



ROSEMONT
SCHOOL

ROSEMONT NEWS

Winter 2018

Academic Excellence

STEM

The Irish Mathematical Olympiad

Third, fourth and fifth year students sat the first round of the Olympiad in early November. Three students, Siobhan B (3rd yr), Sarah J (4th yr) and Lucy H (4th yr) were selected to attend enrichment classes at a local university. The purpose of these classes is to prepare them for the next round where a team to represent Ireland will be selected.

ISTA Quiz

Two 6th year teams of three took part in the ISTA regional quiz on Nov 15. One of our teams got through to the national final held on November 24th in TCD.

Science week was a huge success with each year participating in a quiz, outing or activity.



The angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Look, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people ... you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' Lk 2:10-12

Dear parents, teachers and students,
As the first term merges into Christmas, it is a real delight to look back and see the achievements of our students and their proactive engagement with the many opportunities offered in school.

As our recent graduates began their university careers, it was a pleasure to attend the UCD Awards ceremony for Academic Achievement in recognition of students' hard work.

Every year the excitement throughout the school on the day the girls receive their Leaving Certificate results is a testament to the close working relationship between the teachers, students and parents and this year was no exception.

In Rosemont, we are exceptionally proud of our students, both current and past, girls with character who think for themselves, not needing to be spoon-fed notes for security. You are hopeful, resilient and enjoy learning and life. We enjoy your good humour, are proud of your courage, and value your well-mannered eloquence. We applaud all your successes, academic, sports and extra-curricular.

The Rosemont News gives all our families and friends an overview of the events of the term, and we are sure you will enjoy reading this edition.

Recently we have been hearing from an increasing number of past pupils, and we would be delighted if you would share the contents of the newsletter and website with Rosemont past pupils in your circle.

Wishing you and all your family a peaceful and happy Christmas, with the warmth of the Holy Family in Bethlehem to guide us all.

Janet Dean, Principal

Languages Department

French

There was great excitement last week when I received a big box in the post from Paris! In it were enough letters to decorate the Eiffel Tower! Well maybe a bit of an « exagération » but there were 94 of them!

They came from the French equivalent of Rosemont in Paris called « Les Vignes » and were the start of a pen pal project for all students studying French in Junior Cycle and Transition Year. The French students wrote in English and our girls are putting the finishing touches to theirs « en français ». They will arrive just before the French students break up for holidays but will continue in the New Year.

I am looking forward to very meaningful written work from the girls this year and hopefully the start to an exchange programme with the school.

Ms Murphy

Irish

Chuireamar fáilte roimh an t-údar Eilis Ní Dhuibhne ar an naoú lá is fiche de Shamhain.

Sríobh sí an t-úrscéal **Hurlamaboc** atá ar an gcúrsa Gaeilge don Ardeiste.

Léigh sí sliocht as an t-úrscéal agus labhair sí faoina saol agus saothar. D'fhreagair sí na ceisteanna spéisiúla a chuir na daltaí uirthi.

Bhain lucht na hArdteiste, rang na hIdirbhliana agus na múinteoirí idir thairbhe agus taitneamh as!

Ms Brogan



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ROSEMONT SCHOOL

Languages Department contd.

Spanish

¡Saludos del departamento de Español!
Greetings from the Spanish department,
where term one has been busy and fun!

Aoife and Lily in 6th year and myself started off the year in style, spending a week in Salamanca. The girls were the winners of the Post-Primary Language Initiative 2018 Film Competition and spent the week in the beautiful region of Castilla y León learning Spanish in the Mester Academy while living with a host family.

More good news soon followed as we learned that the 3rd, 5th, and 6th year students who sat the DELE Spanish language exam passed with flying colours. The girls are very grateful to Ms Pérez for this opportunity and are thrilled all their hard work paid off! TY students are currently preparing for this year's exam.

Students of Spanish enjoyed of fun Spanish language activities organised by Ms Pérez to celebrate European Day of Languages on September 26th.

Rosemont has been busy hosting the Association of Teachers of Spanish senior debating competition, with Rosemont being well represented by four of our senior Spanish students. Topics such as "La tecnología nos hace más estúpidos" (Technology is making us more stupid) and "El uniforme escolar debe ser abolido" (School uniforms should be abolished) made for some very entertaining discussions!

Three of our 6th year students represented Rosemont in the Juvenes Translatores translation competition, which is run by the European Union, working on a translation from Spanish into English. The competition gives students the chance to see what the work of a professional translator entails.

Enhorabuena to everyone involved!

Ms O'Malley

English

What would you do with magic powers?

Everything you need to know about Hogwarts and who you would trust most in J.K. Rowling's inspiring Harry Potter series were just some of the interesting questions discussed over hot chocolate in the library at the Wednesday lunchtime Book club. All students are welcome.



1st Years Literary Tour

As we embarked on our tour, spirits were high on the bus with Abba being loudly sung! Excitement and anticipation filled the bus. We arrived at our first stop – William Butler Yeats's house, where he was born. We made our way through the gate into the beautiful garden, onto the steps just in front of the door to get a group photo only to jump at the sound of dogs barking and scratching at the door! Just a couple of minutes away was Sandymount Park. Not only is it a great park but it has statues of Seamus Heaney and William Butler Yeats. It has beautiful flowers and a lovely mural. We hopped back on the bus and made our way on to the next stop – Raglan Road. The famous road where Patrick Kavanagh met the love of his life! He was so in love that he decided to write a song ('Raglan Road') about the girl of his dreams! Some of us got out to check out the sign. We must have looked quite the sight taking selfies at the Raglan Road sign! We then went on to the Patrick Kavanagh statue, just on the banks of the grand canal. We got some great photos there too! Off we went to St. Patrick's Cathedral to have lunch and then a tour of the cathedral. There is stunning scenery there and we were in awe of the cathedral, the structure is amazing! After lunch, we went into the cathedral, and got a tour. There are amazing statues there, one of them is considered the best in Ireland, the attention to detail is just incredible! The stained-glass windows are so picturesque, the craft that went into them is truly magnificent. There's a war memorial, with lots of flags from different wars. There's also a memory tree where you can write down anybody you want to remember and hang it up on the tree, from the 1916 leaders to a family friend or relative. One of the most famous people buried there is Jonathan Swift where they have not only his body, but they showcase some of his books and a replica of his skull. We also just happened to meet a centenarian! Our next stop was Marsh's Library, founded by Narcissus Marsh. It was the first free public library in Europe. At first, things didn't go so well for them as over 2,000 books were stolen so they then decided to create cages so if anyone wanted to read a book, they could do so locked in a cage by the librarian! When you first walk into the library, you're hit with the smell of books which makes the whole thing seem more magical. The library was also caught in a crossfire in the 1916 Rising. A bullet shattered the window and went through the books and there's still bullet marks in the books! There's also a beautiful garden with charming archways. Our next stop was Trinity College. It turned out it was actually Fresher's week so we got a taste of what life might be like after Rosemont! Our last stop was Merrion Square to see the Oscar Wilde statue. It was full of colour and his house was directly opposite the statue. After a long day of sightseeing we made our way home. I had a brilliant day, I would totally recommend it. We definitely don't know what we have on our doorstep. It was a great experience to see some of Ireland's literary greats.

Ella M, 1st yr



Music & the Arts



Art

Art Trip to National History Museum and Trinity College.

In late October the Senior Art class and Ms. O'Connor went on a cultural day trip to the city centre. We had just finished studying the passage graves at Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth and had begun the Bronze Age so The National History Museum was an excellent first choice to visit. We had a guide booked, so at 11.00am we were brought into the museum to begin our tour. The tour guide was excellent as she began to tell us stories of early ancient Ireland and its people. She then brought us through the museum to see the gold artefacts that had either been found by farmers digging on their land or archaeologists at work. I found it fascinating to see the decorative features of the golden hoard in real life – even if it was through a glass case. She also told us that the gold pieces are named after the place where they are found, which I didn't know!

After our visit we headed towards Trinity College. It was a fine day so we ate lunch in the beautiful grounds of Trinity College and watched the busy students make their way to class. We had some spare time before our Trinity tour so a suggestion was made to call into the Douglas Hyde Gallery just inside the Dawson St. entrance. This was a contemporary exhibition of music and art, in sharp contrast to the ancient art across the road. We enjoyed engaging with the artwork although I'm not really sure what it was all about!

At 2.00pm we made our way over to the entrance of Trinity to begin our tour. A past pupil of Trinity College gave us a very well-informed tour of the grounds of Trinity and a good insight into the history of the college. We rounded our tour up with a visit to The Book of Kells and the Long Room in the Old Library at Trinity College. It was really was an interesting day out in the city centre.

Music

The Music Department began this term with a series of lunchtime concerts which were held on the last Friday of each month. We have so far been entertained by 6th and 2nd years, and are looking forward to hearing what TY, 3rd and 1st year have prepared for us in 2019.

TY students hosted the concerts and all those involved in performing showed great initiative and flair for performing. The concerts were a great success and very much enjoyed by all who attended. Very well done to all involved!

Rosemont Choir visited Sandyford Parish church on the 18th November and were very warmly welcomed. The choir performed carols for the Senior Citizens' lunch at Rosemont on the 7th December and will be joining the Capella choir for a Christmas Carol concert on Friday the 14th December in Sandyford Church.

Ms Mahon



Drama

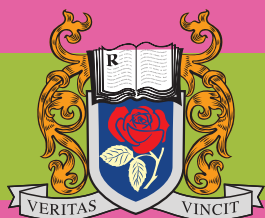
Aladdin & the Magic Carpet Gives Thanks

I find it fitting that the musical had its closing night on the same day that Thanksgiving is celebrated in the States. For indeed the musical is a celebration of community, of coming together and of plenty. Staff, students and parents all contribute to the success of the musical and it certainly is not without hard work and dedication. What I am most thankful for this year is the generosity and willingness-to-go-on-an-adventure that the entire community of Rosemont expressed. *Aladdin and the Magic Carpet* is set in the fabled city of Agrabah, with its market and palace and mysterious Cave of Wonders, and the story seemed to call for something different. So, we changed the layout of the stage to accommodate the two worlds and the distance between them.

As with any big change there is always a potential for failure. Every time I introduced this potential change to a new group of people I was met with the excitement, intrigue, and a willingness to make the extra effort that is required when one extends the stage right through the audience. Every decision regarding costume, set, blocking (where the girls are on and how they navigate the stage), make-up, lighting and sound design needed more time and forethought to address sight-line and other issues that were bound to crop up due to the positioning of the stage. In true growth mindset fashion the questions were "how can we do this" and "what can we learn from this," not "that is impossible, it has never been done." By giving us the green light to try something new and knowing that even if we did fail we would learn plenty along the way, we were able to create a unique and intimate experience for the audience and the cast.

So, thank you. Thank you for being willing to experiment, for your generosity in donating and lending us props and items for the set, for pulling together costumes, for making costumes, for designing costumes, for creating a world in which the cast could play, for hanging black curtains so we had a real sense of back stage (even with the proximity of the audience), for decorating the tuck shop in line with the world of the play, for volunteering, for dropping off and picking up girls, for time spent rehearsing lines, songs and dances, for designing and helping to do make-up, for dressing the set, for painting and hanging, for finding sound effects and editing sound files, for creating harmonies, for cleaning up, for making the programmes, for creating fliers and spreading the word, for choreographing dances, for taking photographs and video, for making cakes for the raffle, for donating prizes, and for coming along and graciously supporting the cast and crew; for all these things and so much more I thank you! It truly takes the whole community to make a musical, and Rosemont is a very special creative community. Ms Nugent





Sports Department

The sports teams have made an amazing start to the 2018 leagues.

- The junior netball team have won 2 out of 3 fixtures in the first round of the league while the senior team are at the top of the league to date.
- The U16 hockey team have won 2 matches and drew 1 so far in the Leinster schoolgirls league. With only two outstanding fixtures they are in a good position to advance to the next round in the competition.
- The 1st year 8-a-side hockey league has begun. The team will play their first match against St. Conleth's College.
- The Cadette and Senior basketball leagues are now finished, a huge congratulations to the Cadette team on reaching the semi-finals.

SPORT'S DAY

On Wednesday, the 26th of September, our annual Sports Day was held. It began at 12:00 p.m. in the sports hall. Firstly, we all got into our teams which consisted of different years and did a fun, rejuvenating warm-up which was led by the 6th Years. Subsequently, everyone headed out for the games which had been planned by the 4th Years.

There were many stations and each team sported a different colour. The different teams went around to each station. At each station, there were different games and we played them to earn points. The older years treated us with profound magnanimity and that gave us an opportunity to discern what sportsmanship truly is.

After a day chock-a-block with fun and laughter, all teams returned to the sport's hall for the prize giving ceremony. There was a prize for the two best dressed girls. After that we awaited the announcement for the teams that won Sport's Day.

We were delighted to discover that the navy team (that's us) had won 1st place! We are very greatly looking forward to next year!

Isobel & Nabeeha, 1st yr



Golf

2018 Irish National Golfing Final U18 girls

On the 31st of October 2018, I participated in the Irish National golfing final for girls under 18. I received a letter from the Irish Ladies Golf Union (ILGU) a few weeks earlier saying that I had qualified for the national final. The top 60 junior girl golfers in Ireland that are under 18 were selected to play in the competition.

I also received a medal for returning the lowest 3 aggregate scores from the months June, July and August out of the girls in Stackstown G.C. The national final was held in Seapoint G.C in Co. Louth. It was a links course and the greens were very difficult. It was very cold on the day and there were a few holes that let me down. I finished 29th and it was a very good result for my first really big competition. Golf is my favourite sport and I can't wait to see what else I achieve.

Abigail S 3rd yr.

Education for Life

Coaching

Students have engaged with their new coaches this academic term numerous times, parents are more than welcome to meet their daughter's coach to communicate and coordinate with the school on their daughter's development.

6th Year Retreat

6th Years went on an overnight retreat at Lismullin Conference Centre in Co. Meath. The two days were filled with fun activities, singing, prayer, Mass, and time to get to know ourselves and set goals for the future. We managed to find time to have a baking competition and made Apple Cake to bring home! The days were entirely stress-free and a great opportunity for bonding as a class, deepening our friendships with each other, and with God.

Ms Pacious



Green Schools Committee

Our Green Schools Committee this year are (left to right) Nabeeha M (1st yr), Isabel F (5th yr), Grace B (3rd yr), Emma H (6th yr), Cassie H (2nd yr), Sarah F (2nd yr), Sarah J (4th yr) and Rebekah D (5th yr).

The girls have been busy so far this academic term organising many worthwhile lunch time activities for every student to participate in.



Guess with Green Schools

On Monday, the 26th of November, the Rosemont Green Schools Committee held a 'Guess with Green Schools' in the atrium at lunch time. The objective of this event was to cultivate all our knowledge about the plastic pollution epidemic and to expose the urgent need to separate our waste.

The event kicked off at 1:35. The way it worked was that a team of five, consisting of three junior students (1st-3rd years) and two senior students (4th-6th years) were given five random items that needed to be put in the bin. Thereupon, they had 20 seconds to put the object in the correct bin (compost, recycling or general waste).



The fastest three teams won a prize at general assembly later that week. Appreciatively, this year's 'Guess with Green Schools' was a huge attainment. The 'Guess with Green Schools' could not have been carried out without the teams' ebullience and, of course, the dedication of the Green Schools Committee for organising the event! Hopefully, it has been an eye-opener and has taken us one step closer to Rosemont saving the planet.

The winners of the competition were Rhona D (6th yr), Aimee G (3rd yr), Keelin D (3rd yr), Grace M (5th yr) and Sian L (3rd yr).

Nabeeha M

Volunteering for Spinal Injuries Ireland



On the 5th of October 2018, 9 members of the student council volunteered for Spinal Injuries Ireland. The nine members consisted of 2 reps from 2nd year, 2 reps from 3rd year, 1 rep from 4th year, 2 reps from 5th year and 2 reps from the international department. We went into Trinity College, where we were given our bibs and buckets. We were then placed along Grafton Street, where we stood shaking our buckets and interacting with passers-by. We did two hour shifts and at the end of it our buckets felt heavy! I really enjoyed the experience and it was a great opportunity to give back to our community through such a worthy cause.

Abigail S (3rd yr)



Rosemont Development News

The Annual Founder's Day Mass and Breakfast on October 2nd was enjoyed by our founding parents of Rosemont! 1st years helped with the breakfast, the Rosemont Choir sang at the Mass, and our guests enjoyed the morning re-connecting with new and old faces!

Benefactors of Rosemont School attended a wine and cheese reception before our annual musical, Aladdin & the Magic Carpet. They enjoyed the time to chat, see the new school, and watch the brilliant production!

Past pupils & alumnae please forward your new contact details so we can keep you informed. Ms Pacious



Student Council

The Student Council has been very busy this term in Rosemont and we have undertaken lots of worthwhile projects and initiatives around the school. Fun Friday has been an ongoing event to encourage interaction among all the year groups. We also organised the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox appeal and gathered a pile of boxes from the school community. These will be delivered to some very deserving children for Christmas. We welcomed our two new 1st year representatives onto the council after the mid-term break. These are Ella and Linxi and they are settling in well to their new roles.

We ran two awareness weeks. Firstly, Anti-Bullying week where we encouraged kindness and positive behaviour. All students signed the anti-bullying pledge and recited it at whole school assembly. For Social Media Awareness week we promoted and encouraged a "Phone-Free Friday" to draw attention to our use or over-use of our phones sometimes. We also ran a special Fun Friday to promote this. Poster competitions were held for both weeks and well done to the winners; Sarah F in 2nd year & Claire K in 6th year. We were all very busy helping with different aspects of the musical whether that was running the tuck shop or organising the raffle.

We are currently running a photography competition "What Rosemont means to me" and hope to get some lovely snaps of life in Rosemont. We are looking forward to another successful year for Rosemont Student Council in 2019. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the members of the Student Council.

Rachel B & Aoife H



*Middle row: Orla M, Daniela O, Lucy H, Siddhi S, Marcela E, Megan D.
Front row: Linxi G, Ella O'L, Abigail S, Jean C, Siobhan B. Missing from photo: Rachel B, Tara H*



Note from Head Girl

On behalf of the student council, I would like to wish all of the students, staff and families of Rosemont a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

We are also looking forward to the 21st December for Christmas Jumper Day which we are organising in aid of the Simon Community.

Enjoy the festivities and the break!

- Ursula McD



Toys to upcycle

In RE class on the 4th of December first year students brought in toys to upcycle. Claire, a genius at crafts, came to help us.

They worked hard together checking that all the parts were in the board games; replacing batteries and making sure everything was working, sewing and cleaning until everything was as good as new! Some dolls got new hairstyles and teddy bears got waistcoats. The students are also delighted to be helping our environment by doing this. As Emma, Eve and Holly said:

"We put on Santa Hats, played festive tunes and got into the Christmas spirit of giving – we had so much fun. The toys are for the Capuchin Day Centre Homeless Shelter. We all hope the toys make some children very happy. And we can't wait for the children to get their presents and we hope they love the toys as much as we did. Thank you to Claire and everyone who made this experience possible".

Ms Kelly



Debating

DEBATING TERM 1

Many of the second years have been involved in two different competitions throughout the term. Sabastine, Eimear, Jean, Nicole, Karolina, Grace and Niamh have all debated in 2 Mace debates where they have been well placed in each debate. They still have one debate to go and then we will know who will progress to the Leinster finals. Based on their scores so far, several look set to progress.

Eimear, Karolina, Niamh and Grace have also taken part in three debating competitions in UCD. Niamh and Grace won their last debate.

It has been a great experience for all the girls and one they have enjoyed thoroughly.

First years are just beginning their debating and hope to be involved in a competition in the next term. Meanwhile Hilary is training almost every weekend for Team Ireland as they prepare to go to the World Schools Debating Finals in Sri Lanka in July. Hilary is one of 5 students chosen from the whole country and the only TY student on the Irish team.

Ms Farrell



Transition Year - TY

Our TY students have not stopped this term. In addition to a busy timetable one activity has swiftly led on to the next, from coffee morning fundraising for the Hospice, presentations to parents, mini-companies, first aid courses, to numerous inter-schools' competitions.

Above all, we are exceptionally proud of the girls' participation in the GAISCE programme and the feedback from the Blessington hike instructor, *"It was probably the most enjoyable Gaisce walk I have done. If Rosemont girls are representative of the generation that will lead us in this Millennium, and the challenges that have to be faced up to, then we are very well prepared."*

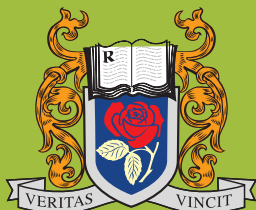
Tasters from the girls of the year to date are:



Sailing

In TY we are lucky enough to have a 6-week module on sailing. We have sailing classes each week with INSS located in Dun Laoghaire. During our time sailing we have learnt the parts on the boat, how to set up the sail boat, and how to sail in the harbour. One week was particularly windy so we learnt kayaking instead. We have all enjoyed the module, especially having a swim in the harbour every week. Ava C & Roísín M, TY





ROSEMONT SCHOOL



Junior Cert Results Day & Carlingford

We arrived at the school nervous and with a strong feeling of eagerness. Entering the school, the sound of chatting increased, and I could see many fellow students and their parents talking to teachers. Some students had pieces of paper in their hands and others had nervous expressions on their faces. After everyone got their results, the chatting became louder and the laughs heartier. We said goodbye to our parents, hopped on the coach for a fun filled trip to Carlingford with an enormous sense of relief.

On arrival we participated in a wide range of activities including laser combat, kayaking, ziplining and games in the dark. All the activities required team work and cooperation. This gave us a chance to build new friendships as well as refreshing old ones.

Overall the trip was a fantastic experience.

Laura H & Sarah J, TY

Model UN Conference (MUN)

This year a group of seven TY students took part in a Model UN Conference. It was hosted by Terenure College on September 28th and 29th (TERMUN). The model UN involves students simulating UN delegates and UN Committees. Each school had a different country to represent. Rosemont represented Ethiopia. We learned so much from debating on the resolutions of the world problems which needed to be solved. MUN was a wonderful experience and we are all looking forward to the next one. A big thank you to Ms Collins who attended with us. Sofia P & Henrietta I, TY



DCU - CTYI

This year a number of girls in my year and I were awarded the opportunity to study a range of topics in DCU. I chose psychology, while others took Law, Politics or Mathematical Science.

What this means for me is that every Friday from 10am until 4pm I am in DCU studying cognitive psychology and child development.

It is a great experience as I get to learn many new interesting things and see what college life is like. While having to submit assessment papers and study, I have also made new friends from all around the country and we are having a great time. Tess B, TY



Rome Tour 2018



Despite waking up ridiculously early, when the 45 students and teachers arrived in the airport, we were all buzzing. Well, most of us were. The rest of us were half awake! Our flight was at 7am and after having been awake for hours already, a lot of people were ready to sleep on the plane.

We flew to Naples and from there took a bus to Pompeii. We had a quick pitstop at McDonalds so when we arrived in Pompeii we had time to see around the new town.

After that, we went into the ancient site of Pompeii which was an incredible experience. We walked the streets and saw some of the remaining houses. Coincidentally, a discovery had been made a couple of weeks before our visit that corrected the date that Vesuvius was believed to have erupted to the 24th of October, which just so happened to be the date we were there.

We saw the forum of Pompeii at sunset which was fantastic. There were displays of casts of people, dogs, pottery and more that had all been destroyed. It was fascinating yet horrific to see.

Afterwards, we made our way to our hotel in Sorrento, at which point, it hit us all that we had been awake for upwards of 16 hours!

The next morning we were up bright and breezy to hike Mount Vesuvius. The view was phenomenal, and well worth the effort.

Our next stop was the Catacombs in Rome. They were very interesting, and definitely not for claustrophobes! The hotel in Rome was lovely and that night we went to dinner and got to try authentic Italian pizza.

The following day was a very long one. Due to the transport strike we had to get up extra early. We took the metro to the Vatican for a guided tour around the Vatican Museums. They were breathtaking with all the amazing paintings, sculptures and tapestries. They led eventually to the Sistine Chapel, which was smaller than I expected, but still amazing. We also got to see St Peter's Basilica which was very impressive. The Pietà is housed there and to get to see something one hears so much about, in person, was a great experience.

After the museums, we made our way to the Colosseum. Many people were very impressed by it while others appreciated it but were distracted by the pain in their feet!

On our last day, we went on a walking tour of Rome. We saw the Roman Forum and lots more before we arrived at the Trevi Fountain. In Rome there is something extraordinary around almost every corner, the Spanish Steps and a street protest were no exception.

All in all, it was a wonderful trip. I think I speak for us all when I say we are all very grateful for the opportunity. As a group we became closer and shared a lot of laughs. We didn't realise we were making memories, we just knew we were having fun.

Niamh Ni F, 3rd yr

