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Our Transition Year Story

As we returned to school in September 2021 the sense of excitement was palpable. We had not been together as a group since the end of May and we had dodged a bullet with the Junior Cert getting cancelled again. What luck!!

The first job we had to do was find out what group we were in and have our assembly with Mrs Malone and Mr Lee. The rumours about our European Tour destination were flying. They ranged from Moycullen to Madagascar.

Mr Lee and Mr Moran were at the front gate on day 1 to make sure we wore our masks, sanitized our hands and most importantly to welcome us back.

Dylan Gibbons and Calum O Connor seemed eager to fill Mr Moran in on their summer adventures. He was not as enthusiastic.

We worked very hard during the first term but some of us took a more relaxed approach after Christmas much to the delight of all the staff in Sullivan's and Connelly's



Working hard or hardly working?

Our TY's have impressed everyone around the school this year with their strong work ethic. They seem to work best in packs roaming around the school. Under the direction of Ms Forde, Ms Thornton and Ms Healy they have totally re-vamped our school's courtyard.

Pictured below are some of the key workers on the ground. Progress was very slow at times but the results speak for themselves. Well done to all involved.



War Appeal



In March of this year the TY's with the help of Ms Ryder and members of the Student Council ran a hugely successful Lunch/Bake Sale to help with the Red Cross Ukrainian War Appeal. We learned so much about the war in our Politics and Society class we felt that even if we could do something small; it could make a difference. Everyone in the whole school was so generous, it was amazing. The total sum raised by the students, teachers and parents was €2,537.





The Great Outdoors



On the 7th of February we left civilization behind to go explore the wild west of Delphi. After Mr Lee's third roll call we made our way to the bus. First we were grouped into our separate pods for the activities and after that we got shown our dorms, they were so lovely. We had three large bunk beds, a huge shower and a bathroom, our only complaint was the lack of Wi-Fi. What kind of place was this?

First up was the bog run which was a massive challenge. It was freezing, but we soldiered on regardless. When we thought the misery was over for the day, we arrived at the actual obstacle course. We started off by sliding through two tunnels into the lake where we then had to swim to try and get up on an inflatable island. We had to try and walk across this which was an impossible task. We then had to walk across a rope that led to a climbing wall to the finish. No one managed to complete the course without falling in but we had great fun trying. The hot showers afterwards were definitely one of the finest parts of the trip because we were FREEZING.

On Monday night we ate dinner in the canteen where we had chicken goujons and chips for dinner that were so good after a long day in the bog. After dinner it was time for our campfire. We headed into the woods where we found the campfire spot. Our group leader tried to light the fire, which was a bit of a struggle, but he got there in the end. Our group could not agree on the music so for ages we had two speakers playing different music. Ms Harhen put an end to that when she confiscated the speakers. With the music sorted and the fire lighting the next part of our night involved a treat of toasted marshmallows. We all toasted our marshmallows and got chocolate biscuits and made s'mores!

After supper, we had the freedom to do whatever we wanted till curfew. We decided to play a few board games and it got super competitive. It was great to get to hang out with everybody and just chill. At half 10 we headed back to our rooms for the night. Day 1 in Delphi was a success and it only got better from there.

On Tuesday morning Mr Lee went round and knocked on all our doors to wake us up. Unsurprisingly was met with hostility. This was Mr Lee's favourite part of the trip. After breakfast it was time for kayaking. We got changed into our wetsuits and headed down to the sea on the bus. We carried our kayaks down to the water and we were off. We played some games to start off with it and they all ended up with us getting tipped into the cold water. We then kayaked out to the Galway/Mayo border and back again. We played a couple more games that included standing up on our kayaks or trying to walk across a row of kayaks to try and swap seats with someone, both games involved us getting very wet. After that we carried our kayaks back to the pier and some of us jumped off. This was my favourite part of the activity.

At about half one, we had a delicious lunch of vegetable soup and sandwiches. I think that we can all agree that this was the best meal of the trip; it was just so needed after the cold water. After lunch it was time to hit the high ropes. We got all harnessed up and were ready to go, some didn't love the heights. The aerial trek got split into different parts, half of us took to the air obstacle course while the other half tackled the huge climbing wall. Adam was unlucky on his second trip around the course and he was left dangling mid-air.

After multiple trips around the course it was time to get climbing. There were 3 different parts to the obstacle course including two long zip lines and a series of obstacles such as a tight wire, cargo net and a jump of faith. The jump of faith was about a metre long from one stand to another. The majority of us succeeded in making the jump, however Adam ended up stranded again.

One person climbed while two people pulled on the rope to help hoist them into the air. It was very fun climbing the wall so fun that we even got the teachers to race up. First we had Olivia and Ms Harhen, while they didn't make it all the way to the top, Olivia was our winner as she got further up the wall. Then the real race began between Mr Murray & Mr Lee. It was very close but in the end Mr Lee won by a small margin.

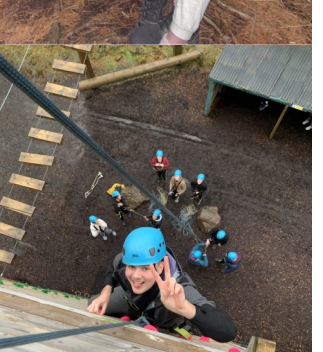
After dinner it was time for a long walk in the forest. We headed out for our 3km walk in the dark. We spent our walk chatting and laughing as the music echoed through the forest. We walked for an eternity and I do not know how we didn't get lost. Near the end of our walk we reached what is called 3G rock, and we made the most of it checking all our messages and snaps. We then headed back to the hostel where we had our supper of blueberry muffins before heading to the games room for some more competitive card games.

On Wednesday morning we finished packing before heading to breakfast. The last activities on our agenda were bush craft and archery. In bush craft we built some huts using only a tarp, some string and the supplies around us. After a bit of struggling we got our hut up. Then it was time for archery. Archery was very fun, while our skills were not great we had a blast trying to hit the target. Overall it was an amazing trip that we would all recommend to everyone.





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TEACHER INTERVIEWS

1. What was your favourite moment in France?
2. Who is your favourite class to teach?
3. Which group keeps you on your toes?
4. What is your favourite memory in St. Pauls?
5. Which teacher do you think would be most likely to win the Hunger Games?
6. If you weren't a teacher what would you be?
7. If you were organizing the trip to France again, who wouldn't you bring?
8. Who is the best craic in the staff room?



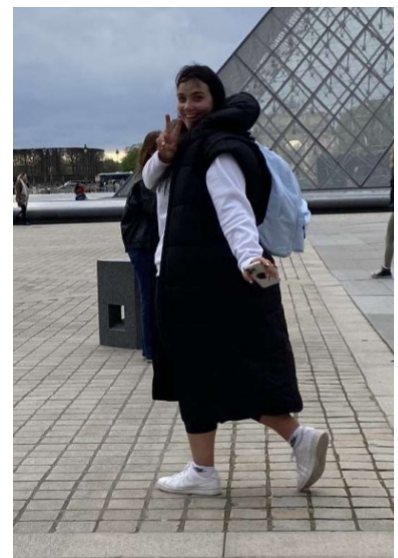
Ms Harhen



1. Going to Disneyland
2. St. Pauls second year SPHE on a good day
3. Second year SPHE on a bad day
4. TY Tour 2022 or staff Christmas parties
5. Mr Lee because he is very competitive
6. Baker/ Florist
7. Mr Hurney because he's so good at French he embarrassed me.
8. Hands down Ms Ni Fhatharta, she needs her own show!

Ms Ní Fhartharta

1. The river Seine Cruise
2. Leaving certs
3. 5th years
4. Being involved in TY musical
5. Ms Morgan
6. A nurse
7. Mr Hurney—he wore the beret too well!
8. Maura in the office



TEACHER INTERVIEWS



Mr Lee

1. Mr Hurney and Mr Moran on the tower of terror
2. LC business class when they show up
3. 'I keep them on their toes'
4. All Ireland basketball league quarter final 2019
5. Mr. Reidy
6. Farming for Ronan Molloy
7. Mr Hurney
8. Mary Burke and Maura

Ms Morgan

1. Eiffel Tower with beret
2. Third years maths
3. TYs' or 5th year maths
4. Christmas quiz
5. Ms Kelly— no contest
6. Engineer
7. Mr Hurney
8. Ms Ní Fhatharta



Mr Moran



1. Purchasing my beret and taking pictures with "the lads"
2. 6th year English
3. 5th year English
4. TY Tour 2022—Getting off the Tower of Terror
5. Mr Lee
6. Full time farmer
7. Mr Hurney
8. Ms Ní Shuilleabháin

Mr Hurney

1. When Dasha wanted to burn Disneyland to the ground.
2. Wherever Luke Carr is
3. St. Eitne's TV
4. When Mr Moran started in St Paul's his wallet is always open
5. Mr Merrick 'Who knows what's in that briefcase'
6. Sports Journalist
7. Mr Lee
8. Ms Ní Shuilleabháin



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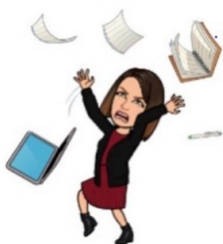
Iconic Teacher Quotes

Over the course of TY, our teachers have found themselves stuck on repeat and we can't figure out why. We ALWAYS listen to them!!

Mr Lee: *"I know it's annoying, I know it's upsetting, but it's out of my control"*



Mr Hurney: *"There are 3 different types of handwriting on that note. You come to class to inform your teacher, don't send a photo of a dubious note"*



Mr Moran: *"Lads no further personal questions"*

Ms Ní Shuilleabháin: *"Now lads wait until I ask ye..."*

Mr Murray: *"I'm a professional athlete"*

Mr Reidy: *"Do you know that big puddle out in Turloughmore?"*



Mrs Forde: *"JONATHAN"*



Mr Griffin: *"Bella"*

Mr Flavin: *"GUTEN MORGEN"*

Mrs Ni Fhararta: *"GUYS YE ARE ALL LIKE BEARS"*



Visiting Students

This year we had a fantastic cohort of International students from countries including Italy, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria and Mexico. They really enriched our TY experience and we made loads of new friends.





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WORK EXPERIENCE

Our Transition Years had a brilliant year with Ms Kinnevey participating in the work experience module. Students sampled various potential careers and then had to research different methods of entering their chosen field whether it be apprenticeship, college course or a PLC.

Students learned some practical skills that will help them in every walk of life; customer service, money management and communication skills. All students have gained valuable skills and insights into the world of work. For some students it really helped them to decide what they would like to do after school, for others it changed their minds completely and convinced them that a different career would be more suitable for them.

Here are a few of our TY's in action!



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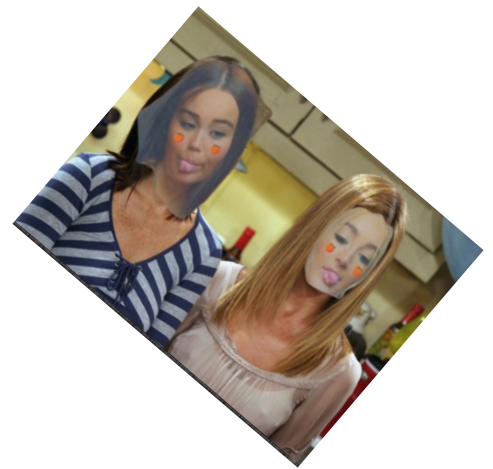
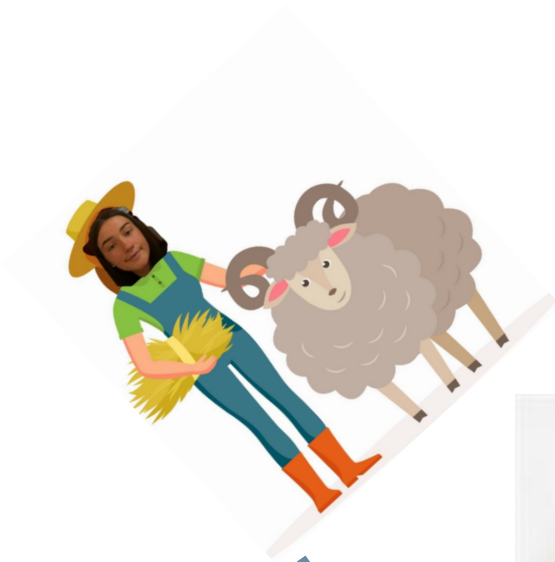
TY Top 30

We could not have made it through our many bus trips this year without our amazing playlist. There is something on here for everyone. Mr Lee pretended not to like them but he loved to sing along!

1. Walk of life - Dire Straits
2. Make me feel good - Belters
3. Man I feel like a woman - Shania Twain
4. Jenny from the block - Jennifer Lopez
5. Down under - Men at Work
6. Prefontaine - Versatile
7. Hung up - Madonna
8. I got a feeling - Black Eyed Peas
9. Promiscuous - Nelly Furtado
10. Maneater - Nelly Furtado
11. Drive it like you stole it = Sing Street
12. Don't look back in anger - Oasis
13. Boom boom boom - Vengaboys
14. Don't you worry child = Swedish House Mafia
15. Feel so close - Calvin Harris
16. Saturday night - Wigfield
17. Gold digger - Kanye West
18. Careless whisper - George Michael
19. Get lucky - Daft Punk
20. We didn't start the fire - Billy Joel
21. Thiago Silva - Dave
22. N17 - Saw Doctors
23. Joyce country celi band - Saw Doctors
24. We are family - Sister Sledge
25. Bohemian rhapsody - Queen
26. Sweet Caroline - Neil Diamond
27. Say my name - Toby Weatherill
28. That is me - MC Burkey
29. Dancing Queen - ABBA
30. Paper planes - M.I.A

TY AWARDS

Biggest party animal	Lindsey Higgins	Kai Heanue
Biggest dossier	Keanah Goggin Irons	Calum O'Connor
Best nickname	Bean (Serena Tierney)	Lukey pookie (Luke Carr)
Most changed since 1 st year	Bonnie Keogh	John Walsh
Best laugh	Lindsey Higgins	Calum O'Connor
Chattiest	Isabel Fahey	Cillian Fogerty
Loudest	Shannon Clifford	Calum O'Connor
Most dramatic	Aoibhinn Eilian	Cailim McDonagh
Best hair	Kyla Sweeney	Christopher McDonagh
First to be married	Zoe-Bella McVey	Cailim McDonagh
Best death stare	Jane Cunningham	Niall McDonnell
Biggest farmer	Kathryn O'Connor	Mark Osborne
Best craic	Anna McHugo	John Walsh
Best shoe game	Jane Cunningham	James Lowry
Friendliest	Sophie Fogerty	Oisin Grimes
Easiest to talk to	Isabel Fahey	John Walsh
Most sarcastic	Anna McHugo	Calum O'Connor
Best couple	Zoe-Bella McVey	Cailim McDonagh
Teacher pet	Caoimhe Joyce	Oisin Folan
Marry Rich	Aoibhinn Eilian	Ethan O'Halloran
Iconic duo	Lindsey Higgins & Shannon Clifford	John Walsh & Adam Keogh
Nicest eyes	Zoe-Bella McVey	John Walsh
Most stubborn	Joy O'Sullivan	Cailim McDonagh
First to go viral on tiktok	Dasha Kelly	Jermone Bumanglag
Best style	Joy O'Sullivan	James Lowry
Sportiest	Hannah Clarke	James Lowry
Class clown	Anna McHugo	Adam Keogh
Biggest Flirt	Aoibhinn Eilian	John Walsh
Best Eyebrows	Ella Walsh	Darragh Casey
Most likely to stir up trouble	Serena Tierney	Adam Keogh
Most likely to become famous	Dasha Kelly	Joe Grimes
Biggest Gossip	Anna McHugo	Sean Karpakis



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Leaving Cert Interviews

Questions

1. What is your favourite memory from St Paul's?
2. Who was your favourite teacher?
3. What is your plan after you finish school?
4. Is there anything you would do differently in secondary school?
5. Name one fifth year to watch in the future?

Amy McEvoy

1. Mr Clancy at Recess
2. Mr Byrne
3. Man the drive through at McDonalds
4. I would be more careful with the furniture (sorry)
5. Connor Leonard - he could take over the world some day



Shane Finnerty

1. Rugby Senior Cup Final
2. Mr Moran
3. Mechanical Engineering
4. Pay more attention in class
5. Oisin Wallace - He is an early riser



Iarla O Malley

1. Paddy O H in the attic in 5th year
2. Mr Byrne
3. Civil Engineering
4. I wouldn't have opened the door to Mr O Frighil
5. Tommy Murphy - tech genius



KEEP CALM AND STUDY ON

Mikaela Devaney

1. Edel Zandi running in front of her own school bus
2. Mr Byrne
3. Become a zoologist
4. I would have moved to St Paul's sooner
5. Amy McNerney - what a lady !!



KEEP CALM AND STUDY ON

Colin Forde

1. Eoin Gildea going head first through the window
2. Ms Ní Fhatharta
3. I have no plan - gods plan
4. I would avoid the astro turf— bad knees
5. Ben Parkinson - He has brains to burn



Aoife Walsh

1. Amy getting locked in the toilets
2. Ms Ní Fhatharta
3. Become a teacher
4. I would have come to St Paul's sooner
5. Marta Banek - Absolute superstar .



KEEP CALM AND STUDY ON

Patrick O Halloran

1. The bus to the Connacht Final
2. Mr Begley
3. Full time mad man
4. I would have stayed in higher English
5. Robbie Fahy - He has some singing voice



KEEP CALM AND STUDY ON

Aoibhe Fahy

1. The Debs
2. Ms Ni Fhatharta
3. Travel the world
4. Stop mom joining the school
5. Ryan Roche - He is a brilliant athlete



Colin Cody

1. Double Physics with Mr Byrne but I don't know if he enjoyed them as much
2. Mr Murray
3. To study business
4. I would have grown my hair out sooner
5. Donal Henderson - one to watch in the long grass



KEEP CALM AND STUDY ON

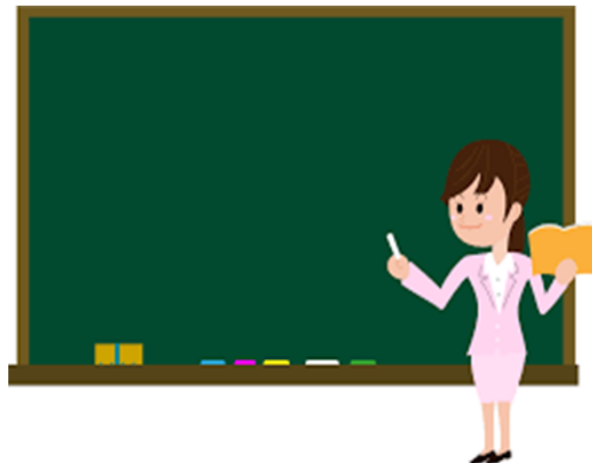
Caoilinn O Halloran

1. The Debs
2. Ms Ní Fhatharta
3. Become the worlds greatest primary school teacher
4. I would have done less work for the Junior Cert
5. Sinead Sheeran - She is a queen



Teacher of the Year

	Male	Female
Best craic	Mr Moran	Ms Ní Shuilleabháin
Students won't mess with	Mr Carr	Ms Lanigan
Best Comebacks	Mr Murray	Ms Bhreathnach
Nicest	Mr Reidy	Ms McHugh
Best Dressed	Mr Lee	Ms Nestor
Enjoys TY Most	Mr Hurney	Ms Ní Shuilleabháin
Favourite Teacher	Mr Lee	Ms Ní Fhatharta
Favourite New Teacher	Mr Lynch	Ms McHugh
Sportiest	Mr Murray	Ms Bhreathnach
Nicest Wagon	Mr Moran	Ms Beatty



Memorable Moments

As the year comes to an end we have some amazing memories to look back on. It has been a year of new experiences and laughs with friends.



Paris 2022 - TYs' on Tour

After months of us annoying Mr Lee about our trip, we were ready for off. In the early hours of Sunday morning we got on the bus- airport bound. We were beyond excited and the tunes blared from Moycul- len to Maynooth (at which point Mr Moran lost his patience). We got there 40 minutes before we could check in and Mr Lee went into full dad mode. He paced through terminal 2 trying to make sure we didn't do anything too stupid. Security was an ordeal as some of us do not understand what 300ml means.

We hit Paris early Monday morning and got on the bus for The Sacre-Coeur. We walked about 500 steps up to the cathedral but when we got there it was definitely worth the view. We went for food before heading back onto the bus for a tour of Paris. The tour was fantastic but some of us napped at times. After a much needed nap we then headed to Les Invalides Museum, where we saw Napoleon's tomb. We had our choice of restaurant for dinner on day 1 and we were starving. A few of us were starting to become difficult but Mr Lee said that Mr Hurney is always like that.

Then we headed back to the hotel where we got our rooms. Now we definitely weren't staying in a 5 star hotel but after the initial shock of how small the rooms were, we realised the beds were super comfy and we had hot water so what more could we want. Ms Harhen's French was definitely tested though when we got locked out of rooms within the first hour of staying there. That was the end of day 1, but not to worry the fun was only just beginning.

We were woken up by Mr Lee banging on the door at 7 in the MORNING. Way too early!! Some of the rooms found it awful difficult to get up, Mr. Lee even said that he could hear some of the boys snoring from the other end of the hall. After a quick breakfast we headed to the shops. We were dropped off at a luxury shopping centre, which no one could afford. However, we quickly found a H&M and Zara. Then we headed to The Champs-Élysées, where we split up and got food. We were given an hour and half to shop and eat before we headed back to the bus. We got dropped off at the Eiffel tower and afterwards we went on a boat tour of the Seine. It was so nice seeing all of Paris from the water. Our boat tour lasted an hour and a half and afterwards it was time for some well needed food. The boat tour was one of the highlights of our trip; it was amazing! We went to a restaurant for dinner. John and Adam wanted to sit with Mr Moran but he declined.

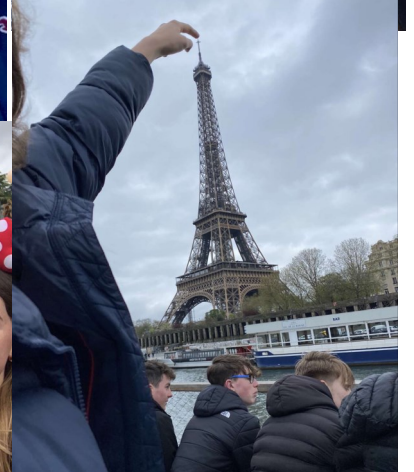
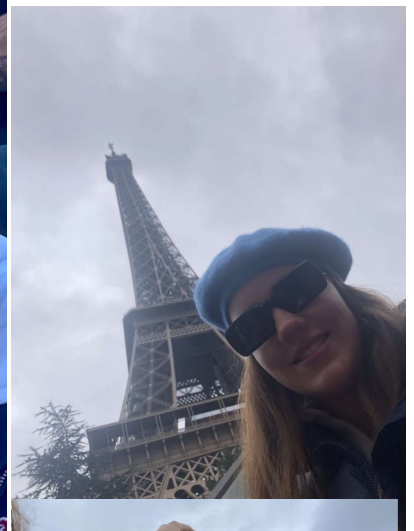
We started our day 3 by going to the Stade De France. We got a tour of the stadium and went into the dressing rooms and saw some of the players' jerseys. It was really cool we even got to run out of the tunnel onto the pitch. Next on the itinerary was some shopping and McDonalds. Afterwards we went to the Louvre where we looked at statues and famous paintings. We also lost a couple of people while we were in there but they were all found in the end. After the Louvre we went for an amazing dinner of chicken supreme with roast potatoes. It was by far the best food we had in Paris. Then we walked back to the bus and headed to the Montparnasse tower. The tower is 56 stories high and had a viewing tower on top. When we were at the top we could see all of Paris, it was amazing! After a quick stop at the shop we headed back to the hotel.

As we approached the end of our trip the best was yet to come. On Thursday we went to Disneyland!!! The excitement was evident on everyone's faces, even the teachers were ecstatic, Ms Harhen was actually jumping up in down with excitement. We arrived there and it was like a dream, the castle and all the rides were huge. We walked through villages that looked like something you only saw in movies. Then it was time for the rides. We all went our separate ways and started queueing up. Most of our favourite rides were the same. Tower of Terror was the all round winner with everyone enjoying it, except Mr Hurney and Mr Moran who swore that it nearly killed them. Hyper Space mountain, was another winner. This ride was only open for a small period of time that day but the people who got the chance to go on it said it was the best ride in the park. Indiana Jones was amazing with an upside down loop that had our stomachs churning. Our only complaint about the park was the wait time but when we were talking and having fun that didn't seem so bad. While we were there the heavens decided to pour down on us but most didn't even notice.

After that it was time for home. We were all sad leaving Disneyland, but our time in France was an experience that will never be forgotten. Once we were at the airport we were all go, but sadly the airport staff didn't match our spirits and made us wait an hour before we could check in. Some people used this time for a quick nap on the floor while the rest of us sat there complaining to Mr Lee. Eventually we got through and we all headed to the shop for some snacks before getting on the plane. We got on the bus and headed back to Oughterard. Our time in France was a one of the best trips ever, looking back it is hard to imagine how we did so much over the course of four days. We also want to thank Mr Lee for organising it all and answering our thousands of questions. We also would like to thank Ms Morgan, Ms Harhen, Mr Hurney, Ms Ní Fhartharta and Mr Moran for taking care of us and making the trip so memorable.







TY Predictions

Joy O'Sullivan – In jail for murder of Cailim McDonagh.

Cailim McDonagh- 6ft underground.... Cause of death, JOY

Zoe-Bella McVey – Working off her caramel syrup debt in Sullivan's

Serena Tierney – Marry both the happy pear twins

Joshua Joyce – Opens his own equestrian centre

Anna McHugo – Back in Paris

Roise McGauley – Living happily ever after with her husband

Lindsey Higgins – Marries a boy racer

James Lowry – Has enough kids to field a rugby team

Kyla Sweeney – Living in Hawaii owning a surf shop

Caoimhe Joyce – Takes over Oughterard or the world

Christopher McDonagh – Takes over Highlander

John Walsh – PLAYS JUNIOR C FOR MOYCULLEN

Luke Carr – Dropped from county

Mark Osborne – Full time farmer/boy racer

Adam Keogh – Becomes a Kilkenny hurler

Dylan Gibbons - Block laying for Thomas Gibbons

Hannah Clarke – Becomes a fitness influencer

Sophie Fogerty – Becomes sudoku world champion

Orlaith Geoghean – Sells the mines for millions

Calum O'Connor – Upgrades his prized tractor

Sinead Duffy – Takes over Corrib basketball

Jane Cunningham – Gets a brand deal for Asics

Isabel Fahey – Becomes ultimate soccer mom

Shannon Clifford– Owns her own business

Jack Felmingham – Becomes a top lawyer

Ellie Healy – Becomes the new Florence Nightingale

Oisin Folan –Becomes a metal worker in Tullykyne

Matthew Angland - Married to Anna McHugo

Ronan Angland – End up working for (or killing) Matthew



The Boat Inn

Jerome Bumanglag – Runs The Boat Inn
 Dasha Kelly – Wanted for burning down Disneyland
 Kenneth Carter – Gets sponsored by beats headphones
 Darragh Casey – Becomes a rally driver
 Paul Couteau - Becomes world scout leader
 Roisin Curley – Travelling the world
 Aoibhinn Eilian – Becomes a personal trainer
 Cillian Fogerty – Historian for Liverpool football club
 Rachel Gibbons – Becomes an accountant
 Keanah Goggin Irons – Makes Kerry the rugby capital of the world
 Oisin Grimes – Becomes the local electrician
 Joe Grimes – Becomes world famous (reason unknown)
 Kai Heanue - Opens his own hardware store
 Bonnie Keogh – Inherits Henry Keogh's.
 Beth Hooper – Finally overcomes her peanut allergy
 Sam Howe – Becomes next Broadway star
 Molly Howely – Becomes goalkeeper for Ireland
 Sean Karpakis – Works as a voice actor for Pixar
 Amy Keleghan – Becomes a dodgeball champion
 Amy Kelly – Lelli Kelly model
 Eoghan Kelly – Train driver
 Sean Kerr – Works in Delphi
 Ture Kleefeld – Full time twitch streamer
 Christopher Lanagan – Becomes CEO of a jeans company
 Paraic Larkin – Finally becomes friends with Sean McDonagh
 Abby Leanord – Owns 70 cats
 Aisling Lydon – Opens a pet farm and raises 3 perfect kids
 Matthew Mannion – Single handedly solves/causes WW3
 Madelyn Mannion Flaherty – Becomes top piercer at AWOL.
 Tom McCormack – Takes over from David Attenborough
 Niall McDonnell – Wins the ploughing championship
 Orlaith McNamara – Owns a bakery chain
 Kathryn O'Connor – Takes over Maam cross mart
 Nicolas O'Connor – Works in Build a Bear
 Seamus O'Connor Steward – Becomes the face of the Farmers Journal
 Ethan O'Halloran Bell – Marries rich
 Cormac O'Malley – Becomes a world wide book seller
 Niamh Tierney – Holds the world record for push ups
 Amelia Turner Gibbons – Wins Rose of Tralee
 Aaron Walsh – Helps Matthew Mannion cause/solves WW3
 Ailsa Walsh – Marries royalty
 Ella Walsh – Opens her own equestrian centre and rivals Joshua Joyce
 Teegan Walsh – Never leaves Recess
 Sarah Williams – Becomes Galway West new TD
 Emilia Witiek – Still Keanah's no.1 fan


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Precious Memories

These are some random pictures of us at various stages throughout the year. We had so many adventures and laughs perhaps some enjoyed themselves a little too much.

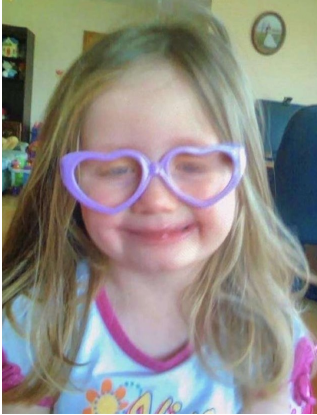
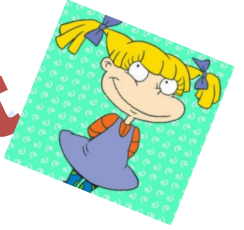




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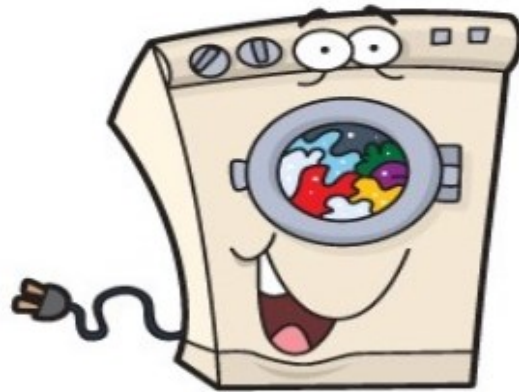
As Mr Lee reached the end of his tether with us we headed for Tayto park on a fine day in May. We were coming near the end of the year but this trip was to be up there with the best of them. Nothing like a day on the rollercoasters!! Some of the teachers who came to Disneyland couldn't face the heights again. Try as we might we couldn't push Mr Moran onto the bus



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Sport in St. Paul's

We have had a huge year of sport this year in our school. We have had success at provincial and national level across a wide array of sports. We are so lucky to have students from our school represent us at club, intercounty and international level

Pictured below are some of the students who represent us on various different teams. We are so proud of their achievements and the manner in which they represent us.



School Football

Our U-19 Boys' Gaelic Football Team had a really successful campaign this year under the watchful eye of Mr Lee. They became Connacht College champions after beating Balla Secondary School in the final. They were narrowly defeated by Heywood Community School in Leixlip earlier this year ending there dreams of All-Ireland success. This is a really young team and the majority will remain available for selection next year.



Our 3 Ladies teams' had a really successful year registering wins in all competitions. Our senior ladies (pictured below) had an excellent start to the year beating Salerno however they were later knocked out of the competition



St. Paul's Rugby

Our senior rugby team had a fantastic season with hard fought wins over Jarlath's and Athlone Community College to reach the Connaught Final. We played a seasoned St Enda's team in a nail biting affair with both teams exchanging scores early on. Cody Farrell, Ryan Roche and James Lowry all put in huge performances on the day. Unfortunately, St Enda's with the last kick of the game emerged victorious. While we had to settle for second place on this occasion the future of rugby in St. Paul's looks bright. Well done to all involved and a sincere thank you to Mr O Neil and Mr Murray for their continued dedication



Golf in St. Paul's



We wish to extend a huge congratulations to Kate Dillon (third year) who was recently selected to play on the Irish Girls' U16 Golf Team. She recently made her international debut at a competition at Cardigan GC in Wales.

Kate has made history in Oughterard Golf Club by becoming the first female member to play off a scratch handicap (0).

Pictured below are the prize winners from our school competition (The Mary O Grady Cup) which took place in Oughterard Golf Club recently.



School Basketball

Our boys and girls basketball teams had an excellent season. The highlight was winning a Connacht title against local rivals The Bish. We were knocked out of the All Ireland Series in the next round of the competition. Congratulations to all involved.

Pictured are Dara Walsh (Captain), Cian Gorham, Cian Marks and Sean McDonagh



Equestrian Team



Well done to Ms O' Friel and our Equestrian team who won the Interschools Novice Team Show jumping in Ower Equestrian Centre in February.

Pictured below are Doireann Clancy, Sophie Lee and Dervla Foley who all won medals on the day. Well done to the girls for undertaking the care and commitment required to work with animals and participate in these competitions.



Ladies' Soccer

Everyone in St. Paul's is extremely proud of our Girls' U17 soccer team who gave everything they had in an enthralling All Ireland Final that cruelly was decided on penalties. Each and every one of the panel played a massive role in the campaign.

Niamh Ruane and Hannah Clarke kept the dream alive in the final as they levelled up proceedings after we had fallen behind early on.

While they did not take home the cup the girls have had a fantastic year capturing a historic Connacht title and backing that up with a huge win in the All-Ireland semi final.

The whole school and community are proud of their efforts all year. A special word of thanks goes to all of their sponsors along with there manager Mr Molloy.

The team has received fantastic support from students, families, clubs and the whole community on their captivating journey. This group can hold their heads up high after representing the school so wonderfully while also giving everyone some unforgettable memories over the course of the year





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GAA Coach Education

We ran a coaching course this year for some of our TY students who were interested in getting involved in GAA coaching. The course was delivered by Sean Kelly and Aidan Claffey from Galway GAA. Sean Kelly also took the time, in his role as Galway football captain, to meet with some of the players from the school that represented the Galway Underage Academy football teams as well as Luke Carr from the Galway Minor panel & Adam Tierney from the Galway Under 20 panel.



Captains' Interviews



Questions

1. What was your favourite moment of the season?
2. If you could pick one other person on the team to be captain who would you pick?
3. What is your favourite post match takeaway?
4. What has been the biggest challenge in leading your team?
5. How do you deal with the pressure of being a captain?

Brian McHugo Senior Rugby Captain

1. The feeling after we won the semi-final
2. Ryan Roche
3. Typan in Moycullen but never before a game :)
4. Making sure other members feel valued
5. Our coach and a number of teachers in the school offer me invaluable advice



Adam Tierney Senior Football Captain

1. Winning the Connacht final .
2. Paddy
3. Sammy's
4. Getting everyone focused before a big match
5. I turn to Mr Byrne for his advice as an Oughterard stalwart




Molly Howley U-17 Soccer Captain

1. When I saved the penalty to put us through to the All Ireland final.
2. Keanah Irons
3. Supermacs
4. Keeping all the girls calm on the day of a big game
5. The team is so close and we're all on the same page. The girls know what to do

Dara Walsh Senior Basketball Captain

1. The day we won the West Title
2. Sean McDonagh, although I don't like to tell him
3. Taipan in Moycullen
4. Stopping Sean Mc Donagh and Cian Marks getting distracted by their own reflections
5. I focus on the game and get the lads ready for it





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Youth Winter Olympics

This year one of our Leaving Certificate student's Padraig Faherty travelled to the Youth Winter Olympics in Finland to work as a reporter at the games. In March Padraig jetted off to the Finnish ski resort of Vuokatti, an opportunity that he found out about from Team Ireland Olympics website.



The event was for athletes born up to 2003. It incorporated 9 sports across 3 different cities in Finland. Working for the event media on the Cross Country Skiing and Speed Skating events, Padraig interviewed athletes post-race, published reports on the day's events and produced social media content for the event. He also published articles for Team Ireland, Team GB and Galway Advertiser. Padraig highly recommended the experience and encouraged anyone interested in journalism to keep an eye out for opportunities like this.



TY MEMORIES

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TRANSITION

2021/22

YEAR

