

VERITAS



Dominican College *Griffith Avenue* SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023



Principal's Message

Dear Students, Teaching Colleagues, Parents/Guardians, Dominican Congregation and Friends,

It is Wednesday 21st June, as I complete this message, the longest day of the year, the Summer Solstice. By definition the earth's tilt toward the sun is at its maximum today, reminding me of the glorious day when we had our school Garden Party with our students and teachers (pictured above) enjoying musical performances and the opportunity to relax after end of year exams and before the start of the State Exams. Well done to all the performing musical acts and sincere thanks to Mr. Curry, Ms Johnston and Mr Hurley for all the planning that went into that very special day.

Many congratulations to all of our students who completed their State Exams this month. Particular praise is due to all of our Leaving Certificates students who sat their first ever State Exams. We are very proud of how you managed your exams. Particular thanks goes to Ms. O'Shea and Mr. Costello for their commitment to ensuring that all aspects of the State Exams operated very smoothly. Leaving Cert students of 2023, you have done very well, from Tuesday next when all the exams are finished, enjoy the rest of your summer. We wish you well as you move onto the next exciting phase of your life.

Students, you are at the centre of everything we do - everything that is worthwhile at Dominican College, Griffith Ave. On a daily basis we collectively work hard to support you, with your parents, so that you reach your full potential. I will miss you greatly, your sense of humour, your ability to circumvent even the most tightly formulated school rules. You kept me on my toes - I tried to keep one step ahead of you! Sincere thanks for the gift of the well chosen, Olive Tree and your personalised cards which I will cherish forever...and the very generous Garden Centre Gift Voucher. I look forward to spending it leisurely! I hope

to meet you in the future and I wish each and every one of you only the very best in life. *“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire”* St Catherine of Sienna.

As I write this, my last Newsletter for Dominican College, I must pay tribute to all the hard work and dedication of our teaching staff. Their kindness, loyalty and genuine interest in all their students, at an individual level, is incredible. It has been my pleasure and a privilege to work with you all, your commitment to continuously upskilling, gaining additional qualifications, and minding all of our students exemplifies you all, as true caring professionals which makes Dominican College the centre of excellence that it is.

Thank you!

Dominican College for me has been a community of care, shared by all. We are aware of the incredible care that emanates from the main office and along the corridors including all our SNA's, admin, cleaning and caretaking staff. Since first joining Dominican College in 1986 as a Science teacher my career has been influenced by so many true educationalists that I met along the way. From getting my first teaching job from Sr Chanel O'Reilly to being appointed Principal in 2013, where I had the pleasure of working with Mary Anne Halton as Deputy Principal. It was wonderful to have our school community meet up again in our end of year staff celebration. I share the fabulous photo below with you, which shows our Board of Management, Marie-Thérèse Kilmartin-CEO Le Chéile Trust, Claire Kilroy-Ethos Leadership Officer, Dominican Sisters, Yvonne Carroll - Chairperson Parents' Association, staff, past & present, gathered in The Lord Mayors Garden at the Mansion House. It was a moment of celebration for the whole school community.



I would like to take this opportunity to wish the newly appointed Principal, Ms Marguerite Norris all the best of luck and success as she takes on her new role. Marguerite is no stranger to the role having supported me with Deputy Principal Lorraine McCool over the last six years since their appointment as Deputy Principals. We operated from a place of friendship in our senior leadership roles as we set about everyday to assist students, staff and parents, in any way we could. I have absolute confidence that Dominican College Griffith Avenue will go from strength to strength under the new leadership team.



Contrary to the very old song 'I beg your pardon - I never promised you a Rose Garden' I leave you with a very special Rose Garden which is now in full bloom and a pleasure to experience. If you get a chance to visit the Garden over the summer please do. It is a very special shared space for us all.

The pleasure has been all mine...you'll find me in the garden or the Garden Centre...

Olive Laffoy - Principal

Student Council Executive... Follow us on insta...@dogastudentcouncil



Hi everyone, we are Leah and Gráinne and we were so honoured to speak on behalf of the students for Dr. Laffoy's retirement Garden Party! Dr. Laffoy, you have done so many amazing things for this school and everyone in it, both as a science teacher, and a principal.

Your commitment and dedication has made this place into the incredible, and welcoming environment it is today. We would like to thank you for all the hard work and effort that you have put in place to make Dominican College a school where everyone feels safe, and has the ability to reach their full potential.

As members of the student council, we have experienced first-hand Dr. Laffoy's generosity and care. She always provided the students with ice-creams, crunchies, and yummy treats, but most importantly, she truly values everyone's opinion, and has always been open to new ideas and perspectives. Dr. Laffoy's students are undeniably her top priority, and always have been since she became principal of this school in 2013, and I think her humble and down to earth nature sometimes hides the remarkable efforts she goes to to look after us all.

Every last one of us will miss your smile, your charisma, and your infectious personality that could brighten anyone's day. In a school full of almost all girls, you have provided us with a respectful, attentive, and strong female role model that we could all aspire to someday be. You have left behind an esteemed legacy, as well as a beautiful garden and some gorgeous plants that will continue to grow for years to come.

Dominican College will never be the same without you, Dr. Laffoy, and although our new principal will have very big shoes to fill, we have no doubt that if they follow in your footsteps, and approach the students of this school with the same kindness that has always been in your heart, we will continue to build on the loving and solid foundation that you have laid out for us.

Sincerely, and on behalf of all students of this school - past, present, and future - we thank you for everything you have done for us, and wish you a very happy and well-deserved retirement.

As a token of our gratitude, we would like to welcome Dr. Laffoy to the stage to receive a few gifts that we will now present on behalf of the students, including an olive tree in honour of your name, a voucher for a garden centre for you to enjoy your retirement with, and a mural for the school garden so that we can always remember the impact you have had on this school - 'If you can be anything be kind.'

We welcome our new incoming Student Council Executive. Pictured Left to Right:



Orla Quigley (Secretary),
Grainne Nally (Vice Chairperson),
Aisling Kehoe (Chairperson),
Ciara Kelly (Junior Pro),
Jess Kavanagh (Senior Pro)
& Stella Downes (Treasurer).

Class of 2023 - 6th Year Graduation



Hello everybody and welcome to our final few moments in Dominican College. Who here remembers their first day of school in Dominican College? I think we can all recall the terror of our first walk in these corridors, getting slammed into lockers with our massive Jansport bags, and feeling completely lost in a sea of blue. (Things have changed, we've all grown up, and we can both definitely say that no one here has ever scared off a junior, right) But we were always closely minded by Ms Norris. Nothing got past Ms Norris and her chromebook. Looking back, all the impromptu photo shoots were worth it for six years of high quality tweets. Can't wait for our final tweet today Ms Norris!

2nd Year was the year of musical talent. We started on a high with the infamous Electric Dominican, brought to us by the one and only Mr Curry. A festival in a convent is not what anyone expected when they came here and it set the bar high! Over the years, Dominican College has been known for putting on a show and welcoming A-List celebs: we've had Norma, Simon, Aodhain, but who can forget, the one and only, THE Nathan Carter. I'll never forget Amber Arkins chasing poor Nathan in the school to get a photo.

Things changed in TY. Our trip was surreal. It actually feels like it didn't even happen at all.

I really think in our senior years we became more of a family. Our Achill trip really brought us closer together, Ms King was like our mam and Señor was like our funny uncle. We all just enjoyed spending time laughing together, in the wonderful sunshine of Achill. We had our late night meet up and that cycle was like an episode of Ireland's Fittest Family. We stuck with each other through thick and thin, through all the pain of jellyfish stings and sprained elbows. We are so happy we have those memories to share.

I realised, one day, in Ms Woolmington's class, that we each had the possibility to bring sunshine to someone's gloomy day. Despite our graduation theme of reaching for the stars, we wanted to make a tribute to moments of sunshine that we will always be grateful for. It doesn't always have to be something big, just little comments can brighten up a person's day. I think we all have our own memories of times in school when people have brightened up our day, and reminded us all of how special we are. Even though we're leaving the school, our home for the past six years, we hope that we all carry the ethos of Dominican College with us into the future - to reach our full potential.

It's amazing to see how little actions lead to big impacts. We want to thank the Stand Up committee: Ruth Bowden, Anna Rosell, Realtín Candon and Faye Carbery for the work you have done for past, present and future generations of Dominicans. Our year group would like to thank you all. You have allowed all the students in this school to feel as if it is truly their own. This will be your legacy that will live on.

Sport is always known to bring people together. We want to acknowledge Ruth Fitzsimons for guiding our school football team to a victory this year. To Caitriona McMahon for keeping the camogie team (and quite frankly the whole year group) positive throughout the year as well. School sports throughout our time here has been a safe space for everyone, and you guys have really empowered this message. We are so proud of all our sporting friends. I don't think there'll be another place with as much school spirit as Dominican College.

We thank the yearbook committee: Ellen Canny, Realtín Candon and Niamh Cody, for bringing another positive spin to our school year. You guys are all amazing! You have worked tirelessly on getting this book finished, and I know I speak on behalf of the year in saying we are so grateful for all you did in capturing all of our memories together so seamlessly. I think we can all agree that the awards were a big success and they all went to the right people. However, let us remember that we are all winners today.



Congratulations to all our Award Winners

Sports Person of the Year - Ruth Fitzsimons

Good Citizen Awards 6.1 Jeannine Guerrero, 6.2 Leah Noble, 6.3 Ruth Fitzsimons, 6.4 Caitriona McMahon

We all had the kindest Prefects guiding us through our junior years here. They set the mould for what 20 of us here aspired to achieve. On behalf of all the prefects here, I want to thank the school for trusting us to take on this role of responsibility.

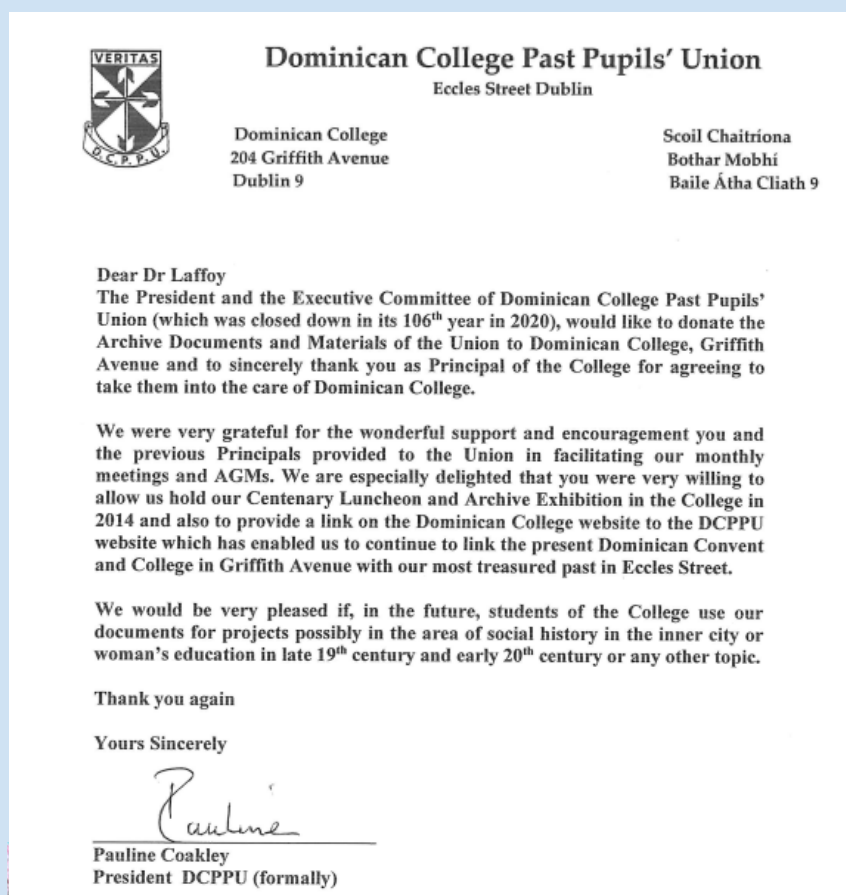
To Dr. Laffoy, on behalf of all the year, and the executive committee, Casey, Anna, Leah and I, thank you for being patient with us. You've never stopped looking out for us, and for that we want to thank you and wish you a very happy retirement. Dominican College will miss your charm and above all else, your kindness. Ms King, you've always been in our corner. You kept us afloat and well fed (thanks for the ice-cream). The fun wasn't there without you. You might not think it now, but we know you'll miss us all the more when you meet the in-coming first years. Thank you for your continuous care and commitment and that of Ms McCool & Ms Norris as well as our form teachers, Ms Judge, Ms Whelan, Ms Quinn and Senor Graham. We'll never be as well looked after as we were here. I hope you know we appreciate everything you all have done for us and we'll never forget how special you made us feel.

Thank you to all the teachers and staff in our school. You've inspired us to pursue our dreams and reach for the stars. You've made our journey here one to remember. We thank you for your kindness. But, alas/now, it's time to say our final goodbye. We always knew this day would come. We leave this school with so many happy memories that we'll treasure forever. We've grown up together, we've had each other's backs, but now it's time to bid our farewells. It has been a pleasure sharing all these amazing memories with you all. You are all truly sunshine on a rainy day. Remember, the results don't define you, and happiness doesn't happen by chance, but by choice. We leave here, as different people than when we came, we have our future in our hands, with so many dreams and so many plans. As we go on with our lives and continue to shine bright, remember your Dominicans family will never be too far away.



Past Pupils Union

President of the Past Pupils Union Pauline Coakley and Carmel O' Connor of the past pupils union presented files, documents dating back to 1914 that details all the history of Dominican College. We are very honoured and privileged to have these documents in our college and look forward to our students exploring and working with these documents in the future. We thank the PPU for their tremendous support and financial generosity to the school over the years.



Carmel O' Connor, Sophie Mahon, Dr Olive Laffoy (Principal), Marguerite Norris (Deputy Principal), Nora Burke and Pauline Coakley PPU

LIFT Roundtables - Leading Ireland's Future Together

'Small actions done consistently can lead to big changes' - LIFT Ireland



Leadership is necessary at all levels within any organisation and community. LIFT believes that by developing personal leadership qualities and abilities within each individual, we can create a better future for Ireland. Each of us is a potential leader, whether that is within our family, our schoolyard, our sports team or our business. Roundtables became a feature at lunchtime facilitated by Deputy Principal Ms Norris for Staff and Student Council Executive members as well as the TY Leadership class training as LIFT Facilitators. LIFT is a

reflection process. It works by getting participants to reflect on their own thoughts, behaviours and actions and evaluate themselves against behaviour that they would like. We thank Mr Costello for taking up the challenge and facilitating the LIFT in TY. We hope to grow the programme next year where TYs will mentor 2nd Year students through the programme which will build upon our school culture, values and vision. our school as a learning organisation.



M Norris



Listening



Positive Attitude



Competence

9



Dedication & Determination



Honesty & Integrity



Respect



Empathy & Understanding



Accountability

Library Refurbishment...



Huge thanks to all our Lotto members and the very generous donation that the school received so that we could complete the renovation of the Library over the Easter break. The Library is re-stocked with new books all catalogued by our Librarian Ms Kealy ably assisted by TY student Library Assistants. The Library is a multi-functional bright and cheerful space that is enjoyed by all our school community. We look forward to renovating many more school facilities with the funds generated from our school Lotto. Congratulations to all our Summer Bonus Draw winners

and special thanks to parents/guardians who generously sponsored prizes. Our Lotto Jackpot is nearly €4,000 be in with a chance to win over the Summer by clicking this link to join:

<https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/dcga/Identity/Account/Register>

Congratulations to the winners of our Bonus Summer Draw on 25th May 2023

- Judith McCormack - A Ticket to Harry Styles Concert in Slane kindly sponsored by Frank O'Hagan
- Gerard McCartney - €100 All for One Voucher kindly sponsored by Stephen & Laura Noble
- Carol Blackburn - €100 Voucher for Independent Pizza Voucher
- Patricia Healy - 2 Tickets to Soft Cell in St Anne's Park on June 3rd 2023 kindly sponsored by Grainne Jenkins
- Anthony O'Connor - €50 kindly sponsored by Summerhill Spares Ltd.



The Junior Cycle continues to flourish...1st Year 22/23

During the year the Junior Business Studies classes had Online presentations on the Curriculum and participated in a survey on the Financial resources available to aid in their learning. Curly Whirly's all round for those who participated! Who doesn't love a curly wurly!Mamma Mia!



Following our successful Teams Game Tournament on Thursday 18th of May, our 1st Years made the short trip to the IMC Santry to watch the Super Mario Bros. movie. A huge thanks to Ms. Biddulph for all the planning that went into the trip and to Ms. Doherty, Ms.Fallon, Ms. Johnston and Ms.Hogbin who walked them all safely up to Omni. As part of the new beginnings programme Our first year classes engaged in conversation circles and Lego modelling.



Students were provided with conversation starter cards and based on their conversations had to make lego models of their common interests. It was lovely to over hear the wonderful conversations and see the creativity that followed.To celebrate the completion of the 1st Year Summer Assessments, all our 1st Years were given the opportunity to take part in our 1st Year Teams Games Tournament on Thursday 18th of May, as a continuation of our 'New Beginning' programme. Great fun was had by all you took part in the tournament, answering questions about Dominican College, pop culture, Dublin and Ireland, and a great buzz was created so soon after the final assessment. Thanks to Mr. McDermott who devised all the questions. Well done to all who took part - everyone was a winner! Well done to all our 1st Year students, who along with their teachers and Year Team navigated the final term with a true love for learning resilience, and flexibility.

S McDermott



All about Classroom Based Assessments in 2nd Year!

Well done to all our 2nd Years for their commitment and dedication shown in all their CBAs. All their hard work has culminated in some very inventive and creative projects, experiments and presentations. The Key Skills of Junior Cycle were more than brought to life since our CBA Calendar commenced last January with students taking responsibility for their own learning - a key attribute of Junior Cycle in 2nd Year!

We thank all 2nd Year teachers and Ms Smyth, 2nd Year Year Head and the 2nd Year Team for all the support afforded students in successful completion of CBAs. Thank you to our teachers for going the extra mile to facilitate and complete SLAR Subject Learning Assessment Review meetings and providing rich individual feedback to all our 2nd Year Students.

M Norris - Deputy Principal

3rd Years - You made it!

Reflecting over the three years of Junior Cycle 2020-2023, the Class of 2023 can be proud of their achievements as they did their best and brought key skills to life. We congratulate all award winners and all our 3rd Years on the successful completion of their Junior Cycle. Well done!



It was wonderful to see all our 3rd Years proudly wearing their Junior uniform for the final time, a historic day in their lives and in the life of Dominican College for their end of year celebration. There was laughter and tears as we took time to time to celebrate the achievements of this special group of students.

In 3rd year business Sadbh Keogh and Aoife Humphries created a poster on Financial literacy which was showcased at the quiz at the RDS. Michael AlaAlatoa, Hugo Keenan & Garry Ringrose were most impressed with their poster and chose to sign it.

Well done to the 3rd Year Team and their Year Head Mr Giblin, for the special way that they cared for all our students this year. Thanks to Mr McCartney our Chaplain who led a most meaningful Retreat to Howth for this group. Retreat where they shared hope and dreams on the Hill of Howth.

Transition Year Graduation 2023

Heartiest congratulations to our wonderful Transition Year students who graduated on May 22th, 2023.

Dr Laffoy opened our ceremony and congratulated all our students for their resilience and commitment throughout the year. She spoke passionately and paid tribute to the legacy that this year's TY students will leave forever in our Rose Garden. Programme Coordinator and Master of Ceremonies, Mr Costello led us through the TY awards. A wide range of achievements was recognised. Mr Costello in his words to our TY students as they head for Senior Cycle reminded them that as they go forward in life, they should endeavour to always leave their mark and give their best efforts even to the smallest of tasks.

Our TY Year Head Ms Murray commended students on their wonderful attitude and engagement throughout the year. She acknowledged how much we as teachers have enjoyed this TY journey with the students and wished all every kindness for 5th year. Congratulations all our students on successfully completing Transition Year and wished them the very best going into 5th Year. Wishing you and yours a super summer!



Spirit of TY Award
Jane Redmond



Student of the Year
Alice Herlihy



TY Veritas Award
Lucy Granville



BT Young Scientist Finalists 2023
Alice Herlihy, Rachel Hayes & Isabelle Fronda

TRANSITION YEAR NEWS

Swap Shop Report

On the 9th of May, the Litter and Waste Team and Water Ambassadors hosted a Swap Shop for all of the TY Students. This would be a trial run for future swap shops on a bigger scale. The preparation began about two weeks beforehand when we spent many classes in the TY Hub discussing how we were going to run the event and creating slideshows and surveys for the year, to inform people about the event and explain how it was going to work. We then got Mr Curry to share the slideshow with the year and we told them about the swap shop and asked everyone to bring in some unwanted clothes. We ended up with so many clothes which was fantastic.. We spent the start of the day organising all the clothes, counting them, putting them into piles, cataloguing them to count how many items people brought in and also getting clothes hangers and racks. We then brought out all the clothes to the picnic benches because it was a lovely sunny day and began setting up the swap shop. We brought each class down one by one and people had a great time swapping clothes and it was a great success. **K.Quinn**



Green Schools Award Ceremony

On Wednesday the 17th of May, the four green schools water ambassadors departed for castleknock hotel to attend a green schools award ceremony. We got a taxi with Ms Brien and arrived at Castleknock hotel at 10 o'clock, signed in and got greeted by a lovely breakfast. We overindulged in pastries and spoke to some people we've met through the water ambassador programme. At 11 o'clock the ceremony started and they gave out awards for best poster and best video. They then moved on to water ambassadors and we won runner up in Dublin. We got vouchers and certificates each and a certificate for the school. They introduce the rest of the runners up and winners for the water ambassador programme. Every category was divided into regional winners and then out of those 4 regional winners, an overall winner. Throughout the whole ceremony we gained so many new ideas that we could introduce next year. This ceremony was a really enjoyable day and we all had a great time. We are all so grateful for the opportunity to be water ambassadors and thank you so much to Mr Curry and Ms Brien for the help you've given us this year. **A.Clair**



Irish Cancer Society Donations

We organised a clothing collection for the Irish Cancer Society Charity shop. We decided to run this event as we volunteer in the charity shop on Fridays and we are also members of the Green Schools Committee. This event will help us maintain our Litter & Waste Flag. Charity shops are a great way to give old clothes a new life and raise money for important charities. We are so grateful for all the donations we received.

Emily Bowen & Ella Hall



Camino Walk

On the 9th of May Ms.King's Politics and Society and Religion classes took part in their own version of the Camino. We created the route with our classmates and visited many churches along the way. Our first stop was marino church, then we continued on to Fairview church after a quick pit stop in the shop. Our final stop was Christ Church Cathedral in the city centre.



Clontarf Walk

On the 15th of May our class 4.4 walked to Clontarf. We went with Mr Costello and our form teacher Mr MCarthy, The sun was shining and we were playing music through the speaker. Once we got to the seafront Mr. Costello got us Beshoffs chips and we could enjoy them while sitting on the wall beside the sea. The rest of the form classes did the same throughout that week too!



Euro Border Hopping



From the 30th of March to the 2nd of April, our TYs went on our border hopping trip. This trip included days spent in Belgium, Germany, and the Netherlands.

This was many of the girls' first time abroad without their families, which was very exciting. It was a really unique bonding experience and an amazing opportunity for this year's TY students after COVID making trips like this impossible for years.

Alongside our girls went Mr Costello, Ms Murray, Mr McCarthy, Ms Healy, Ms. Costello, Ms. Robinson, Ms. Doherty, Mr. Baxter, and Ms. O'Connell.

We travelled to many interesting cultural and entertaining places, from the beautiful old city of Ghent, Belgium, to the theme park Efteling in the Netherlands. From boat rides to waterparks, the TYs had a huge scope of activities. The girls saw sites like the Cologne Cathedral, the Atomium, and the Royal Palace in Brussels. We toured Breendonk Concentration Camp, and got to explore parts of each city we travelled to by ourselves.

This trip was a huge success, and a wonderful way to bring back the foreign trip after COVID. The girls and teachers had a great time, and it was a great way to start off the last term of Transition Year.

Segways

For our last in-school activity as TYs, our students got to learn how to use segways and complete an obstacle course. We were instructed on how to do different tricks and did dances like the YMCA while on the course.

This was a whole lot of fun

for the groups and a really fun way to say goodbye to the school until next year! **L.Granville & A.Herlihy**



FIFTH YEAR NEWS

Some 5th year Business Students paid a visit to The European Commission Liaison Office on Mount Street in May. There they were treated to a presentation on the history of the EU, its Institutions, laws and policies. It was also explained how membership of the EU affects their day to day lives, referring to the war in Ukraine and their right to vote for MEP's when 18.

Two members of the staff outlined their journeys to working in the office. 1 just knew they wanted to work in the Oireachtas or for the EU. He is now in charge of Communications and gets to visit Brussels each month. Another explained she didn't know exactly what she wanted to do after studying Politics and History in college and started by teaching English in Strasbourg. Thus reminding the 5th years, that many young people have no idea what they want to do as yet and that's ok. The students were also encouraged to study hard at their Irish, an official EU language, and that there are always jobs available for Irish speakers.



Maths Hub Leaders

Congratulations & thank you to all our dedicated 5th Year Maths Hub leaders who so generously gave up their time to mentor 3rd Year students every Wednesday evening. We know that learning happens in many ways - these students shared their knowledge with each other as well as with junior students working through maths problems. They shared their different ways of thinking and learning maths, allowing for reinforcement of information. Teaching others helped to develop and strengthen their own understanding of varied maths topics. Their leadership provided a safe place for all students to ask questions and discuss methods and answers. Huge thanks to Mr Stacey for providing support and motivation for learning in Maths Hub each week! Best of Luck to the 3rd Years in their JC Maths exam!

M Norris



EXTRA CURRICULAR

Track and Field

Due to Morton Stadium's renovation, this year's Track and Field Championships were in Tullamore. Approximately 20 young athletes made their way down to Co.Offaly to represent the school. As usual the standard was high but our girls competed well with many achieving personal bests. Both our Senior and Inter relay teams won bronze medals narrowly missing qualification for the Leinster Championships. Sisters Abbie and Bella Meaney performed fantastically in the hurdles and triple jump with both girls qualifying to represent the school at the Leinster Championships. Later that day, our Senior long distance runner, Hazel Kenny took to the track where she ran a fabulous race and finished 2nd place to join Bella and Abbie at the Leinster Championships.



In early May, Hazel, Bella and Abbie made the trip back to Tullamore to compete in the Senior 3000m, Junior 75m Hurdles and the Inter Triple Jumps. Bella and Abbie were rewarded with Bronze medals, well done girls, a super achievement. Hazel ran superbly in a highly competitive long distance race.

D.Walls

Swimming

Our very own Jessica Purrcell and Sarah Coughlan have been training hard and recently competed at the National Short Course Championships in the NAC. Both girls won medals across a range of events. Jessica has also been training with the Irish Development Squad in the NAC and in September will represent Ireland in the European 5k Outdoor Championships in Greece. A truly fantastic achievement. Well done and best of luck. **D.Walls**



Tennis

Over the Easter holidays some of our talented tennis players had the amazing opportunity to attend the Rafa Nadal Tennis academy in Majorca with their coaches from Glasnevin Lawn tennis club. All reports suggest they had an amazing time, enjoying the fabulous weather and training hard in the amazing training facilities. **D.Walls**

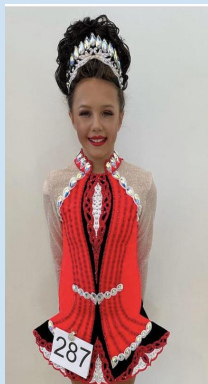


Volleyball

Volleyball is one of the fastest growing sports in Ireland and in true Dominican style our girls are availing of the many opportunities to get involved in this sport in the local community. At the forefront is our own Jamie Tanner in 3rd year who not only competes for her local club but is also involved in the regional development squad and has her eyes set on international duty in Italy this year. We plan to introduce volleyball as an extracurricular activity next term with support from Volleyball Ireland and the fabulous pupils who are already involved in this energetic and fun sport in their communities. **D.Walls**



Irish Dancing



Ciara and I both started dancing when we were 4, we have come a long way since then and this year we have travelled to a lot of places with Irish dancing. Some of the places we have gone to are Killarney for the All Irelands, London for the British nationals, Glasgow, Liverpool and all over Ireland. These opportunities to travel don't come without hard work. We train 6 times a week and really enjoy it. My cousin is a PT especially for Irish dancers so I go to her 2 times a week as well as classes. From a young age, we have really enjoyed dancing. We have been influenced by our families who have also been in dancing from a young age and have also achieved a lot.

This shows all the amazing opportunities you can get from just one sport. Dancing has always been a big part of our lives and we have made so many memories and have had so many opportunities from it. **Katie & Ciara**

Running Club

Sincere thanks to all involved in the Griffith Mile for funding these running tops for our Wednesday evening Club led by Ms Holohan. A reminder to everyone that this year the 40th Anniversary race of the Griffith Mile takes place on Sunday 17th September 2023 with warm up happening on the school grounds. We look forward to our running club leading the school on the day! For further info www.griffithavenuemile.ie



GAA in DCGA...



It has been a fantastic year for Dominican College in Gaelic Football and Camogie. All students have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the Minor(U14), Junior(U16) & Senior(U19) teams this year. We have had great success in football being crowned Senior & Junior North Leinster Champions and reaching the final of the Minor North Leinster Championship.

In Camogie we reached a Senior A Shield Final and Minor A Dublin Final and our Junior team went all the way to an All Ireland semi final being crowned Junior A Dublin champions along the way. Great credit should go out to the players on all the teams along with their coaches and also to a fantastic group of selectors Jane Redmond, Roisin Stuart, Rachel Whelan, Maebh Cotter, Katie Quinn, Lucy Ahern, Caitlin McKenna, Ruth Ennis, Abbie Cassidy Hannah Murphy & Lucy Granville.

VERITAS
Dominican College
GAA Presents
TABLE QUIZ
To fundraise for new jerseys for Dominican College, Griffith Avenue GAA
Location: Kennedy's Pub, Drumcondra
Date: Thursday 11th May 2023
Time: 7:30pm Sharp
Raffle on the night with great selection of prizes
VERITAS



The GAA department sends massive thanks to our community, parents, guardians, alumni, Martin Tynan and local businesses for their huge support in our Table Quiz fundraiser. We will wear our new jerseys with pride next season. Many thanks to everyone who got behind and supported a memorable night. **GAA DCGA**

DCGA Sports Day 2023



DCGA PE Department were delighted to host DCGA Juniors Sports Day 2023!! After a few weeks of practising their chosen athletic events in PE class, our Junior students were excited to represent their class groups and showcase their talents in different Track and Field Events. With the sun shining and plenty of team spirit on show, our morning events kicked off with 1st Years taking to the track to compete in the 80 m, 200 m and 800 m running events. Meanwhile, our 2nd and 3rd Year students took part in the Field Events, Shot putt, Javelin, Long Jump and High Jump. All students were not only

competing for a place in the finals but also to win valuable points for their class. As the morning progressed, each year group got their opportunity to take part in the various Track and Field Events. As we neared the break for lunch, our final event of the morning was the 80 m and 200 m finals.

After the medal presentation, the students took to the grass to enjoy a much deserved break before taking part in the much anticipated event of the day- 200 m Relay.



The atmosphere was electric and team spirit was in full flow as our 1st, 2nd and 3rd Years battled it out in their respective heats to secure a coveted place in the final. The sporting afternoon concluded with the final presentation of overall winners. The scores were totalled and the winners announced. Congratulations to all students who took part in a wonderful Sports Day, in particular to our winners; 1. Keane, 2. Crocus and 3. Kernan. The final award for 'Best Team Spirit' on the day went to the 3rd Years in Yellow - 3. Kernan who were exceptional and showed real camaraderie.

1st Year Overall Winners: 1 Keane, 2nd Year Overall Winners: 2. Crocus, 3rd Year Overall Winners and Best Team Spirit: 3. Kernan. Finally, a huge thank you to all our wonderful 5th Years who helped officiate and MC each of the events on the day.

PE Dept.

Guidance News

We are very sad to say goodbye to our 6th Years.

Ms. Hogan gave a final presentation to this wonderful group on Backing up their Plans. We have created a resource for all 6th year students to help them with their career guidance/wellbeing needs during the summer months and exam results/CAO offer period [Dominican College Summer Guidance 2023.doc](#). The resource also offers a calendar of important dates and links to further sources of information. We thoroughly enjoyed working with this cohort and we believe that each and every student has a unique educational journey ahead of them. We have very strong links with our past pupils here at Dominican College, so we are looking forward to welcoming all of our 6th Years back to the school at some point in the future.



Our 5th Year students attended a talk from Conan Meehan of Ulster University, discussing the UCAS application process and writing an effective personal statement. This information will prove very beneficial to those students who are interested in studying in the UK and further afield. We also said goodbye to our 2023 TY students. It was uplifting to see these students map out their future pathways through their career investigation presentations. There were many enthusiastic reflections on the benefits of TY work experience in helping students to decide on Leaving Certificate subject choice and potential further studies.



Ms. Lloyd presented a study skills information session to our 3rd year students. We hope students found the session helpful in guiding their study techniques and maximising their study time. We wish all of our 3rd and 6th year students the very best of luck in their upcoming exams. Please see links here [Videos](#) to videos on effective study techniques, habits of effective students and lots more. You've got

this! Have a happy, enjoyable and relaxing summer break, looking forward to seeing you all again in September. **Ms. Hogan & Ms. Lloyd**



Our Chaplain's Summer Wish For You...

We have made it! What a fast year it has been, slow at times I am sure but overall I hope you would agree it has flown by. Another successful year for all the students and staff of DCGA.

I would first of all like to commend each and every one of our students for all their work this year. You have done yourself and your families proud throughout the school year. Hard work in your studies, in your exams and in your CBA's. A lot of hard work in all your sporting achievements and wow has DCGA been successful in this area this year. A lot of hard work in the area of drama and music, from the TV Show to the wonderful choirs at all our spiritual events throughout the year. I am in awe of our student body and the talents you all have. I hope you all have a well deserved summer break as you all deserve it.

A huge congratulations to our new principal Ms Marguerite Norris. May all Gods blessings be upon her as she leads us next year and beyond in the life of DCGA.

Doctor Laffoy has always had the last word at opening school masses, carol services and graduation masses but here in the newsletter that has always been given to me, so for her final newsletter thankfully I have been given that privilege again. There are few words that can be used to describe how much Dominican College is going to miss Dr Laffoy. Her kind heart and her dedication to the school and more importantly to its students cannot be questioned. I send Dr Laffoy on behalf of the whole school community (students, teachers and parents) all of God's love and peace as she sets off on a new journey. May God continue to bless you with energy, good health and all your dreams to come through. We send her all our love.

Sending all our families all of God's love and peace this summer and may God bring you back safely to us.

G McCartney

