



# Cluny Chronicles

FIRST EDITION

DECEMBER 2021



## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- From the Principal's Desk
- Library News
- Destinations 2021 LC
- Students' work
- Sports pages
- Career Office Update

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## TY Journalists Report on School Events & Activities

### Time to Relax—TY Recommendations

Sorcha Kearns & Jule Hoefler give you their recommendations to let the festive spirit bring you JOY

#### Top 6 Christmas movies

- *The Elf*
- *Love actually*
- *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street*
- *The Grinch*
- *Arthur Christmas*
- *Polar Express*

#### **Review: Miracle on the 34<sup>th</sup> street by Jule Hoefler**

Miracle on the 34<sup>th</sup> Street is one of my favourite Christmas movies and no matter how often I watch this movie it never gets boring. It is about Kris Kringle, who starts to work in a department store. Unfortunately, nobody believes that he is the real Santa. Through the movie he tries to persuade Susan and Susan's mum that he is real. This Christmas movie is so beautiful, and the storyline is interesting. It is a perfect movie to watch with your family on the Christmas days. It is charming and a classic holiday tale.



Maybe Music warms your soul!

Try these recommendations



#### **Top 10 Christmas songs**

- All I want for Christmas- Mariah Carey
- Merry Christmas everyone- Shakin' Stevens
- Rockin' around Christmas tree- Brenda Lee
- Santa Claus is coming to town- the Jackson 5
- Underneath the tree- Kelly Clarkson
- Sleigh Ride- The Ronettes
- It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas- Michael Buble
- Jingle bell rock- Bobby Helms
- Last Christmas- Wham!
- Fairy tale in New York- The Pogues



# Time to Relax continued



## Top 5 Adele's songs

- Chasing Pavements
- Easy on me
- Set fire to the rain
- When we were young
- Rolling in the deep

## Adele '30' becomes 2021's top selling album in just three days - Jule Hoefler

All of us waited for the album to come out and now it's finally there. The songs are already trending everywhere. Once again, it was worth the wait and the new album is brilliant. She put so much emotion into the songs and touched everyone. It is referred to the most personal album of Adele and people are here for it. She is really telling a story with her songs. Especially the song "Easy on Me" is amazing. If you haven't already listened to her new album, I would highly recommend doing so.

## Books by Sorcha Kearns

My top three book recommendations

### Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

*Little Women* is a classic novel that tells the story of four sisters trying to make their way as young women in a man dominated world. This novel is perfect for curling up in a blanket with hot chocolate in your hand for the winter.

### This Poison Heart by Kalyrn Bayron

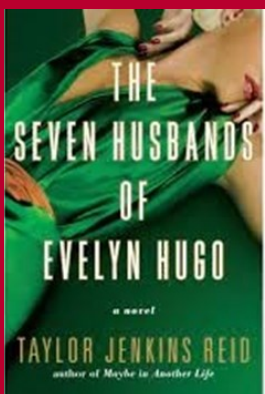
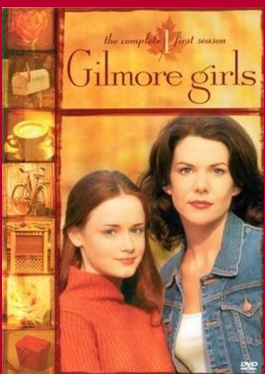
*Gilmore Girls* is perfect for a cold afternoon in winter with a hot chocolate. It is about a mother-daughter duo, Lorelei and Rory, who are best friends. Lorelei had Rory when she was 16 and raised her alone. The show starts when Rory is 16 and focuses on the daily lives of Lorelei and Rory. The first few episodes are about Rory getting into Chilton, but not having enough money to pay for it. In order to afford it Lore-

lei must ask for help from their parents, who she ran away from when she was 16. I really enjoyed the series because I loved all the characters. I also really enjoyed watching Rory growing up and learning from her mistakes. It never gets boring as the storyline is versatile. I also learned a lot as it is about growing up and the importance of the relationship with your parents.

*This Poison Heart* is a great fantasy novel about a young girl who has always had strange connection with plants that she has never truly understood. Then one day a lawyer comes to inform her that her aunt, she had never heard of passed away and left everything including a large house in a small town. Once arriving at the house, the mysteries keep piling up with secret rooms, secretive people and a secret garden. I would recommend this to anyone who enjoys mystery; this book had me at the edge of my seat by the end.

### The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo by Taylor Jenkins Reid.

*The seven husbands of Evelyn Hugo* is about a young journalist Monique is trying to find her way in her career. Famous actor, Evelyn Hugo, will only allow Monique to interview her for a Vivant Magazine article. Monique had no idea the difference this interview will make in her life. I found this book captivating and it had great twist in the end that made my jaw drop.



Caption



## From the Principal's Desk

As I write, the students are working hard and looking forward to the end of their exams. The school is looking very festive, and the Christmas Cheer committee's 'A Sustainable Christmas' theme has been a great success. Classroom doors are decorated beautifully using recycled materials. We are looking forward to sharing our Christmas Carol service with you virtually on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December, in lieu of our usual event. The staff and students have really helped bring some seasonal sparkle to the school.



Of course, the Christmas edition of our newsletter is an integral part of any Cluny Christmas, and I would like to congratulate Ms. Regan and the TY editorial team on a superb production. I hope you enjoy the wide range of student work included.

It has been another busy year at the school. Once again, our Leaving Certificate Students did Cluny proud, with a tremendous set of results. The girls deserve our congratulations as these results were achieved in times of adversity. It was wonderful to see them enjoying their Debs in October and finally be able to come together to celebrate and mark an end to their years at Cluny. We all wish them well in the future.

The Board of Management are continuing to look at ways to improve our campus. We are delighted to have our new hockey lights shining brightly now that all planning issues are successfully resolved. All the coaches and teams are training hard and making the most of the excellent facilities. Our sports teams have been successful, and I am delighted to say that there are high levels of participation in all sports. It is so important for the girls' wellbeing, health, and sense of community. We are delighted this year to have Ms. Stephanie Murphy take up the role of Sports Co-ordinator.

We have an impressive round up of sporting achievements so far this season:

### Hockey

Senior 1<sup>st</sup>'s are a great position to progress out of their Leinster League Section. They have had wins over Sandford Park and a very close tough win against Dundalk Grammar.

Senior 2<sup>nd</sup>'s have been drawn in a tough Leinster League group and suffered the narrowest of defeats to Wesley College. They have St Andrew's College next in their league so will be looking for a bounce back effort.



### Junior Hockey

Our Junior group are working hard to get the first win under the belt.

Our international students have really taken to our game and to the cold!! Our Juniors will be looking to the second half of the season and to the Dublin South Dublin League to bring their winning ways back on track.

### Minors and First Years

Our Minors will start their Leinster League after Christmas and the first years have their league after Christmas.

### Badminton

Badminton Dublin League competitions got going with 28 schools:

U19 have played all their games and are awaiting to see if they have the winning spot or the runner-up placing in this competition

U16 are awaiting for final results to see if they have got the 1<sup>st</sup> Place or the runner-up position in the Dublin League

These placing will allow our U19 and U16 team to go into the Leinster Finals.

Great news for the U17 Badminton Team – they have just qualified for the Leinster Badminton Finals in February.

Under 14s competitions commences after Christmas.



# From the Principal's Desk continued

## Soccer

Our soccer training has been fast and fun with our International Soccer Player / Coach Stephanie Roche. Our Under 17's are in Quarter finals of the FAI Junior Cup Competition.



## Basketball

The U16 team missed out by one game for the quarter finals of the Leinster.

Senior Basketball players got to the Semi-finals of the Leinster competitions, and were just beaten by Castleknock 36 – 28



## Volleyball

Our students have all been practising every Friday for their volleyball matches. They are looking forward to playing in a tournament in January with Rockford Manor.

Congratulations to all the parents, students and coaches, great teamwork brings success! Congratulations to the following students:

Anna Watson – represented the school and Ireland in the International Board of Athletic Schools meet in Derbyshire UK

Tara Leahy - Dublin GAA Panel

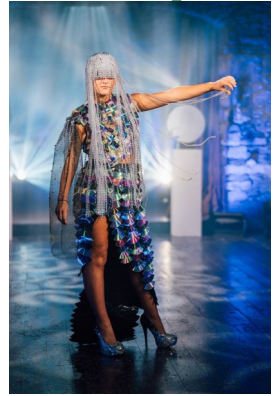
Mia McEntee - Dublin Basketball Panel

Charlotte McNamara - Leinster Hockey Development Trials

Ciara Fitzpatrick - Leinster Hockey Development Trials

Congratulations also to our Past Pupil Caoimhe Dempsey who was part of the Cambridge University's women's crew which triumphed over Oxford in the Boat Race.

Our creative students have represented St. Joseph of Cluny with distinction. Cluny has once again reached the national finals in the Junk Kouture competition. Well done to our finalists Emily Daly, Isobel Heeney, and Lola May Howard.



We are in awe of all the hard work done by Ms. Wolahan, Ms O'Keeffe and Ms. O'Brien who are working hard in our Junk Kouture module along with Clare Garvey our artist-in-residence and dress maker of world renown.

The Arts and Drama have a strong presence in our school, and we are delighted to have Ms Dwyer on board working to provide after school drama. Ms Dwyer is also our Musical director, and we look forward to the Easter production of the Transition Year musical 'Grease Lightning' in tandem with our Music department, led by Ms. Masterson.

As ever, we have many new and ongoing initiatives at St. Joseph of Cluny. As a school, we are very proud of our unique Christian ethos and the new Chaplaincy Team is doing sterling work. The spiritual life of our community sustains us, especially in challenging times. We have new Eucharistic ministers and continued to hold spiritual Retreats for the year groups, which were a welcome respite and offered the girls time to reflect and connect with one another.

The school Wellbeing Committee worked extremely hard this term. The committee put a lot of work into arranging speakers, activities and awareness raising events for Mental Health week, which was very successful. We are on track to have our Amber Flag ready in 2022. We also ran a very successful awareness week for LGBTQI in November.





## From the Principal's Desk continued

A new Board of Management for St. Joseph of Cluny was constituted in November, and we are delighted to welcome our new Ms. Margaret Donoghue as our new Board Chair. I would also like to thank the members of the previous Board for their great support over the last few years, especially our chairperson, Ms. Marian McCaughley. In conjunction with the Board, staff committees are putting a lot of time and thought into updating school policies. Subject coordinators are working with academic departments on updating and refreshing our Whole School Plan. Creating policy is an important, and often unseen, aspect of school management, as it helps shape our focus for the future and enables us to recommit to our goals and ethos. Our staff work hard on curriculum planning, and it is reflected in the high quality of educational experience enjoyed by our students. It must also be said that The Parents' Association are an integral part of this process, and I would like to personally thank them for their continued support and all the work they do on behalf of the school. It is much appreciated.

As well as the ongoing day-to-day work in the school, our commitment to being compliant with Covid regulations is ongoing and we completed a successful inspection this term. We will continue to follow government guidelines and hope for safer times ahead. My sincere thanks to all the school community for their compliance and support in what is a difficult time for us all. I would like to pay a special tribute to Ms. Lambert our Deputy Principal for all her work. Thanks to our Year Heads and Assistant Principals for their work with the students. A special word of thanks to our teaching staff who endured the many changes to their working environment throughout the pandemic and did so with good grace and understanding and continued to provide a first-class teaching experience for the girls. This year we were delighted to welcome Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kavanagh, and Ms. Masterson to the school, and said a fond goodbye to Mr. Moriarty and Ms. Geraghty.

I would like to thank coaches, extra-curricular coordinators for their sterling work. A special word of thanks to our amazing Administration team of Ms. Annette Hudson and Ms. Trish Shanley as well as our caretaker, Mr. Martin O'Leary. The day-to-day finances and facilities are under the watchful eye of Ms. Clare Hanney and I would like to thank her for all her hard work. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all sincerely for their enduring work ethic and commitment to the students at the school. Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Furthermore, I would like to extend my thanks to the Aoife and Alicia our Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl for their ongoing support in what has, once again, been a challenging year. It must be said that the girls' response to ongoing Covid 19 restrictions and difficulties has been fantastic. At this point, we all feel a certain fatigue with the pandemic, so their ongoing cooperation and positive attitude is genuinely appreciated. A lot is being done to support our students, especially by our Pastoral Care Team and Ms. McFarland. We all wish for brighter days ahead in 2022.

I would like to wish you all a happy and holy Christmas. It gives us all much-needed time to pause, reflect and spend time with our families and friends. As Norman Vincent Peale observed; "*Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.*" A Merry Christmas to all.

Ben Healy



# Library News

We have had a busy term so far here in Cluny Library!

In the first few weeks of term, we ran library inductions for class groups. The library induction introduced students to the library services we offer including quiet study space at lunch time, library clubs, how to borrow a book and navigating the library. During each induction, at least 10 minutes of browsing time was also allocated to give students a chance to browse and borrow some books.

Well done to our TY library committee! The girls have been busy planning events and activities for the whole school to enjoy. This year's committee is Shauna Brocklesby, Niela Rek, Tara Leahy, Keelin O'Byrne, Mimi Birchall, Sarah Grumley, Shannon Downing, Lucy Turley and Alice Walker.

We have reintroduced the puzzle of the week for students. Each week a new puzzle, ranging from riddles to mathematical puzzles, is circulated to all students and posted outside the library. Students have the week to solve the puzzle and enter for a chance to win a prize if they get the correct answer each Friday.

We have also introduced a new lunchtime club in the last few weeks. Twice a week at Games Society, board games and activities are available in the library for students to try out. From Scrabble to chess, we have games for everyone.

Thank you to Ms. Torpey for helping in running and organizing this club.

We also ran introduction to research workshops for senior history and economics students. This workshop introduced students to key concepts of searching for academic information online. Advice included always checking who wrote the piece, is it factually correct, is the site reliable and more.

To celebrate Halloween, we decorated the library in terrifying style. From a mini-graveyard to spider webs lining the shelves, students enjoyed finding all the decorations. We ran a Halloween quiz for the first years as well. Well done!

We also ran an art and creative competition for Halloween as part of

the Inktober tradition. Inktober is a popular themed art challenge where artists try to create a piece based on a prompt. Well done to Paula Moreno Rubio in 3Y for winning with her piece inspired by the prompt 'Raven'. Senior students and third years also took part in introduction to referencing workshops. Students learned about referencing systems and why we use them. During the second half of the workshop, students tried referencing library books in Harvard and MLA referencing styles.

In November, we ran our History of Animation Week here in the library. Students explored the origins of animation from the very first animated piece to the founding of some of the largest and popular animation houses such as Disney and Studio Ghibli. Animation studio Boulder Media came in to give a talk to students on working as an animator. Neila and Sarah also ran a workshop for the first years, teaching them how to make their own animations

in FlipaClip. Well done to all!

We have our Christmas decorations up now in the library. Over the month we are holding a name the library elf competition, a Christmas readathon and holding lots of themed events. Keep an eye out for new on bingo and lots

more!

Be sure to check out the [latest edition of the library newsletter](#) as well on the library website.

New editions are published every two months.

We upload news, competitions, events and more regularly. Our research guides and help sheets are currently being updated. We hope you find these useful.



# People in Cluny—Interviews with ...

## SHE'S A RUNNER! SHE'S A TRACKSTAR!

Jessica Cullinan and Shannon Downing's Interview with **Anna Watson**

Anna Watson is a Transition Year student who enjoys many sports such as GAA and hockey but has been doing especially well in athletics. She recently ran for Ireland in the 3000 m race (7 times around the track) in England on the 25th of September 2021. She placed 5th and our school was so proud of Anna. Here is what Anna has to say about her experience: Anna said she has been a member of many different athletics clubs over the years but recently advanced last year when she joined Bray Runners. She expressed

that she was extremely shocked and incredibly happy when she discovered her success and realised that she would be running for Ireland. She was delighted to find out that she had achieved her goal. The Cluny family are so proud of Anna and thrilled with her achievements. We cannot wait to see what she accomplishes next.



**Anna on the podium First Place!**

## Person behind the Drama! Claudia O'Dwyer

### GREASE LIGHTNING is coming to a stage near you!!

We recently interviewed our musical production manager and director Claudia O'Dwyer. She had a lot to say about the musical and how excited she was to produce and direct it. We are delighted that we got the opportunity to ask her about the musical

**Jess:** Hi Ms O Dwyer, we are so happy to have you here today and thrilled to have you producing and directing our TY musical. What are your aspirations for the musical?

**O'Dwyer:** Thank you girls for this interview very pleased to be here. Aspirations would be to achieve a well-produced show, all inclusive, where everyone is dedicated to produce a good performance.

**Shannon:** That would be excellent. We are delighted to be part of the show! What elements go into the production of a musical?

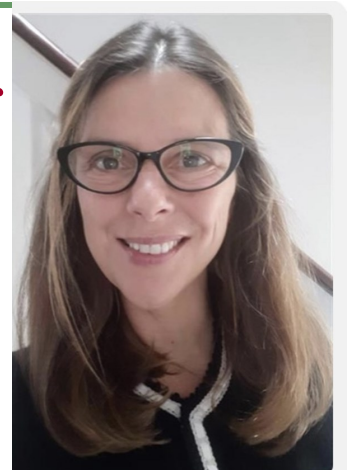
**O'Dwyer:** Like any production there are many elements to it, if you think back to your nativity play in junior school you had to learn lines, get a costume together with help of your parents or teacher, learn the songs in school, perform the show with many days of practice in between. For a musical like this, it's the same but a lot, lot bigger and the production is made up of many groups of TY students who help bring it together, the groups are, wardrobe, props, sets, front of house, public relations, sound, lights, etc. - and the cast who have singing, dancing and acting to do, all go to make up the elements of this musical.

**Jess:** Wow that a lot of work. How do you feel the rehearsals are going?

**O'Dwyer:** So far, it's very early days as we have just started but I would say very promising and a lot more to do.

**Shannon:** We are all enjoying the rehearsals so much. Are you excited for the months ahead?

**O'Dwyer:** Yes, tremendously excited!





# Student Work Section

Authors: Neila Rek, An Takahashi & Shauna Brocklesby



IW RE were learning about Blessed Annemarie Javouhey as the founder of the St. Joseph of Cluny Order

# Student Work Section continued



## Eelgrass Sea Hare by Kai Colgan

A sea hare is a green sea slug with black stripes similar to a zebra. It has 2 'tentacles' on top of its head called rhinophores, which it uses to find food. For sea hares, their main diet consists of eelgrass. These eelgrass hares live off the Pacific Coast of North America, this is where the eelgrass grows. Sea hares graze all day, although it doesn't eat the grass. It uses its radula, rows of petal shaped teeth, to scrape the grass for microscopic algae that coats it.

By doing this, the algae on the eelgrass is eaten by the sea hare, letting more sunlight hit the plants, so the grass can keep growing. Sea grass

meadows help control erosion and absorb carbon from the atmosphere.

Sea grass ecosystems are rapidly disappearing, such as Elkon Slough. Massive algae blooms were appearing and there weren't enough sea hares to handle this. This is because sea otters were missing. They were hunted for their fur. Luckily, sea otters were reintroduced in 1980 and things started to improve. Without the sea otters, sea hares were eaten by crabs, which rapidly decreased their numbers, and there were no sea otters to eat the crabs anymore.

Now even with extreme algae blooms, eelgrass can flourish. This is called 'trophic cascade', when a top predator, such as an otter, helps to keep an ecosystem in balance.

## International Students:

For the Language day, TY Physics built structures to represent the tallest building in the countries of all our International students. (They had limited equipment and it had to support the weight of a Marble).

Alana Hurley and Sophie Glynn, made a model of the Kyoto Tower.

Tara Leahy and Sarah Grumley, created a model of the Kiev Tower with limited resources during physics class.



## Language Day – Riko Takasugi

On Language Day, I learned about lots of countries. We learned Yoga through Italian in the morning. Italian was too difficult for me but it was so fun to learn. That made me feel relaxed and comfortable. I've never experienced Yoga before so it was interesting.

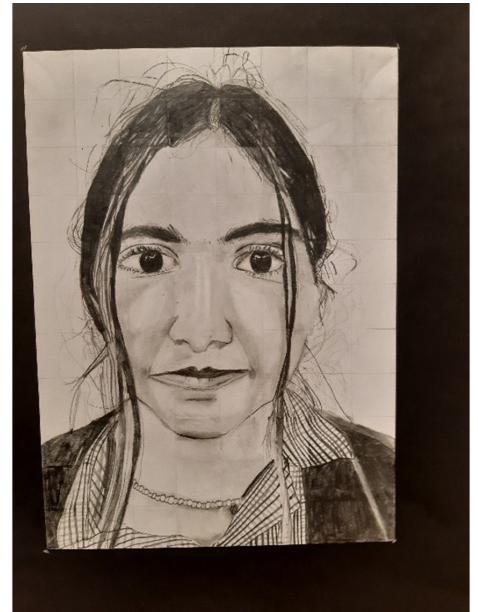
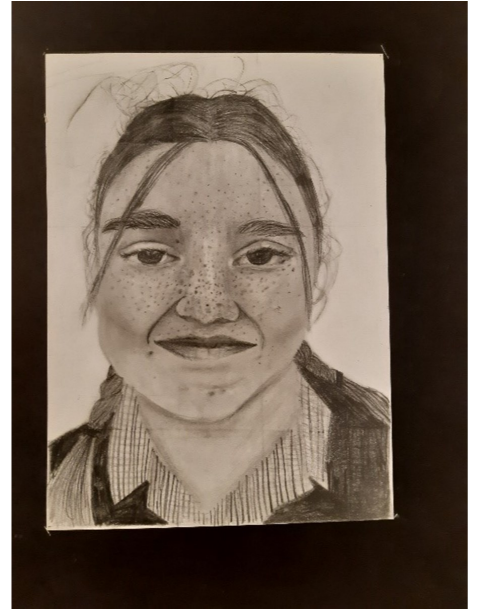
In the afternoon, we did a language quiz. I learned lots about different cultures from it. Then my classmate, who is from Germany student, did presentation about her country. I did not know anything about Germany, she told us about German and German culture. German pronunciation is difficult!!! But I want to learn more someday.

After that, my Japanese friend and I did presentation together about our country. We taught some Japanese and about the Japanese culture to my classmates. I heard that none of students never been to Japan before, so I think it was good presentation for them. Then, a Spanish student did presentation about their country. They showed us Spanish food and it looked delicious. We also did flamenco dancing. It was so interesting!



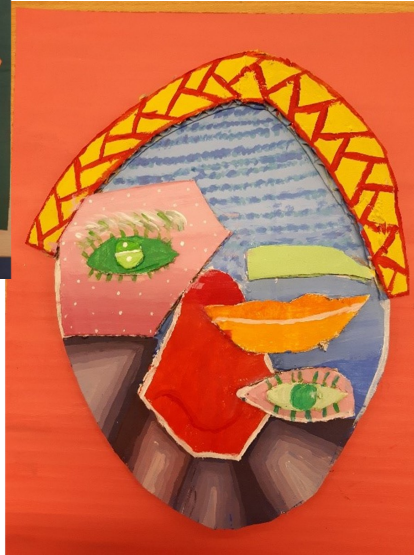


# Students Work Section continued—2nd Yr Artwork

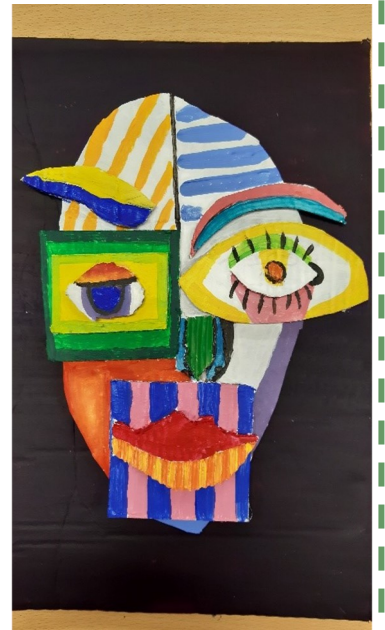
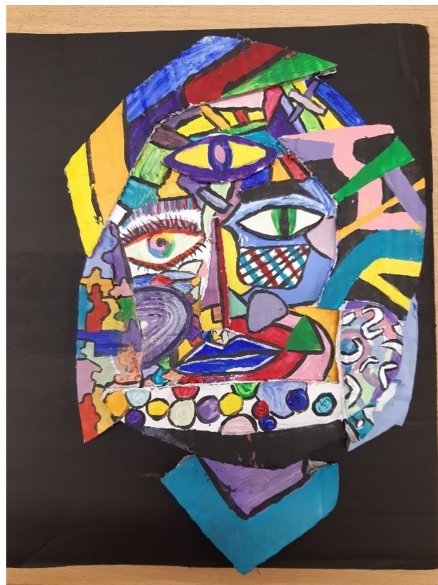




# Student Work Section—2nd Yr Artwork



A splash of colour



# Sports in Cluny -

## Hockey Update, New Players Welcome

There has been many matches on, 24<sup>th</sup> of November and the senior 1's were playing against Gerard's and the score was 0-3. The minors played a match against Our Lady, and they won 3-0. Ms. Seymour, Heather, Simon and Ms. Murphy are open to looking for new players. Hockey is on Monday and Wednesday for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years. It's also on Tuesday for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year and hockey on Thursday for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year



*Join in the fun, be part of a team, something for everyone.*

**Authors:**  
*Liadh Burns, Christina McCoy & Lea Moloney*

## Badminton, New Players Welcome

The Badminton matches came to a start for the season on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> of November, where U19 senior team (Aoife Whelan, Grace Watson, Bella Callaghan and Roisin O'Connor) played Holy Faith, Clontarf. The Junior U16 team's matches have commenced, where Sofia Kiefel, Grace Larkin, Lucy Turley and Shauna Brocklesby take on Holy Faith's U16 team. Ms. Kelly is always open to new eager players, so for anyone interested, training takes place every Wednesday and Friday in the Sports Hall.



# Multi-sports House Games

Multisports took place over the month of November. Students competed in their House Teams. The final took place on 6<sup>th</sup> December with St. Lucia will be playing against Fiji.

The crowned winner was **Fiji**





## Cluny Football team



The Cluny Football Team started this year with huge help from former Irish national player Stephanie Roche. Stephanie is the team coach and is devoted to helping girls keep their interest in sports as they get older. The football team had an impressive turnout, with over 30 students interested in making the team. The team competed well in their first Cup competition and managed to get to the quarter final stage before being knocked out by Ramsgrange Community College although,

the score wasn't representative of the strong showing by the Cluny team. A standout player on the Cluny side was Maedbh Hanney, who was recently as DLR Waves Player of the Match in her club U17 Shield Final. Even though Cluny didn't win this one, there are more matches and competitions to come, and this was great experience in their first year together as a team.



## Basketball

The U16s basketball team started off their season with a great win against Loreto Dalkey at home, unfortunately this followed by 2 losses against St. Andrews and Loreto Bray. The U16s aren't going down without a fight and are going to play hard to get a spot in quarter final.

On another note our senior basketball team is undefeated this season so far and are planning on keeping it that way. The senior team have played and beat Loreto Dalkey and St. Andrews, their next match is against Holy Child Killiney. Rumours have it that the Cluny senior team have a strong chance of a secure place in the quarter final for this season.

A huge well done to Mia McEntee in Second Year who has been selected for the Leinster U15s basketball team.



## Recognition Award

Ed Randolph, our Basketball coach and PE teacher, has received a nationwide recognition for his dedication to sport in 2021 Federation of Irish Sport Volunteers in Sport Awards. A very well done to Ed: it is well-deserved. We are so proud of you!



**Also Volleyball is starting in Cluny on Monday at lunch and Friday afterschool 4:30-5:30 so make sure to attend.**



# Subject Department News



## Home Ec. Events

We have loads going on in Home Economics at the moment. First Years are in the process of making some Christmas decorations and stockings. Second Years are making tote bags using tie-dye methods, sequins and appliqué. TYs made some little stuffed bunnies with Ms. O'Brien, which were then donated to the Shoebox Appeal so hopefully some kids somewhere else in the world will enjoy getting them for Christmas.

In Culinary Arts, The TYs are making some delicious Christmas cakes soon and they will be on display for the school to see.

## Maths

Maths Week took place on 18<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October. There were quizzes for the different years, a treasure hunt, and a talk from a statistician from Maynooth University.

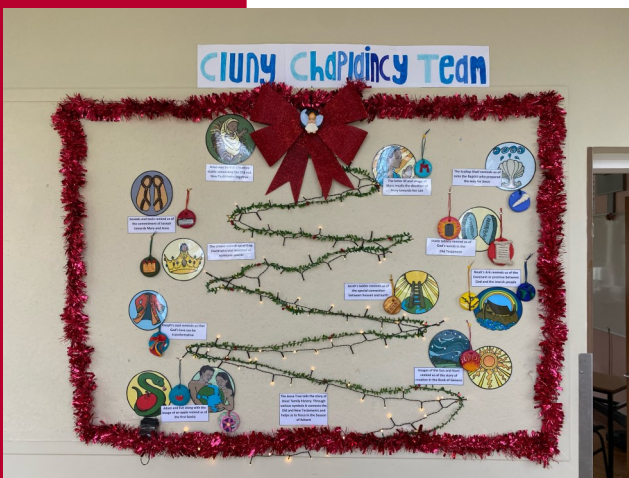
## English

St. Joseph of Cluny entered the 2021 MS Readathon. Throughout November our school went on a magical quest filled with adventure and mystery – all for one incredible cause. The students read as many books as they could in one month to raise awareness and funds for people living with Multiple Sclerosis. Our students raised €135 over the course of November. The winners of the Readathon were Ava Daly in 1<sup>st</sup> year, Niamh Sheehan in 2<sup>nd</sup>, Paula Rubio in 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mimi Birchall in transition year, Laura O'Leary in 5<sup>th</sup> and, out of the staff unsurprisingly, our school librarian Ms Curtin.

## Religion

The RE Department is also very busy with all the Christmas festivities. As Advent has begun the candles have been set up in the foyer. The first candle was lit by 1<sup>st</sup> years. There has especially been a lot of work done by the Chaplaincy Team including a Jesse tree outside of Mr. White's classroom. The tree helps us to remember our own family trees. During November, all the students were included in making a Remembrance Tree, where the names of lost loved ones and family members were written on leaves, decorated and then stuck to the tree.

Authors: Heather McGowan & Eve Forsyth



Jesse Tree by 1st Yrs

# Cluny Clubs and Committees

## LGBTQIA+

The LGBTQIA+ society organised some amazing events during Stand-Up Week from the 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> of November. We had quizzes and classes all through the week to teach us about gender identity and struggles members face, how to help them and make sure they feel comfortable to express themselves.

On Monday, we raised the pride flag and had a Pride Bake Off was judged by Ms. O'Brien and Ms. Wolahan. Well done to the winner, Ava Daly in first year!

On Tuesday, there was a drag queen make up tutorial on in the Art Room and bracelet making.

On Thursday, we all dressed up in colours of the rainbow to make a human pride flag!

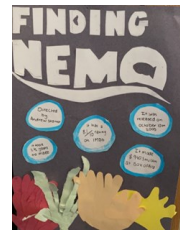
To finish off an amazing and educational week the drag queen, Avoca Reaction (Drag performer, came to Cluny and gave us an amazing performance! Thank you to Ms. O'Keeffe and Ms. Regan for organising the events – we loved them!



## Library Committee

The TY Library committee meet every Thursday at lunchtime. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of November, the committee organised lots of events in the library for Animation Week. They made beautiful posters of different animated movies.

On Tuesday, members of Boulder Media Animation Studio came in to talk about their work to TYs. There was a Kahoot quiz and books about animation. On Thursday, two members of the Library Committee taught the first years how to do basic animation! The group is starting to prepare for Christmas festivities and planning a Harry Potter week for January! Also in the library, there games society meet every Tuesday and Wednesday at lunch to play new and old games. The favourites currently are scrabble, Jenga and memory games!



## Philosophy Club—New Members Welcome

Mr. McLaughlin and Ms. O'Keeffe run the Philosophy Club every three weeks on Thursday. The club has entered the all-Ireland Philosophy Championship, with special guest Michael D Higgins! They have just under 30 members but are always looking for more! Two of the members, Evie Miller and Saoirse Whelan are writing a philosophy book!

**“should we add  
pineapple on  
pizza? if not why  
do we allow  
tomato” ~Mr  
McLoughlin  
01/12/21**

# Debating and Public Speaking

In St. Joseph of Cluny, Ms. McEvoy runs a public speaking and debating club. In this club, students come together to voice their opinions and gain confidence in speaking publicly.

Students from Third Year recently competed in the UCD Junior Schools Debating Competition. We entered three teams of two students- Grace Groake and Emma Jane Hughes, Tia Harford and Gwendolyn Nolan, and Sofia Kiefel Florez and Lauren Foley. In this competition, schools from Leinster came together to debate controversial motions for example, regarding private schools, parenting classes, climate change and political contributions. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the competition was held over ZOOM.

The first round was nerve-racking, as we had never participated in a competition. It was a great experience for us to meet other students from other schools and to hear the opinions that they gave. We were extremely successful in these rounds, with each team placing in at least one debate! It really helped us expand our public speaking abilities. More rounds will be held after Christmas. Finger crossed for our speakers!

Tia Harford and Lauren Foley, 3W.



Photo  
Junior  
Leinster  
School  
Team  
21/22

## Concern Debating

Concern is a charity working to tackle extreme poverty across the world by addressing its causes directly. Factors contributing to this poverty include war, climate change, and hunger. The debates run by Concern address these issues and what can and should (or shouldn't) be done to help people living in poverty.

My teammates, Roísín, Bella, Ellen and I have taken part in three debates so far. Our topics have ranged from Climate Action to Space Exploration.

Our first motion was "School Climate Strikes are an effective way to combat climate change" and we opposed this motion. We argued that the strikes were counter effective and have so far been unsuccessful in achieving real change. We were successful and the motion was not carried.

Our second motion was that "The problem of World Hunger is insurmountable" and we opposed this motion as well. The girls and I enjoyed opposing this motion. While Concern motions always involve serious world problems, they often involve arguments for or against solutions to these problems. This, admittedly, can sometimes be pessimistic. This was my favourite debate because we got to argue for the side of hope. We also won this debate.

Our third and final motion in the league phase was "It's simply wrong for billionaires like Bezos, Branson and Musk to 'joyride' to space with so many problems back on earth". Thankfully, we proposed this motion, as we all felt very strongly that we need to fix our problems here on Earth first!

The Concern debates are not only highly enjoyable but also educational. The debates are a great way for students to become up to date on current affairs and world issues. Preparing the speeches is also fantastic English practice, as one of the essay styles for Leaving Cert focuses on the language of argument and persuasion. I would highly recommend getting involved any student thinking of participating. By Kara Cummins, 6<sup>th</sup> Year.



Photo  
below  
Concern  
Debating  
Team



# Green Schools Committee

The Green Schools committee has been very busy this term. The first half of the term we gave the school a presentation giving them tips and suggestions for sustainable alternatives such as bamboo toothbrushes and metal straws. During Climate Action week, we ran lots of initiatives, including a no waste lunch day, a walk to school day and a pledge drive where we asked every student in the school to undertake one action to help combat climate change. Students' actions ranged from cooking a meat free meal, to taking public transport instead of getting a lift. Our TYs also did a beach clean with Flossy and The Beach Cleaners.

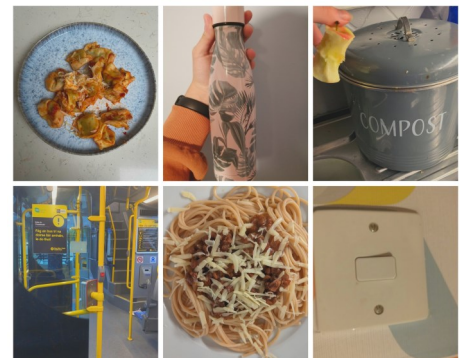


Our TYs also did a beach clean with Flossy and The Beach Cleaners.

Cop-26 took place this term and we were lucky enough to be able to organise for the school to watch some webinars from the event. The whole school enjoyed a webinar on fast fashion, and learnt so much from it. In October, we had a fashion show at Halloween, and one of the prizes was for most sustainable costume. We had some great, homemade costumes with the top costumes awarded prizes. The committee also got busy with the 'Bulbs for Bees' challenge, helping the TYs and Mrs Wolahan plant some flower bulbs in the meadow beside our beehives.

We are organising a lot of Christmas events too! The Green Schools committee made a video, giving tips and suggestions on how to have a sustainable Christmas (find it on the Cluny Instagram). We are also organising a competition for homemade Christmas decorations with recycled materials. We can't wait to see what everyone makes! Finally, we are also running a drive to collect old wrapping paper to be used in art projects in the New Year. We are encouraging students to bring in their old wrapping paper in January to give it a new lease of life!

BY Kate Lysaght Walsh, 5<sup>th</sup> Year.



## Choir/Orchestra

The Christmas Carol Service cannot take place in school this year however the members will record their performance and it will be available to watch on by the week of the 13<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a choir, ukulele band and the orchestra involved in the production, organised by Ms. Masterson and Ms. McAnenly. Rehearsals at lunch on Tuesday and after school on Wednesday.

## SVP Society

The SVP Society organised a pyjama day on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> of November. They raised €1600 for SVP in Sallynoggin! Just after the October midterm, they also organised and collected for Shoe Box appeal.



# TY Highlights



## Movie Magic:

Movie Magic was a workshop the TY students took part in about creating movies. They learnt new skills like how to edit on iMovie, use special effects and even how to use green screens. They used equipment such as iPads, mics, and tripods. The students made their own iMovie in groups on anything they wanted and used the new skills they had learned. Afterwards they got to show each other their movies and had great fun.

## Zip It:

The TYs had an amazing day out zip-lining in the Dublin mountains ziplining. They took a bus early in the morning, and arrived to get all their equipment and gear before heading off to do a variety of exciting courses. At the end of the day, all the students got to do a very scary bungee jump off a high platform. The girls really enjoyed their day as they worked together and had a laugh.

## The Profile of Achievement

This took place in the library on 11<sup>th</sup> of November. Author, speaker and charity founder, Debbie Deegan came to and talk about her time in Russia and how she started 'To Children With Love'. It was remarkably interesting and empowering to hear how she did even though people told her it would not work or that it was a waste of money.

Once she had finished, all the previous Junior Cycle students received their certificate from Mr. Healy and all received an applause. After everyone had their certificate, we were told we had a surprise from Mr. Healy. We went down to the car park to see a food truck Mr. Healy was kind enough to have ordered for us! All in all a great day!

## Drumming Workshop:

The TYs took part in a really hands-on and musical-orientated workshop. A professional drummer, called Neill from 'Drum Nature', came into us to teach the TY students all about drums and the origin of the drums and their significance in Africa. They learned about how the African drums were made and how different tribes use them. The TYs learned how to play a traditional African tribal piece.



*"To catch the reader's attention place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."*





# TY Highlights continued

**Pumpkin Carving:**

Before we finished for the Halloween Break, Ms.O’Riordan surprised us with pumpkins to carve and decorate. We all really enjoyed this and it gave us a chance show our creative side. The competitive side came out in everyone when we learnt there was a prize for the best one. We all fought for first place and lots of fun.



**Debbie Deegan:**



Debbie Deegan kindly came into TY to tell her story. Debbie Deegan first started her journey when she visited an orphanage on a charity campaign, she was shocked by the poverty she witnessed and the neglect of the children. She saw this as an opportunity to a make change in

these children’s lives. She, with a group of friends, set up a charity called ‘To Russia with Love’. She fought for these children’s rights and education with the government to change laws surrounding the children’s educational privileges. Debbie transformed the orphanage into an immaculate home for these children. The facility includes tennis courts, basketball courts, a beauty room, and a new library. She also ensured that each child got to learn how to ride on and own a bike which was something that they had never experienced before. She changed a rundown, neglected, decaying and rotting orphanage into a comforting and loving home for these children. Debbie allowed the children to feel loved for the first time and changed their lives. One of the first students to graduate from the orphanage became a lawyer, due to Debbie’s hardship and determination. Debbie is an inspiration to all girls to make a change and never give up on what you believe in.

*We thank Ms. O’Riordan for planning all these amazing trips and talks and we are looking forward to future trips and adventures in the new year. TY as a whole has brought our year together, and so far, is allowing us too individually mature.*

# Time to treat yourself and enjoy the read





# TY Musical 2022 Preparations—Save the Date!

News from the Concert Hall and Stage at St Joseph of Cluny Killiney

We are delighted to say that Rehearsals have just started for GREASE THE MUSICAL with a full Cast. We have an enthusiastic and very talented TY group this year which is marvellous and all goes to making a great show, the Pink Ladies have been Cast and are getting into character with great ease. We also have been joined by the boys from Clonkeen College this year, so now we will have a Danny and his group of lads – who will Go Grease Lightning. The excitement is definitely beginning to bubble, with show tunes being hummed in the corridors. It is still very early days and everyone is getting to terms with the first show songs as the full cast will sing those, we then move on to dance which we will start this Friday learning the moves from the era and then combining the moves with the music.

We have dates for you for next year 6, 7,8 April are the nights of the Show and it will be held at the School ...it is not to be missed so pop those dates into your diary/phone now..... as we are looking forward to a full house every night. See you then

## CAST LIST

MISS LYNCH	CHRISTINA MCCOY
PATTY SIMCOX	KEELIN BYRNE
JAN	ANNA WATSON
MARTY	MIMI BIRCHALL
BETTY RIZZO	SOPHIE GLYNN
FRENCHY	UNA KEOGH
SANDY DUMBROWSKI	LUCY TURLEY
CHA-CHA DIGREGORIO	ALANA HURLEY
TEEN ANGEL	EVIE DOWLING
HEAD CHEARLEADERS	JESSICA CULLINAN AND HEATHER MCGOWAN
PRINCIPAL DANCERS	PAULA WASSONDELA, ALANA HURLEY AND ISABELLE WHITE



*Written by Eve Forsyth and Heather McGowan*

## Head Girl & Deputy Head Girl on 6th Yr Charity Events

This academic year has been jam-packed so far for us 6th years! As Head Girl (Aoife Whelan) and Deputy Head Girl (Alicia McCoy) in Cluny this year we hope to continue to foster a sense of fun, participation, and school spirit. Together with our 6th Year Class group we have enjoyed planning and organising events in our efforts to fund-raise for our 6th year nominated charity - Carmona School, Glenageary.

To date a very successful 'Silent Disco' was held in the concert hall in October which saw wonderful participation from the entire school community, including some eager teachers who were delighted to share their moves on the dance floor! Everyone was extremely generous with their donations towards our worthy cause. We have loved welcoming and getting to know our First Year Buddies at our 'Buddy Events' which we will continue to roll out across the academic year. We hope that all our new students in Cluny this year are settling in well and enjoying the various aspects of school life in Cluny. We are also hosting a Christmas Raffle Fundraiser with prizes galore!

We are delighted to have been given the opportunity to represent our student body in our final year at Cluny and we look forward to creating lots more memories in 2022. Alicia McCoy- Deputy Head Girl

# Science Week in Cluny

We had a very busy week during Science week, starting Monday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021. We had events throughout the week for all years. Some of these included

Talks on how the brain works for 1<sup>st</sup> years.



1<sup>st</sup> year and the Measurement Relay  
Winners : Eimear, Seren and Lily



## Wrapping Break

We collected our household plastic rubbish for the week. We looked at the different plastic types and their uses in our houses and how we might reduce it! This project is still in ac-

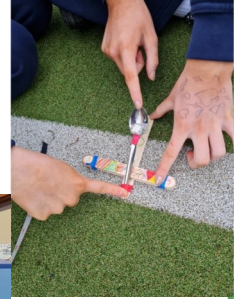
tion.....



2<sup>nd</sup> Years had a Science Kahoot quiz which the TYU devised for them.  
Winner – Ellen K



3<sup>rd</sup> Years had fun trying to design n effective Catapult and we had a competition to see who could fly their object the furthest



Winners: Ava M, Stephanie and Carla

Winners: Ava W, Daisy and Lauren

Winners: Anna, Sophia and Lucy K



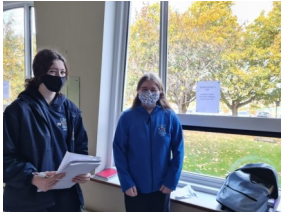
TY had the opportunity to make festive 'bioplastic' decorations from milk, in Biology with Ms Torpey



# Science Week in Cluny continued

5<sup>th</sup> years had a science Riddle race around the school –

Winners: Grace W and Ella H  
Winners: Katie W, Nina and Mia



6<sup>th</sup> years had our Deadly Dinners Competition.

Winners: Robyn, Susi and Alicia



*It was a busy week full of fun.....*

## Mental Health Week

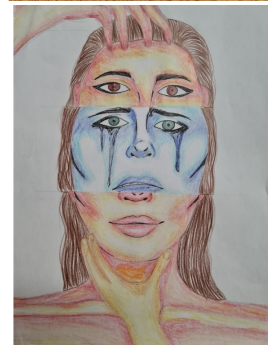
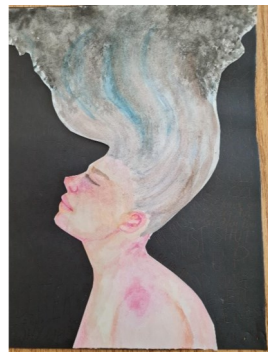
### Mental Health

The Mental Health and Amber Flag Committee are meeting every Tuesday lunch with Ms Mc Farland and Ms Torpey.

We got our t-shirts from Pieta the other week in preparation for an up and coming car wash event and Mr and Mrs quiz.....to be confirmed..... watch this space!!!!



We also had an inhouse mental health poster competition. The two main winners have been sent into a national competition with Mental Health Ireland. Wish them luck!!!! Clodagh O D and Paula R



The games club is a great success . It runs each Tuesday and Wednesday at lunch in the library.

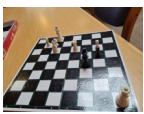
Ms Curtain and Ms Torpey oversee the club and we would love to invite anyone else to come and give us a game!!!

Ms Torpey introduced the practise of Tibetan Bell Sound Therapy during Mental Health Week recently and some of the students really enjoyed it and have requested more.

### Energy conversion models

We also had a lot of fun recently in 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Science building our energy conversion models.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas Best wishes from The Science Department and The Mental Health / Amber Flag Committee





# Leaving Certificate 2021 Outline of Results and Destinations

Congratulations to every student who completed the Leaving Certificate programme. It was a very difficult year for you all. We are extremely proud of you and wish you every happiness and success in your chosen careers.

Points	600 +	500-600	400-500	300-400	Under 300
% of students attaining	22.45%	46.94%	20.41%	4.08%	6.12%

## UCD

- Commerce x 3
- Commerce International
- Business and law
- Business studies
- Science x 3
- Medicine
- Children's and General Nursing x 1
- Economics, Politics, and International Relations
- Intellectual Disability Nursing
- Landscape Architecture
- Computational Science
- Health and Performance Science
- Economics
- Psychology x 4
- Global Studies
- Sports and Exercise Management
- Engineering
- Film and French
- Film and English
- Humanities



## TU DUBLIN

- International Business
- Human Nutrition and Dietetics.

## TRINITY

- English Literature and Film Studies
- Occupational Therapy
- Biological and Biomedical Science x 2
- Geography and French
- Medicine



## NUIG



## International Commerce

### GMIT

- Applied Freshwater and Marine Biology

### IADT

- Applied Psychology



### NCAD

- Art

### BRAY COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

- Television and Film Production

### PHOENIX PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

- Foundation Dance

### RATHMINES COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

- Marketing

### INSCHICORE COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

- Dance Studies

### PULSE COLLEGE

- Animation

### WORKING x 3



# Careers Office update

Firstly, I would like to welcome our First Years to Cluny. You have settled so well into Cluny life and have supported each other over the past three months. Well done to you all! We have started our Careers Project in our guidance class which we will continue after the Christmas break. It has been a pleasure working with you.

I will be organising individual guidance appointments after Christmas. This will give me an opportunity to get to know you a little better and for you to discuss any concerns you may have. We will also be covering Internet Safety and have scheduled a workshop for the New Year. Congratulations to you all for making such a huge effort this term!

As part of our Anti-Bullying Policy. All first and second years enjoyed an Anti-Bullying workshop with Sticks and Stones. The workshop format encourages pupils to take responsibility for their actions, and equips them with the skills to address bullying in their environment. Patricia does this by giving the students' knowledge and skills to problem solve for themselves. Patricia works hard to ensure all students have:

- The ability to recognise bullying
- The confidence to challenge it
- And the skills to handle it.

Thank you to all 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> years who engaged in the workshop.

I am happy to say all sixth years have had their career appointments and are busy researching courses. We were delighted to have a highly informative Presentation in November, Dr John McGinnity, Admissions Officer from Maynooth University gave us an excellent presentation on the CAO process and the transition to college. I know most students have taken advantage of the early payment offer and have already registered for their CAO number.

Keep researching and please email or pop into my office if you need any advice or assistance.

I am also available to parents if they have any queries about CAO or course choices.

We have enjoyed several guest speakers from various colleges this term. UCD (University College Dublin), DCU, IADT, BCFE and TU. We finally got to visit UCD for a group tour. We were delighted to bump into several past pupils and one of our tour guides was Ciara Murray (Graduated 2019) who is currently studying Sustainability. A wonderful day was had by all.

All students have completed a study skills workshop with Amazing Brains. We also organised a study specific study skills week at the end of November. Subject teachers gave up one class period to focus on study skills in their subject. I hope this has helped you all.

I am looking forward to inviting past pupils in after Christmas to share their college experience and course choices with 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years. A schedule will be up online in the coming weeks.

Thank you to all students who have come to me this term for support. It takes courage to reach out and ask for help for yourself or for someone you are concerned about. My door is open to you all.

Have a peaceful and restful Christmas! - Ms. McFarland

