

The TY Independent

Summer 2019

Mini-Business

In November, the fourth years launched their mini businesses. There were five different companies set up. There was TY Tees, who sold tie dye t-shirts and scrunchies. Rosemints, sold locker fresheners. I Forgot..., sold essential kits. Bhamah, who sold pop sockets and finally Crafted, who sold handmade products. The businesses opened each week on Wednesday at lunch time until Christmas and the products were on sale at school events too. This project gave us a great insight into how businesses are set up and how companies are run.



On Thursday, 21st March, TY Tees represented Rosemont at the Young Entrepreneurs Competition. They won a merit for teamwork and won best presentation! The mini businesses were a fantastic experience and we learned many new skills while doing them.

Ellen Molloy Murphy

Build a Bank

In TY we have the amazing opportunity to take part in the AIB build a bank challenge. We create our CVs and go through an interview process. Isabel, Sofia, Tara, Henrietta, Kate and I were the chosen team members. Our team had to come up with a theme for the bank and then get as many of the Rosemont students to set up current accounts and lodge money. The theme this year was Charlie and the Chocolate Bank. Our members on the team dressed up as Willy Wonka and Oompa Loompas.

We held a Christmas market, a Kahoot and more fun games. On the 13th of March we went to the competition, where we presented our bank to lots of people including the judges. This was a great experience where we all learned many skills about banking, presenting and working in a team.

Ruth Arigho



Seachtaine na Gaeilge

Seachtaine na Gaeilge which translates to 'Irish Language week' is an international Irish language festival and one of the biggest annual celebrations of our native language and culture. Similar to most schools around Ireland, Rosemont has been participating in many activities to celebrate Seachtaine na Gaeilge. There has been Irish language workshops for all years to participate in and a ceili with our nearest primary school, St. Mary's Sandyford.

The school intercom became Radio na Gaeilge, with announcements and morning prayer only made in Irish.

Rachel Glennon

Modules

Overview

As part of the TY program, every Tuesday we had an interactive learning session. These sessions were split into modules. Throughout the year, we did six modules. Each was different from the others and we learned so much from all of them.

Sailing Module

To begin the modules we did six weeks of sailing in Dun Laoghaire Irish National Sailing School. In the first few weeks we were taught the basics of sailing and had to sail in pairs around buoys. As the weeks progressed, so did our knowledge of sailing techniques. We were able to apply these techniques to our sailing tasks. We came upon many challenges while sailing such as strong wind and other weather conditions.

Sailing was a great experience and I loved spending 6 weeks doing this sport as it is very invigorating. I would encourage people to practice it. We had to work in teams, and I was always trying to get together with an Irish girl to integrate better and to learn more English. All in all sailing has been a very fun and unforgettable experience.

Sarah Johnson & Ana Sánchez



First Aid Module

Our First Aid module happened over the course of six weeks. A First-Aider named Siobhan came in

every week to teach us. She gave us information as to what to do in certain situations. Such as someone choking, fainting, having a stroke, a seizure and many more through discussions, watching videos and practicing. We applied them to real life by using dummies and even practicing on each other.

The module was very informative, and we now feel that we have more knowledge on the subject and may use it in an emergency.

Sarah Johnson.



Law Module

This year as one of our TY modules we learnt about the law. For this we had a Barrister come in and give us a crash course in Irish law. While we learnt about a variety of topics, he mostly focused on the courts as that is his area of expertise. We got the chance to participate in mock trials which was a great learning experience. After we went on a tour of the four courts where we sat in on some of the ongoing trials. This gave us a better look at how real trials operate. At the very end we took a short multiple-choice quiz that demonstrated how much we had learned in the short period.

Tess Barry

Self Defense

As one of our TY modules, we did self defense. An instructor came in for 2 hours every Tuesday for 5 weeks to teach us self-defense.

The instructor, Alan O'Brien, taught us moves using punches,

kicks, blocks, elbows and pokes. After learning the basics for the first few sessions, we went on to combining them to make difference sequences.

We really enjoyed learning these moves, and using the punching bag. We learned a lot and we now feel confident that we can use these moves if we ever need to.

Laura Healy



Active Dance Module

The active dance module is a program that allows the Transition Years at Rosemont to work out and be kept fit while still enjoying themselves. It runs for five weeks and in the final week the class performed the dance practiced in the previous weeks for a few other schools in UCD campus. Being able to partake in the module gave us a few handy skills that we can apply in our daily life. A useful skill we learned was perseverance as the routine that we performed was a bit tricky in some parts but through diligence we were able to perfect it. Overall, the experience was quite beneficial as we got to apply important life skills and were taught a whole new talent!

Isabel Reisz



SENARA EXCHANGE

Trip to Senara school

Five girls were selected from Transition Year to go to school in Senara, Madrid for four weeks. Lucy, Sofia, Alex, Rachel and Sarah were chosen after a selection process of exams, essay writing and an interview.

On Sunday the 10th of February we said goodbye to our families in Dublin airport and were greeted in Aeropuerto Barajas by our host families. We stayed with individual families and went to school with our host sisters. In school, we were split and put into 3 ESO (third year equivalent) and 4 ESO (fourth year) and classes A or B. We participated in all classes with our peers; and took some new interesting subjects such as Latin, Architecture, Culture and German. Overall, Senara was a fantastic experience. We all improved our Spanish greatly, gained confidence in speaking it and learned independence in all aspects of life.

Sarah Johnson



Trips in Senara

Whilst in Spain, we spent the weekends with our host families. It is a privilege over there to be able to have a student and so our weekends were something to look forward to.

I was lucky in that my family had a holiday home and relatives who lived just outside Madrid and each weekend they took me to see a different place. The first weekend we stayed at the holiday home

in Peralejo and visited San Lorenzo Castle and Monastery. We also went out for traditional tapas. The next weekend, we went to Segovia, where we stayed with an aunt and went sightseeing. I got to try a traditional meal of baby piglet!

As I was on the Camino the next weekend, I got to see parts of Galicia but the last weekend before I left we went for two nights to Valladolid. We stayed with grandparents, went out for food and got to do some last-minute shopping. I am so thankful to my host family for bringing me so many places and I thoroughly enjoyed my time with them.

Lucy Hand

El Camino De Santiago

On the last week of our month experience in Senara, the five Irish girls went on a five-day trip to Galicia with the Spanish girls in fourth year to walk the Camino de Santiago. We went on a 6-hour bus journey to a village called Arzúa where our hostel was located and soon enough, the next day we started our 60 kilometers walking journey from Melide. Each day we walked approximately 20 kilometres with a group of fifty girls. Once we reached Santiago de Compostela, we attended High Mass on Ash Wednesday in the Cathedral. Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed the experience as we got to bond more with the Spanish girls in the class and we also were able to enjoy the beautiful scenery of Galicia.

Alex Kelly



Netball

On the 20th March, a netball team from Cape Town, South Africa came over to play the Rosemont Netball Team. Even though we lost our match, we put up a great fight and we improved every quarter. We also had a lot of supporters who made the whole experience very enjoyable and it had a great atmosphere. We all really enjoyed the match and it was a great experience getting to play a team we had never played before.



I was also very lucky to have the opportunity to play for Netball Ireland U17s this year. I got to travel to Gibraltar on the 7th-11th of March for the European Championships. Over the weekend we played four matches. We lost to Isle of Man and Switzerland drew against Gibraltar and won against Malta. Overall it was a great experience and I enjoyed myself a lot and I was proud to represent my country.

Roisin Maguire

LIVING ABROAD

Getting to Know Ireland

"The weather here is something I have never experienced before. It is nice to have some cold and rainy days to stay in; however, I do miss the warm weather back home. I enjoy the Irish weather in parts; I didn't know it snowed in Ireland and I was so excited when I experienced it."

Valeria Garza

"I think the Saturday trips are the best part of being an international student. The most important part for me is that all the international girls go on the trips together. We are like a family, even though we are all different ages and from different countries."

Marta Clemente



"The Cliffs of Moher have been one of my favorite places to visit. I experienced some of the most amazing views. The Burren is unique, the limestone and different rock formations made it a truly incredible site. I really would love to go again since I really enjoyed it."

Valeria Garza

"I've lived through one of the Irish traditions, 'Pancake Tuesday', and I really enjoyed it! As I adore pancakes I loved this tradition and want to have it in Mexico!"

Ana Kirchner

"Saint Patrick's Day was really an amazing experience. Hearing so many different languages and seeing people from different countries getting together in one city was truly incredible. The streets were packed with people and I saw parts of the parade."

Valeria Garza

An Irish Home

"C ad M ile F ilte – I feel very lucky to have my host family. They give me a lot of support. I have a strong relationship with my host father, and I can confide in my host mother. If I have any problems, she always asks me if I am ok and we have a nice bond."

Marta Clemente

GUEST SPEAKERS

We have had many guest speakers come in to talk to us about what career path they have chosen and how they are there. One of the architects, Elaine MacMahon, who worked on our school building came in and spoke to us. She spoke candidly about how she became an architect and the struggles she faced along the way. Elaine is now Data Center Design Regional Manager EMEA, Architect at Facebook. We also had an engineer, Edith Blennerhassett, Director at Arup speak to us on her career in Arup and what it is like being a woman in a male dominant career. We learnt so much through these speakers and we have gained confidence in going into a STEM career as a woman.

Ava Creaven

"People may think it is hard to be in a different house, with people you don't know, in a place you've never been before, but the host families help you a lot to feel welcome. Besides, I have made so many new friends and discovered new places. It is a great experience and I have created a lot of memories."

Ana Kirchner

Microsoft Dreamspace

On Friday, May 10th we went on a trip to Microsoft, where we took part in the Dreamspace experience.

Dreamspace is an immersive teaching experience that teaches students how to do light coding while also promoting new software that Microsoft has produced.

It teaches students how technology can enhance education in new ways. While at Dreamspace we worked with different types of code and then got the chance to try mixed reality.



Trips

As part of TY we got to go on many exciting trips over the course of the year. To celebrate our excellent JC results, we stayed overnight at Carlingford Adventure Centre and did many challenging outdoor activities such as kayaking, ziplining and laser tag. We got to visit various museums throughout the year and we got to attend the school trip to Rome. For our end of year trip, we spent a day in Belfast. Visiting the Titanic and W5 museums, we really enjoyed the trip and the great weather that came with it!

Sarah Johnson



Interview with a teacher

We asked Ms. Farrell how she got into teaching, what it's like to be a teacher and of course, her opinion on transition year.

To our surprise Ms. Farrell didn't always want to be the teacher she is today and started teaching accidentally when she taught classes in Rosemont to make a living while studying for a master's degree in accounting.

Soon after, she realised how much she enjoyed teaching and the rest is history. We asked if she was to go back, would she change her career knowing what she does now. Her response was certain, absolutely not, she talked about how rewarding it is to be a teacher.

We asked what her opinion was on Transition Year and talked about how it is important to have this year to mature but also about how



it is important to have an academic curriculum during the year also.

Tara Hodgins

Opinion Piece: Climate Change

Being a transition year student currently it is time to see a change.

Statistics show Ireland is the highest carbon emitter per head in the EU, this is an astounding figure as we are such a small country.

Ireland is the only country in the European Union not doing anything about climate change. As students, it is our duty to stand up for what we believe in and fight for change, we demand something is done.

Friday the 24th of March was a date for the history books where students across Dublin took a stand and protested for climate justice. It is astonishing to see both; the amount of people who want to make a change and the amount of people who believe that their voice won't make a difference.

We have heard from many students, not only in Rosemont but from other schools, saying that them going out and protesting isn't going to do anything. This simply isn't true, as young people it is our duty to encourage everyone to stand up for climate justice as Ghandi once said "be the change you want to see in the world"

Tara Hodgins



Gaisce

As part of TY we have the option to take part in the Gaisce Award (Presidents Award).

We had to do different activities such as community involvement, Physical recreation and a personal skill.

We also went on a hike to Glendalough. We stayed overnight in a hostel and hiked over 20km in total.

Overall the Gaisce has helped us build many skills such as teamwork, communication, organisation, independence and leadership

Ruth Arigho



Work Experience

In TY like other schools we get the opportunity to do work experience. This gives us good insight on what we want to do in the future or in some cases what we defiantly don't want to do. It's important to plan your placements as early as possible before all the spaces run out. In Rosemont we get two assigned weeks but if we wish to organize more, we can. This year we had a wide variety of different work experiences in our year. Some of the places people went include an architect's office, a radio station, a vet, a primary school, a chemistry lab, a bakery, the courts, Microsoft and so much more. Work experience helps us all to gain so many skills that we will need in later life. A few of the many skills we learned include independence, initiative, co-operation, teamwork communication, leadership and more.



Ruth Arigho

A Parents Perspective

The TY program in Rosemont is very comprehensive and well structured.

The girls benefit from a wide-ranging set of experiences and learn valuable life skills, such as first aid and self-defense.

The opportunity to create and run their own mini business with fellow classmates, teaches valuable skills around not only business matters such as marketing, and finance but also how to work in teams and to problem solve.

The girls present to all the TY parents twice in the year and this is always a great evening, and I'm always amazed not only by how well the girls present but by all they manage to achieve in a short period of time.

It's a great opportunity for the girls to grow in independence and to enable them to start to consider where their passions lie and what they might like to do after leaving cert.

A TY mom



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Editor's Note

This is the first ever transition year newsletter and as the editor I am honoured to have been able to help make this happen. Our Team has put in so much work in order to make this a reality and we are very proud of what we have achieved. I hope this newsletter starts a future of journalism in the school and gives people yet another opportunity for creativity in transition year. Tara Hodgins



Edited and designed by Sarah Johnson,
Ruth Arigho and Tara Hodgins

Student Poll: Highlights of the Year

1st years – Literary tour & Cool Planet

2nd years – the Musical

3rd years – Sports day

4th years – Talent show & Belfast trip

5th years – Rome trip
& LauraLynn barbeque

6th years – Retreat, Ice skating &
Graduation song

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