

# Bish E-Zine Summer

## WELCOME TO OUR E-ZINE

Welcome to our Summer Ezine that ends the School year 2021/2022. It has been the first year in 3 where we have been able to keep the Bish fully open for the duration of the year. This ezine will outline many of the highlights of the year in much better detail than I can cover in my introduction.

It has been a really positive year, the 'bread and butter' of school life, **Teaching and Learning**, continues to be the main focus for us. I am in a lucky position to see that every day in the Bish. This is added to by the significant spirit of volunteering by Bish staff in all of the extra time they give for pupils throughout the year. This might only be stopping to talk to a pupil on the corridor or in the yard or it might be taking a team or group of pupils away for a trip outside of school. This is always supported by colleagues back in the school supervising classes. This does go unnoticed in media but does provide an all-round education for the pupils in the Bish. This is something that we are very proud of in the Bish. This volunteering is also evident in the work of our Parents Council and also our Rowing Club.



John Madden - Principal.

With extracurricular events back on the agenda over the last year I had the privilege of attending a number of events, some we won and some we lost. I was always taken by the way Bish pupils represented themselves, their school and their families. They were always gracious in victory and dignified in defeat.

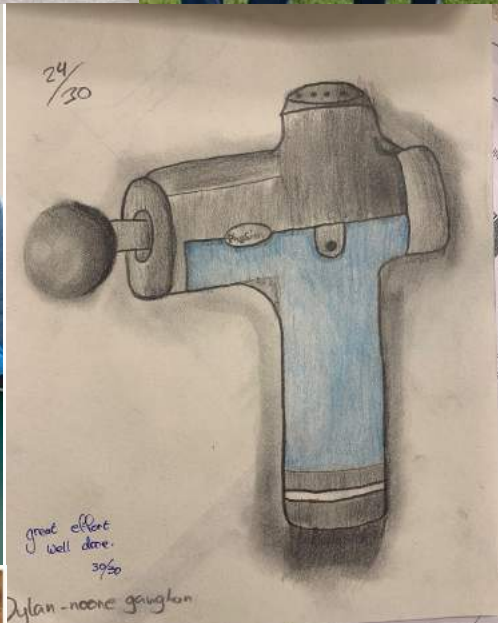
The end of year is always a sad time as we say good-bye to our 6th year cohort. We have seen them grow and develop over the last 5-6 years. We are very proud of the way they have matured into fine young men. It is a really exciting time for them as they complete their formal 2nd level education and have many pathways to follow. We will always follow their progress with interest as they navigate their way through life. We wish them well as they take the Leaving Certificate exams. We also wish our 3rd year students taking their Junior Cycle exams well.

To all of our students who will return to us in August, we wish you a safe, enjoyable and worry-free summer.

With best wishes,

John Madden.

# AROUND THE SCHOOL



Loads going on around the school recently. 6th Year Biology students were in Coole Park for a field trip, our Golfers competed in the Irish Junior Boys Schools Nationals, our AS Class got a new Table Tennis table, our Tech Graphics students developed their skills, the Great Bish Bake Off took place with Martin Siltanen securing first place, Daire Caulfield 2nd and Ivan Koverda coming 3rd and our 1st year art students took part in a monoprint workshop with artist Jennifer Cunningham.







Top Left - our 1st and 2nd Year Rugby players took part in a team bonding day at Cuckoo Hill. Below that photo, 1st Years enjoying Bowling as part of Activities Week. Bottom Left - Stephen Okoye being awarded with a certificate of completion for Transition Year. Top Right - 3E Class pictured in the sunshine and bottom right, Mr. Spellacy and Mr. Reville engaging with students as part of the Waterways project.





# TRANSITION YEAR



I literally couldn't fit everything in! Transition Year students have been very busy since Easter completing modules and taking part in a variety of activities. Our Gaisce group climbed Croagh Patrick, our SVP group attended the Young SVP Youth Day, all TYs went to the School Summit in Began, there were surf trips, rock climbing experiences, Cuckoo Hill Bootcamp and the Lift Programme.



## PREFECTS LUNCH



Pictured are our 5th Year prefects on the left.



On the right, Daragh Clery, Deputy Head Prefect, makes a presentation to Ms. NicAoidh for her help and support for the 6th Year prefects throughout the year and over the last 5 years in her role as Year Head.

## TRACK AND FIELD



James Siva (left) and Daniel Sangodele (right) taking part in the Track and Field competitions in Dangan recently.



# 1ST YEAR INDUCTION NIGHT



We are very excited in The Bish to welcome our incoming first year students. From 30 different primary schools, we welcome our new Bish students pictured here with their families in the hall. The next time we see them will be on their first day of school!

## DROICHEAD PROGRAMME

Congratulations to our 7 NQTs who completed the Droichead process in The Bish. They are pictured here with the Professional Support Team and Deputy Principal Seamus Cahalan.





# SPORTS AWARDS



Fantastic night at our Sports Award ceremony with our special guest, Mr. Andy Friend, Head Coach at Connacht Rugby, in attendance. Congratulations to all our sports stars but in particular to Charlie Cox, our Junior Sportsman of the Year who was awarded the Hassan Taiwo Memorial Cup and to James Murphy, our Senior Sportsman of the Year who was awarded the Eugene Dunleavy Memorial Award.



# 1ST YEAR SOCCER CONNACHT CHAMPIONS



There was great excitement in Terryland when our 1st year soccer team secured the Connacht title. Well done lads!

## 1ST AND 2ND YEAR CAPTAINS



## 2ND YEAR SOCCER CONNACHT CHAMPIONS



Shane Fahy, 1st Year Captain and Tommy Lillis, U15 Captain pictured here with Deputy Principal, Sarah Gleeson. Both captains are pictured with the Connacht Cups. We are very excited for the All Ireland Semi Finals in September. Well done again to both teams and their coaches.



# 1ST YEAR 'B' HURLING CHAMPIONS



Massive congratulations to our first year B hurling champions 2021/2022. Undeclared in both league and championship this year!

## CROSS COUNTRY AND ATHLETICS

As captain of the team this year I want to acknowledge my fellow team mates and their dedication towards training since September.

We headed to Loughrea to start the cross - country season off. We were back on muddy local ground in large numbers and we enjoyed every second.

Another great day was when some of us made it to the Connacht Finals for Track and Field. We travelled to Athlone where we were met by tough competition on and off the track, but we soaked up the atmosphere and learned from the experience.

We would like to wish Daniel and Eoin the best of luck in the All Ireland Track and Field that will be held in Tullamore. We are full of pride knowing that the Bish will be represented at this prestigious event. We also would like to say a huge word of thanks to Ms Holden for her dedication, patience and kindness towards us as a team. We can't wait for speed sessions to commence in September Ms Holden!! You may tag along with us!

**"Love God, work hard and take care of one another."**

**Harry 2A Captain 2021/2022**





# CLASS AWARDS - 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD YEARS



1st, 2nd and 3rd Year group awards





















The Mairtín Breathnach memorial trophy was awarded this year and will be awarded each year in the future for the best Cur I Láthair/ presentation by a third year student in his Classroom-Based Assessment. The teachers of Gaeilge in the school wish to recognize the effort and the courage of students in preparing and presenting their work in front of their peers. We would also like to thank Mairtín's colleague who presented this award in his memory.

**Congratulations to Liam Flanagan 3B who is the first recipient of the award.**

## ACTIVITIES WEEK



Great excitement for 1st and 2nd years throughout Activities Week. Students were able to participate in Soccer, Badminton, Bowling, Water Sports, Handball and Golf among other activities. Huge thanks to all who participated and a special word of thanks to all the teachers who organised the activities. A lot of work went into the smooth operation of these events.







# LISTEN, LISTEN WELL. LISTEN WITH THE EAR OF THE HEART.

Dia libh cách,

The following extracts and quotes from a recent message from Pope Francis draws attention to the word 'listen', which our Pontiff highlights as a condition for genuine dialogue and communication; a fundamental dimension of love; and a particular challenge for those of us in service including educators, pastors and parents.

***"A respected doctor, accustomed to treating the wounds of the soul, was once asked what the greatest need of human beings is. He replied: "The boundless desire to be heard". A desire that often remains hidden, but that challenges anyone who is called upon to be an educator or formator, or who otherwise performs a communicative role: parents and teachers, pastors and pastoral workers, communication professionals and others who carry out social or political service."***[\[1\]](#)

We are advised not just to listen, but to listen well. To listen with the virtue of patience and a childlike curiosity, allowing oneself to be surprised by the truth – an enriching experience since there is always something to be learned from the other and allowed to bear fruit in our own lives.

***"This is why Jesus calls his disciples to evaluate the quality of their listening. "Take heed then how you hear" (Lk 8:18): this is what he exhorts them to do after recounting the parable of the sower, making it understood that it is not enough simply to listen, but that it is necessary to listen well. Only those who receive the word with an "honest and good" heart and keep it faithfully bear the fruit of life and salvation (cf. Lk 8:15). It is only by paying attention to whom we listen, to what we listen, and to how we listen that we can grow in the art of communicating, the heart of which is not a theory or a technique, but the "openness of heart that makes closeness possible" (cf. Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium, 171).***

I understand the Chinese symbol for the verb 'to listen' reads – '*I give you my ears, my eyes, my undivided attention and my heart*'. Pope Francis explains that listening concerns the whole person, not only the perception of sound. The true seat of listening is in the heart. ***We all have ears, but many times even those with perfect hearing are unable to hear another person. In fact, there is an interior deafness worse than the physical one. Indeed, listening concerns the whole person, not just the sense of hearing. The true seat of listening is the heart. Though he was very young, King Solomon proved himself wise because he asked the Lord to grant him a "listening heart" (cf. 1 Kings 3:9). Saint Augustine used to encourage listening with***

[\[1\]](#) Pope Francis, (2022) 'Message Of HIS Holiness Pope Francis For the 56th World Day of Social Communications' Available at: [LVI World Communications Day, 2022 - Listening with the ear of the heart | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#)



***the heart (corde audire), to receive words not outwardly through the ears, but spiritually in our hearts: "Do not have your heart in your ears, but your ears in your heart".[1] Saint Francis of Assisi exhorted his brothers to "incline the ear of the heart".[2]***

We are advised to listen with the ear of the heart and to 'tune in' – to listen to God - to enable us to reach our potential – to fully become what we are. Start by listening to oneself: to one's truest, innermost needs and desire for 'togetherness' -to be in relationship, with others and with God.

***On the one hand, then, God always reveals himself by communicating freely; and on the other hand, man and woman are asked to tune in, to be willing to listen. The Lord explicitly calls the human person to a covenant of love, so that they can fully become what they are: the image and likeness of God in his capacity to listen, to welcome, to give space to others. Fundamentally, listening is a dimension of love.***

...

***Therefore, when seeking true communication, the first type of listening to be rediscovered is listening to oneself, to one's truest needs, those inscribed in each person's inmost being. And we can only start by listening to what makes us unique in creation: the desire to be in relationship with others and with the Other. We are not made to live like atoms, but together."***

The ministry of listening is described as a precious and life-giving gift we can offer each other. The Protestant theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer reminds us that those who forget how to listen to her/his brother or sister will soon forget how to listen to God. Pope Francis describes communion being built like a choir, in "*mutual listening between brothers and sisters*".

***As in a choir, unity does not require uniformity, monotony, but the plurality and variety of voices, polyphony. At the same time, each voice in the choir sings while listening to the other voices and in relation to the harmony of the whole. This harmony is conceived by the composer, but its realization depends on the symphony of each and every voice.***

As we begin the summer break, let us continue to practice *listening with the ear of our heart*; let us listen to the other voices singing in our world - the voices of our children, family, friends, pastors, colleagues, those in need; let us welcome the voices of others "*as a gift to manifest the harmony of the whole that the Holy Spirit composes.*"

Happy Heart Listening.

Iníon Ní Fhéinne



# GRADUATION



Danny Keane - The Bro. Marcus Moriarty Arts and Culture Engagement Award.



Aaron Sweeney - The Bro. Angelus Moore Cup for Academic Achievement.



Jack Folan - The O' Connor Cup Award for Outstanding Personal Achievement.



Cillian Hickey - The Eamonn Kelly Memorial Award for Academic Endeavour.



Cian McGrath - The Paul Rowan Spirit of the Bish Award.



Rifat Abubaker- The PJ Dobbryn STEM Engagement award.





Huge congratulations to all our 6th Years who graduated on the 26th May 2022. Following a beautiful ceremony in St. Joseph's Church on Presentation Road celebrated by our chaplain Fr. Seán, awards were presented to our graduates in the school hall. Every student was presented with a class photo, Bish pin and bookmark containing the names of their LC class group. Sincere thanks to our Parents' Council who prepared the hall for our students and their families.

Special mention also to Louis Hughes who received the Principal's Award and his Silver Gaisce Award on the night.





# SOCIAL MEDIA

We are currently working on building our social media platforms to connect with current and past students more. Please follow our pages, like them and share them to keep up to date with latest news and events in The Bish. Thank you to all our contributors for this edition of the Ezine. Have a fantastic summer. Stay safe and happy!

**Facebook** St. Joseph's Patrician College 'The Bish'

**Twitter** stjosephsbish

**Linkedin** stjosephsbish

**Instagram** stjosephsbish



Love God, work hard and take care of one another.

