pm in GP
- Digital Skills for the Elderly with Third Age Week 2 10.25-11.45 am – 6 TY students
- Digital Leaders Meeting with Mr Stewart 2.15 pm – 5 TY students

Tuesday 5th November 2019

- Dog's Trust Visit Out 12.30-2.45 pm – Class Oak plus 8 students from Ash

Thursday 7th November 2019

- Mobile Music School, Let's Drum Workshop in GP
- Irish Wheelchair Association Angel Pins Collection 9.00 am-3.30 pm at Ashbourne Town Centre and High Street – 4-6 TY students Class Rowan

Monday-Friday 11th-15th November 2019

- LGBT Awareness Week

Monday 11th November 2019

- First Aid Certificate Course 8.50 am-3.45 pm in WA05 and Mezzanine – Class Ash and Oak
- RSE Workshop 8.50 am-3.45 pm in RA01 and RA02 – Class Cherry and Rowan
- Digital Skills for the Elderly with Third Age Week 3 10.25-11.45 am – 6 TY students

Tuesday 12th November 2019

- First Aid Certificate Course 8.50 am-3.45 pm in GP and Mezzanine – Class Cherry and Rowan

Thursday 14th November 2019

- Sports Leadership meeting 1.45-1.50 pm in GP – all TY students

Monday 18th-Thursday 21st November 2019

- Dental Health Peer Education Classes with 1st Years 40-minute classes – 8 TY students

Monday 18th November 2019

- Aware Life Skills Programme Week 1 8.50-10.10 am in WA16 – Class Ash + 6 other TY students – facilitator Carol Kehoe

Thursday 21st November 2019

- TY French Cinema Trip 9.30 am-2.25 pm – TY French class

Monday 25th November 2019

- Aware Life Skills Programme Week 2 8.50-10.10 am in WA16 – Class Ash + 6 other TY students – facilitator Carol Kehoe
- Digital Skills for the Elderly with Third Age Week 4 10.25-11.45 am – 6 TY students

Thursday 28th November 2019

- Amanda Doherty Drama Workshop during Speech and Drama 9.50-10.10 am in GP – Speech and Drama class
- Shane Carthy Wellbeing Talk 10.15-11.05 am in GP
- SVP Bag Pack in Tesco Ashbourne 10.25 am-3.45 pm – groups of 3 TY students

Friday 29th November 2019

- SVP Bag Pack in Tesco Ashbourne 10.00 am-1.00 pm – those with flexible work placement

December 2019

Monday 2nd December 2019

- Aware Life Skills Programme Week 3 8.50-10.10 am in WA16 – Class Ash + 6 other TY students – facilitator Carol Kehoe
- Digital Skills for the Elderly with Third Age Week 5 10.25-11.45 am – 6 TY students

Wednesday 4th December 2019

- Backstage tour of The Lir National Academy of Dramatic Art at Trinity College Dublin 8.42 am – 12.25 pm – 30 TY students

Friday 6th December 2019

- #ThinkLanguages Fair in Convention Centre 8.30 am-1.30 pm – 30 TY students

Monday 9th December 2019

- Aware Life Skills Programme Week 4 8.50-10.10 am in WA16 – Class Ash + 6 other TY students – facilitator Carol Kehoe
- Movie Magic Workshop 8.50 am-1.05 pm in Community Centre – Class Oak + 8 students from Rowan

Tuesday 10th December 2019

- Movie Magic Workshop – all takes place in Community Centre 9.50-10.50 am – BOTH groups Class Cherry + 8 students from Rowan, and Ash + 8 students from Rowan – theory part of workshop; 11.00 am-1.30 pm – in CC Group 1 practical session (allowing for a 10-minute break instead of 20). This group will also need to take a later lunch break. Class Cherry + 8 students from Rowan; 1.30-4.05 pm – in GP Group 2 practical session. Class Ash + 8 students from Rowan
- Christmas Movie Night for 1st years 7.00-9.00 pm – TY YSI Defibrillator Team

Wednesday 11th December 2019

- Irish Visitor to Mr O'Maitiu's Irish Class

Thursday 12th December 2019

- Jigsaw Workshop 8.50-10.10 am – YSI class during YSI
- SVP Christmas Jumper Day
- "Joyeux Noel" Movie Afternoon 1.45-3.45 pm in GP – all TY students

Monday-Friday 16th-20th December 2019

- TY Weeklong Placement (Exam Week/Block Classes)

Trips

Dogs Trust Visit Out

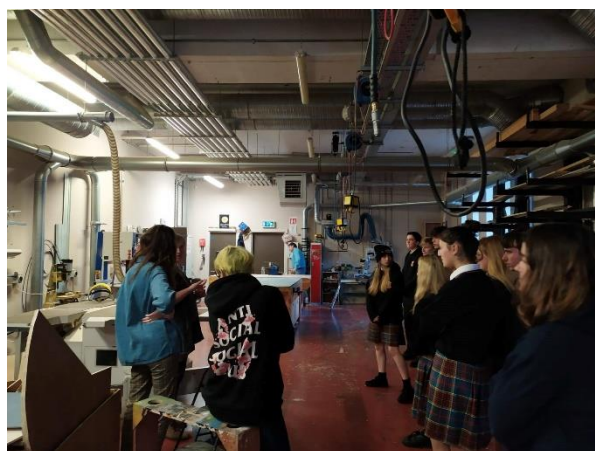
The first group of TY students attended [Dogs Trust Ireland](#) on Tuesday 5th November 2019. Thanks to all who have donated to our collection for the charity. We continued to collect sheets, pillowcases, towels, blankets, throws and quilts, etc (nothing with feathers in it please). Dogs Trust is Ireland's largest dog welfare charity. Thanks to Ms McCarthy for accompanying the students and for the photos.

[#DogsTrust](#) [#VoluntaryOrganisation](#)



Lir Academy Visit

On Wednesday 4th December 2019 a group of TY and LCA students got a backstage tour of The Lir National Academy of Dramatic Art. Located in Trinity College Dublin, this drama school offers conservatory training for theatre, film and television from industry professionals. Thanks to Ms Pike and Ms Roberts for accompanying the students, and to the staff of academy for facilitating the tour. [#backstagetour](#)



Languages Connect Think Languages Event

Thanks to TY Journalist **Leah Duffy** for this article.

On Friday 6th of December 2019 a group of 29 TY students went to the Languages Connect, Think Languages event in the Convention Centre. The purpose of the event was to show TY students the importance of studying a foreign language and the different job opportunities knowing a second language will bring after leaving school. All students spent the morning in the auditorium hearing from Hector Ó'hEochagáin, a presenter from TG4, and Heather Murphy, an Engineering student in Trinity College, explaining



the difference using foreign languages has had on their careers.

Students also experienced conversation being interpreted from Italian into English by an interpreter from the EU as well as into Irish Sign Language. For the remainder of the day, students took part in different workshops introducing them to languages and cultures from all around the world. It was an incredibly beneficial day and students left with a clear understanding that knowing foreign languages will help open many doors in their future. A big thanks to Ms Oates and Ms Leyden for accompanying the students on their trip.

Written by Leah Duffy, TY Journalist

[#ThinkLanguages](#) [#LifeSkills](#)



Talks, Workshops & Courses

Climate Ambassadors and An Taisce

Thanks to our 5th year Climate Ambassadors, Alice McGrath, Faramade Owoade and Jessie Huang, who made a presentation to TYs on Monday 4th November 2019 during Life Skills about all the work they completed during TY and also this year. These girls have led an incredible amount of work, under the guidance of Ms Hughes. Thanks also to Gary Tyrrell from Climate Ambassadors Programme for his presentation about a link between ACS and a school in Kenya. Thanks to Ms Hughes for organising the talk.

[#KeepItGreen](#) [#BeTheChange](#)

Focus Ireland Talk

Thanks to TY Journalist **James O'Sullivan** for this article.

On Monday 4th November 2019 in the GP hall, Focus Ireland volunteer and guest speaker Pat O'Mahony came into the school to talk about homelessness in Ireland. This talk was arranged by a group of 6th year Politics and Society students as part of their final year project and was presented to the TY students. Pat went through the figures of homelessness in Ireland, which are on the rise. He described the areas where there are big homelessness problems for families, particularly in counties such as Kildare,



Meath, Wicklow and especially Dublin. There are many different types of homelessness; families made homeless due to the housing crisis and living in temporary accommodation, and people sleeping rough on the streets for many different reasons. He pointed out that no matter who you are, you can end up being homeless. The reasons for becoming homeless can be prevented or reduced by bringing the issue to the attention of the councillors in your local area. He finished by informing us of the services provided by the voluntary organisations. We learned a lot about this important social issue. [#LifeSkills](#)

Written by James O'Sullivan, TY Journalist

Drumming Workshop

TYs had a drumming workshop on Thursday 7th November 2019. Thanks to Shay from The Mobile Music School for 3 active music workshops.

[#music](#) [#TY](#)

Open Mind Studio Science Gallery in Trinity College

Congrats to TY student Wiktor Grabarczuk who was offered a place on the OPEN MIND Studio programme in the Science Gallery in Trinity College Dublin for a week in December 2019. The Education Team there, were very impressed with Wiktor's application. Wiktor had a valuable learning experience at the placement and it was a wonderful opportunity for her. OPEN MIND Studio is a week-long programme for TY students which aims to highlight the rich network of interconnections between science, the arts, culture, design, business and innovation. These programmes give students the opportunity to develop 21st Century skills - creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication. The workshop sessions also offer the opportunity for students to interact with leading researchers, entrepreneurs and creative individuals and get an insight into the exciting career possibilities in these fields. [#TYopportunities](#)



RSE Workshop

Huge thanks to Ms Hanahoe and Ms McLoughlin for facilitating a full day RSE workshop with TY classes Cherry and Rowan on Monday 11th November 2019. TYs engaged in active learning and group work. They were a pleasure to deal with. Classes Ash and Oak will cover the same RSE material with Ms Hanahoe and Ms McLoughlin in the coming weeks. [#LifeSkills](#)



First Aid Cert Training

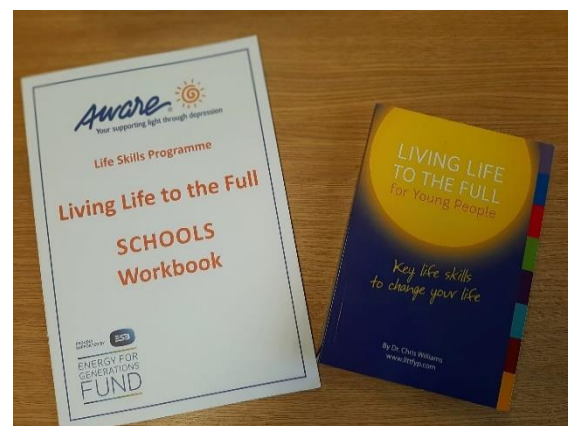
First Aid Cert Training article submitted by TY journalist **Niamh Battersby**. All 4 TY classes completed a 1 day First Aid Certificate workshop on either Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th November 2019. The TYs learnt to assess injuries and different medical conditions. They were shown how to apply bandages for a few different types of injuries. They also discovered how to perform CPR on a patient and the basic use of a defibrillator. They would like to thank their facilitators John and Peter from Medcore Medical Services for training them.

Written by Niamh Battersby, TY Journalist



Aware Life Skills Programme

30 TY students started their 4-week Aware Life Skills Programme in Life Skills on Monday 18th November 2019. Aware Life Skills for Schools is an educational programme offered to students aged 15-18, designed to help young people learn new ways to deal with challenges in life. The programme uses an approach based on the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) which focuses on thinking and behaviour. Thanks to Carol from Aware for facilitating the programme. [#LifeSkills](#) [#WeAreACS](#)



Climate Action Workshop

Well done to our @GreenSchoolsIre students who represented @ashbourne_cs so well at a Climate Action Workshop on Wednesday 20th November 2019 in Blanchardstown. They worked with students from 6 other schools on local issues with global implications. Congrats to all involved, including TY students Emma Donovan and Sara Thompson.

[#SDGs](#) [#climateaction](#) @dublincaro

Dental Health Peer Education

On Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st November 2019, TY students Aibhe Cronin, Neil Finnegan, Aofie Byrne, Kate Beggy, Olivia Murphy, Jake Farrell, Leah Duffy and Niamh Battersby, took part in the HSE Peer Education Dental Health Programme. In groups of 2 we visited all 6 1st year classes to educate them on the importance of dental hygiene. The TYs showed the 1st years how to clean their teeth properly, what is good and bad for your teeth and general information about dental health. The TYs completed their training on Wednesday 23rd October 2019 with Mary from the HSE. The programme was beneficial for both the 1st years and the TYs. [#PeerEducation](#)

Written by Niamh Battersby, TY Journalist

Shane Carthy Mental Health Talk

A big thank you to Shane Carthy who spoke so honestly to our TYs on Thursday 28th November 2019 about his battle with his own mental health and wellbeing. TYs and staff thanked Shane for his honesty in telling his story and showing that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

[#ItsOkNotToBeOk](#) [#LifeSkills](#)

Speech and Drama Workshop

The TY Speech and Drama class experienced a great drama workshop given by Amanda Doherty from [Act Out](#) on Thursday 28th November 2019. Students were introduced to the idea of improv and worked on movement, placement and voice during their pieces. A very enjoyable workshop and some fantastic performances! A great big thanks to Amanda Doherty for visiting our school to give the workshop and to Ms Pike for organising it. [#activelearning](#)



TY Physics Outreach Event

TY students Anna Skelton and Neil Finnegan attended a TY Physics Outreach Event on Tuesday 3rd December 2019 in the School of Physics in Trinity College Dublin. This consisted of a day of lectures and demonstrations from the staff in the Fitzgerald Building. There were lectures in Astrophysics, Physics/Nanoscience, Energy, Careers in Physics and STEM. Both students enjoyed this great opportunity. Thanks to Anna for the photo of Neil at Trinity College!

[#STEM](#) [#TYopportunities](#) [#WeAreACS](#)



Aware Life Skills Programme

30 TY students completed the 4 week Aware Life Skills for Schools on Monday 9th December 2019. This is an educational programme offered to students aged 15-18, designed to help young people learn new ways to deal with challenges in life. The programme uses an approach based on the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) which focuses on thinking and behaviour. Thanks to the facilitator Carol for visiting ACS for the last 4 weeks. Pictured are the students who created paper aeroplanes and threw them..... a simple exercise to show the students a sense of achievement and how important it is to think positive. [#LifeSkills](#) [#WeAreACS](#)



Move Magic Workshops

Thanks to TY Journalist **Neil Finnegan** for this article.

During the week of the 9th of December 2019, the TYs had a half day Movie Magic workshop in the [Ashbourne Community Centre](#). It offered the students a taste of the world of film making, allowing them to group up and make a short film with their friends. They got to use traditional film making kit, such as microphones, tripods, clapboards, and even green screen software. Students made a film about anything they liked, and the finished products were based on a wide range of subjects - providing lots of entertainment for students and staff. It was thoroughly enjoyable for everybody. It will definitely stand out as one of the highlights of the year for many students. Thanks to Susan and Lavinia from [MOVIE MAGIC for TY](#) for working with us - a super experience. Thanks to [Ashbourne Community Centre](#) for the use of



their sports hall also. Thanks to all the ACS staff who took part in the videos also.

Written by Neil Finnegan, TY Journalist



Initiatives

Digital Skills for Citizens

Week 2 of Our Digital Skills for Citizens class started on Monday 4th November 2019 facilitated by Third Age assisted by a group of TYs. A wonderful learning experience for all. Pictured are Tadhg, Colum, Jake, Ben, Kate, Leah, Emma and Shannon. [#CommunityLinks](#) [#DigitalSkills](#)



TY Music

TY music students performing original songs that they wrote in class. Well done to all and Mr O'Donnell. [#TYmusic](#)



Irish Wheelchair Association National Angels Fundraiser

Thanks to the TY students who braved the weather on Thursday 7th November 2019 to sell Angel Pins in Ashbourne for the [Irish Wheelchair Association](#) as part of their National Fundraiser Angels. It is their largest fundraiser of the year and helps them to provide essential services to people with physical disabilities. The sale of angel pins continued on Friday 8th November 2019. [#fundraising](#)



Bag pack in Dunnes in of the ACS Parent Teacher Association - thanks to Leah Duffy for this article.

On Thursday 24th October 2019, TY students from Classes Oak and Ash took part in a bag pack in Dunnes to raise money for the ACS Parent Teacher Association. It was a great way to give back to the Parent Teacher Association that do so much for the school each year. The staff in Dunnes were extremely helpful and all customers were very generous. All the students enjoyed the experience and hope they made shopping a bit easier for all the customers they helped.

Picture: Colum White and Caolan Kearney

Written by Leah Duffy, TY Journalist



1st Year Table Quiz

Our World Sight Day 2019 table quiz committee of TYs, Rachel Murray, Ella Webster, Aimee Greene and Hannah McGrath received certificates as did the school in appreciation of the €230 they raised at a 1st year table quiz on Thursday 24th October 2019. Well done girls. We will get a photo of the girls with their certs next week. [#fundraising](#) [#teamwork](#)



LGBTQ+

"Our school is a place where we foster such values as respect, inclusion and care." As we look forward to LGBTQ+ Awareness week in ACS we embrace the principles of respect and empathy as evident in our Code of Behaviour.



FAI Primary School Coaching

Our TY students started back coaching after midterm on Monday 8th November 2019. This is the FAI / Ashbourne United Football for Schools programme where the TY students gain work experience each Friday in National Schools. Up to 25 students will develop their coaching skills throughout the year managed by FAI coach Graham Campbell. They have 2 more Fridays in the Gaelscoils in the town and will then be moving on to Educate Together National School for 12 weeks.

TY Science Week Success ReelLIFE Science Competition 2019

A panel of more than 70 scientists and science students judged 191 short science videos, from 1,300 students in 77 schools, judging them on their scientific content, production and 'x-factor'. ACS had 2 entries AND both videos have made it through to the shortlist of the very best to be screened for the public at the Galway Science and Technology Festival on Sunday 24th November 2019. Our first video is from the TY team of Lisa Golden, Niamh Battersby, Leah Duffy, Aibhe Cronin and Eabha Delany. Congrats girls. Our second video is from the TY team of Neil Finnegan, Ciara Wilde, Rianna Dolan, Olivia Murphy and Colum White. Congrats guys. Thanks to Ms Kendall for supporting the groups with this project.

[#STEM](#) [#WeAreACS](#) [#ScienceWeek2019](#)

In November We Remember

Thanks to TYs Anna Skelton and Niamh Redmond who created this love heart which is placed inside our main entrance. There is a remembrance book for staff, students and visitors to write down the names of those who are dear to us and who have died. The large love heart is our symbol. There will be a mass offered for all those listed in our remembrance book. [#InNovemberWeRemember](#)

Climate Ambassadors Programme

TYs interested in becoming our next Climate Ambassadors were encouraged to apply online! Applications were made at www.climateambassador.ie and the closing date was 30th November 2019.



Digital Skills for Citizens

Week 3 of our Digital Skills for Citizens class took place on Monday 11th November 2019 facilitated by Third Age assisted by a group of TYs. A wonderful learning experience for all. Pictured are Jake, Ben, Clodagh and James. Thanks to Clodagh and James for helping out as the others had a first aid workshop.

[#CommunityLinks](#) [#DigitalSkills](#)

Dogs Trust Collection

Thanks to all who donated to our blanket collection for [Dogs Trust Ireland](#). 3 large bags were delivered on Friday 15th November 2019. Many thanks.

Clean Air Week

As part of Clean Air Week, 18-22nd November 2019, 25 native birch trees have been planted to celebrate 25 years of our school. This little copse will help "Bring back the birch", filter our air and provide a habitat for many local fauna, promoting biodiversity within the school grounds.

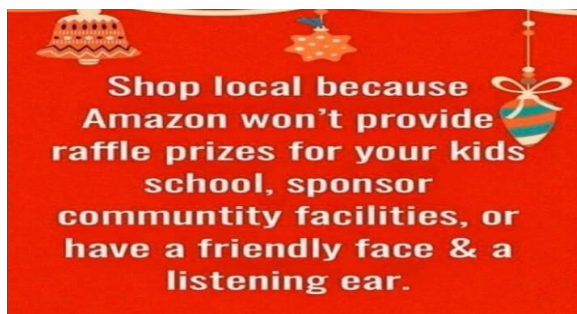
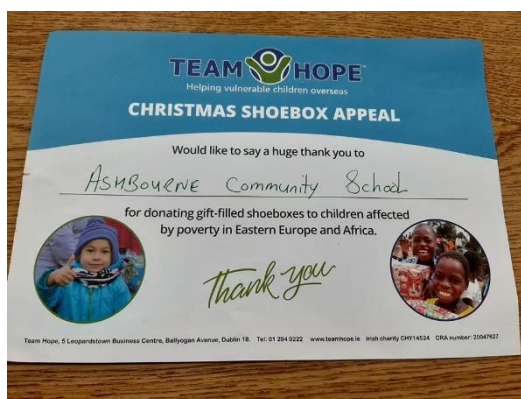
Ms Hughes TY Science group planted trees in Tuesday 19th November 2019 to mark 25 years of ACS. [#LifeSkills](#) [#WeAreACS](#)

Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal 2019

48 filled school boxes were collected from ACS on Wednesday 20th November 2019. We got donations in from the community also. It was also a CSPE project for 1st Year Class Shannon. Thanks to all who donated.

Support Local

We are so lucky in ACS to have such supportive local businesses and organisations. We think this image shows how important it is to shop local and support local. Thank you. [#ShopLocal](#) [#WeAreACS](#) [#Ashbourne](#)



Inner City Helping Homeless

For a few weeks in November 2019, we collected a €2 donation from TY students to purchase foil blankets for the inside of sleeping bags for the charity Inner City Helping Homeless. Staff also contributed. Our goal was to purchase 200 of these foil blankets for December 2019.

[#fundraising](#)

Homeless Collection

During November and December 2019, ACS collected clothes, coats and shoes suitable for all ages to wear in winter. They were delivered to the homeless in Dublin on Tuesday evenings by a staff member. Thanks to all who contributed.

SVP Appeal in Tesco

TY students helped with the SVP Food Appeal in Tesco on Thursday 28th and Friday 29th November 2019. Supporting the local SVP Conference in Ashbourne. [#HelpingThoseInNeed](#) [#SVP](#)



Digital Skills for Citizens

5 weeks of Digital Skills for Citizens completed on Monday 2nd December 2019. Yvonne, the facilitator, from Third Age was so appreciative of the school and the TY students for their support across the 5 weeks. The participants were extremely grateful also. A great bond was formed in the 2 hours each Monday for 5 weeks between the TY students and the participants, and the facilitator. They enjoyed the chats with a cuppa and biscuits also. We are already planning to run another class in the new year. Tadhg, Jake, Ben and Leah are pictured with their certificates and the 4 participants on Monday 2nd December



2019. All 8 TYs who were part of the course will receive certificates - well done to TYs, Tadhg White, Colum White, Jake Farrell, Ben Mather, Kate Beggy, Leah Duffy, Emma Donovan and Shannon Russell.

[#LifeSkills](#) [#WeAreACS](#) [#CommunityLinks](#)

ReelLIFESCIENCE Competition Success

A group of TY students got 3rd place in the secondary school level of the ReelLIFESCIENCE competition for their short video on Climate Action at the end of November 2019! Well done to Eabha Delany, Niamh Battersby, Aibhe Cronin, Leah Duffy and Lisa Golden. Thanks to Ms Kendall for her support on this project.

[#stem](#) [#WeAreACS](#)

Irish Wheelchair Association Certificate of Appreciation

€8000 raised in Meath in early November 2019 by groups of TYs by selling Angel Pins in Ashbourne for 2 days in aid of the Irish Wheelchair Association. A certificate of recognition was received. Thanks to all who contributed. [#fundraising](#) [#worthycauses](#)

ISPCC Holly Appeal

€900 was raised for the ISPCC Childline from Tuesday to Thursday 10th to 12th December 2019 in Ashbourne by the TYs selling Holly Pins. Huge thanks to all who supported this worthy cause. Well done to the TY students who braved the rain and cold for this worthy cause. The ISPCC provides services directly to children and families, and advocates for change to enhance the lives of children in Ireland. Childline is the national listening service for children and young people in Ireland, and is a confidential service run by the ISPCC, by telephone, text and online. Childline answers over 310,000 contacts every year by phone, text and web chat.

[#fundraising](#) [#ISPCC](#) [#TY](#)



Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaíthe
ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications,
Climate Action & Environment

ICS
Foundation

Digital Skills for Citizens



Weeklong Placement

As our TYs prepared for a week long placement from Monday 16th December 2019, we thanked again all local businesses, organisations and schools who have taken on our students, whether for TY, LCA or LCVP work placement. Without them we could not run the valuable work placement element of the 3 programmes.

[#WorkPlacement](#) [#ShopLocal](#)

TY PenPal letters

TY PenPal letters arrived during the week of term in December 2019 from TYs in Holy Rosary College Mountbellew, Galway. These will be distributed after Christmas.

[#LetterWriting](#) [#TYlinks](#)

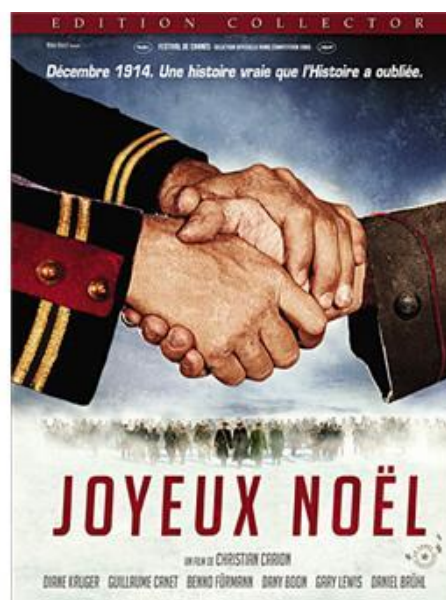
TY French Film Afternoon

Thanks again to **Neil Finnegan** for submitting another article on the French movie afternoon. On Thursday, 12th of December 2019, our TY students gathered in the GP hall to watch Joyeux Noël, a French-language Christmas film set in World War I, as seen through the eyes of Scottish, French and German soldiers. Based on a true story, the film depicts the Christmas truce of 1914. The Christmas theme was especially apt as it was our TY group's final school day before the Christmas break, as during the week of the 16th December, they had a week of work experience. The French film afternoon will be followed up by corresponding German and Spanish-language films in the new year. It was a great way to finish the term together, while improving our language skills. Thanks to the Modern Foreign Languages Department who organised the afternoon.

Written by Neil Finnegan, TY Journalist

ASH2020 Launch

ASH2020 was launched on Wednesday 1st January 2020 at 2.30-4.30 pm in the Community Centre. It was a family event which had lots of information on upcoming events for ASH2020, face-painting and refreshments. Local children were invited to submit a picture or piece of writing called "Ashbourne in the year 2070". All of these entries were collected at this launch event. They will be included in a "Time Capsule" that will be re-opened in 2070. This was a great historical event. [#Ash2020](#) [#CommunityLinks](#)



ASH 2020

Extra-Curricular Activities

U16s Boys Gaelic Football team

Our boys team had a hard fought first round win in the league on Tuesday 5th November 2019 against St. Joseph's Drogheda. Conditions were difficult for both teams after the heavy rain the previous day. This was a tight game from start to finish. St. Joseph's led by 3 points at half time. Final score Ashbourne 3 -8, St. Joseph's Drogheda 2-7. Our boys showed tremendous work rate and composure to keep their noses ahead at the final whistle. A special word of thanks to **Murray & Sons Coaches** for their generous sponsorship of a lovely new set of jerseys for the lads.

U16 Boys Gaelic Football

Hard luck to our U16 footballers who lost Wednesday 13th November 2019, by 3 points in the league away to St. Peter's Dunboyne. Following on from last week's win, this was a disappointing performance. A poor first half had us playing catch up throughout the match. A strong finish left the result in the melting pot but it wasn't enough on the day. St. Peter's deservedly winning out by 3pts. Final score Ashbourne

Girls Minor Championship

Congrats to [Fingal Ravens GFC](#) on their girls minor championship title on Monday 11th November 2019, especially the ACS girls on the team.

Girls Soccer

Well done to our Senior Girls Soccer team who had a great 6-3 win against Colaiste na hInse on Monday 11th November 2019. Goals from Amy O'Brien x3, Ciara Doherty x2 and Aoife McKenna. Once again, a huge thanks to Paul Graves from Ashbourne United for taking the team and the club for use of their fantastic astro.



Hard luck to the U16 boys Gaelic team on Wednesday 11th December 2019. They lost out to a strong Dunshaughlin team who advance to the last four. The first half was a tight affair with Dunshaughlin leading 1-5 to 0-5 at the break. Despite playing against the wind in the second half Dunshaughlin kept their noses in front to the final whistle. Dunshaughlin were more clinical on the day and took their chances to run out deserved winners. Final score Ashbourne 1-9, Dunshaughlin 3-11. Our boys can be proud of their work rate and attitude. Onwards and upwards. [#GAA](#) [#WeAreACS](#) 1-13 St. Peter's Dunboyne 1-16.



Following on from our Senior Ladies great win in the Leinster Cup, the U15 Girls team made it a great week for ladies' soccer in ACS. For their first game of the year they travelled to Kells to take on Eureka Secondary School on Wednesday 13th November 2019. It was a game the girls controlled throughout and won comfortably. It was great to see a wonderfully committed group of young people playing soccer the right way under the watchful eye of Ashbourne United's Ladies Director of Football Paul Graves and his 2 assistant coaches for the day, TY students, Sadhbh Murphy and Niamh McKenna.

Debating Article

Thanks to TY Journalist **Neil Finnegan** for this article on debating.

Fighting for our Rights

2 of our Junior Debaters, Joyce Huang and Ciarán Sexton, attended a debate at UCD on Thursday evening, 14th November 2019, to debate against the motion "The Voting Age Should Be Lowered to 16". They were supported by fellow ACS students Tara Nagle, and TY students Olivia Murphy and Neil Finnegan. Our debaters both gave excellent speeches and made a valiant effort to beg the house to oppose. It was an enjoyable and educational evening for everyone involved, debaters and supporters alike. Well done to all. Ms Pike and Ms Leyden do super work with our debaters in ACS.

Written by Neil Finnegan (TY Journalist)

Student Council AGM

The Student Council Annual General Meeting took place in Newgrange Lodge B&B over a cold weekend on 17th November 2019. Members through all years were present, making for a fabulous representation across the board. After taking refuge in a board room, we got down to business and started by discussing the school journal and what we feel the student body wants changed in it for next year. We received a lot of interesting opinions as well as useful information from the student body. This was taken into account as we continue to liaise with Ms Casey on this topic. We then moved on to some "Dotmocracy" or Dot Democracy in which everyone stuck an idea regarding a particular topic to a sheet of paper. We each stuck a dot to our preferred idea. We used this effective



method on matters regarding student voice, hood and bad learning environments and the journal. We nominated and voted for new positions within the council, with the outcome of Josh McGrath as Secretary, Niamh Battersby as Treasurer, and we discussed nominees for Chair People for next year. The meeting was immensely successful and productive, and a lot of fun and enjoyment proceeded in the evening.

Written by Kate Beggy, TY Journalist

Minor Girls Gaelic Football

Congratulations to the Donaghmore/Ashbourne Minor Ladies on winning their County Final on Sunday 1st December 2019 in Dunganny beating Gaeil Colmcille by a score line of 1-11 to 2-5. Most of the squad are ACS students, including TY students.

School Choir Carol Singing

Our school choir at Ratoath Manor Nursing Home on Monday 2nd December 2019 to entertain staff and residents. Well done to all and our music teacher, Mr O'Donnell. [#LifeSkills](#) [#Christmas](#)

Senior Boys GAA

A massive thank you to Susan Cotter of Team Obair and Jonathan Carr and Company Accountants for sponsoring our Senior Boys GAA team these 2 sets of training tops to help them on their journey through this year's championship. As always, the help and support from local businesses is much appreciated. TY is represented on the team.

[#GAA](#) [#CommunityLinks](#)



U16 Boys Rugby

Good win for the U16 rugby team on Wednesday 4th December 2019 against Ardee CS. Final score 22-21. Tries from Alex Ward (3) and Daniel Holmes (1). Great performance from all on the team which was captained by Alex Purcell. Well done lads!

Whole School Assembly

On Thursday 5th December 2019, we had our whole school assembly for the Winter term which ended on a great note with an amazing performance of Fairytale of New York by TY students Josh McGrath and Lisa Golden along with our fantastic choir. Well done to all involved, including Ms McLoughlin and Mr O'Donnell.

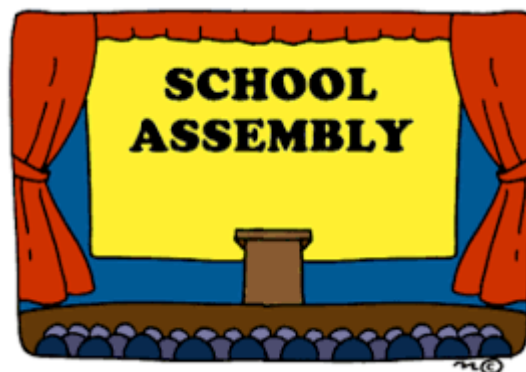
Senior Girls GAA

Congratulations to our Senior Ladies football team who beat Dunshaughlin CS on Thursday 5th December 2019 to qualify for the quarter final stage on a score line of 9-11 to 4-10. Well done girls!

Christmas Concert 2019

Thanks to TY Journalist **Kate Beggy** for this article on our Christmas Concert.

On the evening of the 5th of December 2019, the anticipated annual Christmas Concert in aid of Saint Vincent de Paul orchestrated by our music teacher Mr. O'Donnell, took place in the GP Hall. The audience was a flurry of Santa hats, smiles and Christmas jumpers coloured with red white and green. The atmosphere of the room was warm and welcoming tinged, with the buzz of excitement, and it truly felt as though Christmas had arrived. The audience were treated to a mix of songs, classics sang by our beautiful choir such as White Christmas, Last Christmas, Silent Night, and stunning solos during songs such as Caravan Of Love sung fabulously by 6th year Adam O'Dea.



Also 6th year Jamila Al Fahdi did a hair-raising rendition of Santa Baby. I myself sang All I Want For Christmas and thoroughly enjoyed it. TYs Lisa Golden and Josh McGrath sang a classic duet of Fairytale Of New York, Along with many other incredibly talented solo acts. All the while being accompanied by the incredible skill and talent of the orchestra, consisting of 1st years all the way up to 6th years, who truly do make the night as spectacular as it is. We were also treated to a performance from the Trad Group whose beautiful music really engaged everyone in the audience and on stage. A wonderful night was had by all.

Written by Kate Beggy, TY Journalist



We offer condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Liam Murphy (RIP), Navan, Chairperson and member of the Board of Management of ACS since 1994, who sadly passed away over Christmas 2019. Liam has a big part of our 25-year history as a school and will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.



What an eventful November and December we had in TY in ACS! We have had lots of opportunities and we hope this gives you a flavour of them. We look forward to an educational and fun filled Spring term. We have attempted to include as much as we can in this Winter Edition of the TY Bulletin for 2019. There is a lot more going on in TY inside and outside our classrooms which we will let you know in our next 3 issues. We hope that we have given a flavour of life as a TY student in ACS. The Bulletin Team from the TY Enterprise class welcome feedback and input for future bulletins.

Thank you,

Niamh Battersby, Jack Dunne and Scott Sweeney