

# T Y YEARbook

EXCELLENCE  
RESPECT  
TEAM  
WORK

2019  
-  
2020



*Ardgillan Community College*

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# *A Message from* *Ms. Ní Mhurchú*

I am delighted to welcome the publication of this excellent yearbook. You deserve great credit - not least because of the fact that you have done, most of it remotely! I congratulate everybody associated with the publication. I express my sincere thanks to the Transition Year students involved and their Year Head, Ms. Delaney and our TY Coordinator, Ms. Collins for their hard work and efforts. They have collected, edited and produced an excellent cross section of life and your TY experience. This yearbook highlights the many gifts and talents that are evident in our student population and provides accounts of the various activities, trips and modules undertaken during the year. I know you enjoyed and appreciated all of these at the time but I think that now we all have to stay at home we have an increased sense of how valuable, worthwhile and enjoyable these experiences were.

Transition Year is now firmly established at the college and it plays an integral role in our students' educational development. In keeping with the aims of the college our TY programme is driven by the educational needs of our students, and seeks to help each one to maximise their potential. It enables our students to build on their academic achievements, to sample a wide variety of subjects, and to build their confidence and maturity. Although the programme is voluntary we are delighted that it is chosen by almost all of our students entering senior cycle.

I hope you have enjoyed your experience of Transition Year and that you will take many happy memories with you as you progress in life. I congratulate you on your engagement with the programme- you deserve great credit for how you continued to engage with us online in this final term. We thank you for the valuable contributions you have made to our school community. I am very grateful to our staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment, ensuring our TY programme is a worthwhile experience for all. I look forward to working with you all as you embark upon your Leaving Certificate journey where we will continue to work together in pursuit of excellence.

Le buíochas agus meas,  
Nuala Ní Mhurchú

# *A Message from our Deputy Principals*

## *Mr. O'Connor*

Big well done on your TY graduation. This year will have taught you so much, helped you grow as a person and hopefully you got involved in activities you wouldn't normally participate in or even think of doing! Our unfortunate year ending has taught us all, the values of resilience and positivity. These will be two very useful values you will need, before you embark on your Senior Cycle adventure. Thank you for being the kind, respectful, friendly people that you are and for being you. I'm looking forward to seeing you all succeed when you are back with us. Congratulations TY 2020!

## *Mr. Finnegan*

Add a little bit of To the Ty class of 2019/2020 congratulations on completing TY. It will certainly go down as a year you will never forget! It was a pleasure working with all of you throughout the year and I have some fantastic memories including our trip to Delphi (always great to get back to the west of Ireland), your help with fundraising including the coffee morning and Christmas jumper day in aid of Crumlin Children's Hospital and above all the daily interactions we shared on your journey through TY. I want to wish you success as you begin your journey in senior cycle in Ardgillan College and always remember if you try to live by the three pillars of Ardgillan – Respect, Teamwork and Excellence - you will never go too far wrong! Wishing you an amazing summer and see you all in September. Mr Finnegan.

## *Ms. Rooney*

Congratulations on your TY graduation! It was wonderful to see so many of you flourish over the course of the year - you took full advantage of the opportunities presented to you in TY. Your contribution to the school community in Ardgillan has been significant - from Green Schools, to Junk Couture, to Headstrong, to Active Schools, just to name a few. Wishing you all a lovely Summer and I look forward to seeing you all in the next academic year.

## Ms. Delaney

It is hard to believe how quick this year has went! Although this is not how we imagined the end, what you have achieved in two semesters, the new friendships, skills and talents and how much you have grown as young people, is no less impressive. And honestly, maybe it is a blessing I didn't have to be a passenger on your first drive! Every cloud...

Some of my favourite memories have been the trips which got us outside the classroom. In Delphi where I saw a side to you that I do not get to see in the classroom. I saw you making new friends, stepping out of your comfort zone and being so kind and supportive of each other. Hell and Back again gave me an opportunity to see you all work together, a special thanks to all of you who pulled me over walls and obstacles, you know you are! Your involvement in Active Flag, Special Olympics and multiple fundraising events made me so proud as your teachers and event organiser told me how kind, helpful and generous with your time you all were.

Above all you have matured so much and developed skills which I know will help you through senior cycle and in life. I am so excited to welcome you back as fifth years next year. I hope you are excited for this new chapter equipped with new skills, friendships to help you through!

## Ms. Collins

I have been blown away by the talent, enthusiasm and effort the TY students have shown this year. Over the couple of months that I had the pleasure of being TY Coordinator I witnessed your participation in so many competitions, projects and classes and I was so impressed by how you fully engaged with the programme and how you willingly did whatever was asked of you. You made my job so easy and this year my most pleasurable in Ardgillan to date. The crowning moment was reading your interviews. Through your reflective and thoughtful answers, I saw a very mature response from a group of students who have truly grown this year.

I want to say a special thank you to the Yearbook Committee. Compiling a yearbook is difficult at the best of times, but ten times harder when doing so remotely and I think what you have all done is exceptional. You should be so proud of what you have achieved because I am certainly very proud of you.

Congratulations TY students of 2020. You have faced the adversity of the latter half of this year and succeeded and I wish you the best of luck for the rest of your time in Ardgillan.

# Class 40

**Tutor- Mr. Ryan**



Emmanuel Adejayan  
Michael Atagamen  
Jessica Campbell  
Chloe Carroll  
Max Ceban  
Charlie Costello  
Cian Durnan  
Donal Farrell  
Alicia Flynn Roberts  
Ikramah Jan  
Lauren Kinlay  
Jake McGann  
Tadgh Mooney  
Eoin Moore  
James Mullen  
Conor Murphy  
Sophie O'Carroll  
Bobby-Jo O'Gorman  
Ciaran Rowe  
Adam Shaw  
Stephen Sludds  
Cillian Stewart

## **A Message from Mr. Ryan**

Out of the two tutor groups that I have tutored in this school, you guys are definitely my second favourite! Jokes aside you should all be proud of yourselves for the sheer creativity and earnestness you have put into your Transition Year. You were a great tutor group and a pleasure to teach in English (despite your opinions on the end of Whiplash being bad, it was a great ending) and I wish you all the best of luck for next year.



**Class Charity - Crumlin**

# Class 40



Emmanuel  
Adejayan



Jake  
McGann

Michael  
Itagamen



Ikramah  
Jan



Jessica  
Campbell



Sophie  
O'Carroll



Chloe  
Carroll



# Class 40



Eoin  
Moore



Conor  
Murphy

James  
Mullen



Ciaran  
Rowe



Cillian  
Stewart



Adam  
Shaw



Tadhg  
Mooney



# Class 40

Charlie  
Costello



Bobby-Jo  
O'Gorman



Cian  
Durnan



Alicia  
Flynn Roberts



Stephen  
Sludds



Donal  
Farrell



Max  
Ceban



# Class 4R

**Tutor- Mr. Kelly**



Harry Adegoke  
Aaron Barclay  
Conor Cumisky  
Cian Doherty  
Sarah Elliot  
Zoe Ellis  
Joe Ferguson  
Dami Folaji  
Conor Gormley  
Daniel Kearney  
Alessia Kurtulaj  
Hugh Lawlor  
Joshua Levins  
Alana Maher  
Lauren McGuirk  
Michael Moss  
Darragh O'Byrne  
George Ononogbo  
Cara Pendred  
Harry Sabatini  
Fionn Slattery  
Ross Sweeney  
Kieron Vickers

## **A Message from Mr. Kelly**

4R, it's been a pleasure being your tutor this year. It's been great to see so many of you trying new things and really throwing yourself into new activities. Well done on a great TY, but please...take your jackets off.



**Class Charity- DSPCA**

# Class 4R

Harry  
Adegoke



Alessia  
Kurtulaj



Lauren  
Kinlay



Hugh  
Lawlor



Joshua  
Levins



Lauren  
McGuirk



Alana  
Maher



Michael  
Moss



# Class 4R



Aaron  
Barclay



George  
Ononogbo

Cara  
Pendred



Darragh  
O'Byrne



Harry  
Sabitini



Ross  
Sweeney

Fionn  
Slattery



Kieron  
Vickers



# Class 4R

Zoe  
Ellis



Conor  
Cumisky



Joseph  
Ferguson



Cian  
Doherty



Daniel  
Kearney



Dami  
Folaji



Conor  
Gormley



# Class 4D

**Tutor- Ms. Patton**



Adam Barrett  
Ryan Barry  
Keith Campbell  
Aine Cleary  
Chloe Flynn  
Charlotte Kelly  
Daniel Kelly-Carr  
William Leonard  
Anthony McAleer  
Billy McGuinness  
Anna Murphy  
Wendy Odige  
Eoghan O'hAlluráin  
Ben Pagett  
Laura Sharpe  
Ciaran Sheridan  
Nicholas Silva-Horvat  
Malinka Stronska  
Noemi Varga  
Jack Walsh

## **A Message from Ms. Patton**

4D, I've really enjoyed being your tutor this year! You've been such a hard-working, polite and friendly class towards each-other and your teachers. It has been wonderful to see you all grow and mature this year both individually and as a class group. I will really miss being your tutor next year but I look forward to seeing you all flourish even more in senior cycle.



**Class Charity- Irish Guide Dogs**

# Class 4B



Adam  
Barrett



Keith  
Campbell

Ryan  
Barry



Aine  
Cleary



Daniel  
Kelly-Carr



Anna  
Murphy



Ciaran  
Sheridan



# Class 4B



Anthony  
McAleer



Wendy  
Odige

Charlotte  
Kelly



William  
Leonard



Noemi  
Varga



Nicholas  
Silva-Horvat

Billy  
McGuinness



# Class 4B

Eoghan  
O hAlluráin



Ben  
Pagett



Chloe  
Flynn



Laura  
Sharpe



Jack  
Walsh



Malinka  
Stronska



# Class 4G.

## Tutor- Mr. Mullen



Adam Baica  
Louis Browne  
Kevin Cannon  
Amy Hogan- McGuirk  
David Kaluzny  
Joshua Kelly  
Klaudia Kotlarz  
Lee Leddy  
Sebastian Manoli  
Matthew McColgan  
Michael McDonagh  
Katie McGrath  
Adam Melia  
Conor Moore  
Emily Moore  
Rose-Marie O'Connor Kavanagh  
John-Jophery Oghenetano  
Yuzhe Su  
David Tashi  
Michael Ugwa  
Emma Umeh  
Megan Whelan  
Kerri Woods

## A Message from Mr. Mullen

To all students of 4G, it has been my pleasure to be your tutor for this year. Well done on completing Transition Year especially under very unusual circumstances. I have enjoyed working with an exciting, enthusiastic, and caring group. Hopefully you will get a chance in 5th year to finish your amazing murals. Enjoy the summer as best you can and I look forward to seeing you all again next year.

**BARRETSTOWN**  
a serious fun camp

**Class Charity - Barrettstown**

# Class 4G.



Adam  
Baica



Kevin  
Cannon

Louis  
Browne



Amy  
Hogan  
-McGuirk



David  
Kaluzny



Klaudia  
Kotlarz



Josh  
Kelly



Lee  
Leddly



# Class 4G.



Michael  
McDonagh



Sebastian  
Manoli

Katie  
McGrath



Matthew  
McColgan



Adam  
Melia



Emily  
Moore

Conor  
Moore



Rose-Marie  
O'Connor  
Kavanagh



# Class 4G.



Emonanuella  
Umeh



David  
Tashi

Michael  
Ugwa



Yuzhe  
Su



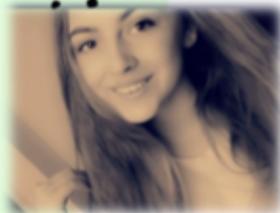
John  
Jophery  
Oghenetano



Kerri  
Woods



Megan  
Whelan



# Class 41

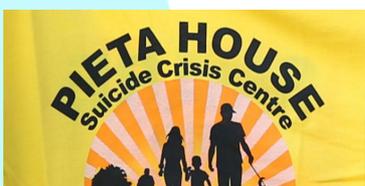
**Tutor- Mr. Healy**



Mateusz Begowski  
Ciara Dermody  
John Devane  
Conor Dolan  
Aex Fagan  
Kristian Ford  
Kian Kennedy  
Ben Kershaw  
Joseph Kiernan  
James Kimmage  
Elena Manek  
Emma McNamee-Kenny  
Rory Moore  
Megan Murray  
Brian Nintai  
Jamie Nolan  
Claire Prole  
Marc Reid  
Sean Richardson  
Aizhe Su  
Stephen Wilson-Griffin

## **A Message from Mr.Healy**

Being 41's tutor was nothing short of a pleasure. I looked forward to our tutor class every Tuesday. I've seen every student in the class prosper in their interests and I am very sad I wont be here next year to see them continue, but I have no doubt that they will all succeed in their endeavours in Senior Cycle.



**Class Charity- Pieta House**

# Class 41



Emma  
McNamee  
Kenny



James  
Kimmage

Mateusz  
Begowski



Elena  
Manek



Jamie  
Nolan



Megan  
Murray

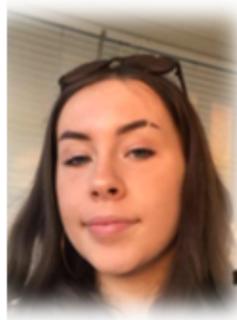
Rory  
Moore



# Class 41



Conor  
Dolan

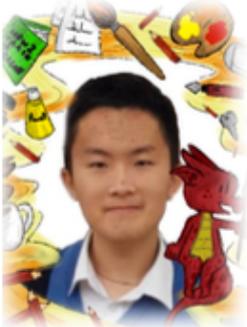


Ciara  
Dermody

Joseph  
Kiernan



John  
Devane



Aizhe  
Su



Kristian  
Ford

Stephen  
Wilson-Griffin



# Class 41

Alex  
Fagan



Claire  
Prole



Marc  
Reid



Ben  
Kershaw



Brian  
Nintai



Kian  
Kennedy



Sean  
Richardson



# Class 4L

**Tutor- Ms. Rogers**



Sean Afolabi  
Kevin Buta  
Toyah Butler  
Joseph Cherian  
Sean Cullen  
Hass Cumar  
Alex Finnegan  
Ben Fleming  
Danny Kalias  
Simon Kasparavicius  
Antony Leontis  
Marcela Mahon Mas  
Dawn McArdle  
Eva McDonald  
Ben McKenna  
Jill McNally  
Katie Mockler  
Cian O'Driscoll  
Daniel Odunlade  
Shane Rowe  
Sean Wilde

## **A Message from Ms. Rogers**

4L, it was a pleasure being your tutor! Congrats on completing Transition Year! I hope you all found the year enjoyable, fulfilling and beneficial, you all worked very hard and I hope these experiences will help you with your transition into fifth year!

## **Active Flag Class**



**Class Charity -  
Down Syndrome Ireland**

# Class 42



Sean  
Afolabi



Toyah  
Butler

Kevin  
Buta



Joseph  
Cherian



Sean  
Cullen



Alex  
Finnegan

Hass  
Cumar



# Class 42



Danny  
Kalias



Antony  
Leontis



Ben  
Fleming



Simon  
Kasparavicius



Dawn  
McArdle



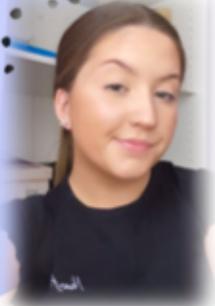
Ben  
McKenna



Marcela  
Mahon - Mas

# Class 42

Eva  
McDonald



Jill  
McNally



Katie  
Mockler



Daniel  
Odunlade



Shane  
Rowe



Cian  
O'Driscoll



Sean  
Wilde



# Year Long Modules

## Photography

At the start of the year Mr. Mullen taught us the basics of photography, for anyone who was completely new to it. He went through shutter speed first, which is a crucial setting that controls how long the photo is taken for which affects motion in the frame, as well as the amount of light in the photo. We were then sent off to get some photos that showed the effect of using a slow shutter, as well as a fast shutter.

After Sir was happy with everyone's understanding of shutters, he taught us about aperture. This is the setting that controls how wide the opening in the lens is. This affects how much light is let into the photo, as well as how much of the photo is in focus. We were also told to get samples of these.

After that we started to focus less on settings and more on different types of photography. For example, we did 'Band Photos' and lots of work on portraits with studio lights. I definitely preferred the work with the studio lights.

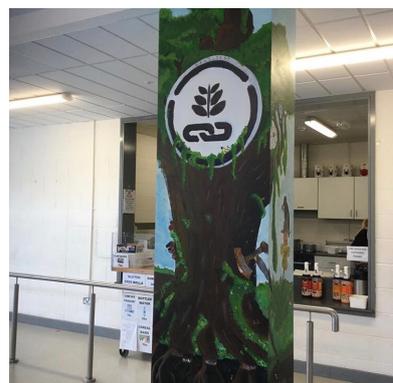
Before I knew it, the end of the year was fast approaching and we had to put our final projects together. It was really cool to see all of my photos from the year all together in one place. I've definitely improved a lot as the year has gone on!

I loved taking part in the module. It was literally my dream class and all my friends were in it too. I learned some new things and got to do the thing that I love. It has without a doubt been of the best experiences of TY and one that I will look back on fondly. - **Willam Leonard 4D**



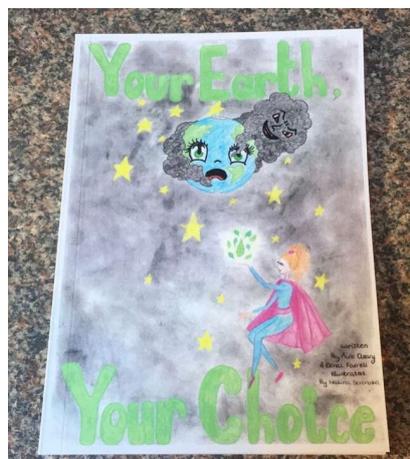
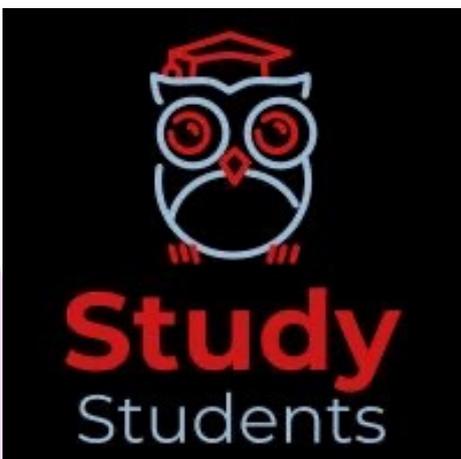
# Murals

Murals is a module offered in our school that allows students to showcase their creativity. Students get the opportunity to improve the school's overall environment by being imaginative and visionary. In this module it is all up to the students to create a design and to portray their design on the walls of our school. The module also allows you to be independent and unconstrained when it comes to the art work produced in the class. Murals is very enjoyable as you get to spend time with your friends while creating and painting art for our school walls. - **Katie Mockler 4L**



# Mini Company

Our Mini Company (Conor Murphy, Eoghan O'Hallurain and Nicholas Horvat) was called Study Students. It was a grinds-based service where older secondary school students would provide grinds to younger secondary school students at a more affordable price. We thought the idea would work for students who needed to work on a subject a bit more but didn't want to have to pay the full grinds price. Also, we believe that students who have just completed the Junior Cert still remember what it feels like to go through the exams, and that they can pass their studying and learning techniques onto others. Throughout the year we set up an Instagram page, a website, sent advertisements around the school, set up an excel page to track our income, and planned for the Mini Company competition. Unfortunately, there was no competition due to Covid-19 but we had a good time all around making a business and learning essential skills for running our own business in the future. - **Conor Murphy 4A**



# Coaching

TY Coaching was a new and unique experience for everyone who took part. It gave us the opportunity to kick off our coaching path by almost receiving a PDP 1 coaching badge. A professional from the FAI came in and gave us tips and advice on how to coach. At the end of the term we got to put it to the test by coaching first years.

We nearly had the opportunity to get a similar rugby badge which was scheduled for the final term. Better luck next time I guess.

**- James Kimmage 4I**



## *Orchestra*

I found the Orchestra Module very enjoyable as I have played the saxophone for 7 years. Each student was given the opportunity to play the ukelele and learn a variety of notes that allowed us to play many different types of songs.

During the Orchestra Module the class group participated in a Christmas Carol service in Hamilton Park care home in Balbriggan. As a group we were given the opportunity to sing at a school coffee morning to raise funds for Crumlin Children's Hospital. I would recommend the Orchestra Module to students who play an instrument and enjoy group activities.

**- Lauren McGuirk 4R**

## *Choir*

The Choir Module proved to be an excellent opportunity to help students enhance their musical, creative and expressive qualities. We chose what area in music interested us the most and we were all given the opportunity to learn basic skills of singing or playing musical instruments. With the guidance of the music teachers, we learned how to perform different songs and improved our musical skills. I really enjoyed learning new songs and hearing the whole class perform as a group. **- Malinka Stronska 4D**

# Green Schools

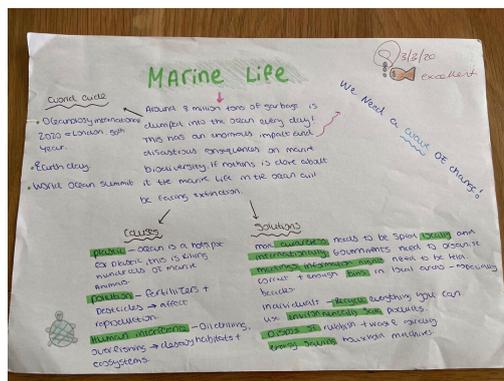
The Green Schools programme provides an ideal way for fostering environmental awareness in the entire school. It is a fun and educational class that encourages you to make a positive change to the environment around you. There are many different themes you look at during the year, for example litter and waste, energy, water, sea life and biodiversity. You get a chance to study some of these in depth and undertake projects on the theme you're most interested in.

The main theme I chose for the year was sea life and I completed three projects all together. Most of the themes correspond with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, for instance, my sea life theme is similar to the 14th Sustainable Development Goal - Life Below Water.

Our primary focus for the year was to ensure the school community used the correct bins within the school. We made signs that explained the difference between the green and black bin and applied them to the bins and the tables in the canteen. Announcements were made regarding the bins on the intercom and we went around to all the classes to spread awareness. Each week we emptied the bins in every classroom and office, then disposed of the waste in the big bins outside. We also watched some educational documentaries about the environment and global warming.

Myself and a few others in my class entered the Eco-Unesco Young Environmental Awards. Our project was called 'Life's a Beach' and involved studying the effects that plastic waste has on our local environment. We came up with the idea when we witnessed the pollution around us and we were also very passionate about the topic as we live near the sea. We have made it to the Eco-Unesco final and are currently waiting for the online final to take place.

Overall the Green Schools module is a very enjoyable and informative class that helps you understand the importance of a healthy environment and it motivates you to make a change. - **Eva McDonald 4L**



# Photoshop

In Photoshop we learned how to edit photographs in many different ways. We learned how to use layers and change an image into something completely new. We also learned how to touch up images, make them brighter and make the colours look better in them.

It was a great class and we learned so much. It was also great fun because some people had great ideas that were very funny.

**- Dawn McArdle 4L**



# Young Scientist

I really enjoyed the whole experience of BT Young Scientist, as it allowed anyone to follow any their interests into the world of science and present their findings to a public audience competing in the exhibition. I enjoyed this throughout the year as I had the opportunity to pursue any personal interests and apply them to science. The exhibition really helped me to work on my communication and presentation skills. I am glad to have chosen this module. - **Alex Finnegan 4L**



# Junk Koture

Before TY began, I knew Junk Koture was a program that I really wanted to be involved in. I picked it as one of my year-long modules and I really enjoyed it. I was on a team with Emma McNamee Kenny, Katie Mockler and Megan Murray, and we created our design named "The Resurrection of LiBon". Although the class could sometimes be stressful, the end result was all worth it. We created an outfit consisting of a corset top, trousers, a trail, wings, and an elaborate headpiece. We used materials ranging from bin bags to bottle caps and even seashells.

Our hard work paid off and we got selected to be in the Eastern Regional final in the Helix. This trip was one of my favourite trips I got to go on in TY and I'm so grateful that I got to have this experience. As the model I got to go backstage and perform on stage in front of a live audience. This was something I never pictured myself doing at the start of TY.

Junk Koture as a whole was an amazing experience that I would encourage any TY to take part in. Many thanks to Mr. Daly and Ms. O'Toole for all their help during and outside of class, as well as arranging an amazing day out. It was a day I will never forget. - **Elena Manek 4I**



## *Film Studies*

Film Studies in Transition Year was overall very enjoyable and I am very grateful I got into this course.

At the beginning of the year, Ms. Cushen introduced the class to Film Studies and we were taught basic film techniques such as lighting, camera angle, mise en scène and colour. The first film we watched was 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'. At the end of the film, Ms. Cushen made emphasis on the lighting of the scene at the end of the film. Throughout the year we watched many films and we did an analysis throughout the films.

At the end of the year we were divided into groups to act out a scene from a film of our choice but unfortunately it was all cancelled due to coronavirus. Overall, I enjoyed Film Studies and would recommend it to any third year entering Transition Year. - **Daniel Odunlade 4L**

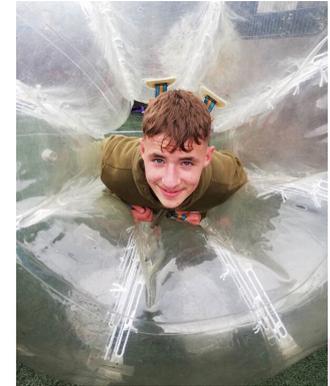
## *Young Social Innovators*

I thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Young Social Innovators during Transition Year. Throughout our project we stayed in contact with Prosper Fingal to try and improve our local area for people with additional needs and everyone else in our town. Young Social Innovators was one of my favourite things to complete in Transition Year as it was extremely rewarding to see how our hard work could improve the lives of others. - **Alex Finnegan 4L**

# Trips & Events

## Astropark

Our first TY trip was on the 30th August 2019, when we went to Astropark.



# Delphi

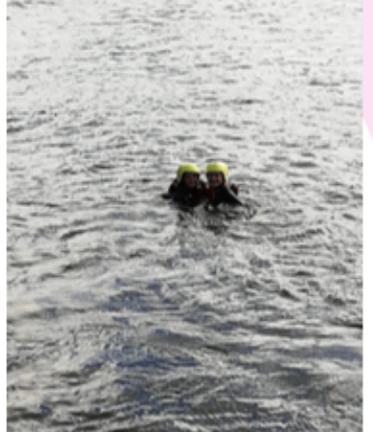
On the 12th of September 2019 we went on our overnight trip to Delphi.

The Delphi trip was at the start of the year and everyone was buzzing for it. We got up really early on Thursday morning and headed across to Mayo. The bus journey was very long but time flew because everyone was excited and having a laugh. We eventually arrived and were greeted by the Delphi Resort staff. They were all good craic and were looking forward to working with us. Without delay, we headed to the dressing rooms and got our wetsuits on. Our activities for the day included canoeing, pier jumping and team bonding activities. My favourite was the pier jumping because it became a competition to see who could jump the furthest and we all had good fun trying to beat each other. In the evening we went on a forest walk and sat by a campfire. It took a while for them to get the fire up and running but it got sorted in the end. The breakfast the next morning was so good as we were all starving. Unfortunately, the trip came to an end and we headed home on the Friday night. I had such a good sleep on the journey home.

My favourite part of the trip was the water activities because I hadn't done them before and it was good to learn a new skill. There was no broadband connection which was great as no one was glued to their phones. - **Conor Dolan 41**

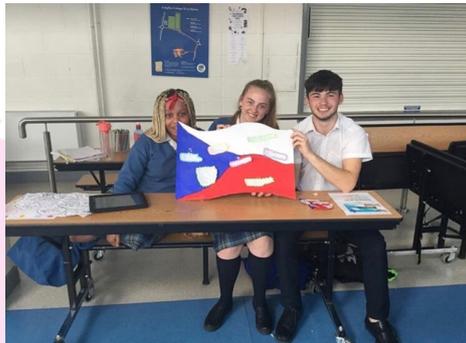
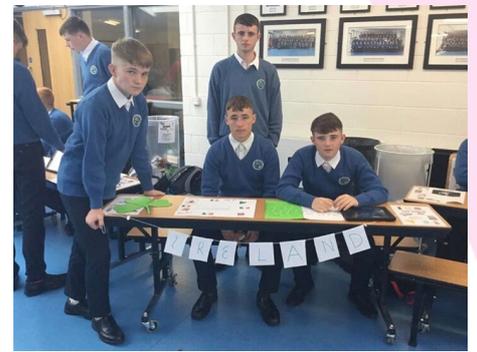






# European Day of Languages

On the 26th September 2019 TY's celebrated European Day of Languages.



# Tug o War

On the 27th of September 2019, a group of TY's took part in Tug o War training as part of Active Schools.



# Hell and Back

On the 2nd of October 2019, a group of TY's took part in Hell and Back.



# JUNIOR Certificate Results

On the 4th October 2019 we received our Junior Cert results!





# Active School

## Launch Week

As part of the launch week for Active Schools, a group of TY's choreographed and taught a dance to everyone in the school to perform.



## Rowing Training

On the 4th November 2019, a group of TY's took part in Rowing Training as part of Active Schools.



# Charity walks

On the 12th of November 2019 each class did a 5k walk in different locations to raise money for their class charity.



# Cinema Trip

On the 15th November 2019 we went to the cinema to see 'Midway' and 'Last Christmas'.



# Microsoft

## Dreamspace

Throughout the month of November 2019, TY's visited the Microsoft Dreamspace.



## Special Olympics

On the 21st/22nd of November 2019, TY's volunteered at the Special Olympics Bocce tournament.

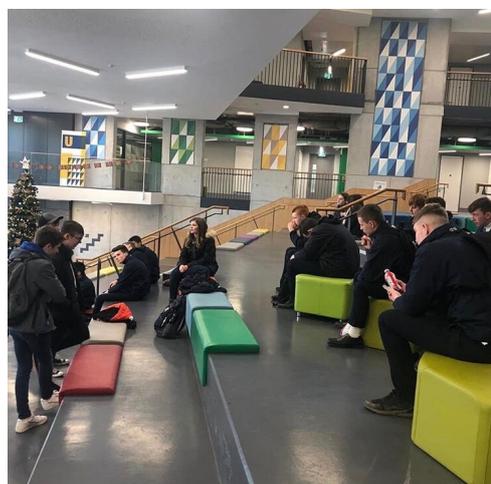
In TY we had the privilege of working with the Special Olympics. We went to a tournament in Swords and had the opportunity to work with and help a number of people with different needs and abilities as they played a sport called Bocce. Some help that we offered included escorting players to and from the court, keeping the score, changing the flags and refereeing.

.I really enjoyed this volunteering work and it was an enriching experience. It taught me that I had a lot more in common with the people that I worked with it on the day, rather than looking at limitations, we need to look at people's abilities. It's important to put the person first before their disability. The athletes I helped on the day were inspiring and dedicated. We had so much in common like our love for sports.I also learned how much skill is required to play Bocce.

It was amazing to see all the work that went into making the game accessible for everyone to play.My experience from this day has taught me how important organisations like the Special Olympics are in helping to break down barriers and ensuring sports are accessible, safe and welcoming for everyone. - **Sean Cullen 4L**

# College visits

On the 16th December 2019 TY's visited UCD, DCU, Trinity College, Maynooth and DKIT.



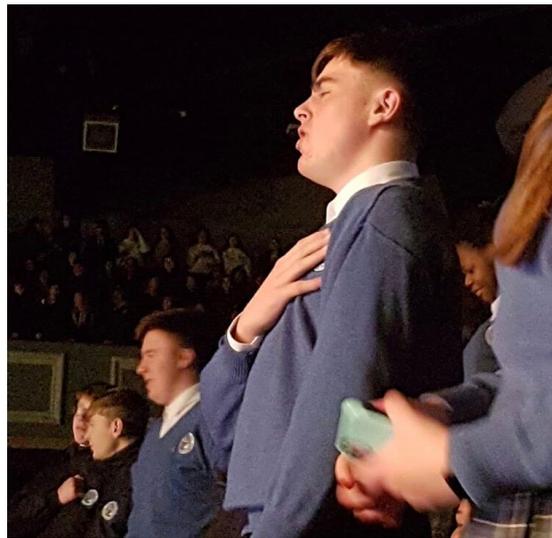
# Ice Skating

On the 17th December 2019 TY's went on their Christmas Trip to Dundrum.



# Cycle Against Suicide

On the 17th January 2020 TY's attended the Cycle Against Suicide Congress.



# Compute TY

On the 20th January 2020, a group of TY's spent the week at DCU, taking part in the Compute TY Program.

At Compute TY we were taught how to do python. In the first few days we were taught about how computers have to be told about every single process that they should do and that when we are coding we need to code in every single thing. We were then introduced to a website where we would do various coding challenges that would be monitored by the teachers working there. We worked on this website for a few days. On the last day we were given the option to do either a test where we had to make ten different programs for different scenarios that were only shown when the test started, or to create our own program to do whatever we wanted. I did the test and was happy to have gotten very close to winning. Altogether it was a great time and it convinced me to pick Computer Science for the Leaving Cert. - **Nicholas Silva-Horvat 4D**

# Scholars Ireland Program

This year a group of TY's got the opportunity to take part in the Scholars Ireland Program.

This year I got to participate in the Scholars Ireland program. This was where we had one class every week with our PhD tutor Beatrice, who goes to DCU. In those classes we were learning about The Quality of Democracy in Contemporary Times, The Democratic Backsliding and The Rule of Law. We learned about democracy in countries like Hungary and Poland.

We then had some assignments to do after every class, which were preparing us for a 1500-2200 word essay, which would be graded as if we were in college. For the final assignment we used the democratic principles and the modes of democratic regression in Hungary, Venezuela and Poland. This was a fun and difficult assignment but I learned so many new things and getting to learn something that I have never understood was interesting. I am happy I got the opportunity to participate in it. - **Charlotte Kelly 4D**

## Jiu Jitsu

On the 25th February TY's began a 6 week Jiu Jitsu training course as part of Active Schools.



# Work Experience

I have always been really interested in aviation, engineering, machines, tools and manufacturing so I was really happy when Ms. Delaney offered me a placement in Aer Lingus' Hanger 6. I was very excited for the week and went in with an open mind.

We were given for the week by the Airport Police before being introduced to the people we would be working with for the week. We were then suited up in protective equipment and got to work with two apprentice aircraft engineers. One task we did was stripping the floors of an Airbus A330-330 called St. Columbus. It was particularly interesting as I had actually flown on it! We also worked on an Airbus A321-Neo, one of their newest planes. We taxied out to the tarmac and turned up both the engines. I sat in the cockpit for this and I really enjoyed the experience.

As I expected it was a brilliant week. It was amazing to be so close to the aircraft and see the work that goes on behind the scenes. I would definitely consider a career as an aircraft technician or a pilot! – **Eoin Moore 4A**



# Messages from Our Teachers

## Mr. Pollis

It has been a pleasure to be so involved with this years TY students. My time spent working with you in the classroom and on the sports pitch this year has made me appreciate how talented, kind and dedicated you all are. It is a testament to your positive attitude that you achieved so much this year despite the circumstances. It has also been great to see so many of you mature over the course of the year and I'm really looking forward to working with you again at Senior Cycle.

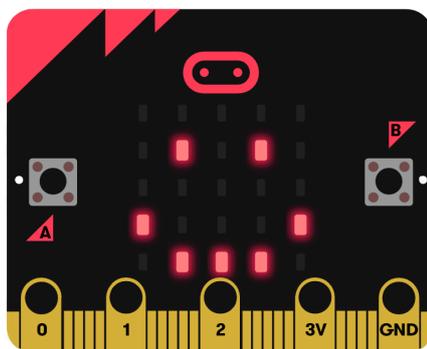
## Ms. Murray

Well done TY 2019/20 and congratulations on completing the year. You have been such a fantastic year group and helped to make Active Schools such a great success. A huge thank you to all. You have also worked tirelessly on the positive mental health of our whole school community and community projects such as Prosper Fingal. Again thank you for all your wonderful ideas and efforts. Wishing you all the very best for the future and I hope you have a wonderful summer.

## Ms. Nealon

Congratulations to the TY class of 2020 on your graduation!  
It was my absolute pleasure to work with you this year. We covered a lot of activities together through the Active Flag. Rowing was a favourite of mine! No matter what new activities we asked you to engage in, you all did it whole-heartedly. As a result, we had great fun...especially the dance. Well done everyone. As a group, I think you are very supportive of each other and I hope you will continue to look out for each other in future years.  
I wish you all every success in the future and I look forward to seeing you in class next year. Thank you for all your cooperation this year. You should be very proud of your achievements through P.E and Active Flag.

## Mr. O'Neill



# Messages from Our Teachers

## Mr. Daly

This year I had the pleasure of teaching many students that I had not had in my classroom before. A wide variety of exceptional students. We had an excellent year in Junk Kature-Crispy Louboutin and The Resurrection of Li Bon made it to the regional finals in the Helix and they could feel hard done by that they did not make the finals. A notable mention to The Toxic Flower and the other groups that missed out on the Helix.

The Mural class were busy all year round creating exceptional work up and down the corridors and its their work that will inspire art students and the rest for years to come. It's a great pity that the Talent Show will not go ahead. Weeks and months of hard work will not be in vain as their work will be used next year somehow and be displayed proudly when we are all back in school.

It was a pleasure getting to know the TY class of 2020 who are a very talented, creative year and I have no doubt will go on to great things over the next two years in Ardgillan and beyond.

## Ms. D. Dunne

I started of the year as a TY tutor to 4G , who are a great group. I enjoyed accompanying them on some fun days out. My personal highlight was the walk to Howth Head where we raised money for Barretstown and had some heavenly chips on the way back.

I also got to know everyone in the year group through the teaching of the Mindout Programme. Unfortunately with everything that happened this year we didn't get to finish it out but hopefully you took something positive from it.

It was lovely to get to know all of you and I wish you the best of luck in 5th year.

## Mr. Creagh

Congratulations to everyone graduating from the TY class of 2020! I hope this was a year you will always remember. I want to thank the legendary, illustrious 4I English class for all their hard work and creative energy. I hope you learnt a lot and enjoyed our enthralling trip to the theatre in sunny Dundalk.

I also want to thank the TY's involved in the water ambassador workshops with Green Schools, the trip to the Ringsend Wastewater treatment plant and the beach clean up. Good luck for the future and have a marvellous summer.

# Messages from Our Teachers

## Ms. Sheahan

Congratulations TY class of 2020, you've been a great group and really made use of your Transition Year opportunities! Hearing some of you speak about your TY experiences was really uplifting. This is a year you will remember and cherish forever! And I'll never forget the pain, the cold and the delight at the finish line of the Hell and Back experience! Looking forward to watching you all complete your next Ardgillan College chapter!

## Ms. M. Dunne

Well done TYs! I enjoyed working with you because you were always in good spirits and put plenty of enthusiasm and creativity into your work and projects. It was lovely to see you build new friendships as you worked with different classmates during the year. I admire your resourcefulness in adapting to our new online learning. And well done for staying committed and dedicated to your work until the end of the year. I hope you have a lovely, restful and safe summer and I look forward to seeing you in the corridors of Ardgillan in September!

## Mr. Kelly

Felicidades a todos para terminar el año de transición. Espero que hayáis pasado un buen año y que hayáis aprendido mucho. Well done on completing a great year. Your enthusiasm was excellent and it was great to be there with you for some of your best moments, both in the classroom and on trips. Enjoy your vacaciones and I look forward to seeing you in 5th year!

## Mr. Keane

To all TYs, well done on finishing a difficult year. I was lucky enough to have taught four different class groups this year and I have to say, it must have been a real pleasure for you to have experienced that. Only joking, it is to your sincere credit that I have only fond memories of TY 2019/20. You are a good bunch and I look forward to seeing you all again next year. Hopefully enough of you did my Trade Union module to begin organising in your workplaces if you manage to get part-time jobs this year. Have a good summer.

# Overall TY Experience

Transition Year 2020 was spectacular. It was an amazing year filled with great memories, new friends and lots of new and exciting opportunities. We would have never been able to work with certain organisations or take part in activities, projects or committees if it wasn't for Transition Year. TY taught us a lot about ourselves, it taught us how to be confident in our abilities, to be independent, how to manage our time and it showed us how responsible we can be. When you're given the opportunity to take charge of projects and events it's reassuring to know that people believe in you.

Transition year was the year for trying new things, signing up for committees and teams to push ourselves out of our comfort zone. From the many projects and committees going on in school it taught us how to manage our time efficiently, we learnt to balance the fun aspects of TY but also keep on track with all of our school work.

The year was filled with subjects and modules that many people would have never chosen to do but they were all great. TY was great for broadening your interests and hobbies. It was helpful being able to get a taster for all the leaving cert subjects. There was something for everyone in TY. Transition Year offered a spot in the school where you could show off your full potential and skills. Whether it was sports, being creative, speaking or teamwork that you were good at, there was a place for you. TY was great for things like work experience, trips, volunteering and extracurricular activities but it was very beneficial for getting to know new people in your year. Our new classes, modules, the events we held and our trips helped us interact with people we usually wouldn't mix with. Transition year was good for teaching teamwork and respect for those around us. TY was also a brilliant year for bonding with teachers, as it wasn't a strict academic year there was room for jokes and laughs between students and teachers.

Transition year was an important time when we transitioned from a Junior Cycle student to young adults in Senior Cycle. Transition Year is a highly rewarding year that allows you to find something that you enjoy and are good at and really pursue it. It shows people that they can do whatever they put their minds to. TY teaches students about self-belief, the year was totally in our hands and with everyone working together we made it worthwhile! Transition Year was the year we got to participate in and get involved in our school community and make a change.

Transition year taught us all that we can do so much more than what we thought!

**- Emma McNamee Kenny 4I**



# Our Memories

"My two favourite memories of TY are volunteering at the Special Olympics qualifying event in swords and going to Cycle Against Suicide in the Citywest Hotel. These are my favourite because they were both such amazing and beneficial experiences. The Special Olympics was a once in a lifetime opportunity and the athletes were so grateful. I loved the Cycle Against Suicide event as it had great guests and music throughout the day. It was also very inspirational and heartwarming."

"My favourite memory of TY would probably be Delphi as it was good fun and had a good laugh."

"My favourite memory from TY was the trip to the Astropark where we played bubble football. Seeing everyone play bubble football and getting stuck upside down was really funny and everyone had a good laugh."

"My favourite memory was the trip to Delphi because we were away from school and our parents. To me it was liberating."

"My favorite memory from TY was the 5k walk at Malahide Castle because we had about 10 people there and we went into the playground and played on the round about and the swings and it was so much fun as we were all getting on and it was a fun bonding moment for the class."

"My favourite memory of Transition Year was going on our overnight trip to Delphi in September. I especially loved the kayaking. I have never learned how to swim, so I got out of the kayak and into the water, where my friends tried to teach me. This was fun and I really think it helped my friendships to develop a bit more. I also jumped off a pier. I was a bit scared at first as I had never done anything like this before, but I did it and really enjoyed it. I was so happy and proud that I had faced my fears, and the experience gave me confidence and motivation to want to start swimming lessons. I also enjoyed spending time with my friends on this trip. We had great fun. Overall, I really enjoyed the trip to Delphi as I faced my fears, enjoyed myself and developed my friendships."

"Delphi it was great fun."

"Going to Delphi with the lads."

"Delphi was my favorite memory as we all got to do fun activities , and it was honestly great craic."

"This was one of my favorite experiences of Ty. Hell and Back is an 8km assault course that involves various obstacles such as a 10ft wall, bogs, tunnels through muck and many more. I was lucky enough to get my spot on the bus as the school were only allowed to bring 40. It was a great way to meet new people but also involved a lot of teamwork for example there was no hope getting over a 10ft wall by yourself , you needed to think smart and work together to overcome the challenge. I thought the best part of the course was either the massive waterslide or the electric wires at the end , the massive waterslide was in a big lake and we had great craic swimming around however the electric wires at the end was a different story, you had to crawl under wires that shocked you although it seems painful (which it was) it was so funny seeing everyone crawl for their lives. I had the nicest shower ever when we finished, it was a great day and I would definitely do it again."

"Getting a week off class to work on a project for an art competition with some of my friends it was great because I feel the final piece turned out well."

"My favorite memory was going to Delphi because it helped me overcome my fear of heights and bond with my friends and year group."

"My work experience in Henry J Lyons because I made some new friends."

"My favourite memory of TY is when the Art teacher, Mr. Daly took me out of class to a group to paint a mural for the wall outside of the newly built music room doorway. The group was full of people that I was not friends with because well I'm not a social person, but as we made the brainstorm for what we would draw, we got talking and ended up being really good friends. After that, the process of making the mural became my favourite memory of TY because we all had so much fun talking while doing our shared hobby: Art."

"My favorite memory of TY was probably junk kouture and it let us express our creativeness and it was something that you wouldn't usually get to do in school. It was an amazing opportunity and it was great fun as I did it with my best friends."

"It was the trip to Delphi because we had so much fun."

"My favourite part of TY was the ski trip to Italy in February and getting to know more people in my year."

"Fundraising for Childline. It was my favourite experience of TY as it was just different. We got to walk around Dublin City and it felt like we were actually doing something for a good cause."

"My favourite memory is definitely Delphi. It was such a fun trip and a new experience for me as I'd never been on a school trip like it. I made new friends and the zipline was class!"

"My most memorable moment was the trip to Delphi because I got to try out some cool stuff like, canoeing that I have never tried out before."

"Young Social Innovators because I enjoyed helping to improve the community."

"My favourite memory of TY was doing Balbriggan loves Art because it was nice to be able to do something different for a while with your friends. I loved drawing different things and getting new ideas."

"Our trip to Delphi, because it introduced me to my new class in a fun interactive way, and I loved all the activities that I engaged in with my friends."

"Delphi was my favourite because it was a good bonding trip for all of us to kick start the year."

"Every moment in Transition Year was memorable and it is very difficult for me to choose one single memory. I am going to choose the trip to Delphi as my favourite memory as it was a very fun two days and it was excellent way to introduce us to Transition Year."

"I liked Zeminar the most as it was fun and a good learning opportunity from organisation I would never heard of before."

" My favorite memory of TY was the Dephi trip."

"Radio work shop, because it was something to do for everyone in the class and it was very good."

"My favourite memory of TY this year was getting to learn sign language with Prosper Fingal."

"My favourite memory of TY was Junk Kouture as it was an amazing experience and something I would have only got the chance to do this year. It will always be something I remember from school, it was a lot of hard work but worth it I'm the end."

"My favourite memory from Transition Year was definitely kayaking in Delphi. It was great fun to get to do this with my friends and we also had a lot of fun with the instructors."

"The TY football team was my best memory because we were so united as a team and had a lot of fun."

"My overall Junk Kouture experience. I got the opportunity to be creative and showcase my group's outfit at the eastern regional final which was an amazing experience."

"Winning the cup with the Senior Basketball Team because we worked really hard for it and it was a lot of fun."

"My favourite memory of TY this year was Delphi . This was my favourite memory of TY because it was a great way to make friends with people that I have never really talked to before that trip I only wish it was longer."

"My favourite memories from TY were working with Jigsaw and doing work experience. They were both great opportunities which I learned a lot from."

"My favourite memory was our days in Delphi. We did so much in the short time period and it was a great start to TY."

# Skills We Learned

"My presentation and communication skills have improved."

"I feel like Junk Kouture helped me learn and develop in TY because it brought out the creative side in me and how you can make nothing into something for yourself."

"I learned how to be more confident and be more sure of myself, and how to take photographs and edit them."

"I found myself having extra time which allowed me to train harder and becoming better at gaa, however the gaisce programme helped me to develop the skill of cooking which has come in really helpful during lockdown. I also developed various skills thanks to the modules throughout the year, I learned a lot about coding and electronics which will be relevant to me in the future. I developed my working skills in work experience and found myself more independent when I had finished."

"Leadership, listening and hard work."

"Cooperation"

"I feel I became more confident"

"I think I've become a more confident person, as in being more confident to talk in front of people and large groups and I think I've opened up more."

"I developed social skills i'm not gonna lie but I used to be quiet but this helped me."

"I developed better public speaking skills and better person to person skills when working on jobs."

"I used this year as a chance to try and talk with more people than usual, and to meet new faces."

"I learned different skills such as photoshop and coding which was fun and might come in handy one day in the future."

"Communication skills and coding skills."

"In TY I learned how to be more confident and comfortable around and in front of people and I learned how to make my point and have my say in situations I am proud of myself for being able to do this as I never felt comfortable to do anything like that in and out of class."

"I developed my communication skills because in TY, we get taken out of class for jobs for teachers which meant I got to talk to a lot more teachers that I never talked to before. The skill was further developed when I communicated with the teachers in how I can help. I also developed my listening skills when I joined the Headstrong Committee. It was a group of students that try to tackle any issues students may have, especially mental health issues. It was a big group, so in order for it to work, we all needed to listen to each others opinions and the teacher who is hosting this' advice. It was also our duty to listen to any concerns the students have."

"Co-ordination , cooperation and also I learned to be more confident."

"I developed my communication and presentation skills in TY. TY has also helped me to develop my confidence."

"I learned how to work in a work environment."

"Communication, working as a team, practical work, work experience."

"From TY I gained so much confidence by having to do class presentations, group work, mixing with others and joining the Headstrong committee. With my boost of confidence I put myself forward for different roles and jobs such as becoming a Jigsaw PEER educator and it was so fulfilling. TY gave me a lot of reassurance in my abilities and taught me that I am capable of taking control and leading situations."

"I definitely learned lots of new skills during TY that made doing TY worthwhile. I think the main skill I developed or improved was confidence, especially with presenting projects in class or speaking out. I think the only way to improve a skill like this is practice, and you definitely get a lot of opportunities to improve your confidence during TY. For example joining committees (headstong) or getting involved in organizing events."

"I learned a lot of new skills during my work experience that's why I found it a worthwhile year as work experience presents you with a lot of new skills and tasks."

"I think my public speaking and people skills have improved a lot as a result of pushing myself out of my comfort zone during TY. I'm glad to have learned these skills and because of this and many other things I think TY was really worth doing."

"I developed several skills which include communication, team work and creativity skills."

"I developed my confidence and my communication skills. I also learned the importance of time management and organisation."

"I learned to be more confident in class and how to work better in groups."

"The main skill that I learned in TY was communication, during TY we had to do many projects/powerpoints and present them to the class, before this year I would have really struggled with speaking in front of a lot of people but now I would be much more confident doing it."

"I learned how to talk in front of an audience."

"My 'Work Experience taught me the most valuable skills e.g. time management, cooperation and confidence. I'm glad to have done it because it showed me how a job operates and I will always need those skills going forward."

"I learned how to actually cook and not just use the microwave."

"I learned good leadership skills in TY."

"I gained experience in working life which also boosted my confidence and social skills as I was working with others in a different environment."

"I developed the skills that I can help and listen to people and teachers more as TY helped me learn these skills because we could interact with people and teachers more."

"Coaching skills."

"Teamwork"

"Independence"



"A skill I learnt is communication, to talk to new people and make new friends."

"I learned and developed many skills in TY. I developed my social skills, as I got to spend more time with my classmates and friends both in school and outside of school and through team work. I wouldn't have developed these skills as much as I have if I didn't do TY, as my focus would mainly be on my school work. I also developed and learned new skills during my work experience, which I wouldn't have had a chance to do if I had skipped TY. I learned what it was like to work. I learned retail skills, like pricing, stock display and operating the cash register while working in the Autism and ADHD charity shop. In both work experience placements I also learned customer and social skills as I was constantly dealing and interacting with other people. I developed my listening skills as I had to listen and follow instructions."

"I think learning woodwork was a very valuable trade to learn in TY."

"My communication skills got better as I joined young social innovators which required you to talk and come up with ideas."

"Partaking in Mini Company, helped me develop my creativity and innovation, because I got to develop a product my book. I was able to combine my love of writing and business."

"I learned the basics of coding and public speaking."

"It made me more confident as a person and I can speak to others more easily."

"I developed my communications skills in TY through work experience and trips outside of school. It really helped me be more comfortable when making friends and talking to strangers."

"I learned how to play guitar and my repair skills have gotten better from work experience."

"Public speaking made it easier to do presentation in class I learned a lot from it."

# *Thank You!*

Everything until this point has been created and produced by our very talented Transition Year Students.

I wanted to included special thank you to our TY Graduation and Yearbook Committee who worked tirelessly and under hard circumstances to produce this yearbook. What they have produced would be impressive in normal circumstance and I am extremely grateful they have worked so hard to produce such a great memory for their peers and the school - **Ms. Delaney**

## **TY Yearbook Committee**

Marcela Mahon Mas  
Emma McNammee Kenny  
Alex Finnegan  
Daniel Odunlade  
Klaudia Kotlarz  
William Leonard  
Alana Maher  
Eoin Moore



## **Artwork**

By Aizhe Su

# Transition Year 2019-2020

Informative  
New experiences

Worthwhile

Rewarding

Exciting

Creative

Curious

Fun

Independence

Amazing

Friendly

Helpful

Action packed

Brilliant

Spontaneous

Interesting

Unique

Inclusive

Learning

Eye-opening

Fulfilling

Relaxing

No Stress

Challenging

Adventurous

Confidence

Different

Entertaining

Lively

Joyful

Influential

Thrilling

Entertaining



Ardgillan Community College