



# Cross & Passion College Religious Education Programme



**DOMINE NOVERIM TE**  
Lord let me know you

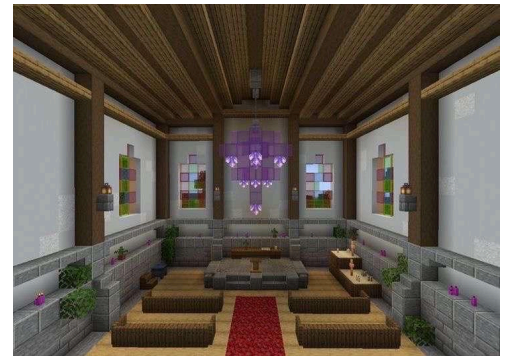
22nd March 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had another extremely busy term with many more opportunities for our students to develop their understanding of our school ethos and participation in our Religious Education Programme.

Ms Wall's class have been studying **Sacred Buildings** and have completed a range of very interesting projects when presented with the task *"Create a 3D model of a Sacred Building. Choose from a Hindu Temple (mandir), Synagogue, Buddhist Temple (vihara) Church or a Mosque."*

Students used a broad range of approaches as we can see. Isabelle Vince 1B created a Church exterior and interior on Minecraft. Jake Byrne 1A created a Church from lollipop sticks and other recyclable materials.



Thank you to Ms Ingrid Wall for encouraging her students to create such beautiful pieces and for the delicious Chocolate bouquets she presented to Isabelle and Jack as prizes in recognition of their work.

We celebrated this year's **Catholic Schools Week** with the theme "Communities of Service", focusing on the service that we give to one another by caring for each other in our home, our school and our parish. We looked to Jesus for examples of how we can serve one another with love and respect, sharing our gifts and talents generously with each other. We celebrated each other and our many differences. We are each precious and unique before God; there never has been nor will there ever be anyone completely like any one of us.

Our **Ember Team** shared a reflection over the intercom each day reminding us of the importance of the various elements of creating and sustaining our communities of friendship, school, family, locality and faith.



5B and 5C along with their teachers, Ms Ingrid Wall and Ms. Glenda Groome thank everyone who came to our **Intergenerational Coffee Morning** as part of our Catholic Schools Week Activities. It was a lovely opportunity to develop relationships within our



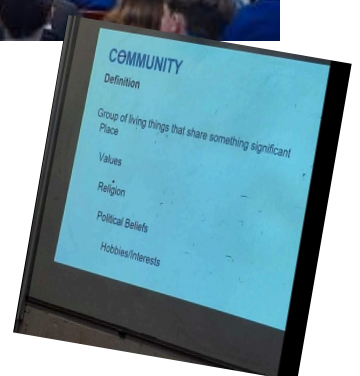
community. We had lots of interesting conversations such as about travel and advice the older person would give to their 17 years old self. Thank you to everyone who provided lovely music, baked, served tea and coffee.



We were delighted to welcome Kilcullen community activist and former Deputy Principal Noel Clare to speak with classes from First, Second and Transition Year about service in our local community.



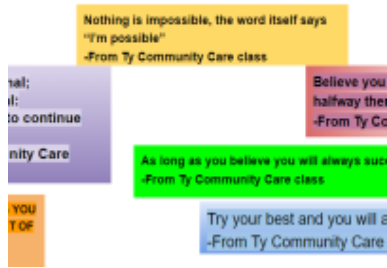
Noel gave a fascinating talk on the meaning and importance of community. He spoke about the benefits of participating in our community including making us



happier and live longer! It was a lovely way to celebrate Catholic Schools Week

Well done to Kitmarie Hunter 1C and Saoirse Brady1D who won our Poster Competition celebrating **Community** during Catholic Schools Week. They both received prizes of vouchers from Woodbine Books. Well done!

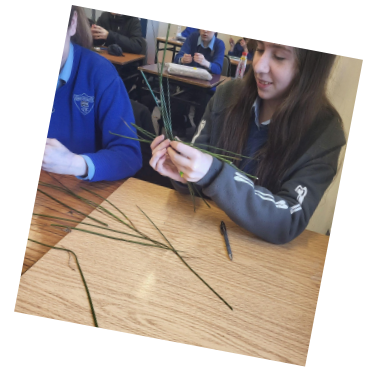




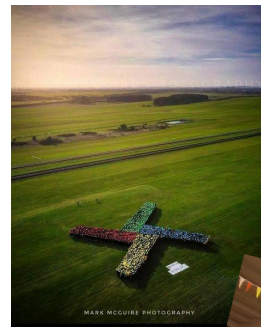
The **TY Community Care** class, supported by Ms Bucke created words of advice, inspiration and good luck for all students in 3rd and 6th year ahead of their mock examinations. They were hand delivered to each student by the TY Community care who wished every student, completing mock examinations, the very best of luck. #communitycare #caringrelationships #goodluck #lecheile



Members of our **Ember Team** taught students from a range of year groups how to make *St Brigid's Crosses*. Thank you to Ms Whyte for sourcing the rushes to allow us to participate in this ancient and meaningful tradition.



It was a great privilege to participate in the once in a generation event, **Pause for Peace** among almost 3000 students at the Curragh Racecourse to celebrate Brigid 1500. Our Peace Ambassadors, Eleanor



Steed, Laura Collier, Rose Costello Leavy and Fifth Year Liv Hamilton worked hard to help organise the event on the day. Well done also to Eleanor Steed who spoke so well on the Six One News that evening.

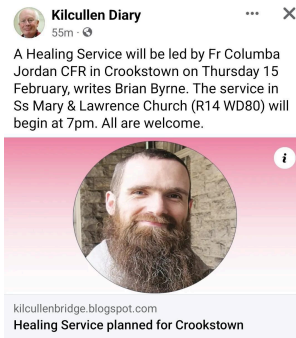
We gathered to create a human St Brigid's Cross which was photographed by drone. If you would like to access the drone footage of the event please go to



<https://kildare-nationalist.ie/2024/02/01/watch-drone-footage-of-human-brigid-cross-on-the-curragh/>

Special guests included Minister of Education Norma Foley, Sister Rita Brigidine Sisters - Solas Bhride, Dara Fitzpatrick - Mayor of Kildare, Councillor Suzanne Doyle, Bishop Denis Nulty, Bishop Pat Storey - Church of Ireland and Dean Isobel Jackson

Thanks to our Music students Marybeth Delaney, Carl Kenna, Alex Connolly, Dylan Labuschagne, Mikey Arthur, Layton Wilson, Aoibheann O'Brien, Katie O'Donnell, James Meehan and Grace Doyle who played and sang beautifully. They performed *Dreams by The Cranberries* and *I See Fire by Ed Sheeran*. Thank you to Ms Lawrence for her support and guidance. A proud day for our school, Cross and Passion College, Kilcullen and Kildare.



Our past pupil **Fr Columba Jordan** continues to minister to people in a very meaningful and powerful way. He led a healing service in Crookstown Church which was well attended by many of our community.

We were happy to continue our very valuable **Chat and Connect Programme** with our Sixth Year

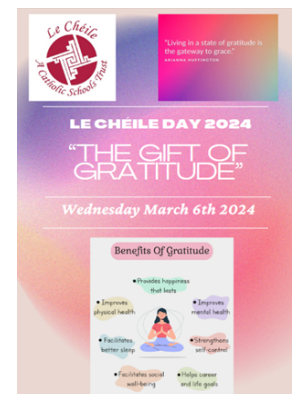


students. Once per month each class takes time to ponder a variety of topics while enjoying refreshments. Much chat about dealing with the pressures of exams and study! It is a lovely opportunity to develop relationships within class groups.

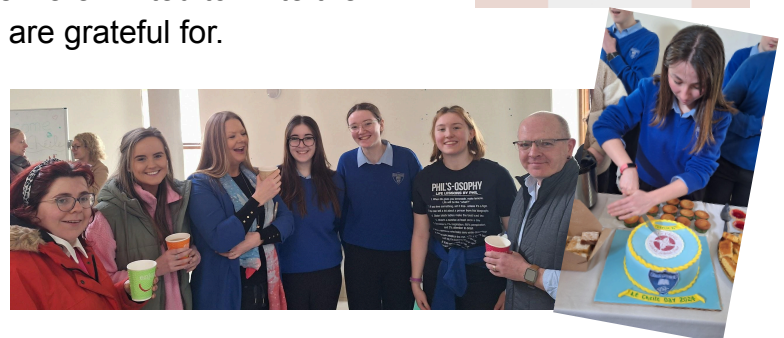


Thank you to Ms Bucke and Ms Whyte who organised and led many lovely activities to Le Cheile day. The theme for this year was 'The Gift of Gratitude'.

At reception we had a display which included some inspirational quotes of gratitude, benefits of gratitude and a tree whereby students in Religion classes were invited to write the things that they are grateful for.



5B and 5C Religion classes, with the support of Ms Glenda Groome and Ms Ingrid Wall hosted a successful coffee morning for the staff of CPC. This



included hot drinks and sweet and yummy treats. Staff and students shared a lovely morning break.

First and Second Year students were encouraged to write a letter to a person they are grateful for and explain why. This was a great opportunity for them to reflect on the people who have meaning to them.

Students were also asked to fill in Google Forms and name a teacher/staff member they are grateful for and why. Staff received these lovely words on Le Cheile DAY and they were very much appreciated..

Staff also got into the spirit of gratitude by expressing their thanks to each other.

Random acts of kindness are encouraged to all in our school community! Remember to Do/say something nice for someone who means a lot to you.

Thank you to all who were involved in the various activities. We all enjoyed a day of thanks, appreciation and feel-goodness was evident throughout.



Well done to our TY students who are participating in **fundraising** by selling pens at €2 each for the people of Lesotho, a country landlocked by South Africa. Lesotho is in the bottom 15% of the poorest countries in the world with over 50% living in poverty and life expectancy being only 50 years. Lesotho also has the highest low point out of any country in the world so the altitude makes for harsh farming and living conditions. As always the people

of Kilcullen are very generous in their support for this great cause while purchasing a useful pen. €540 euros was raised which will make a very meaningful difference to the lives of the Malealean people.

**Student Voice** is at the heart of our mission and ethos. Our Board of Management were delighted to welcome Student Council members, Aoibhe Toft and Josh Kelly who spoke about their goals and ambitions for our school.



Thank you to Mr Tristan Bailey for organising a beautiful **Lenten Mass** which was held last Wednesday morning before school. It was a wonderful way to start our day and remind us of the importance of Lent and sacrifice before we celebrate the joy of Easter.



**Ramadan Kareem** to those in our Cross and Passion College community who celebrate. In anticipation of the fasting required, First year students recognised that



some of their classmates would be taking part and threw a little party for them. It was a lovely way to support and encourage those within our student body who celebrate Ramadan.



5A and 6L enjoyed a visit to Kildare Town yesterday organised by Ms Mairead O'Malley and Ms Glenda Groome which included a visit to Kildare Heritage Centre where they experienced the VR Experience explaining the history of Kildare and the **role**

**of St Brigid.** The students then visited St Brigid's Cathedral and enjoyed a wonderful guided tour by Kelley Bermingham. The stunning stained glass windows were of particular interest. This was followed by a visit to the relic of St Brigid in the parish church. Students had the opportunity to engage in quiet reflection before we visited St Brigid's Well. It was a fantastic experience of pilgrimage and the importance of one of our patron saints.



We are delighted to share the Le Cheile Spring Newsletter and are happy to have our many activities featured within it.

<https://lecheiletrust.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024-03/index.html>

Wishing you and your son/ daughter/ a joyful Easter.

Kind Regards,

*Tristan Bailey, Hannah Bucke, Joanne Burke, Eimear Glynn, Glenda Groome, Ava Healy, Sabrina Mills, Mairead O'Malley, Ingrid Wall, Louise Whyte*

Cross and Passion College Religious Education Team