



TY TIMES

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The Davitt College official Transition Year newsletter



Other great reads in this issue:

**WEIRD, WEARY
AND WONDERFUL
WALK** 2

GREASE DIARY 3

**MARIE KEATING
FOUNDATION** 4

FORENSICS 9

TY SPORTS DIARIES 11

Achill: Freezing, Fabulous, Fun!

On the 27th and 28th of September 2022 our Transition Year students travelled to Achill for a fun day out!

We commenced our adventure at 9:00 AM sharp when we got on the bus to head for Achill. There was a chill in the air and the sky was a dull shade of grey. So, as you can imagine, we were excited, yet dreading, the day ahead.

It was a pleasant journey, which lasted about an hour, before we reached Achill Adventure Centre. The views were quite scenic en route, with a low cloud covering the distant mountains. (continued on page 6)



Weird, Weary and Wonderful Walk

BY AARON FLANNERY

It was a weird, cloudy and misty morning on the 7th of September 2022. We went to our first class to get roll call. All Transition Year students then met at the Sports Hall and headed off on our first nature walk together. We started our journey at the school and went to the park. We crossed the bridge and we went past Rowan Drive and down the Pontoon Road.

We stopped at the forest and Keelan O'Donnell got lost ... we were so scared, we feared the loss of our boy. His fascination with a frog led them to his apparent demise. Our classmate Alex went to find him... he still claims he saw a bear on his travels! Alex was quick to react when he jumped into the ditch and saved Keelan from any more danger.

Despite all the rain, we still managed to have a picnic in the forest and got a good walk around our local area.

We all arrived back safely despite a few minor complaints.





BY CHRISTOPHER LENNON & LAURA TALBERGA

The Davitt College TY musical is finally back! This year's musical is Grease and even though we've had a few setbacks, we're getting through and working hard to make it the best in town!

The acting has been amazing! Our first read-throughs sounded bland and boring but now everyone is really getting into character, and enjoying their roles. I play a role that is mostly singing and my friend Laura plays a Pink Lady. Every Tuesday we stay for 2 hours after school to practice acting, learning (and altering) our lines. This extra time has been really helpful as almost all of us have been having trouble getting a grasp on the American accents but thanks to these sessions we've really improved. Everyone in our acting group has been really kind and supportive of each other which really helps build up motivation to do better. Our music teacher helps us with chorus work and solo songs. Sometimes we have to sing or act in front of another class which can be pretty embarrassing at first but you get used to it.

Alongside the acting and singing, our choreographer, Cora, has been working very hard to keep us on schedule, altering dances and choreography to suit the storyline, working really well alongside the other teachers to suit any changes they might make with the script, which has happened once or twice. But, from a student's point of view, I think we're all doing great, everyone is cooperating and enjoying dancing each and every Monday all day long. We even dance during our lunch break each day in our UNIFORMS which really warms us up in the freezing weather.

We're all enjoying this wonderful opportunity to participate in this year's musical, having fun clapping and cheering on our brilliant classmates after each and every dance, which just brings up our confidence levels even more and encourages us to keep on going!

It's exhausting (and stressful at times), but at the end of the day it will be worth it when all those people are cheering for us on the day! So keep going!

MARIE KEATING FOUNDATION TALK

BY ELLEN O'DONNELL

On Tuesday the 4th of October, Transition Year students received an informative talk on cancer presented by the Marie Keating Foundation. The foundation was set up by the Keating family, after their mother Marie's death from breast cancer in 1998. The Keating family promised to provide the people of Ireland with vital information, advice and support on the signs and symptoms of cancer and help to prevent cancer or detect it at its earliest stages. The Marie Keating Foundation was established in her memory and with this central ambition in mind.

Many of our questions were answered, such as:

- What is Cancer?
- How do you get cancer?
- And how to avoid getting it?

The first thing we discussed was what we knew already about cancer. We knew that some cancers are caused by the sun and smoking. But there was much more to learn.

Many things can affect the risk of getting cancer but it is often the lifestyle you choose to live which has the greatest impact. If you smoke or are obese, your risk will increase. There are many carcinogenic chemicals in cigarettes. The chance of getting cancer can also be genetic and pass down through generations.

We were taught to look after our skin correctly in the sun. Wear sunscreen to keep the UV rays off our skin. To avoid skin cancer which is the most common cancer in Ireland.

Overall, this was a worthwhile talk and everyone took something from it.



Marie Keating
FOUNDATION

We are with you.
Every step.



NADIA GYM

by ALEX MINKOV & LIN XU

On the 6th of October we went to Nadia gymnastics centre in Ballina. We started off with a warmup, after that we were taught how to do different jumps on a trampoline, such as front flips, backflips and more.

At the end, we had 10 minutes free time and used the gymnastic bar and climbed the rope. We also jumped into a foam pit that had huge run up and allowed us to front flip in! After our group was finished, we went to get food at a nearby shop but it started lashing rain so we all got soaked! The bus journey back was good craic as one of our classmates brought a speaker along, though we're not sure if the teachers and bus driver felt the same way!



Achill: Freezing, Fabulous, Fun! Part One

BY ALISON CAREY AND SORCHA MURPHY

On the 27th and 28th of September 2022 our Transition Year students travelled to Achill for a fun day out!

We commenced our adventure at 9:00 AM sharp when we got on the bus to head for Achill. There was a chill in the air and the sky was a dull shade of grey. So, as you can imagine, we were excited, yet dreading the day ahead.

It was a pleasant journey, which lasted about an hour, before we reached Achill Adventure Centre. The views were quite scenic en route, with a low cloud covering the distant mountains. We hopped off the bus and headed inside to meet our instructors for the day ahead. The instructors then informed us of all the activities we were going to be taking part in throughout the day. They would consist of surfing, canoeing, paddle boarding and jumping in the river. We were split into two groups, one went surfing first and the other did the canoeing, paddleboarding and jumping in the river.

We were sent to put on wet suits and then we put on life jackets and windbreakers. We hopped on the shuttle bus and made our way down to the lake. We got paddles and paddleboards and were shown how to power as a team across the lake. The girls were on one board and the boys were on the other and we had a race to see who could get to the other side first. Unfortunately the girls hit a bump in the road and Ricky, our instructor, had to attach us on to him, but, to be honest, we were pulling him most of the way! We reached the other side of the lake first while the boys were struggling. They eventually made it to where we were.



We then trekked across the field, which was full of squelchy mud. Our feet were frozen solid at this stage as we made it to the river. We lined up and got ready for the leap of faith. We took it in turns to jump into the freezing cold river, which was very deep and muddy. We did this for about 30 minutes before we had to track back across the muddy field to our canoes and paddleboards. We switched with the canoeing group since our group did paddleboarding first. We were much faster getting over to the other side of the lake as the wind was with us. We then had to yank the canoes out of the lake and leave our paddles down on the bank.



Achill: Freezing, Fabulous, Fun! Part Two

BY ALISON CAREY AND SORCHA MURPHY

We left the lake and went back to the Achill Adventure Centre building. We had some lunch and warmed up. After about an hour of chilling out we went back out on the road. We headed down to the beach and got our surfboards. We met two new instructors who showed us the skills we were going to use in the surfing. Once we knew what we were doing, we headed out into the waves. It was cold at first but once we had been in there for 10 minutes we began to warm up and get used to the cold. We were surfing for about an hour before we headed back one more time to the Achill Adventure Centre building.

When we got to the changing rooms we had to take off our wetsuits and our windbreakers and give them back. We all battled to get a shower first as we were freezing cold and we got changed into our warm clothes. Once you were changed you had to go out and sit down and wait for everyone else. We left Achill Adventure Centre at about 5:00 o'clock. Once everyone had eventually settled down we made our way back home. We got back home at about 6:00 o'clock and our parents collected us.

It was quite a long day but worth it, as we all had so much fun. The only thing that could have been better was the weather, as it was freezing cold in the water with a gale blowing. But, other than that, we all had a great day and really enjoyed it!

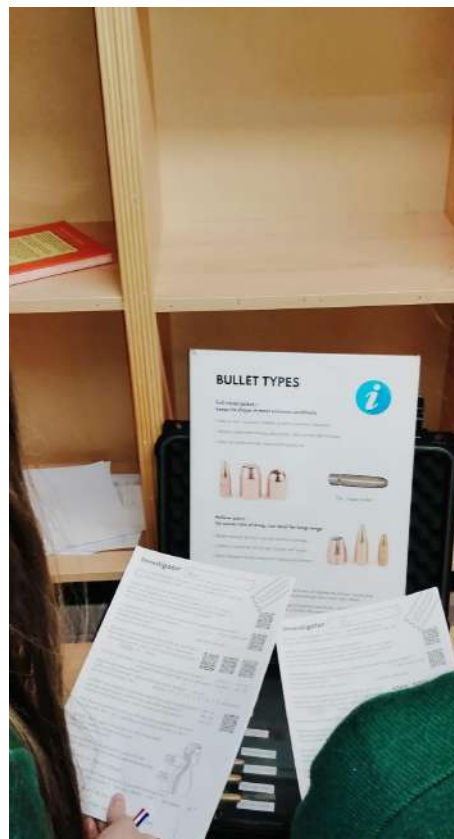




FORENSICS

by FINN MCHALE, ADAM BLAKE, CHLOE NALLY & LIZELLE BRACKEN

On Tuesday the 18th of October the Transition Year students of Davitt College participated in a forensic science workshop hosted by Australian native, Alison Leck. The classes listened to Alison speak about JFK and his assassination. She told the class groups about what happened the day of JFK's death, and the conspiracies surrounding the events of November 22nd, 1963. The groups then proceeded to use a worksheet to find the killer of JFK. They used different methods to work out the killer, such as fingerprints, bullet shells/casings and a VR headset. There were also gun models, a handgun, revolver and Carcano rifle.





We studied the murder of John F Kennedy and tried to figure out who was behind the cause of his murder.

We watched the footage of JFK's murder through virtual reality headsets. We got to see the different samples of the guns that were used in the case. We also got to see samples of the bullets that were fired. We got to take our own fingerprints and collect them on our worksheet. JFK's killer is still a mystery but we all have our own suspects!





DAVITT GIRLS AHEAD OF THE GAME!

by Rebecca Moran

Thursday, 29th of September, was the Senior Girls Gaelic team's first outing, up against Ballinrobe Community School, a team that the girls were familiar with. Davitt Girls began the match with great dominance, Ballinrobe didn't stand a chance against the work rate and determination of the Davitt defence, consisting of Tara Concannon, Eabha Donnelly, Aoibhinn Gainley, Aoibheann O'Donnell, Beth Roache and Maggie Hehir.

At half-time, Davitt were in control. It appeared that Davitt were going to continue to dominate, which they did. Even with the difficult playing conditions, Davitt never ceased to give up. Mr Brogan and Ms Hughes couldn't have asked for anything more from the girls. Starting off the hopefully long season for these girls with a win is a sign for what is to come. Every team should fear Davitt College.

Tuesday, October 4th was the girls' next challenge in the group against Swinford. A team that would be one of the stronger teams in the group. However, Davitt were not phased by this. The girls went out fearless and ready for the challenge to come. This present mindset was demonstrated by the girls on the pitch, kicking 2-4 with no reply in the opening minutes. This is just what the coaches wanted. Similar to the first game, the girls did not give up and continued to dominate everywhere on the pitch. The final score ending up being 6-14 to 1-6. A great display once again from Davitt, further improved from the first game.



DAVITT COLLEGE GIRLS JUNIOR DIARY

by Rebecca Moran

The Davitt College girls' Junior Gaelic team kicked off their group campaign on Tuesday, 27th of September against Balla. The task ahead was tough, after not having any previous training sessions beforehand. Balla started strong but Davitt kept on their tails. The half-time score was not reflective of the work ethic that Davitt displayed. The girls came out stronger and more determined in the second half. But, in the end, Balla were too tough for Davitt, with the opposition prevailing.

The next game needed a big improvement from the team. This time however, the girls had trained together. Kiltimagh were the next opposition for Davitt College, who started the game explosively, which continued for the entire game. The girls were far too strong for Kiltimagh and ran away with the game.

The most recent match was the polar opposite in respect of results. Claremorris are renowned for having a very strong Gaelic team. A team too strong for Davitt. Claremorris began the game on the right foot with Davitt chasing them. Claremorris ended up victorious. Unfortunately, we lost and now must wait for other results to see whether we made it to the next round.

Trouble for Thomas at the Driving Range

BY MARK MCVANN & JACK GINNELLY

On the 14th of September Transition Year students paid Aidan Moran's golfing range a visit. During our first session Mr Thomas Lynch did a run up to swing the golf club, however our dear friend let go of the golf club mid swing. As a result, the golf club flew over four groups of students. It eventually hit the roof and landed on the head of a Mr. Keelan O' Donnell.



Fortunately, the rubber grip landed on Keelan's head and due to this, Keelan managed to survive unscathed, but the trauma will remain with him forever. We asked Mr Lynch for a comment, which he responded by saying "I had a great day and I would go again!" Keelan also stated that "It was a great day even though I nearly got injured. I too would go again."

From this incident we learnt that golf can be extremely entertaining but also dangerous, especially with Mr. Lynch.

Spikeball

BY TIANHA JOHNSON AND CHLOE NALLY

On Tuesday 25th October Davitt College TY students took part in a volleyball training course which gave them the qualities to coach younger students from primary to first years.

We first completed a quiz online on all the different rules for volleyball. Our instructors Amanda and Aiden taught us all the referee hand signals and rules. We started off by playing different warm up games such as stuck in the mud, turtle tag, and chocolate chip cookie.

After the warmup games we were introduced to the different passes in volleyball such as how to serve, spike, dig and volley. After learning our volleyball techniques we were put into groups of four to assess our volleyball coaching skills. After completing our assessment we received volleyball coaching t-shirts.

Overall this experience was very enjoyable and informative. We learned many new things about how to play and teach volleyball. We look forward to coaching primary schools and first years.



Davitt College 4-1 Headford Presentation

BY GUILHERME BARBOSA SILVA

Davitt College U17 Boys kicked off their league campaign in style, beating Headford Presentation 4-1. Davitt College began the game in style when Nathan Cook was brought down in the box with Colm Lynch slotting home the resulting penalty. Davey McManamon scored his first on the 34th minute assisted by Dylan Carroll. The roles were reversed just before half-time when Dylan Carroll scored a scorcher just inside the box, assisted by Davey McManamon. A solid display in between the posts by Paddy Hopkins kept Headford at bay until the 53rd minute when a shot from distance found the top corner. Davey McManamon killed the game off in the 73rd minute after being put through by Sinteyahu Killeen. Colm Lynch emerged with the man of the match after controlling the midfield in both halves.

TY ON THE MOVE



The Transition Year Walk



GAA Coaching



Juggling Workshop



Spikeball



The Ploughing Championships

BOXERCISE



THE TY MUSICAL



DAVITT COLLEGE

PRESENTS

GREASE

the Musical

30TH NOV 1ST & 2ND DEC 2022

8PM

DAVITT COLLEGE SPORTS HALL

CHILDREN / OAPS €7 ADULTS €12

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
TEL: 094-9023060



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