

ST. ALOYSIUS SECONDARY SCHOOL
SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021



Principal, Ms
Alexandria Savage
& Deputy Principal,
Ms Kathy McGlade



Head Girl, Sarah
Lane & Deputy Head
Girl, JC Gomes

Each new school year sees a time of change, this year was no exception. In August we returned to a very different school environment with a detailed Covid Response plan to protect the staff and students of school. It became second nature to everyone to wipe down their desks, chairs, door handles after each use. What stood out most during this challenging year was the positivity and support the entire community showed for each other. Everything was achieved as a team and a clear dedication that together we would make this school year as memorable as possible.

We trust that as you read through this newsletter you will gain an insight into how life in St. Als continued to be dynamic, innovative, engaging and supportive regardless of the pandemic. Many projects were undertaken and completed in a year where we were teaching and learning online for 3 months. The TY Programme continued to make the most of every opportunity that came their way, from lip syncing their musical, day trips to local sights (within their 5k!) and engaging in projects in school each week.

We have a newly refurbished library which is a pleasure to work in and heart-warming to see our many senior students enjoying this space at their afternoon study sessions. Our computer room is a delightful digital hub where students can work on laptops, pcs and tablets. Our outdoor garden is taking shape and our flowers are in full bloom at the moment for our Leaving Certs to appreciate during exam season.

We also wish Ms Butler and Mrs M O'Donovan every happiness in their retirement. Their contribution to school life has been immeasurable and they will be forever treasured and welcome here in St. Als.

On behalf of Ms. Kathy McGlade and myself, we thank all of our teachers, students, parents, our Board of Management, our trustees CEIST and our Parents Association for your continued support. Your support has helped all of our students enjoy their time here in school and help them to achieve their potential. We look forward to welcoming you all back into St. Als in the coming year. Until then, we wish you all a safe, healthy and above all else a happy summer break.

Ms Alexandria Savage
Principal

Ms Kathy McGlade
Deputy Principapl

Meitheal 2020/21 A year like no other!

Meitheal is a group of 5th year students who, with the training of Scala and guidance of their teacher Ms White, help incoming first year students settle into life in secondary school.

My name is Kealynn Dollard and I was one of the members of the Meitheal team this year. I was delighted to be chosen to be a part of the team as it was something I was longing to do since first year. I was inspired by my Meitheal team as they were friendly and enthusiastic individuals and I wanted to provide that experience for this year's 1st years. I always enjoyed the activities that they put on for us and it made my transition into secondary school a lot easier.

Scala provided training for us at the beginning of the year. It was a great comfort and a nostalgic experience as our group leader was a Meitheal team individual from when I was in 1st year! The training allowed me to bond with my team and come up with ideas to do with the 1st years throughout the year. We also elected our chairperson, Amy Wallace, and our Secretary, Christina Maher, who both did an amazing job throughout this year! It was a fun and beneficial experience and I would like to thank Scala for putting on this training for us. On behalf of the Meitheal team of 2020/2021, I would like to thank Ms White, Ms Savage, Ms McGlade, the 1st year Year Head and class teachers for their support throughout the year. We could not have done any of it without your continuous support of our Meitheal team. We would like to thank the girls for their cooperation with us and for engaging in all of the activities that we put on. Though it was a challenging year, we hope that we made your transition to secondary school easier and that you all enjoy your years to come in this school. Finally, good luck to next year's Meitheal team! We know that you will be amazing for our incoming 1st year students. This was a year that will go down in history. Congratulations to the whole school community for getting through it!



Left: Meitheal team
2020/21
Right: Meitheal Team
2021/22



Speaking Out

Tija Tony represented St. Als in the **Soroptimist Girls' Speaking Competition**; excelling first in the online Cork heat proudly moving on to the virtual regional finals with the support of her teacher, Ms. Walsh. Tija chose to speak passionately on the topic, "Empowerment of Women", her speech powerfully argued that "we need to work together, as women to uplift other women. For we cannot convince others to help us, if we cannot first help ourselves". However Tija did not stop there, she entered the Speak Out Ireland national competition again with the support of her teacher, choosing to speak once more on the topic of female empowerment. After moving through several rounds to the Grand finals, out of hundreds of applicants, Tija was chosen as a Senior Champion making her teachers and school community enormously proud. Well done Tija!



Young Scientists Walk Amongst Us!

St. Als once again had great success in national science competitions. **SciFest** winners include Andrea Marshall who was named the overall Runner up, while the Institute of Physics award went to Tija Tony and the Merit Award to Sarah Lane.



The **Young Scientist** competition saw further success with our team coming away with Highly Commended. This project, entitled *The Science of Synchronised Swimming*, by Sara Khorchani, Eve Knowles and Leah Cotter was later entered in the **PE Expo**.

St Al's students saw further success in the area of Science with Sarah Lane reaching the **Chemistry Olympiad** Ireland Finals. It was a huge honour to reach this level while competing against chemistry students throughout the country.

Well done to our 1st years who showcased their learning about online safety with their creative posters during **Internet Safety Week**.



Pioneering Research in St. Aloysius

Our CEIST identity is a vital element of the St Als community. We value our faith, our strong sense of community and respect our fellow person. This year, we joined with four other CEIST schools to form a working group which will explore how we view, enact, and value the CEIST ethos within our individual schools. We will also look at how we celebrate ethos in our schools. This project aims to design, pilot and launch a programme that will allow other schools to examine and celebrate ethos in their school. Ethos, while a vital component to school communities, has not been researched extensively in Ireland. Our school community, through our researcher and liaison in the group, Ms. Walsh, are pioneers in this area of study. The fledgling CEIST Ethos Project Management Group has been an exciting endeavour so far and we look forward to continuing our participation in this novel and vital area of research next year.



With the coming of each academic year, we're presented with a clean slate for potential, for meaning making and for creating. Each year tends to be different, we find influence and inspiration from the world around us and we allow that inspiration to influence and inform the work that we make. This year, more than any, has been tough. It's been difficult, it's been stressful and above all, it's been long. As a teacher, I cannot begin to describe the pride I have for the students and the work they've created this year. I can confidently say I've seen the students at all levels and years grow, investigate, problem solve, create and most importantly enjoy the work they engaged in. From the book cover designs in first year, to the lino print works in fifth year, the year has been tough but the students are tougher, and their work is a reflection of that. Each student's work is always different, dynamic, engaging, well researched and most importantly, personal. It's these personal contexts that serve to spark discussion and show the true abilities and scope of the students of St Als. Sculptures, drawings, video pieces, prints, students have engaged in a range of different media in order to communicate this individuality, to express themselves and here you'll find just a small selection of that diverse method of working, of expression and of communication..

Examples of art from the classrooms of St Al's



The 2nd years and I are so grateful for being able to go to Art Club this year. Art club, organised by Mr Lee and Mr Meehan, takes place in Art Room 2 on Mondays & Fridays during lunch from 12:20 to 12:55 and is open to all students. In art club, we are able to enjoy ourselves by expressing our creativity with others. We had lots of fun with the theme "freedom", everyone being able to come up with amazing & original art. We have had so much fun this year & hope to do so again next year.

Well done to Ly in 1st year for her amazing design that has been used for this year's Newsletter.

JUNK KOUTURE

We were delighted to see St Al's represented so well by Sarah Lane in the **Junk Kouture Grand Finals** on RTE2 in February 2021. Well done on designing and creating such an outstanding piece of art!



TY Art

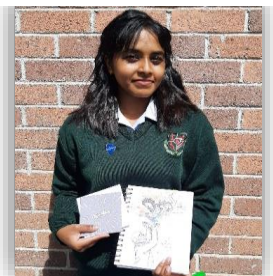
The TY Art Class did so many exciting projects throughout the year, even lockdown didn't stop us. Starting off the year, we did some landscape painting from a photo we took of nature. After that, we started to make a papier-mâché mask that was an expression of our own chosen emotion, using newspaper and glue to build the inner layer and facial features.

During Lockdown, we got to draw or paint nature that was all around us, which encouraged us to get out of the house. We also had time to explore a platform named Kleki, to make digital art. We drew monsters into photos and made digital self portraits.

When we returned to school from lockdown, we continued to work on our mask, putting in the last details and finally did a photo shoot with the class. Lastly, we researched Surrealism and Dada, which are artistic movements that developed in Europe after World War 1. We then used images from our own dreams to create a surrealist painting for our end of year assessment.

By

Art Club



By Martha Nkqayi

Congratulations to Sancta & Martha, the winners of our Smile Art Competition during lockdown.



Business & Community

5th year LCVP and Business students welcomed past pupil, Ciara Cossan to St Al's. Ciara is the CEO of www.weddingdate.ie. The girls enjoyed hearing about her experience of running her own company and how she dealt with issues such as Covid-19 and Brexit. Her presentation brought a lot of their course content to life for the girls. We love to hear from our past pupils and others in our community to help to bring real life experiences to the students and their learning in St Al's.



Thank you to The Lough Credit Union for sponsoring access to Studyclix for some of our senior students. We are always grateful for support from our local business community.



Right: Some of our **Gaisce** recipients pictured after receiving their awards

Left: Students attending an online meeting of **Comhairle na nÓg**, Student voice is highly valued in St Als



End of year treats from our Parents Association



Wellbeing

Wellbeing was at the heart of our school this year with a year we will never forget. To mark the end of the school year, we usually come together as a school community with a whole school walk. This year, with Covid19 restrictions it wasn't possible but 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th years all enjoyed fun activity sessions to mark the end of the year together. The following is an account of the 2nd year activity afternoon.

With just a week to go until the in-house exams, the second years were definitely feeling the pressure of work and study! Our brains were fried by Thursday afternoon, until Mr Bergin & Mr Lee came to us at Thursday lunch and told us to put our books back into our lockers, our pencils back in our pencil cases and to grab a bottle of water, because we were going to the tennis courts for the afternoon! We were so excited and also curious as to what was happening later that day, we had no clue as to what was about to happen later. Once we got out into the tennis courts, we were separated

into groups, and played a few (really fun) games, including one game which was quite similar to Pictionary. Little did we know, the fun was only beginning... After about fifteen minutes, Mr Horan and Mr O'Sullivan joined us and we played games like dodge ball and rounders. We even got to play a round that was teachers vs students (Mr Horan is actually really good at the game, and we all agree he should quit teaching and go pro) We were flat out after the dodge ball, but Mr Bergin got us up on our feet again for a game of rounders. He was later hit in the shoulder at full force by a tennis ball (ouch!) Mr O'Sullivan could only be described as being like a greyhound out of a trap, by being only the second person out of the team to get an actual home run! He's another one who we think should go pro! After all of that certainly tiring work, we took a break with lots of water and packets of jellies. We then got up and were ready for the next exciting activity, dancing! At first we were a little bit sceptical, but once we heard An Dreoilin, we were ready to go. It's fair to say that this is the closest experience that most of us will have to The Gaeltacht for a good while yet, even making some of us a teeny bit emotional. We had a blast, although the teachers looked as if they were enjoying it more than we were (which in my opinion was close to impossible). After a few rounds of An Dreoilin and the Cha-cha Slide, we were told to go off in groups, and prepare a choreographed dance to perform. Not to toot our own horn, but they were amazing. It's hard to believe but we didn't want to go home at the end! It was certainly a day to remember!

-By Teagan O'Flynn



Music

The TY music class made the most of this year in COVID times. During the first term they composed a song about how COVID times impacted on them, as well as producing a video of Christmas carols for community groups in our locality that we would visit at Christmas during normal times. The song was a rap chorus, to which they added some choreography, between three verses with a catchy melody. The 'band' consisted of a keyboard, ukulele, guitar and catháin. The students recorded the song outside the front door of the school at the end of October. Some teachers liked the rap chorus so much they performed a rendition of it on the basketball court for the end of the video. Ms K Twomey added subtitles to the song so the students lyrics were acknowledged. The second project was Carol singing for the local community. The students put their heads - socially distant - together and came up with the idea of going out and photographing local scenes, and then recording a backing track of carols and Christmas songs to the various photographs. It was sent out to the local hospitals, convents and nursing homes. COVID did not limit this music class to its experience of TY but instead opened up an area of opportunity and diversity that the students embraced wholeheartedly. Well done TY's!



Above: TY students performing their Covid song.
Below: leaving certs practicing, 3rd years enjoying a walking music tour of Cork city.



Green Schools

Freedom of Cork City

Well done to all the Transition Year students who worked on and completed the Freedom of Cork City Project. In partnership with Cork City Council and UCC's Centre For Planning Education and Research, the Glucksman devised a creative programme for young people to participate in the consultation phase of the Cork City Development Plan.



It was fantastic to see such great enthusiasm and creativity when looking at how Cork City could be developed in the future! A special shout out to the girls who worked on this beautiful canvas for the project!! Well done to all!! Teachers involved: Ms. O' Shaughnessy, Mr. Dudley, Mr Lee and Mr. Foran

We have been a part of the green schools committee for two years now, since our first year in St Als. The air monitoring project is run by the **GLOBE organisation** supported by An Taisce and the EU. Its aim is to measure NO2 levels in the air among other gasses around our school as part of air quality in Ireland. We all enjoy the experience of doing this project very much as we hope that our contribution might help make a small change in the air pollution and eventually climate change on our planet.

Our job is to put air diffuser tubes on three different poles, one at the entrance to the school, where motor traffic is heaviest, one in the carpark and one by an area which we thought to have less pollution so we chose the tennis-court area where there are lots of trees. The tubes are left there for a fortnight and then we take them down and post them back to GLOBE. Then they are sent to a lab so the people could discover the pollution levels and study the findings. The results were returned to us a few weeks later. Overall we get very good

results each time. It is a very interesting project especially as we know the results are sent to **NASA** and we contribute to the overall measurement of air quality on Earth. We would definitely recommend this to anybody as we learnt a lot and found the process fascinating. We hope to continue this research in the future.

By Dolly Sheehan, Chloe Mitellus & Emma-Rose O'Reilly



Student Council



Here in St. Als we have a very active student council including 30 representatives from across all six year groups. The girls bring ideas and highlight student issues at our weekly meetings to act as a bridge between students and management.

Despite the difficult year we have had, the student council has worked to promote school spirit. Over the course of the year we organised five **non-uniform days** which raised over €2,500 which goes towards improving the school. The themed dress up days always create a fun atmosphere (for both students and staff!).

This past December the student council was involved in two events which aimed to bring Christmas joy to the wider Cork community. Firstly, the girls got the whole school involved in making and sending Christmas cards to nursing home residents. This was a wonderful way to spread **Christmas cheer** in an often disheartening time. We sent 180 cards to the Bons Secours nursing home, St. Finbarres Hospital, St. Marie's of the Isle Convent and the Mercy Hospital. St. Als also continued our involvement in the **SVP hampers** and **Giving Tree appeal**. This year was slightly different in that the endeavour was virtual. Students and teachers came out in their droves and donated a total of €1,000. This money went directly to SVP to give Christmas gifts and hampers to families in the Cork area.

The student council always sends representatives to the annual CEIST conference in Dublin. This year it took the form of an online event called the **CEIST Student Gathering**. Ten students from our student council attended the event via Zoom. One of the highlights was the guest speaker, Professor Luke O'Neill who answered questions about his experience and knowledge of the Covid-19 virus.

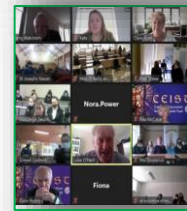
Over the last year the girls have enhanced our school spirit as fantastic ambassadors for St. Als' community. Here is what some of them had to say about their work:

"As a 1st year, Student Council brought fun, you get to meet more of the girls from different years and you learn a lot more about the school"

"As a 3rd year, Student Council was a very good experience and everyone should consider doing it"

"I found Student Council empowering this year, especially as a senior. I felt heard and understood from the staff. I was always met with a smile and a genuine care for my years well-being which made me appreciate our school community even more. I've learnt that student voices in St. Als are important and valued making this years experience positive and productive"

Photos include a selection of activities Student Council ran during the year including Halloween & Christmas themed non uniform days, fundraising for SVP, Christmas cards for the elderly and attendance at the CEIST Leadership Conference.





Our Dream Library Makeover

Our wonderful library was given an exciting makeover during this academic year. While the space has always served our school community well as a haven of books and learning it was time to introduce vibrant colour, a dynamic new layout and an active group work area to ensure it provides a welcoming, practical and exciting space for our students and teachers.

Thanks to the hours of work, research and design debates from our hard working library team; Ms. Amber Walsh (team leader), Ms. Amanda Gaine, Ms. Clare Howard and Ms. Katie Twomey as well as our external designer "Julie the Genie", the library now boasts three reading nooks, reimagined shelving, flexible seating options, a dynamic teacher area (we can't forget the teachers!) and a versatile group work area complete with computers, projector and group whiteboards for brainstorming.

We cannot forget the many students who submitted drawings of their dream library. Without the inspiration these provided we could not have completed the project to the same standard. This work would not have been possible without the wonderful generosity of the Robert Dunbarr Memorial Library awarded to us in 2020 by Children's Books Ireland and TOMAR Trust funding. With the help of these groups and the hours of dedicated work from our library team, we can present a library space that meets the needs of our whole community.

Before



After



St. Als' Library on the National Stage

As our 2020/2021 academic year draws to a close we have just heard that our library team, led by Ms. Walsh, has been chosen to showcase the collaboration and vision that made up our library project as part of the Teaching Council's National Conference, **Feilte**, in October. This highlights the innovation and passion which characterises the teaching and learning in St. Als. Thank you, once again to the library team for their continued hard work on this showcase.



Debating & Public Speaking

The Debating Society had great success this year despite Covid19 restrictions. Students participated in a number of online debating competitions including the 1st year **Lockdown Leagues**. Alma Krause entered and won competitions including the **European Youth Parliament** National Conference both in Ireland and Germany, she progressed to the International round of this prestigious competition. Alma also participated in the **National Model United Nations Conference** hosted by UCC and was awarded the **Rivalry Award**. Well done to all of our debaters on a successful year.

'As part of our Debating Society, we have a weekly meeting every Tuesday that takes place in the school library. We have found that the new and improved library has really helped us as a club to create a great atmosphere to explore the art of public. When asked about what they loved most about debating, the girls involved said, "I love the team and the mentorship from the older girls", "I love the debates, the exercises and all the arguments...", "I loved when we had our online competitions" and of course... "Pizza!" As Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Debating Society here at St Als, we cannot begin to express how tremendously proud we are of the 1st years who joined the team this year and started out as debating fledglings and over the course of the year have developed into bright young orators.' - Alma & Eve



Transition Year 2021

Our TYs returned in September with a positivity and enthusiasm which did not wane as the year progressed. It was an unusual year; our excursions and shared experiences looked different to a “normal” TY, but I am proud our girls embraced every opportunity. From group events to individual challenges, TY is a year where you can explore and grow, and this past year was no exception.

Our year began with wonderful visits to **Spike Island** and **Zipit** while later in the year a trip to **Ballyhass Lakes** waterpark was cherished all the more as we had just come out of our third lockdown. Every teacher contributes in some way to TY from offsite walks and visits with Geography, History and Heritage (**Cork Gaol**, **Fitzgeralds Park**, **UCC** and **Elizabeth Fort** to name but a few) to a wonderful end of year retreat with their Religion teachers. Our last group trip was to **Fota Wildlife Park**, and it was a lovely way to end the year before the girls put in the last rush of work for their musical “Annie”.

The **TY musical** was performed following all Covid measures before the summer break and was the culmination of a lot of hard work throughout this year’s lockdown. The end result is a credit to them and their teacher, Ms McNerney. Our students also became involved in the **BT Young Scientist** and **SciFest** Competitions. We were so proud when our amazing young scientists Highly Commended. This project was then entered into the **PE Expo** Ireland competition, allowing us to celebrate their amazing work once again.

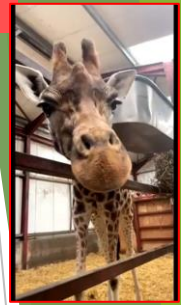
The girls were still able to enjoy a range of their usual PE activities; along with gym trips and **Zumba** classes they also completed a **First Aid course**. Outside of class time our students also entered two speaking competitions; **Speak Out** and the **Soroptimist International Girls Speaking Competition**.

While restrictions prevented in-person visitors, the organisation of virtual talks and workshops allowed interaction with outside agencies and speakers. Our annual **Breast Cancer Awareness** talk went virtual, as did the visit to the **IWish Conference**, as well as **Defence Forces** and **STEM** events. Our students also attended a range of virtual work experience sessions including a week with the **Guide Dogs**, **RCSI Mini-Med**, **Crawford College of Art and Design**, and **MTU Empowering Women in STEM**. A number of students managed to obtain in-person work experience, while others remained in school volunteering around the building, helping out enormously with our gardening project, desk upcycling, and organising the library collection.

Volunteer work is a prominent feature in TY and St. Als in general, and despite restrictions we still managed to engage community charities. We organised a socially-distanced walk to participate in **Darkness into Light** this year, and raised over €1100 for Pieta House. We were delighted to raise such a significant sum and are already looking forward to next year’s walk. A number of students also pursued their bronze **Gaisce** awards. Perhaps the cutest example of their work were the little woolly hats produced for Age Action Ireland, which will be proudly posted off to Innocent Smoothies for use on their bottles later this year.

It seems a cliché to say that the year is what you make it, but it is particularly true of TY; you get out what you put in. Every year is different, shaped by the different students. If you want to see more about our year, why not check out our dedicated Twitter feed @StAls_TY.

-Ms Whalley, Programme Co-ordinator



Modern Foreign Languages

The pandemic may have prevented foreign travel this year, but it didn't stop our TY students exploring French and German culture. Our French students tuned in to music from a variety of French-speaking countries and after much deliberation came up with their top 10 Chansons Françaises. We've added the link below if you'd like to check out their selection. https://open.spotify.com/playlist/1Met2WqY5UulyRxJkKja0M?si=eyRBA317QIK6jExzLuZQ_w&nd=1TY Y and First Year students also exchanged Christmas cards and notes with the students at Collège Pablo Picasso in the sunny south of France. We initiated a connection with this school two years ago and our students have enjoyed a friendly and mutually rewarding exchange, which we hope to develop further next year.

Meanwhile our German students displayed their culinary expertise as they baked German cakes and biscuits for a delightful morning of Kaffee und Kuchen to brighten up the pre-Christmas celebrations. For Easter, we painted a colourful selection of Easter eggs German style. In the course of the year, we explored various aspects of German culture including German film and music from the past to the present, German idioms and colloquial language and we became most accomplished at creating and delivering multimedia presentations auf Deutsch.



First Year German students created their very own Schultüte - a 200 year old German tradition of giving children a cone-shaped parcel of treats to celebrate their first day of school!



Seachtain na Gaeilge



Entries for our art and our baking competitions during Seachtain na Gaeilge 2021. Students enjoyed following their recipes as gaeilge and designing posters with a variety of Irish sayings. *'Maireann craoi éadrom i bhfad' 'Bionn dhá insint ar gach aon scéal'*



Retreat



Students enjoyed a school based retreat thanks to their teachers Ms Lernihán and Ms Kelleher who organised spaces for quiet contemplation to reflect and take time out of a busy year.

Road Safety Awareness



We embraced the outdoors for teaching & learning in 2020/21



Antropocence



Anthropocene, stems from the word “Anthropo” of the human being” and is now recognised as a new geological age; the age of the human. In St Als we endeavour to encourage our whole school to be mindful of our planet and how our actions impact on our local and global environment. The age of the humans to date has damaged the planet substantially, so, for the comfortable sustainability of human life, we all need to be active citizens in protecting our place in space. Every year class groups are introduced and reminded of the values of nature and nurture, stewardship and sustainability. Our students are made aware of the importance of biodiversity and how it plays a part in our everyday lives, our air, water, food, areas of relaxation and in the discovery of new medicines. We are blessed in our school grounds with many native species of trees and plants that we preserve, conserve and admire on our walks in the school garden. Each spring our trees are homes to nesting birds, it is truly uplifting to hear these birds singing and chattering, serenading the school community as we enter the school grounds. In St Al’s we seek the best future for all our students so they can live in a world that is full of potential, to be used with respect and for the benefit of all. Our wish is that that our students may develop and appreciate the beauty and wonder our planet; to leave it a better place for future generations.

Young Environmentalist Award

winners were Amy Wallace, Kalkidan Downing, Alex & Jade Deady-Matthews and Megan O’Driscoll. Amy and Megan are pictured here with their teacher Ms Mills.

Our Garden

This year our TY RE classes worked on the theme of stewardship. They decided to work towards raising awareness of the beauty and diversity of our school community by working on three different areas, a biodiversity, a mindfulness garden and to start a school vegetable patch.

Rainy day lessons were spent drawing up the plans for each area while reaching out to the experts Griffins Garden Centre and Biodiversity Ireland. During work experience week in October the students dug three plots for growing vegetables and cleared a pathway towards the mindfulness/biodiversity garden. The outline of a path was made in the biodiversity garden for a mindfulness walk during lunch breaks. Plants, an apple tree and bulbs were purchased and planted for spring colour. The bulbs are daffodils, pansies, snowdrops and tulips planted in the upcycled/recycled desks and areas in front and back of the school. A few indoor plants were also purchased to help in purifying the air as well as bring nature inside our school.



Unfortunately the students were not able to see the bulbs in their full beauty due to lockdown. The desks continue to flower and be admired every day. The biodiversity garden became wild and the mindfulness path obscured BUT there is always next year to continue the stewardship of nature in our school community. Well done TY ‘21 for your care and consideration of our beautiful surroundings



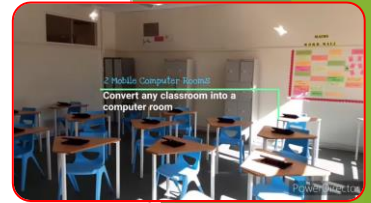
Facility Investments 2020/21



Computer Room before & after



Some of the improvements to indoor learning spaces including new furniture, 2 laptop trolleys



Final touches were completed on the canteen.



Some of the improvements to our outdoor spaces including seating, tree cutting, revamped tennis courts & awning.



Retirements

We wish Ms Ger Butler and Mrs Miriam O'Donovan the very best in their retirements from St Aloysius School. Together, they have dedicated over 80 years to the life of St Al's, and will be dearly missed by their colleagues and students. With current restrictions we were not able to mark the occasion of their retirement in the usual manner but we acknowledged their commitment to the school and education of young girls in Cork city with cake, flowers and a few words shared with colleagues at the end of the year.

Gach dhea-ghuá daoibh!

