



Careers Talks Speakers Back: Dionne Baker, Amy Livingstone, Chelsea Thompson, Rosie Cahill, Shelise O' Toole, Orlaith O' Sullivan Front: Cara Cleary, Abby Doyle, Louise Kennedy, Laura Lennon Carol Lewis

Career Talks

The spring term has been full of activity in the guidance department. 6th years have completed their CAO and Post Leaving Certificate courses applications. Representatives from Dublin Institute of Technology, Dublin City University and University College Dublin gave presentations to our 6th years on the course they have on offer. Local Post Leaving Certificate Colleges including Sallynoggin College and Blackrock College of Further Education also made presentations. Thanks to Student Liaison officer Elena and all the staff in IADT for inviting some of our 5th Year students to an excellent engineering workshop in the college recently. Our 2nd year class have also undertaken an excellent college awareness programme in IADT. Huge thanks to all in the college for facilitating our students. As part of our induction programme, incoming first years visited and toured our school and completed CAT testing.

Next year's 5th year students have also been busy selecting the Leaving Certificate subjects undergoing CAT tests and attending subject choice talks from our teaching staff and guidance counsellors. Huge thanks to our 5th and 6th years for making excellent presentations about the Leaving Certificate subjects on offer in the school. Speakers included Carol Lewis, Cara Cleary, Orlaith O Sullivan, Laura Lennon, Amy Livingstone, Abby Doyle, Dionne Baker, Chelsea Thompson, Shelise O Toole, Rosie Cahill and Louise Kennedy.

Transition years visited UCD recently to tour the college and will be visiting Trinity College Dublin and Dublin City University over the next number of weeks. Best wishes from the guidance department to all our examination class students completing oral examinations and submitting examination project work. Remember you can follow the guidance department on twitter @TheRockGuidance.



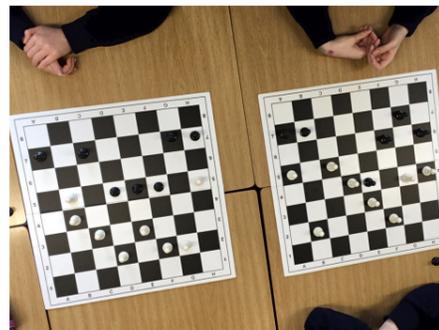
First Years attend An Post awards ceremony

Chess Club

A new chess club was launched under the guidance of Mr. Blackmore. It is proving to be very popular with the students.



Chess club



Chess club

Mardi Gras in Cafe du Journal!

All 2nd and 3rd year French students enjoyed a visit to Cafe du Journal to celebrate Mardi Gras. After working up an appetite while walking to Monkstown, pupils ordered traditional French cuisine. 'Un grand merci' to all of the pupils and staff involved.

Mlle Daly



Cafe du Journal

Senior History Students on Dublin City Trip

A fascinating day was had by Rockford's senior history students in Dublin city on Thursday 2nd March. We started off in the Little Museum of Dublin on St. Stephen's Green. There we got a potted social history of Dublin. After that we were whisked around on a 1916 Rising walking tour. Our guide certainly informed, entertained and shocked - leaving us plenty of room for debate afterwards. After lunch, we met in Dublin Castle for a tour of the buildings and their functions. In its grounds we got to see the original pool (now under a round green) that the native Irish used to name our city- Dubhlinn (black pool). We took a look at the curious artifacts in the Chester Beatty Museum nearby before calling it a day.



Visit to the GPO

First Year Students on History Tour

On Tuesday 14th of February, all of Rockford's first years went on a trip into Dublin City. We went to the National Museum of Ireland on Kildare Street to see their amazing archaeological treasures. We saw the grim Iron Age bog bodies and then had a tour of the main exhibits. Our guide used interesting objects such as the Ardagh chalice, with its hidden design on its base, to bring the first year history course to life. It was well worth a visit and fun was had by all.



An Post national Handwriting Competition winner Martyna Plotowicz



Rockford News

Newsletter

May 2017

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"A Christian environment where teaching and learning nurture the personal development of every student"



3rd Years visit the Dail

3rd Years Science Investigations

On Monday 6th March all third year Science students spent the whole day carrying out two Science investigations, which will form 25% of their Junior Certificate grade. The girls did a Physics experiment investigating how the length and colour of play dough alters the resistance of electricity passing through it. They also conducted a Chemistry experiment looking at how dilution of chemicals alters their pH. The girls worked hard all day and should do very well in their exams. A big thank you from Ms Puetz and Ms O'Toole to the wonderful fifth year Physics and Chemistry students who helped out throughout the day.



L-R Afiqah, Leigh Millo, Fatima Lakhlef



3rd Year Science Investigations

Nameless

(Inspired by my flame who told me to write..)
By Sarah Ellen Thompson

*I'm said to be the painter of the night sky,
The one who colours in the wind.
I've been told I sit atop the crescent moon
And chuck my paint before the night sky.
To be true, I don't sit atop the moon.
I drift alongside the stars
And I doze upon gossamer clouds.
I don't simply "Chuck" my precious dyes on my
canvas called the sky.
I heedfully bleach and tinge and tint my cherished
humble sky.
My craft is very tedious; it can sometimes take me
over half a day.
But, that's just my job.
That's just me.
I paint a lot.
'Cause I Am The Man Who Paints The Sky.*



6th Year Music students visit NCH

Spring Message

Welcome to the spring 2017 newsletter. This year so far has been busy and productive. Rockford students have continued to participate in a wide variety of activities which feature in this newsletter. The school website is another good source of up to date news.

Over the past few years classroom furniture has been replaced on a phased basis. This project will be complete after Easter when all classrooms in Rockford will have new desks & chairs. This final phase of replacing furniture was funded by a generous grant from the Dept of Ed & Skills.

The next area for further development is ICT. We are currently exploring ideas to make sure that Rockford makes efficient use of a recent grant to further develop the ICT facilities for the benefit of everyone in the school.

The majority of parents are now using the on line VSware facility to pay school expenses, exam fees etc. Thank you!

Special thanks also to the staff in Rockford who always go the extra mile to provide opportunities for our students.

We are all looking forward to the final term of the 2016/17 school. It promises to be action packed. Hopefully, the sun will shine on us all.

Liz Caffrey Tony Collison
Principal Deputy Principal

6th Year Music Trip

On 30th January, the sixth year music class attended the National Concert Hall to hear Tchaikovsky's 'Romeo & Juliet Fantasy Overture' by the RTE Symphony Orchestra. It was a guide to the Leaving Certificate Set Works with an interesting seminar on the material from the Overture. It was a wonderful opportunity for the girls to hear their set works live!

Transition Year News

A fresh term; Leaving behind the Christmas cakes, presents and treats. We started this term with a workshop from the SOAR foundation. All I can say is wow! : What an excellent way of bonding for the TYP group. We all shed tears together. It was absolutely magical. The SOAR foundation is a great group. Throughout the whole term, we had amazing trips and experiences. From the BT Young Scientist & Technology exhibition to making felt jewellery, learning etiquette and even make up courses!

On a cold and super rainy Thursday morning the TYs went on a trip to the zoo in the Phoenix Park to learn about animals and the way they adapt. We went to the Criminal Courts – yes the one with the paparazzi outside, with the bad boys and the scary and gruesome stories - courts of danger and mystery. However, let's not over romanticize it – there is still law involved. What a great day for us all.

Then, very unfortunately, we had to endure tortuous sessions sitting on cold chairs in a miserable hall; and actually think and write on paper. Exams! How horrible! This TY year has gone by so fast and been so action packed it was hard to believe that we actually had to do exams on top of it all. Where did all of the classes go? Still, it was necessary and definitely less stressful than the Junior Cert exams.

By far the worst part of this year is the fact that it is coming to an end. We will have to say goodbye to the International students. Bonding with them and forming strong friendships has been really awesome and now we are going to be so far from each other.

I think that we can all see that Transition Year is a year for growing, learning new skills and generally becoming more confident in everything we do. I applaud whoever thought of this.

Thank you to all of the teachers and students who have made this year so far so very special. Sarah Berkhout



Bingo Prizewinners

Bingo



Hanlon Family



Hughes sisters



Campbell Family

Trath na gCeist



L-R Abby Doyle, Zana Leigh, Magdalena Proske



Trath na gCeist



Esha Benish, Oliwia Stafiej.



Emma & Kate enjoy the Trath na gCeist



Alicia Gutierrez Unson, Marta G.Barrio



Amy Haskins, Lucia Millan Bernal, Vanessa L Ndlovu



4th years visit courts



Photography by Katie Long

Rockford Manor Secondary School Choir

The Choir performed at the Wesley Interschools Music Festival on 3rd March. The girls performed 'Lift Thine Eyes' by Mendelssohn. They also performed at the Feis Ceoil in the RDS Concert Hall last month. The Choir sang a Hungarian piece 'The Wooing of a Girl' by Bartok. Special mention to Luca Kozak (2nd year) who helped the Choir with the Hungarian pronunciation of the text. Tremendous hard work by all involved with wonderful scores of 85% in both competitions. Well done Girls!



Rockford Manor Choir compete in Wesley College

Rockford Manor PE Expo

Rockford Manor Competed in the " P.E. EXPO 2017" on the 8th of March. This is similar to the Young Scientist Competition, however students produce a product to do with Physical Education. Students in Transition Year and 5th year took part. The girls who took part in this worked extremely hard spending time in and outside school to produce their projects. They put in a trojan effort. They had regular meetings with Ms. Howlin, Ms. Brophy, Mr. Burns and Mr. Blackmore to help guide their projects in the right direction. The group that won 1st prize in the nutrition category in the P.E. EXPO 2016 (Aoibh Hall, Chloe Bowden Wilson, Aoife Farrell and Chloe Breen) entered again, however they were unlucky not to win. Although no group placed 1st this year, judges commented on the high standard of all of the projects produced by Rockford Manor. Ms. Howlin would like to give a big thank you to Mr Burns, Ms. Brophy and Mr. Blackmore for their time and dedication to the P.E. EXPO 2017.



L-R Alicia Gutierrez Unson, Lucia Narnjo Munoz, Maria Vilches Villaba, Marta Garcia Barrio, Maria Rodriguez Hernandez



Ariadna Bosch, Ana Alvarez Fernandez, Cristina Bullejos Noguera



Paul Flynn, Aoife Farrell, Chloe Breen.



Emma Hughes, Michelle Khong, Faye O'Connell Bell



Aoife Farrell, Aoibh Hall, Chloe Bowden Wilson, Chloe Breen.



Caitlin Dunne, Kate Doran, Mia Yip Breen, Emma Norton.

Home Economics Department/Easter Cake Competition

On Wednesday 5th April, the Second Year Home Economics Class took part in an Easter Cake Icing competition. The girls produced amazing cakes. Prizes were awarded to Christine Panelo, Danniella Byrne, Ellie Di Felice Well done girls, S.Joyce



Christine Panelo, Trixia Mae Pandac



Cake competition entries



Ellie de Felice