

# **EXPLORING TOGETHER**

With the sunshine making a welcome appearance, students and staff have made the most of the good weather by heading out on a wide range of school trips. From the Wicklow Mountains to Belfast, students have enjoyed hands-on experiences that brought classroom learning to life.

# **BIOLOGY TRIP TO THE DUBLIN ZOO**

As part of their preparation for the Leaving Cert Biology exam, students took part in an ecology trip focused on the study of a grassland habitat. There, they carried out fieldwork, examining a variety of plant and animal life in detail. The visit also included time in the zoo, where students had the chance to build on their learning by observing how different species interact with their environments—bringing textbook theory to life in a meaningful and memorable way.











### **LCPE TRIP TO SPORT IRELAND CAMPUS**

"To accompany the Mini PAP project for our summer exam, we took a trip to Sport Ireland Campus to take part in fitness testing similar to Irish Olympic athletes. We began with a guided warmup done on the track before going up to the gym to do our max strength testing doing 3 rep maxes on bench press and deadlifts. We had about ten minutes to warm up before going for our recorded attempts. Then we took a lunch break and got to the track where we tested our max speed through a forty-meter sprint. We then tested our agility with a T-test and power with med ball throws and broad jumps. Some of the tests were a bit difficult to get the hang of, especially the T-test which really confused me, but the others were really cool and it was so interesting to compare my scores to group averages and age averages. It was great fun and left me feeling prepared for the real project next year, I can't wait to go again!" - Tadgh











# **LOOKING AFTER OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER**

This term, we were proud to celebrate Wellbeing Week—an opportunity to pause and focus on looking after ourselves and one another. A huge thank you to the Wellbeing Committee for organising such a thoughtful and meaningful programme of activities. Both students and staff took part in a range of tutor-time initiatives including mindful playlists, writing letters to their future selves, creating message chains, sharing notes of gratitude, and completing acts of kindness within their tutor groups. Highlights of the week also included a whole-school trip to Alive Outside in Kilruddery organised by the PE Department, the visit of our staff doggies, the yearly basketball match teachers vs students, a PE challenge, and some lively Zumba. It was a great recharge week before assessment week—well done to all involved!

## **ALIVE OUTSIDE TRIP WHOLE-SCHOOL TRIP**

















# **DOG DAY**





# **TALENT SHOW**

"Our stage has given students countless opportunities to express their creativity and explore their talents. The talent show was bittersweet, as we said goodbye to the stage. In a celebration of the arts, students took to the stage to perform a variety of acts, from singing to comedy, and from dancing to the piano. In doing so, a lasting memory for all was created. These last four years as the talent show coordinator has been a fantastic experience". – Erik





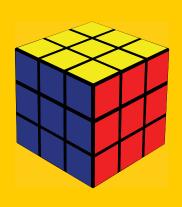
























# **BAKE-OFF CONTEST**





Congratulations, Amalia!









# **PE CHALLENGE**

"In 5th year Leaving Certificate PE class we learned about organising events. For well-being week we organised a challenges day for the other year groups. We had a range of challenges from rowing to push ups. We did a circuit style layout and everyone had 2 minutes at each station. We had thirty seconds to explain the challenge and then the students had 1 minute – 1 minute and 30 seconds for their challenges. After the challenges day we came back to class and analysed how the day went. We compared results and found the winners from each activity. As a class we made certificates and delivered them to the winners". – Eliza





# **ZUMBA CLASS**



# **ACTS OF KINDNESS**

Thank you, Abbie, for baking brownies for our last day of English class!





# A WHOLE-SCHOOL APPROACH

As part of the Bí Cineálta national campaign – an anti-bullying initiative being rolled out in schools across Ireland to promote kindness, respect and tackle bullying – our students have been busy putting those values into action in a real and meaningful way.

During this year's Wellbeing Week, our tutor groups rolled up their sleeves, put their heads together, and collaborated to create something pretty special – an Anti-Bullying Student-Friendly Policy that reflects what really matters to our school community.

On Tuesday the 13th of May, during Ethical Education lessons, students across the school shared ideas on how to prevent and address bullying. They shared ideas on how to make our school make school safer, kinder and more inclusive. From respecting one another to making sure nobody feels left out, the message was clear: we all want a school where everyone belongs.

This work connects directly to the goals of Bí Cineáltas, which means "Be Kind" in Irish – a campaign encouraging schools to build cultures of empathy, inclusion and anti-bullying through everyday actions.

The student-led draft policy is now heading for ratification in September, and it's packed with powerful principles like:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Inclusion
- Looking after each other

Staff also got involved with whole-school Bí Cineáltas training on the 30th April. At Sandymount Park ETSS our whole community is working together to prevent and address bullying.

Keep an eye out for the colourful poster version of the policy going up around the school soon – made by students, for students. Because when it comes to shaping school life, your voice counts!



# Bi Cineatta!

We want everyone at our school to feel safe and happy.

If you think that you or someone else is being bullied, you need to tell a teacher or another adult that you trust. They will know what to do and help.

Bullying behaviour is when someone keeps being mean or hurtful to others on purpose and repeatedly.

If you are being bullied, you can tell:

- vour Tutor
- · your Progress Leader
- the Anti-bullying Coordinator (Elaine)
- the Deputy Principal (Aisling)
- the Principal (Paula)
- the Empathy Ambassadors

Tell someone if you think bullying is occurring!

created by Calla, Neesha and Marianne Skellig If a student tells a staff member they are being bullied, they will:

- · talk to the student privately
- · ask the student what they want to happen
- · work out a plan together with the student
- · talk to the student's parents
- · talk to other student(s) involved
- talk to the other student(s)' parent(s) or guardian(s)







Our school has a Bi Cineálta policy to try to stop bullying behaviour.

We look at this policy every year to see what is working well or what could work better.

Sandymount Park ETSS



### **COMMUNITY IN ACTION**

The Parents' Association is the structure through which parents/guardians in a school can work together for the best possible education for their children. Educational research on the involvement of parents in schools shows that children achieve higher levels when parents and teachers work together. Meet our Parents' Association:

1st Year Rep: Olivia Freeman Ivana Dusparic

2nd Year Rep: Lesley Hughes Niveen El Far 3rd Year Rep:

Darina Harewood Deborah Clinton

4th Year Rep: Christina Deevy Donna Carey 5th Year Rep: Aoife Twohig

6th Year Rep: Liz Bissett Sarah Bonagsegale Other members:

Helene Molloy Gina Faustino Karen Whelan

Liz: Chair Lesley: Secretary Helene: Treasurer

'Supporting and empowering parents to be active in the best interests of their children's educational lives.' NPC



Liz Chairperson and 6th Year Rep Liz is an active member of the PA, serving as Chairperson and 6th Year Parents Representative. With two daughters in the school — Leyla in 6th Year and Saoirse in 3rd Year. Liz enjoys being part of the PA as it provides a way to contribute to school life while creating connections with parents from across all year groups.



Lesley Secretary Lesley is the secretary and a 2nd year parent rep on the PA.

Lesley has Saul in 1st year and Cole in 2nd year in the school. She enjoys being able to contribute to the school with fundraising events and meeting other parents from the school community.



Niveen 2nd Year Rep Niveen is a parent member of the PA with two children at Sandymount Park ETSS—Azd in TY and Zia in 2nd Year. A project manager, she looks forward to supporting the PA's activities and working with the community and PA members to make a positive impact.



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#### Sarah 6th Year Rep

Sarah is a parent member of the PA and has a child- Guila-in 6th year. She enjoys working with the PA as it has helped her gain valuable insights and stronger connections within the school community.



#### Helene Treasurer

Helene is a parent member of the PA and is the treasurer. Her son George is in 1st year. She has enjoyed the opportunity of meeting the other PA members as well as the chance to make a contribution to the school.



#### Darina 2nd Year Rep

Darina is an active member of the PA and is a representative for 3rd year. She has a son Michael in junior cert. Darina enjoys meeting other parents from the wider school community. She enjoys being involved with fundraising for and contributing to the school - all benefitting our children.



#### Elaine Teacher Member

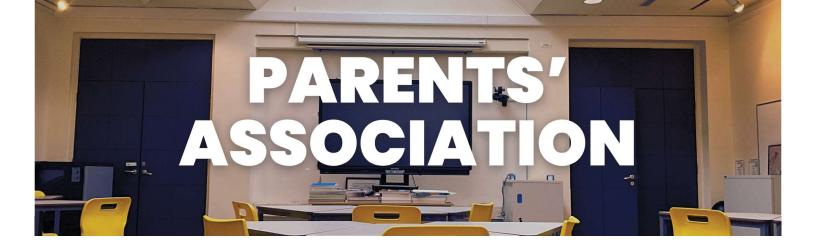
Elaine has been a member of the PA since joining the school. She has enjoyed being a part of the school community and has commented on how welcoming and friendly the parents are. Not being a Dublin native, being a member of the PA has been a great way to get to know the wider school community.



#### Aisling Deputy Principal

Aisling has been a member of our PA since being appointed as Deputy Principal in 2022. She has commented on the focused and friendly atmosphere and the great successes achieved by the PA over the years. For Aisling, the communication between students, teachers and parents are at the heart of





## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION TALK

The Parents' Association organised a talk for parents with John McAteer, counsellor psychotherapist, who provided a very informative talk for parents on the subject of communicating with adolescent children. Parents have highlighted social media wellness, communication strategies and anxiety as key areas of interest. The PA hopes to continue with these talks next year.

Students recorded a podcast episode that we invite you to listen to following this link.



Podcast Episod

Stronger Together: Navigating
Anxiety, Communication and SelfEsteem as a Family with John McAteer
Sandymount Park ETSS

"We were delighted to welcome John McAteer, a counselor and psychotherapist to the studio to explore this important topic. Joining John was Aisling our Deputy Principal and Lesley our Parents' Association Secretary. This episode was hosted by our very own Hannah who made time from her busy Leaving Certificate studies to join us. Special thanks to Milo for producing and editing this episode".



A BIG thank you to our Parent Association for their incredible support throughout the year, especially to Sara and Ray, our current 6<sup>th</sup> year reps who will be stepping down this year. From fundraising efforts and helping with the school musical, to providing providing support in parent-teacher meetings and organising coffee mornings, their involvement has made a real difference.

A special mention to the very successful—and competitive!— Table Quiz Night, which brought parents, staff and the community together.



# **CLASS OF 2025: OFF TO NEW BEGINNINGS**

To mark the end of six memorable years together, our 6th Year students gathered for a special graduation ceremony surrounded by families, teachers and peers. This year's group has been especially known for their musical talent, and the evening reflected that spirit with memorable performances.. It was a chance to look back on their time at school, celebrate all they have achieved, and wish them well as they move on to new adventures. As part of the evening, several students were recognised with awards for their contributions to school life—whether through academic excellence, creativity, or by truly embodying the spirit and energy of our school values.





# **CONGRATULATIONS**

English Award - Lily Coyle

STEM Award - Ayla Parkin

Gaeilgeoir Award - Michael Ward

Humanities Award - Joshua Horgan-Smyth

Modern Foreign Languages - Autumn Kaiser

Art Award - Georgia Smith

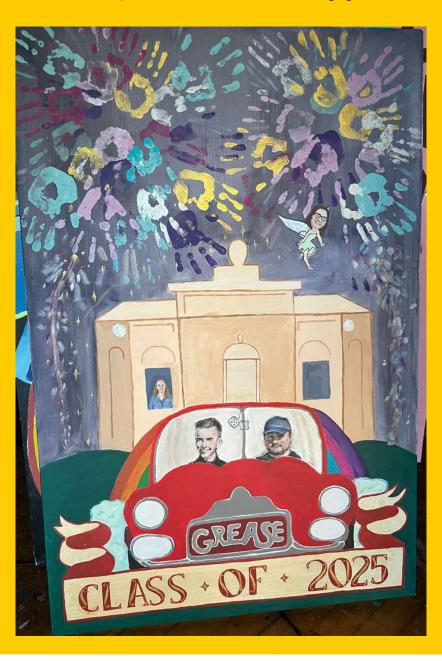
Music Award - Rory Aslin

Student of the Year - Liam Beaumont
Academic Excellence - Ayla Parkin
Excellent Attendance - Michael Ward
Spirit of the School - Sinéad O'Sullivan-Moholo





Thank you for such an amazing gift!





# A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR STUDENTS

Summer assessments are over and it is time to celebrate our students. Academic excellence, perfect attendance, school values, spirit of the school and the students of the year are the categories chosen to represent all the hard work that has taken place during the academic year. Congratulations to all of this year's award recipients and happy summer to all our students.

1st Year

Ellie, James, Davor

2<sup>nd</sup> year

Theo, Aoife, Cole

3<sup>rd</sup> year

Sophie, Jun Tong, Calla, Julianna

5<sup>th</sup> year

Cody, Simone, Ruby

Glendalough

Leon

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SPIRIT OF THE SCHOOL

1st Year

Heidi, Andrii, Ciara

2<sup>nd</sup> vear

Sam, Diarmuid, Jayden

3<sup>rd</sup> year

Ava, Aurora, Hassan, Tammy

5<sup>th</sup> year

Sylvie, Seamus, Daria

Glendalough

Adam

# **SCHOOL VALUES**

Empathy - Kitty

Kindness - Louis

Curiosity - Durragh

Hard Work - Isaac

Respect - Gabriel

Creativity - Marianne

Democracy - Oisín

Community - Abbie

### STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

1st Year

Lily, Miron, Hannah

2<sup>nd</sup> vear

Annabel, Tara, Oliver

3<sup>rd</sup> year

Rosa, Lily-Anne, Nia, Penelope

5<sup>th</sup> year

Hannah, Erik, Daria

Glendalough

Leon



# **HAPPY SUMMER!**

We wish our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year students the best of luck in the upcoming State Examinations in June. Students have been preparing all year round for this and their hard-work will pay off. A big thank to all of our staff, parents and wider community for their support this year. We are looking forward to welcoming you again in September after a well-deserved summer break.

#### **STATE EXAMINATIONS - JUNE**

The State Examinations for 3rd and 6th years will commence on Wednesday, the 4th of June. Click on the QR codes below to access the timetables:

Junior Certificate Examinations:



Leaving Certificate Examinations:



#### **IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS**

State Examinations - 4/6

C results 22/8

School reopening 25/26 for 1st Years: 21/8

School reopening 25/26 for rest of year groups: 22/8



# **PLAY OUR SCHOOL LOTTO**

Win Big and Support the School!

Our school lotto is your chance to win while making a difference! The jackpot is currently an impressive €2,000, and we also have weekly prizes of €20. By playing each week, you're not only in with a chance to win these fantastic prizes but also directly contributing to the development and enhancement of our school. Get involved, try your luck, and help us create more opportunities for our students – it's a win-win for everyone! Scan the QR below



# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!

FELIX
ELAINE
RONAN
ANTONY
FILIP
CAOIMHE

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR

MEMBERS FOR

SUPPORTING AND

ENHANCING OUR

STUDENTS' EDUCATION

