

# Transition Year in Coláiste Dun Iascaigh

## An Overview

This brochure will give you an overview of some of the activities that our Transition Year Students are involved in over the course of the year. These brief articles are written from the students' perspectives and will give you an insight into the variety of work undertaken by staff and students in the Coláiste



This is a list of the events that TY students participated in or organised in 2016/17

- |                     |                              |                          |                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Kayaking         | 12. Irish Aid centre         | 26. Happy video          | 40. Debating                 |
| 2. Bog a thon       | 13. Musical                  | 27. Law course           | 41. Ty market day            |
| 3. Delphi           | 14. Volunteering             | 28. Fashion show         | 42. Aib build a bank         |
| 4. Military Museum  | 15. Litter Picking           | 29. Castlecomer          | 43. Spar 5 a side refereeing |
| 5. Cliffs of Moher  | 16. Car Safety               | 30. Public speaking exam | 44. 1st year Christmas party |
| 6. Croagh Patrick   | 17. Knock                    | 31. Public service card  | 45. Ty night                 |
| 7. Ploughing Match  | 18. Fai Course               | 32. Retreat              | 46. End of year show         |
| 8. Mellerey         | 19. Gaa course               | 33. Work experience      |                              |
| 9. Ardmore          | 20. Safe pass course         | 34. Bucket collection    |                              |
| 10. Dungarvan cycle | 21. Sports leadership course | 35. Pe competition       |                              |
| 11. 1916 trip       | 22. Ping Pong                | 36. Old folks party      |                              |
|                     | 23. Open night               | 37. Burren               |                              |
|                     | 24. Ball room dancing        | 38. Sky sports day       |                              |
|                     | 25. Sky dome                 | 39. Holy wells talk      |                              |

## 1916 History Trip

On Tuesday the 13th December we set out for a 1916 History trip in Dublin. We left the school at half seven in the morning and went to Dublin by bus. First we went to Dublin Castle and were taken on a tour there. Then we went to the Collins Barracks. Afterwards we went to the GPO which was the centre of the action in Easter Week. Then we went to Arbour Hill where the leaders were executed and were buried. We went just over the road to the Asgard Museum where the 1916 Asgard ship is on display and we went to the National History Museum where we got the rundown of what happened in the 1916 Easter Rising.

## Work Experience

For my work experience I went to my old primary school. It was a great experience learning how the day to day workings of a school is like. We helped our old teacher Mr. Kennedy by painting and cleaning things in his room. We helped him in the production of his play. We cleaned out our old shed by putting tables in there and cleaning things out such as rugby balls and hurley helmets. Most of the work was physical. We helped Ms Grogan by painting cardboard sheets for her play with her class. It was a very enjoyable experience and has made me think about what I would to pursue in the future.

## Happy Video

As part of ty and friendship week, TY students made a video featuring the song Be Happy. We got students right from first years to fifth years participating in it and also we persuaded a few teachers like Mr. O'Brien, Ms. O'Shea, Ms. Maher and also one of our secretary's. We got people to dance around to the music to do funny poses and to simply be happy. We edited it with colourful filters and added in transitions. It turned out very well and we uploaded to the school website

## Kayaking

On April 28th our Transition Year started kayaking on the river suir in Cahir behind the post office. We had 3 Fridays of 3 classes of kayaking. On the first Friday we learned the basics of kayaking like paddling forwards and paddling backwards. We also did water polo in teams and races. On the 2nd Friday, May 5th we did a more advanced stroke, the draw stroke and more turns in the kayak. Many people fell in while we were doing the full circle turn in the kayak because the turn was too quick. On the last day we went down to the weir. The water was quicker here and harder to control. We all had to fall out of the kayaks at some stage because it was the final week. Overall it was a good experience and good fun

## Castlecomer Maths

On the 4th April we went on a Maths trip to Castlecomer. We took part in two activities in Castlecomer: high ropes and a maths trail. When we arrived at Castlecomer we were divided into two groups (group 1 and group 2). At first group 1 completed the octagon high ropes course, you had an option to complete a low level or a high level for anyone who had a fear of heights. While group 1 was completing the high ropes course group 2 completed a maths trail which offers access to the real-life context required for successful Project Maths learning. After lunch we swapped over and group 1 completed the maths trail and group 2 completed the high ropes.

## AIB Build a bank

The AIB Build a Bank programme challenges you and your team (6 Students) to build a bank. Each team member takes a role in the bank. The Challenge offers students in transition year an opportunity to showcase their creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship. You'll also get the chance to give back to your school or community, learning skills along the way that will stand to you for life. Every team goes to a regional final to be judged against other TY students and their banks. If you win at regionals you go on to compete at nationals which is held in Dublin. The win at nationals wins €5000 for their school and a one for all voucher worth €250 for themselves. Our bank was called Mrs Brown's Bank. We really enjoyed the experience



## Irish Aid Centre

We went to Dublin to visit the Irish Aid Centre. All of TY left at 9 a.m. and we were in Dublin at roughly 11 o'clock. We were split into two groups. Half of us went to the Irish Aid Centre first while another group walked around Grafton Street until the group in the Irish Aid Centre was done and then we switched. Everybody learned a lot about Irish Aid abroad in poorer countries in Africa like Congo, Rwanda and Cameroon. It also showed us the complications of sending aid and what to give. The trip to the Irish Aid Centre was very beneficial to the TY students and gave a great insight in the lives of poorer countries.

## Knock

All the jp2 students went to knock for a mass celebrating the ten year anniversary of the John Paul the 2nd award. It is a very holy place. We had a very inspirational speech from Donal Walsh's mother Elma Walsh. She talked about her son's life and how he enjoyed his life. There was some wonderful talent at this event during and after the mass..

## Law Course

We had a law course on the 4th and 5th of May.

In this course we learned about how the law in Ireland works and we discussed a few crime scenes from a page to understand how a crime court works.

The course was great fun and lots of learning at the same time. A barrister was teaching us this course he was intelligent and knew what he was saying.

We enjoyed this course a lot due to it being fun, educational and entertaining.

## Military Museum

The TY's went to the military museum on the 24th of March 2017. It was a fun day we learnt and experienced a lot of new things. We got to hold old decommissioned weapons from both world wars. When we got there we got a presentation of both world wars and the weapons they used. We were then brought outside and shown a detailed replica of what a trench was like. We then learned about trench warfare and the diseases that spread in them due to rats. We then got to ride in a tank which was a bit compact but still very enjoyable.

## MUSICAL

The musical that took place in the school this year was, Back to the 80s. Mostly TYs these include, David Murphy, Jack Conway, Dylan Flynn, Kevin O'Connor and many more played the main parts.

The musical drew a lot of attention to the school and its Facebook page, we sold out three shows and we got our pictures taken every night the pictures appeared on Cahir news and on the newspaper. The songs were very catchy and they will be appearing on the night of our TY grad again.



## Ploughing Match

On Tuesday the 20th September we set out for the annual National Ploughing Championships in Tullamore Co. Offaly. We got on the bus at half seven in the morning and left for Tullamore. We had a good laugh on the bus. The bus arrived in Tullamore at half nine. We got off the bus and got a group photo and we were told by our teachers where we were to meet up at half two. So we were left to roam around for a good few hours by ourselves and were free to go wherever we wanted to go. The weather was fantastic and the atmosphere at the ploughing match was amazing. You could tell there were thousands of people there. There were hundreds of stalls there. There was a big open field with all the food stalls and the



## Spar 5 a side refereeing

The Spar 5 a side is a primary school soccer tournament for 4th, 5th and 6th classes. This tournament is for all Tipperary primary schools. This tournament was held on Cahir Park's new astro turf pitch. The tournament ran over 2 weeks with different schools coming in each day. The first week was the boys' competition and the second was for the girls. There would be two overall winners each day that then go on to the county finals. David Lenane asked for the players of the school soccer team to be referees to give us the experience of being the referee's shoes. It was a great experience and a tough job so we've learned to give the referee not as much stick anymore.

## Sports leadership course

The sports leadership course took place the week before transition year started and it was for TY students who had an interest in sports and sports leadership. We had a teacher come in named Gene Brady who was qualified in sports leadership. During the five-day course we were shown a powerpoint presentation which showed us about what qualities we need to become a good leader in sports and how to treat others when playing or teaching sports. At the end of the week we had to teach a class of first years some games and do a warm up. Overall the course was very helpful and fun to do.



## Powerlifting

Chris Richards came in to teach the fundamentals of powerlifting. There are 3 main lifts and you're shown how to do the lifts safely in any gym setting. The 3 main lifts are squat, bench press and deadlift. You also learn the basics of the gym such as gym talk and how to prepare your own gym program. When it comes to the safety side we always had very lightweights. Nothing above 40kg. If you have a certain injury you are shown how to lift safely with the injury. We were also taught extra things such as the snatch and the clean and jerk. These are weightlifting lifts but have the same principles as powerlifting.



## Delphi

Transition year students travelled to Delphi in Co. Mayo last October and we spent three days there. In Delphi we took part in loads of new activities that none of us had experienced before, which include surfing, kayaking, abseiling, rock climbing and high ropes. We also took part in night time walks through the wood and an indoor campfire. Everyone enjoyed taking part in new activities and some transition year students even faced their fears of heights by taking part in abseiling. We all loved our three days in Delphi and everyone enjoyed being in Delphi.



## Fashion show

The school fashion show was held in the school gym on the 30th of March. Both students and teachers took part in the fashion show whether they were modelling, helping behind the scenes or serving the refreshments. Many shops gave their clothes for the fashion show such as klassy lady, mister mister, sorento, only and DV8 just to name a few. The night was to raise money for the school and also some money went to the students who are going to Lourdes later in the year. The music department put on a great show at half time with the senior choir singing wise men say and ho hey. The night was a great success.



## Debating in Coláiste Dún Iascaigh

The Debating Society in Coláiste Dún Iascaigh is an integral part of the schools extra- curricular activities. The Coláiste has a great record in debating, having the 2016 All- Ireland Debating Winner in our school, Emma Quirke. This year we had 8 students taking part in the Munster Schools Debating Competition in UCC, including 2 Transition Year students. Through this they encountered many different topics of debate such as, should parents be prosecuted for the crimes of their children, conscription, mercenaries and even human extinction movements. Unfortunately this year we had no students' progress on to the Munster Final, but this didn't stop these students from learning valuable life lessons such as research skills and public speaking skills as well as debating skills.



## Volunteering

Transition year students took part in volunteering on a Thursday afternoon every week in many different places in our local community. Volunteering took place in the pre-school, the girl's primary school, the boy's primary school, the National Council of the Blind charity shop, gateway, the local parish church and the lions club. Transition year students were happy to help with anything they were asked to do while taking part in volunteering. We really enjoyed being involved in our local community and helping in anyway possible on a Thursday afternoon.

