

Summer Newsletter 2023



Leaving Cert Graduation



On the 24th May 121 6th year students graduated from St. Oliver Post Primary. In a lovely ceremony, hosted by Fr. Kelly, the students, their families and the staff were all in attendance to celebrate the journey these students have undertaken over the past five or six years.

The symbol of their graduation was the butterfly. This represents transformation, hope and faith.

We will have fond memories of these students and we wish each one of them the best of luck as they make their final preparation for the examinations. Regardless of what results you obtain you can be proud of your achievements in St. Oliver Post Primary.



The following students were presented with awards at the graduation,

- Student of the Year - Danielle Briody
- Top Academic Achievement - Tom Lynch
- Outstanding Attendance - Lloyd Colleran
- Anne Glennon Award - Ciaran Ryan
- LMETB Civic and Community Award - Eoin Campbell



1 -

- *Student of the Year - Danielle Briody*



2 -

- *Top Academic Achievement - Tom Lynch*



3 -

- *Outstanding Attendance - Lloyd Colleran*



4 -

- *Anne Glennon Award - Ciaran Ryan*



5 -

- *LMETB Civic and Community Award - Eoin Campbell*



Second Cohort of Students Complete LCA



Congratulations to our Leaving Certificate Applied Graduating class of 2023. What an incredible journey it has been. You have all worked very hard over the past two years and have created bonds and memories that will last a lifetime.

I enjoyed every part of our journey together from the Ploughing Championships, to kayaking on Lake Anna to our 'tea, cookies and chats', memories I will cherish.

Remember it may take some time to achieve your goals in life, but eventually you will. So be patient and work hard for your dreams, and they will come to you.

Best of luck in your upcoming exams, you have worked hard for this moment.

Ms. McConnell



6 - LCA Students at Sports Day 2023

Congratulations to the following students who won the following awards this year:

Anne Glennon Award: Ciaran Ryan

Excellence Attendance: Ciaran Ryan, Killian Roche, Shane Moloney & Dylan Farrell

Best work Ethic: Aine Lynch

Team Player Award: Pauric Brady

Spirit of LCA Award: Katie Mc Clair

Creativity Award: Nicole Monaghan

Top Academic LCA: James Fogerty

Social Education Award: Nicole Monaghan

Outstanding Contribution to the LCA Programme: Ciaran Ryan

Thank you to our entire school community for your continued support with this programme. We hope you all enjoy the summer break.

Another Productive Year for our Student Council



Our Student Council has been proactive throughout the school year and have played a pivotal role in key school events, themed days, and raising awareness about important issues in our daily school life.



- Student Council members supported Active Week and Stand Up! Week
- Organised a fundraiser for Literacy Day where students dressed up as a literacy character. The money raised was used to help the LCA class create a sustainability garden.
- Other fundraising initiatives by the student council included a Christmas Jumper day and Halloween fancy dress day. The money raised for Christmas jumper day was donated to Children's Health Foundation, a charity which worked with the family of our former pupil Cathal Burke, who sadly passed away last year.
- A cost analysis was conducted of our school uniform and based on this research by the student council members, the student council has had positive engagements with management in relation to having a non-gendered school uniform. In addition, a proposal has been made regarding school jackets, and the student council have sourced samples and pricing for new school jackets.

The student council have also met with school leaders and thank them for their continued engagement. Alongside Mr. Brady the Student Council have had a really great year.

If you would like to contact the Student Council with any suggestions for future projects, please email studentcouncil.STO@lmetb.ie.

Student Council achievements this year include;

- Reviewed the Student Driver and RSE policies.

- Working with Meath Comhairle na nÓg to distribute cards with contact information of support agencies helpful to all students in the school.
- Continued to build on the existing strong links developed with the Irish Second-Level Students' Union (ISSU)
- All student council members completed a Level 4 qualification in student council training online.
- Over 200 students signed up for ISSU student cards which are internationally recognised and allow students to avail of discounts.
- In line with the school's key theme of Sustainability this year, the Student Council delivered reusable water bottles to all students in the school, and were central to repairing the water fountain in the GPA.



Gaisce returned to our school this year for the first time in a number of years. After a very successful year, 26 Transition Year students were presented with their Bronze Gaisce Award on Graduation Night.

Mary Yore, the regional Development Representative for Gaisce attended the ceremony on the night and presented the students with their award with the assistance of their President's Award Leader, Ms. Sheridan.



Each student received a certificate of achievement, a bronze medal and a bronze pin. On the night, the students showcased their experience of Gaisce with a short video highlighting all of the wonderful activities they were involved in. Some of these activities included horse-riding, hip-hop dancing, assisting

in the local nursing home, teaching Irish dancing to kids, learning instruments and participating in lots of different sports.

Well done to everyone involved.

On the Sports Field

Following on from our Spring Newsletter the U16 boys, the 2nd year boys and the U14 girls were still competing in their relevant competitions.



7 - U16 Boys A Panel

The U16 boys team had started off their campaign with some very convincing wins in the group stages of their championship. They then played St. Marys Ardee in the North Leinster semi-final. In a close encounter Ardee came out on top and that saw our team exit the competition.

This team have been hugely successful over the last number of years. For this year's campaign the team and their coaches choose to promote themselves from the D division to B. This meant a significant step up in standard and quality of opposition. Even though the team lost out at the semi-final stage this championship will stand to the players as they move onto senior school's football.



8 - U16 Boys B Panel

The U16 B team had also progressed and qualified for the cup final. Unfortunately, they lost out to Gorey. This was the first year our school had ever entered a second team under the same age group. This meant game time for all the players who wanted to play. Well done to all the players who took part.

The 2nd year boys' team had also progressed to the final stages of their competition. After a long wait the Leinster final was played in Abbotstown on the 17th of May. In a very close contest we lost out by the finest of margins to CBS Kilkenny.



9 - 2nd Years Boys in Abbotstown GAA



10 - 2nd Year Boys Panel

The U14 girls' team had also made great progress since the beginning of the year. They had won both of their group games and in mid-April the girls had a convincing win in their quarter final against Colaiste naMí. However, the girls met their match against a strong Moyne team in their semi-final. After a tight first half they lost out on a score line of 4-4 to 1-6.

This group have shown great potential and we look forward to working with this group in the coming years.



11 - U14 Girls Panel

Recap of our 2022/2023 extra-curricular activities,

- Senior Boys Basketball – Group stages
- 1st Yr. Boys GAA – Group stages
- U14 Girls GAA – North Leinster semi final
- 2nd Yr. Boys GAA – North Leinster Champions and Leinster runners up
- U16 Boys (A - Panel) – North Leinster semi final
- U16 Boys (B - Panel) – Cup runners up
- U16 Girls GAA – Group stages
- Senior Boys GAA – North Leinster runners up
- Senior Girls GAA – Group stages

This year has seen one of the highest number of participants in extra curricular activities. Regardless of winning or losing, it is great to see so many of our students involved in these activities. A big thank you to all the coaches who have given their time to facilitate these events. A special mention also to the local clubs who have been very generous in allowing us to use their facilities for training and games.

2nd Year History Students Meet Minister for Education



On a recent history trip to The Irish Emigration Museum a selection of our students were lucky to meet Minister for Education Norma Foley. One of our History teachers, Ms. Nolan, is involved in a project with the TIEM team and as a result some of our students were invited on a tour of the museum.

This was a fantastic experience for our students, as Minister Foley was announcing the development of resources for schools to support the teaching of the Great Irish Famine.



Parents Association Family Fun Quiz

Our Parents Association held a quiz for incoming 6th class and 1st year students on Thursday 30th March. This was a new initiative aimed at helping the transition from primary to post primary school. Great fun was had by all! A big thanks to 6th year student Eoin Campbell for doing Quizmaster and our TY students involved for all their hard work.

Big thanks also to Ms. Usher for all of her help and assistance also, much appreciated.





Parents Association-Uniform Swap Shop



Our uniform swap shop will run again this year. We will be accepting donations of all jumpers, shirts, blouses, trousers and skirts. This initiative proved very popular last year and helped many families. It is in keeping with our school's focus on sustainability and we hope it will be a great success again this year. Donations will be accepted on **Thursday 1st June and Thursday 15th June between 8.30-9am.**

First Year Business Students Complete Cluedin Course



Our 1st Year Business Studies class took part in the Cluedin programme which educated them about personal finance and the role of credit unions. The Oldcastle Credit Union presented them with a cheque of €200 which we will use towards a Business trip.

Our senior cycle students were also given the opportunity to complete the Safe Pass- Safety Awareness Training Programme for construction workers. Twelve students from TY, 5th and 6th year completed this course, and all have received their Safe pass cards. Hopefully this will open up job opportunities for these students.

Transition Year - Students Enjoy Final Year Trips & Graduation



TY Students enjoyed their first residential trip to Carlingford Adventure Centre on March 30th. Activities included -Archery Combat -Foot Golf -Ireland Ancient East Maze and The Sky Aerial Course where students could test themselves on the Aerial Adventure Course with over 30 challenges including cargo nets, skateboards, giant log swings, monkey bars and of course zip wires! This was a lot considering many students only had three hours sleep the night before! A huge THANK YOU to the teachers that accompanied the students on this trip, Ms Brogan, Mr Briody and Ms McKenna.



Students enjoyed the traditional TY Belfast Tour in May. This included two nights in a lovely City Centre Hotel and a whole host of activities including a Guided City Tour, a Cliff Edge Walk at Gobbins, a visit to the Ulster Museum and Crumlin Road Gaol and plenty of fun at 'Clip and Climb' and Dundonald Ice Bowl. A huge THANK YOU to the teachers that accompanied the students on this tour, Ms McSwiney, Ms Austin and Mr Smith.



12 - Gobbins Cliff Walk



13 - Students on a tour of Belfast City



14 - Crumlin Road Gaol



15 - Students on a tour of Belfast City



16 - Gobbins Cliff Walk

Well done to all students who graduated from TY, each receiving their Portfolios of Achievements. What a fantastic year they have had, which was so evident from the comprehensive overview and reflections presented by the class on the day. Thanks to our talented TY students who performed during the ceremony. We congratulate the TY Class of 2023 for making the most of every opportunity afforded to them during the year. A special mention to Rose Darroch who was presented with the 'TY Student of the Year Award' after achieving an outstanding 93% average between Subject Credits, Work Experience Diaries and her Employer Reports. We extend a very big THANK YOU to our TY Coordinator, Ms McStay, for all her hard work during the year, ensuring all students had a great adventure!



17 - TY Students 2022/2023



18 - TY Student of the Year - Rose Darroch

The Gallery



19 - 6th Year Trip to Lough Crew



20 - 6th Year Trip to Lough Crew



21 - TY Students Feature on the RTE Today Show.



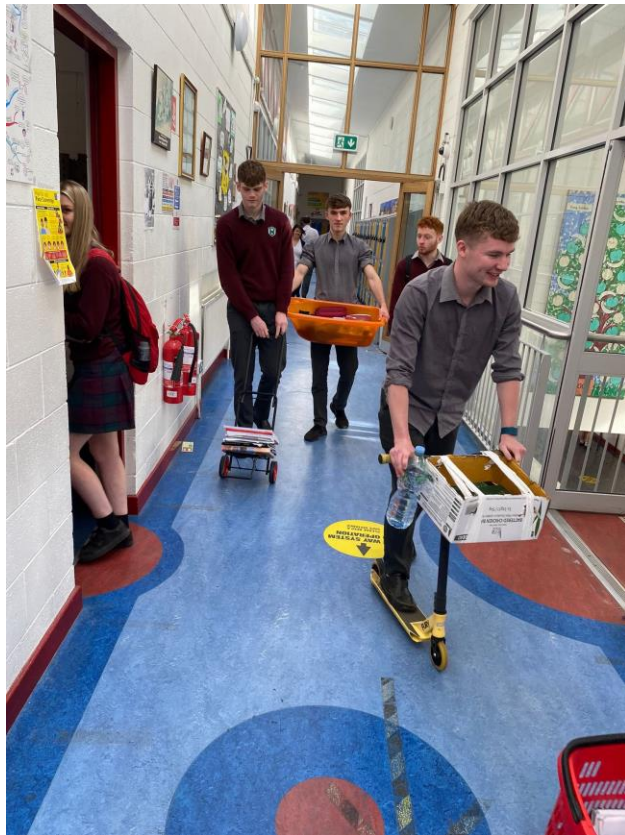
22 - TY Students on their Gaisce Trip



23 - TY Students on their Gaisce Trip



24 - "Anything but a bag"



25 - "Anything but a bag"



26 - "Anything but a bag"



27 - Sports Day 2023



28 - Sports Day 2023



29 - Sports Day 2023



30 - Sports Day 2023



31 - Sports Day 2023



32 - Sports Day 2023

St Oliver Post Primary
Educating, Empowering, Caring

