



TY CLASS OF 2015:



- JOHANNA BOCK
- TERRI BONDSFIELD
- JOSEL BRAVO
- TAYLOR CASHMAN
- SILVANA CIMINO
- JENNIFER CLIFFORD
- SINEAD COLLINS
- AMBER CORKERY
- IRIA CUADRADO
- LAUREN DALAPO
- CARMEN DONAIRE
- AOIFE GEARY
- CLODAGH HARTNETT
- ANDREA HEALY
- SHAUNA HEGARTY
- JULE HEGER
- LISA HOHLER
- AOIHEANN MCCARTHY
- SANTA NARSBERGA
- DAYNA OLLIFFE
- SHAUNA O CALLAGHAN
- LAUREN O DONOVAN
- LAUREN O HORA
- REBECCA AHERN O'LOUGHLIN
- CIARA O NEILL
- AOIFE O REGAN
- ASHLEIGH O REILLY
- LAURA BYRNE O RIORDAN
- LEANNA O SULLIVAN
- MAGDALENA PSENICKOVA
- KAIA PURCELL
- KYRA ROCHFORD
- ELIZAMINA SARMIENTO
- KORNELIA STATZEL
- KINGA SZALECKA
- IDA WERNET
- DALIAH WOLFF

Welcome Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Welcome to this first TY newsletter and thank you to Ms. A. O’ Callaghan and Ms. F. O’ Callaghan (Transition Year Co-Ordinator) for compiling this edition. I hope your daughter has enjoyed her experience in Transition Year. As you read through this newsletter you will learn about the variety of events, class activities and projects the TY girls have been involved in.

Any newsletter can only capture a flavour of the wonderful level of endeavour in any given school year. Hard work and commitment from both the staff and students have ensured that this Transition Year Newsletter showcases the wide variety of educational activities that our girls enjoyed and benefited from. The highlights no doubt include the excellent Junior Certificate results, overnight trip to Kenmare Outdoor Education, and travelling to Dublin to the musical Jersey Boys!

Transition Year is an optional course within our school. Our programme is based on the Department of Education and Skills aims for the Transition Year Programme:

- 1) Continuation of the core subjects
- 2) Subject sampling for the Leaving Certificate Programme
- 3) Transition Year specific modules and subjects
- 4) Once off calendar events

Within St. Aloysius the core subjects of English, Irish and Maths are continued with heavy emphasis on building on pupils’ knowledge from the Junior Cycle and giving a strong grounding for the Senior Cycle. Students had five class periods each week in all three core subjects. Pupils are given the opportunity to sample the subjects on offer in the school for Leaving Certificate:

Home Economics	Business	Music
History	Geography	Art
French	German	Religion
SPHE	All the science subjects: Biology, Physics and Chemistry	

Within Transition Year specific modules. The modules this year are:

Italian	Chinese	Oral European Language class
Performing Arts	Career Guidance	Physical Education

Congratulations to the Transition Year Class of 2015! We all share and salute each and every one of you in your individual achievements. The staff of St Aloysius wishes you every success as you progress into Senior Cycle.

Ms. Richel Long
Principal

TY SCIENCE MODULE

The year began by the TY students becoming detectives for a few weeks to solve a mock school murder. The students used a variety of analysis techniques found on the Leaving Cert Chemistry course to find and solve the crime, for example DNA profiling, chromatography, finger print analysis, cation and anion tests .

Students entered ideas for the SEAI competition to come up with One Good Idea for sustaining energy and protecting the environment, while learning about energy, conservation and the environment. Two students Kinga and Magdalena were successful in their proposal to go through to the final.

In January, the TY Science class travelled to the Young Scientist in Dublin, where we had a very enjoyable day. The students got to see lots of projects, and exhibitions from colleges about careers in Science.

Students also took their hand at becoming Geneticist for a few weeks, where they learned how traits are inherited from their parents, and presented some nice projects on Genetic Disorders to the class

TY students took a module in food and food spoilage. They presented menus of a healthy diet, looking into the main food groups, and conducted experiments investigating how some enzymes break down food.

They have just completed a module on Cosmetic Chemistry where the students were successful in making their own soap, essential oils, lip balms, hand creams, bath salts and bath bombs.



VEGETABLE GARDEN

The TY Science class set up their own vegetable garden out the back of the school. They have been tending to their city garden throughout the year. There is now a wide selection of vegetables and herbs growing. They will be brewing a nutritious soup from these ingredients at the end of the year!



TY MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS MODULE

TY students studied various branches of Mathematics throughout the year, increasing their confidence in the different areas, as well as developing a love of Mathematics.

In particular, Mathematics classes were delivered in a practical way, encouraging students to recognise the importance of Mathematics in everyday life. Students covered material from the five strands of the Senior Cycle syllabus, with each student producing a project on a topic of their choice.

TY students were fortunate enough to study a Statistics module for the duration of the year. Statistics hold a vital position in almost every field including Commerce, Economics, Biology, and Psychology to name a few, and this module gave students an insight into how they encounter statistics in everyday life.

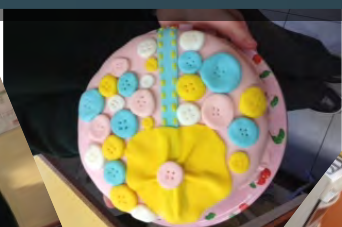
Other interesting areas of mathematics examined included the fascinating phenomenon of the Fibonacci sequence, the golden ratio in nature, and the story of pi. Trigonometry was taken outside the classroom when home made clinometers were used to measure the height the school. Homage was also paid to George Boole when investigating binary mathematics.



Students enjoying a day out in UCC in October 2014, where they attended a seminar on the relationship between Maths and Music.

TY HOME ECONOMICS MODULE

The students had great fun preparing for the CESIT Bake Off. All the girls submitted their excellent entries. The students experimented with a variety of designs. They created some wonderful displays. At the end of the year the students will undertake The Primary Course in Food Hygiene. Gaining this certification will allow the students develop their understanding of microbiology, food preservation and HACCP food safety systems.



TY RELIGION MODULE

During TY Religion students are given an opportunity to gain insight into different New Religious Movements, Sects and Cults. Transition Year students examine the different Religions of the world which they will encounter during their lives and also Religions that they would like to know more about. Through media outlets students will have heard of different Religions and Cults that they would like to know more about and Transition year is an opportunity for this to happen.

Knowing different customs, values and religious beliefs can open a young person's mind up to another's viewpoint. It can reinforce their own beliefs and also help them to have an informed opinion on a topic. This year we have looked at Scientology, The Amish, The Church of Jesus Christ and the Latter Day Saints (Mormonism), among others.

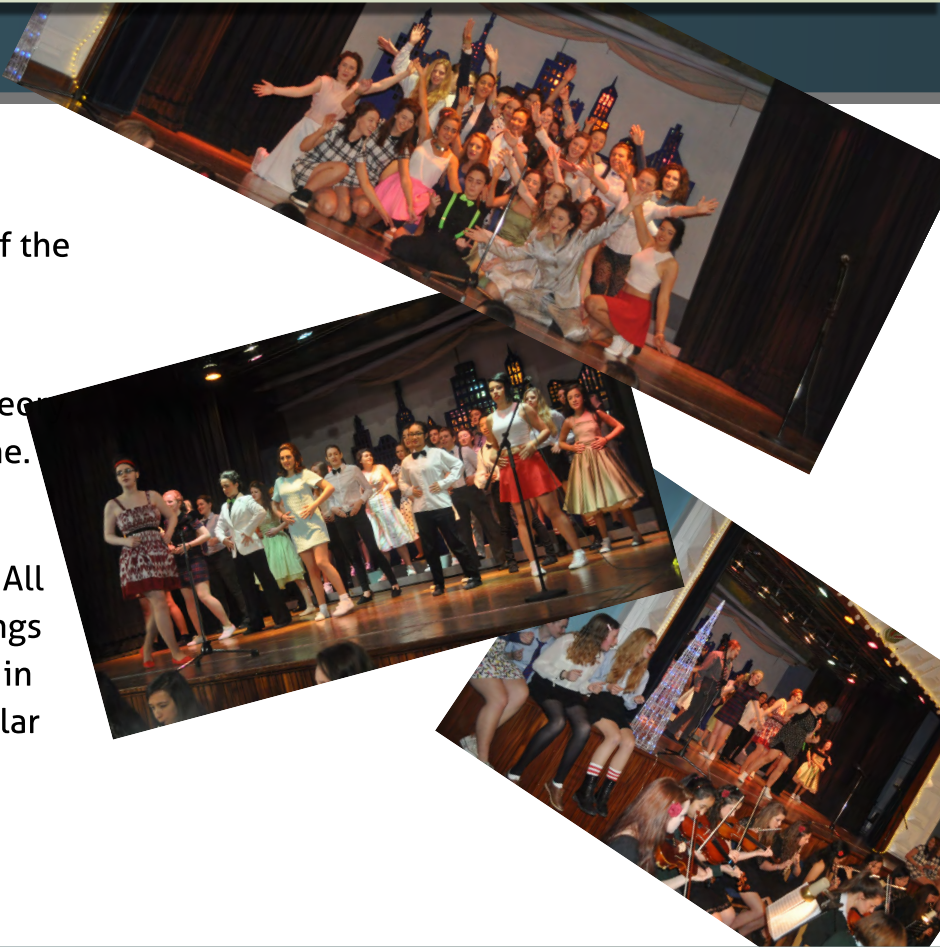
TY MUSIC MODULE

Music in Transition Year in St. Als aims to encourage students to gain an overall appreciation of music in a non academic environment. Throughout the year, music students developed their listening, performing and composing skills (integral part of the Leaving Cert programme). Students studied and enjoyed a variety of music related topics including the following:

Music Analysis, Musical Texture , Composition, Music Harmony, Irish Music, Music Theory, Music Performance in the Annual Variety Show, and Composer in the Classroom Programme.

St. Als has had a huge tradition of producing an annual Variety Show over the years. All TY students partook in the Variety Show last November, performing and dancing songs from the musical Hairspray. Songs included "Good Morning Baltimore", "Nicest Kids in Town", and "You Can't Stop the Beat". Each student took responsibility for a particular role, ranging from:

Singing/Dancing, Sound and Lighting, Costumes/Costume Design, Ticket Sales, Back Stage/Stage Manager, Choreography, and Hair and Make Up.



COMPOSER IN THE CLASSROOM

This year, Transition Year students were fortunate enough to be chosen to participate in the Composers in the Classroom (CIC) scheme. This scheme, (initiated by Cork International Choral festival and the Arts Officers of Cork City and Cork County Councils), brings professional composers/musicians into the classroom to work with students for the duration of the year. Students developed approaches to creative composition, and composed 5 songs to a very high musical standard, with the aid of their composer in residence Ms. Emily Magner. Students performed their compositions in Millennium Hall (City Hall) in early May as part of the Cork International Choral Festival.



TY ENGLISH MODULE

To provide students with an insight into Senior Cycle English, we covered aspects of Paper 1 and 2 throughout the year. The syllabus was explored through various methodological approaches such as poetry projects, novel poster projects, film studies, class magazine, drama and script writing.

Paper 1 involved students participation in speeches, debates and composing of essays, short stories etc. This provided the students with sufficient preparation for the coming year.

Throughout the year students were provided with various opportunities to improve their oral skills and team bonding. This was achieved through acting workshops which were presented Marianna Piters who is the co-ordinator of *How Dramatic* which is a stage school directed at teenagers. ActorsVision Cork, co-ordinated by Darren Kelleher, accompanied by a successful local student of the school, Anthony Moriarty, also visited the school and provided active learning for the students.

In conjunction with Deerpark CBS, four students were selected following an audition process to perform for the duration of the Drama Festival. In support of these students, we attended the performance which the students thoroughly enjoyed.



TY P.E. MODULE

Chinese Martial Arts: During this four week period the students gained an insight into Chinese Sport and Leisure activities which is an integral part in Chinese traditional culture. The students learnt about the profound benefits that accompany Tai Chi and Kung Fu.

Team Challenges: The girls engaged in a variety of team building games and activities during this time. This allowed the students to develop socially, personally and physically which is the main aim of the PE programme. The skills learnt during this scheme were extremely valuable to the students as they were transferable to various other subject areas. The students completed a tournament 'The Final Showdown' in small teams at the end of this scheme.

Wheelchair Basketball Tournament: This was part of the fourth year SSPE Final year Fundraiser in aid of the Irish wheelchair Association. Each student collected a significant amount of money for this charity which we in SSPE are very grateful for. The students competed against other schools across cork city and county but were unlucky not to reach the semi-finals. The students also completed a juggling workshop at this event. It was a very successful day for all involved.

Strictly Come Dancing: The students explored a different era of dance each week. The students were divided into smaller groups in which they choreographed their own dance for the Strictly Come Dancing competition. The students were given the opportunity to pick an era of dance of their choice for this competition. The students carried out significant research surrounding this era of dance in terms of music, costumes and dance styles. The competition was held at the end of the 5 weeks and some very interesting dances were showcased!



TY HISTORY MODULE

The TY History programme is a half year module rotating with Geography. Throughout the year the History classes got a chance to look at different topics that would not have been dealt with at Junior Cert level. Various topics included looking at Cork's rich heritage ,traditions and buildings. Time was also spent examining the Suffragette Movement. Historical and momentous world events from 1900's to 1970 were studied and discussed using valuable video clips .The life and times of Charlie Chaplin gave the students a peek into the world of the silent movie era. Each student was asked to present a project as part of their course assessment.

TY ACCOUNTING MODULE

During Transition Year Accounting, students gain an insight into the Leaving Certificate course. They cover areas that they can transfer into real life even if they do not continue on accounting for Leaving Certificate.

Final Accounts of a Sole Trader: The topic relates to someone who sets up and runs their own business, for example, Hairdresser, Beautician or a Butcher. Many of these individuals struggle to complete their own accounts and the introduction of our students to this topic gives them a basic understanding of the accounts they would need to complete if they were to become a sole trader/ entrepreneur.

Budgeting: This topic is covered on the Junior Certificate course with relationship to a household, but at Leaving Certificate we look at how a business will complete a cash budget. This is a relevant and easy topic which most students enjoy. It is also a topic that can be transferred into everyday life.

Club accounts: Many of our students are involved in their local clubs and societies and while looking at this topic they can gain an insight into the background work that is completed by a Treasurer. It also gives them the skill and basic knowledge of how a Treasurer completes the accounts of a Club.

ST. BRIGID'S DAY



Internet Safety Day took place on 10th of February 2015.

In an attempt to raise awareness, the Transition Year English Classes took part in surveys and created posters to educate fellow students on the dangers of on-line misuse.

Parents and Students,

As the TY year comes to an end for the class of 2015, I hope it was a memorable one. It certainly was for me as my first year as coordinator. I know that each girl gave 100% to the year and now today they have blossomed into beautiful young ladies with the world at their feet. The year was one in which the girls could take time to experience all things academic and not so academic.

The year got off to a flying start with our bonding trip to the National Ploughing Championships! From Chinese, to composing and performing their very own songs, to the opportunity to discover the culinary delights of their native Cork and also dine out at an Italian restaurant. For health and fitness we had a wonderful trip full of activity in Kenmare.

So now as the year comes to a close - I hope the experience was a good one and a productive one. The work experience and community work was a time of reflection as to what career paths should be pursued. Everyone gave an "Oscar" winning performance in Good Morning Baltimore contributing to one of the best Variety Shows in years.

I want to extend a special thank you to you the parents for supporting your daughters' endeavours over the year and would the young ladies of TY class of 2015 take a bow! I am so proud of you all!

Frances O Callaghan
TY Coordinator.

