

Transition Year Newsletter

First term newsletter update from the TY students
December 2017, Christmas Edition.



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TY students win an award at the Cara National Inclusion Awards.

Transition Year students volunteered to help out in the swimming pool in Kells on Friday mornings for an eight week period during October and November. They were helping students with special needs from St. Ultan's school in Navan. Class 4B, as part of their YSI project, sought permission from the swimming pool and parents of the students from St. Ultan's school and made a video of the work our students were doing. Mrs Mc Bride then nominated the group for the Cara National Inclusion Awards. Cara are an organisation that promote inclusion in sport for people with disabilities. We were delighted to hear that we had been shortlisted in the Education category. Mrs. Mc Bride and Mr. Joyce attended the awards in the Crowns Plaza Hotel, in Blanchardstown, while the TY students were on work experience. We were delighted to get Runners Up in our category– a great achievement!



Collection for the Irish Wheelchair Association



On Thursday the 9th and Friday the 10th of November we spent the day collecting for the Irish Wheelchair Association. We were split into pairs and allocated time slots. It was very rewarding knowing that the money collected was going to a good cause. At the end of the two days we had collected €1,282.00 from the various locations and was overall a great success. The IWA were delighted with our efforts and we now get to take part in a National Wheelchair Basketball competition as a result!!

Enterprise Mini –Companies

As part of enterprise in school, some of our TY's have been running their own mini company's and getting an insight into the running of a business. One such is Yore & Mullen Woodcraft , which is run by Declan Mullen and Cormac Yore ,who are making and selling chopping boards all from recycled wood! We have been selling these in school at parent teacher meetings, to teachers as well as in several Christmas markets in the locality. So far our business has been going very well and we have to have continued success in the future!

(Declan Mullen)



Revenue Talk



Two women from Revenue came in and talked to us about taxes. They told us that if we didn't have an account with revenue when we get a job we will be put on emergency tax, which would deduct 52% of our wages in tax. If we set up an account with revenue our employer would be notified to put us on normal tax. They brought us into the computer room and helped set up our accounts.

(Ryan Loughlin)

Work Experience Week 1

All TY students went on work experience from the 27th of November to Dec 1st. We went to work for a variety of companies and we got to experience what working outside of school is like.

Some places that we were working in included offices, pharmacies, primary schools, hardware stores, bakeries, cafés, electricians, vets, gyms and with architects.

Everyone said that they learned a lot from their week at work. We all enjoyed our experiences and we look forward to our next work experience in March!

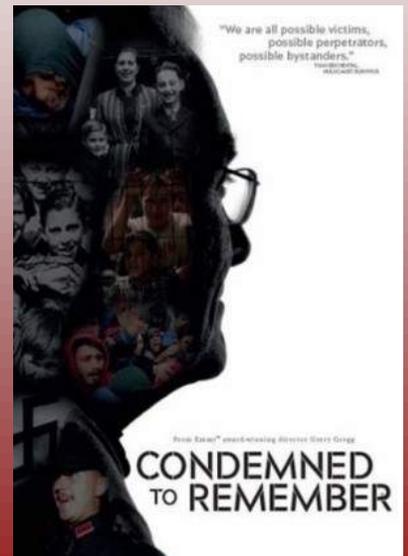
One student's account.....

I started my first day of work experience by going to work with my dad in Clancy Network Ltd. We started off the job by checking out the place and seeing where we could place the wires for the tv. We then got the boxes of wire and started tie wrapping the wires to the pipes. It was really high so we had to be careful. Then we got the tvs and started placing them against the wall. I found this type of work interesting and a nice break from school-it was also nice to be working with my dad! **(Ben Clancy)**

Holocaust Film in Ashbourne

The three TY classes and two fifth year history classes went to Ashbourne on Monday 18th Dec to watch a movie about the Holocaust in World War 2, as part of the “**Holocaust Narrative**” programme for schools. It was based on the story of Tom Reichental’s life and how he survived the Holocaust and how, at the moment in the world, history is repeating itself. It was also based on modern day sectarianism towards Muslims. Tomi himself attended the movie and did a question and answer session with the students at the end, answering any of the questions we had. Eventhough what we watched and heard was horrific, it was very interesting and a very enjoyable and informative day out.

(Senan Mc Dermott)



Peer Education Programme



Peer Education in the HSE.

6 students were chosen to attend the Peer Education programme in the HSE for a 5 day course. William Tevlin, Stephen Lynskey, Caitlin O'Brien, Shifra Luddy, Casey Lennon & Sean Mc Caughley. Over the 5 days we were educated in peer pressure and self-esteem, smoking, drugs, and alcohol and participated in group activities and presentations.

In the new-year, we will go to the first year classes and teach them during 4 of their SPHE classes about the topics we learned. Overall it was a fantastic opportunity to take part in such a programme and very educational.



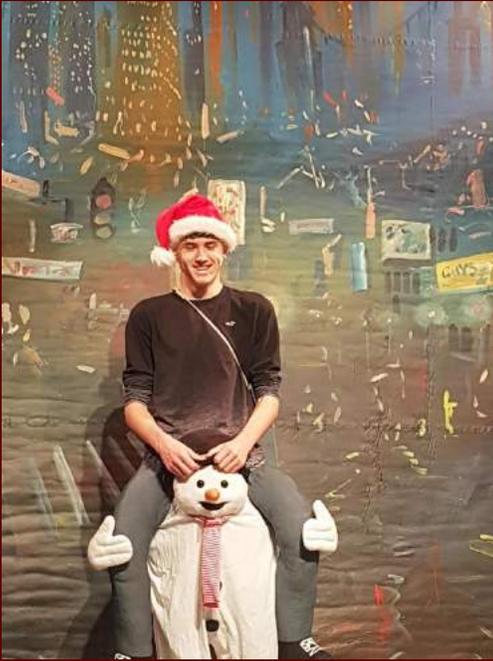
Youth Connect

On the 23rd of November a lady, called Selina, from Youth Connect Ireland gave us a talk on young people's working rights in the workplace and also about trade unions. We also learned about the legal age one is allowed to work at, the hours one can do and how to read and understand pay slips. This was useful as it was just before our work experience week and we learned lots of information that would be beneficial to us.

Christmas around St. Ciaran's



TY Drama: It's a Wonderful Life



A group of T.Y students along with Ms Mc Cormack have been working hard over the last several weeks to bring together our drama “It’s a Wonderful Life” The T.Y classes have also been working alongside Ms Glennon to create the backdrops and props for the play. We have been working hard in all aspects of the production, even coming in after school to rehearse. The play took place on the 13th of December in the theatre in Kells . We did a show in the afternoon for all of the 1st, 2nd & 3rd year students from our school and then another show on the Wednesday night for parents and families. All our hard work paid off and the night was a great success. Many thanks to all the teachers who helped out, but in particular Ms. Mc Cormack! (**Matthew Cahill**)

Farewell to some of our TY International Students



This year we had eleven International students, as part of our TY programme. These students are from Spain and Germany. Six of the students were only here for the half year and are returning home at Christmas. The other five students are with us for the whole year. As a group, we had a little farewell party for our International students on Thursday last. We wish them all a safe trip home and all the best for the future.

Upcoming Events

- Young Scientist Exhibition
- Tooth Led Teens Dental Programme
- Irish Wheelchair Association Workshop
- Wheelchair Basketball National Competition
- Soar Workshop
- YSI Speakout in Drogheda
- Collon 1st Drive Experience
- Work Experience Week 2
- Careers Talks
- UCD Campus Tour
- Fairyhouse Cookery School
- Law Education for schools
- Collection for Special Olympics

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas & all the best for 2018.