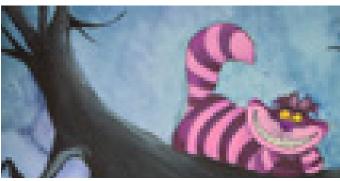
The Institute of Education Senior School Yearbook 2018













A MESSAGE FROM THE **5TH YEAR** PRINCIPAL

THIS YEAR THE 5TH YEAR SCHOOL FLOURISHES 25 YEARS AFTER OPENING ITS DOORS...

In September 1993 the Late Jim O'Donovan turned the key in the door of 19/20 Lower Leeson Street and the 5th year school was declared open. This was the beginning of a remarkable story that would resonate with every student who was fortunate enough to have passed through this famous Centre of Education and Learning over the last 25 years.

It was a great honour for me to be appointed Principal following on from Jim O'Donovan RIP. I was very conscious of the responsibility, given the great tradition and history of The Institute of Education which was founded by Raymond Kearns in 1969. I was already aware that the staff of the school was very proud of its history and it was my job to ensure that their deep loyalty and commitment to the school was continually upheld. The commitment was wide ranging across school life, from the academic to the extra-curricular.

The 5th year school prides itself on its vibrant and passionate staff, teaching and non-teaching. They boast a whole range of gifts and talents, which are shared with joy to enhance the school experience of all. The loyalty and commitment of each teacher and each member of staff together, is what makes the 5th year school the great school that it is. This loyalty to and high regard for the school is reflected strongly in the parents I have met over the years at Open Nights and Parent –Teacher Meetings.

The 5th year school aims to develop young people who are confident, fulfilled, happy, purposeful, independent, mature, motivated, determined and dedicated. It endeavours to instil qualities of leadership and responsibility while at the same time awaking a love of learning. A love of learning is encouraged as is a respect for self, others and the environment.

Jim Darcy 5th Year Principal



Education is all about preparing young people to live meaningful lives. At a glance, the last 25 years will show that our past students have made enormous contributions to their locality, country and to the world wide global community. What a magnificent legacy they have left and what a magnificent start they received in the 5th year school at The Institute of Education

My role as Principal is a demanding one and I have enjoyed every minute of it. I have been very lucky to have had an excellent relationship with all the staff and with each of the Deputy Principals I have had the pleasure to work with, Mr Seán Phillips RIP, Ms Una Finn, Ms Clare Grealy and Ms Orla Ní Shuilleabháin. They led by example.

Much development and refurbishment took place over the past 25 years. The highlight of which was the opening of a new 5th year school at 79/81 Lower Leeson Street in January 2006 and more recently the opening in September 2016 of common classroom/chill out areas which are utilised by 4th/5th/6th year students.

The 5th year school has moved with the times with a new up-to-date state of the art computer room, home economics kitchens, science labs and an art room. A host of other modern gizmos are in the pipe line to ensure an all-inclusive progressive education for our students. All of this progress has happened due to the vision of the present Directors Mr Peter Kearns and Ms Una Kearns. One wonders what the 5th year school will be like in 2043 when the school celebrates its' Golden Jubilee!

Treaslaím leo siúd uile a d'oibraig chun clú agus cáil Institúd an Oideachais a chur chun cinn
Comhgairdeachas don Institúd ar a ré airgid.
Go mbeannaí Dia sibh uile.

YEWANDE ADEYALE AN APPRECIATION



COMING FROM NIGERIA YEWANDE BROUGHT WITH HER A DEEP FAITH IN GOD, A HOPE OF A NEW FUTURE IN IRELAND AND A LOVE FOR EVERYONE SHE MET...

In the sitting room of her home is a poster with the words of the Beatles song: **"ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE"**

Yewande could have written these words. She spread the love wherever she went.

Yewande was no ordinary person but an extraordinary person. In last year's Institute of Education School Yearbook, Yewande's photograph appeared no less than 16 times. Each photo showed a different interest. In one photograph she was raising money for the less well off in our society, in another she was selling candles for the Hospice Movement, and in a third she was debating at The Model United Nations. She was an incredibly gifted human being. Yewande loved life and she lived it to the full.

In another photograph Yewande was visiting the RTE studios in Donnybrook. On the wall over the reception in big letters were the words:

"A DIFFERENT CLASS".

Yewande was "a different class". These words could have been coined for her. Life was to be lived. But that life was cut short. She had fulfilled her role, lived the dream, completed the task and finished the race. Yewande went once a week on work experience to the Hospice, in Harold's Cross. In an article she wrote on her experience she states:

"Sometimes when I am assisting a patient with their tea they would shout at me. I understood it wasn't their fault but their pain made them do this. When I returned home from the hospice I felt fulfilled. I did some-thing worthwhile other than being on my phone."

Yewande had an old head on young shoulders.

The poem "Death is nothing" by the poet Henry Scott Holland states: 1. I am I and you are you, And the old life we lived so fondly together is untouched, unchanged, Whatever we were to each other that we are still, Call me by my old familiar name. 11. I am but waiting for you for an interval, Somewhere very near, Just round the corner, All is well.

How we will laugh at the trouble of parting when we meet again.

I want to say how grateful I am to those students who attended Yewande's funeral in Swords, brought in flowers and sympathised with her family. Your presence meant a lot to her parents and her three sisters.

Ní bheidh a leithéid arís ann. Go ndéana Día trocaire ar a hanam dílis.

-Jim Darcy, 5th Year Principal

4TH YEAR AT THE INSTITUTE

IT HAS BEEN A BRILLIANT YEAR FOR OUR CURRENT 4TH YEAR STUDENTS...

Once again, I can reflect on a year of great achievement with a truly outstanding group of students. Energy, enthusiasm and camaraderie are the words that spring to mind.

This year I was priveleged to have the most wonderful students who through their passion and commitment, constantly exceeded all expectations - showing us how promising the future generation will be.

One of the highlights for any 4th year student is the completion of the Gaisce Presidents Award. We spent two days in Carlingford, Louth - completing a character defining hike over 30km of tough terrain.

Another challenge students faced was raising money for worthy casuses. Once again though, we had great enthusiasm and commitment from the group. Many voluntary organisations such as the Cancer Society, Laura Lynn Foundation, St Francis Hospice and Focus Ireland have benefited from our students generosity this year.

This academic year also saw our students working with the Suas programme for the first time, mentoring children in DEIS schools in both Maths and English. The programme was not only advantageous to the young students receiving the support, but also to the student mentors who grew so much as a result of the experience.

There really has been a fascinating programme of activities throughout the year. The 'I Wish' conference and AIB 'Future Sparks' festival both inspired and encouraged our 4th years to reach their career potential, particularly in STEM areas.

Of course, students got a great deal of practical work experience too, taking time out to see what they might want to do later in life. They learnt

Orla Ni Shuilleabhain 4th Year Head



some pretty useful job skills in-school too. We ran a day-long barista training course for the first time, students had a great time doing it and acquired an incredibly useful skill for part-time work.

I'd like to congratulate everyone who took the intitiative to enter various competitions throughout the year. Our Young Entrepreneurs team won the 'Innovation Award' and our SciFest group took home the ESERO 'Discover Space' Award.

From the bottom of my heart, I'd like to thank all those who helped and contributed to making this such a successful year. Most importantly, the students have bonded, made friends for life, increased their confidence and shown boundless energy, enthusiasm and joy during the year.

I truly feel that they are now ready to step up to the academic challenges of 5th year, and it's great to know that these students are our future leaders, scientists, entrepreneurs and entertainers. Ireland's future is certainly bright!











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Front Cover Artwork by Tara Clifford Rapha Diamond Ebs Alexandra Elliot Naoise Finnie Anna Rigney

Meet Our Students



Row 1 (L-R): Ling Hong Chen, Aoife Boyle, Tara Clifford, David Fortune

Row 2: Aisosa Mirabel, Pearse Crowley, Winifred Massey, Leah Callanan, Juno Barlow, Diekola Arisekola, Kerry Tynan, Ciara Walsh, Ella Bleu Creaner, Aisling Sun, Daisy O Farrell, Lilly Kelly, Isabelle Nally

Row 3: Kostek Mickiewicz, Katie Hayman, Hennifer Boyle, Anna McGarry, Crea Elliot, Stephanie O Connor, Chloe Bastow, Charlotte Fay, Aoibhinn Browne, Siofra Egan, Kirsten Barry, Grace Hayden, Sarah Poynton

Row 4: Adam Lynch, David Sun, Giulia Guasoni, Elizabeth Constantineanu, Robin Maher, Aaron Dinesh, Aisling O Reilly, Ali Mooney, Kitty Ly, Saoirse Corbett Fitzpatrick, Darren Chong, Abigail Carroll, Fabiola Dumitru, Ravi Seth, Dylan Nevin, Lucy Yin, Laura Govan, Sally Richardson

Row 5: Rohan Kadam, Reuben Allen, Jamie Culliton, Jack Finnegan Lynch, Matthew O Dwyer, Jack Fitzgerald, Sean Tjong, Zhihe Wong, Noor Alazawi, Niamh Carlin, Precious Olatunji, Jason Boutlas, Ava Kavanagh, Conor Barry, Louis Kelly



Row 1 (L-R): Cillian Brandon, Jamie Martin, Amor Alkadhimi, Brian MacCarvill, David Keenan, Maebh O' Loughlin, Sean Fahey, Luke Armstrong, Shane McGoldrick, Adam Duffy, Sean White, Mikolaj Kuczera, David O' Byrne, Fuad Kehinde

Row 2: Vishvajit Sundarrajan, Rachel Perthiani, Glenn Gilmartin, Ronan Allen, Maya O' Riordan, Conor O' Callaghan, Isobel Tansey, Aisling Lawrence, Kelly Clarke, Seán Benson, Fionn Cummins, Jake Moran, Ellen Finnegan, Sabhbh Daunt, Keira Gatt, Amy Kelly

Row 3: Evans Babu, Conor Hensey, Hannah Mangan, Doireann McEntee, Isobel McNally, Mia O' Neill, Alanna Clarke, Lydia Ardill, Niamh Begley, Aisling Mellett, Jill Fitzpatrick, Rachel Richardson, Julia Kaulsay, Katie Foo, Ailbhe McEvoy, Ciara Murphy, Doireann McIntyre, Aisling Smith O' Connor, Saptha Raman Namboodiri, Chloe O' Reilly, Megan Punzet, Fay Martin, Nancy Zhang

Row 4: Neil Crawford, Alexander Saeed Maguire, Tim Kelly, Sinéad Tattan, Dominik Walkowiak, Cian Butterly, Katie Loomes, Shiyo Shain, Krishi Madipelly, Nick Boluwatife Oguntuase, Maegen Fleming Lia Peare Kavanagh.



Row 1 (L-R): Harry Watchorn, Lauren Rogers, Katie Slyne, Suzannah Berke, Mannraj Pritesh Salia, Kevin Wang, Josephine Chua, Aishah Mohammed, Mackenzie O' Connor, Tumennasan Parenlei

Row 2: Jonathan O' Reilly, Louis Brunton, Yutong Feng, Katie Nolan, Nicola Ferguson, Claudia Cooke, Aimee Ward, Alex Palmero, Janet Giju, Sancia Ann Soju, Gabija Gustaityte, Rachel Pender, Dona George, Laura Giffney

Row 3: Edward Adebayo, Jack Flynn, Cillian Moulton, Rachel Furlong, Alannah Kirkham, Ruby Shirt, Eva O' Mahony, Grace Leach, Emily Blaney, Hannah Egan, Zeinab Al-Alawi

Row 4: Sophie Scattergood, Aoife McGrath, Ciarán Russell, Conor McCabe, Ciara O'Reilly, Marianne Chung, Samanwita Mohanty, Andreea Datcu, Christine Oprisan, Amy Johnston, Emma Lohan, Anna Nakonechna, Niamh Hickey

Row 5: Doireann McEntee, Alexander Saeed Maguire, Isobel McNally, Patricija Kregzdyte, Fionn Cummins, Luke Caragher, Shane McGoldrick, , Karen Clarke, Elian D'Arcy, Laura Johnson, Hannah Tully, Ayet Ali, Aisha Malik.



Row 1 (L-R): Jesline Theresa Alex, Lana Marren, Alisha Mol Mathew, Louis Brunton, Edward Adebayo, David Alabi, Abdalla Khalifa, Charlotte Deegan, Sarah Hanly, Sinead Reynolds

Row 2: Laragh Tully, Ronan Shivnen, Haashim Sohail, Sean Banks, Julia Labedz, Jonathan Bell, Emma Browne, Caragh Hayes, Praise Bankole, Aisling O' Grady, Gráinne O' Rourke, Anna Rigney, Alexandra Brennan

Row 3: James Fleming, David McKeone, Jitesh Khatri, David Halpin

Row 4: David Keenan, Alexander Saeed Maguire, Genevieve Kelly, Pierce McCarthy, Kate Scanlon, Neil Crawford, Migle Zdanceviciute, Aoife McGrath, Ada Bowler, Alex Pescar, Tim Kelly, Argeluun Ganbold, Melanie Maslovschi, Pollyanna Sibdana, Rapha Diamond Ebs, Filip Siniarski, Austin Shaji

4th Year 2017/2018

SUAS LITERACY PROGRAMME





Personally, I wanted to take part in SUAS to see what teaching was like as I was considering a career in education.

- Lewis Kelly



By the end of the eight weeks I felt that I had made a difference in a child's life and that I had taught them a valuable life skill

- Daisy O Farrell

The Suas Organisation and Training

SUAS is an organisation that organises one on one tutoring for Maths and English between Transition Year students and Primary School students who are in less fortunate schools. Our year tutored Maths to students in various deis schools in Dublin. I was in Scoil Chaoimhin, working with Leo and Hayden, two second class boys.

I was part of a group with five other Transition Year students who were also tutoring. SUAS organised a training day for us before we started mentoring. This was a great help as we were taught many Maths games and skills to do and play with the children in order to enhance their abilities and I felt that the child was engaged throughout the lesson. SUAS supplied a fun work book and progress tracker book to use with the kids. They also gave us packs which involved different playing cards, whiteboards and many other things to use during the lesson.

Personally, I wanted to take part in SUAS to see what teaching was like as I was considering a career in education. It was a great experience but it has shown me that I do not want to pursue this career.

My Experience as a Suas Mentor

As soon as I heard of the SUAS programme, and what the organisation did, I knew I wanted to be a part of it. After taking part in the training day, which was held in school, I was excited. Although I was a bit nervous to meet the kids that I would be mentoring. Once I travelled to the school and introduced myself to the kids I was relaxed. I realised that the children were exactly like I was and that they were as eager to learn as I was to teach them.

As the weeks went by, I got to know each of the kids and see their maths skills progress. Over the eight weeks it was so exciting to see the improvements that each child made. I always looked forward to going to the school to teach and I always had a good time whether it was with the kids or with the other mentors in my group. I think that SUAS was a great learning experience for both me and for the kids. By taking part in the SUAS programme it helped me to focus on somebody else and not just on my own progress.

By the end of the eight weeks I felt that I had made a difference in a child's life and that I had taught them a valuable life skill, which they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. I now hope that these incredible kids will take on board what SUAS has taught them and carry it on for the rest of their school years.



- Saoirse Corbett-Fitzpatrick

The Impact and Outcome SUAS had on me and my students

After 8 weeks of hard work and dedication, the kids had successfully completed the SUAS Numeracy Programme. The difference between my students when I first started SUAS and when I finished was incredible.

When I first started, I had two very nervous girls who didn't believe in themselves and strongly believed there wasn't any chance they could do all this maths. After we finished the full programme, I had two very confident, capable girls with so much potential and who were flying through any maths sums I gave them. They enjoyed the subject and took on any challenge I set them. Most of all, they saw me as a friend, a person they could talk to and trust. The programme was the most rewarding and special thing I've ever done. I would recommend it to any TY student.

I learned that SUAS is not only about teaching and helping kids how to subtract or multiply. It is about encouraging the maths skills the child already has but cannot see. It is about helping them believe in themselves and not to be afraid to get an answer wrong. Show them that it's worthwhile to keep trying until you get it right. To let them understand that success is what happens after you've survived all your mistakes.

I now hope that these incredible kids will take on board what SUAS has taught them and carry it on for the rest of their school years. I know I will.



DANCE & DRAMA



We ultimately had fun trying to learn it, stumbles and all

- Elizabeth Constantineanu

4th Year Dance Classes

Dance was one of those classes that brought our year closer together as a whole. It was hard for that to not be the final result, really. It's an extremely interactive class that's bound to create some fond memories for its students.

Though the choreography was tricky at times, I believe we ultimately had fun trying to learn it, stumbles and all. It trained our commitment and social skills by reinforcing team work. At the end of the day, everyone had an important role to play in the showcase. It was hard to feel left out.

On another note, the class also offered a great introduction to the medium. It gave those who already had a passion a chance to shine and the others an opportunity to develop a new skill for them to build on. Not only that but it was also a great form of exercise for us to look forward to during the week. The way I like to put it; it's working out, made fun.

Overall, my experience in dance was one I certainly don't regret having. I enjoyed learning the choreography and had a great time working towards the showcase for our graduation. Not only was it a nice breather from conventional studying but it also encouraged me to maybe pursue it further after school.



Dancing at the 🐂 Christmas Concert











Our play at the Christmas Concert

I was cast in the role of Mrs. Clause, the desperate housewife of the North Pole



- Giulia Guasoni

4th Year Drama Classes

I started to enjoy drama when we began to rehearse for the Christmas play, which was to be performed in front of the entire school and our parents. The play was called 'The Making of Christmas', an original tale about elves in search of somebody – or something – to pull Santa's sleigh on Christmas Eve after unexpected circumstances leave them in a predicament.

I was cast in the role of Mrs. Clause, the desperate housewife of the North Pole who didn't want to be stuck in her traditional role of homemaker and, tired of her husband eating an obscene amount of unhealthy food and alcohol, would rather divorce him than watch him eat himself to death. I was quite surprised to be picked for this role, as I had never done an acting course before.

I will conclude by saying that I enjoyed drama this year. It was entertaining to venture out of the dull coziness of familiarity, and impersonate characters much unlike myself. I think that people who have never done drama before will enjoy themselves, if they try to make the most of it and don't take themselves too seriously. Overall, I am grateful for this opportunity, as I experienced something different.

CHARITY WORK

Collecting for the Irish Cancer Society



I decided to have a charity evening in my house, inviting all my friends, family and peers, to enjoy a home cooked meal





LauraLynn

As part of my Gaisce volunteer scheme, I decided to raise funds for LauraLynn children's hospice, as I have had many interactions with the charity previously.

LauraLynn is a hospice for children with life-limiting conditions that offers residential care for young adults with disabilities. They employ approximately 140 staff within their teaching, fundraising and care provision departments. Their holistic approach to care enables them to support the whole family, allowing parents to be 'Mum and Dad' rather than full-time carers.

As part of this fundraising, I decided to have a charity evening in my house, inviting all my friends, family and peers, to enjoy a home cooked meal, a chance to win some amazing donated raffle prizes, and lots of good spirited fun!

I'd like to thank everyone for their support and company on the night, as well as those who couldn't make it, but showed their support in an array of different ways. Everyone's help and enthusiasm allowed us to raise over €1500 for this well deserving charity.

Daffodil Day

This year, over 40 members of 4th year volunteered to collect money for the Irish Cancer Society, as part of "Daffodil Day". We dispersed ourselves all over Dublin city centre, with the aim to sell as many daffodils as possible, and spread awareness and joy to all who passed us.

The money we raised helps provide the Irish Cancer Society with the funds it needs to stop the progression and prominence of Cancer in our country. By investing in cancer research and providing care and support to people affected by cancer, the Irish Cancer Society is stopping cancer in its tracks.

Everyone who took part had an absolutely fantastic time, making lots of happy memories as well as helping a good cause. As all the candles were lit a sense of reflection and appreciation filled the air

- Niamh Carlin

Light Up A Life

30 students from the Institute and I volunteered to help out at the 'Light up a Life' ceremony that was held in Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services, Harold's Cross on Sunday the 26th of November. The group of students, Orla, Theresa and I met at the entrance gate of the hospice at 2 o'clock. We then went inside the Hospice to get ready. We put on t-shirts that identified that we were fundraising for the Hospice and organised into groups and positioned ourselves around the Hospice grounds.

Money buckets, flyers and boxes of candles were given to each group. We set up in our assigned areas and shortly after people started arriving. Together we handed out many candles and flyers and had a lot of fun even in the frozen cold weather.

Thanks to Orla and Theresa, everyone had breaks and sweets to keep us going. We also got to watch the performances happening on the stage, from the Palestrina Boys Choir and St Jude's Folk Group to Daniel O'Donnell singing Christmas Carols. It was a beautiful ceremony to watch and was such an amazing moment to be a part of. As all the candles were lit a sense of reflection and appreciation filled the air. After the ceremony was over we cleared our areas and tidied up.



We learnt to deal with all the customers when it was very busy and... got an insight into the workings of the shop



- Chloe Bastow

Christmas Charity Gift Wrapping

Some of the 4th year students this year volunteered to do Christmas gift wrapping in aid of St. Francis Hospice in the Kilkenny Design Centre. St. Francis Hospice provides a specialist palliative care service for the people of North Dublin City and county. They are a voluntary organisation that rely on fundraising. We managed to raise a very impressive sum of €7,892.92 for the Hospice! It was a very valuable and rewarding experience as we learned to deal with all the customers when it was very busy and we got an insight into the workings of the shop.

After the wrapping was over we were invited back to the Kilkenny Design Cenre for a meal and we each were given a gift of a beautiful pen to say well done for all our work and a lady from the Hospice came and thanked us for our work also. I enjoyed the experience very much and met some lovely people who worked there.

Wrapping gifts in the Kilkenny Store



GAISCE HIKE



We really got a chance to get to know the others in the year and really bonded as a group

- Aisling O Reilly



Our Gaisce Hike in Carlingford was a bonding experience to say the least. We began our journey at 8am outside Leeson Street, most of us barely awake and dreading the 30km hike in front of us. The Gaisce Award is an incredibly rewarding experience but also a tiring one. The 2 hour bus journey, broken up by a life-saving trip to Applegreen, was lively, with music playing and sweets already being passed around.

We arrived to freezing temperatures, or at least that's what it felt like, and we were soon divided up into rooms for our stay in the Carlingford Adventure Centre. Most of us having not been there before, it truly was an adventure. The dormitory rooms were an incredible way of meeting and bonding with those in the year who we hadn't gotten to talk to yet.

We set out immediately, walking for a few hours along the coast, with the rain in our faces. We had taken to counting the kilometres we'd walked, only to be told after around 2 hours that we hadn't even started. That was when I think it hit most of us how tough the Gaisce hike was really going to be. On day one, we got through around 20km, finishing off with a steep downward slope, which we would then have to hike back up the next day. Despite a wide range of athletic skills, we all trundled along with minimal complaining, because we all knew the reason we were there, to receive an award synonymous to any TY or 4th year experience.

We ended the day in our pyjamas, gathered in the hall in the Centre playing team building exercises, and coming up with questionable team names. Then came the traditional talent show, where we really got a chance to get to know the others in the year and really bonded as a group. However, the biggest bonding experience of the weekend, I think we'd all agree, was the torturous wait for our Chinese takeaway. At 11pm, we finally got what we had been waiting for, and there really were hugs all round.

Day two was simultaneously more subdued and more fun. Having our numbers depleted by injuries from day one's trek, we set out to finish the last 10km or so. To finish what was an incredible experience, we spent a few hours playing extremely competitive games of laser tag. By far the most fun we had during the two days, for those few hours we forgot about our aching legs and rumbling stomachs, and just had some fun.

Our Gaisce hike was a great way to start off the year and really made us all closer as a group, and I think I speak for us all when I say it's one of my favourite memories from my time in 4th year. Many thanks to Orla and everyone at Carlingford Adventure Centre for making it such a memorable experience.





Talent Show at the Adventure Centre #











STEM PROGRAMME



I studied the coding language HTML

- Ravi Seth



A very enjoyable class to take

-Ella Bleu Creaner

Coding

Computer programming, also known as coding, is the process of creating software. But what exactly is software, and how is it made? Software is a set of instructions for a computer to perform. In the Institute I studied the coding language HTML. Coding was an optional class that we took up at the start of the year. It took place once a week for an hour during school time.

In the coding language HTML I learned how to make websites from scratch using the application note. Using the application note we built and created different websites using various tags that we learnt throughout the year.

These tags let us do many things like add titles and paragraphs to our websites. We also learned how to insert images into our websites using tags. Using the images we then learnt how to also add links to different websites from our website.

Overall, coding was a very enjoyable class to take and is great if you want to get started on coding with a simple enough language. I definitely learnt a lot and it was a very interesting and different subject to take up during my 4th year.

ECDL

ECDL is the European Computers Driver's License. It is a Europe-wide qualification in basic computer skills. The course consists of 7 modules which you complete by the end of 4th year. It is an optional after-school activity that you can choose to take at the start of 4th year

After taking ECDL this year I think that a lot of the applications we learned to use will be very useful in the workplace and even for any projects for the Leaving Cert. In class we used applications such as Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and others. We learnt about the different shortcuts there are on computers and how to input formulas into spreadsheets.

Overall I enjoyed the course and have learnt a lot from it.



Coding Class

TWish STEM Conference





Our challenge was to build a drone that would fly at up to 140 kmph through an obstacle course



- Seán Tjong

Drone Project

My name is Seán and I was part of a two team project to build and fly racing drone. My friends, Matthew, Rohan, Jack, Aaron, Darren and I first learnt about the new competition run by Syndic8 at the TY Expo in late 2017.

At first, we registered ourselves in the competition to build a rocket but due to a lack of participants in that category, we instead took part in the drone racing competition. Our challenge was to build a drone that would fly at up to 140 kmph through an obstacle course as well as a hover challenge.

Our work began with making a 20 page portfolio which we worked on collectively and which we used as research for the type of drone we would be making. We decided to go with a 3D printed frame, custom designed by Darren.

We also set about getting sponsorships. We managed to get a sponsorship from RobotShop in return for the advertising, from whom, we received €160 and we bought our motors, propellers and motor controllers. Unfortunately, we were unable to compete in the final stage of the competition due to issues in shipping our part into the country on time but we had tremendous fun and learnt many valuable skills in the process.

SCI FEST 2018



Scifest has given us the chance to experience science outside of a classroom environment in a unique and exciting way

-Stephanie O Connor

Scifest is a science competition held every year on different days in colleges throughout the country. Students present their projects to judges and spectators and awards are given to outstanding work.

Chloe Bastow, Saoirse Corbett and I chose to do our project on 'Social Media And The Effects On Mental Health And Social Skills'.

As we had to create and distribute our own surveys we learnt independence and matured as students without the constant guidance of a teacher. During the making of our projects we had multiple meetings with Deirdre, the head of the school labs who gave us great expert advice in carrying out and writing up our projects.

Scifest has given us the chance to experience science outside of a classroom environment in a unique and exciting way. It gave us the opportunity and freedom to explore any aspect of science in a way a curriculum does not allow.

On behalf of all the Scifest teams taking part this year we would like to thank the following people for making this great event possible and helping us feel as relaxed and prepared as possible: Deirdre O'Sullivan for all her expert advice and guidance; Orla Ní Shúilleabháin for allowing us to take part and organising everything; We want to give a special thanks to our Scifest mentors Emma Hanrahan and Yewande Adeyale from 5th year. We would also like to dedicate our projects in memory and honour of Yewande. We appreciate all of the hard work she did for us, she was patient, kind and we are grateful for the enthusiasm she had for each of us and all our ideas.

Setting up in DIT Kevin Street













Aaron Dinesh & Matthew O Dwyer's 'Discover Space' Award We both learned lots and thoroughly enjoyed the work involved



- Matthew O'Dwyer

My name is Matthew O'Dwyer and I am a 4th year student in the Institute. Aaron Dinesh (also a 4th year student) and I took part in SciFest. It was a wonderful experience, we both learned lots and thoroughly enjoyed the work involved.

We originally wanted to do the Miller-Urey experiment and after asking several colleges for their help in carrying out this experiment, DIT very kindly said yes. The Miller-Urey experiment turned out too dangerous for us to do, so we decided on the safer option of testing the effects of different amino acids on cell growth which is similar enough to what we originally wanted to do.

Over the last few months Aaron and I have being going to DIT to do this experiment as it has proven itself to be very high maintenance, however we have gotten really interesting results so it has been worth all the effort.

Unfortunately this particular project will not be ready for SciFest so we are now hoping to enter it into BT Young Scientist next January. Instead we are entering a different project for SciFest ..."civilisations at the end of time" which looks at how the human race will develop over the coming years. It also looks at technology that might be available in the next few hundred years. I am very happy I signed up for SciFest as I have learned a lot in the time I have spent in the laboratory and I would highly recommend this to future students.

WORK EXPERIENCE



The highlight of the first day was watching a live video of a tonsillectomy

- Grace Hayden

RCSI Work Experience

For my 4th year work experience this year, I got the amazing opportunity to go to the Royal College Of Surgeons Ireland to take part in their transition year programme. I learnt about what is involved in studying medicine and some of the areas that people can specialise in.

On the first day we learnt about General Practitioners. A GP came in and talked about her daily life, how she became a GP and her favourite parts of her job. We then learnt about the steps involved in studying medicine. Two students of the RCSI told us about the process they went through to get into RCSI, and they also gave us advice on how to achieve the points necessary for medicine.

Later that day we learnt about strokes. Stroke is the third leading cause of death and disability. A patient who had a double lung transplant due to cystic fibrosis talked about her life and how the double lung transplant impacted her. Some of the doctors who performed the surgery on her also spoke about the procedure. The highlight of the first day was watching a live video of a tonsillectomy. We got to see somebody get their cancerous tonsils removed and after we got to speak to the surgeon through live stream.

A cardiologist spoke to us the following day and we were told about how to become a cardiologist and the most common procedures he performs. This was one of the most interesting talks as he brought in some of the mechanical valves used in valve replacements and showed us some videos and photos of valve replacements being done.

The highlight of the second day was watching a live stream of a caesarean section at the Rotunda hospital. We also learnt about keyhole surgery of the oesophagus and got the perspectives from a patient and the surgeon. The last thing that we got to do was learn how to put on a cast. This was really enjoyable as it was more interactive and fun.

The most interesting thing I learnt was that you can save 6 lives by donating your organs when you die. The whole experience was an incredible opportunity and was very inspiring. I learnt so much more about medicine and why it is such a great career.

) Locals at the donkey sanctuary

I have always been interested in veterinary science and working with animals



- Sarah Poynton

Following my Interests in 4th Year

4th year has given me an opportunity to do 6 different work experience placements and to explore many different career options. I have always been interested in veterinary science and working with animals so, naturally, the majority of my work experience placements have been related to this.

My first week of work experience was with Stillorgan Vets. This gave me an insight into city vet clinics which deal entirely with small animals. Throughout this week, I saw many operations on cats and dogs and dental work on a rabbit, as well as routine check-ups and x-rays of animals. While this was a very interesting week and a great experience as a whole, I felt I did not see the reality of working as a vet in Ireland, as the majority of Irish vet practises work with both large and small animals, and this is where my true interest lies. As a result, I got in touch with Killaloe Vets in Co. Clare, where I spent a week shadowing a vet. Most mornings there were multiple calls to farms followed by a few operations on small animals in the clinic, with consultations taking place in the evening.

During this week I got to see a huge variety of procedures on many different animals, from extractions of teeth from dogs, x-rays of cats and many small animal surgeries to TB testing a herd of cattle, treating sick calves and surgeries on cattle and pigs. This week provided me with a realistic view of what it's like to be a vet, as I had lots of time to ask questions about the profession which was extremely helpful. Overall, this week was an amazing experience which I'm sure will benefit me hugely in deciding what career path I want to follow and where I want to study.

My final week of animal-related work experience was in The Donkey Sanctuary in Liscarroll, Co.



Cork. My aim for the week was to talk to the vets in the sanctuary clinic and view some surgeries as well as broaden my knowledge of donkey care as my family has pet donkeys which I have grown up caring for.

My week was split between the visitor's farm and the "new arrivals" unit at the sanctuary. The visitor's farm is where some fully rehabilitated donkeys live and is open to the public. The work that has to the done is mostly cleaning of yards and sheds, feeding donkeys and grooming donkeys. The "new arrivals" unit is located on the main farm of the Donkey Sanctuary which is not open to the public. This is where all new donkeys coming to the sanctuary must be quarantined for at least six weeks.

While the donkeys in quarantine need to be fed and their stables and yards need to be cleaned, the main concern in new arrivals is behavioural training with the donkeys. The job of the staff working in new arrivals is to get the donkeys to a good weight, make sure their hooves are in good condition, cure any illnesses they may have and work with them to make sure they are comfortable around people and can be handled easily. This takes hours of work and dedication by the staff, and I witnessed how effective their work is. As a whole, the week was fascinating and I know I will remember my experience at The Donkey Sanctuary for the rest of my life.

Overall, 4th year has enabled me to explore the world of animal care and follow my interests in veterinary

ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME





The Student Enterprise Awards was quite a pleasant challenge to both my artistic skills and my ability to work as part of a team

- Darren Chong

Hello, my name is Darren Chong and I'm the lead designer of Re-Amp. My job was to design everything from the actual product in SolidWorks to the posters and banners for social media and everything else that needed professional designing. The Student Enterprise Awards was quite a pleasant challenge to both my artistic skills and my ability to work as a team. I found it a fun and I learned a lot from it, such as having to further my C.A.D skills to a manufacturing standard as well as learning new programmes such as Blender and Fusion 360.

For the design of the product took over 4 months of back and forth and many meetings and sleepless nights. Eventually the design was finalised and we sent for a 3d printed prototype in .stl format to a person in Amsterdam. While that was being done I decided to create two animations for our presentation during the actual evaluation at the competition.

Unfortunately our shipping of the prototype was delayed due to the storm but despite that we went ahead to the competition with only animations made by me. When we turned up we didn't think that we had a chance to win an award as everyone else already had prototypes and a few sales already while we only had an animation and our 3d drawings. But to our surprise we won the innovation award! Despite not qualifying to go to the national competition, we believe that we tried our hardest and were rewarded fairly well despite not having an actual prototype or product and sales.



A lot of time and research went into trying to find the perfect set of components for our product

- Aaron Dinesh

My name is Aaron Dinesh and I had to be the accountant for Re-Amp and get in touch with various suppliers and buy parts for the prototype that we were going to build. It turned out to be a lot harder than I had anticipated. A lot of time and research went into trying to find the perfect set of components for our product as it had to be perfect.

Next, I had to find a place where we could manufacture our product and this added another layer of complexity to my job. The only place that had the infrastructure to manufacture our product was in China. So with the help of a few sites and google I emailed hundreds of manufacturers and patiently waited for a response and the different time zones certainly didn't help. And while we didn't get a reply from them yet we're planning to email them all again soon.



The team with our Innovation Award



We had to consider the legal side of things



- Jamie Culliton

- Seán Tjong

Before we went into full scale manufacturing we had to know if our target market would be interested in our product, so I had to collect the market research for the enterprise awards. In order to collect market research, I made a survey which we then sent out to as many people as possible via social media and we also gave it out to the students in school. We received hundreds of responses both digitally and on paper. Using this, we were able to gauge the interest in our product as well as a rough estimate of the size of our target market.

My other role in the business was programming the microchip we planned to use in our prototype. I first planned out what I would have to do using Boolean logic and then using my previous knowledge of coding, I began to code the program using Arduino. I quickly realised that this would be very different to anything else I had coded before, but with help from the internet, I was able to do it. We spent a couple hours on the code and the next few days debugging the code. Now that we had most of the other aspects of the business, we had to consider the legal side of things. My name is Jamie Culliton and I had to get the patents and trademark set up for our product. Getting patents was a necessity as it would mean that no one else could copy what we were doing so long as we held the patent for the product.

I also helped a little bit in the other areas. For example I had done a bit of circuitry work in the Junior Cert so I helped a bit when designing the circuitry for the board. I also helped Seán collect the surveys that we distributed physically and digitally.

Our project stand



4TH YEAR MODULES



We practised how to dress wounds and wrap broken arms and collarbones

- Aisling Flood



Declan is a great coach and always puts all his effort into the classes with us

- Daisy O Farrell

Life Saving / Beach Life Guard Qualification

The pool and beach life guard courses each took 3 weeks to complete. The programs are intensive, with three evening pool sessions (2 hours) as well as full days on Saturday & Sunday each week, and entails both in water (Pool and Sea) and out of water exercises.

As a lifeguard you need to be able to rescue a casualty in various different scenarios so we had to learn and practise many different methods or rescue, retrieval and first-aid. You also need to develop leadership skills in order to manage whatever crisis situation arises.

I thoroughly enjoyed the in-pool training as it gave me the opportunity to make great new friends. I also improved on my swimming a lot. Outside of the pool we had to be able to perform basic first aid as a life guard.

We practised our first aid, particularly CPR, often during the course and even got a chance to use an AED. We practised how to dress wounds and wrap broken arms, collarbones, etc. We practised treating people suffering from strokes, asphyxiation, heart attacks, fainting, heat stroke, hypothermia and other things included in a life guard's job. For the beach lifeguard qualification we learned how to get to a casualty using surf boards. We practised using the boards in the pool and in the sea. As well as paddling on them we had to know how to lift an unconscious casualty onto the boards and give breaths whist out at sea, and then return to shore with the casualty on board.

At the end of both courses there was an exam on everything we had learned both practical and theory.

Self Defence

When I started self-defence back in January I didn't know what to expect. What I certainly wasn't expecting was for it to be as fun as it is.

Declan, the coach of the self-defence courses, knows the importance of self-defence in the real world because he's told us stories about him or someone he knew having to use self-defence.

He also understands that we aren't as strong as some of the people in his other self-defence or kickboxing classes with adults, and is able to adjust his strength depending on who he's working with so it doesn't hurt. There hasn't been one occasion where a student got hurt working with

Declan during the self-defence classes. Even though we only get about 45 minutes a week for the class he still manages to teach us a lot of different techniques for different situations, none of which are difficult to learn and all of them are easy to perform quickly.

I always feel better after the classes, even if I've been having a really bad day, because it's always fun and I always leave knowing that I learned a new way to defend myself should the need ever arise.

All in all I'm really glad that I took up self-defence. Declan is a great coach and always puts all his effort into the classes with us.









Our day of barista training



We learnt about coffee beans and how they are processed



- Pearse Crowley

Barista Training

In February, about 30 4th year students took part in a barista training Course. It was a one day course which was run by the Dublin Barista School. The course was a great addition to the 4th year's CV.

The course was split into three sections. The first section which started in the morning involved learning all about coffee theory. We learnt about coffee beans and how they are processed. We then had a short break before the next lesson started.

Section two was all about how to make basic coffee/espresso shots. We learnt that all coffee beverages start with one or two espresso shots. In section three we learnt about milk chemistry and latte art. To be honest this was the most exciting part as we were taught how to do the hearts that are made from milk on the lattes.

Finally, we were taught how to clean coffee machines and how to care for them. The course also included one day work in the Dublin Barista School Café. The course gave us all a really good insight into how coffee is made and a glimpse into a barista's daily life.

5th Year 2017/2018

CHESS CLUB

You can always find a player who is at a similar level to you



- Tom Zhang

For those of you that don't know, chess is a two-player strategy board game and the objective is to checkmate the opponent's king by placing it under an inescapable threat of capture. The game is widely popular and it is played by millions of people worldwide.

Personally, I started learning chess at a young age and got the basics of it through classes and "competitive" tournaments with my dad. Back at that time he used to let me off easily, but as I grew older and hopefully more mature, I was able to think steps ahead and learn from my mistakes. As the old saying goes, practise makes perfect!

Going to the Institute's chess club inevitably helped me to keep up my hobby and meet people with a similar interest. You can always find a player who is at a similar level to you and you get to learn a variety of strategies from them. Everyone is open and happy to discuss their moves which led them into an advantageous position. Safe to say I am now able to beat my dad, (also giving him a free bishop of course).

We meet at the first floor lunch room in the 5th year building at 2:30pm every Friday. There are new faces every week and it's pretty sociable. Our tutor Frank Scott is a sound lad. He walks around and looks at each chess game, and gives suggestions that prompt us to think about moves from another perspective. He has example games played by others from his laptop, and he lets us analyse which move is good and which move is bad. He has so many tips in relation to both opening the game and closing it such as 'you need to take your pieces into your game' and 'castle early' etc.

Overall, don't be reluctant to come as the chess sessions are really laid back and chill, and it's a nice way to relax and take your mind off studying sometimes.





CHRISTMAS IN 5TH YEAR



Everyone was able to showcase their musical abilities

- Katie Nolan



The Christmas Concert



One of the main highlights of my 5th year experience at the Institute was the choir and the Christmas concert. On the 19th December 2017, all the music classes, along with other talented students, joined together to perform a Christmas Concert for teachers, parents, students and friends.

We spent weeks preparing for the event alongside our music teacher Susan McCormack. It took time to learn and choose all the pieces but after a few classes we were already beginning to sound like a very confident and talented group of singers.

Our songs ranged from a beautiful acapella rendition of "White Winter Hymnal" by Pentatonix, to classic Christmas hymns and carols such as "Silent Night" and "O Holy Night". We had a wide range of instruments from Violin to flute which were played by students from our 5th year music class.

On the day of the Christmas concert we all met up at 9:30am to do a run through of all our pieces. We also got to do a quick practice on stage just to ease the nerves. Our first performance took place in the 6th year study hall at 12:30pm and our later performance took place at 7:00pm.



We were joined by a talented bunch of performers who sang by themselves and in groups. The 4th years also performed two dances and their Christmas play. It was a truly great concert where everyone was able to showcase their musical abilities.

Both concerts went very smoothly, thanks to our music teacher Susan McCormack, the principals of 5th and 6th year and all the people who helped backstage. Personally I really enjoyed and learned a lot from this experience. We gained confidence and had a lot of fun. I would really encourage next year's music class to get involved and enjoy this great opportunity. The study hall was flooded with generous donations from all the students

- Sarah McGrath







As the season of giving came upon us at the Institute we were given the opportunity to give back to the community by holding a collection for Saint Vincent DePaul.

Decorated boxes were brimming with food, toys, clothes and all sorts of essentials for people at Christmas time. The study hall was flooded with generous donations from all the students, which would be given to those less fortunate. It was a great way to really embrace the spirit of Christmas.

Everyone helped out in their own way, between designing posters to coordinating donations and keeping everyone informed on our progress, we all played our part. We had a team of dedicated volunteers who liaised with our study supervisor Maura who gave us her full support in organising the boxes and bringing in donations. We kept everyone up to date on deadlines and ensured that we got the most donations possible by raising awareness for the collection.

It was such a great feeling seeing people bringing in all the donations and helping out. We really felt that all our hard work had paid off in the final days. When the boxes were taken away, the committee felt a great sense of achievement as we knew all our efforts were going to make a difference in the lives of many people this Christmas. The collection helped us all embrace the season of giving and was a great project to have been a part of.

Gifts collected for SVP

PUBLIC SPEAKING



Our teacher, David... really helped a beginner like me grasp the basics of debating

- Fuad Kehinde

Preparing topics in class

Debating

Debating has become one of my passions over the last year. From my first class with David Connolly on a Friday at 2:30pm all the way to the end of the year. Creating arguments using logical reasoning for motions you may or may not agree with is an immensely rewarding experience. Our teacher, David, equipped us well for the experience by walking through motions with us and helping us understand both sides to every topic. He really helped a beginner like me grasp the basics of debating.

One of the ways we practised is through the mace style debate. David would give us a topic and assign us to either proposition or opposition. We are given 15 minutes to prepare a speech to argue in the debate. Although I do prefer the long prep time debates in the Leinster's, this debating style is still extremely fun and a good way to practise.

Debating for the last year in the Institute has been quite hectic. With all the mace-debates, Leinster's and Oxfords we were quite busy. My debating partner, Megan Punzet, and I took part in the Leinster's annual debating competition. They were the first formal debates I had taken part in so I was quite nervous. There was a sort of tension in the room. I could feel the silent determination of all these other debaters in the room. This did, however, encourage me to do my best to win every debate. We made it to the semi-finals for the competition and unfortunately lost there. We also had two students, Kurt Scott and Caitlin Young, make it to Oxford try-outs.

In the end, Debating has taught me many key skills that I would not have gained otherwise. How to form logical arguments and present them in a clear, constructive way. To see both sides of every topic, particularly the side that I don't agree with. Critical thinking. And many argument skills which were useful for Model United Nations also.

The main reason that I love MUN is the amazing connections I've made with genuinely great people



- Nick Oguntuase

Model United Nations

I love politics. I always have. Which is why the concept of Model United Nations is so intriguing to me. I know it sounds absurd and that's because it is -- after all, it is, in essence, a bunch of teenagers playing dress up as countries they know next to nothing about, debating topics they only have rudimentary knowledge of. Not at all what you'd expect a bunch of teenagers to dedicate their weekends to. But of course, me being the strange politics nerd I am, was drawn to it.

At my first conference, I was positively mortified for about 10 minutes, but after that I realised just how relaxed the atmosphere of MUN was. I also had a solid grasp on what the rules were. This doesn't make me a genius or anything, I'm far from it. However, I can't imagine myself explaining how MUN works in the small amount of space I have for this article, but what I do have is some advice to all the people new to MUN.

First, RELAX don't take it too seriously (except if it's SAIMUN). Like I said, MUN is absurd, nobody takes it too seriously unless there are teachers around and generally they're nice to newcomers. Second, MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD. MUN is as much about your own opinion as it is about politics. Make those opinions known. You don't need to stress about "having a structured argument" all you really need is a thesaurus to sound as intelligent as possible and the chairs will let you speak more.

Third, KNOW THE POWER OF BRIBES. While MUN is not as serious as real life politics, the corruption still carries through. Sweets, chocolate, even homemade dinners are all accepted. You will need to wow the chairs with your bribes so that they will favour you.

Lastly, and most importantly, MAKE FRIENDS. That's the true meaning of MUN, and as cheesy as that sounds, it's true! The main reason that I love MUN is the amazing connections I've made with genuinely great people. If you don't take anything away from this article, take this away. The people who attend these conferences are the best people in Ireland and for this reason, I hope you attend as well.

Attending Rathdown Model United Nations







CREATIVE THINKING



Tuesdays from 3.30pm to 4.30pm are never dull

- Karen Clarke



Each person's unique observations benefited the entire group

- Lia Peare-Kavanagh

Philosophy

Philosophy is defined as a "search for a general understanding of values and reality by chiefly speculative rather than observational means" and that is certainly what our teacher, David Connolly, provides.

From classes titled "Kittens, Princesses and Why You Have No Free Will", to the spontaneous classes David improvises from our suggestions, such as time travel and the philosophy of dreams, Tuesdays from 3.30pm to 4.30pm are never dull.

Learning about philosophers and their theories, like Sun Tzu's "The Art of War", certainly helped in my understanding of why military assaults failed. Tzu outlined how war is ultimately detrimental to a state's economy as it costs far more than any of the resulting gains. This made perfect sense after studying Hitler's siege of Stalingrad and World War II in general.

Different philosophers give different perspectives on the world and how we view things. However, a recurring theme in many philosophical theories seems to be that nothing is real unless we can see it and touch it. But this itself is a problem as it can only be real to us not everyone else so we can never truly prove any single thing exists. Philosophy class has helped change my perception of life itself and introduced concepts to me that I never thought imaginable.

Book Club

When I suggested a book club to David Connolly, our philosophy teacher, one Tuesday after class, I simply meant it as an excuse to geek out with other booknerds. I didn't expect it to be popular, and I certainly didn't expect it to be such an eye-opening experience!

To my delight, the themes each month were not limited to the classics, but included genres such as fantasy, contemporary, dystopian, mystery and graphic novel. This really forced me to venture into types of books I might not have otherwise read.

With at least three weeks to complete each novel (that we voted on), and hilarious and informal open discussions, book club provided a highly enjoyable monthly activity.

In the first month, we joined the exclusive group of people who can honestly say they've read George Orwell's 1984. We explored Orwell's nightmarish vision of a totalitarian, bureaucratic London and discussed the deep existential questions the book conjures. David's knowledge of literature is just as wide and extensive as his knowledge of philosophy and history which made our discussions multi-faceted and incredibly engaging.

The conversations were not limited to just literature though. Our evaluations of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 'The Sign of Four' encompassed not just the book but also the TV show adaptations. Hilarity ensued as we discussed Holmes's vices, the differences between the book and adaptation, and the iconic characters Doyle created.

Undoubtedly the most beneficial aspect of book club to me was the fascinating contributions to the discussions. Each person's unique observations benefited the entire group, and widened my own perceptions of the book.



The best part of this club is the freedom to explore any literary-based topic you have an interest in



- Nancy Zhang

Creative Writing

Creative Writing Club. Upon hearing these words, most of you are probably imagining extra English class, weekly essays, or sitting through arduous classical literature.

Well, I enjoy 'arduous classical literature', but I love creative writing even more than Dostoevsky. Fabricating stories out of my own imagination held great appeal, and so I walked into G-3 on Monday afternoon. With a fresh notebook in hand, I was ready to take down every word.

Picture my mild confusion (and pleasant surprise) as the class was opened to discussion on upcoming movies and popular YA (Young Adult) fiction. My page was left blank and instead the classroom filled with lively opinions and commentary. Horror movies, dystopian novels, TV series, and quite a few hours dedicated solely to the Marvel movies. Without a doubt, the best part of this club is the freedom to explore any literary-based topic you have an interest in.

Our teacher David Connolly is one of the most amiable teachers I have ever met. With an abundance of knowledge on literature, many genres of film and music, and pop culture, he will provide an engaging and enthusiastic response to any topic you ask for, complete with enough dates and references to rival a textbook. With an infectious sense of humour, there is never a dull moment.

Amusing and zealous, zestful and artistic. Attending the Creative Writing Club had been thoroughly enjoyable.



We had debates on the colour theory of Batman



- Caitlin Young

Film Studies

From our first class sitting, in complete silence watching the events of Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho unravel on the screen before us, to the conversations on the different uses of monologues within film, there has never been a dull moment in film studies.

While we were forming our own ideas about film we are also having them challenged, through moderated conversations in the class, allowing everyone's voices to be heard. We had debates on the colour theory of Batman and how the Joker plays into it, to everyone sharing the forms of escapism they saw in Sing Street and their favourite 80's artists. We also discovered new films and discovered aspects of our favourite films we had never thought of before.

From time to time we were all forced out of our comfort zones, from studying documentaries on sushi, where we were all forced to read subtitles due to the film being completely in Japanese, to silent films.

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There was also the study of genres most of us attested to hating before we watched the film we were studying. I personally would never watch an action comedy until I was introduced to films such as Shawn of the Dead and The Nice Guys. I've really enjoyed this year of film studies and would highly recommend it to anyone as there is such a broad range of ideas covered throughout the year.

SPORTS CLUBS



Keith and Jean are always there to give each player feedback, encouragement and motivation

- Michael O Reilly

Football

My favourite part of each week in school is football on Fridays. A group of around 20 students from both 5th and 6th year take a coach to Sportsco Centre to play 5-a-side football. This is by far the highlight of my week.

From the moment we step on the coach the laughter and fun has commenced! We play music and chat about the week we've had as well as how many goals we reckon we'll score once we touch down at Sportsco!

The 5-a-side football is run by Keith (keitho) Hannigan, Jean Kelly and past students. Keith and Jean are always there to give each player feedback, encouragement and motivation. We really appreciate the teachers and students who come out and help and give up their spare time for us students.

All games are competitive yet friendly. Though each team want to win we also want to have fun. Just by playing football in school I have made so many new friends as well as learning how to play a sport I never thought I would have got the chance to play. Scoring a goal or two each Friday is a great feeling to start the weekend with, but if you miss a clear shot just know that Keitho will be sure to remind you in Business Class on Monday!

Every two to three months an 11-a-side match is organised to give us the opportunity to play on a full sized pitch and showcase the skills we have been practising. If it wasn't for Keith and Jean Myself and many others would not have learned these skills and have had so much fun. I would like to thank Keith and Jean for all their time and help. I have enjoyed this season thoroughly and cannot wait for next year's football season to commence!



Our Soccer Team



The day was promising and the atmosphere was cheerful

- Xhemi Rama & Ada Bowler

Golf

On Tuesday 13th of March 2018, we represented The Institute of Education in the Irish Schools Golf Championship in East Leinster.

We competed in Clontarf Golf Club, where we played our round. The day was promising and the atmosphere was cheerful. It was a competitive, yet friendly environment.

The time flew by and everyone learned from their experience. Unfortunately we didn't win but as Napoleon Bonaparte once said 'Victory is not always winning the battle, but rising every time you fall'.

This message goes for everything and so we must stand to the challenge.



I found it a great way to wind down after a stressful week

- Aimée Ward

Kick Boxing

Kickboxing is a great skill to have. It can be used as a way to learn self-defence, a way to keep fit or just a bit of time with friends. It is also an amazing way to distract yourself from your studies. The kickboxing class at the Institute is at 4:30pm every Thursday afternoon. I found it a great way to wind down after a stressful week or to get rid of some anger and frustration.

We started the year doing simple kicks and a straightforward set of punches but within a few weeks we had moved onto spinning kicks, and aerial kicks followed shortly after. There was also time during the class dedicated to core strengthening, which I think everyone soon saw the benefit of in their performance.

Overall, I found kickboxing to be an enriching experience this year. I feel like I have really improved and that it has been a great way to keep fit. It is something that I have looked forward to every week and is something that I will look forward to doing again.



The course was challenging with plenty of twists and turns, hills and potholes

- Caragh Hayes

Athletics

On Thursday the 25th of January, Aisling King, David Brophy and I ran in the East Leinster Schools Cross Country Championships at Avondale House, Rathdrum, County Wicklow. When I arrived at Avondale Forest I walked up the long hill to the course to collect my number.

The drizzling rain didn't deter anyone from jogging around the course and warming up. Spirits were high.

The age groups ranged from Minor Girls to Senior Boys and the distances spanned between 1500m and 5000m.

A shrill whistle indicated the start of each race and was instantly followed by a thunder of striding feet stampeding up the slope. The course was challenging with plenty of twists and turns, hills and potholes. It was all worth it when we crossed the line in the top 15. We had qualified for the Leinster Schools Cross Country Championships! We were to do it all over again in the Santry Demesne on the 21st of February.

5TH YEAR EXPERIENCE



There is so much more to 5th year than the chance to receive an academic advantage

- Emma Hanrahan

My name is Emma Hanrahan and I'm a 5th year student at the Institute. I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience here so far and I would like to share my recommendations to anyone thinking of applying.

At the beginning of the year we were given the opportunity to create our own timetable, this really appealed to me as I could form my own hours. (Recommendation number one...choose 9:30 starts, but I warn you, once you get used to them you will forget how you ever managed to start at 8:30!) Once I made some friends I could co-ordinate my times with them, but in the early days I really enjoyed walking into various classes filled with new people as it pushed me to make new friends. I wasn't aware that I could know as many people as I do now! There is often an assumption that when you attend a school of this size that you are only seen as a number, and that couldn't be further from the truth. Despite the size, everyone here is really friendly, you are treated as an adult and you are given more responsibility which I really enjoy.

At the beginning of the year we sat aptitude tests which gave us a greater understanding of what type of brain we had and what careers we might enjoy. This was beneficial to me as I found several courses that I would really enjoy, and it has been comforting to know what points I'm working towards. From the first day we were equipped with a book on study skills, and we were warned that we probably didn't know how to study. I laughed at this. I thought that it was impossible to spend four whole years in school without knowing how to study properly. It turns out that I was laughing at myself. I had no idea how to study and I was horrified, all the time that I had spent worrying about schoolwork could have been eliminated if I had learned how to study correctly! I realised that in preparation for my Junior Cert I had learnt everything off by heart. I realised that it would be impossible for me to do that for the Leaving Cert.

So, I got over myself and I learnt how to study. Recommendation number two, have an open mind.

Within a few weeks I was already feeling less stressed and I began to really enjoy 5th year. I made an incredible group of friends who I now cannot imagine my life without and we talk every day. The teachers make it impossible to be worried, each one is so passionate about their subject and it makes such a difference. It is also infectious, I leave maths wanting to be an accountant, history an archaeologist and I leave English with names of books written all over me, my hands, my arms... my forehead! Which leads me to recommendation number three, buy a refill pad, trust me. Every class holds the opportunity to learn something extra. Just today my poetry teacher informed us that a group of swans is known as a 'lamentation of swans' who knew? It is no secret that the Institute is an academic school and that it strives for 'excellence in education'

However, there is so much more to 5th year than the chance to receive an academic advantage. There is a variety of extra-curricular activites available to students. Currently I'm taking part in classes such as Book Club, Film Studies and Debating. Other activities include creative writing classes, yoga, chess club and the list of extra-curricular is constantly growing. I find these classes really helpful as they give everyone a chance to make friends and take a break from classes. I would recommend you try everything at the beginning of the year because you might find something that you like.



The Directors of The Institute of Education, Peter & Una Kearns, would like to thank all those who helped you on your journey during this academic year.

DESIDERATA

Go placidly amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence.

As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and the ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they are vexatious to the spirit.

If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery.

But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection.

Neither be cynical about love, for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here.

And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be.

And whatever your labours and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

- Max Ehrmann

