

TY Newsletter

December Edition

By Joya Hobson

Your paragraph text



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Opening.

Hello everyone! Welcome back to this months Transition Year Newsletter. How December has come to us so quickly is truly astonishing, especially in TY. This month I hope you will have fun reading about what we got up to this month, and with Christmas just around the corner, that is a lot. So sit back, relax, and read about this truly memorable and busy month.



All-day musical intensive.

On the 4th of November, the TYs involved in this years musical “The Addams Family”, had their first all day rehearsal. Before this day, many people were unsure on things like song timings, dance steps and blocking. But after this amazing day of rehearsals, everything started to fall into place. Questions were answered, dances were cleared up and the whole cast felt delighted by the end of it. This intensive day raised so many of the students confidence and was a thoroughly positive and fun experience.







Photos taken by Sebastian Murray, who is involved in the backstage aspect of the show. Other students not directly on stage are currently being trained in the lights/sound/stage crew area of the theatre- jobs vital for a functioning show.

CAT 4s.

On the 4th and 5th of December, we all took an intelligence/problem solving test, CAT 4s. They are designed to test the ways in which you learn through problem solving questions to do with things like shapes, numbers and patterns. Back in first year, we took the same type of test, which allowed our teachers and parents to see what type of learners we are. This time, the test will do the same thing but also help

us pick subjects that we will take in Leaving cert-a decision we will have to make in March. Results will be sent to parents over the coming weeks.

Community work updates.

As you are probably aware, our TY students have been completing their mandatory community work over the past few months. As the new year approaches, I wanted to share some of our students reflections on how their time is going...

“I have been doing my community work with my friend Toby Murphy in Nazareth House nursing home on Malahide Road and I am really enjoying it because I get to sing in front of the elderly while Toby plays the guitar . We make their day because it’s great for them to see young faces” - Rian McGibney

“I’m currently doing my community work in Nazareth house on the Malahide Road, I’m really enjoying it as we do lots of fun activities like karaoke and bingo and everyone there is really nice” - Niamh Devine Tattersal

“I’m coaching kids with additional needs in basketball, which I enjoy because I get to interact with the kids who are younger, and I get to learn more about what kinds of disabilities they have and what it’s like to have these disabilities” - Emmet Donohue

“I have been doing my community work with our schools PE department.I really enjoy so far it as is it helps me to take my own initiative and be more independent” - Jorgia Homer

“I am doing my community work in vision Ireland Fair view and so far it has been a great experience, I have gotten to meet new people and learn a lot of new life skills.My favourite part about it is the feeling of satisfaction I get because I know I have helped people and made a difference” - Priya Hobson

Year head update.

After this term, I thought it would be interesting to hear an update from our year head, Ms Rock, on how this term has been for her TY year group.

“As we enter the final days of your opening term of TY, I have to congratulate you all on a fantastic opening term in terms of core subject engagement, volunteering, attendance, engagement , work experience and doing it all with great personality! You all hit the ground running, as I knew you would, with such gusto and enthusiasm that makes our year group a pleasure to work with - let's keep it going ! My colleagues , who didn't have the pleasure of teaching you in JC are now experiencing what a great bunch that you are. You have shown outside agencies and facilitators along with the staff of Mount Temple that you have so many positive traits that this world seeks. The form team and I are so proud of you all.

The attention to details like hitting deadlines and that submit button need to be fine tuned in the new year along with ensuring that you show patience and respect towards all as we enter the run up to the musical performance. It will be a tense time but if we all ensure that we show empathy for staff, parent volunteers and students as they logically get over 130 students on stage to shine , it will be so rewarding. If we all take on jobs and support each other it will be reflected in the performance on stage. There's no such thing as a small job as all will be vital for the smooth running of the production.

Enjoy your well deserved break and keep in touch with each other over the holidays.”

Christmas jumper day

On the 16th of December, our annual Christmas Jumper day in aid for Vincent de Paul, a Irish charity helping family's across the country took place. Money was raised around the classrooms and on the Mount Temple App. This was a school event, not just TYs, but here are some snaps of our year groups participation to this great day.



Red Stables Santa Experience

Throughout all weekends of December, a group of TY volunteers have been taking part in the Santa Experience, situated in St Anne's Red Stables. A volunteering opportunity like no other. If you have not heard of this experience before, it is the ultimate Christmas experience for mainly families with little children, inside the red stables. There, children can feed reindeers, get their face painted and many more festive activities.

At the start, the students were given lunch and an introduction by the manager Angela about their responsibilities in the stables. Next they were given a tour of the five stations that they could be helping out at, and then got straight to work. The stations for volunteering included greeting guests at the door with raffle tickets and supervising stations where guests could decorate gingerbread, write a letter to

Santa, draw and decorate Christmas trees and make reindeer food. The last station was helping the children post their letters to Santa after queuing up to meet him. This experience could not have been better for the TYs involved, and was a reminder on how good it is to volunteer and get involved. We thank Angela and the rest of the team in the Red Stables for allowing our TYs to take part in this wonderful opportunity.







TY dip

On the 17th of December, the Transition year students took part in a dip in the Clontarf baths for charity. We raised a grand total of 2597-this money will be divided among three charities Their Lives matter Ireland, St Francis Hospice Raheny and Child vision Ireland.

The overall impression of the morning was highly positive from students and staff. We are so lucky to have these resources so close to our school, and we thank the Clontarf Baths for allowing us to take part in this fun filled activity.









Carol Service

On the 18th of December, many of our TY students took part in the annual Carol service. This event is the highlight of the year for many students and staff. I am glad to say that this years service was no different. The students of all year groups sang beautifully and it truly was an incredibly special evening. We thank Ms Herbert for leading the choir as well as all staff involved in making this night happen.



Last day of term....

After a crazy busy couple of months, it is hard to believe we are at the last school day of 2025. TY classes celebrated with things like class secret Santa's, movies and games. School ended at 10:45 and the long awaited Christmas break begun.

Thank you so much for reading.

[Until next year!!](#)

