



Principal's Address



Dear Students, Staff, Parents/ Guardians,

As the academic year of 2022-2023 draws to a close we reflect on a year of being largely unaffected by Covid as much as the previous 2 years. This brought with it a renewed vigour to enjoy life as much as possible. With the blessing of having a solid school community that supports each other this was exciting, refreshing and within our reach. This term 3 newsletter as you will see is jammed pack with school activities. We could have filled several newsletters over with so much good, positive news about our wonderful school community and how much goes on here on a daily basis. Opportunity after opportunity is explored to bring as much curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular learning experiences to your daughter.

We love providing these activities and learning opportunities for the students in St. Dominic's College and I thank every teacher, every SNA and all staff members who help with these plans for these many learning experiences which are fun and enjoyable. These activities and events certainly do not just happen, rather they take a lot of planning and preparation by the teachers and school staff who run them. On both my behalf and yours I thank the teaching, non-teaching and pastoral care support staff for all they contribute to the school which goes way beyond what a job requires. This is why our school is a wonderful place to learn.

Every year it is wonderful to have the conversations with the 6th years who are leaving school and graduating. Each and every student I spoke to mentioned about the relationships they had built over their time in St. Dominic's College with their teachers and other members of staff. This creates a positive and nourishing school environment where the teacher's support is well recognised and is a powerful resource for our students, your daughters. I would like to thank our students for all their cooperation over this school year.

We are lucky to have such a lovely student body who contribute to, as well as receive from the school. Our Student Leadership is powerful, creative, willing and full of energy. Students really enjoyed and benefited from having this leadership opportunity and responsibility. Student Leadership is still going from strength to strength right throughout the school year from first year to sixth year. Many of those in leadership positions will go on to lead our society in many different ways. I want to thank the student leaders in all the positions we have including: Class Captains, Deputy Class Captains, Head Girls, Deputy Head Girls, 6th year Prefects, Junior and Senior Eco teams, The Big Sister, Little Sister, the Wellbeing Committee, the Student Voice Forum to name a few. This year the full staff and the Student Voice Forum examined the words of our Mission Statement to see if it is still as real and relevant on the ground in our school as it was when it was formed many years ago. It was examined in great detail by students and staff and both overwhelmingly found that it was as true to our daily practice as ever.

To the Parents' Association a huge thank you for all you do for the school and students. We were able to do so much more this year so it was an enjoyable year free of constraints. I thank you for your voluntarism and friendship. I am very grateful to all the members of our Board of Management. We have a wonderful group of people acting in a voluntary capacity and totally invested in the development of the school and in particular the teaching and learning. It is a wonderful Board with great expertise and support to me and to the students and staff. I thank them all most sincerely for their support.

My final thanks goes to the Deputy Principals Ms. Maher Smyth and Ms. McGowan for all they do to keep things running as smoothly as they do in St. Dominic's College. I will be in touch with you all in the relevant year groups during the month of June with details of the return arrangements to school in August 2023. I wish our 6th years and 3rd years the very best of luck with their Leaving Certificate and Junior Cycle Examinations and wish the 6th years all the very best as they leave the safety of St. Dominic's College. To all our other year groups good luck with your summer assessments and have a lovely summer. Be safe and come back to us safe and sound in August, please God.

Ms. Ann Cameron
Principal





STUDENT COUNCIL



The student Council has been very busy this term working on various projects and representing our student body. We did a lot of brainstorming with Ms. Cameron, who frequently attends our weekly meetings and decided to embark on a project that embraced a community spirit among our local primary and secondary schools.

On 16th January we began a Student Council Symposium. We invited the Student Council representatives from our local secondary schools, Cabra Community School, Colaiste Mhuire and Stanhope Street to share ideas and projects which we have all engaged in as Student Councils. It was very productive and there was a huge amount of learning and collaboration. It created a wonderful connection between us and our neighbouring schools. We decided to further expand this connection and invited our Student Council Primary School Representatives to our school on Monday 24th April. Students and teachers from St Catherine's, Christ the King, John Bosco's, Mary Help of Christians, Stanhope Street and Educate Together participated in our workshops. This included information on the importance of a Student Council, setting up a Student Council and elections. Everyone had a chance to discuss and share the various projects and ideas they had as a Student Council. It was a huge success, a real inspiration to meet the leaders of the future.

On the 6th of March the Student Council and the Digital Team organised and ran the School's Safety Internet Day. This year's theme was 'Kindness and Awareness' and our slogan was 'Be a Buddy, not a Bully'. There were learning activities which each class at Junior and Senior level participated in, including role plays, powerpoints, worksheets and fun YouTube clips in increasing internet safety awareness. It was a great success and hopefully will make our students more internet safety aware and kinder to each other online.

On the 16th of March the Student Council had the incredible opportunity to meet with the Student Council of St. Patrick's College in Buenos Aires, through a zoom call. The zoom call involved presentations on how each country celebrates the St. Patrick's Day culture and it was extremely interesting to compare and contrast these festivities. We further celebrated our Irish culture as two of our school students played a song on the Irish flute and others did a wonderful Irish dance. We plan to stay in contact with St Patrick's College and look forward to collaborating with them in the future.

We also organised the scavenger hunt for all 1st year students on Wellfest/wellbeing day. It created a fun atmosphere where groups of students were given clues which gave letters to spell out a wellbeing phrase. They loved every minute of it.

As a student council we would like to thank Ms. Cameron for her invaluable input and support throughout the year. We would also like to wish our 6th year members: Libby Dunne, Blatnaid Murray, Ayarin Joe and Crina Melut the very best of luck in their Leaving Cert and sincerely thank them for their hard work and dedication to the student council. You will be missed.

Louise Owen, Rachel Fitzmaurice and Ms Lynch



St. Dominic's Choir

Over the past couple of months, our school choir has been practicing every week to get ready for the two choir competitions we performed in this year! The choir has practice every Tuesday after school and is open to all year groups.

The first competition the choir performed in this year was the Wesley College Interschools Music Festival, where we sang "When will my life begin?" from the Disney movie Tangled in three part harmony. It was the choir's first competition at which we performed amazingly!!

The second competition performed was the Navan Choral Festival. This time round, the choir was expected to perform two pieces. Now with more experience and even more confidence! The choir once again performed "When will my life begin?" along with another piece named "Changes".

The St Dominic's Choir has worked ever so hard throughout the year and with the amazing talent of its members and our even more incredible teachers. The choir can only get better and in the wise words of one of the judges, "You're going places"!



Hockey 22/23

The hockey season this year started slowly with numbers low in general but then grew and increased as the season progressed. We had four teams entered into the North Leinster League and it was great to have this league back up and running this season for the first time since before Covid. We have currently 4 Hockey teams representing the school- Senior, Junior, Minor and 1st year/ Beginners.

Minor Hockey- 22/23



Minor team:

Our 2nd years had a tough draw in the pool stages and somehow, having played some amazing hockey they didn't manage to qualify out of their pool stages. Games were of a high level and our Minor girls matched the oppositions, but they just didn't get the results or scores they so deserved. These girls were the backbone to our hockey this year, and many playing up to both Junior and Senior level if needed so thanks and well done to you all.

1st Year team:

As total beginners to hockey this year, and with limited pitch availability this team made huge strides in hockey. They had tough encounters in their pool stages and matches were very tight and even. Unfortunately again, they too got pipped on goal difference to qualify out of their pool stage for the league final. Well done to this team and their progress this season.

1st Year Hockey- 22/23



Junior Hockey- 22/23



Junior team:

The junior team made an excellent start to the season beating a strong Mt. Temple school. They then built on this and played some excellent hockey throughout the season and managed to qualify out of their group reaching the semi finals. We had to concede home advantage and travelled to our fellow Dominican school in Santa Sabina, Sutton. This was a very strong opposition and unfortunately we didn't manage to get the win on the day to reach the final. Huge well done to all those that played and kept going right to the final whistle and to the 2nd years who played up to this level too.

Senior team:

With not as many 5th and 6th years playing hockey this year our 3rd and 4th years stepped up to play on the Senior team and competed very well in matches. However, we did not manage to qualify from the group stage of the competition. Huge praise, thanks and congratulates to all those that played up to this level, against tough oppositions and kept going throughout their matches. Well done to all involved and they can look forward to rebuilding our Senior team again next season.

Senior Hockey- 22/23



Well done to all our Gaelic footballers who took part in the U15 Feile competitions for their clubs. We had students representing St. Oliver Plunketts Eoghan Ruadh, Naomh Fionnbarra and Castleknock GAA.

Castleknock won the Divison 8 Feile Final ! Congratulations



Congratulations to Ciara Brogan and the Dublin U16 Ladies footballers who won the U16 A Leinster final. Ciara scored 1-6 and was awarded Player of the Game. Well done Ciara and Team for doing 2 in a row! Best of luck in the All-Ireland Series. Best of luck to Amber McCloskey and the Dublin U18 Footballers in the Leinster B final on May 17 th . Amber scored a crucial goal in their semi final win over Laois. Come on you girls in blue!!



Congratulations to Amber McCloskey (5th Year) and the Dublin Minor Ladies Football team who won the Leinster B championship last night in Wicklow. They won on a scoreline of 4-9 to 2-11 and Amber scored two points.

They now face Kerry in the All-Ireland Semi final on Wednesday July 19th.



European Championships

Well done to our 5th year students Emily Harold and Hazel Byard Shaughnessy who represented Team Ireland at the Taekwondo European Championships last week.
Well done girls, we are so proud of you!



DCU Football Blitz

Well done to our 5th and 4th year footballers who took part in the annual DCU Ladies Football Post-Primary Blitz .
The girls had a great day out with schools from lots of different counties all competing at a very high standard



Athletics Update

North Leinster Competition (April 2023)



We had 13 athletes in action at the above competition in Tullamore. First on track was Martha Fisher in the junior hurdles. Martha is new to this event but came 2nd in her heat and 3rd in the final. Aoibhinn Byrne came 2nd in the junior 1500, her twin Erin came 3rd in the junior 800, Aimee Ryan came 2nd in the final of the junior 200. The junior relay team of Aimee, Martha, Erin and Danielle won their heat and final.

In the intermediate age group Chidinma came 3rd in the 100m final, Goda won the 800 with Lily having her best race ever finishing 2nd. Max finished 3rd in the high jump with a pb of 1.45. Goda also came 2nd in the mile under 16. In the under 16 relay 4 x 300m Goda, Max, Aoibhinn and Aimee finished 2nd.

In the senior races Clare o Connor won the 800m with Cliodhna Ryan in 3rd place. Cliodhna had earlier come 2nd in the 1500m. The senior 4x 300m relay team of Clare, Lily, Cliodhna and Ash Keenan had a great run finishing 1st.

A great day for the school team! Well done to all the girls.

Mary McKenna



Well done to all our athletes who took part in the first day of the Leinster schools athletics championships.

A huge congratulations to:

Our Junior team won the relay championship!

Our U16 team came 3rd in the 3x300 relay.

Goda who came 3rd in the U16 mile race.

DEBATING 2023

This year we were delighted to re-enter debating teams in the inter-schools Mace Debating competitions. These debating competitions involve schools from all over Leinster and are a great opportunity for students to develop their public speaking skills in a formal competition and to interact with students from other schools. Joanna (below) writes about her experience of debating.

J. Gormley & V. O' Leary

Mace Debating Competition

Debating has always been one of my favourite activities to take part in since I was in primary school. I was thoroughly delighted to hear about this opportunity to debate in the National Junior Mace Debates held in UCD as well as the Mace Debates held in Loreto College. Aisha, Anyah, Elish, Genevieve, Julie, Kayla and I went to take part in the National Junior Mace Debates held in UCD with Ms O'Leary. The Mace Debates is a debating competition that many schools compete in. The second debate took place in Loreto College where Aisha, Aoife, Juile and I took part.

We first had a short workshop where the key-tips and guidelines on how to debate were outlined. We then participated in a total of three debates. For each debate, we were given a motion in which we had 20 minutes to prepare a speech. The debates were held in a lecture hall. There were four teams in each debate with two teams on either side.

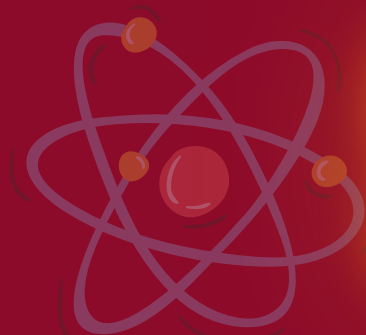
I believe teamwork is an important element in debating. We all worked together generating ideas on how to best present our points. It was certainly a rewarding and fulfilling experience! In the afternoon we were even treated to some delicious pizza!

It was truly an amazing experience for all of us! We had the opportunity to meet new people and build new friendships. I would say the most important thing we learned from debating is to be confident. As public speaking is a common fear, I would certainly recommend taking part in these debates. They provided each one of us with a boost of confidence! We also developed several invaluable skills for debating by watching other students debate.

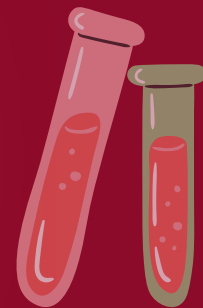
Overall, I would say that debating this year was thoroughly a brilliant experience for each one of us participants. I look forward to taking part in many more debates in the future!

Joanna Thomas (2 Comeragh)

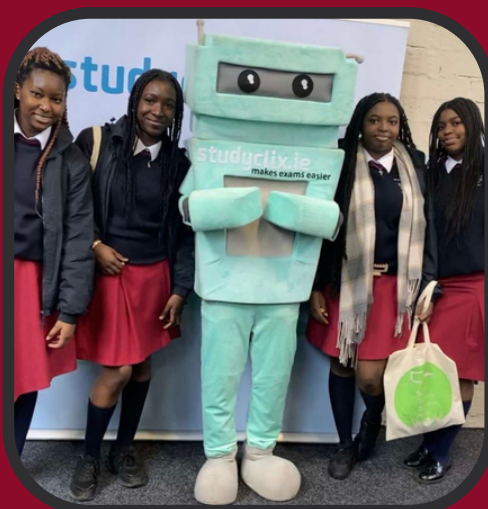
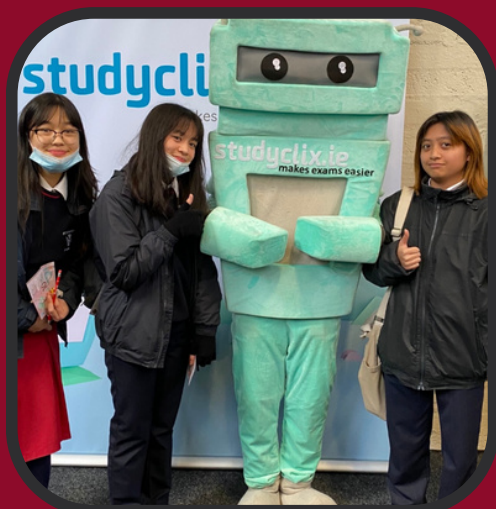




SCIENCE



This school year has seen many new experiences for the students of St. Dominic's College, one of which is the after school Science Club. Accompanied by the science teachers and an SNA they went to the RDS to view the experiments presented at this years BY Young Scientist. The day brought forward many new ideas and conversations on the possibilities that S.T.E.M will bring in the future along with the ability to get up close and talk to some of the biggest names in Irish Science globally.



🌼 Daffodil Day 🌼

Thank you to all students and staff who supported Daffodil Day on Friday 24th March. First years took part in a poster competition and created great art work for the occasion. A total of €1480 was raised for the Irish Cancer Society. Well done to all involved especially Transition Year students and the students who collected on the day.





GERMAN EXCHANGE

This term three students in fifth year participated in a school exchange with our partner school, the Max Planck Schule in Kiel. Kiel is the capital city of Schleswig-Holstein in northern Germany.

Lauren McGarry, Ciara Alcock and Emma Forde attended school for one week in Kiel and lived with the families of their exchange partners. During this time they were immersed in daily life and language. They had many enriching experiences, from learning first hand about the school system, taking part in lessons, visiting Hamburg, spending time with their host family and taking part in many extra curricular activities.

In May three students from the Max Planck Schule came to stay with Lauren, Ciara and Emma. Their names are Ida, Inke and Viktoria and they attended St Dominic's College for one week. The three girls attended classes with their exchange partners, but also attended German lessons in other year groups and got involved in different activities with our students. Ms Doohan and Ms Duignan also arranged a ceili for the fifth year German class, and the girls enjoyed a trip to Dublin Zoo.

Many thanks again to our students and their parents for participating in the exchange as it provides students with a wonderful opportunity to experience the German language and culture in an authentic way.

St.Dominic's College German Department



Transition Year

What a year Transition Year 2022-23 has been! It has been an incredibly busy term for everyone in Transition Year! Here is just a flavour of what all TY students have been up to.

TY students were involved in a variety of activities this term. Well done to the 4 TY students, Setarah Ansari, Lily Farrell, Ashley Joseph and Alison Koci who have been taking part in our Peer-to-Peer Drug Awareness Programme, where they were trained as facilitators to talk to First Years about drugs and alcohol, a valuable and informative experience for all involved!

The PE class took part in a variety of events during PE class. A trip to Elmgreen Driving Range showed a hidden talent in our budding TY golfers. The TY classes also took advantage of some good weather recently to explore our local scenic Grand Canal Walk. This is all part of the TY experience in St Dominics – making the most of opportunities!



Elmgreen driving Range March

Grand Canal Walk May 2023



Other TY students attended many interesting and challenging TY Programmes and Workshops throughout the term. The Early Entrance to University Programme in DCU, TY Walk in My Shoes Programme in St Patrick's Hospital, TY STEPS Engineering Your Future in Maynooth University, TY Comput Programme in DCU to mention just a few.

But success has not just been confined to competing and programmes. TY students completed their Gaisce Challenge this April with a 24km walk from Balbriggan to Skerries. Congratulations to all TY students who took part and a heartfelt thank you to Ms. McCarthy, Ms. Dowling, Ms. Sinnott and Ms. McGoldrick for all their hard work and commitment. The many miles covered drew on everyone's enthusiasm and effort!

TYs surfing at Curracloe





Transition Year students went to Accenture in The Dock where they completed their interview skills programme, received career talks and got a tour of the building.



TY with Niamh Collins from Citi Bank as part of the Financing your Future programme

OUR TY SKI TRIP

by Tori Ormsby-Kelly 4Y

The Ski Trip was the highlight of 4th year for me. It was really great fun. You don't need any skiing skills before coming on the trip because the instructors there help and teach you all the skills you need. Even if you are struggling the instructors were so patient and helpful and nice.

I would describe the TY Ski Trip as a great trip to go on. It was so much fun to be with your friends but it was also a really good bonding trip. I got closer with people I would have never expected to be close with before the trip. It's great fun and a really good experience.



PE EXPO



Our Transition Years had a wonderful day out at the PE Xpo in DCU on Wednesday.

We had four projects that represented the school to an excellent standard:

Group 1 'Faster Fashion' by Sadbh Dunne, Eva Corcoran and Ellen Blaney looking at 'Does sporting attire affect girls participation in sport?

Group 2 'Just keep beating' by Clodagh O'Rourke and Cara Kelly which investigated 'What is the difference in heart rate bpm during exercise and at rest?'

Group 3 'Fast and Fearious' by Vanessa Verona, Molly McRae and Niamh O'Toole was investigating if participants run a 20 m sprint quicker if they are more fearful.

Group 4 'Going for Gold' by Jing Yan Lin, Caitlin Dowdall and Lily Farrell which was an Investigation into the rewards and incentives to participate in sport and exercise.



Thanks to Ms. O'Brien for all her hard work with the projects.



Ms. Brennan, Mr. Dunne, Ms. Munnelly and Ms. Conway accompanied all of our TY students to DCU on the day to check out the projects from across Ireland.

They had the pleasure of meeting Team Ireland Olympians Aifric Keogh and Marcus Lawler.

While the participants were being judged, all our remaining students enjoyed a campus tour from the DCU student ambassadors in the afternoon.

LEAVING CERT APPLIED



The Leaving Cert Applied students have been very busy over the last few weeks.

5LCA had their task interview for the Vocational Preparation and Guidance, for this task the students organised a movie afternoon for first year students – it was a great success.

They also completed their task in Hotel, Catering and Tourism. the students had to make a product – there were lots of products produced such as cookies, sausage rolls and sponge cakes.

Both 5LCA and 6LCA applied were busy doing their orals exams. 5LCA had their oral in Irish and 6LCA had their German and English Communications orals. Both classes have also been reflecting on their journey this year in LCA while doing their Personal Reflection Task.

On Fridays, students completed their work experience, where Students gain insight into the world of work which is of great benefit to them. The students have worked in many different types of jobs during this session such as in supermarkets, coffee shops, hairdressers, clothes shops, creches,



5C2 end of year Bowling Trip



Ms. Moran, Ms. O'Brien and 6 LCA enjoyed their final school trip for Leisure and Recreation at Awesome Walls



6LCA showing their creativity in abundance in HCT class .
Lots of festive treats on offer .



5th and 6th year Leaving Cert Applied students had a great afternoon Ice Skating in Dundrum in January

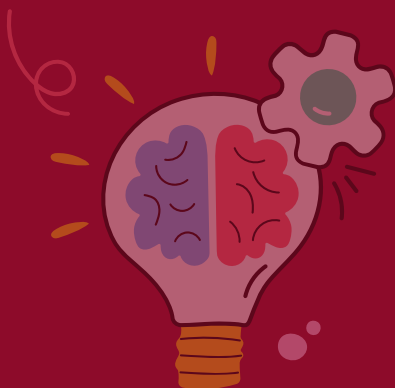
Le Chéile Conference: the student experience



At the conference we met a wide variety of 'Le Chéile' schools from around the country. We were taught the meaning of Le Chéile and the differences and similarities between all of the different schools. We then practiced for the ceremony in front of all the Principals and the Boards of Management and took part in some icebreakers.

On the second day of the Le Chéile Schools conference we started the day with a delicious breakfast at the hotel before getting on a bus and heading to the Mullingar Park Hotel. In the hotel we participated in a beautiful religious ceremony and sang some songs that we had practiced. Next we had an inspirational speaker come and talk to us. It was very interesting and we got to learn a lot about ourselves and others. After that we had the closing ceremony with the Principals, teachers, nuns and Le Chéile leaders. Finally we had lunch in the hotel before saying our goodbyes and heading back on the bus back to Dublin.

Overall we found the trip a very good experience. We got to make lots of friends and learn all about Le Chéile and other schools. We really enjoyed it and wish whoever goes next year all the best.





Le Chéile Symposium, Knock

On Monday March 13th, 10 fifth year students represented St. Dominic's at the Le Chéile Student Symposium in Knock, Co. Mayo. 300 students, from 30 + Le Chéile schools from all over the country gathered together for workshops, talks, music, fun, prayer and chat. It was a well organised event that was enjoyed by all involved.

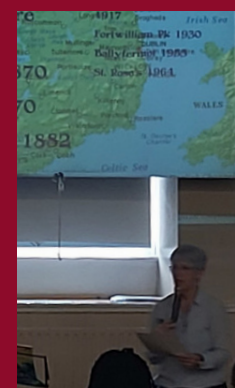
Le Chéile Day

Le Chéile day took place on Friday, March 31st 2023. The theme was :
"Celebrating our faith, celebrating us".

We were influenced by the sermon at the Knock Symposium on the 3 simplest ways of celebrating our faith i.e. be kind, be kind be kind. Each student wrote a positive affirmation about themselves or about a person who is kind to them. Another option was a positive affirmation that they connect to. These were written on post its and a display for the student entrance was made from these.

TYs also made the poster 'The Art of Kindness' which we displayed. 1st years and 6LCA made posters advertising the day. These were displayed around the school. Teachers looked after each other by paying it forward with small gifts.

Sr. Collette from the Dominican order spoke to 2nd years and TYs about the Dominican founding story. Religion teachers presented information about Le Chéile in class.



Grandparents' day

This year saw a new initiative for Catholic Schools Week in St. Dominic's. We had our first Grandparents' Day, when we welcomed the grandparents of first year students. On this day we celebrated the unique contribution of grandparents in the lives of our students and their influence in passing on the Catholic faith. In religion class each student wrote a piece about one or more of their grandparents. This work formed part of the sacred space in the chapel which also contained symbols representing what grandparents mean to the students.

We had a service of thanksgiving in a very full school chapel with our first years and grandparents led by our chaplain Father Paul Thornton. We also welcomed grandparents of all faiths in keeping with our Catholic faith tradition of being inclusive of all.

Following the service, we had a gathering in Halla Lydia for tea, cakes and a chance for grandparents to spend time with their grandchildren and visit the school. We had a number of past pupils among the gathering. We were delighted to welcome relatives who made a big effort to be there, many making the journey from far and wide.

A huge thanks to Fr. Paul, to Ms. Dowling and Ms. Hughes for the uplifting music, to all staff members who gave a helping hand on the day: Thanks also to Imelda and to fifth year students who helped with hospitality and to Ms. Cameron for supporting this initiative.

We're looking forward to welcoming grandparents again next year.

D. Brilly & J. Gormley



Masses for Lent

We were delighted to once again have mass for the season of Lent in our chapel. Mass was celebrated each Wednesday morning. Many thanks to Sr. Odhran and to our chaplain Ms. Connolly for preparing the chapel. Thanks for Fr. Paul for celebrating the masses and to all of the students and staff who attended.



MFL Tea and Biscuits

On Friday the 12th of May two classes from Modern Foreign languages met to share some home baked cookies and cake with the German exchange students. They chatted and had a great time while having a cup of tea during the French and German class. It was a great opportunity for the two language classes to come together but also to host our Guests from Germany. Thank you to Ms. O'Sullivan and Ms. Mc Goldrick for facilitating this gathering.

MFL Department



Peer2Peer

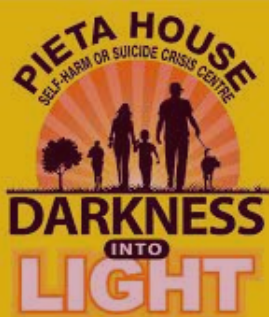
Four TY students participated in a drug programme in Finglas. They learned about the uses and effects of drugs and alcohol. They spent 10 weeks learning and gathering information. The instructor, Sarah, taught them all they should know. Sarah had worksheets for the four students in which they had a great time learning about drugs and alcohol. The last week of the Peer2Peer programme, Sarah had a cameraman to film all their efforts and progress they made. They also had a pizza party which they really enjoyed.

Then they worked on a PowerPoint Presentation in order to teach the first year students about everything that they had learned. The teaching took place over the course of two weeks as there were six classes.

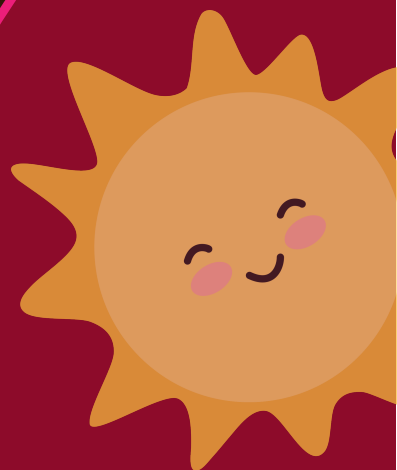
The first year students enjoyed the lessons greatly as they were informative but fun. They were able to teach the students plenty of valuable information.

They had their graduation on May 17, 2023. The students were very grateful for the opportunity they got from this programme. A great big thank you to Sarah for all the hard work she put into this programme.

The four students participating were Setarah, Ashley, Allison and Lily



Well done to all the TY and 5th year students and staff who participated in the Darkness into Light walk for Pieta House



Wellbeing Committee 2023

Thank you to all the Wellbeing Committee members who gave up a lunch time every month to come up with ideas to provide you with a better place in school. They have helped with the preparation into Wellfest, provided DEAR time – drop everything and relax, ran 1 st year Mental Health poster competitions, have organised and maintained the Wellbeing notice board beside the CAD room, they have attended assembly with information and provided you a safe space to voice your opinion through the student suggestion box.

If you think you would like to become a member next year and help out just let Ms. McGoldrick know in S10. We would like to wish our two senior students, Abbie Purcell and Diana Churchelauri, the very best of luck in their Leaving Cert examinations. We hope you all have an enjoyable Summer and for our 6th year students, a great future ahead.

Wellbeing Committee

WELLFEST 2023

Wellfest is a whole school event that took place this year on Wednesday the 3rd of May and we were blessed with the good weather. It started with a relaxation class after break followed by physical activities, Circuit training, Craft activities, Food Demo and outdoor bingo. After lunch the students were then treated to Ice cream and looped walks, mindfulness and colouring, Yoga, Zumba and Orienteering with last class taking part in scavenger hunts, board games, painting, Lego and playdoh in the 3rd year lunch room, a student Vs Teacher Basketball match and a 6th year Concert in the Red courtyard.



Thank you to all the teachers involved including Ms. Hanrahan, Ms. Whelan, Ms. O'Byrne, Ms. Duignan, Ms. Mc Brearty, Ms. Dowling, Mr. Connell, Mr. Dunne, Ms. Doohan, Ms. Lynch, Ms. Munnelly, Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Gleeson, Ms. Brazil and Ms. Hogan who helped run the day as well as all Staff bringing their classes to the all the activities. Thank you to Ms. Cameron for organising the Ice cream van which was a lovely treat to have during all the activities in the day and an opportunity to relax and chill out.

Take care OF YOURSELF



Thank you as well to all the transition year students and the student council who gladly helped out and facilitated the day for everyone. Well done to all students involved and we hope you had a fantastic day, made enjoyable memories with your friends and teachers at St. Dominic's for Wellfest 2023 and we look forward to planning again for next year!





Book Review – 1st & 2nd Year Extra English

Every week we do one hour of extra English which helps us with our Junior Cycle course. Starting out we worked on what knowledge we already had from Primary School and revised adjectives, nouns, verbs and adverbs. We learned how to spot these in detailed examples of written work and how to spot errors in printed articles. We then wrote our own detailed pieces of work and kept them together in class folders. When this was finished, we read a little introduction to a novel, *Black Beauty*. We had heard about this book before and some of us had read it, but this was a different version. There are lots of versions but this one was handy as we could read two chapters and answer the questions based on the chapters during our class time.

The best part was when we did the chapter summary quizzes on the Chromebooks. We competed against each other before the time ran out – that was fun. The quiz questions were about the novel and it was good to help us to remember what we had read the previous week. When we completed reading the novel we did a book review sheet – we gave the book a star rating on the whiteboards in class. We also did some research ourselves and presented to the rest of the group what we found. Most of us liked the book and even though we didn't think it was that interesting to begin with, the more we read, the more we liked it. It was good to be able to take turns reading because everyone got to be heard. It was a bit distressing at times to learn how animals were treated in Victorian times but also relieving to see how times have changed for the better. We know that animals are still mistreated but not as much as they used to be. It is a great story overall. It shows us how animals are capable of human feelings and that if they are shown respect, then they will show respect to their owners. We learned a little bit about how important it is to care for animals and to be kind.

We learned about the importance of kindness in the story, about showing it and appreciating it being shown to us. We put all our work on display in our classroom and put the characters from the story in order under their profile pages. We would recommend this novel to anyone – there are so many different versions of it so everyone can find one that suits them and enjoy it in their own time.

We give this novel a star rating of: 5/5.

Ceara Bree, Lilianna Farrell, Petra Hricisakova, Hanna Huzarska, Elizabeth Lyons & Mariana Murphy (1st Year)

Brooke Cunningham, Kaylee Foy, Angelina Keogh, Aibhlinn Kirby, Erin McKay (2nd Year)



JCPA Ceremony



On Wednesday April 26th, St. Dominic's College hosted an awards ceremony for students who completed the Junior Cycle course in May 2022. Each student was awarded a certificate which outlined the students' achievements pertaining to 'Wellbeing' and 'Other Areas of Learning'. These categories are important reminders that we in St Dominic's College are a community of truly diverse and talented students.

Additionally, they also serve to highlight the important role that our school plays in the formation of the whole self and to remind each student that success in the Junior Cycle is not merely measured through academic results, but also through participation in areas such as sport and wider community initiatives.

It was a lovely occasion and one that our students will surely remember...possibly because of all of the donuts and juice they received!



Student Voice Forum

The Student Voice Forum (SVF) held its final meeting on the 17 th May, having had another successful run throughout the current academic year.

The goal of the SVF is to empower the collective student body by acting as a vehicle for students to voice any opinions or concerns they may have about their learning experiences, and so establish themselves as stakeholders in their education.

Meetings are held once every half term and students from each year group are randomly selected in order to ensure a full representation of the student body.

Some of the issues that we focused on this year are the impact of seating arrangements in the classroom on student learning, and whether the implementation of our school's ethos is having a positive effect on our students' day to day school life.

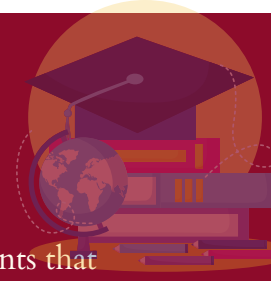
The feedback gathered at each meeting is then shared with all teachers in order to improve upon teaching and learning in our school.

I'd like to thank Ms Cameron, all of the students on the SVF team, and the teachers who helped in the running of each meeting. I look forward to continuing the work of the SVF with a new cohort of students next year.



Mr Duffy

Time to say goodbye...



It is that time of year again where it is time to say 'Goodbye' to 6th Year Students 2023.

It would be remiss of me as Yearhead of 6th Years 2023 not to acknowledge the 6th year students that are ready to embark on all the adventures that life has on hold for them. They have been a fabulous group of students to work with over the past 2 years. We have lots of memories Causey Farm, Yellow Days, Shoe Box Appeal, Christmas Assembly to mention just a few, which no doubt we will all cherish for many years to come. You, the 6th years of 2023, have contributed greatly to St Dominic's College over the past 5 or 6 years and we thank you for this.

On behalf of all the Staff and Students of St Dominic's College, we would like to wish each and everyone all the very best as you sit the Leaving Certificate Exams in June. May your lives be full of adventures and please remember us as we will remember you.

Ms O' Byrne
Yearhead 6th Years, 2023





