



**Ballincollig
Community
School**

YEARBOOK

The Class of

2020

Ballincollig Community School, Innishmore, Ballincollig, Cork. P31 E030

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Editor:

Mr. David O'Brien

A note to the 6th years from their Year Head Ms. O'Sullivan To the class of 2020



The past 6 years as your Year Head have passed by so quickly but are filled with fond memories we all will cherish.

I can still remember the noise level in Corridor D every morning and at assembly, where I tried in vain to get you to line up in your classes in alphabetical order. Fast forward to 6th Year and I had another never ending struggle on my hands which was attempting to get you to line up in your classes! Class Daitih! in the end had about 40 or more students... I'll miss seeing those hands up to your ears when I threatened to use the whistle and I'll miss seeing those, who every morning hid behind the table tennis tables hoping to have that last catch up with friends before classes began.

There have been many highlights in our 6 years together. The class of 2020 definitely broke the record in 1st years for losing locker keys, the standoffs which occurred on a few occasions over a rubbish bin, the 2nd Year trip which took place with only 6 students, the smashing ski trip (literally) to Pinzolo which stayed accident free until the last minute and then we had a casualty.

What a pity we couldn't share our last few weeks in BCS together. We missed our final assembly which would have been for me a very nostalgic occasion. I can't imagine coming up to the door of the Fitness Suite and not seeing those familiar faces who stood there every morning for 6 Years.

As a Year Head I have been lucky. You caused me very little hassle over 6 years. I always felt proud when other teachers remarked on how well behaved you were. We built up a mutual respect over 6 years and that is down to all of you.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr. O'Brien and the Yearbook Team who worked on this project throughout the school year and even during lockdown. I am extremely proud of the work that you have produced and I hope you look back on this Yearbook with fond memories. I hope that each one of you will find happiness and contentment in whatever you do in the future. This is not the end, only the beginning.

Ms. Margaret O'Sullivan



A word from the Principal



As your time in Ballinacollig Community School comes to a close, I wish you all the very best for the future. I am sure that these last few months have brought a mixture of emotions for many of you - feelings of joy and sadness, anxiety and anticipation. It can be both exciting and a little daunting facing the unfamiliar. The things that will remain constant, the anchor as you move on, will be your memories of your time in B.C.S and the friendships you have made here. Value both, as you enter the next phase of your lives.

I commend you for the way in which you have managed the great challenges that have emerged over the past few months. You steadied, showed great resilience and supported your fellow classmates.

A sincere thank you to Ms. O'Sullivan and all of the teachers here in B.C.S for always showing you kindness and challenging you to reach your highest standards.

Congratulations and well done to Mr. O'Brien and the Yearbook Committee on the completion of this eye-catching production.

Best wishes for the future and good luck to you all.

Kathleen Lowney

Ms. Kathleen Lowney





Joanne Looney



Ellen Brady

YEARBOOK TEAM

To our year group,

We hope as you look through this yearbook, fond memories of school come back to you. It has been an pleasure to spend time with you over the past 6 years and we wish you all well for the future.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our teachers for their continued support throughout our time in secondary school. A special word of thanks to Ms O'Sullivan, our 'school mother' who looked after us. Ms. O'Sullivan we will miss your kindness, warmth, encouragement and even your whistle! We are very grateful for all you have done for us and your incoming 1st years are very lucky to have you as their Year Head! Finally, we would like to thank the many contributors to this yearbook, without whom this production would not be possible, particular thanks to Mr. O'Brien who guided, advised and supported us throughout this project.

*Begin again to the summoning birds
To the sight of light at the window
Begin to the roar of the morning traffic*

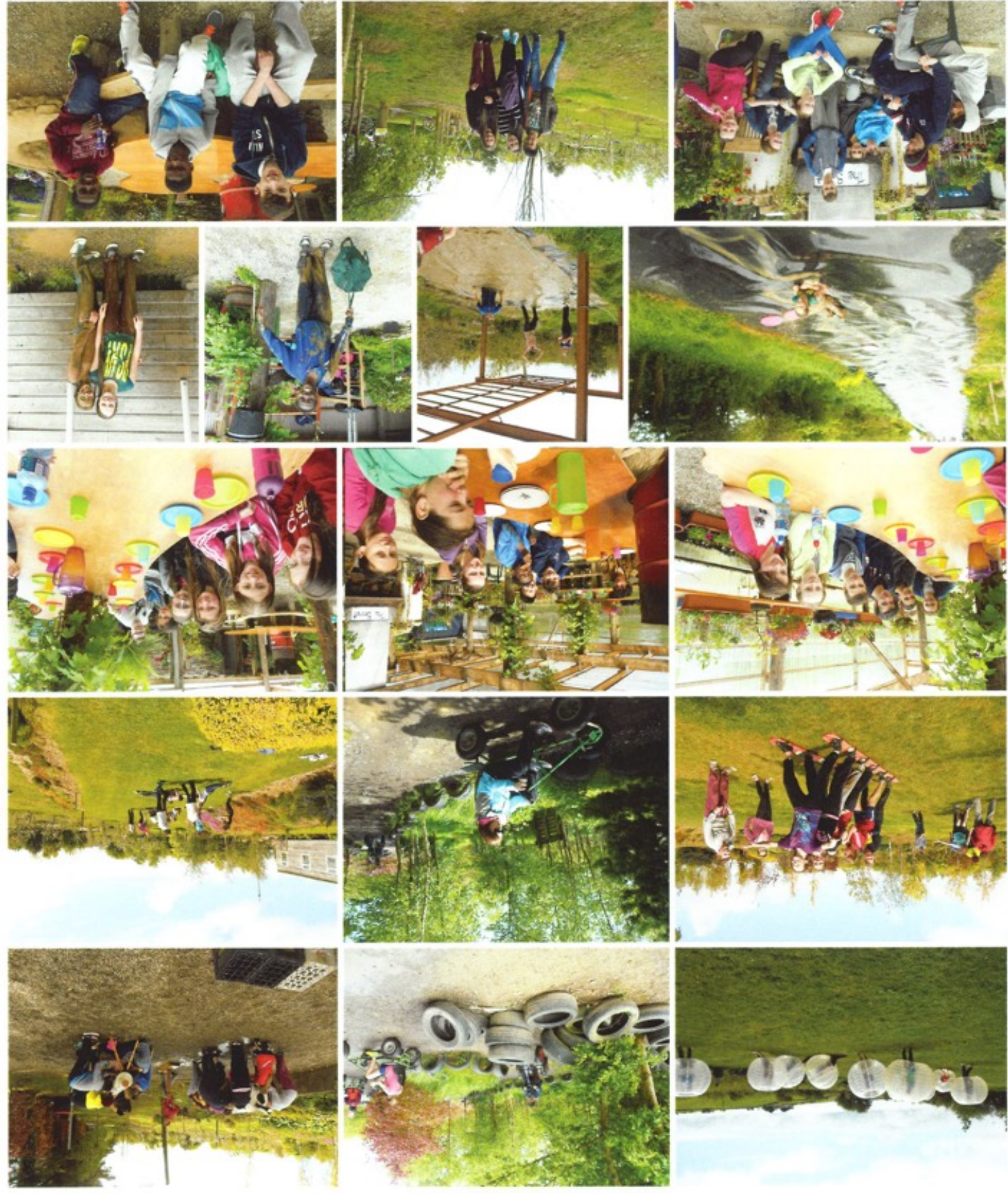
*Though we live in a world that dreams of ending
That always seems about to give in
Something that will not acknowledge conclusion
Insists that we forever begin
Embrace the new beginning!*

Editors: Mr. David O'Brien, Joanne Looney and Ellen Brady

Team: Leah Aston, Dara Dorgan, John O'Driscoll, Conor Killkenny, Kaja Sikora, Kamil Urban, Lily Hennessy, Luca Kiraly, Kellie O'Donovan, Aisling Murray, Aoibhinn Dunphy, Niamh O'Driscoll, Chloe Buckley O'Connor, Alice Wilson, Fiona Nugent, and Nicola O'Dwyer.

Please note: This Yearbook was not finalised before the school closure in March 2020 and thus may lack some information.





WEST CORK SECRETS PICTURES

Coming into first year was daunting to say the least! We stepped into the huge building, filled with hundreds of students (many of whom seemed like giants) but within a few weeks it felt like our second home. Our days in first year seem like a century ago! - sports day, quizzes, West Cork Secrets, new friends, new teachers, fun subjects – the world was our oyster!

Our first year in BCS

Our first year in BCS





On September the 13th nerves were heightened again as our Junior Cert results were about to be given back!!!! We were all so anxious all day waiting for our part to be called out over the intercom to receive our results. After all everyone was pleasantly surprised and relieved with their results. You could tell we were all heading out to the Junior Cert results disco by looking at all the girls patchy orange tan!! Those were the days!

RESULTS

Let's try and remember back to the year 2016 - 2017 the dreaded year the year of the "Junior Cert". We tried not to stress but who were we kidding. But even though it was stressful we still had some good days from trips to activities We will never forget Wednesday the 7th of June 2017 the first day of the Junior cert!! As we were walking into our first exam English our teeth were chattering, nails were bitten and pulses racing. In the end we were all ok and live to tell the tale.

Third year

Fourth Year

In fourth year we were all able to get many new experiences. Many of us were able to go skiing for the first time in Italy. People were also given the chance to go to Dublin together. We were also given the chance to try new things in our modules. Some of which include archery, first aid and photography. Some other activities that we did were going to Spike Island and going paintballing. We were also able to help people by raising money for many charities and visiting people in West Gate.

In May 2019, some of our year group took part in the musical 'Mamma Mia' in the Opera House. Since it was only for one night, we knew we had to give it our all. After countless hours of practice, we finally got the show perfect and performed in front of hundreds of our close friends and family. The whole experience helped us to bond as a year group, and we all felt closer to each other as we did our best on stage. It was a magical experience for everyone involved and a night we will never forget.





Fourth Year





5th year began with visits to Universities and Institutes of Technologies – this was a wake-up call! It was difficult to settle down after the joy of 4th Year but the hours of homework certainly helped the transition!

Fifth Year

Meitheal

Meitheal madness all kicked off in Transition Year for 9 unsuspecting students (Aliye, Jess, Laura, Caitlin, Niamh, Leah, Bradley, Dara, & Dylon). The training week consisted of bonding sessions as well as the infamous straws and pins fight (which we still blame Dylon for). Little did we know, it was all downhill from there... we met the first years whose lives we were supposed to have a positive influence on... and thankfully we did!





In 5th year, 16 students and 2 teachers got the chance to go to India with the hope foundation. We each had to raise 3400 euros through bake sales, coffee morning, fundraiser night and selling hope bars. On the 14th of February we set off to Kolkata. During our unforgettable stay we visited schools, a creche, the local hospitals and of course the B.C.S sponsored laundry. It was very rewarding to see where the money raised goes. Sari night and dance classes helped us unwind after our busy days! A trip of a lifetime!

Memories, by Mia Tobin Power

I'm certain that all of us can remember our first day of 1st Year as clear as day. It was a completely new experience, unlike anything we'd done before. We were venturing into unknown territory, but we did it together - and that made it all seem less scary and nerve-wracking.

And look at us now, six years later. We're all very different people now from when we started at BCS. We have all grown and developed as people, rendering our younger selves almost unrecognisable. We all have this one thing in common: our shared experience of school life in BCS. Having spent an unmeasurable amount of time together over the space of six years has inevitably brought us together than I think we realise. Everyone has always said that our year group is split into distinct factions which rarely collide, but we've moved on from that this year. Think about it. How many people have you spoken to this year that you never would have interacted with in the past? More than anything else during our time in BCS, this stressful experience of preparing for the Leaving Cert has led us to rely on each other and open up to each other. Isn't that ironic? It's an individual task and process, yet we're trying our best to get through it together. Maybe that's the power of being thrown in together and subsequently being stuck with each other for six years. Maybe it was bringing us closer all along, and we never realised.

Memory is such a subjective thing. It's a unique view of a collective experience. Each of us will remember an event differently, just like each of us had a different experience of secondary school. We're all individuals, and yet we're connected by this experience that we shared together. Our memories of an event or a period of time are what define it for us as we move forward. Everyone will look back at their days at BCS and think of something different, and isn't that extraordinary? Although the bad so often taints the good, I hope that we will all bring happy memories of BCS with us into the outside world.

And now, we can celebrate the fact that this part of our lives is over. Everything's going to be very different from here on, but that is undoubtedly a good thing. And no matter where we all are five or ten or twenty years from now, we will remain connected by the memories we shared here at BCS, whether we realise it or not.

The Yearbook team apologises that some students may not have their picture present in the yearbook due to the school closure.



Abbey Forde



Abbey Forde



Andrea McCarthy



Aoibhinn Henessey



Aoibhinn Henessey



Bradley Harris



Clara O'Sullivan



Clara O'Sullivan



Daniel Coady



Daniel Coady



Demairte



Eldrick Ajayi



Eoghan Barrett



Eoghan Barrett



Fiona Nugent



Fiona Nugent



Hadjara Bamba



Hadjara Bamba



Iris Andrade



Iris Andrade



Jorge Marques



Jorge Marques



Kamill Urban



Kamill Urban



Katerina Skripkovskiy

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Lewis McDonald



Lewis McDonald



Luca Kiraly



Niamh Dorney



Niamh Dorney



Nicole Skillington



Nicole Skillington



Ronan Twomey



Ronan Twomey



Sarah O'Neill



Sarah O'Neill



Sophie Jones



Sophie Jones



Stephen O'Donoghue



Zara Foley



Daniel Anthony Lynch



Daniel Anthony Lynch



David Kelly



David Kelly



Dylon Friend



Christina Berezovska



Ciara Beechinor



Clara Beechinor



Conor Kilkenny



Conor Kilkenny



Chloe Buckley-O'Connor



Chloe Buckley-O'Connor



Chloe Desmond



Chloe Desmond



Christina Berezovska



Aahye Saybak



Amy Cafferkey



Amy Cafferkey



Amy Kelly Obi



Amy Kelly Obi



Adam Coulter



Adam Coulter



Aisling O'Sullivan



Alice Wilson



Alice Wilson

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Iona Lynch



Iona Lynch



Joanne Looney



Joanne Looney



Kara Lacey



Kara Lacey



Kellie O'Donovan



Kellie O'Donovan



Lauryn Roche



Lauryn Roche



Megan O'Leary



Megan O'Leary



Niamh O'Driscoll



Nicola O'Dwyer



Nicola O'Dwyer



Pdraig Batt



Pdraig Batt



Peter Corkery



Peter Corkery



Ruth O'Leary



Ruth O'Leary



Sean Quinlivan



Sean Quinlivan



Tara Casey



Tara Casey

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Taylor O'Callaghan



Taylor O'Callaghan



Victor Ewuzie



Victor Ewuzie

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Abdul Eleke



Abdul Eleke



Amber O'Keeffe



Amber O'Keeffe



Amy Walsh



Amy Walsh



Becky O'Sullivan



Becky O'Sullivan



Brendan Kriauciunas



Brendan Kriauciunas



Christina Jurgens



Christina Jurgens



Cian Kilkenny



Cian Kilkenny



Ciara Healy



Ciara Healy



Dara Dorgan



Dara Dorgan



Ellen Brady



Ellen Brady



Emily Conway



Emily Conway



John O'Driscoll



John O'Driscoll



Johnny Lu



Johnny Lu



Josh McGeer



Kelly Desmond



Kelly Desmond



Lara Halli



Leah Aston



Mia Tobin Power



Rachel Finnegan



Maeve Cronin



Sophie O'Sullivan



Nikita Lamonov



Thuylinh Linh Cashman



Thuylinh Linh Cashman



Rachel Finnegan



Miktoria Brutanek



Zsolt Szabo



Zsolt Szabo



Aideen Buckley



Aisling McAvoy



Aisling McAvoy



Aisling Murray



Aisling Murray



Aliye Saybak



Aliye Saybak



Aoibhinn Dunphy



Caoimhe Creedon



Caoimhe Creedon



Ciara Kelly Foley



Ciara Kelly Foley



Colin Feeney



Colin O'Leary



Colin O'Leary



Dara Keane



Dilan Uzun



Dilan Uzun



Emma O'Connor



Emma O'Connor



Emmet Costello



Emmet Costello



Jack Hurley



Jack Hurley



Jack O'Sullivan

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Jack O'Sullivan



Jamie Slavin



Jamie Slavin



Joe Linehan



Joe Linehan



Julie Hamill



Julie Hamill



Kaja Sikora



Kaja Sikora



Klaudia Maslowska



Klaudia Maslowska



Kristina Furensko



Kristina Furensko



Laura Holmes



Lorna Farrell



Lucy Forde



Luke O'Sullivan



Luke O'Sullivan



Niamh O'Brien



Niamh O'Brien



Olivia Barry Murphy



Olivia Barry Murphy



Rachel Finnigan



Ronan Crowley



Ronan Crowley

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Sarah Power



Sarah Power

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Caitlin Madden



Caitlin Madden



Cormac O'Doherty



Cormac O'Doherty



Derbhile Healy



Derbhile Healy



Eanan Cronin



Eoin O'Herlihy



Eoin O'Herlihy



Fiona Murphy



Fiona Murphy



Francis Lim



Graeme Kelly



Graeme Kelly



Hannah Murphy



Hannah Murphy



Jamie Collins



Jamie Collins



Jessica Holmes



Jessica Holmes



Josh Cotter



Josh Cotter



Kate Healy



Kate Healy



Leah Willis

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Leah Wills



Leon Monks Finnegan



Leon Monks Finnegan



Lily Hennessey



Lily Hennessey



Mark Kelleher



Mark Kelleher



Megan Walsh Healy



Megan Walsh Healy



Perside Mata



Perside Mata



Peter Sheehan



Peter Sheehan



Sam Heinen



Sarah Kelleher



Sarah Kelleher



Sherife Hayes



Ultan Karpavicius



Ultan Karpavicius

In terms of sporting achievements, the lads in this group have had their fair share over their six year sporting endeavour. After the first three years of sport had provided a lack of silverware for the cabinet, it wasn't short of memories either, whether it was the brawl in the first year soccer game or the time the ball was kicked over the fence and neither Mr O'Neill or Mr Kelleher were leaving without it and lets just say they weren't impressed but we got a kick out of it anyway.

However things began to kick-start in transition year for male sport. Through the guidance of Mr. Jennings, Mr. O'Sullivan and John Dwyer the U16 boys hurling team set out with high hopes of adding a Munster medal to their back pocket and as the games passed we soon found ourselves in a semi final on the astro in Rathkeale and with the help of the refs dodgy calf and some seriously suspect umpiring from Dan 'spud' Lynch we survived a close game and the 'handbags' that ensued post match. So we found ourselves in uncharted territory down in Affane Cappouin GAA and won a game against Killenau that could've gone either way which made it all the sweeter.

It wasn't all small ball in TY either the oval ball made an appearance in the year group that year too when the boys rugby sevens team, after winning a few qualifying rounds found themselves in an All Ireland competition. We travelled up to Terenure rugby club that day with the hope of having the craic but yet didn't do too badly after all. After winning a few games we found ourselves in a fifth place play off (even though we should've been in the 3rd place robbd) and ended up coming sixth in Ireland in sevens rugby which wasn't half bad considering the team consisted half of rugby players and half of GAA lads looking for the day out, but a worthy achievement nonetheless.

The boys eurofoot team travelled to France the same year and finished 22 out of 32 teams, whilst them being the only one of those teams a schools team in the competition. They also bumped into the man united youth squad while in the airport. It was a trip that no doubt the lads will remember as one of the top memories they have of BCS.

As our final year beckoned the GAA lads once again set out to leave their mark in the schools sporting accolades. Although we didn't conquer Munster this time around we set out to capture a pair of senior county medals for ourselves. In the hurling we progressed nicely through the matches and we ended up right where we wanted to be in the county final. Although we lost the toss for home venue we made sure that was all we lost when we fought our way through a worthy Carrigaline opposition in their own backyard, marking off our hurling careers in the school on a high point and a night to remember. We weren't satisfied with leaving the school without a football medal however and looked to do the same as we did in the hurling and I believe we would have if we hadn't come up against a formidable opponent in Covid 19 before the final could be played.

It is without doubt that sport in BCS has given us lads not just medals but stuff far more valuable than that, our victories and defeats alike have allowed us to form unbreakable bonds and memories that we will look back on for years to come. There is no question that sport has played a major role in the boys journey in BCS. Ní bhíonn an rath ach mar a mbíonn an smacht.



Girls in Sport

Without a doubt BCS have an amazing history of sport. From soccer to camogie to basketball, the girls did it all. I can definitely say that we were pretty successful in sport. During the years we formed strong teams with great bonds. In second year myself and the team did a fantastic job in Soccer, resulting in us getting through to the Munster Championships and winning the final, making the whole school proud. We are honoured to have great players such as Zara Foley who is on the Irish team. Another sporting accomplishment that we had was Spikeball. We definitely won't forget the week that we spent learning and preparing for the test that was held the day after our Junior Cert results. This was a massive struggle as well as an accomplishment for us as we were all 'tired' from the night before. The girls who passed the test went on to teach 5th and 6th class pupils from different primary schools that then led to a competition which was a great ending to the first term of TY. Moving on, Ms. Stack and Ms. Hooileys Camogie team did the school proud once again by winning the Camogie Munster Championships in TY. Another sporting accomplishment for the girls that year was Basketball as they won the Cup Final. We can all agree that these were one of the many highlights of the year. Last but certainly not the least, in Table Tennis the girls formed a solid team winning for two All Ireland and two Munsters. To wrap this up there is no doubt that the girls in our year have brought many achievements and success for the school with their dedication and talent in sport over the last 6 years.

Funny Moments



- When Dara got pantsed on his birthday
- When Amber said she felt like she was in a tropical jungle when she ate a banana
- The bin incident
- Mrs. Arslan telling Kamil that he deserved to choke
- Mr. Lordan yelling at Eoin O'Herlihy for opening the window
- When Oliver accidentally asked Iníon Uí Mhurchú to take her clothes off as Gaeilge
- Tiles in the changing room ripped off the roof
- Dara getting pantsed again cause it's that good
- Accounting moments (Bible)
- Jamie asked Sergeant Ryan if he is qualified
- Jack Hurley smashing the windows in skiing
- Colin Feeney asking Mr. Moriarty if he was getting his hair done at the weekend
- Stephanie playing the recorder in Ms Barret's geography class
- Kamil's plot twist
- Ms. Daly angrily leaving the room and having to awkwardly come back in to get the charger
- When Peter Sheehans picture was spread around the school
- Iris and Victors fight
- Ultan calling Daniel a burnt toast
- Stephanie fighting air and Ms. Kiely catching her



Teacher Quotes

Mr. Kelleher	"You won't succeed in life if you don't know how to use a 2H pencil!" "If there's one thing you can't trust it's a bloody computer"	Ms. Brennan	Every Wednesday - "I know you're all excited because it's the class before lunch" - (and nobody is ever excited!)
Ms. Healy	"Syn-co-pa-tion"	Mr. O'Brien	Class begins to moan... "Who am I, Doctor Phil? I don't want to hear it!"
Mr. Nally	"Bog face"	Ms. Brannigan	This is accounting"
JOC	"The whip is coming out!!!" "Gravity, gravity" "Phosphate, Sugar, Base!!"	Ms. Whelan	"Ms. Whelan's patience is 0 today lads, Oi!" "Yes Ms. Whelan. . . No Ms. Whelan"
Inon Uí Mhurchú	"Don't tell anyone you saw my sandals"	Ms. Owens	"Which one of the Kilkenny boys owes me a detention?"
Ms. Fleming	"Cold air breathe it in, warm air breathe it out"	Ms. Whelan	"JE VAIS, TU VAS, IL VA, ELLE VAI!" "I'm mad about ye..."
Ms. Kelly	- talking about German Scientist - "This guy doesn't get the credit he deserves. . . because he was a Nazi" - every time we used a ruler in maths	Mr. O'Toole	"Victor, stop drinking water in class or you'll need to go pee pee"
Ms. O'Sullivan	"You are the most boisterous group of boys I've ever seen" "Ellen Brady where is my whistle?" "Where is my step?" "First person who talks is out of here!" "Ms. Forde is at the bottom of the stairs!"	Ms. Howard	"I don't want to see the 3bs... b**bs, belly and butt" (To the girls in P.C.)
		Ms. Coholan	at the end of every lesson "we'll leave it at that!"



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