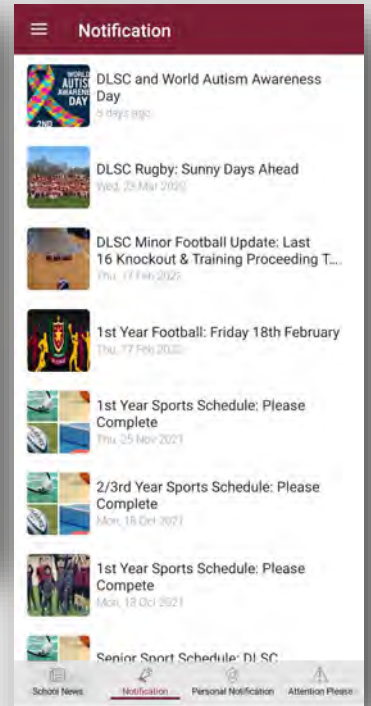




De La Salle College Newsletter

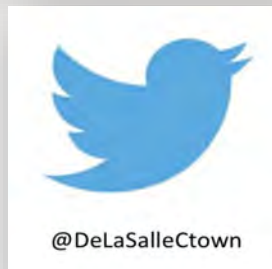


Winter /Spring 2022 Edition



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US
UniqueSchools

NEW
PAST PUPIL
SECTION

Message from the Principal



Dear Parents and Guardians

It is Spring Term in DLSC! Days are getting longer, brighter and warmer and the College Garden is an array of colour as our Magnolia tree, Tulips and Daffodils are in full bloom. Covid- 19 restrictions have lifted and it is just wonderful to be able to see the smiling faces of students and staff once again in the College.

In this newsletter we welcome the addition of a Past Pupil Section, a space to celebrate successes, to share stories and memories of past times. We encourage all our past pupils and past staff to reconnect with the College. Nothing is more inspiring for our students than to hear about past pupils who have gone on to do De La Salle proud with the things they have achieved in their lives, the challenges they have overcome and the contribution they have made to society.

I would like to thank Economist & Financier Stuart O' Brien Class of 1988, Aviation Consultant Enda Corneille Class of 1984 and former Republic of Loose Musician, Producer and Sound Engineer Declan Quinn Class of 1998 for agreeing to be profiled for this edition and for their wise words of advice for our current students. I also hope you enjoy reading the poignant, funny and inspiring article written by Fred Murray Class of 1994 about his travels and fund raising 'Combover for Cancer Campaign' .You will also have the opportunity to read the recently published article written by past pupil and Irish Times Journalist, Ian O'Riordan Class of 1990. Ian interviews 1983 Senior Cup winner Diarmuid Coogan on his memories of that famous victory.

Please keep those photos coming which capture our past pupils honouring the age old tradition of wearing the Wine & Gold socks walking down the aisle on that special day! Special congratulations to Neil Owens Class of 2000 who got married recently in Dublin and to James Murphy Class of 2007 who got married in Melbourne! Thanks guys for sending us the great photos!!

Spring has seen sport flourish in the college as coaches and rugby, soccer, basketball, badminton and table tennis teams, make the most of the longer, brighter evenings. Transition Year students have also been busier than ever. They are particularly delighted that restrictions have been lifted and are at last, able to get involved in community activities and to go on trips again . Mr Brennan gives us a snapshot of the TY busy schedule, while Mr O' Neill describes the Sports Coaching Module which is a favourite for many of the TY students!

The Green Schools Committee and the Student Council are two of the most committed student led committees in the school. Not a term goes by without them making some positive contribution to the school. It looks like we will have to invest in yet another flag pole as the Green Schools Committee are working towards a third Green Flag- this time for Water Conservation!

It was impressive to witness how quickly our Student Council responded to the plea for help for the people and families in Ukraine, who are suffering devastating loss and terror as war tears their country apart. The Student Council organised a fund raising Pancake Sale on Shrove Tuesday and followed up with a second Lá Glas fund raiser for this cause, as well as to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day. We were also delighted to welcome our first Ukrainian student to the school recently. He has wasted no time settling in and is supported by the fantastic group of First Year students who are there to help and support him with the big changes that have happened in his young life in such a short period of time,

I cannot forget to also mention the ongoing support the 5th Year Mentors and 6th Year Prefects offer the younger year groups throughout the year. In this edition you can read about the Study Skills Workshops they facilitated for the First and Second Year Students. Great work and well done to all involved! Indeed congratulations to all the Merit Award winners who were acknowledged and presented with their prizes and certificates before the Christmas Holidays!

The Literacy and Library Committee has been as committed as ever this term helping students to engage in the Accelerated Reader Programme, encouraging students to read more for enjoyment and to help improve literacy levels and reading ages. In this edition you will learn about their efforts to pursue yet another Well Read Award for DLSC. The very best of luck with this most recent application and entry! Debate Club is also back up and running every Friday lunchtime giving students the opportunity to develop their public speaking skills.

Mr Forde and Ms McDermot describe the different events that were organised to celebrate Catholic Schools Week which was held at the end of January. This year the theme was Celebrating Life to The Full. The week ended by a special celebration of the Feast of St Brigid on the 1st of February. From next year onward it will be a national holiday, thanks to the Trojan work and bravery of our front line workers throughout the Pandemic!



Green-Schools



Accelerated Reader



Catholic Schools Week 2022
January 30-February 5

As we approach the Easter Holidays, I want to remind all students to keep on track with homework and revision plans. Orals and Practical Exams will be held in the College in the coming weeks. We wish our 6th Years all the very best as they begin the first part of their Leaving Certificate Exams.

The run up to exams can be a stressful and anxious time for students. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have worries or concerns about your son. Please remember that After School Study will continue until the beginning of the Summer Exams. This service is available to all year groups. Hard work and dedication to study is necessary in order to achieve academic success. We want all of our students to do their very best to reach their potential. Remember that you have access to your son's academic progress through the School APP and VSWare. Help is available if you have difficulty accessing reports or the School App.

I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter. I wish you, our students and staff a safe and blessed Easter.

Special thoughts and prayers go this holy season to all the children and families in Ukraine. I know you will join all of us in DLSC as we pray for an end to the war, for peace to be restored and for the pain and suffering to cease. We ask for God to hear our prayer.

Easter Blessings

Siobhan Foster



Student Awards!

Congratulations to all of our Merit Award Winners who were recognised by their teachers for their hard work, kindness and positive behaviour.

Khuslen Kherlen
Elliott Leigh
Zi Yu Eoin
Matthew Burke
Daniel Graham
Albert Radkin
Jun Wei (Ivan) Chen
Yi Xuan (Leo) Lin
Ahmed Abdel Rahman Bereir
Mohammad Flood

1st Year Gold Winners

Sean Wu
Andrei Popovici
Yasser Ali
Balint Attila Nagy
Haitthem Abassi
Wilfredo David Sanabria Tovar
Matthew Peradze Mulvihill
Ahmad Hussain
Haydn McNeill
Adam Harford
Brian Iwuaba

1st Year Silver Winners

Dylan Kavangh
Blake Bolger
Nicholas Gladala
Jakub Latoszek
Leon Collins
Sheam Khondaker

1st Year Bronze Winners



Well done!

Inigo Siguero Fierro
Sergiu Cepoi
Ciarán Dadacay
Shane Donoghue
Bernardo De Castro Hogemann



Joshua Sam Liao
Ryan O'Connell
Luke Crimmins
Federico Antonio Giurgila
Javier Sancho Hidalgo
Conor Clancy Kelly
Adam Elgraimy



Max Finlay
Ciarán McGovern
Ben McDonnell
John Shortt
Jake Doyle
Ali Al-Jiryan
Roberts Graubergs
Fabricio Guida Ferreira Fontes



well done

Daniel Kelly
Felipe Hector Socca
Oscar Fitzgerald
Basil Kooran sunny
Jake Curry
Gonzalo Ariznavarreta Alonso



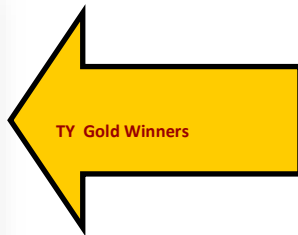
Arturo Carazo Font
Shane Ledesma
Luis Marin Herrera
Jacub Buduj
Samir Ahmed
Peter Mari
James Cranny
Adem Tayahi



Hugo Gonzalez
Glen Martin Moran
Adam Gaynor Maguire
Niel Sebastien De Jesus
Ethan keys
José Miguel Sulca Cordova
Rostislav Mogildya
Mohammed Belakhdar



Luke Keogan
Oliver Walkin Bell
John Cleary
Pau Costa
Muhammad Ayaan Kashif
Pavel Jevsejev
Stephen Wu



Cormac Clancy - Kelly
Aleix Castro Garcia
Maksim Drezwin
Anthony Downes
Kristers Kevins Gurskis
Saleh Ali Saalah
Carlos Fernandez Sanchez



Mateo Bonachea Cueto
Fionn McGovern
Matthew Benegrado
David Boyce
Gerard O'Gorman
Thomas Cull



Jack Campbell
Tautvydas Danilevicius
Josiah Mahady
Elliott Looney
Matthew McTague



Angelo Gabriel Tiongco
Valentino Ejimogu
Hazem Ibrahim Aly
Ameer Tariq
Craig Delaney
Adithyakrishna Biju
Heinz Raphael Ballebar
Conor Rochford
Zvikomborero Kufazviei



Well Done!

Guillermo Suarez Pernas
Guillem Forques Isasi
Jack Gray
Matthew Escanillas
Ahmed Bouslah
Jethro Ledesma
Atila Szalai
Antoni Wajda
Muawazz Moihuddin

Andrew Nolan
Eoin Stowe
David Ayoola
Dylan Schmitz
Gabriel Alayon
Adam Loy
Benjamin Quinlan Murray
Ciaran Nolan



Calum Pettigrew
Gavin Harford
Sami Gabriel Lopez-Steffensen
Yousif Fanan



Faisal Qari zada
Alex Turner
Evan Morton



Catholic Schools Week

De La Salle College celebrated Catholic School's Week this year from January 24th – February 1st. This Year's theme was 'Living Life to the full'. The week began with two 5th Year students introducing the school community to the meaning behind the theme and read a short reflection to the whole school community over the Intercom. Reflections were read throughout the week by a representative from each year group on the Intercom also. It was an action packed week, not only in the Religious Education Classrooms, but throughout the school community and wider community of Churchtown. 1st, 3rd and TY classes made affirmation bracelets symbolizing a renewal for 2022. Students worked on presentations on our founder John Baptiste De La Salle and on the Le Chéile Trust.

As restrictions began to lift, students were invited to Good Shepherd Church, our local Church in Churchtown. There, they were given a tour of the Church and were spoken to by a member of the local community and past pupil of De La Salle College.



He told us of the services and ceremonies the Church provides to the local people in the community. This was of particular benefit to our RE classes with an introduction to 'Sacred Spaces'. On St Brigid's Day (1st February), students learned about St Brigid and the symbology of the beginning of Spring. They had the opportunity to make St Brigid's Crosses / Celtic Crosses in our arts and crafts workshop. The week was filled with a sense of renewal and strength going into 2022.

Mr M Forde



**Catholic Schools
Week 2022
January 30 – February 5**

Debate Club

After more than a year long break due to Covid, Debate Club is back up and running since the start of the year. Students meet every Friday lunchtime at 11.55am in Ms Lowry's room to debate, discuss and argue about a whole host of topics.

Motions this year have included; looking at animal rights when it comes to testing medicines and cosmetics, the issues surrounding violent video games and whether or not holidays, such as Christmas and Halloween have become too commercialised. Every week there is a new interesting motion to be explored and we are always open to suggestions!



Students from all year groups are welcome to attend and it is a wonderful opportunity for them to develop their public speaking skills. Debate Club is a safe space where everyone's views and opinions are respected and listened to.

Students are encouraged to join Debate Club as audience members until they have built up their confidence to speak in the debate. It is a fun way to improve confidence, teamwork skills, develop language and make new friends in a relaxed environment. Each week the winning team is selected by the team of judges along with the week's star debater. Keep an eye out for Debate Club updates on the school's Instagram and twitter!

Ms J Lowry

Rugby is back up and running !

Rugby is back up and running in De La Salle College. At Senior level we cater for 4th , 5th and 6th year students. This year there have been many challenges because of the lack of rugby played during Covid 19. Many of our players who never played rugby before attending De La Salle College have had a massive disadvantage this year because they have missed out on 2 years of playing rugby compared to other schools who have played rugby since they turned 5 and 6 and missing a further 2 years that resulted in a lot of core skills had to be worked on again in terms of passing, tackling and general knowledge of the game. At the same time we are working on creating a culture within the Senior Rugby group again in terms of commitment on and off the field. The other challenge is trying to work with different years groups because they haven't spent time with each because of the restrictions within the school groups , to improve this we began to meet as a group during lunchtime and to get to know each other and this has been a huge positive and the students are getting to know each other especially from the different years [the food been provided also helped].

On the field we played Newpark and St Columbas in September in good competitive games. In October we again played St Columbas and St Conleths, this time winning both games. After the break we were drawn against Patrician College Newbridge and in a very tight match we lost 20-10. On the day we didnt get the luck having received a yellow card early in the game which knocked us back and unfortunately we didn't take our chances in the second half but it was a very good experience especially for some of our players playing their first competitive match.

After the Cup Match we played a couple more games against Clongowes in the League and St Columbas in the Plate Competition. We lost both of the games but we are learning all the time and understand the work that needs to be done to be competitive at this level. The school facilities we have on site are excellent with our pitches on the school grounds with all the equipment available for rugby to thrive in De La Salle College Churchtown. This has further been enhanced with the new gym in the Sports Centre. This is a world class gym that is available to the Senior Rugby Squad. At the beginning of December we have working on a Strength and Conditioning Programme to make sure we finish the season strong and more importantly are ready for next year's Rugby Season 2022/2023.

The attitude and culture are improving all the time and at the same time new players are joining the group which is enhancing the culture within the group. In the Spring and Summer Term we will continue to play matches and develop our skills and improve the strength and conditioning within the Senior group of players. The intention is to bring the team away on a trip to play a game and also to encourage team spirit on and off the field and create that bond within the group for many years to come and to encourage the core rugby values of Integrity [through honesty and fair play], Passion [sense of belonging to the rugby family], Solidarity[spirit that leads to lifelong friendships], Discipline [both on and off the field], Respect [respect for teammates, officials and opponents] which also ties into our Lasallian principles of Respect for all persons [teammates, officials and opponents], Quality Education[coaching and peer learning from each other], Inclusive Community [everyone is welcomed to play rugby in De La Salle College Churchtown].

A special mention to all the new players this year who have worn the famous Wine and Gold Rugby Jersey this year for the first time and now have become part of history that goes back 70 years, they are Brendan McGarry , Ali Lebsir, Mohamed Omar Abdujalil and Abdelrahman Belakhdar. Congratulations to all four players.

Rugby is back up and running !

Finally we are very proud this year that our Captain Tadhg Finlay has represented Connacht at U-20 level. Tadhg fully deserved this honour after many years of hard work and dedication to training. Tadhg leadership this year has been outstanding especially with our new players and our inexperienced players. Tadhg is a credit to De La Salle College and hopefully we will have many like him in the future. Well done Tadhg.

To all our past pupils reading this article I hope you are keeping well and remember your days of playing rugby in De La Salle College and we are proud of the effort and commitment you gave to the College and can guarantee that the present group of players will follow in your footsteps with the effort and commitment in true De La Salle spirit.

Mr T Leigh



Junior Rugby 2021/2022

Junior rugby is very much alive and kicking in De La Salle College Churchtown. The team have played quite a few games against varying schools such as St. Columbus College, St. Conleths, Newpark Community School, Benildas and many more. They have shown incredible resilience and we are very proud of the team. We have seen some exemplary performances from players such as Robert Grauberg, Max Finlay and David Burke. The team have some more games scheduled for the 6 week period before the Easter break vs Blackrock College and St. Michaels. We know they will do the school proud and continue to show great resilience and determination.

Mr C Boyd



WE ARE SALLE



Basketball

“The best teams have chemistry. They communicate with each other and they sacrifice personal glory for the common goal” - Dave DeBusschere (American NBA Player).

This quote symbolises how the students of De La Salle have represented themselves this season. With an average of 60 students training and participating in extracurricular basketball activities every week throughout this academic school year, each have developed both their technical and social skills through their participation.

The basketball arena in De La Salle sports hall was more than ready to welcome the students back onto its timber floor after almost two years of silence and stillness. The boys didn't need to be asked twice and sounds of swishing balls echoed against the walls once again. Our school partakes in both junior and senior categories at a competitive level. Both teams have established themselves in their respective leagues and had numerous collective victories this season.

In particular for the junior squad, experiencing all the benefits that accompany participating in matches was rewarding to witness. For many, it was their first interaction with travelling with their peers to an away venue. The thrill of making new friendships, displaying the pride they have for their school and, with some luck, sinking a skilful three-pointer was fantastic.

The senior squad performed impressively in their league, making it to the end stages of the competition. They reaffirmed the journey of maturity they have undertaken since they last wore the school jersey with their performances and representation of their school crest. Watch this space for the 2022/2023 basketball season!

Mr C Murphy



Badminton Action!

We were all delighted at the beginning of the year to finally grab our rackets and get back on the courts after a year of no sports. There was a huge uptake and interest in Badminton from the beginning of the year and it is still as strong today with students playing from 1st up to 6th year. This year we entered 2 teams in U14, 3 in U16 and 2 teams at U19 level. We have over 60 students training every week with approximately 30 wearing the maroon and gold, representing our school at competition level. Our U16 A team got to the Dublin Schools Semi Final but unfortunately lost by a single point in the last few minutes of the game. Our U14 and U19 teams also had some great wins, showcasing their talents against some excellent opponents. We look forward to competing again next year where we hope to bring home some silverware and have fun along the way. Well done boys!

Ms S O'Donnell



Table Tennis updates



Our Minor and Junior Table Tennis teams have been making huge improvements training with our coach Eddie and our new equipment! Our Minor team have some challenging matches coming up and have been dedicated to their training. Best of luck in the upcoming matches. The Junior team is on a winning streak with one game left to play in the league! Well done to all players so far!

M A Plunkett

The Future Of Football

De La Salle decided at the end of the 2020/2021 school year that Soccer would be introduced as a sporting option to the already vast range of different sports being offered to the boys at the school. Along with Rugby, Basketball, Table Tennis and Badminton, Soccer has been introduced at a Senior level competition. Having been enrolled to compete in the Metropolitan Senior League Division Three and the Leinster Schools Senior FAI Cup. Training commenced straight away in September and the turnout was brilliant to see. Every Thursday there was an honest effort from the senior boys to get to training and get prepared for the upcoming season.

The opening fixture of the year was a tough one against a very strong Colaiste Pobail Setanta College in the Leinster Schools Senior FAI Cup, who defeated our U19s 7-1. The players put up a very honest effort, but the opposing team were very strong and very used to playing together. Our u19s showed good character, when you take into account that it was the first time playing a match in the De La Salle College colours.

The next fixture was very successful. It was the opening round of the Metropolitan Senior League Division Three against St Kevin's Community College Clondalkin. Our Senior boys achieved their first win ever in De La Salle College colours in a fantastic 3-2 win. Goals from David Ayoola and Adam Harris Row lead the u19 team to a brilliant victory, with special mentions to Joshua Esguerra in goals and Ahmed Teyehi from Midfield who had superb performances.

The next fixture in the Metropolitan Senior League was St Aidan's Community School Tallaght, unfortunately we couldn't find a date to fulfil the fixture, St Aidan's struggled to field a team so De La Salle secured the points. With this walk over, De La Salle went into the last round of the league with high hopes of qualifying for the final stages of the Metropolitan Senior League Division Three Quarter Finals.

The final group stage game was against Colaiste De Hide Tallaght. There was some excellent soccer on display, Colaiste De Hide took an early lead through a long range effort by their number 9, this was followed by another 2 goals and De La Salle went into the break having played some good soccer but unfortunately being 3-0 down. The players went out into the second half with a brilliant attitude and managed to score and get the score line back to 3-1. A brilliant pass by Cormac Clancy Kelly to Emmanuel Ayoola, who was very composed and took it brilliantly around the keeper to score. Unfortunately, this was all De La Salle could manage and with that, the losing of the game. With this loss the De La Salle U19s team finished second in their group.

Overall the year was a success, we managed to enter and field all fixtures when asked to do so and roughly thirty different students have participated in the senior soccer program.

Here's to next year, having more success with the senior soccer team.

Mr D Ruane



Thank you Leicester Celtic!

A special word of thanks to Leicester Celtic for the use of their excellent All Weather Facility, Damien Duff Park.



Leicester Celtic FC

Arte et Labore

1st Year Football 2021/2022

We are delighted to say that for the first time in the schools history we have a 1st Year Football team competing in the FAI schools league. They have trained every Friday under the tutelage and coaching of past pupil Charlie Byrne and they have had some great games and last minute dramatics. Some sensational performances and goals have been scored from Nadir Bouakaz and Leon Collins. Their games vs Ballinteer Community School and James Street CBS were particularly competitive and the boys did themselves and the school proud.

They will continue to play and train as the year goes on and we look forward to a future of good times and lots of great memories on the pitch.

Mr C Boyd



Minor Football 2021/2022

Just alike our 1st Year Football team we for the first time have a Minor Football Squad playing and competing in the FAI Schools League. They have done exceptionally well thus far with impressive performances against Presentation College, Terenure and Blakestown Community School. As a result they have progressed into the last 16 of their competition and will play against Sallynoggin Holy Child in early March. The team have shown some real hope for the future of the sport in the school and players such as Mahdi Bouakaz, Charlie Nolan and Jonathan Ayoola have been central to the team's performances. We wish them the very best of luck in the knockout stage .

Mr C Boyd



IT Update



In De La Salle Churchtown, we are continuing to develop and build our IT infrastructure so our current and future students will have the equipment needed to develop their Digital Literacy Skills. We would like to thank the guys in GreenIT for helping us get a second set of Chromebooks up & running this year. This brings our Chromebooks to four trolleys, a total number of hundred and twenty devices in addition to our Computer Lab. These devices will assist us in continuing to develop our students' Digital Technology skills now and in the future. They will be used for CBA's, projects, allowing students to be creative in a fun & balanced way. At the heart of this, we promote our students to have a positive presence when online.

Mr. Broderick IT Co-ordinator

Library Update

We continue to make progress in pursuit of another 'Well Read' award. The PDST 'Well-read National Award' is a national initiative designed and organized by the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST). It aims to create heightened awareness about the importance of creating a culture of reading in school communities for our young people as part of their personal and academic development. We asked our students to recommend books to add to our growing collection. New books will encourage students to engage in reading along with our accelerated reader programme. Well done to all students who hit their target this term!

This year we held our first teacher book swap. Thanks to all teachers who took part - Happy Reading!

Ms A Plunkett



Transition Year Activities

Mr C Brennan, Ms D Egan & Ms A Plunkett

Festive Cheer

This December, the goal for Transition Years was to spread some festive cheer and give back to the community. The lads started with our yearly tradition of working with our local church **The Good Shepherd** to deliver some **Saint Vincent de Paul** donation envelopes in the area.



Next the school welcomed Lauren Minion from the **Peter McVerry Trust** to educate the students about homelessness in Ireland. The school also hosted a **Christmas Jumper Day** to raise funds for the PMVTrust, raising a fantastic €425!



The lads then brightened things up in the school by putting up our Christmas decorations, even making some of their own at a **Sustainable Christmas Craft Workshop** run by Ms Egan. They made wreaths and decorations using recycled materials while enjoying some music and hot chocolate and cheering up the teachers by delivering some hot chocolate right to their doors!

We ended the Christmas term on a high by welcoming back a TY tradition that was not possible last year - the **ISPCC Holly Days** charity collection in Dublin City Centre. Our TYs were delighted to be able to work hard on behalf of this amazing organisation, well done to all that took part!

Transition Year Activities

Beach Clean

The New Year began with enthusiasm for making our planet cleaner and greener as our TY students took part in a **Beach Clean** at Sea point with **Flossie and the Beach Cleaners**.

They collected over 15kg of litter and waste from the beach [mostly baby wipes!], helping to create a cleaner marine environment.



TY Belfast Trip

Next up was a fantastic day trip up to **Belfast**. First stop was the **Titanic Quarter** where they got to explore the famous docklands and learn a little about Belfast's ship building history. Then the lads had great fun exploring the **W5 Science Experience** and the mad scientists among them got to put their knowledge to the test.

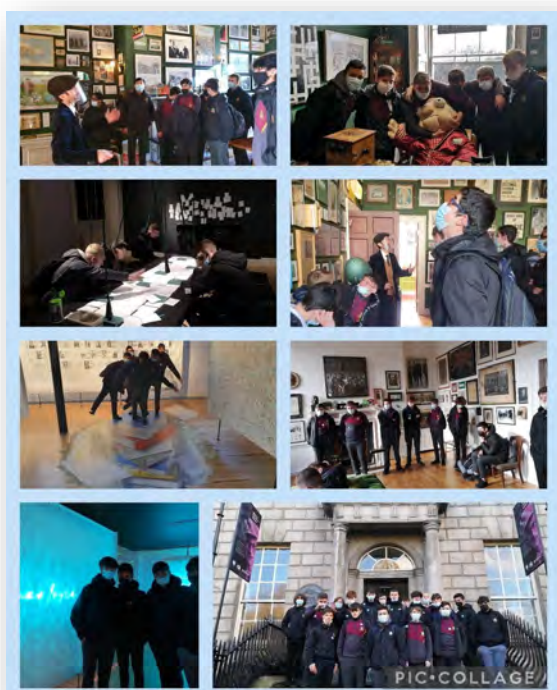
Finally they were treated to a guided **Black Taxi tour of Belfast**, including The Shankill Rd, The Falls Rd, Bombay Street, and the city's many Political Murals. They even got to leave their own message on the **Peace Wall** - a fantastically interactive way to learn about the Northern Ireland Troubles!



Transition Year Activities

SOAR Workshop

It's always a pleasure to welcome the **SOAR Foundation** to work with our TY's on breaking down barriers, encouraging self belief and to help them recognise the greatness that exists in all of our young people. This workshop is always an incredibly impactful experience for our TYs and will no doubt act as an inspiration to all who attended.

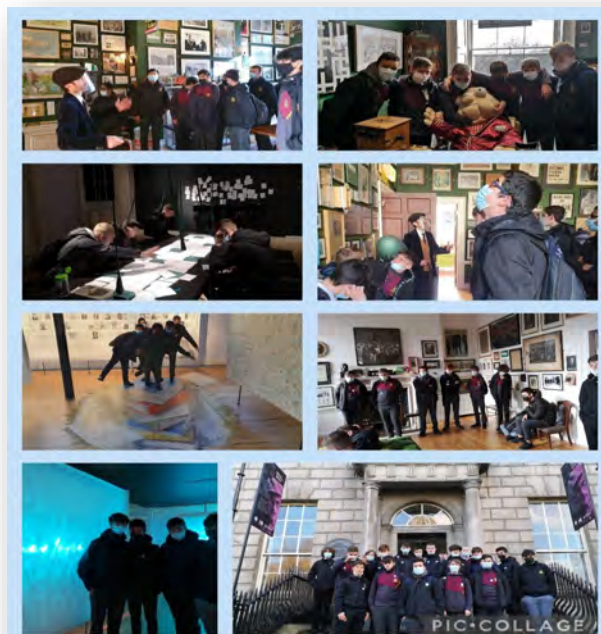


The Little Big Treasure hunt

Next the boys ventured into St Stephen's Green to take on the “**Big Little Treasure Hunt**”. The lads worked together to solve riddles and follow clues to find some historical monuments. A very pleasant yet competitive afternoon was had by all, not to mention the many historical lessons learned about Dublin's most famous Georgian Square.

MoLi Museum & Little Museum of Dublin

Finally the lads got to learn about the fascinating story of Dublin in the charming **Little Museum of Dublin** where they were given a guided tour and got to interact with many interesting historic memorabilia and artefacts. Following this visit, they became immersed in the world of Irish literature at the interactive **Museum of Irish Literature**. This beautiful museum offered the students a chance to get lost in the world of Irish literature and learn about some of the world's most prominent authors and their works including James Joyce, Samuel Beckett and Oscar Wilde.



TY Sports Coaching

As well as educating our students our goal in De La Salle is also to give back to the community. This is especially true in our Transition Year Programme. For the least few years we have ran a very successful Sports Coaching module as an option for out TY students.

In this module the student's get to work with qualified coaches from a number of sporting organizations including, IRFU, FAI, GAA, & Irish Rowing. They do different courses and lessons in order to learn the aspects needed to be a coach as well as specific skills for the different sports. Schools to coach the students there.

Mr S O'Neill



We are very thankful to the local Primary Schools who facilitate our students. This year we are working with four local Primary schools, Divine Word NS, Our Lady's Boys NS, Rathfarnham Educate Together NS, & St Louis Senior Primary School.



Transition year Activities

LCVP Shoebox Appeal

Following a hugely successful Trick or Treat for Temple Street by our LCVPs last term, this term the students collected materials for the Christmas Shoebox Appeal for the Capuchin Centre in Dublin. The lads worked with the 1st and 2nd Years to wrap the boxes to some festive Christmas music.

Thank you to all of the families who kindly gave donations for this appeal.. Concern for the poor and social justice was very evident today in De La Salle this Christmas.



Student Council

This has been yet another incredibly productive year for the Student Council. With the easing of Covid restrictions, the Student Council have resumed their fabulous work for De La Salle. Back at Halloween last year, the student council organised a successful "Fifa" tournament to raise funds for charity. Then came November, when De La Salle proudly took part in Stand Up Week, showing support for our Lasallian friends in the LGBT community. This week was capped with a Colour Day, with each year group wearing a different colour of the Pride Flag.

The Student Council resumed their work in the new year too, organising a Pancake sale on Shrove Tuesday to raise money for the people of Ukraine, suffering at the hands of Putin and Russia at the moment. This Student Council also resumed the lunch time Chess Tournament in school. This was a great hit for years and it's wonderful to have this exciting tournament back in action. Recently, to end Seachtain na Gaeilge "La Glas" was organised by the Student Council to once again raise funds for Ukraine and to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Another significant event in the De La Salle calendar is multicultural day. This will be taking place in the college in the coming days and is always a great day where we celebrate and embrace the many different nationalities in our school. A recent survey conducted by the school revealed that there are over 33 languages spoken by the students of our school. Incredible! Students from all backgrounds are encouraged to bring in their cultural clothes/food on Friday to get involved in such a lovely day.

The Student Council will continue to be active right up until the end of the year, with football tournaments planned for when the weather improves and two members of the Council will be attending the ISSU Annual Conference in April. I'd like to thank all my colleagues in the Student Council for their fantastic work and co-operation for the whole year, and here's to a successful last couple of months

Jack Campbell—5th Year

Student Leaders

This year, our team of Student Leaders of 5th and 6th Years decided to focus on helping their peers in 1st and 2nd Years develop some strong and efficient study skills. What does 'learning' mean? What types of learners are there? How do I learn best? What study tools/study techniques are efficient for different subjects? Such are the questions our Student Leaders were challenged to answer and, by Jove, did they do a good job! Presentations, group activities, walking debates, creation of revision tools (mind maps, flashcards etc.), there was plenty there to get our Junior students thinking and working hard. Words such as laborious, industrious, effort, motivation and discipline resonated with our students. A fine display of peer collaboration, well done



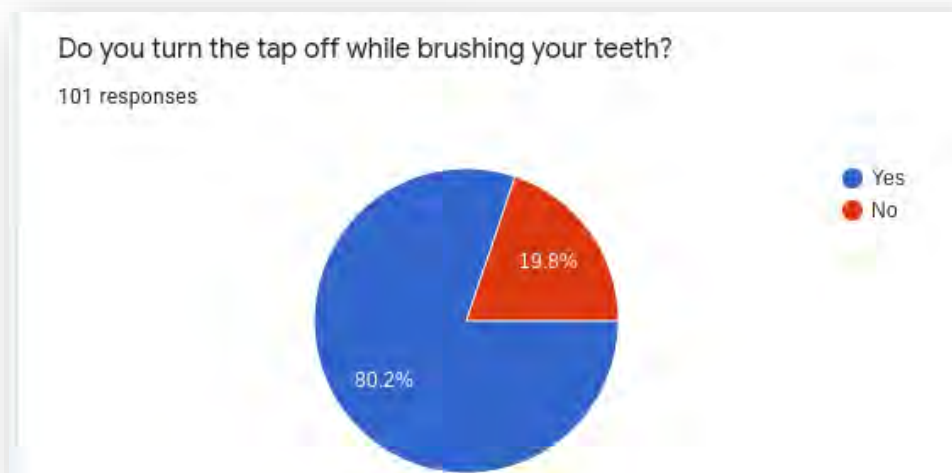
Green Schools News



The Green Schools Committee is working towards our third green flag: The Water Flag. This term we ran our annual slogan competition! Our students came up with so many great options it was hard to pick! Here are our two winning entries!



Our aim is to encourage the school community to learn about water conservation. The committee surveyed all students and parents about their use of water and found some interesting results



While working on our Water Flag the committee is continuing to maintain our litter and waste flag. Our TY students recently joined Flossie and the Beach Cleaners in Sandy mount to clean the beach! We picked up 15kg of rubbish!

Ms A Plunkett

Past Pupil Profiles

Name: Stuart O'Brien

Year of Graduation from DLSC: 1988

Where you are currently based? Kilmacanogue Co. Wicklow

My Career so far:

I completed a degree in Economics in UCC and a Masters in Economics & Finance in NUI Maynooth. In 1992 I spent a year as a Lecturer in NUI Maynooth before starting as a Fund Accountant in Barings in August 1993. I have worked in the Fund Accounting Dept. in Barings for 10 years. Barings were then taken over by Northern Trust and I worked in a number of different roles, including Hedge Funds, Transfer Agency, Client Servicing, Alternatives Investments and now I am a Senior Vice President working in a Business Manager role reporting to the COO of Northern Trust in Ireland. I also act as a Director on the Board of an Investment Management Company.

My Favourite Memory of DLSC:

Representing the College in the 2nd round on the Leinster Senior Cup where we played St Michaels in Donnybrook. Unfortunately we were beaten by a well fancied St Michaels team but the experience is something that I never forgotten

One piece of advice I would give to current DLS students is.....

When you get an opportunity to do something that is a challenge and puts you outside your comfort zone you should take it whether in your career or in life outside your career.



To contribute to our Newsletter
email

mkirwan@delasallecollege.com

Past Pupil Profiles

Name: Enda Corneille

Year of Graduation from DLSC: 1983 and 1984 (I repeated)

Where you are currently based? Based between Dublin (Skerries) and West Cork

My Career so far:

Started out as a Trainee Accountant but hated it! After a few other jobs, I joined Aer Lingus in 1986 as an entry level clerk and over a 26-year career, I gained a lot of experience and ultimately held several senior positions including Commercial Director, Corporate Affairs Director, and Shared Services Director.

In 2012 I did an MBA in the University of Limerick, specialising in Aviation Management

After I left Aer Lingus, I did some consultancy work and a big part of this was teaching and lecturing - I was an international lecturer for IATA, visiting lecturer at Cranfield in the UK, DCU and UL here in Ireland - teaching mainly Aviation Management, Leadership, and Change Management.

In 2014, I joined Emirates as Country Manager Ireland in Aug 2014 with overall Profit and Loss responsibility for the Emirates' operation on the island of Ireland - Passenger, Cargo and Airport Operations.



My Favourite Memory of DLSC:

I was lucky to have several great memories: Mr. Farley's Latin Class – his passion and knowledge were infectious. Coaching the U13 Rugby team with Mr Cryan – hopefully they picked up a few skills along the way! Taking part in the yearly Christmas musicals – the smell of the greaspaint and the roar of the crowd captivated even the biggest rugby players!

One piece of advice I would give to current DLS students is.....

Enjoy your time at 'Salle, when you're out in the world of work you will look back on your time with fondness (even if you don't agree with me now!) Be yourself, follow your own path not what your parents want you to do or what all of your friends are doing. I've met so many former school mates who changed 3rd level course or career because they were following someone else's dream and not their own.

I didn't actually go to university until I was 45 years of age, choosing to work straight from school so there are endless possibilities for what you can do when you leave – keep an open mind to all of them!



Past Pupil Profiles

Name: Declan Quinn

Year of Graduation from DLSC: 1998

Where you are currently based: Rathfarnham

My Career so far:

I went straight from a Degree in Communications in DCU to a career in music. I spent my 20s in a band called Republic Of Loose and working as a session musician. Republic Of Loose made three albums, one

of which went platinum, and we toured Ireland, UK, Europe and New York culminating in a show opening up for U2 in Croke Park.

I'm now 20 years working in the music industry as a musician, producer, soundtrack composer and sound engineer/designer. When Covid hit, the live music industry was shut down. I spent the two years composing music for tv/video and corporate content. I "pivoted" my career, using my experience in the music industry to get a job as a digital media content creator for Generate Leads.

My Favorite Memory of DLSC:

I had some fantastic teachers who really had an influence on me. Austin Quirke and Marion O'Dwyer were incredible supporters of my music interest, even though music wasn't taught in the school, and Austin wasn't actually one of my teachers.

I also had some fantastic rugby coaches up to Junior Cup. Leo in particular was a truly inspiring and passionate coach who was such a positive and encouraging influence on me.

One piece of advice I would give to current DLS students is.....

Follow your interests and hobbies as much as you can - you never know they might end up being your career.

You probably won't fully appreciate what you have now until much later in your life. Try to take time and headspace to appreciate the whole school experience on as many levels as you can - not just within the curriculum and the books - but they are also very important!



Combover for Cancer

Past Pupil, Fred Murray, embarked on an unusual journey in order to raise funds for Cancer Research. Fred hopes to raise €25,000 for this special cause by growing a combover!

Many thanks to Fred for sharing his story with us. If you would like to contribute to Fred's campaign you can do so on the link overleaf.

Combover for Cancer

I lay in the pitch dark of the Greek apartment I was renting, which was no bad thing, the lack of light hiding its drab 70s interior. But it was far too early to get up and prepare for another big day on the bike; instead I'd just have to lie there and process my dream about Fiona.

Fiona and I had been good friends since we'd met while studying in NCAD in the mid-90s. But now, just shy of her 42nd birthday, she lay desperately sick with cancer in Dublin's Harold's Cross Hospice, and the last I'd heard, she didn't have much time left.

Later that morning, in the northeast of Greece, surrounded by modest hills on the Sithonia peninsula, I set out from the coastal town of Neos Mamaras and with about 110 kilometres on the bike ahead of me, I would have quite a few hours by myself to think about Fiona.

As I peddled past the pines, I thought; *Could I Grow a Mo?* Raise some money for cancer, for her plight? The now annual *Movember* being only a couple of days away, I considered it for all of a pedal-turn, before dismissing the idea - mustaches are certainly not the taboo they once were, besides like the some 80kms of road ahead, I needed a greater challenge.

I thought on as I ground out the kilometres; *What's the worst hairstyle a man can have?* A mullet, maybe? That daft, island-like tuft Brazil's Ronaldo sported in the 2002 FIFA World Cup? Perhaps, but what kind of hairstyle still remains the most pathetic? Woody Harrelson's hair in the 1996 film *Kingpin* sprang to mind; *The combover*, yes, now that is truly rancid, and nothing is more ridiculous to a man who's had no hair longer than he's had it.

The combover; a bygone-era, wind-catching *do* which balding men wore in an effort to create the illusion of a youthful, full head of hair. And as I rode alongside the peaceful waters of the Aegean Sea thinking about Fiona, I committed to a Combover for Cancer, the ludicrous but funny idea masking any notion of the follicle endurance-challenge that lay ahead. But as the Ernest Shackleton family motto goes: *Fortitudine Vincimus* – 'by endurance we conquer.'



Two and a half years later, sadly Fiona is no longer with us, she passed shortly after I returned from Greece, but she was delighted to hear of my *hair-quest*. And today, one side of my head is replete with long, glorious strands of hair, which I can effortlessly sweep over my *domus completas* to where they embrace their shorter cousins on the far side.

I'm officially *combed-over*, but my hair deception does quite the opposite of what its intentions are, my fool's-hair, fools nobody. It's gross; I look like a sheepish old man, rearranging his tangled, wind-blown long-bits as he enters a church. As a child, I spent many a Sunday-sermon gazing at combovers in Mass, in-between the greased-down strings,slivers of scalp were lit-up by the church lights, as cast-off dandruff lay scattered about on their owners' shoulders like tiny, white shells on a beach.

However rank, growing hair again has been surprisingly enjoyable – I have been as bald as the bare mountain tops since my early 20s and now at 46 years of age, it's a long-forgotten pleasure to feel a gust of wind blowing through my hair, to see it again with my own eyes and to notice, that after all these years of hair-poverty, it has changed colour. Throughout my teens I was an often-mocked ginger, and now I'm a devastatingly-handsome brunette, with not a grey hair in sight – the Hair-Gods have answered my prayers and with interest.

In 2019, my target was to raise €25,000 for cancer care and research, and two years on I'm not quite 'thair'. Covid has interrupted the running of fundraising events, but I have thankfully managed to reach almost two thirds of my target through a GoFundMe campaign, raising awareness via social media and as a guest on the Ray D'Arcy Radio Show; a fellow ambassador of the bald-facts. My combover quest began due to losing my beautiful friend Fiona to cancer and she filled the room with laughter when I shared my vision of growing this auld-lad's hairstyle for charity - it's a tiny price to pay to honour her bravery. For it is, as Willie Wonka says when Charlie Bucket returns his precious Everlasting-Gobstopper to him: "There shines a good deed in a weary world."

To make a donation to Fred Murray's combover campaign, please visit [GoFundMe.com Comb Over For Cancer \(https://gofund.me/959413d2\)](https://gofund.me/959413d2) and follow his long-bits of hair on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook @comboverforcancer.



Scan to Donate to Fred's Campaign



Wine & Gold

Great to see the tradition of wearing the Wine & Gold socks on those special days is still going strong!

Congratulations to Neil Owens on his recent Marriage in Dublin and Congratulations to James Murphy on his recent marriage in Melbourne, Australia.

Socks for those special occasions can be purchased by contacting the school office



paintbox
DESIGN STUDIO



Thank you!

We would like to thank the DLS Past Pupil community for their ongoing support, in particular we thank Kevin Whitty and www.thegardener.ie for his assistance in maintaining the school grounds, John Reddy from Paintbox Design Studios for maintaining our website and our branding and Brian McMahon and Total Tree Care for sponsorship of our Football jerseys.

Recent Irish Times Article

Irish Times Journalist and Past Pupil Ian O'Riordan features DLSC 1983 Leinster Senior Cup victory

When De La Salle ruled the roost in Leinster schools rugby

Diarmuid Coogan on how the Churchtown school upset the odds twice in the 1980s



The De La Salle Churchtown 1983 Leinster Schools Cup winning team, with Diarmuid Coogan (middle row, second from right).

Diarmuid Coogan remembers well the first tight connection of the neck and shoulders. Not like it was yesterday, given it was 39 years ago already, still enough to recall the moment he sensed De La Salle had a real chance of winning this.

“It was easier than it should have been, you know that way?” he says, recreating in his own head the first scrummage of the 1983 Leinster Schools Senior Cup final between the Churchtown school and Castleknock College.

“It had been built up before that Castleknock had such an imposing pack, they were going to dominate. Actually we were used to hitting big hard men, being hit harder, including the semi-final against Roscrea.”

What unfolded at the old Lansdowne Road that March Sunday has lasting significance on several rugby fronts. After losing two previous finals, in 1968 and 1975, De La Salle won 13-6, with that becoming the first non-fee paying school since the so-called free scheme began to win the prized trophy.

As if to prove it was no fluke they won it again two years later, beating Blackrock in the final, before losing the final again in 1986, and no non-fee paying school has come close to winning since. Will they ever?



Diarmuid Coogan (second from right with headband) celebrates with De La Salle team-mates after the 1983 Leinster Schools Cup final at Lansdowne Road.

Coogan was in fifth year when he played loosehead prop on that 1983 team, his story of some significance too in that after two decades of a bruising rugby career he escaped relatively unscathed, running his first sub-three hour marathon in 2005, which the late [Jerry Kiernan](#), his then coach, described as possibly his greatest coaching achievement.

“Around 30 my neck did start to give out, I’d say every prop gets arthritis of the neck at some point, it’s really not designed for that kind of thing. There was very little awareness of concussion and head injury then, having said that the hits weren’t as bad. Players now are so much more bulked up. Back then, the classic build for a prop was maybe 5ft 9in, 15 stone. Now they’re all 19 stone, maybe too much bulk for their body.”

When Blackrock play Gonzaga in Sunday’s final they’ll be chasing title number 70, the first won back in 1887; Gonzaga have yet to win, losing the 2019 final. Still there hasn’t been a successful team of outsiders and underdogs and proverbial lightweights since De La Salle, and the elite modern preserve of the game suggests their feat won’t be repeated. With a little more luck the crazy truth is they might have won four-in-a-row.

Fate began to conspire early in Coogan’s life. Typical of that De La Salle team, he wasn’t of gilded rugby background: he grew up just around the corner from the school, off Whitehall Road, his interest perked by early visits to Donnybrook and De La Salle to watch neighbours and friends.

“Quite a few players came from that road, the Dowling family, four of their sons played for De La Salle. My father and grandfather were always into rugby, would bring me to Lansdowne Road from a young age. I was there in 1975, walking home with my dad, wanting to throw away the teddy bear, dressed up in the De La Salle colours, after they lost that final. I think that was the most dejected I ever felt after a rugby match.



De La Salle captain Michael McArdle lifts the Leinster Senior Cup at Lansdowne Road in 1983.

“I was playing myself from eight or nine, though I think then it was more of an embarrassment to my family, I couldn’t kick snow off a rope. I was a little overweight as a child, and if you were anyway big like that you tended to be thrown into the frontrow. So from age 11 or 12 I was playing prop. Lads would be playing a few different sports back then, but if you were any good at rugby, you wanted to be on the A team. From the Junior Cup team I was there pretty much through.”



WE CARE



Live the
La Sallian way



Respect yourself,
your fellow students
& staff at all times



Hands Up -
One Voice



Green-Schools

An Taisce

Eat in designated areas only.
Keep Salle
Clean & Green

WE PREPARE



Wear your
full uniform
with pride



Turn off mobile phones
and electronic devices
before entering
school grounds



Be on time for school
and class.. line up and
enter class respectfully



Have your Journal,
books, copies and
pencil case
on your desk

WE ACHIEVE



Respectfully follow
staff instructions
at all times



Complete your class
work, homework & revision
daily to the best
of your ability



Become a leader,
get involved in
school activities,
committees and events



Healthy Schools

Healthy Body, Healthy Mind -
Take part in sport and
physical activity
and eat healthily

