

Loreto  
College



Crumlin  
Road

Newsletter



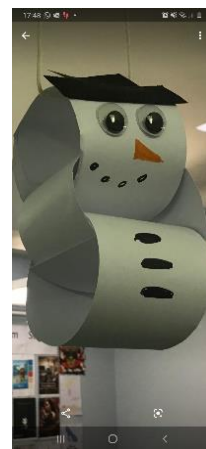
December 2020

www.loretocrumlin.ie



## Merry Christmas, everyone

Alan our caretaker always goes out of his way to help make our school look its best. This festive season he managed to get us a lovely Christmas tree, which was beautifully decorated by Megan Owens and Abbie Whelan in 3rd year, ably assisted by Mr. Howard. As a reward for all their hard work this year, Ms. Shortall's 2nd Year English class were allowed to decorate her classroom for Christmas. Room 47 is looking very festive.



## Community Christmas Collection

From 23rd November, our annual Christmas food collection was led by Mr. Farnan's 5th Year Religion class, our Home School Liaison teacher, Ms. Dillon and Special Needs Assistant Ms. Taylor

The whole school community contributed by bringing in non-perishable food items and placing them in the festive boxes in our school reception area. These were then taken by Ms. Dillon and her "elf-like" helpers to create beautifully packaged hampers for local families this Christmas.

These hampers were then delivered during the week before Christmas. 26 families and 43 students received Christmas hampers and vouchers thanks to the generosity of students, their families and staff.

Ms. Dillon said, "It really is a reflection of our caring school community and every single family were delighted to receive their gifts".



## Congratulations Sr. Pat Murray

Our former principal, Sr. Pat Murray has been awarded the Presidential Distinguished Service Award 2020. The award is for individuals who have made a remarkable contribution to Ireland and our international reputation.

In a statement, Sr Pat said she was "humbled" by the award because "one never acts alone. In accepting it, I acknowledge all those who are truly part of this award: my IBVM (Loreto) sisters, family and friends, many colleagues and collaborators. In particular it honours the many sisters from Ireland and elsewhere whose faithful quiet service and commitment makes a difference in the lives of so many."

Sr. Pat was principal of Loreto College, Crumlin Road from 1984-1991. In 1998, she was elected to the general council of the Loreto order and was based in Rome. During her term of office, she was part of the decision to make a new foundation in Rumbek in South Sudan, building the first secondary school for girls in Lakes State in 2006.



# Reasons to Celebrate

There were two graduations this term that celebrated the hard work of some terrific students.

Twelve 6th year students graduated from the Career Ready programme following two years hard work. Megan King, Mia Martin, Lizi Trapaidze, Eva Anino, Chloe Pingol, Vanessa O'Connor, Rosemary Olar, Grace Farrell, Chardonnay Maguire, Kitti Gemes, Kayla McDonnell & Angel Mikailu gathered in Mary Ward 5 on 2nd December with Ms. Kelleher for the ceremony which took place over Zoom. A highlight of the event was a

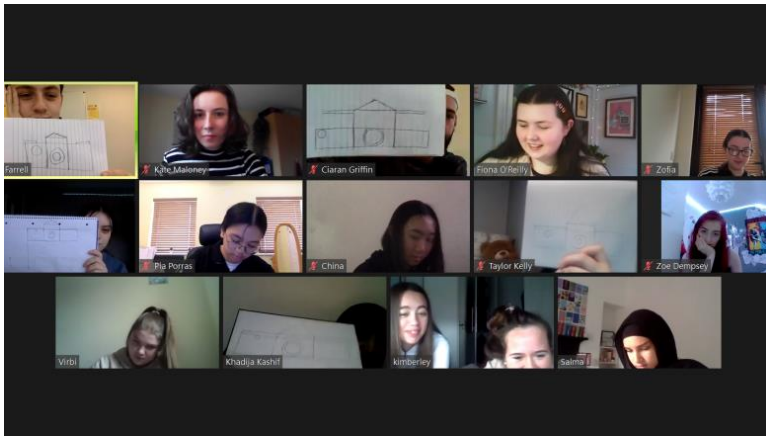


memorable address by Lord Mayor of Dublin, Green Party Councillor Hazel Chu. From the Loreto side of things, Mia Martin spoke of her experience of the programme and the experience she gained. Thanks to Ms. Kelleher for all her work with these fantastic girls over the last two years.

Two days earlier, 10 fantastic 3rd yrs graduated from the Scholars of Ireland Programme on November 30<sup>th</sup>. They worked with a tutor and their area of study was the Dead Sea Scrolls. They had to submit an assignment which was 1,500- 2,000 words after Christmas last. Well done on all your hard work: Amany Alzoubi McKeivitt, Sarah Buzakhar, Erin Crowe, Dorar Filaih, Vanessa Halandova, Aisha Hassan, Erin Hennessy, Sally Anne Kavanagh, Ella McCarthy & Ena Zekic.



# Bridge 21 Programme



*From the 10th-13th November, a group of TY students; Zofia Radon, Khadija Kashif, Pia Porras, Abigail Manahan, Salma Magbri, China Manalo, Virbi Kaalep, Paige Moore, Kimberley Kelly, Zoe Dempsey, Katie Curtis and Taylor Kelly joined the Bridge21 Programme hosted by Kate, Fiona and Warren from the Bridge 21 Team. What did the girls get up to? Zoe, Virbi, China and Pia outline what they did here:*

On the 10th of November we began our exciting programme called Bridge21. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions the programme was held

on Zoom.

We were put into three groups of 3 or 4 people and we got to choose our own team names. In doing the work, we had the main chat and a breakout room for when we did our work in teams. Every morning when we joined, we played the Dinosaur Game and other icebreaker games to get to know each other better. On the second day, we had to make a futuristic product and promote it. Our group made a space hotel called Destination Space Vacation, another group did flash-food where you can make any food in a microwave and the third group did more realistic virtual reality or VR.

We created radio segments, ads, posters, videos using LOOM, PowerPoint and presentations online. We organised events and learned key skills such as the proper way to email and other technical skills/techniques to use in online work or projects. The course really helped us hone our computer, leadership, and management skills.

On the Thursday we learned how to organize events in a team, with time pressure. We had to come up with an event in our school and had to gather money to donate to a charity. We all had to email fake shop managers and school staff. It was stressful, but fun.

On the last day we asked the mentors questions on college and they gave us as much knowledge as they had. We talked about college life and how to choose subjects. By the end of the week, we gained many new skills and had an amazing time.

The girls will have a second week with the Bridge 21 team in early 2021.

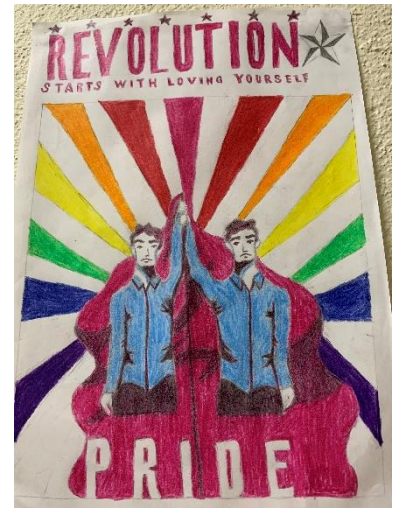


# Stand Up Week 2020

Nov 16th-20th was Stand up Awareness week. This annual event supports our LGBTI+ students. The theme this year was 'Come in so no one has to come out'. The message this year was that students were to be an ally, not just to our LGBTI+ students but to all students.

On the Friday of the week, Ms. Ryan and a team of helpers went around the school giving out little bags of Skittles to everyone, so we could all 'taste the rainbow'. There was also a fun Stand Up themed quiz

Ms. Mooney organised a 'Stand Up Poster Competition.' The winner was Smilte Binkyte in 3 Hyde. Runners up were Angelika Sliwowska (2nd Yr), Shauna Machingure (3rd Yr), Michelle Brotarlo (3rd Yr) and Natalie Ossowska (1<sup>st</sup> Yr).



## LCA Students show 'Style with a Smile'



6th Year Leaving Certificate Applied students opened up the school hair salon "Glam 32" on December 14th. Many teachers availed of the excellent service and were also served with some lovely home-made cookies and brownies baked by the class with Ms. Henry in the Home Economics kitchen. Well done girls on a great day! The day was spearheaded by Ms. Kelleher, their Vocational Preparation teacher, Ms. Byrne their programme coordinator and Ms. Henry, their Hair & Beauty, Home Economics teacher and tutor. The girls gained great experience in planning, marketing, washing and blow drying, baking and customer service. The grand total of €260 was raised and this will be reinvested into the salon to purchase equipment so that the girls can continue to improve their skills in Hair & Beauty.

## Debating News

Congratulations to Erin Crowe who made it to the semi-final of the UCD Junior School's Debating competition 2020. She put in a brilliant performance in the semi-final. Meanwhile, round 2 of the 2021 competition took place on 13th November. Erin Crowe, Erin Hennessy, Aisha Hassan and Amany Alzoubi competed in the second round via Zoom

Ekenenna Chukwuewuzie and Becky Mbu from 5th year took part in The PhilSpeaks Pro-Am Debating competition on Monday 23rd November via Zoom. In this competition, a secondary school pupil is paired with a college student and they debate together as a team. They took part in three different debates throughout the day and then a final. Becky made it to the Silver final; Ekenenna made it to the Bronze final and won it. Well done to both girls.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Year Geography in Glendalough

On Saturday, 5th December the 6th Year Geography classes went on an excursion to beautiful Glendalough, Co. Wicklow to carry out the River survey for their Leaving Certificate Geography project. They were led by teachers Ms. Ardill, Ms. Kelleher and Ms. Walsh. The students worked brilliantly together and got the whole operation completed in 90 minutes. This project will form 20% of their final Leaving Certificate grade in Geography. They will write up their reports on the trip in the new year.



# Mr. Howard's Sausage Roll Recipe

## Ingredients

- 1 packet of Ready Rolled Puff Pastry (Not Frozen)
- 450g Sausage meat
- ½ Small Onion
- ½ clove of Garlic
- Fresh Parsley
- Fresh Coriander
- 1 level Teaspoon Dijon Mustard
- ½ Grated Apple
- 1 Egg
- 20g butter or margarine

## Equipment

- Chopping knife
- Chopping board
- Baking tin
- Large mixing bowl
- Small bowl
- Pastry Brush
- A fork
- A Teaspoon
- A grater

## Method

1. Preheat oven to 200 C
2. Grease a large baking tray with butter.
3. Finely chop the onion and gently fry in oil for 2 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for a further 1 minute
4. Finely chop some fresh parsley and coriander
5. In a large mixing bowl add the herbs and the onion to the sausage meat. Add the grated apple and the mustard. Mix well with your hands.
6. Unwrap the puff pastry and lay on a clean floured surface. Cut lengthways in two.
7. Gently place one half of the mix lengthways along the pastry.
8. Using water to seal the pastry, gently fold the pastry over the sausage mix. Use a fork to complete the seal. Repeat with the other half of the pastry.
9. Using a sharp knife cut the sausage pastry into 3cm sausage rolls
10. Brush with beaten egg and place into the oven for 20 minutes, or until golden brown on top.
11. Remove from the baking tray and place on a wire rack for 5 minutes to cool

## Transition Year News

The TY term has started and ended with a bang.

On the first Monday back of the new term, the Transition Year students got hands on experience of motoring. In advance of their 17th birthdays, the Irish School of Excellence came to Loreto College to do a full day's driver education programme. The day involved the girls being educated in driver theory, and then taking their theory exam. They also learned how to change a tyre and basic car maintenance. They learned the importance of road safety and seeing how things look when you're under the influence of alcohol. It was a really worthwhile learning experience for all and something that will stand to the students for the rest of their lives. The best part for students, was when they actually got to drive a car. Each student got a run out in a Nissan on the primary school basketball court.



On December 17th TYs had a "Festive Floral Workshop" with Bombenni Flowers. Students really enjoyed the workshop and are undoubtedly potential future florists in the year group. The girls made festive floral boxes in time for Christmas. Transition Year students also made some festive decorations in Art and Home Economics.

On the shortest day of the year, some TY students went on a good long run with Ms. O'Keefe. Some of those who are undertaking the GAISCE President's award did a 5 kilometre run on a crisp Monday morning around Sundrive Park



During the month of November and December 18 TY students took part in The Street Law Programme. They were Sarah Bouzid, Lucy Byrne, Fruzsina Czene, Caitlin Delaney, Holly Doyle, Virbi Kaalep, Khadija Kashif, Neila Kavaliauskaite, Kimberley Kelly, Salma Magbri, Abigail Manahan, China Manalo, Paige Moore, Georgia Murphy, Pia Porras, Zofia Radon, Halle Roche and Sophie Slattery.

This Programme consisted of studying two different criminal cases. In small groups, working as a team, students analysed all areas of the case. They studied and evaluated evidence. They considered the people involved and where they had been at the time of the crime. When they had considered all evidence, they then had to present their verdict to the larger group. The groups then cross examined each-other's findings and came up with a final verdict.



Their final session was a mock trial. It consisted of a jury, lawyers, witnesses, prosecutors and defendants. This was an excellent opportunity for our students to apply the skills they had developed over the previous sessions, such as teamwork, presenting, analysing information and coming up with conclusions as well as problem solving. Who knows, these girls might be the future of Judicial system in Ireland.' Ms. Shortall's TY English class wrote to residents of local nursing homes who find themselves even more isolated due to COVID 19. A great effort went into the letters and the design of the envelopes and the friendly voice of our students rang loud and clear through their letters.

## Hockey and Basketball

We are delighted that during this term, sport was able to resume in Loreto College, Crumlin Road. Basketball training takes place weekly after school with the help of Ms. O'Keefe and Ms. Quinn-Nealon. Hockey is also back in Loreto Crumlin this year. Bronwyn O'Donnell of Irish Hockey has lend a hand coaching this term, helping out Ms. O'Keefe and Mr. Lenehan. The girls are making great progress. There was a great surprise on December 17<sup>th</sup> when the hockey heroines were paid a visit by Irish international and World Cup silver medallist, Hannah Matthews. Hannah was very impressed with the girls "competitiveness and sills."



## Promoting Positive Behaviour

A new positive behaviour initiative was launched this term by Ms. Henry. Junior students have a merit card in their pencil cases. Whenever a student does anything that a member of staff deems to be worthy of special merit, they get a stamp. 20 Stamps gets them this lovely goodie box. Senior students will be presented with bookmarks and keyrings with the school crest and thoughtful sayings for their acts of kindness, initiative and consistent good work. This initiative will continue into the new year, so if anybody fancies making a new year's resolution, and wants a reward for their actions...

## A Christmas Prayer

Lord, as we celebrate another Christmas, help us to live each moment gratefully. May we have the faith to trust in the gifts you have given us May we have the hope that overcomes the dark thoughts that sometimes cloud our vision. May we have the love that makes our world a better place. We make this prayer through Jesus our brother, born for us again in Bethlehem. Amen





# Down Syndrome Awareness Fundraiser

Loreto College Crumlin Road has raised €620 for Down Syndrome Ireland in a fundraiser organised by our 6th Years.

Holly Gorman, Deputy Head Girl, had placed raising awareness of Down Syndrome amongst the school as a high priority in her role as prefect. She teamed up with Head Girl Chloe Pingol to make a presentation to the school via ZOOM which was live streamed to every class and emailed to all staff and students.

The entire team of Prefects then teamed up with some first year students to collect money for Down Syndrome Ireland. They festooned our school reception with balloons and went around every class, collecting money and handing out sweets. The students and staff generously responded.

The entire school community generously supported, and together we raised €620, also gratefully receiving a donation from Holly's Aunty. The initiative raised some much needed funds for Down Syndrome Ireland and brought joy and positivity to our school.



## Courses for Parents

Ms. Dillon, our Home School Liaison Teacher has run a number of great initiatives in an innovative way this term to allow for the fact that parents cannot attend the school to participate in courses as they usually can.

She held a weekly draw in November to win a basket full of nutritious ingredients, and a handy cookbook, '101 Square Meals' to cook one of the meals inside. Winners of the weekly draw included: Helena Hamilton, Patricia Labour, Siham Razkan, Nagham Hamid, Sandra Obenokem and Yvonne Keating. If you'd like to try some of the recipes in the book yourself, here's a link to a digital version of the cookbook, produced by SafeFood: [https://www.safefood.net/getmedia/0c08a846-05a6-4fd8-92aa-7916259fd9a4/101\\_Square\\_Meals.pdf](https://www.safefood.net/getmedia/0c08a846-05a6-4fd8-92aa-7916259fd9a4/101_Square_Meals.pdf)

Ms. Dillon also went online to launch a new Book Club for parents and guardians. The idea is to take a leisurely, enjoyable approach to reading, and to have a nice chat afterwards with other parents about how you liked the book. If you'd like more information on this, or any other initiatives being organised for parents and guardians, you can contact Ms. Dillon on 0871624105 in January.



## First Year JCSP French



There was a celebration in First Year classes on December 17th to mark JCSP students' completion of their module in French. From January onwards, the JCSP students will move forward focussing on programmes in literacy and numeracy. It is a huge credit to them that they have completed 3 months study in French and to mark this, the French classes had a themed celebration, including some lovely treats and a presentation of certificates. Congratulations Anisah UI Haq, Jasmine Hanley-Hand, Kadie Maguire, Mia McCoy, Amy Richmond, Dolly Maguire, Madison Lawlor, Casey Murray, Holly Lynch, Heidi Byrne, Orla Doyle and Tori McNally.



## Loreto Virtual Camino

In our October Newsletter, we told you about the Loreto Camino which was happening across all schools in the Loreto network in Ireland. Loreto Crumlin's students and teachers certainly played their part.

A total of 2727 students, staff and parents across all Loreto schools got involved and walked a total of 104,960.4Km over the duration of the pilgrimage! This was an outstanding achievement which lifted everyone especially during a particularly difficult time when we needed the

lifting the most!

In Loreto College Crumlin, we pay special tribute to the students who went above and beyond during this challenge; Sally-Anne Kavanagh in 3rd Year managed to clock a staggering 510.7Km for her 3rd Year Team, while Erin Hennessy - also in 3rd year - clocked a total of 260.7km! It is particularly interesting to note both girls came from the same team and led the 3rd Year Team fully. 3rd, 4th and 5th place were Zofia Radon - TY, Erika Lebedeva - 6th Year and Hanan Omar - 1st Year who walked 585Kms between them! Ms. Dillion topped the Staff leaderboard clocking in a brilliant 170.5km! Followed by Ms. Robinson, Mr.



MacEoin and Ms. Kilcoyne. Overall, our Second Years crossed the finish

line first coming 8th Nationally with Angelika Sliwowska walking the most for her team - a whopping 141.5Km. It is no doubt that this was a whole school effort to get out and get active, ensuring we kept our distance safely. Congratulations to all the participants on a very successful journey that allowed us to stay connected, be part of a team while staying fit and healthy. Prizes were awarded last week to those who achieved the best in the Camino.







## Great News for Lauren

6th Year student Lauren Whelan received some long-awaited great news on December 2nd. Following a lengthy campaign of letters, petitions, protests and pleas, Lauren finally received her first injection of Spinraza on December 3rd. Lauren, who has Spinal Muscular Atrophy has been fighting the HSE and successive ministers for Health to make the life changing drug Spinraza available to her and others who suffer from her condition. Despite the drug being approved nationally in June 2019, Lauren had to wait a further 17 months for the drug to be administered to her. However, at the time of going to print, she has just had her second treatment, and everything is going as planned. Lauren and her fellow year group received national news coverage when they protested outside Dail Eireann alongside SMA Ireland in September 2018. Lauren herself was featured on the Ray D'Arcy show and several national news publications during the summer. We all wish you continued success in your treatments Lauren.



## Remember:

-  You can download our school app from your app store
-  Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and our YouTube Channel.
-  New School Website launching in early 2021.
-  Keep up to date on all our news, and more pictures on

[www.loretocrumlin.ie](http://www.loretocrumlin.ie)





# College Awareness Week 2020



The annual College Awareness week took place this year from November 23rd-27th. College visits were sadly a core element that was missing from this year's event, but plenty did take place.

Teachers' qualifications and colleges they attended were posted on classroom doors so that students can see, at a glance, the paths to employment that their teachers made. Mr. Lenehan worked with his year group, the Second Years about what their dream job is and how they go about getting there.

A College Connections Webinar was organised for all 6th years. This featured panellists including an Irish Traveller, a mature student and an asylum seeker as well as students who progressed to higher education with a further

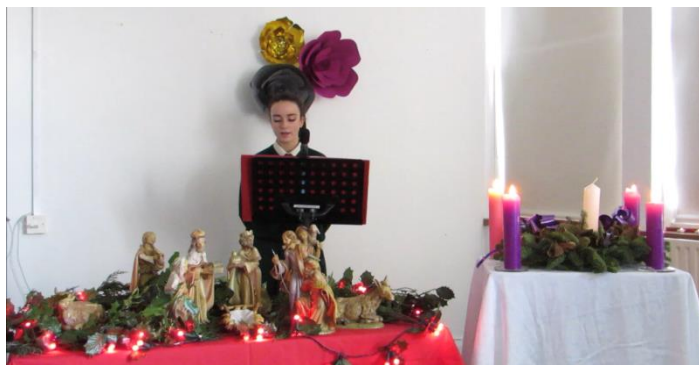
education qualification and students who entered higher education through the Higher Education Access Route (HEAR) and the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE).

Inchicore College held a Zoom for all LCA students and some students in 6th year who want to do PLCs.

Later that day, past pupil of the class of 2017 and winner of the 2020 Student Journalist of the Year Award, Jade Wilson hosted a talk for students who were interested in an Arts Degree and Journalism.

5th and 6th years also watched a video showing past pupils such as, among others, Ciara Mullins, Holly Keating, Taylor Smith and Erica Byrne. These past pupils talked about their courses and experiences applying for college as well as life in their chosen colleges. It was great for our current senior students to get real life experience from past pupils as to how their college experience had been and what to expect.

There was a great follow up session to College Awareness Week in the form of a CAO information evening was held for all 6th years and their parents on December 10th, given by former member of staff, Debbie Horgan.



## Ember Team

Our newly formed Ember team have been very busy this term.

In November they set up a display of a lighthouse and candles to mark the month of the Holy Souls; a month of remembrance. There was a box alongside so that students could put in the names of loved ones who have passed away. These names were then entered into a special book which was lovingly prepared by the Ember Team.

On 12th November there was a special day of remembrance services for each of the classes. It gave us all an opportunity to especially remember our loved ones that have gone before us.

During December, led by our chaplain Mr. O'Reilly, the Ember team went about devising a carol service that we could all enjoy together on the final day of term, but at a safe distance. Helped by Ms. Ryan, the team came up with a beautiful service that brought the true meaning of Christmas alive through the screens in our classroom on the last day of term. They were aided by a group of 3rd, 5th and 6th year Music students who rehearsed and recorded a selection of carols in a COVID friendly way, so that that the carols we all know and love such as 'Silent Night' and O' Holy Night' could ring out through our school.

