



TY TIMES

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The Davitt College official Transition Year newsletter



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Jack and Jill

BY SEAN MORAN

On Friday, all TY classes walked with the hope of raising vital funds for the Jack & Jill charity. The Jack & Jill Children's Foundation was set up by parents who had their own difficult care journey when their son suffered permanent brain damage soon after birth, leaving him in need of round-the-clock care. The Jack & Jill charity has since helped more than 2,600 families to care for their children at home, supported by specially-trained nurses and carers. We wanted to do something to help.

We left the school at 10am and took a bus to the start of the walk. The walk began with a gruelling climb up a steep hill in the rain. After a long, steep climb we were greeted with gorgeous country landscapes of tall green trees, emerald fields, blue waters and furry animals. During this time, it was incredibly windy but the stunning scenery made up for the weather. The walk lasted about two hours and we were back in school for 1:10pm. Everyone who took part in the walk donated some money to participate in the worthwhile cause.



Zipping Through Lough Key

BY NATHAN WALSH & DANIEL TIGUE

Two weeks ago, all the TY's went to Loch Key in Boyle, Roscommon. We all had good fun zip-lining through the trees and climbing through obstacles. When we arrived, we were shown how to use the safety gear and practiced on the small course. After that there was the white course, then the hour-long blue course.

Only a few were brave enough to try the red course. The red course comprised of cycling along a thin piece of wood suspended in the air, and, the hardest part of the course in my opinion - the climbing wall!!!! It's about 6 meters high but it was very difficult to go up. Between zip-lining and climbing walls everyone had a grand time.



Defend Yourself!

BY ETHAN TODD

The TY's are currently completing self-defence classes for PE. In the most recent class we were given rubber knives and we were split into pairs of two. We were taught how to defend against different knife attacks.

Who knew being attacked could be so much fun?

One student however was used as a real-life test dummy for our instructor. I don't think any of us were envious of him! We are going to have three more weeks of self-defence classes and in those weeks we will learn more vital skills in self-defence.



Work Wednesdays

Every Wednesday, we are busy on work placement. Here is an example of what one student has been up to.

Shauna Mc Hugh was on placement in Le Cheile FRC. She worked as part of a team and played a great role in two major projects: the One Million Stars project and the Christmas Food Appeal Programme.

CLIMATE ACTION WEEK 2021

On the 14th of October 'An Taisce' funded the viewing of a documentary available on EventBrite titled 'The True Cost'. This is a story about clothing. It's about the clothes we wear, the people who make them, and the impact the industry is having on our world.

The price of clothing has been decreasing for decades, while the human and environmental costs have grown dramatically. The True Cost is a ground-breaking documentary film that pulls back the curtain on the untold story and asks us to consider, who really pays the price for our clothing?

Following on from this, on Thursday 11th November all five TY groups participate in a workshop on Fast Fashion and its impact on our Climate/People and jobs. It was an online session lasting 80 minutes.

On Wednesday 17th November five TY students (Niamh Reilly, Jack Roche, Nathan Walsh, Cailín Blaney and Ryan Garvey) attended the Mayo Youth Forum workshop 1 on Active Travel (Climate Action).

This is the 2nd of four workshops in total on different Climate Action Themes and the work at these workshops, from each school engaging in the forum, will be recorded and sent to government to advise on how students believe school communities can improve their own Climate actions and behaviours to help reduce our carbon/water/pollution footprints. Attached is the invite we received with details on it.

On the 19th November, The Green School Travel inspector (Mayo Co Co travel officer Luckasz Krzywon) will visit the school to hold three 40-minute workshops on the Ethics of Climate Change with three of the TY groups.

**CELEBRATING
CLIMATE
ACTION WEEK**

OCT 11 - OCT 17



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council



CLIMATE ACTION
LOCAL ACTION GLOBAL IMPACT





I'm a Scientist Get me out of here

BY HANNAH PRENDERGAST

On Thursday the 18th and Friday the 19th of November, Ms Patten's 4C and 4E science classes took part in a programme called I'm a Scientist, Get Me Out of Here. We registered in our Science class and during our double Science class we all logged on to the website. It allowed us to engage with real scientists through an online platform where we were able to talk to and ask questions of the scientists about having a sustainable environment as that is what we are looking at in Science. There was a total of five scientists online.

Each of the five scientists had a bio, which told a bit about them and what they do as part of their work. We had a total of 40 minutes to ask any questions of the scientists regarding their work in Science. The scientists were all very nice and helpful when they were answering our questions. After 40 minutes, we were able to vote for which scientist we liked best. Whilst taking part in this programme we were able to see if this area of Science was an area in which we would be interested in pursuing a career in.

MEET THE SCIENTISTS ☰

Live Chat for Davitt College

@Natasha

I completed a microbiology degree with UCC and continued on to complete my PhD study. My PhD involves researching healthy and safe bacteria which are found in yoghurts, cereal and even beer!

@Saranya

Separation technologist – leading the concept of 'Wealth from Waste' I work with nanofilters to separate out invisible micro-solids or gaseous substances with an aim to recycle into sustainable bioplastics and clean energy

@Valeria

I am trying to use vibrations to power small electronic devices without using

Logged in as: Ms. Patten (pattena21)

YOUTH FORUM GROUP

Five students From Davitt College participated in the Mayo Youth Forum Workshops on Climate action on Wednesday, November 17th and November 24th.

Two more groups participated on December 1st and December 8th. They are as follows: Jack Roache, Nathan Walsh, Ryan Garvey, Cailin Blaney, Niamh Reilly.

Well done all.



Comhairle na nÓg
Young Voices. Local Issues.

abbvie

STEPPING STONES TY PROGRAMME WITH ABBVIE

Congratulations to Caoimhe Irwin and Jasdeep Kaur on winning a week's work placement in Allergan, Westport in March. Here the students will participate in a wide range of rewarding activities across the week including site tours, team experiments and projects and experience a dynamic workplace culture in the process. The programme was open to all TY pupils and Allergan HR picked our school's winners.

CERTIFIED IRISH ANGUS COMPETITION



Four teams from our TY group entered the national 'Certified Irish Angus Competition', where the pupils had to make a YouTube video on the role of Ag Science in our school and discuss a theme related to Agriculture. Two teams have qualified for the shortlist interviews and finalist selection in late January. If successful, the teams might win 5 Angus calves!

Team 1 is Amanda Connor, Hannah Burke, Shauna McHugh, Emma McHugh, and Team 2 is Saoirse Hauttmann and Niamh Reilly.



IS THE CIRCUS OUR HOME?

by Bene Matundu & Alexandra Ramanava

On Thursday the 16th of November, we had a circus workshop. Steven came all the way from Galway to teach us some tricks and give us a show.

Most of us struggled with the juggling and flower sticks. Steven then showed us how far practice can get you. He even juggled knives and warned us not to do it at home. We all had loads of fun.

Who knows, some of us might even join the circus.



VOLLEYBALL COACHING

by Sam Singh

The first week was very challenging. We started off with an introduction and made everyone feel welcome. We made them do a warm-up straight after. We made them play a game of 'Freeze Tag' and 'Chocolate, Chip, Cookie'. It was going very well, and the First Years were really enjoying it. After the warm-up games we moved into the basics of a spike. I demonstrated each move to them, they were really good.

This is where things became more challenging and difficult for the coaches. After the demo we split the group and put them into a drill. We had them practice the spike. After 15 minutes we put everyone into four teams and had them play matches. The matches went very well, and we were able to get a better understanding of everyone's ability to play volleyball.

At the end we finished off with a little competitive game. The First Years really enjoyed it and everyone was happy. It was a fun and challenging experience. I recommend everyone going on to TY to do this, if it's available.



ZUMBA

by Niamh Reilly

On Thursday the 18th, the Fourth Year students participated in a Zumba class. This consisted of letting loose and having a laugh, we did the Cha Cha Cha and Salsa.

At first, most were a bit self-conscious but after a while, we all got into the swing of things, and enjoyed it very much.

We all found it quite amusing and fun, it was easier to do when more popular and fun music came on. Overall, we had lots of fun, and really enjoyed the experience!





Next, we were shown how to use CPR and how to use a defibrillator. Again, we were given a demonstration and then had to do it ourselves. We completed 30 compressions and then used the defibrillator. When the defibrillator was delivering the shock we had to stand back as in a real-life situation - if it was delivering a shock, it could shock the person helping the person in need.

While these are very valuable lessons to learn, we hopefully will never need to do CPR on someone.

SAVING LIVES AT DAVITT COLLEGE

BY DEAN RALPH

From the 29th of November to the 9th of December all TY classes took part in a basic First Aid course. The course lasted the whole school day and it consisted of different demonstrations and practicals.

First, we were shown a PowerPoint, which illustrated different scenarios and injuries that could occur. Then we were given a demonstration on an elevation sling which is used to raise a person's arm if it was cut, for example to help stop the bleeding. After the demonstration it was our turn to try it on each other.



TY ON THE MOVE



Jack and Jill Fundraiser 2021



Lough Key Forest Park



Lough Key Forest Park



Jack and Jill Fundraiser 2021



Davitt College U17s

CHRISTMAS AT DAVITT

BY JASON MALONEY

TY's and LCA students started getting ready for Christmas in November. We have such a great Christmas spirit in Davitt that preparations needed to get underway early. We started decorating the school canteen with a Christmas tree, Christmas lights and reindeers on the walls. We were all so excited for Christmas.

With the helping hand of Ms Hughes, Mr MacDonnacha and Padraig the caretaker we hung lights across the walls and created something special.



The school is now more festive, bringing joy and Christmas spirit to all who visit Davitt College. You can spot the Christmas tree as soon as you enter the school and the first thing you notice about the tree is the decorations and the big bright star overlooking the Christmassy scene in the school's canteen. It would make even the Grinch love Christmas!

*Merry
Christmas!*

THANK YOU FOR READING