



HFSScoop



Summer Newsletter

We wish all our students, their parents/guardians, staff, and the wider school community a fantastic Summer!



Prayer of Blessing from Sr. Kate

Loving God we ask your blessing on our Holy Family School Community, our families and on all those who are part of our lives.

A few weeks ago, we celebrated Easter, a season full of hope, as we remember that the Risen Jesus is with us every day, our companion and guide.

All around us now nature speaks of new life, growth, brightness, and longer days.

Although the worry and disruption of Covid is still with us, the roll out of the Vaccine gives us the assurance of healthier, safer days ahead.

May all these signs of new beginnings inspire us and fill us with gratitude.

We pray that we will support and encourage one another to be generous in our efforts to stay safe and look out for one another.

May we be people of resilience knowing how to tap into our strengths as we meet the challenges of every day.

In all our relationships help us live as followers of Jesus bringing peace, love, and joy to everyone we meet.

May the motto of the Holy Family School, inspired by our Founder, Pierre Bienvenu Noailles, encourage us 'To be Family and to Build Family', wherever we are.

Amen.

**Holy Family Secondary School****June 2021**

Dear students and families,

In this last 'school year like no other', we have all had to lean in and support each other in our school community. Never was our motto of 'To Be Family and To Build Family' more apt as we supported each other through some challenging school times. The greatest support we have is each other. *Ar aghaidh le chéile.*

I want to thank you all for your kindness, grace, and cooperation as our staff members worked to provide quality learning experiences for our students in hybrid school 2020/2021. We have all been very proud of the flexibility and creativity that our students have shown as they have navigated this new and different way of accessing their education. They truly embodied resilience and we know that they will come through this difficult time having learned important lessons about themselves as learners.

We were all called to reinvent many of our school traditions, and we successfully engaged in Awards Ceremonies, Graduations and Parent Teacher meetings online. I would like to extend a special thanks to the Parents' Association members who have done huge work in supporting the school this year.

As the second disrupted school year draws to a close, what can we look forward to in HFSS for 2021/2022?

We look forward with great positivity to adding more diverse and innovative subjects to the curriculum. This September, the first cohort of Senior Cycle PE students in 5th year will begin their studies for their Leaving Certificate in 2023. The Transition Year curriculum has also been expanded to include Life Skills (First Aid, CPR and Driving Theory), Global Classroom and the Active School project.

We look forward to the opportunity to examine and assess the positives of our recent hybrid school experiences. In this last year, all classrooms were equipped with new computers and interactive school devices. We very much look forward to embracing the advances in digital technologies and building on digital skills learning.

We look forward again to adding the input of student voice to improving all aspects of our school life. This year, the Student Representative Council campaigns for an indoor water font and the addition of a school uniform trouser option were actioned. A special thank you to the Student Representative Council for their ongoing commitment to HFSS.

We look forward to further enhancing our wellbeing, environmental, sustainability and inclusion initiatives and programmes. We hope that we will be able to return to extra-curricular and co-curricular learning opportunities at some point in 2021/2022.

As a school community, we wish Ms Helena O'Callaghan and Ms Aingeal Seoighe the very best in their respective retirements from HFSS. They have both given tremendous service, support, and dedication throughout their time in HFSS.

Wishing you all a safe and restful summer break.

Sarah Allen, Principal

HFSS Parents' Association

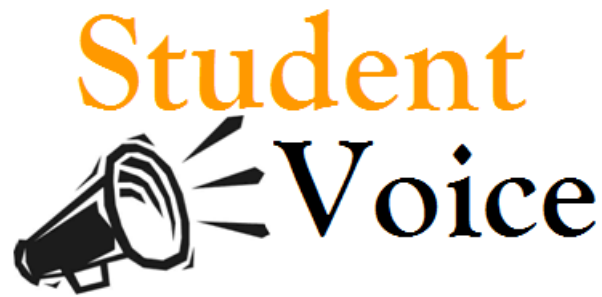
The Parents Association would like to thank everyone that helped us out in any way throughout this year. It most certainly was a year like no other! As a result of Covid 19 and its restrictions our only fundraiser for the year was our Annual Christmas Raffle which was hugely successful. Most of our meetings were held via Zoom this year which was another unusual consequence of Covid 19 – hopefully, we will be able to meet in person next year!

We usually have one meeting per month and we always welcome new members to join the association. We would encourage you to come along and get involved, it's a great way to be a part of your daughters' school and meet new people. Our AGM will be held at the start of the next school year, so please consider coming along and getting involved. if you can.

Parents Association



Student Representative Council



This year, our SRC members had to show leadership in circumstances we've never seen before. We adapted and brought the student's voice to the table regardless.

In February, our student council signed up to ISSU, which is the Irish Second-Level Student's Union. We had a virtual training day which will equip our students to bring issues to light in a very effective way in the coming years.

In November, we held a civvies day fundraiser for LGBTQ+ awareness which raised over €1000! This was our budget for the year, and we are delighted to use this money to install a school drinking fountain.

This year has highlighted the resilience and strength of character of our students and has displayed the power of the student voice in the face of adversity.

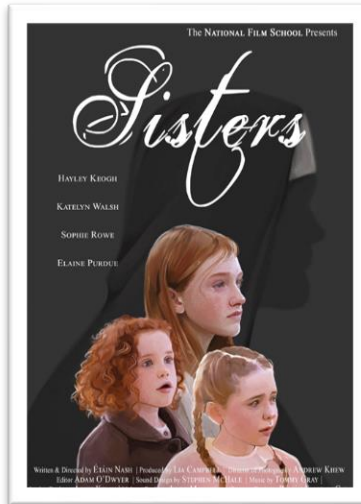
Wishing you all a safe and fun-filled summer ahead.

Gráinne Stapleton
SRC Chairperson



Streak of Success in 5th year

Congratulations to Hayley Keogh on getting a small part in the Disney film Disenchanted starring Amy Adams and Patrick Dempsey, that is currently being filmed here in Ireland. We cannot wait to see it on the big screen! Hayley plays the lead role Maebh, in Sisters, an emotional film set in 1970's Catholic Ireland, directed by Etain Nash (2020). The film was a part of the online Fast Net film festival, which streamed at the end of May. I asked Hayley about her involvement with acting and why she likes it...



How did you get into acting?

I got into acting when I started Vicky Barry's, which is a stage school called Vicky Barry performing arts and that was around the age of seven or eight years old. I firstly started off in theatre acting but I much preferred film and TV acting. I started that when I joined Vicky Barry's talent agency around the age of ten or eleven.

What was your first role?

My first role was an AIB bank ad which I did at the end of 2016 with my brother, and then in 2017 I did two more adverts, one of them was for Electric Ireland, for an electricity ad and the next one was for cycling (promoting girls to start cycling to school) and that was for Green Schools Ireland.

What other work have you done?

My first film that I have done was a short film which I filmed for last January. It's called Sisters. I was the main role in that film. It hasn't been fully released yet, but there is a trailer online, on Instagram – that was for the national film school's graduation. It got a bit delayed due to coronavirus and for the past year and a half, it has just been [screened] through film festivals. It is being released this month (May). It tells the story of a young girl called Maebh [who] is the main character (my character) and it's about these young orphan girls in a convent, three sisters and it's based on true stories. It tells the story of how people and kids were treated in those homes.

Which actors inspire you?

An actor I'd like to work with is either Saoirse Ronan or Sofia Lilies. I think they're both amazing actors and I love the work they've done in shows and movies.

What do you like to watch?

My favourite genre of movie is probably horror and I really like the movie 'IT, Chapter One', and that's a movie that Sofia Lilies is in. I really like the show, 'I'm not okay with this' on Netflix. They are both my favourites because I really like the acting in them.

What other interests do you have?

Some other hobbies that I have would be singing, dancing and I really like skateboarding as well – I got into that last year.

Do you see yourself pursuing a career in acting?

Yeah, I would definitely like to pursue a career in acting. I used to think I didn't want to but now that I've started doing more film and TV acting, I definitely would like a career in it.

Why do you like acting?

I like acting because it helps me express different emotions that I wouldn't normally be able to do in real life – it brings me to a different place. It's really fun to experience and experiment with all these different emotions and I think that's why I prefer film acting to theatre acting, because for me theatre can feel quite forced. Film acting is more real, which is what I'm interested in.

Has the acting been affected by the pandemic?

The pandemic has affected me because I haven't been able to go to as many auditions. A lot of my auditions have been online. It's put back the short film I was in, Sisters, a good bit because we were supposed to do a premiere of that back in November but it was cancelled because of the pandemic. It has affected me in many ways, but I'm glad I got this role (Disney film) because it's really got me back on track with acting.

What about your future career in acting?

In ten years, I hope to see myself still acting. I hope to have a career in film acting and be in a few more films [in] main roles, because the Disney film that I'm in at the moment - which I'm really excited to be a part of - is a small [role]. I would also like to do bigger films, maybe more TV ads and really get myself out there.

D. Lloyd, School PRO



🎵 Music from the Maher Family 🎵



We were delighted to hear about the release of *Lullaby for the World* from the Maher family. The song was co-written by Brendan Graham, who wrote the hit *You raise me up*, as well as several successful songs for the Eurovision song contest. The theme of the song is climate change, and it was released in March 2021 in celebration of World Earth Day on the 22nd of April.

The Mahers were signed by Rick Blaskey who was Whitney Houston's manager. Robyn told us the family were 'thrilled about [it]' and that '[they] really enjoyed working with him'.

Robyn goes on to say, "we were on [the] RTE News, and RTE's Nationwide, and then Ireland AM, and News2Day. We also have done over 150 radio interviews all across the UK, America, Germany, and Ireland. As well as this, Ruby wrote a letter to the President of the USA."

The song did well in the Irish charts and had online success all over the world, with over 82,000 views currently on You Tube. We wish continued success to all the Maher family – Dave, Robyn (6th year HFSS student), Stacey (past pupil) and Ruby.

Below is a link to the video for *Lullaby For The World*
<https://youtu.be/cfb6M1moPi4>

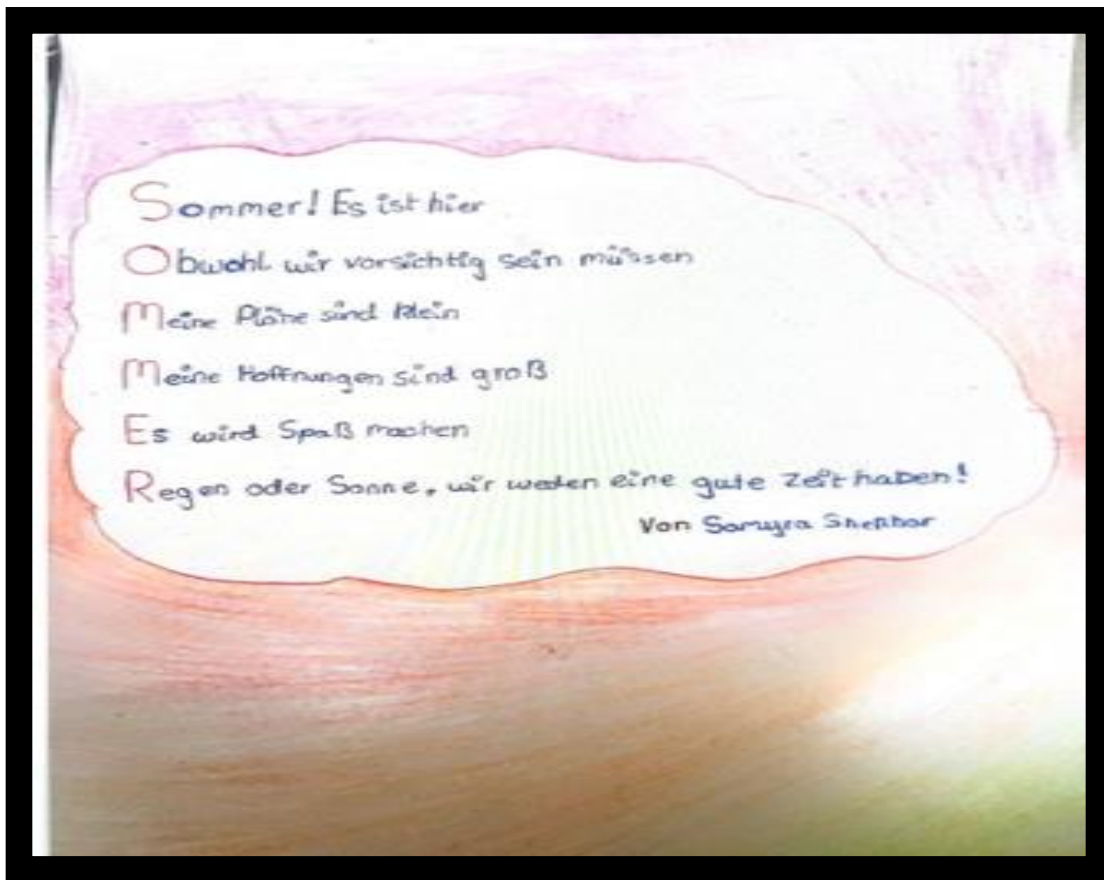


German Poetry Winner

Junior and Senior German classes entered a national poetry competition run by the German teachers' association of Ireland. The theme of the competition was Summer.

Well done to Samyra Shekhar in 1st year for winning the national Junior section for her amazing poem written in German, which translates as;

*Summer is here,
Even though we must be careful,
My plans are small,
My hopes are big,
It will be fun,
Rain or shine we will have a good time.*



French Department

In January, we all went to online school and in February we indulged in some French cuisine, from the comfort of our own kitchens. In TY we made a '*galette des rois à la frangipane*' at home and we sent some photos into the class Team. Our culinary skills were at play again as some students attended an online interactive workshop with Mallaury, our French assistant, to make crêpes in celebration of 'La fête de la Chandeleur' on the 2nd of February.

Galette des rois
à la frangipane



Le mois de la francophonie took place in March and to mark this annual celebration of the French-speaking world, we had some activities in class like quizzes, song activities and matching games, all with the theme of French speaking countries or an aspect of French culture or language.

Well done to Aisling Lyons in 3rd year who won our poster competition!



The French department was sad to say goodbye to Mallaury Gauthier, French language assistant, who created some wonderful learning activities for the students over the year and helped them with their spoken French. It was a great opportunity for all the students studying French and we were delighted to have Mallaury in some of our classes this year. We wish Mallaury all the best for next year as she sets out on a new adventure in the United States.

Article from the French Department, Holy Family Secondary School

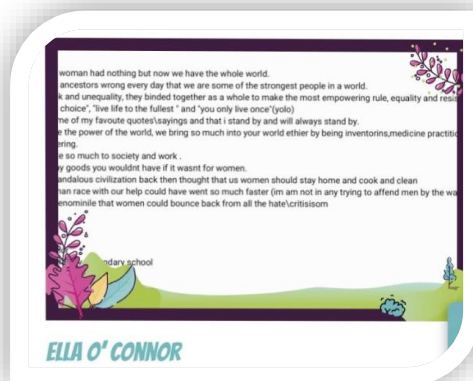
Shine Festival Winner

Several students from HFSS submitted art, music, or written pieces to be included on the Arts stage of the Shine Festival.



One of our first year Students, Ella O'Connor, won a prize in her section.

Well done to Ella who received some lovely prizes from the festival organisers.



MSD Pharmaceutical Virtual Course in TY

By Andrea García Cabrera
TY student 2020/2021

This year has, unfortunately, made it very difficult for anyone to obtain or attend in-person work experience. That's why most of us TYs found ourselves doing online courses instead – myself included.

I attended a three-day virtual MSD course this past April, and I would say my experience was a net positive one. For anyone who doesn't know, MSD is a large pharmaceutical company with several sites situated here in Ireland.

Over the course of the three days, we learned several very useful things. Some were general life advice like how to build a CV, others were more specific to the topic of the course. Namely, we learned about the different roles, machinery, and jobs inside an MSD factory. I learned that a pharmaceutical company is not only made up of scientists, but also has a lot of businesspeople running the enterprise side of things, which makes sense in hindsight.

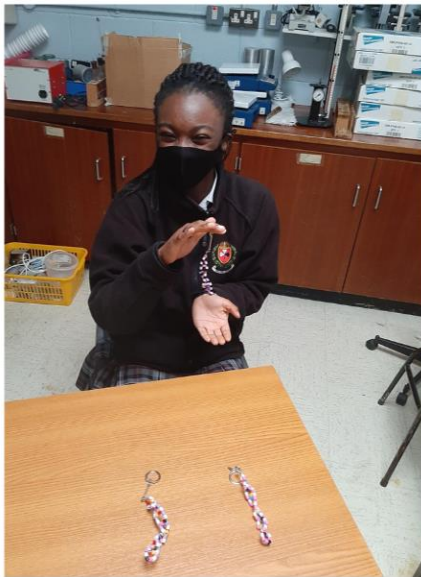
I learned about all the roundabout ways people started working at MSD, some having gotten a degree beforehand and others who only went back and redid their entire Leaving Cert after years of working there. I learned about how they're using augmented reality to teach people how to use certain machinery or so people from other countries can help fix problems without having to travel, which is so cool I accidentally forgot to pay attention to the rest of the talk.

All in all, it was a great learning experience, and I recommend any future TY reading this to consider doing an online course. You can learn a lot of cool, useful things from the comfort of your own home.



TY Science

Below are photos of some of our 4s TY students with their DNA key chains, as part of their Genetics module in Ms. Dowling's TY Science class.



Message for 1st year Students

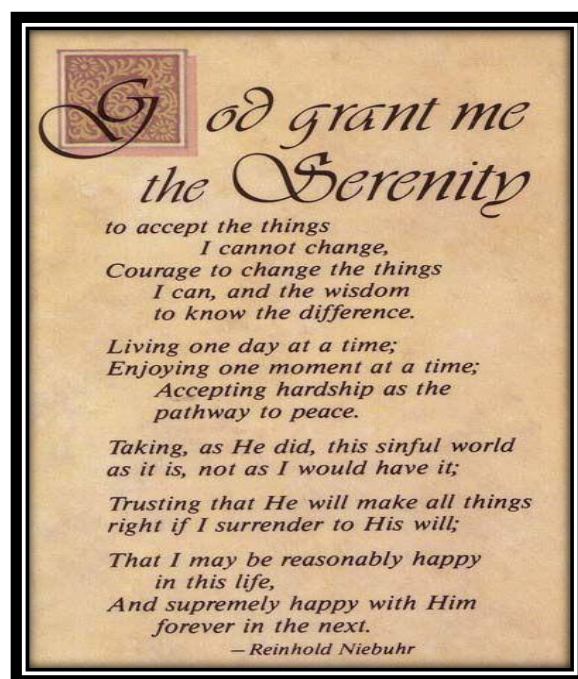
***Message from Ms. H O'Callaghan
Year Head to 1st Year
HFSS Middle Management Team***

I wish to congratulate all first years on their positive attitude during their first year in our school. This was a particularly difficult time for you, moving from primary school to a new school, trying to make friends while wearing masks and keeping socially distant. I am very proud to have been your Year Head.

We cannot change or control many of our circumstances, but we can control our attitude to what happens. As a member of the Chaplaincy team, I thank you for the respect you have shown for your families, your friends, your class, whole year group and our Holy Family School community. You participated in our school Mass, feast days, liturgical seasons and opportunities for reflection provided by your RE teachers. You have responded positively to the messages and Blessings from our Chaplains Sr. Kate and Fr. Eugene and our Bishop Denis Nulty.

You have lived out the Holy Family Motto 'To Be family and to Build family'.
You have acknowledged that your Principal, Deputy Principals and all your teachers want the best for you.

You have appreciated that your parents and your families love you the most and want you to be fulfilled and happy. I wish you the very best and hope you will have many positive memories as you journey through your years in Holy Family.



2nd year News

*By Ms. Dowling
Year Head to 2nd year
HFSS Middle Management Team*

Our 2nd year students were set for winning ways this year despite Covid-19 schooling. They won overall best decorated classroom at Christmas (2i). They won the overall HFSS school talent competition with Fiona Vargas (2m) and the pet competition with Faye Dunne's (2m) horse Socks and Kate Grogan's (2i) rooster Rocky. Ms. Dowling's Spring lamb naming competition had winners from each class and are pictured below (Aisling Ihrue 2m, Lucy O'Brien Larkin 2p, Laura-Jane Kaye 2i and Mairéad Bridge 2s). Well done to our second-year champions! Onwards and upwards ladies!



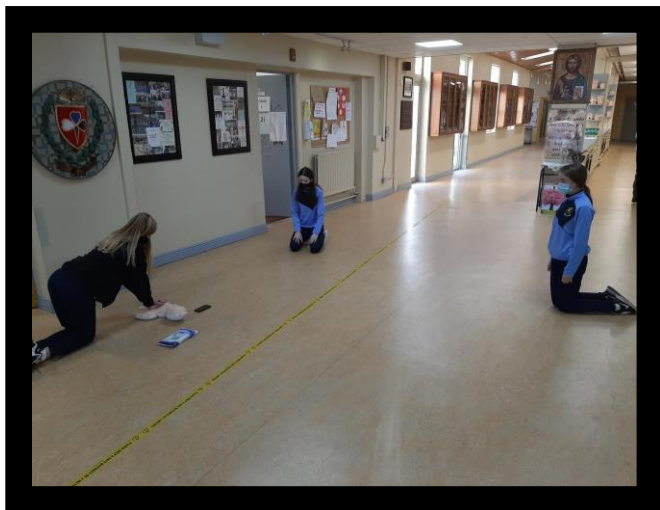
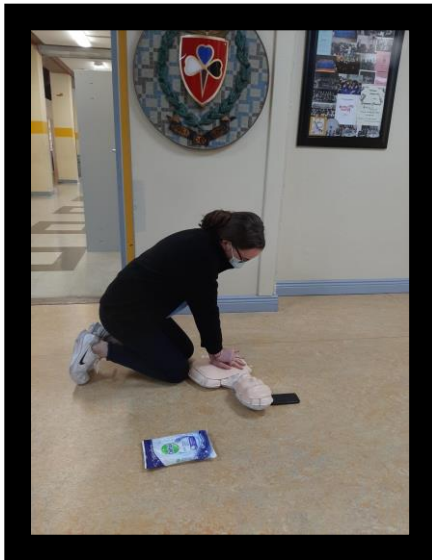
Pictured below are some of the 2nd year images supporting International Women's Day, with a special image for our beautiful Deputy Principal Mrs. Aherne, who is a serious Waterford hurling supporter! On her retirement, the 2nd year students organised a collage of love hearts online to mark and celebrate their appreciation and love of an inspirational lady.



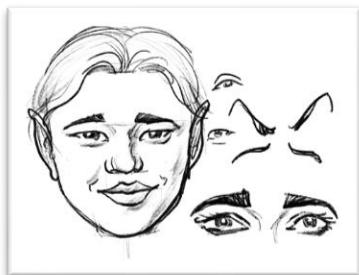
We wish Mrs. Aherne and her family every blessing and happiness in her retirement.



Our second-year students also engaged in a Wellbeing SPHE Day. They participated in an Art activity, watched the film *Inside Out* and learned about CPR. Below are some of the 2í class students practising this important life skill.



Art workshop in 5th year

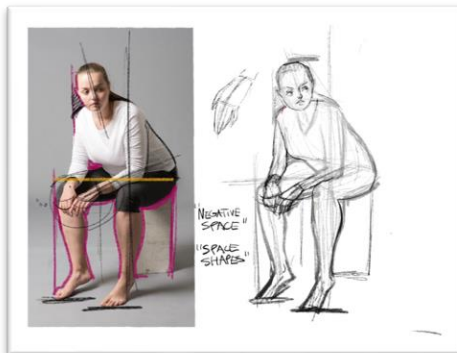
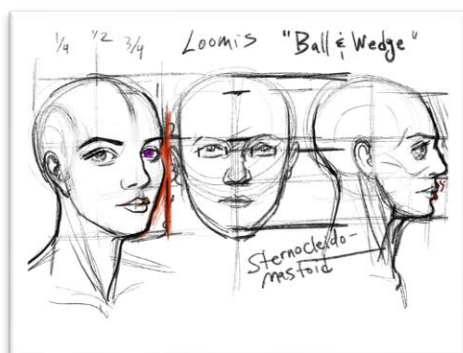


On the 6th, 7th, and 13th of May, the fifth year Art class took part in three separate hour-long life sketching workshops over Microsoft Teams. The workshops were facilitated by artist Mark Heng, who has taken part in the Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year Competitions. Mark has painted many famous Irish personalities including actor Colm Meaney and Senator David Norris. His *Self-portrait with Hat and Apron* was shortlisted for the Hennessy Portrait Prize in 2015 and exhibited in the National Gallery of Ireland. Mark also creates caricatures and illustrations.

During these workshops, Mark showed us the tips and tricks that he uses to, excellently and swiftly, create realistic, detailed portraits. Heng showed us how to draw faces, expressions, and different positions. He also showed us how to create proportional figures to improve our own drawings. These workshops were unique for our school. In years prior, we would have been able to get artists like Heng to come in and work among the students but due to Covid-19 this was not possible. However, after taking part in these virtual workshops it's safe to say it was an absolute success. Not only did it make it easier for us to work with Mark, but it also meant students missing from school that day could attend. Mark was very natural, and we were all able to keep up with and follow along with him as he sketched.

The entire experience was brilliant and very helpful. I can speak for all my classmates when I say, we're so thankful to Mark Heng. He was very pleasant and obliging as well as very talented. We're also all very thankful to the Art department and school management for making these workshops possible. Even with the huge number of changes we have all been through this year, this experience was an extremely fruitful one.

By Chloe Battault 5th Year



Guide Dog Awareness Week

HFSS held its annual Guide Dog Awareness week from Monday 10th-Friday 14th May.

On Monday we welcomed Tom Geoghegan and his two Ambassador Dogs Pippa and Paddy who proved a huge hit with staff and students alike. Due to covid restrictions they did a tour of the external school grounds, but many groups came out to meet the dogs. Tutor time was dedicated to learning about the role of the dogs and the different types of vision loss.

On Friday 14th, the school community held a fundraiser, and all staff and students were encouraged to wear Shades on their head to show support for IGDB. A huge €340 was raised and IGDB sent a wonderful email of thanks,

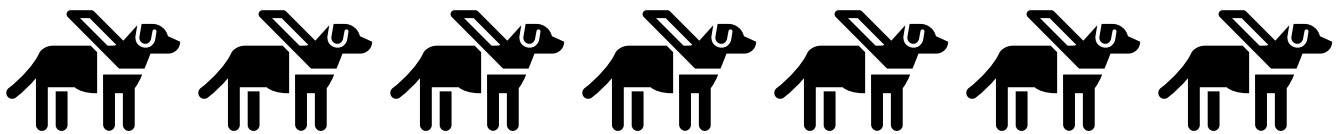
*The support we've received from your school has been outstanding and I wanted to say a MASSIVE THANK YOU to you all! We're so proud to have you as part of **#TeamJango** and we cannot thank you all enough for helping us to change lives. 🐾*

Well done to all who took part
Ms. Sheehan



Guide Dog Awareness Week





Wellbeing News



Looking after our Wellbeing has been a big focus this year in HFSS. Our students have shown great resilience and personal growth since the pandemic started. Each week, our students have met in person, as well as remotely at tutor time on Mondays to talk through and engage with topics that are relevant to our current situation.

This year, the school also engaged with a wellbeing festival that was held online due to Covid restrictions. The Shine festival was a three-day event aimed at girls' schools throughout Ireland. It showcased over 80 speakers on 7 stages, covering everything from career advice to wellbeing tips to how to be an environmental ambassador. The festival was aimed at empowering our girls to grow and thrive. A number of our students also entered the art and talent showcase section and won prizes. We were thrilled and very proud.

This year during remote school, we launched our first HFSS Talent Show, and we had a large number of entries from across all years. Each year had their own Padlet page to allow them to upload entries and vote for each other. Finalists from each year then progressed to a whole school final. HFSS talents ranged from sport to music and dance, baking and art: our students are hugely talented. As we were in remote school this all happened online. Well done to all who entered and their supporters. We aim to make this an annual event!



Ms. Carey

Wellbeing Coordinator

HFSS Middle Management Team

The Virtual World

The online world was very much a part of everyday life for us all this year - from book clubs and family quizzes on zoom, to online music and cultural events. In this context, the school has also been exploring new ways of bringing the whole school community together, albeit virtually.



Firstly, it was great to meet with the PA regularly on zoom this year. A big thank you to the Parents' Association for all the good work and fundraising they do to support our student body and our school.

The start of the term saw the whole school get ready for online learning, as we surveyed staff, students, and parents/guardians to reflect and learn from the previous (unexpected) experience last year. Students were supported with screencasts about accessing and using Teams on our school platform, and teachers adapted plans and upskilled to be ready for another period of remote learning. Thanks to the members of the Digital Learning Team for their support and hard work with all of this. The school has now upgraded most of our classroom PCs with mics and cameras, to facilitate remote learning from the school building, and to be able to fully participate in online meetings, workshops, training, and events.

We launched our new school App from Uniqueschools in October. The App is now our main means of communication with parents/guardians. It is great to see the App being used regularly for important messages and to share news with the school community. Thanks to all the parents/guardians for supporting our new school App. We aim to further develop our use of the App in the next academic year.

This year, we successfully facilitated, for the first time ever, parent teacher meetings online via Microsoft Teams. It was a great opportunity to continue these important meetings, which were met with lots of positive feedback from both teachers and parents/guardians. We also had events such as our school awards ceremonies and both TY and 6th year graduations take place online this year.

Finally, the first edition of our new digital school newsletter *HFSS Scoop* was published at the end of term one. Thanks to all the students and teachers who contributed to the school newsletter this year. We aim to make it even better next year, when, hopefully, there will be a lot more happening in our school community, and we look forward to sharing it with you!

D. Lloyd
Leader of ICT, Public Relations & School Communications
HFSS Middle Management Team



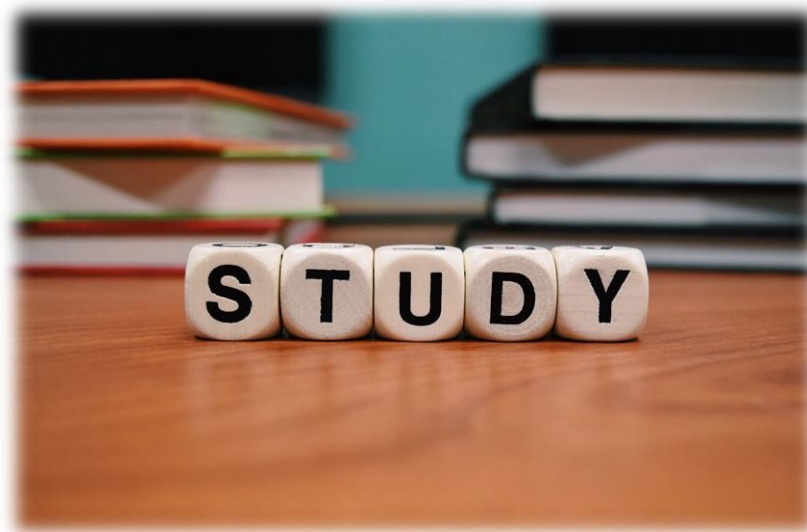
6th year Study Hub via Skype



This year was definitely a strange year for all of us, both academically and socially. Being out of school was really hard for everyone, but I feel like the sixth-year group really struggled trying to find the motivation to study. Myself and the senior prefects agreed that we needed some sort of study group to get us back into a routine for our exams. We set up a Skype call every evening for the hours study would be on.

You wouldn't think a Skype call with your peers would make a difference, but it actually worked. I loved it and found myself studying the full four hours. It was great because we would all have a chat and catch up before we started studying, it was almost like being back in school socialising.

Niamh Doherty, 6th year student



Study Support Programmes

By Ms. Mackell
Leader of Study Support Programmes in HFSS
HFSS Middle Management Team

Early study for 5th and 6th Year - approx. forty-five students began in first term on 14th September continuing until January 15th. Study runs daily from 4.15 to 6.15 except for Wed which is at 1.30-3.30.

Second term of early study began 22nd March with fifty-five students and continues up until 21st May. Late study also began on this date with seventeen 6th Years. Late study runs from 6.45 to 8.45 daily -Wed from 4-6.

Study was also held during Halloween Mid-term break for 6th Years.

This year we introduced on a trial basis permitting 6th Years to use their digital devices during Late Study which the students have found very useful.

Every student had a Study Skills presentation covering areas like Study Plans, importance of goal setting and best conditions for effective studying. We also had a Learning to Learn "presentation for all years which focused on the different learning styles and how knowing your learning style can lead to effective learning and studying.

Guidance Department

The guidance department had a busy year with several online speakers from a number of colleges for both 5th and 6th Year. Sixth year students had speakers from DCU, TUD (Technological University Dublin, one of our newest universities), St. Patrick's college Maynooth, UCD, Maynooth University, Marino College of Education, IADT, Carlow IT, Trinity College Dublin, Inchicore College, Newbridge Community College, NUIG and UL.

The fifth years had talks from UCD and DCU. Students from 4th, 5th, and 6th also attended several virtual open days. The guidance department also organised parent meetings for 6th year parents, and 4th year parents, as well as a CAO meeting, and an online information meeting for Leaving Cert Subject choices.



Activities in Sixth Year



The 6th year group had a very active and busy year despite Covid-19 restrictions.

Closely following school guidelines and Covid-19 protective measures, a very special well-being day was held on October 21st. Activities included yoga, meditation, Zumba, sowing daffodil seeds and a special treat of coffee, compliments of the school's senior management and Board of Management.

The sixth years organised a 'pink' day and 'yellow' day in May for breast cancer awareness. They also participated in a Christmas jumper day in aid of Crumlin hospital. The classrooms and the sixth-year social area were decorated!

The sixth years participated in online activities such as the HFSS talent show and Ms. Aherne's farewell assembly and a welcome assembly for Ms. O' Brien and many got together in the student online study hub to collaborate and improve study skills.

Events over the year, that 6th years were a part of, included Catholic Schools Week, HFSS Festival of Flavours, Mental Health Awareness Week, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Lá Fhéile Bhríde, Purple Day in aid of Teach Tarmainn, International Womens' Day and Book Club recommendations. A special event was the inaugural Captain's Day on the 8th of February, planned and organised by Louise Hanrahan.

Ms. Ní Fhátharta
Year Head to 6th year
HFSS Middle Management Team



Captain and Senior Prefects Article

Thanks to Louise Hanrahan, Anna Gallagher, Jessica O'Neill and Emer Brennan for their contribution to this article and for giving us all an insight into the work of the senior prefect team and for sharing their reflections on their time at Holy Family Newbridge.

What has school life been like for the captain and senior prefects in this global pandemic?

Anna: *I was very pleased and excited to become a member of the senior prefect team this time last year, though I had no idea what it could entail given the circumstances of school life in a pandemic. The past year has been full of challenges and setbacks compared to years before, but it has also been undeniably rewarding and enjoyable. It has been very difficult to find our role in the school and continue our duties within school restrictions, but we were always ready to help and get involved when we could. The inevitable stresses and anxiety of preparing for a Leaving Cert during a pandemic did not overshadow the positivity and enthusiasm of the amazing group of girls I was able to work with on the senior prefect team. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with these girls, and our incredibly dedicated captain Louise, for the past year.*

Jessica: *It definitely has been a bit a challenging year compared to the others, but I wouldn't change it at all. Due to the restrictions from covid-19 we got to be more creative when it came to coming up with ideas and making plans to make the most out of the year.*

Emer: *I would say that it has been a strange one! We have had to adapt ideas and plans that we may have had before the beginning of the year. We certainly didn't get to connect to other years as much as we would have liked but we certainly tried our best through Teams.*

It must be said that Louise Hanrahan has been absolutely amazing throughout and has continued to give her absolute all to the team and to the school despite all the obstacles, and all of us on the team have the utmost respect and admiration for her being the captain through such a turbulent year.

Louise: *As School Captain, the school year that I anticipated was quite different to the year I actually experienced. There were many ups and downs but overall, it was amazing to see how our school community was able to adapt and adjust to the obstacles that it faced.*

Speaking of obstacles, this year the Senior Prefects and myself were unable to meet with other years or in particular the First Years since their first day in school. However, we were able to stay in contact and check in with them through Microsoft Teams. Many plans that we had before the school year had to be altered but it was great to see the resilience and determination to make the best out of a tough situation from not only the Senior Prefects but also from members of staff and management.

A benefit that has come from this year would definitely be a stronger sense of community and comradery within the school. This year students have supported one another and many different charities and organisation on several different occasions. It's a pleasure to see that even during challenging times our HFSS students were so generous and positive.



Louise Hanrahan, School Captain



Captain & Deputy Captains

What kind of work have the captain and prefects been involved in this year?

Anna: *Our first main job as senior prefects was to welcome the first years into our school. I really enjoyed getting to know some of the first years and helping them settle into this school. While we were physically unable to meet with the first years throughout the year, we kept in contact with them through Teams, and helped them through this year in whatever way we could.*

I also greatly enjoyed judging the costumes competition last Halloween with the senior prefects- it was amazing to see some of the creative and unique costumes people made. Similarly, the senior prefects judged the classroom Christmas decoration competition last year, where I was once again blown away by the creativity on display in our school. A few weeks ago, we spoke with the 5th years that will be taking on the senior prefect roles next year, and it was great to see the set of dedicated students that will be leading the school after we leave. Throughout the year we also had the chance to raise money for various charities, including Teach Tearmainn and CRMF. Another thing that our captain, Louise, and the senior prefect team felt passionately about in the school was students' mental wellbeing. I am very proud to have taken part in the School Captain Day this year to support students' mental health and hopefully help some of the students in our school community.

Jessica: *This year although we were in lockdown for a lot of it, it didn't stop us when it came to achieving our goals and raising awareness. Earlier this year we got to do a virtual talk with all of the senior prefects to discuss mental health and how we cope with it with the hope that it would help others. We were also lucky enough to judge both the Halloween dress up and Christmas classroom decoration contest.*

Emer: *One event that I think stood out to us all was the Virtual Mental Health Talk we all did as part of our captain's day. Although it was strange that it had to be done online, we really enjoyed it. We've also been working on different issues brought to us by our peers and have brought forward many ideas to management that we hope will be in place for future senior prefect teams. Judging the*

Halloween dress up Day and the Christmas decoration competition was also a definite highlight for me as we got to see the creativity of our school while also raising money for some amazing charities!

Louise: *This year through teamwork and perseverance, we got to do quite a lot despite the circumstances. We celebrated what makes us different and unique by holding a World Festival of Flavours and showcased how food connected us in many ways. The Senior Prefects got to judge the Halloween Dress up and the best Christmas classroom decorations and reward the winners. We raised awareness and money for many charities from Crumlin's Children Hospital to Teach Tearmainn. We celebrated days of inclusion and acceptance such as Mental Health Awareness Week and LGBTQIA+ Day. Personally, I got the honour of hosting the very first School Captain's Day virtually. This was a day dedicated to what the School Captain believes would benefit the school and to showcase what they are most passionate about. With the year that it has been, I felt that a positive that has come out of the pandemic has been the increased importance and awareness of Mental Health. So, HFSS had its first School Captain's Day centring around Mental Health and its significance in our everyday lives. Each year group got to interact with a licenced psychiatrist and got the amazing opportunity to learn how to deal with stresses such as exams and social anxiety. I made a personal video regarding the importance of actively checking in with your Mental Health as often as needed and how to help others who may be struggling with their own Mental Health. The Senior Prefects and I made another video discussing our own views on what Mental Health means to us as students and teenagers. It was an amazing and beneficial experience that I hope made students more knowledgeable about their Mental Health.*

What will you miss about Holy Family and school life?

Anna: *I know I will definitely miss all of the incredible girls I have spent my time within this school. I have countless fond memories from my six years here that I will cherish for a long time. As much as I am looking forward to the change next year, I will undoubtedly miss the positivity and welcoming atmosphere in school as well as the continuous support from all those in our school community.*

Jessica: *I think I would miss seeing my friends every day. School provided a safe community that allowed you not only make the friends you have now, but also was the place you got to see them every day and make funny memories that I will never forget.*

Emer: *I will certainly miss the sense of our own community in the school. There's always somebody around for you to cry to or rant to when you're feeling stressed but equally, there's always somebody there to have a laugh with.*

Louise: *I'll miss a lot about Holy Family that's for sure. There are the big things like seeing my friends and classmates every day or the banter that is had with teachers. However, I'll miss the smaller details the most like the chats with Mary and Helen in the corridor, I'll miss Siobhan's daily announcements and I'll miss all the fun dress up days or civvies days where students got to express themselves. I'll miss the positive atmosphere that is quintessential to Holy Family Secondary School right from the moment you enter the school hearing ABBA being blasted over the speakers.*

Most of all I'll miss the uplifting and inspiring Senior Prefects and Deputy Captains that were always ready to help me with anything I asked of them. Their readiness and willingness to help not only myself, but their fellow peers, was truly admirable. I couldn't have asked for a better team to go through this trying year with. They've been a credit to themselves and the school, I'm so proud of them.

What are your plans for next year and after that? What are your hopes for the future? Where do you see yourself in ten years?

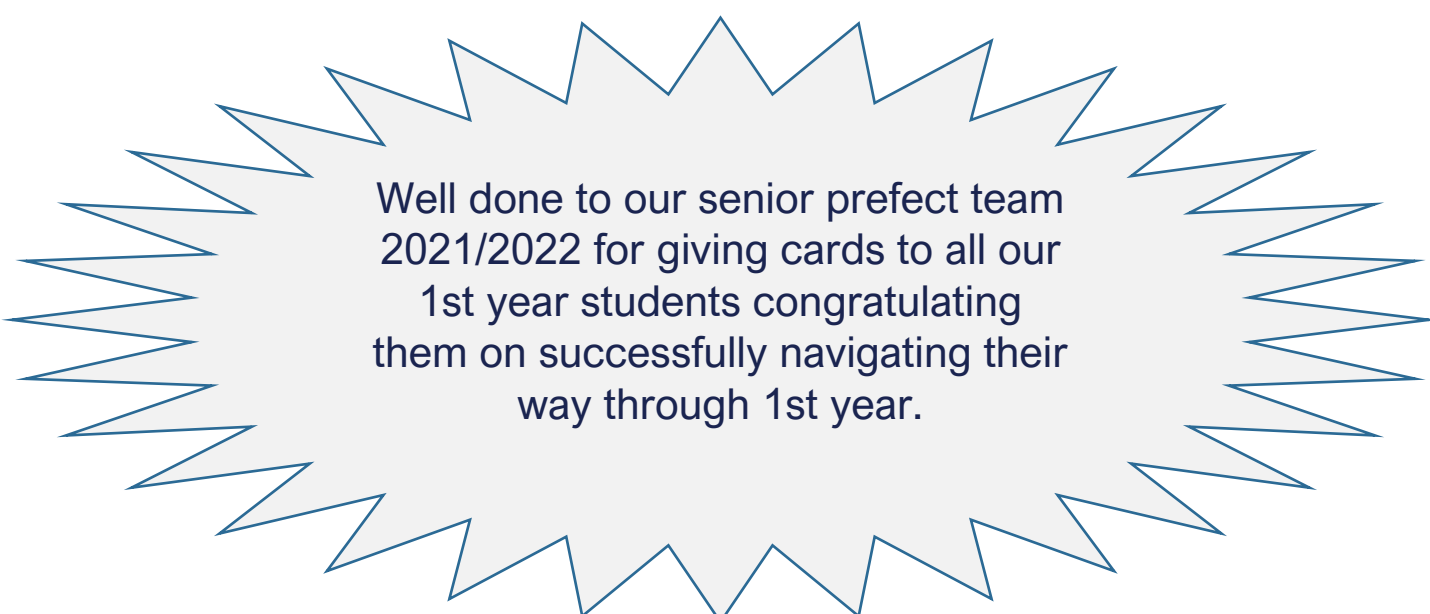
Anna: *Next year I hope to study science at UCD, and hopefully graduate with a degree in physics. In the future, I would also love to travel, visit new places, experience new cultures, and meet people from all around the world. At the moment, I am not sure what exactly I would like to do after I graduate but I am really looking forward to pursuing third level education in physics, something I am very interested in.*

Jessica: *Next year I hope to be studying General and Children's Nursing in DCU during which I hope to go abroad and study in another country for a year, and in 10 years, I hope to be travelling the world and either working in Ireland or abroad in New Zealand living a happy life.*

Emer: *I hope to get a BA in psychology and a minor in English literature. I'd like to work in a hospital as a clinical psychologist. In ten years time, I hope to have my doctorate completed. But aside from academia, I would love to inter-rail around Europe and see the Berlin Wall, ride a gondola in Venice and go to the top of the Eiffel Tower. I might even end up loving a place so much that I stay there! Wherever I am, I hope to be happy, healthy, and surrounded by friends and family.*

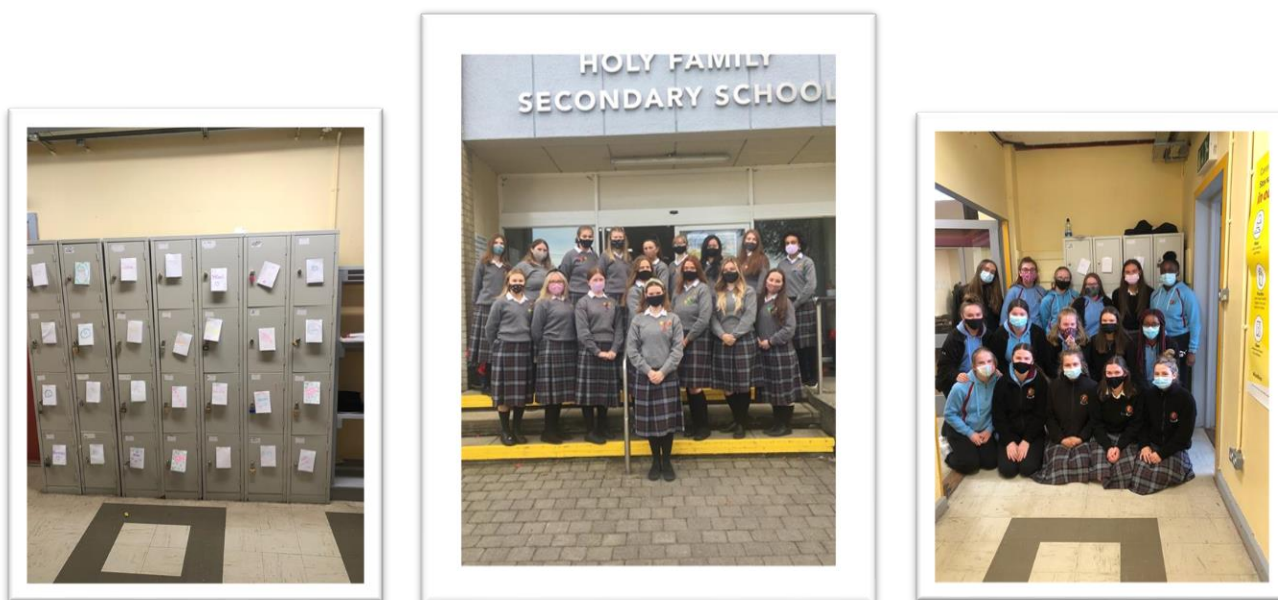
Louise: *All going well, I hope to be studying Occupational Therapy in Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh in September. I can't wait to live abroad and gain more independence. I won't even know myself with all the free time I'll have! In the future I hope to have completed my Masters and be a fully licensed OT specialising in paediatrics.*

I also hope to indulge in my keen love for travelling that has stemmed from the choir trips to Rome and Paris and the TY Ski Trip to Milan. Countries on the bucket list are Cyprus and Thailand. As for, where I see myself in ten years? That, I don't have an answer for just yet but whatever I'm doing or wherever I am, I hope to be happy, healthy and successful in my life choices. I hope to still be surrounded by my amazing friends and family and I hope to still be learning something new every day.



Well done to our senior prefect team
2021/2022 for giving cards to all our
1st year students congratulating
them on successfully navigating their
way through 1st year.

Senior Prefect Team



Message for our State Exam Year Groups

3rd years (2018-2021)

Congratulations on the successful completion of your junior school years in HFSS. Well done to you all on the successful completion of your CBAs and Assessment tasks over the last three years.

Students will receive the JUNIOR CYCLE SCHOOL REPORT on the broad range of learning that they have achieved in each subject, short course and/or priority learning unit at the end of Junior Cycle. This assessment of their learning will be provided by their teachers. The report will also provide an opportunity to report on other aspects of achievement including the wellbeing programme completed by students.

Students will also receive a State Certification from the Department of Education and Skills later this year (expected in Autumn 2021), stating that

they have completed three years of Junior Cycle education in a number of subjects/priority learning. This will include the list of subjects, short courses and/or priority learning units studied and the level at which the subject was studied.



6th Years (2015-2021)

To our graduating Class of 2021, congratulations to each and every one of you. We could not be prouder of you all.

Continue to carry our school ethos with you – To Be Family and to Build Family. You have had to endure much in COVID school over the last two years, yet we also know that you will dwell in possibility, in limitless possibilities. It is the hope of the teachers and staff at Holy Family Secondary School who have had the privilege of sharing the last 6 years with you, that you embrace your wonderful futures.

Mrs Sarah Allen



School Leadership

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator leads and co-ordinates special education allocation and interventions in HFSS. To do this, good relationships need to be in place between several stakeholders: students, parents, primary school teachers, SMT, teachers and other professional bodies such as NEPS psychologists. Planning takes place with the above regarding providing resources such as co-teaching and one to one interventions. Provision of these resources is granted on the principle that students with the greatest need receive the greatest resources.

The co-ordinator is also responsible for implementing guidelines and directives from the Department of Education and Science. Each student with an educational assessment has an individual education plan which contains some background on the student, a description of their educational needs and a short list of targets that can be adapted to each subject. This enables each teacher to plan a differentiated programme for that student to ensure that they achieve their educational potential.

M. Keenan, Additional Needs Coordinator

New TY subjects have been introduced to next year's timetable as part of a two-year review: Aspects of Computer Science, Life skills, Active School, and the Global classroom. TY students will get an opportunity to try Computer Science, Agricultural Science, Leaving Cert PE and Politics and Society as LC tasters.

A new Media Team was created in TY. This year they contributed to the Newsletter, wrote articles, took school photos, and created an incoming 1st year video. TY students were more active in their community. They became pen pals to some of our friends in the local nursing homes and delivered gifts to them at Christmas time.

E. O'Brien, Programmes Co-ordinator (prior role)

School Planning and School Self Evaluation Report

School Plan 2021 – 2026

The school plan for the next five years is currently under construction. It will be published in due course for all members of our school community to view. We are very grateful for all the feedback received. You, students, and parents, have given us some great ideas that will inform our planning going forward.

CBA and Junior Cycle Parents Information Evening

In September 2021, we will be holding a parents information evening for second year students and parents to give them information on the structure of the junior cycle and how classroom-based assessments work.

C. Costello, Leader of SSE & Curriculum

The SRC fundraised to have a drinking water station installed in school as this was the main goal they wished to focus on for the year. The drinking water station location has been agreed, and the installation will be completed over the summer break.

M. Croke, Student Leadership Co-ordinator

Irish Summer Holidays

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 lemonade
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 sandwiches
 sun
 sunhat
 tennis
 watershoes

bikini
 bodyboard
 camping
 cream
 fleece
 garden
 ice
 music
 puzzles
 sand
 soccer
 sunburn
 surfing
 umbrella
 waves

Find the word in the puzzle.

Words can go in any direction.

Words can share letters as they cross over each other.