



TY TIMES

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The Davitt College official Transition Year newsletter



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TALENTED ARTISTS

Our very own Daniel Tighe from 4C, has been shortlisted in the top 5 of the Creative Competition for Mental Health Ireland. Entrants were asked to create a piece of artwork in response to the theme "No One Like Me". At this stage of the competition, all finalists' works is available online, however public voting has now closed. Fingers crossed for Daniel!

Well done to Daniel and his teachers. We could have the next Da Vinci in our school! For a full-page preview of Daniel's entry, turn to page 14.



Movie Magic

BY BM, AB, SC, LS, RC & JM FROM 4D

It was a sunny day in Castlebar and the TYs got to create some wonderful masterpieces. Kevin from The School of Improv came to share his wisdom and teach us the basics of film editing. We took some videos from various angles using special camera equipment and we edited them together. We added songs and sound effects to make memorable videos.

We were given the task of creating a humorous sketch on anything we wanted. Some people made videos about playing sports, coffee shops and one sketch even included a murder! Throughout the day we learnt that making a film is a long process and involves a lot of hard work. We now have more respect for anyone nominated at the Oscars, especially Will Smith!!



TY Soccer Blitz

BY EMMA MCHUGH

A number of TY groups were involved in a regional soccer blitz in Ballina on Thursday 7th April. TY students from schools in the area battled to take home the coveted 5-Aside title, including St. Brendan's College, Gaelcholáiste Chomáin, Moyne College, St. Tiernan's College and Coláiste Pobail Acla.

Tom Maughan emerged as the top scorer for Davitt College Boys, and **Hannah Burke** took the accolade for the girls. DC Boys made it to the Semi-Final and lost to Coláiste Pobail Acla. Unfortunately, the final for the girls ended in heartbreak for Davitt College as they lost to St. Tiernan's College. The 2022 TY Soccer Blitz Player of the Tournament was **Tom Maughan**.



Public Speaking

BY VANESSA MCFADDEN

The public speaking and debating class in Davitt College would normally be involved in regional and national competitions but due to Covid-19 and starting our debate class late into the year we weren't able to participate in any throughout this school year, instead the class is preparing to participate in competitions next year.

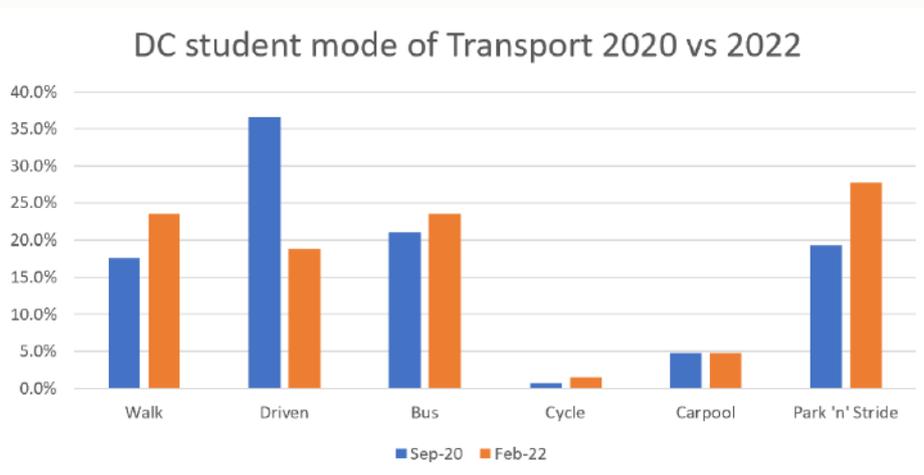
This year we have been exploring how to speak, when to speak, listening skills, communication and, most importantly, we have participated in lots of talking!

The class is always up for learning it's everyone's highlight of the week. We love that we have a place to voice our opinions and learn new ways of thinking and expanding our knowledge.

GREEN SCHOOLS UPDATE

The Green School Committee is delighted to announce that the school has been approved for the next Green Flag (for the Travel Theme). The inspection took place on the 28th March and the committee did very well in representing the school's efforts for the past two years.

Below is a graph of how students have changed their mode of transport to school since September 2020 and how they have opted for the greener option in recent years.



NATIONAL BIKE WEEK
WEEK
SATURDAY 14TH
MAY - SATURDAY
22ND MAY



The Green School Committee have arranged a cycle workshop for 25 TY students to take place during National Bike Week on Tuesday 17th May. The students involved will be taught how to better manage themselves when cycling on busy roads around town.

Davitt College have recently installed two sheltered bike racks that can hold up to 50 bikes. The Green School Committee would like to encourage as many students as possible to cycle to school.



TYs Visit Kildangan Stud Farm

BY HANNAH PRENDERGAST & KATLYN NALLY

On the 7th of April, a group of TY students took a trip to Kildangan Stud Farm in Kildare. The farm is owned by Sheikh Mohammed who is the prime minister of the UAE. He bought the farm in 1986 from the Moore family. The farm extends to almost 1500 acres with combined accommodation for over 400 horses and a team of 250 employees. The grounds are very clean and well looked after by the staff. Kildangan House has 21 en-suite bedrooms. The house is used by Sheikh Mohammed when he comes to visit the farm with his team. There is space for three helicopters to land on the grass area in front of Kildangan House.

Next, we visited the foaling unit where we saw a day-old foal named Inner Secret. When a foal is born, they are under 24-hour care to make sure they are healthy. A new-born foal weighs an average of 56kg when they are born. They gain about 2kg a day. Later we went to visit the composting unit. Any straw or hay used for bedding the horses is reused in the composting unit to make fertilizer for the fields. They mix cow manure and water with the straw to make an organic fertilizer which is then used on the fields. Since using this method they found that the nutrient quality of the grass improved. The fertilizer is turned every day using a machine for about 4-5 weeks before it is ready to use. The machine comes from Austria and costs about €350,000 and is one of three in Ireland.

We then went on to visit the stallion yard where we met Blue Point, the stallion. One of the workers took him out for us to see him. Blue Point is a valuable stallion and it costs 40,000 euro to cover a mare. We also met a horse called Earthlight who liked to stick his tongue out at people. Whilst in the stallion yard we met Teaser Stephen whose role was to check to see if the horse was in heat.



Cinema Trip with a Difference

BY MATTHEW MURRAY

A few weeks ago, our class went to the Linen hall theatre to watch a German movie called NachtWald. (Nightforest).

It was an exciting and heart-warming story about two boys friendship and dealt with themes such as loyalty and loss, as well as hope for the future. We enjoyed seeing their friendship unfold as they embarked on a dangerous and challenging journey through a forest during the night..



I think it's important in German class to consume German media because it gives a better understanding of the culture. Watching people speak a language casually is a really efficient way to learn that language because it shows how it's used in an everyday setting.

We will also have the opportunity to talk about this film in our LC German oral exam.

Der Film hat uns sehr gut gefallen und war wirklich interessant und spannend.





TY YOGA

By Hannah Prendergast

As part of our TY P.E. program all TY groups took part in a yoga class during their double class of P.E for four weeks. It took place in the sports hall with an instructor who came in to demonstrate the different moves and poses.

He started off by showing us some easy poses and stretches and then moved on to show us some stretches that were a little bit harder. As we progressed, he got us to hold the stretches for longer, which made it more difficult but also more beneficial. He also got us to lie down, close our eyes and focus on our breathing, which helped us to relax. We highly recommend yoga to everyone, at least try it once!



COMEDY SHOW

By Daniel Tighe & Christopher Cusack

On the 24th of March 2022, Davitt College TYs went to a comedy show hosted by Ger Carney in the Royal Theatre, Castlebar. The theatre was packed with TY students from various schools across Mayo.

Right from the start, Ger grabbed the audience's attention and had the whole theatre laughing within minutes. As he jumped across the stage, he joked about the life of teenagers in the modern world. He was great at connecting with his audience as he was very relatable. He went through the differences between boys and girls, their friend groups and joked about almost every type of teenager.

It was the first comedy show that some of us had been to and it was much funnier than we had expected. The audience never lost concentration or got bored because Ger kept everyone engaged from start to finish.

We hope that he hosts more shows for TYs in the future. If Ger Carney were to have another show, we would highly recommend it.

PUPPET WORKSHOP

BY DANIEL TIGUE & NATHAN WALSH



Davitt College TYs took part in the Arts-in-Education BLAST Residency Programme throughout the month of March where puppet artist Carmel Balfe (Little Gem Puppets) came to the school to help students bring their designs to life.

The puppet workshop was spread over four days and we learned how to make puppets from scratch, starting with an outline for the heads, before moving on to the arms and bodies of the puppets. We finished off our puppets by adding hair, eyes, noses, and anything else we could dream up!





DRAMATIC DRUMMING

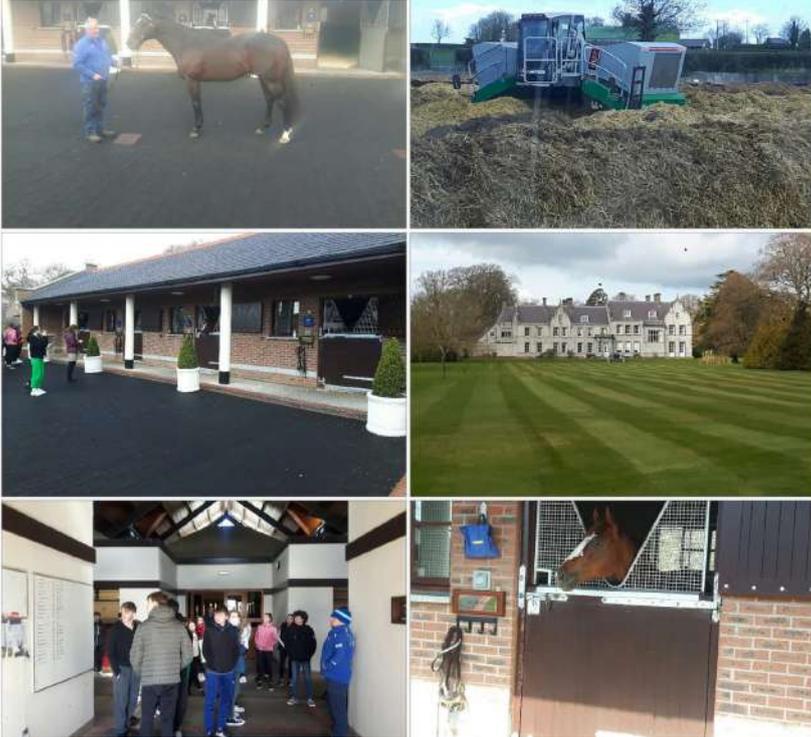
By Amr Basunaid

It was a bright sunny Thursday in the Middle of February and the TY'S decided to take part in a drumming workshop with Anthony. He travelled from Galway to teach us some basic skills on drumming.

He brought many drums with him, which were made of goat's skin from the West Of Africa. It was nice to see musical instruments from other countries and try them out for ourselves. He gave the students here at Davitt College a wonderful experience and we hope to see him again next year.



TY ON THE MOVE



TYs Visit Kildangan Stud



TY Puppet Masters



TY Filmmakers



TY Soccer Blitz



TY Puppet Masters

TY FILMMAKERS WORKSHOP





CHARITY WORKSHOP: SERVE

BY DEAN RALPH

On the 24th of January, the charity, Serve, came to Davitt College to give us a workshop on the UN, Poverty, Development, Inequality, and the work they do as a charity.

They began by introducing themselves and started with an icebreaker where we had to match pictures to words. These words were all to do with poverty, development, and inequality. After that they began to tell us about the work that they have carried out in less developed countries.

At the end of the workshop, they gave us a link to enrol ourselves into the charity and they will pick 12 students to carry out charity work and go out to other countries to help the people in need.

This was a very interesting and worthwhile workshop and in the coming months students will be carrying out charity work to support and help Serve.



TYS VISIT KILDANGAN STUD





DANIEL TIGHE'S ENTRY FOR MENTAL HEALTH IRELAND'S CREATIVE COMPETITION

Well-Being Week

Aware Ireland's Life Skills for Schools programme was delivered to all TY students over the month of March and finished on Well-Being Week, thanks to Mr. Maguire. Life Skills for Schools aims to help young people develop helpful ways of thinking and managing concerns. Students were able to reflect on the key learning points each week and had time to experiment with the 'new ways of thinking' presented.

Davitt College hosted its annual Well-Being Week from the 4th to the 8th of April, packed full of events and activities putting students into a great mood heading into the Easter Break.

To begin the week, our TY groups hosted a GAA Future Leaders event with First Year students in the gym on Monday and Tuesday, and closed out the week playing a competitive game against the teachers. The referee on the day was very questionable!



Happy Easter!

THANK YOU FOR READING

