

END OF YEAR MESSAGE

Sandymount Park ETSS



THANK YOU

Paula Mulhall | Principal

We have come to the end of another school year and I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of our growing school. It has been an exceptionally busy nine months, starting with the move to Beach Road, welcoming over seventy new students, a doubling of staff numbers and the introduction of our first Transition Year programme. A developing school is an exciting place to be - complex, at times challenging but always rewarding and we are very proud of all that has been achieved. We are recognised as an innovative school with high standards of learning and teaching and student care, we have waitlists for all year groups. We nurture and protect our positive school culture and we are pleased that visitors to the school regularly comment on the warmth of the relationships within the community.

These positive relationships are evident at school events such as our recent Awards Ceremony when students enthusiastically celebrated the achievements of others. Congratulations to our students of the year:

1st year Harley Plunkett, 2nd years Louis Laydevant and Bea Nerney, 3rd year Mabel Healy and TY Jasmine Laokhunthot.

Student of the Year is awarded to those who consistently display school values and have a positive impact in and outside the classroom, participating fully in the life of the school.

Well done to all students for their ongoing enthusiastic engagement with all aspects of school: class and homework, whole school events, co and extra-curricular activities and end of term assessments. Chatting to students they report finding school welcoming and enjoyable, they particularly like:

- working together
- opportunities to be creative
- their iPad and using OneNote
- being involved in extra-curricular clubs and sports teams
- being asked their opinion and being involved in leading events
- having outdoor space
- trips

Students speak highly of their teachers and together we are turning our vision of building a culture of teaching and learning excellence, enhanced by positive relationships into a reality. A heartfelt thanks to staff for their dedication and commitment to our students, they make the high standards of learning, behaviour and wellbeing experienced by students in our school look easy. The reality is that it takes a huge commitment of time and energy to collaborate, research, plan, prepare, reflect, adapt and innovate. I am hugely grateful and inspired by their passion and hard work every day.

We say goodbye to Aisling, Evlin, Leticia, Cecilia and Ruth and wish them the very best for the future, their contribution to Sandymount Park will be remembered. Huge thanks also to the Board of Management – Vanessa, Conor, Niamh, Jennifer, Ed, Úna, Glenn and Paul, for their time and good guidance, it is such an important role, carried out in a voluntary capacity.

We look forward to welcoming ninety-six students in August, bringing our numbers to 315 from 1st to 5th year. We hope to have canteen facilities available to students next year and will update you as soon as we have details confirmed. The calendar for 2022/2023 is available [here](#), there will be a staggered return for students from August 25th, we will be in touch with more details later in the summer.

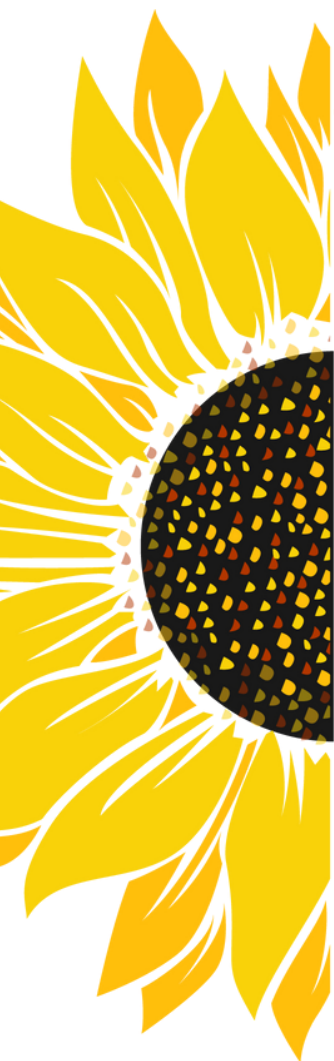
Best of luck to our 3rd year students who will begin Junior Cycle Examinations on June 8th, due to the pandemic, they are the first Sandymount Park students to sit State Exams.

Once again, well done to all students for their hard work, good spirits and enthusiasm throughout the year, enjoy the well-earned break.

Paula

Some of our achievements in 2021/2022

- Move and set up in new premises
- Student numbers increased by over 50%, staff numbers by over 100%
- Transition Year Programme introduced
- First school musical
- Curriculum expanded - Philosophy, Digital Media Literacy, Politics and Society
- New clubs - language and culture, rugby, dance, debating and more
- Links developed/visits with EU schools
- Successful fundraising initiatives
- Student participation and success in team sports, athletics, Gaisce, YSI, Enterprise, BTYSE, DELF, Fighting Words and more
- School newspaper moved online - check out www.sandymountparkpress.com
- Student mentoring program introduced
- Plans developed for launch of canteen facilities, school lottery in 22/23
- Supervised study introduced
- Parent Association expanded
- Student Council Talent Show, Active Week, Bike Week, Wellbeing Week, Stand Up Week, Seachtain na Gaeilge and Céilí Mór, Festival of Learning



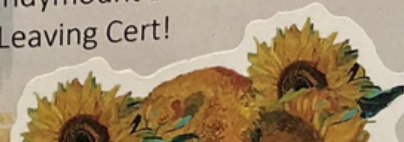
Hello everyone! My name is Kate, I am 16 and I am a TY student who came here from Ukraine due to the war caused by Russia. This year I was supposed to graduate from my school and enter the university in the city of my dream - Kyiv, but everything has drastically changed.

Even though I've been to Ireland for more than three months I keep on finding out new things not only about the country itself but the Irish culture and people. But without a doubt the most exciting experience I had here so far is studying in the Sandymount Park ETSS.

To begin with, as this school is very different from my own everything was pretty new for me beginning from the timetable, iPads, clubs, breaks to the lessons themselves and the environment. But it only took me a week to blend into the atmosphere. The things I liked the most were the school events and trips. They were a really great fun, especially the talent show. The PE trip to lighthouse was freezingly exciting, hehe. The rock climbing was actually very cool, too bad I'm afraid of heights, but all the brave ones out here should definitely try it!

Also, I can't help but mention all the wonderful staff that were always there to give me some advice. Special thanks goes to all the lovely TY students for their hospitality and support, that means a lot to me as I'm not the very sociable type. At the first day I was really nervous, but then I realised that there was nothing to worry about. The dynamic that students have here is just brilliant - everyone is so friendly, cheerful and extremely energetic.

I really enjoyed the time I spent in the Sandymount ETSS and I can't wait to see everyone the next year in the Leaving Cert!
With love, Kate ♡



A highlight of our Transition Year Showcase was this heartfelt contribution from Kate who joined us in March. Our school community has been greatly enriched by our wonderful Ukrainian students

HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH?

1. We will be launching the VSWare App for communication with the school in August, Brian will be in touch with more details.
2. The website www.sandymountparketss.ie
3. Follow us on Twitter [@SandymOuntPark](https://twitter.com/SandymOuntPark)
4. Check the school journal
5. Read the school newspaper www.sandymountparkpress.com

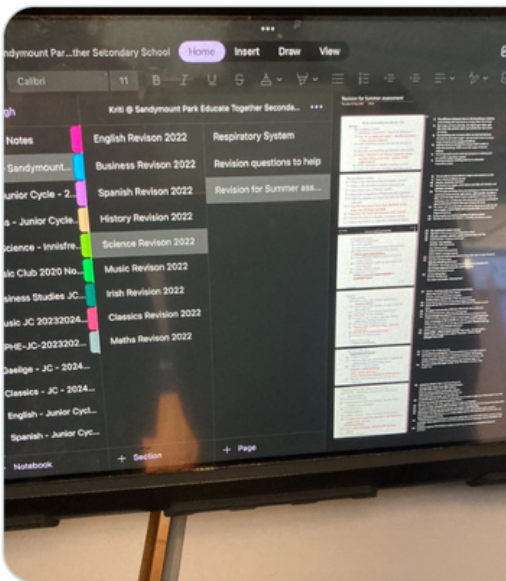


Best day ever seems to be the consensus. I don't know who was happier, staff or students [#weekofwellbeing](#) [#bestfriends](#)

Bring your Dog to Work May 17th



FESTIVAL OF LEARNING



Kriti's highly organised revision folders in OneNote helped her prepare for summer assessments. Showing impressive digital literacy and self management skills