



# Transition Year

in Ramsgrange CS

By: Ms Louise Walsh



# What is Transition Year?

- \* Transition Year is a one-year programme after Junior cycle and before Senior cycle.
- \* It is an extra year optional programme in RCS (it is compulsory in some schools)
- \* Students who do TY can opt to do LCA or traditional Leaving Certificate after the year.



# Aims of Transition Year

- \* To experience a Broad Curriculum of subjects
- \* To develop New Skills – practical and life skills
- \* To avail of New Opportunities – trips\*, visitors (virtual & in person\*), various modules
- \* To experience the World of Work – 1 day a week\*
- \* To improve on areas of Academic Weakness
- \* To experience the World Abroad \*
- \* To give time to Mature – year older doing LC
- \* To give time to think about the Future and potential Career Options
- \* Covid dependent – adaptable to change annually

# How do we achieve these aims in Ramsgrange Community School?

1. Comprehensive **weekly timetable** over 4 in school days (h/w and deadlines crucial)
2. One day per week every Tuesday for Modular work (Sept) and for **Preparation for Work** and/or Work Placement (2 x business & 1 x community)
3. **Various additional opportunities** and experiences and competitions (vary from year to year – these are key for your child’s successful TY year - they have to want to take part in these!)

# 1. Weekly Transition Year Timetable

**Annually**

**New for 2020/2021**

- \* **Maths**
- \* **English**
- \* **Irish**(Gaelic & Cultural Studies)
- \* **ESS** (History/Geography)
- \* **Business** (Enterprise focus)
- \* **European Studies**  
(French/German)
- \* **RSE**
- \* **PE**
- \* **Science**
- \* **IT**
- \* **Practical: Home Economics**
- \* **Music**
- \* **Art** (or Wood/Metal)
- \* **Young Social Innovators**

- \* **Life Skills** – (Guidance/SPHE/Work Prep Modules/Presentation & Critical Thinking & Problem solving skills/Reflection/ GAA future Leaders)
- \* **Coding**

## **Note: Tuesdays**

- Month of Sept is for full day modules (first aid, team building, adventure journey)
- Each Month from October onwards are out of school learning set aside for Work Preparation (online or in person)



## 2. Preparation for the World of Work

- A. 2 x Business– try go somewhere of relevance approx. 7 or 8- Tuesdays in person or online modules – all certified
- B. 1 x Community – Vol organisation (giving back!)
- C. College course options/discovery
- D. Opportunities from outside bodies
- E. Simulated Mock Interview with feedback



Benefits: Practical Skills/References/ CV/ Impress potential future employers/Networking – make contacts/Help make career choices/secure part time work

# A. Practical Experience of Work – choose wisely!

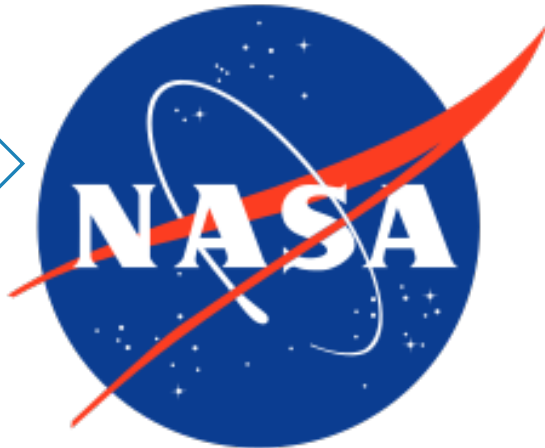
Dublin  
Airport



Physio



Work  
Abroad



Others went on additional 1 week placements to: Davy's Stockbrokers, BEAT fm, The Irish Times (which we welcome!)

# B. Community Service - Voluntary Work & Fundraising



St Louis Day  
Care Centre



Fundraising





# C. Various College Trips (In person and Virtual)



## Garda College Templemore

On the 12th of September students from Ramsgrange Community School, Wexford visited the Garda College as ...



# D. Opportunities (in person or virtually) from outside bodies notified by TY Co-ord to class

- \* Mini Med – by Royal College of Surgeons – if interested in career in medical field (nurse, doctor, physio, radiographer, surgeon)
- \* St Patrick’s “Walk in My Shoes” –if interested in career in mental health (nurse, doctor, psychologist, care assistant, social worker)
- \* Law – run by The Irish Law Society–solicitor/barrister,
- \* Business – run by BOI or Enterprise workshops,
- \* STEAM – run by various colleges or institutions those interested in careers in Sciences, Technology, Engineering, Maths
- \* Drama/Theatre/Music workshops.....and Experience of the Dáil
- \* Health Sciences/Engineering workshops.... Loads!

# E. Mock Interview with Lions Club & Credit Union

- \* Simulated Interviews
- \* From local business people (Lions Club)
- \* Full feedback in person after interview
- \* Prizes for most impressive
- \* All students get Certificate



# What makes the TY Programme in RCS stand out.....

EXTRA EXPERIENCES / OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE THE MOST OF TY

- \* THIS IS WHERE STUDENTS WILL REALLY SHINE AND STAND OUT IF THEY GIVE 100% TO THESE EXTRA OPPORTUNITES...
- \* This is where the Independent learner will love TY
- \* This is where the students need to commit/challenge themselves
- \* PICTURES SPEAK A THOUSAND WORDS.....

# All students are FIRST AID qualified by end Sept!

To administer CPR



To deal with injuries –  
burns, bandaging &  
choking



# All students become Young Social Innovators & can make a huge difference to some are of society!



YOUNG SOCIAL INNOVATORS


## #TheDen

Dublin

Portmarnock Community School  
**Global Mapping**



St Mark's Community School, Tallaght  
**Compromise to Conflict**



St. Joseph's College, Lucan  
**Trans Students Awareness**



Tullamore College Offaly  
**Farm Safety**



St. Joseph's College, Lucan  
**Tackling Childhood Obesity**



St. Aidan's Community School, Tallaght  
**Intercultural Book Exchange**

Loreto Convent Letterkenny  
**Homelessness Awareness**



Ramsgrange Community College  
**Sexual Consent**

Heywood Community School  
**Volunteering & Young People**



St. Joseph's College, Lucan  
**Special Needs in Literature**

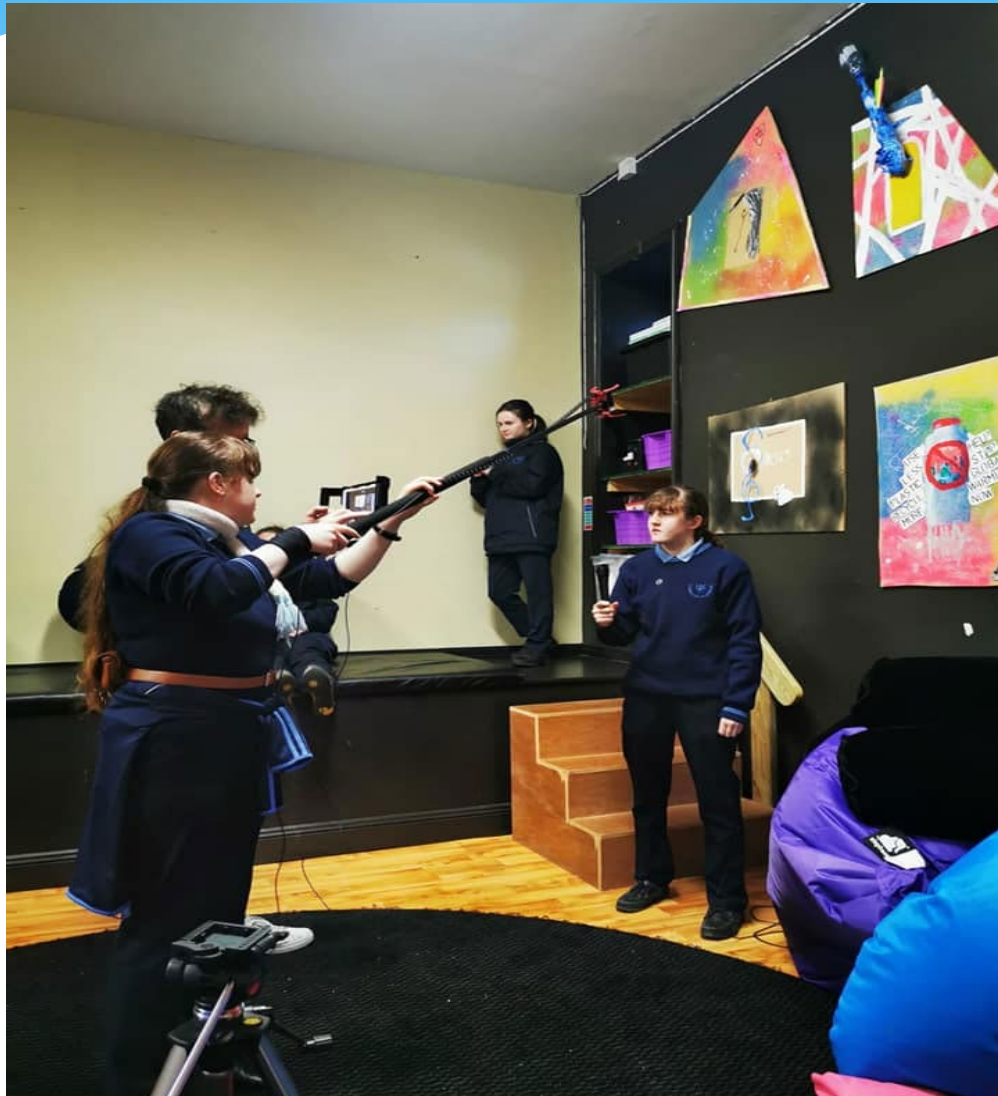


## WATER SAFETY – PERSONAL LOCATOR DEVICES FOR FISHERMEN

## HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS



# ALL STUDENTS GET A CHANCE TO MAKE THEIR OWN MOVIE!



- WRITE THE SCRIPT
- CAST FOR POSITIONS
- SHOOT/FILM
- EDIT
- WITH SOUND
- WITH SPECIAL EFFECTS





ALL STUDENTS  
COMPLETE AN  
IN SCHOOL  
TY LAW MODULE  
& HAVE A MOCK  
TRIAL EXPERIENCE

# IT Skills - DULANN Online Courses (12) for all students

1. Certified Child Protection and Welfare
2. Certified Data Safety - GDPR
3. Certified Cardiac First Response Awareness
4. Certified Allergan awareness
5. Certified Food safety essentials
6. Certified Infection Control Awareness – including Covid 19
7. Certified Driver Safety
8. Certified Fire Safety
9. Certified Manual Handling
- 10 Certified Working at Heights
11. Certified Hospitality Care
- 12 Certified Retail Customer Care

\* These serve as a contingency plan also for any cancellation to Work placement (due to Covid/Illness) along with Career skills on the IACT programme

# IACT Online Course (for all)

## 3 Skills Programs for Students to choose

### TY Skills Program

Computer Skills	Career Skills	Driving Skills
Essential Computer Literacy Skills That Everyone Needs	Essential Skills That All Employers Look For	Skills and Practical Techniques To Be A Safe Driver
8 Courses	9 Courses	8 Courses
30 Hours	20 Hours	20 Hours

**Students get access to all 3 Skills Programs.**

# Online Courses (for all students)

## MAKE THAT COURSE

- \* Trains students on coming up with their own “perfect idea” for an online course
- \* Then they research & prepare their own lessons for this online course
- \* With potential to sell the online course they themselves created if they wish

(alternative enterprise approach – be the creator and seller of online courses on any topic of interest!!)

## Other Online Courses

- \* E-book creation (Maths)
- \* Radio/Podcast Production (Music/English)
- \* Concussion course

# All student run a Product based Enterprise and develop Enterprise skills!

Tempting Treats  
for Sale



All Enterprises are entered in 2  
enterprise competitions –  
SEP & NFTE both give students certificate of  
participation & chance to compete in national  
finals



# ALL STUDENTS ENGAGE IN OUTDOOR PURSUITS & DEV TEAM BUILDING SKILLS



Coast-steering &  
Team Building Games



# CHANCES FOR LEADERSHIP SKILLS

## A. Rotary Youth Leadership Competition (against Wexford schools first)





# LEADERSHIP SKILLS

## B. ALL DO FUTURE LEADERS AWARD



# LEADERSHIP SKILLS –

## C. All student can do An Gaisce –

- \* Presidents award/PAL
- \* 4 elements emphasis on COMMITMENT
- Adventure Journey** – 2 Day kayak or cycle
- Community** – 13 x 1 hr per week in local community eg: GAA coaching or tidy towns or charity work
- Physical activity**– 13 x 1hr per week doing an energetic activity – follow fitness run/walk, club training for GAA/soccer, yoga, dancing, swimming (can be 2 x 30 mins)
- Skill** – 26 weeks – online IT courses
- \* All Students START THIS AWARD – ALL DON'T FINISH IT!!!



# WE ALL DO THE ADVENTRUE JOURNEY TOGETHER - 2 day kayak of River Barrow



# Survival Skills – SELF DIRECTED LEARNING

## Planning , Organising, Teamwork and Cooking for 30!



# Personal Development Opportunities

## –that vary from yr to yr

- \* MANUELA CONSENT PROGRAMME
- \* Weekly Life Skills lessons
- \* SPHE programme – Squashy Couch Programme
- \* Information Talks from various Support Organisations
- \* SOAR programme /HARMONY (RAP) Programme
- \* Health promotion/Internet Safety/Anti Bullying
- \* Personal Development workshop (full day)
- \* Visits from Voluntary Organisations /Guest Speakers

\* eg: St Vincent De Paul – Branch set up in RCS



# OTHER activities – vary from year to year !

Science



Chick Incubation Project



# COMPETITIONS, COMPETITIONS, COMPETITIONS.....FOR **EVERYONE** TO ENTER..... NOT EVERYONE DOES!!!



- \* Student winning essay writing run by Sean Kelly (MEP) winning her a **free trip to EU Parliament**
- \* Art Competitions
- \* TIKTOC Competitions
- \* Baking Competitions
- \* Creative Writing Competitions
- \* Environment Competitions...

# Performance Opportunities

**DRAMA IN  
DUNDRUM THEATRE**

**SOROPTOMIST**



**AND POETRY  
ALLOUD!**

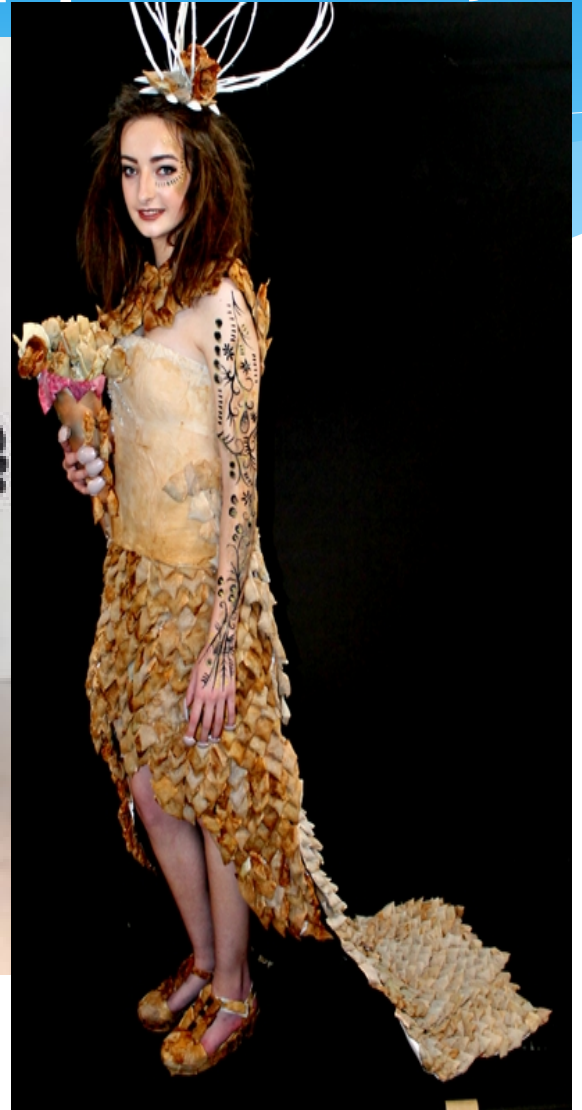


# Opportunity to Interview for position and Run School Bank



- \* Students can
  - \* - open account
  - \* - access online banking
  - \* - get a debit card
  - \* - make a lodgement
- \* ALL DONE ONLINE
- \* TY students are interviewed for proper bank jobs (manager, sales, marketing, digital advisors, auditors)

# Possible Junk Kouture Opportunity



# TRIPS - Subject trips - Museum of Modern Art & Business Trip



# Assessment Methods & Communication in TY



- \* Traditional Subject Tests
- \* Formal Examinations (First Aid Exam, )
- \* Completion of Project Work – Home Ec/Art/ online IT
- \* Presentation of Work- Movie or Podcast or RAP creation
- \* Portfolios & Exhibition
- \* Performance – Drama/An Gaisce
- \* Skills Demonstration – Junk Kouture, Interview skills
- \* October progress/contact from Year Head
- \* Christmas and End of Year Reports
- \* Parent Teacher Meeting
- \* Ongoing Portfolio of Work/Display of Work
- \* End of Year Graduation (virtual or TY Night for parents & TY students)

# Application and Selection Process

## 1. APPLICATION FORM TO COMPLETE

3 Parts:

1. Student Questions
2. Parental/Guardian Input
3. Student Personal Commitment

To be submitted to **ONLINE** by **Mar 4<sup>th</sup> 12 noon**



## Interview & Admissions Committee Decisions (St Pats Wk)

Based on

1. Application Form
2. Attendance
3. Behaviour Record
4. Suitability
5. Feedback from Teachers
6. **ZOOM INTERVIEW**

- PLACES WILL BE AWARDED BY EMAIL WITH LINK TO ACCEPTANCE
- TO BE **ACCEPTED BY 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021 WITH DEPOSIT €100**
- RIGHT TO APPEAL

# Who should do Transition Year?

- \* Someone who really wants to improve themselves and give 100% to all experiences (not just trips)
- \* Someone who is POSITIVE and WILLING to get stuck in
- \* Someone still unsure of what they want to do in the future and wants time to decide and experience the world of work/college visits
- \* Someone who is young and could do with boosting their confidence/maturity (being young should not be only reason!)
- \* Someone who missed out academically in Junior Cycle and is willing to catch up in TY and learn to work independently
- \* Students Interested should complete an Application Form (avail to complete online) and all students who apply will be Interviewed.
- \* Max of 24 places !!!!!



# Other Considerations

- \* Please read the TY admissions Policy online
- \* Time to make a decision for yourself not based on what your friends are/are not doing!!
- \* Not a “doss year” - Get out of it what you put into it
- \* You have to be willing to get involved in ***all aspects*** of TY
- \* Cost – 2020/2021 €270 for TY activities but students will have to pay for buses also and some trips abroad
- \* TRIP ABROAD –extra option possibly– asked same on application form (extra cost!!!)
- \* Note: Many opportunities to reduce costs
  - \* Mini Enterprises (Fruit Fridays) by TY Group or Build a Bank
  - \* Part time job

# What our Students Said about TY?



- \* “I am far more settled now and more focused having done Transition Year”
- \* “I got to do so much more in TY and this helped me build up my CV”
- \* “I am more mature and confident now going into Senior Cycle”
- \* “If you treat TY as a doss year it is very hard to settle into Senior Cycle after it”



# What others say about Transition Year?

- \* [www.careersportal.ie](http://www.careersportal.ie)
- \* [www.independent.ie](http://www.independent.ie)
- \* [ESRI report](#)
  - \* **A REPORT BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE SHOWED THAT STUDENTS WHO DO TRANSITION YEAR TEND TO SCORE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER POINTS ON THE [LEAVING CERT](#).**
  - \* **TAKING SOCIAL BACKGROUND INTO ACCOUNT, THE AVERAGE CAO POINTS ADVANTAGE IS 25.**
- \* [\*Thank You\*](#)