

COLAISTE NANO NAGLE

Christmas 2020

Principal's Message

Dear students,

This school year has been a year unlike any other you or I have experienced. COVID 19 has changed the way we live our lives. It has changed our school routines. Together we have worked hard to protect one another and I am so proud of your efforts in school. I know it has not been easy. Now, as we approach Christmas, we must continue to be responsible and take comfort in the fact that there are positive signs of hope that life as we knew it may return once again.



Christmas is described, by many, as the most wonderful time of the year. A time where everything sparkles under the Christmas lights. We need that sparkle this year more than ever. You have the power to sprinkle a little sparkle this Christmas. Saying a simple thank you to those who have supported you this year is one way to sprinkle your sparkle. Christmas gives us an opportunity to spend time with our family and loved ones and I encourage all of you to give the gift of your time this year. So put away the phones, tablets, gaming devices and so forth and spend some quality time with your loved ones in your family unit.

I wish to sincerely thank all the students and staff who have worked to keep the work of Nano Nagle alive this year. I see many random acts of kindness being carried out for others. I see students and staff in our school organising donations and engaging in fundraising events to support charities this year and beautiful Christmas decorations being delivered to the Neo Natal Unit in the University Hospital for the families of premature babies. Remember when you sprinkle your sparkle some of that magic dust covers you too and can bring you inner happiness.

I wish students, parents/guardians and staff a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. I hope that you enjoy time with family, shine your light and bring joy to those around you. Please stay safe this Christmas and limit your in-person contacts as we look forward with hope to brighter days ahead.

Nollaig Shona,

Sinéad Moloney.

Meet the student body representatives

Message from our Head girl & Deputy Head girls

Greetings to one and all,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our teachers and the 6th year cohort for electing us as Head and Deputy Head Girls for 2020-2021. We are delighted to represent the student body and it is a privilege that we undertake our new role with

We know this year was like rocky road for everyone. It has been a challenging time for everyone this school year especially for our first years. Many 1st year students would've never thought about starting this secondary school like this. We know wearing masks and adapting new school life is hard but we're delighted that our school is trying every possible way as they can to follow the guidelines and to protect the whole school community.

May the blessings of Christmas be with everyone and we hope everyone stays safe and if safe and possible to do so will be able to see family they haven't seen in a while. Please remember Covid isn't going to pause itself for Christmas and we all still have to be careful during these times. We truly wish everyone a very SAFE and merry Christmas.

Nancy Ekhaton, Nikoletta Kozma and Haleema Nasir



Student council 2020

Each year, a student from each class is elected to represent their class in the Student Council. Student Council is a group of girls that bring up any issues faced by their fellow students to the school management's attention and work with them to make the necessary changes accordingly. They are student body voice. If you have any issues regarding school ask your representative to bring it up in the meetings. The Council meet every 2 weeks and discuss any issues that arise. Meet the Student council of 2020-2021.



As well as this, these girls also organise donations and fundraise for charity. The girls have organised a festive colours day as well as the room decor competition, and have asked everyone to bring 50c for charity.

TY scaling new heights

Transition year can be a wonderful year, packed with memories that you can keep for life as you progress through your secondary school journey. The extra year gives students a chance to grow up a little, with lots of new and exciting experiences. However, the opportunities were cut short for our TY students this year due to the pandemic.

One of our reporters reached out and interviewed one of the TY students to get an insight on how the girls are doing. Here is what she had to say....

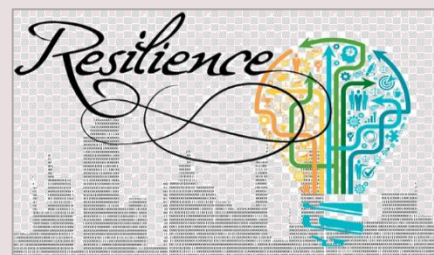
"T.Y, this year is very different to what I had expected. We can't get out on trips; we can't get people in to do talks and we can't do certain group activities because of social distancing. In spite of this, we are all still having an amazing year. Instead of getting people in to talk to us, we are having zoom calls with them. Ms. Begley, our TY Coordinator, is doing her absolute best to help us and she is doing an amazing job!

It is really disappointing not being able to get out and to experience everything that I thought I would. We all know not to get our hopes up, but we are still an extremely positive class. We know that we won't get anything done this side of Christmas, but we are still hopeful for next year. And besides, there are still so many positives. If we weren't in a pandemic, I wouldn't be in Gaisce Glas. Instead of focusing on what we can't do, we are all focusing on what we can do and what we can change.

Junk Kouture is an amazing event that we were all looking forward to. This year it has gone global, meaning we won't get to experience going to the shows, the models won't get to experience the thrill of walking on a stage and the crowd cheering them on and the teams won't be able to celebrate together. Instead, the outfit will have to be recorded while the model wears it. It is all about the videos. It has really thrown us all back. We are all still looking forward to Junk Kouture and are still working hard on our outfits. It wouldn't be possible without Ms. Begley, Laura and Ms. Nestor."

Also, thank you so much to Laura and Ms. Begley for the insane amount of effort that they put in to make sure we don't miss out on the amazing TY experience we were looking forward to.

Despite all the restrictions, the TYs aren't letting Covid-19 get in the way of them having an awesome year. The girls have been busy taking part in many virtual programs and talks as well as doing lots of exciting projects. Here are just a few of the things TYs had been up to so far this year.



Throwback to Halloween



What better way to celebrate the spooky season but with pumpkin carving and spooky dances?

Learning new skills



————— Certified in CPR with facilitator Ms. Begley —————



TYs learning some coding with Coding Ireland. Looks like they're having fun!

Gaisce



TY students participated in a youth summit for Gaisce Glas



GAISCE Bronze Award presented to last years TY by Ms. Moloney and GAISCE PAL Ms. Begley

Fundraising



TY students fundraised for decorations for the NeoNatl Unit Maternity Hospital Limerick.



Bring in the Christmas cheer!

TYs getting us all into the Christmas spirit with their awesome door decorations!!



Have you taken
the selfie yet?



Life outside the classroom

Due to the restrictions, there were only limited number of activities that took place around the school however the students sure made the most what of was available.

Reading corner

Students Lauren and Alicia enjoying the Sora App in the reading corner in room 31. All students have access to this free online reading app provided by JCSP. There are hundreds of books and audio books to choose from. If you do not yet have your login details and wish to access Sora, please contact Ms. Kiely.



BT young scientist

Coláiste Nano Nagle are delighted to have two projects successfully reach the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition 2021 Final. The two projects are in the intermediate category. The first project fronted by Aoife Kavanagh and Ciara Brosnan is titled "Do Certain Masks Slow The Spread of The Coronavirus?" and the second project fronted by Kaja Bozi is titled "Meritocracy In Schools: Eliminating Luck In The Equation of Success". The students are supported by their teachers Ms. Walsh and Ms. Prior who are both looking forward to developing these projects over the next few weeks with the students. The Exhibition takes place virtually this year for the very first time from 6th January to 8th January 2021.

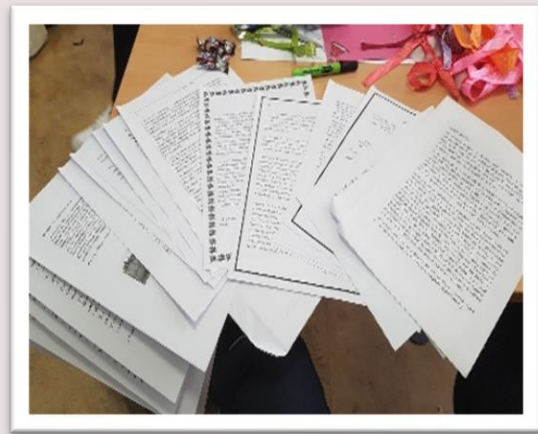


French Penpals

Des correspondants français/ French penpals from Angers

French TY and 5th Year sent their first letter to their penpals from Joachim du Bellay, a secondary school in Angers (France) for Halloween. Those French students are 16 years old like our girls at CNN. They finally got their reply last week and matched with a French student. We are now preparing our Christmas cards that we hope to send very soon for Joachim du Bellay to get them when they come back from their winter holidays. We are really hoping to develop this penpal project and organise an exchange with that school in the future. Our TYs wrote articles to describe Irish Christmas traditions to our French penpals and did a very good job.

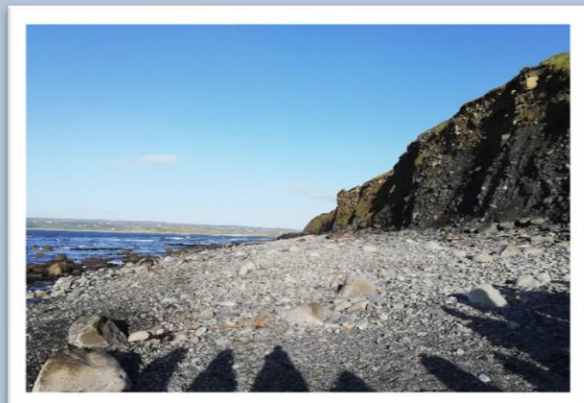
We are really hoping to keep contact with them in the future years as well for our current 3rd years to also have penpals next year.



Geography trip

Our 6th year got a chance to go outdoors while still being mindful of all the guidelines provide by HSE, to a geography trip as a part of their curriculum which made up 20% of their actual exam. Here is a little recount of the trip by one of the students.

On the 8th of December 2020 my Geography class went on a field trip to Lahinch in Co.Clare. It was a lovely day out in nature among the crashing waves from the sea and calm breeze. Honestly, it was the best day of the year for me. The perfect timing of the bus and the amazing destinations. But most of all the weather was amazing on the day, not too cold or not too hot or more importantly NO RAIN. I guess the luck was on our side that day.



We got to examine the wind speed and direction with use of compass and anemometer. Counting waves frequency with the help of a stop watch. Beautiful Pebble collection at Creg beach and Claughan. We used vernier calliper, is the name of the equipment we used to measure pebbles and used power roundness chart to identify their class. This was my favourite part because I found it very interesting. Listening to the sea warning us of its power by dragging the rocks with

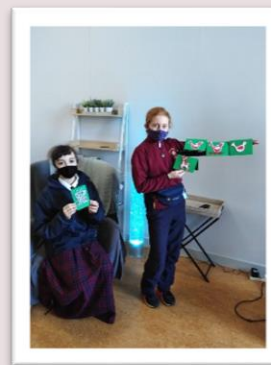


Seeing the features of sea erosion with our very own eyes such as caves, sea stack and wave cut platform and many more truly brought what we learnt from book to life. 15 mins lunch break was a fun in itself. One of the best ways to keep what you learn is to put your study into real test and this trip gave us that life time chance. Never imagined I would enjoy socially distant and masked trip this much.

Lunch time games club

There is also a lunch time games club in room 31. The girls play lots of games and do some crafts as well. Anyone is welcome to join. Great way to make new friends and maybe even master a game!

This is an example of Christmas crafts the students made with the help of Jonna Malone, SCP.



Art

A huge congratulations to Abbey O'Keefe who is one of 20 students shortlisted for this year's Zurich Young Portrait Competition. Abbey's self-portrait is called 'Day Dreamer'. This is a national competition open to young artists aged between 3 and 18 years. Abbeys work will be on display in the National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin.

The school is so proud of you. Well done.



Green Schools News

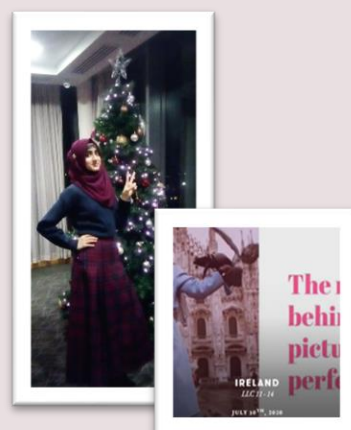
During lockdown the Green schools committee were very busy. They'd entered the Young Environmental Awards Competition with our project entitled, 'Fashion Frenzy' and our project reached the National Finals. The girls investigated the fashion industry and how it is having a devastating effect on the environment. In fact, it is the second largest polluter in the world, just after the oil industry. And the environmental damage is increasing as the industry grows.



However, they've found out that there are solutions and alternatives to mitigate these problems. The first step lies in building awareness and willingness to change. Upcycle your clothes. Buy good quality clothing if possible and donate and buy from charity shops. It is very environmentally friendly.

The Green schools committee also entered the Young Reporters for the Environment Competition 2019/2020. This project allows schools to investigate and report on local litter and waste issues. Students then produce an article, video or photograph for the competition.

There is an overall competition prize fund of €1,500 available for the National winners. We had a number of category winners and one of our students, Maha Shahzadi was the overall winner and represented Ireland in the Worldwide finals. You can see her film entitled 'The reality behind a Picture Perfect look' on the following link: <https://yrecompetition.exposure.co/ireland-6>



Current News:

They've had new members from first year this year and are delighted so far with their enthusiasm for Green Schools and the environment. They are delighted to secure funding from JCSP to create two environmental films in February 2021. Many thanks to our JCSP coordinators for facilitating this. They have also entered the Young Environmental Awards this year and their theme and research is 'Plastic in our Oceans'.

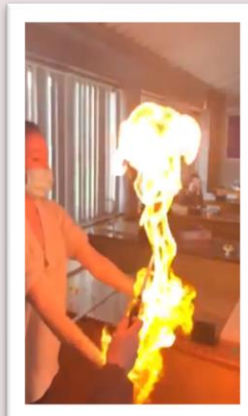
Many thanks to teachers and management for supporting Green Schools and teaching environmental topics in lessons. Finally, the green schools committee would like to give you a Green Schools Christmas tip: Penney's paper shopping bags encourage you to reuse them as gift wrapping. We think this is a great idea and will save you money buying wrapping paper. Remember after Christmas to encourage your family to recycle paper and cardboard. Have a lovely Christmas from the Green Schools Committee.

Highlights

Over this term we celebrated the different weeks dedicated to a particular subject. We learned loads and had lots of fun while doing so. Here are the highlights from those weeks.....

Science Week

The Science Department didn't fail to amaze us yet again with their cool but very scientific experiments backed up by research. CNN's Science week was packed with fun experiments and lots of challenges. The students were shown lots experiments throughout the week, answering their question of how things work around them e.g. spreading of germs.



Some of our 2nd year students also took part in the "Kitchen Science" virtual workshop with UL, demonstrating a series of at home science experiments to multiple primary school students in Limerick and Clare on Microsoft Teams as part of Science Week.

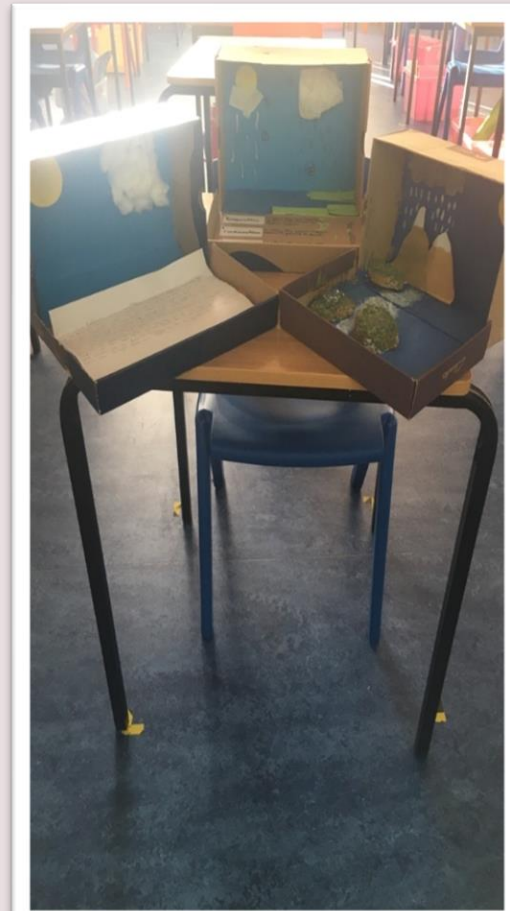


Geography Week

For Geography Week 2020, Sarah, our Mary Immaculate College placement student, coordinated a lot of exiting activities the students had a chance to participated in during the week. Students were given a on Climate Change which was provided to Sarah by one of her lecturers.

The Transition year students watched a live online seminar titled 'Pedagogies of Hope- A Response to The Challenges of Climate Change' given by Professor Anne Doran. TYs also played a Geography Who wants to be a Millionaire and the winner won a small prize. One of the first-year classes made projects on the Water Cycle and we had 3 winner who made some brilliant projects demonstrating their learnings from class. There were many fun and interactive quizzes during geography classes on Kahoot, all based on different topics of Geography during the week.

Overall, the whole week was filled with exciting geographical activities. The students had loads of fun playing the Kahoot quizzes in their classes. From the talks they'd attended, students were made aware of ways they could help prevent the climate change crises and the importance of being mindful of nature and our planet.



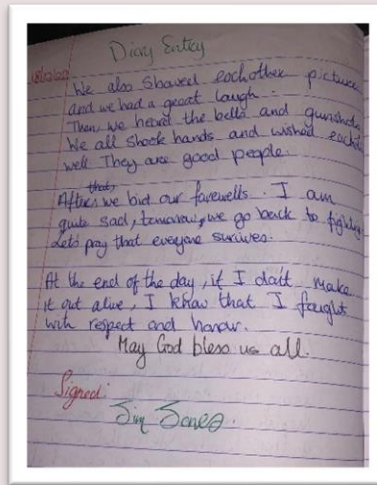
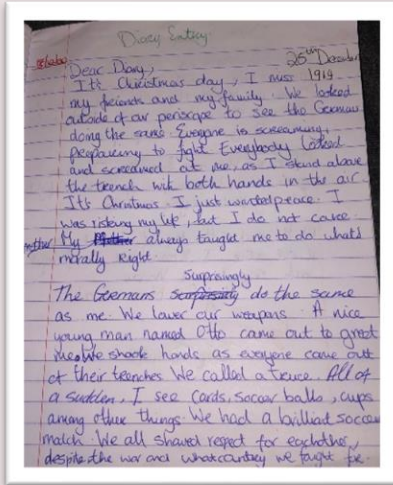
Media literature

In the run up to Christmas, one of our 2nd Year classes analysed various Christmas adverts. In particular, the girls focused on the key messages of Christmas adverts and what elements contributed to making these adverts memorable and poignant.

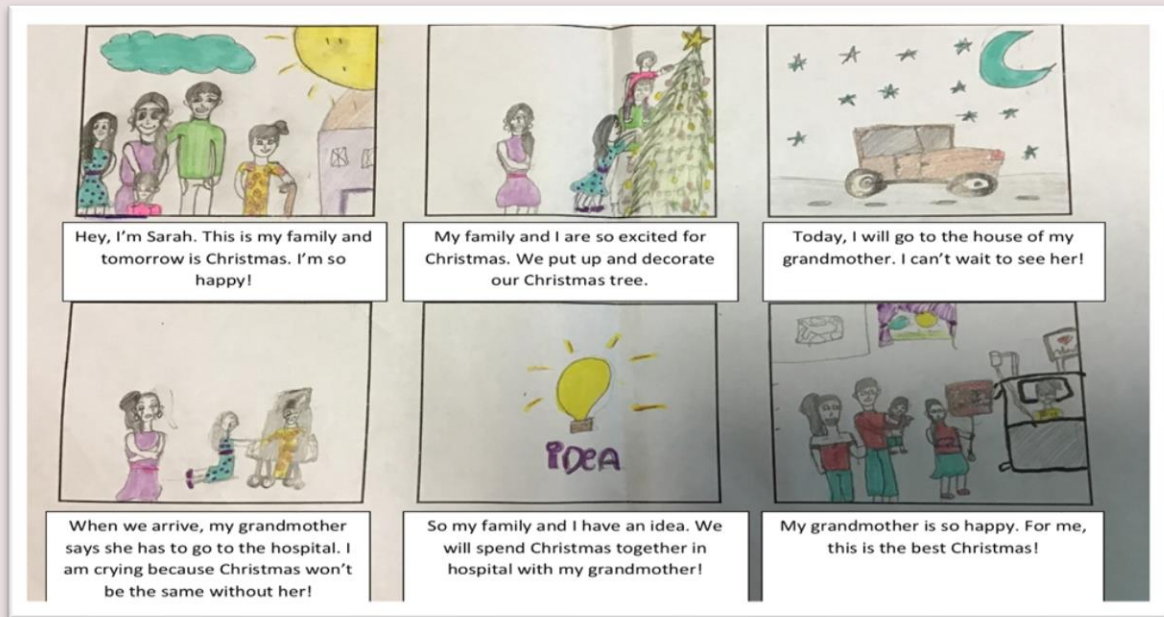
After watching and discussing the Sainsbury's Christmas Advert "1914", the students were asked to write a diary entry for either Jim, the English soldier, or Otto, the German soldier. They had to write about Jim or Otto's experience of the Christmas truce, which took place in their part of the Western Front on 25th December 1914. One of the students wrote a diary entry for Jim, detailing Jim's experience of the Christmas truce and how he felt during that time.

Following the analysis of Christmas adverts, the students were asked to create a storyboard for their own Christmas advert, which they could present to a marketing department of a well-known retailer.

Example of student work...



The following storyboard is an idea for Christmas advert by one of the students. The key message for her advert was the importance of family and to be there for one another, especially during moments of difficulty:



Wellbeing

As part of our Map for the Safe Return to school following lockdown all students had the opportunity to take part in a return to school wellbeing programme provided by NEPs and the NCCA in their Wellbeing classes which gave students the opportunity to discuss their emotions about returning to school and proved students with the skills to get back into a routine following almost 6 months out of school.

This programme was especially important for our first-year students as they did not have the opportunity to complete their primary school experience, so it was essential that we aided in their transition to our school. Students also had the opportunity to learn coping strategies to deal with their anxieties about returning to school with our new Covid-19 routines. All students dealt with the return to school exceptionally well.



Spiritual Life in CNN

We've had virtual prayer services together as school community as well as individual call prayer services. A new addition is the outdoor classes where the students studied the Pope Francis letter *laudato si* on how we should care for our environment and God's creation and helped clean out the front yard and pinked up rubbish.

Our young SVP committee also organised a food appeal for the vulnerable in limerick community.



Thank you to the TY class who helped with our virtual prayer service for presentation day



Well done to 5 Lca who began our outdoor classroom after reading and studying Pope Francis letter *laudato si* on how we should care for our environment and God's creation. Other classes have continued this great work.

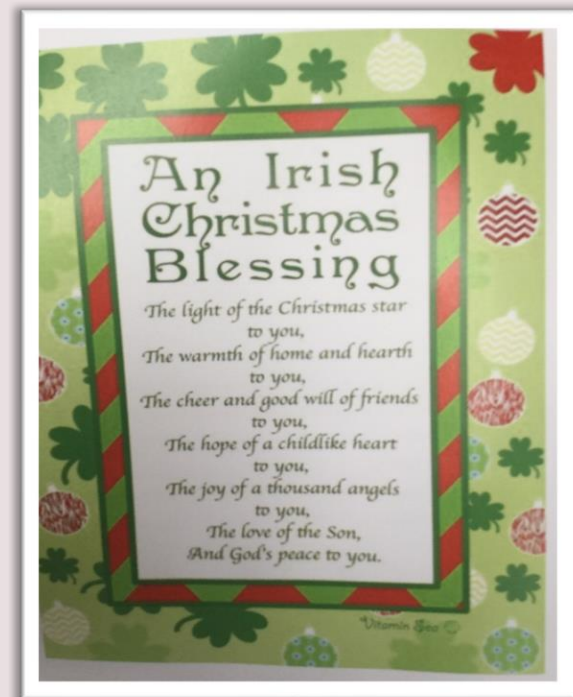
Well done to all



Young SVP having fun at lunch time asking the girls to pick a duck with either funny quotes or good deeds to be achieved



Huge thank you to Amy McNamara and holly facet who helped to decorate our beautiful Christmas tree



Christmas Prayer

Looking Back

2020 hasn't been an easy year. On the New Years' Eve, nobody could've predicted that the world would be struck by a global pandemic and everything will fall into a hiatus. It hasn't been anything like we had imagined it would be. Indeed, the pandemic have caused the deaths of many, created havoc in the world economy and have put the mental health of many more at risk. But at the same time, it has taught us all some lessons that would've took years for us to realise.

We reached out to one of the staff members in our school asked them about their experience with online teaching and just in general how had Covid affected her career as a teacher. Here is what she had to say.

"I did not like teaching remotely during the first lock down. I found it very stressful as my two sons and I were all using the same laptop. I had third years, sixth years ad PLC student all either facing exams, and /or Classroom Based Assessments and projects, as well as first years, second years and fifth years all who had very little experience of office 365 technology. A lot of students did not have a laptop or pc and were trying to go online and upload work from their mobile phone. My two boys had daily online work to do and post to Google classroom. There was a lot of arguing over who needed the laptop the most. Eventually we got into a routine with my 11-year-old using it from 8 to 9. I used it after breakfast from 9.30 to 12 checking in with each year group every day. Then I helped my 9 year do his online work from 12 to 1.30/2 pm. After lunch I went online with post leaving cert students. After making and cleaning up dinner I checked in with students who were having difficulties or those not able to come online in the morning. I found the day exceptionally long and tiring, often getting messages from students late at night.

Students too were having their own difficulties, they found it hard to motivate themselves to get up and get dressed when they were going nowhere. They did not know how long the school closure would go on for and some of them were we very unhappy, they missed their friends and the routine of school. They found it hard to listen to teachers online when they might be in a room with a TV or other family members doing other activities. Some of them found it very difficult seeing their classmates posting work and getting on fine when they could not, they were falling behind and they were scared and lonely.

I missed seeing my students faces, we read some much from their faces and body language like knowing who needs help when we are looking at them. Online none of this is possible and often those who needed help did not come online.

Today we are back in the classroom, but we must maintain a 2 meter distance between us and students. We must quarantine tests and exams for 3 days at a time so checking individual homework every day is nearly impossible. We do not walk around the classroom among students and I miss being able to help them when they get stuck, encourage them to keep going or see and error they did not. Maths is all about practice and mistakes

are the best way to learn but the current environment relies on students being very self-motivated to correct their mistakes from the whiteboard. Students cannot help each other in class now as there is no sharing and I worry that some students are being left behind.

But it is not all negative., some students flourished online, helping me with the new technologies and making instruction videos for their classmates. Both students and teachers have got better at using Teams and new technologies to support learning and teaching. Speaking for myself I have lots of room for improvement. But I really enjoy seeing some students taking these leadership roles online.

But most definitely I am happier in the classroom seeing my students!

We also asked students to write about their experience and how had Covid changed their lives. Here are the stories of the top three students.

Matasha Bowen – 1st year

It all started in 6th class when it was 2 weeks before I was due to have my Confirmation. The government announced that schools had to close for 2 weeks and come back the day before my Confirmation. Then, we found out that the lockdown was to be extended and that the Confirmation had to be rescheduled. We couldn't go back to school either. I was not able to be a normal child and go out with my friends and have fun. I also had school online, I found it quite weird, hard, and just not the same. I could not get help off my teacher and if I did, it would not be the same and harder to understand.

In April, I got told I was NOT allowed to visit my Nana in Co. Cork. Then came in the rule that over 13s had to wear masks to get something in a shop for example. I was 12 years of age during all this so legally I was not made wear a mask, but I did anyway because I looked 13 and I did not want to get into trouble from shop owners also just to be safe. Hand-sanitisation came into place as well, this made my skin very dry and dehydrated. I also had to keep 2 metres or more from everyone, except people living in my household with me.

May 18th, I got told the best news ever, I was final able to visit my Nana and the rest of my family and friends. I was so happy but very confused as I was not able to go to school or graduate primary school and do what all the other 6th classes got to do at the end of each year in Presentation Primary School. I was picked to attend 'League of Legends' soccer tournament, due to Covid-19, sadly it was cancelled. I was still doing online school and waiting to hear about my confirmation, we got sent links of videos to prepare ourselves for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The original date was March 31st, my mother and I got a call from the Priest saying that my conformation was rescheduled to Tuesday the 18th of August at 7pm. I could only bring 2 parents or guardians no sponsor or my brothers and sisters. I was a bit upset about that because I was able to do the thing I was waiting for since 2nd class. I got a date to collect my dress from Dublin and I was so excited to get it finally after waiting since October 2019, this was around July and early August. I was delighted that I was able to see a lot of my classmates after a long few month. After waiting very patiently, I finally got to make my confirmation. It was quite weird, there was 2 benches between ever girl and family, keeping 2 metre distance from everybody, not able to say prayers/sing in small groups or bring up gifts to the alter. I had the best day and it really made me happy during Corona Virus.

Moreover, the hobby I love the most, dancing was cancelled. No more competitions, training or practice. This is still not allowed even though it's an individual sport. I have been dancing since I was three and this was heart-breaking to me as I used it as a way to stop myself from getting stressed and to let out all my emotions through.

On the 2nd of September I began my schooling in Colaiste Nano Nagle, I had to wear a mask all day except when eating and at a two-metre distance. I was super nervous but excited. It was difficult at the beginning of the year. I could barely cope with my mask and could not understand what anyone was saying. It took a week or two to get used to the masks and where all the different rooms were and to learn to work with all the different changes in schools.

During COVID-19 I have realised it is the little things in life that really matters. For example, giving somebody a small compliment or even just smiling at them. I have learned to appreciate everything I have like a roof over my head at this hard time and having family to talk too. Having 2 arms and 2 legs and every part of the human body. Some people do not have that, and I have learned that I am so grateful now for the littlest things in this time of Corona Virus. I have also learned how much I miss the important things like a hug from my nana, my dancing, my friends. Covid-19 has had a MASSIVE effect on how I live my life and the way I treat others. I just cannot believe it has been here for nearly a full year already.

Allanah Purcell - 3rd year

These past few months have been very difficult for everyone. Some for the same reasons and some for the different. We all found out a lot about ourselves and others. Good and bad but I think that everybody came out being a whole different person with a whole new life or way of living due to Covid-19. At first, everyone thought the lockdown was going to be fun and easy. No big deal would be made out of it. But then, cases started to rise and so did the deaths, unessential businesses had to temporarily close and every six weeks, another six weeks were added to the lockdown. Peoples worries, stress, anxiety, depression and mental health in general had severely gotten worse.

Before lockdown, I was always a people person, I was always happy and laughing. But during the lockdown, I locked myself away. I used every single excuse to not get out of my bed, to not brush my hair or even wash my face. I found myself faking my emotions even to my family. Every question asking, "how are you today?" always ended with "Grand now, yourself?"

I was always a kind person but now I'm even more kinder and just more aware of the other peoples' feelings. Even when I'm not that great myself. During to lockdown, I've realised that I shouldn't care about how I looked anymore. What I mean by this is that I don't really care about what people see me or think of me. I always thought like this but always deep down cared what others thought. Due to lockdown, I had to do more zoom calls, mostly for my violin lessons and Orchestra. This meant that I needed to play by myself in front of my Orchestra but from this, I have gained more confidence than I could ever imagine. It's been about 9 months since the lockdown and so many things have changed. If we go into public building, we must be 6 feet apart, preferably wearing a mask and wash/sanitise our hands frequently.

Even though it has been so long, things are still hard (it's hard to get use to). I haven't hugged my friends in so long, even though a good hug is all we need in times like this. It makes it easier to know that It's not just me going through this. Because of this virus, I can't go on holidays anymore. This year I was supposed to go to Trabolgan but it was cancelled which is really annoying because who doesn't love a break away even if it'd just for a week. Two days before my birthday this year, the lockdown was lifted so I was able to see my family for birthday. I was so lucky as a few weeks after my birthday we were back into lockdown.

I've learned how lucky I am to have such amazing friends and family who are always there for me. This pandemic has so many negatives but also a few good positives to come along with it. The lockdown was very hard and stressful. I agree but what I gained from those few months is more than what some might gain in a lifetime.

Kaja Bozi - TY

Since COVID-19... There have been many changes, some that I can't quite appoint to Covid. Maybe they root from it and I'm just unaware of the influences it has had. Nonetheless I have changed.

Covid has urged me to look at it all objectively. Even I, that proves to be difficult as we as people are subjective, even if emotions don't always excuse or make sense. I looked back at how normal my summer has been and how I urged to keep living the same. Regarding Covid my life has been inconvenienced. I always like to believe "it's the world and that I can push through it". That's a strenuous thing to do, often not worth the effort when you stand for something undefined. One of big changes is me being more open to opportunities. There are some points staying inflexible, but to be honest, aren't we all a little stubborn on something we like?

My life changing is an insidious process. It's filled with little struggles and experiences that might seem insignificant such as complimenting and pulling back on criticism. Covid in a way helped me to become more patient. There are people with different theories and habits that I've questioned silently, but at the end of the day... we can agree to disagree and tolerate from a literal distance.

Since Covid I'm in a TY in a class that improved in many ways, new additions and teachers had been great. It's rather some individuals that did stay and I have yet to learn how to deal with. Surprisingly I don't mind seating apart and it's the things you forget to think about as they are merged in a practised routine. A great improvement is lunch times. No mass of people rushing everywhere, no endless que for food, no struggle to find seats as all are taken by cliques that each take from half to a whole table...

I've started cycling to school and indulged in many projects. My routine is strangely the same. I do school, go home and before all work on projects. At the start of the year, I had a plan... a set charted schedule to have time for everything. Do I have time for everything? No, dear clouds, I unfortunately don't take the time. Which is the downside of my pandemic existence.

I'm afraid the biggest change is no change at all or rather the lack of wanted change. My biggest mistake is taking those inconveniences and letting them slow me down. Taking those excuses and utilizing them. I wish I would had given it my best, despite the unfavourable situation.

My favourite part: The unexpected! Despite everything I did manage to enjoy a lot of things. However, these are the unplanned ventures the cat dragged in. I almost accidentally picked up a pencil and let art be a part of my life again. I did enjoy EAL classes that make other lectures look feeble in comparison. I anticipated enjoying it, but not as it is now. I like it previous years and this year everything about is different, it's more suited for this group and this year.

If asked to do it again I would. I genuinely would. Nevertheless, I have the rest of the year to step up my game and survive an alien invasion as 2020 isn't over just yet. I have holidays to look forward to and hopefully I'll come back with a better plan that includes sticking to 'the plan'. Christmas holidays are always a great 'make up session' as you can work on what you didn't work on during a busy school year. The biggest contrast to last year is that this Christmas my room will have the honour of being covered in glitter as I have to bring my Junk Kouture dress home. Wish me good luck!

The stories speak for themselves. Covid has affected all our lives yet all our stories are so different. No two people have experienced it the same way and that's what makes us the unique individual we are. The bottom line is, indeed we've lost a lot but at the same time gain just as much.

Let's not stop now, the finish line is within sight. Let's keep our candle of hope burning as we pull together in the hope for better days ahead. Together as a school community, let's keep doing our part in keeping each other safe even over. Checking up loved ones who may be feeling vulnerable during this time. Wearing masks, sanitising and keeping our distance.



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*Nollaig Shona to all the
Coláiste Nano Nagle
community.*

*May you all be safe and
health during Christmas and
the best for 2021!!*

