

St Clements

TY NEWSLETTER 24/25

TY Update

What we have done so far!

Our Transition Year students have had an action packed term filled with fun and learning.

- **Surf's Up!** They hit the waves and tackled the cold.
- **CSI Edition:** Future detectives? TYs explored forensic science, cracking the codes of fingerprints and DNA.
- **Whizz Kids:** Budding coders got hands on with creating and designing.
- **Adventures & Trips:** From travels to new experiences, it's been non stop action.
- **Junior Cert Success:** Big celebrations and well deserved smiles for all!

Here's to a term of epic memories, new skills, and endless fun.



Dream Space Event

A Dream-Space Event hosted by Microsoft took place on the 11th of November in the Demonstration Room in the school. The event organisers taught us how to code a game in Make Code Arcade using Micro Bits. The event lasted about 2 hours from 9:30 to 11:30. The event was great and I learnt so much. I would recommend this to anyone doing TY.

-Oskar Borowka

Aran Islands

In the second week of school, all the 4th years went on a trip to the Aran Islands. I arrived early by the church, waiting for the bus while chatting with friends. The 25-minute ride was very beautiful and flew by. We then had to take a bumpy boat ride. We reached the island and took a group photo. We explored the island, visited a shop, and saw a huge, rusty shipwreck. Later, we played soccer and rugby on the beach, swam, and built with sand. The Aran Islands, off Ireland's west coast, are famous for their limestone landscapes, stone walls, ancient forts like Dún Aonghasa, and vibrant local culture. They offer breath taking cliffs, beaches, and a glimpse into Ireland's history and traditions. When we got there I saw all of these things first hand. It was extremely interesting to be able to see things that you had only seen in photographs beforehand. The return boat ride was rough, but overall, it was an amazing trip.

-Ahmad Noorustani



Whizz Kids

On Tuesday, October 15th, TY students at St. Clements School explored 3D modelling and technology in the Demo Room called Whizz Kids. The day began with an engaging two-hour talk by a guest speaker on careers and digital programs. After a break, we quickly learned to create basic websites—I made one about Chelsea Football Club. Next, we designed dream houses using SketchUp, which was fun and creative. We wrapped up with a coding game involving a robot, making programming simple and enjoyable. This Whizz Kids led activity was my first time programming. Though nervous, I found it exciting, rewarding, and discovered a surprising creativity and interest in technology. Overall, it was a fun, skill-building experience that I highly recommend. I'm proud of what I achieved and excited to learn more.

-Tristan Cabanillas

Ploughing Championship



One of the best experiences in TY so far was the Ploughing. The day began at 7:30 a.m, when we met at the cathedral to catch the bus. After a two-hour ride, we got our tickets and instructions to return by 4:30 p.m. The event felt like a muddy, outdoor shopping centre. My friends and I wandered before finding food trucks. Later, we heard an announcement about a musical performance and the president's arrival. Hearing the performance was a highlight. By the afternoon, we wandered until it was time to head back. The bus ride home was full of music, jokes, and free cowboy hats that I'm still jealous of! Overall, it was a fun day, and I loved spending time with my friends, making memories I'll always value.

-Jakub Kultys



Forensic Science

JFK Workshop

On October 2nd, we attended a fascinating forensic science workshop. The session started with an overview of JFK's assassination, which was so engaging it made me consider forensics as a career. The instructor's humour and interactive style kept us interested, especially when discussing conspiracy theories. We explored various stations, including fingerprint identification, a VR crime scene re-enactment, gun models, and a 3D-printed recreation of JFK's head and brain. Activities involved taking our fingerprints, analysing rifle types, and examining recreated items from Lee Harvey Oswald's pockets. We also completed a worksheet, answering questions like "Where was Oswald at 1:14 p.m.?" At the end, we shared theories. Overall, the workshop was insightful, enjoyable, and gave me a new appreciation for forensic work. It's an excellent addition to TY, and I highly recommend it for future students.



-Cian MacMahon

Surfing



On Monday October 14th, a small group of TY students from St. Clements went surfing in Lahinch for two hours. The trip began at 8:45 a.m. after roll call. We took a one-hour bus ride, stopping briefly at a shop for snacks. Upon arriving in Lahinch, we headed to Ben's Surf School, where we were given wetsuits, boots, and surfboards. The staff divided us into groups, each with a monitor who showed us the basics of surfing. Although the water was freezing and the waves were small, it was an incredible experience. The only downside was being cold and salty afterward, but despite that, it was one of my favourite TY experiences so far. It was an unforgettable day, especially as it was my first time surfing. I learned a lot and found it so exciting!

-Enrique Del Rivero



Here's to another great term!



Thank you to all involved in the TY programme!