



St. Macartan's College Transition Year Newsletter February 2021



Teaching and learning in TY:

A huge thank you to all our TY students for all your effort, engagement and participation in our online classes. TY classes and modules for students continue every day as per the normal school timetable. Students are encouraged to get in touch with their teacher if they encounter any problems accessing the classes.

In line with normal school time, students should attend all their classes online. If, for any reason you are unable to attend, you must contact the school.

We are delighted to inform you about the following exciting TY activities that will take place in the coming weeks. Thank you to all the members of the T.Y. Student Voice Committee who met with us and put forward so many wonderful ideas.

Ms. S. McColgan Year Head and Mr. E. McCabe T.Y. Coordinator



Best wishes to Ms. McColgan

Ms. McColgan the T.Y. Year Head was recently promoted to the position of Deputy Principal at Beech Hill College. She will leave St. Macartan's College to take up her new position on February 12th. Ms. McColgan was Year Head to our current T.Y.'s since they joined the school. As a teacher and a Year Head, Ms. McColgan has played a very significant role in seeing our current T.Y. students progress as a year group in as positive a way as they have done. Thank you Ms. McColgan and best wishes for the future.

The Sem Strava 60 km Challenge

This month long walking and running challenge began on the 1st of February 2021. Classes will compete to achieve the greatest distance in the year group. As an added challenge our TY students will also compete against TY classes Tara, Tia and Tess from St. Louis Secondary School for the accolade of the winning the top TY class title.



The Bar Council Of Ireland's "Look into Law" online module

Six students from TY Adam Lynch, Paraic Clerkin, Mohammad Umer, Deniss Sologubous, Matthew Mc Vicar and John Sherry will begin this online course of study into law which begins on the 22nd of February.





Early University Entrance

at Dublin City University

Sem TY student Myles Quigley will attend this DCU programme in Law and Politics each Friday for the next 14 weeks.

We all wish him every success in this endeavour.

FOR Transition Year students with high academic ability

Congratulations to Ryan Greenan who has been selected as our school applicant for a week long online work experience in the Houses of the Oireachtas. The chosen students will hear from the different business units which comprise the Houses of the Oireachtas Service and they will also get a chance to meet and interact with Members. Students will be required to conduct research on an aspect of politics, political life or work of the Houses of the Oireachtas which is of interest to them throughout the week and present their findings to the group.



Houses of the
Oireachtas
Tithe an Oireachtais

The GAA future Leaders Challenge

The GAA / PDST Future Leaders Solo Challenge is designed to promote positivity, physical activity and wellbeing among young people, while encouraging them to stay at home and follow HSE guidelines at the same time. There will be different challenges each week, all linked to the modules in the GAA future leaders programme. To get involved, students and teachers record videos of themselves doing the various challenges and upload them to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram. Students can enter as many videos they like for as many of the challenges they like each week! It is now on the week 2 challenges.

To enter a video please make sure to do the following;

- 1. Give your name*
- 2. Give the name of your school*
- 3. Tag GAA Future Leaders in the post*
- 4. Use the hashtag #GAASolo2*



The challenges change each week and there are opportunities to win prizes sponsored by O' Neills.

EVERY TY student in St Macartan's is expected to enter each week. Challenges are in the areas of GAA skills, cooking and wellbeing. It is also hoped that the TY students of St. Louis Convent will join our TY students in these fun and active competitive challenges.

St. Macartan's/Louis TY Student

Voice Year Group Quiz



Last week saw the Student voice committees from St. Louis and St. Macartan's begin to plan a series of fun educational quizzes for each TY class in both schools online using google meets and kahoot. With the success of the first quiz it is hoped to have a quiz for the entire year group on Friday 12th February for Period 6. Each team will have members from both schools on it and should be a wonderful way to interact and meet new people.

Penpals



After a wonderful response from the residents of Mullaghinahinch and Drumbear nursing homes to the TY letters and Christmas cards organised by the English Department. TY students are currently being asked again to write to residents and bring a smile to their faces during these difficult times.

P.Y.E. programme on substance abuse



TY students Odhrán Hackett, Luke Mc Manus, Gary Devlin, Tomasz Madela and Ben F. O' Brien are working with their counterparts in St. Louis Convent to produce short videos on what they learned to share with their peers.

Public Speaking competition

Mr Reilly and Mr Dalton are working on public speaking skills as part of careers and guidance classes with our TY students. The students are all asked to produce a 2 minute speech on something they are passionate about. Finalists from both St. Macartan's and St. Louis will be judged by an independent adjudicator to select an overall winner.



TY Computer Science

The pupils in Mrs Grugan's TY Computer Science class are engaging in an exciting opportunity to complete a new course designed by Keith Quille and CSinc. This course will include modules on Python programming, Microbit, HTML and CSS. St Macartan's College is one of the first schools to pilot the platform and content, which is a really exciting opportunity. The boys will begin this course after the midterm break and will receive certificates for successful completion of the modules.



TY Student Enterprise:

Our TY Enterprise classes continue and this year we have three teams preparing for the regional competition final.

This involves regular Zoom conferences with our LEO liaison link person, Ms. Fern Ross. This event will be held online this year.

All three teams involved have had excellent success in terms of product sales. We wish them all the very best both in the competition and indeed on their entrepreneurial journey.



Work Experience:

Even during these difficult times, some TY students have been able to source meaningful, engaging and educational work experience. In order to do work experience students must apply by email to their year head. This application will be discussed thoroughly on its merits and will be sanctioned or refused at a meeting held on Mondays.



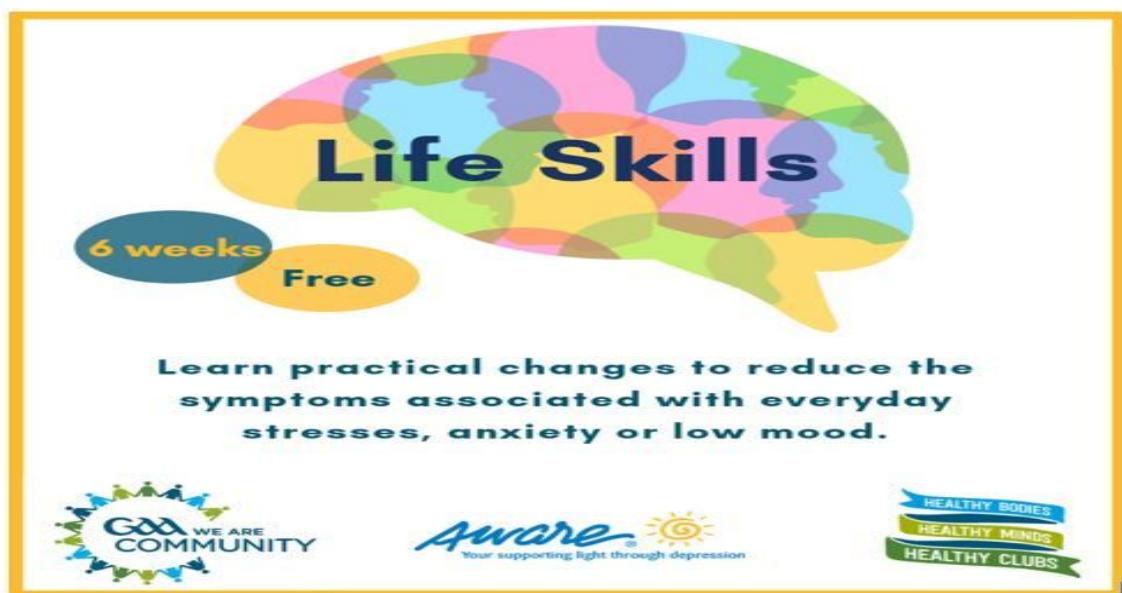
“La Chandeleur” French festival

TY students of French are taking part in this festival organised by Mr Gurgan. It will include students making their interpretation of French “crepes”.



ShoutOut.ie

ShoutOut.ie will present their online work shop to each TY class after the February mid term exploring LGBTQ+ issues and homophobic bullying.

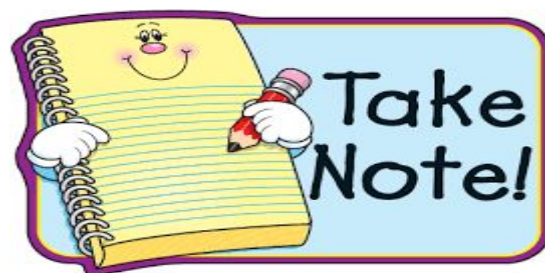


Aware Life Skills Programme

The Aware life skills programme has been completed with half our TY cohort. The remaining two classes will undertake the programme after the mid term break. Aware Life Skills for Schools is a free educational programme offered to students aged 15-18, designed to help young people learn new ways to deal with challenges in life. The programme uses an approach based on the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) which focuses on thinking and behaviour.

The programme contains eight modules delivered over four weeks in 75 minute sessions. This gives students time to reflect on the key learning point each week and time to experiment with the 'new ways of thinking' presented. The weekly schedule also allows time for students to raise any questions they might have with their programme instructor.

Please note:



All students when not involved in organised TY activities and projects, as described here, are expected to attend all classes. All core subjects, option subjects and modules continue as per the timetable. Every class is online. Students are reminded to check their year group classroom for the classroom codes needed as all modules (except Thursdays) change over next week. Due to lockdown restrictions the TY coordinator is still accepting parental evaluations of their son's eportfolio by email to emccabe@stmacartanscollege.ie