



CHANEL COLLEGE

CHRISTMAS 2020

Message from the Principal

Firstly I would like to wish all members of our community a Merry Christmas!

The last four months in school during a global pandemic haven't been easy for students and staff alike. I hope everyone enjoys a prolonged mask break over the festive period and takes the opportunity to relax and take a much needed rest.

I wrote this short piece on Wednesday 16th December, the same day our students began their Christmas exams. I wish all students the very best of luck in these exams and I am certain that when the results come out in January, they will demonstrate the hard work and dedication I witness in Chanel on a daily basis.

A special mention to our Transition Year students who held a Christmas Market just last week. COVID-19 meant we had to rethink our annual Trade Fair. An outdoor event was our only option and it proved a huge success. A chilly December evening coupled with Christmas décor and festive tunes ensured a fantastic atmosphere and a most enjoyable evening. Well done to all involved!

Nollaig Shona,

Dara Gill

Principal



On Tuesday 8th December a dull and dreary school yard was transformed into a veritable winter wonderland to host the TY Christmas Fair outdoors for the first time in its history. Despite all the COVID-19 Regulations and challenges, the TY Team and students persevered against the odds to make the event happen.

A host of elves worked like trojans all afternoon, carrying tables, putting up fairy lights, decorating stalls etc. etc. so that when visitors arrived at 6pm, the atmosphere was magical. It was a wonderful occasion for the lads to showcase their creativity, talent and hard work over the last few months. Business was brisk and the young entrepreneurs made tidy profits, hopefully giving them a flavour for what great things they could achieve in the future.

The whole event was such a resounding success, many even suggested an outdoor market may be the way to go for future years. A positive Covid outcome for a change! Mr Ardiffe, Ms O'Brien and Ms Byrne were extremely proud of their TY students and wish to thank everybody who got involved and helped in so many ways. As Mr Ardiffe put it "a big Covid friendly pat on the back to all".

I McGowran (Teacher)





"In our last three classes on Tuesday, we set up for our Christmas fair. We hung lights and decorations all around the yard of the school. When we returned later than evening, we set up our stalls and had lights and decorations all around them! It was a great night and we had fun selling our products to the parents and teachers."

Luke Talbot (TY)

"we had fun and got a lot of sales"

Dylan Deegan (TY)

Annette's Malteser Tray Bake

Ingredients

4 ounces margarine
8 ounces chocolate (milk or plain)
3 tbsp golden syrup
8 ounces digestive biscuits (crushed finely)
8 ounces malteser
8 ounces white chocolate

Method

1. Melt margarine, chocolate and syrup over a low heat and then let cool.
2. Add crushed biscuits and maltesers.
3. Line a swiss roll tin with cling film and pour in mix and spread evenly.
4. Allow to cool and set.
5. Melt the white chocolate in microwave for 20 seconds and stir until melted.
6. Spread over cake and leave to cool.
7. Cut into squares.

**Jamie McGivern and
Josh O'Connor
(Third Year)**



There was definitely a festive atmosphere in Chanel on Friday 11th December for the whole school Christmas Quiz.

Celebrations and drinks were brought around to add to the festive cheer. Some classes, particularly 1.1 in Room 8, really got into the swing of it, singing and dancing along to the inter-round Classic Christmas Songs booming out over the intercom.

But it remained a very competitive affair as the runners raced along the corridors to deliver their class' answers in time. Winning classes were spoilt with Selection boxes at the end.

Brainchild of Mr Fahy and helped by trusty sidekick and intercom compere Mr Ardiffe, who both deserve a huge pat on the back for all the work and organisation that went in behind the scenes to make it a very successful and fun afternoon for everybody. Mathú!

I McGowran (Teacher)

When we were doing the quiz it was very exhilarating, and everybody was so excited to do it! For the 1st round we had to listen over the intercom and answer questions about Chanel, and when we were on the last question the fastest person in my class was waiting by the desk to get the paper to run and take it to the principal's office. At the start of the 2nd round we were given sweets and fizzy drinks, they tasted delicious! For this round our form teacher Ms. Donovan had to check her email for the info on the round, it was to do with Christmas movies, we ended up finishing pretty quickly with that round.

We were told the current scores for all the schools and we were amazed that we were coming in 2nd out of the whole school for the time being. We stayed strong in second for all the other rounds and when we were told we won in our year group we were amazed and so happy, we won a selection box as well. In summary we really enjoyed the quiz and thought it was great. **-Oisín Furey (First year)**





Teachers were surprised and delighted on Friday morning to open their doors to students who kindly presented them with beautiful breakfast menu order cards. For a minute they thought they were staying in a fancy hotel! There was a lovely selection of teas, coffee, juice, muffins, croissants, pain au chocolat, biscuits etc. The students explained that the teacher should fill in the order card and hang it on the door. No sooner done, the students returned to serve the order and spoil the teachers with delicious treats.

The students, Gerald, Mark and Mikey completed the project as part of their Junior Cycle Level 2 Functional Living Skills and they did a fantastic job under the guidance of Ms Doyle Bradley.

A big thank you to all the helpers, especially the SNA team and former Chanel student Mark Ingle for making the order cards.

I McGowran (Teacher)



My class travelled by bus to Kippure Adventure center in Wicklow to do our geography field study. When we arrived we got into waders and then walked about 10 minutes to Athdown Brooke, a tributary of the River Liffey.

Here we examined different aspects of the river such as velocity, depth, and discharge. Everyone got a chance to take part in different tasks and everyone learned something new. Besides being important for our leaving cert it was a good way to put our knowledge we learned in class to practical use.

The primary focus of the study was to examine the evidence of erosion on the river. To do this we examined rocks, the surrounding valley and the river bed itself. We took record of everything we did and made notes that described how we might've improved upon the tasks we carried out.

We identified where erosion had taken place and how through these tasks and so the last step was to head back to class, get our heads down and write the report.

Christian Smith (Sixth Year)

CHRISTMAS 2020

Our annual Christmas craft classes always prove popular and this year was no different. The virtual class took place on zoom and every parent that signed up for the class received a craft pack and logged on to watch the live demonstrations. The results were beautifully created and bespoke festive decorations and wreaths. A huge thanks to Rosemarie and Elaine in Mercy College for their expert tuition and tips!

More craft classes will take place in the Spring and will be advertised through email and the school Instagram. If you are interested please contact Aishling, the Home School Community Liaison on 087 747 4617.



THANK
YOU!



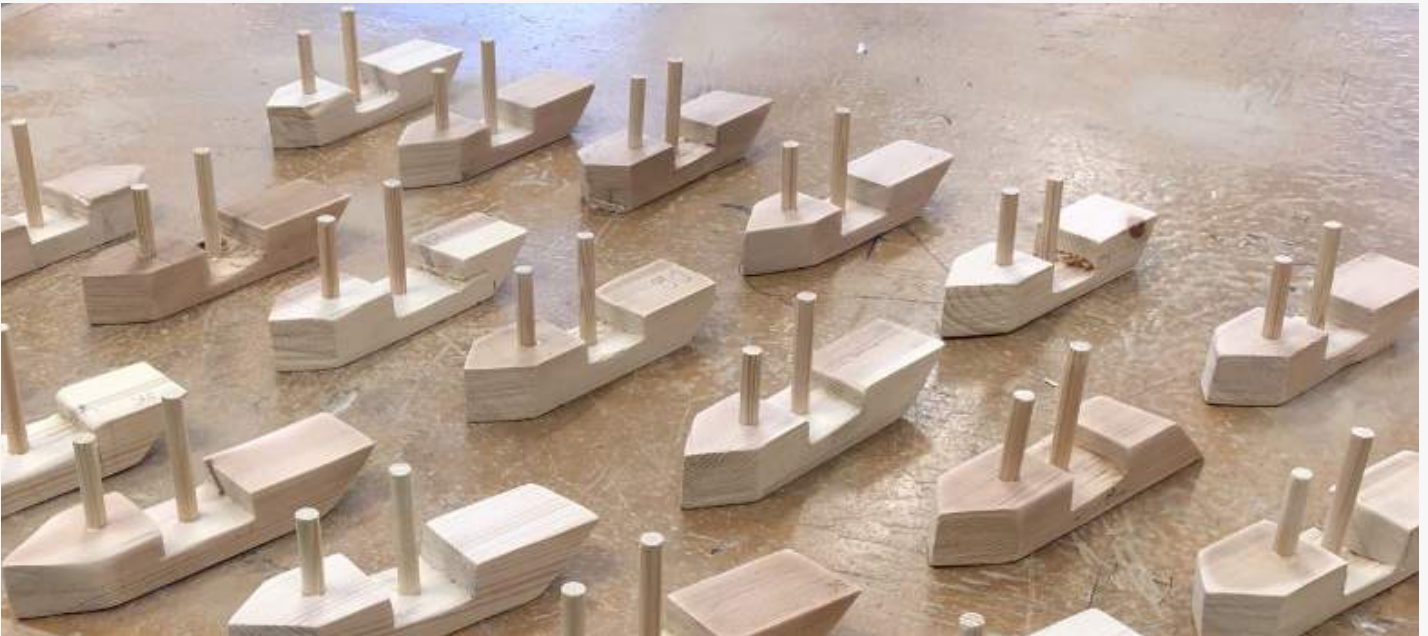
Dear student of Chanel College,

I would like to express my admiration for your courage and fortitude during this very difficult time in your life. In 1st year many of you have had to cope with missing out on primary school graduations, saying goodbye to old teachers, schools and friends. Older ones have had to cope with cancellation of sport, lockdown, closure of cinemas and other social outlets. Many of you are carers and have to look after older members of the family.

Many of you have had to cope with increased stress and tension in the family home as parents have lost income and jobs.

I think you have all been brilliant. I think you have all been brave. You haven't complained. You have got on with it. I think you should all be very proud of yourselves.

T McCarthy (Teacher)



The teacher handed us all a piece of piece of timber. We marked all places we needed to mark with a try-square and a ruler. Then we cut them down to size. We proceeded to chip away at the surplus timber with a chisel and mallet. After that we sanded the boat-like shaped timber to make it smooth. The teacher then called the class up one-by-one to drill one hole in the trench and one hole at the front, in which we placed the poles. We secured the poles using glue and then got to take them home.

Ben Lambert (First Year)

A special word of recognition must be given to our past pupil David Balfe. After success in his Leaving Cert in 2009, David studied Art in NCAD and has carved out a successful career in media. David returned to the school in May 2018 to present student awards. He spoke of the success that the students in our school can hope to achieve after school, with passion and hard work.

David has received considerable positive media coverage of late. His musical project *For those I Love* has been followed by captivating and critically acclaimed live performances on television. David recently performed his song "For Those I Love - I Have a Love" on legendary BBC music show Later with Jools Holland. He also performed a live set on RTE's famous Other Voices programme. *For Those I Love* was created as a tribute for another creative and talented past pupil of ours; Paul Curran. Paul, David's best friend, sadly passed away in February 2018. David and Paul previously worked together on their own highly praised musical act, *Burnt Out*.

David's creativity reminds us all of the tremendous artistic talent that has always been part of Chanel College. The videos for *For Those I Love* and *Burnt Out* can be found on Youtube. The music of *For Those I Love* is available on Spotify. Paul Curran's spoken word piece "Drive" can also be found on youtube and enjoyed. I urge our current students, past pupils, parents or anyone interested in moving, genuine art to have a look.

M Phelan (Teacher)



I arrive on a cold dark evening
The Christmas lights and candles light up the darkness
The sound of Christmas songs break the sad feel of the place
The yard felt alive as I sat at the table

Last Christmas it was great. I got clothing, shower stuff money and an xbox one x and about few games for it such as destiny 2, bendy, black ops 4 and Minecraft. I sat there playing my game and enjoyed playing them. My uncle and aunty came around. The dinner was great. We had lamb, beef, pork, ham, potatoes, carrots, turnip, cauliflower, broccoli, roast potatoes and gravy stuffing.

It was Christmas morning. I went downstairs with my mam, dad and brother. I looked through the sitting room window where all the presents were. I looked in to see many presents lying around the floor. Right in the middle I could see my main present. My new Xbox. I was so excited to see the present I really wanted.

When I was 10, I got the PlayStation 4 for Christmas, this was the best present I have ever got. When I got this all I did for the next week was play it all day every day with my friends from school. We would stay up until 5 am laughing and sometimes screaming for weeks and weeks. And to this day that's all I do when I go home from school.

One of my favourite Christmas memories is on Christmas Eve waiting for Santa. I would get my pyjamas on and get the goodies ready for Santa and the reindeer. I would put milk and cookies for Santa and carrots for the reindeer.

My vision is temporarily blinded by the cold ball of slush, also known as snow smacks, right into my face, almost sending me flying. I wipe the excess snow from my face to see my brother with a victorious and smug smirk and my dad trying not to smile at my brothers well-aimed shot.

It was a cold crisp morning. I was so excited I couldn't sit still. I remember sitting at the top of the stairs, the first one awake shouting at the rest of my family to hurry up. I was so excited I was shaking with joy. When it was finally time to go downstairs, I raced down the stairs and went to the sitting room. I remember opening all my gifts and being delighted, after I opened all the presents, I was very happy. I was looking at all my presents when I heard a rustle. It was my mam with a box for each of us. Me and my siblings were very confused. Puzzled, we raced to open them. I got an old box of quality street... I was really confused. And then I opened the box and saw a note. "guess what" I read out loud. Very confused I looked back in the big box and three balloons shot up to the ceiling. I read the balloon 'NYC '19 IS THE PLACE TO BE'. I was so shocked I could not believe it. It had been a dream of mine for a long time to visit America and I was finally going! It was a great day!

A good Christmas memory I have is more of a thing that I do every year I watch the same thing on Christmas eve. Every year I watch Disney Micky Mouse Christmas Story. It is a collection of short films. The first one is the Nutcracker then its Micky and Pluto becoming friends and the final one was a Christmas Carol. I really enjoy watching it, well I used to anyway. It really puts me into the Christmas mood.

It's Christmas eve and it's a cold winters day at 7:30pm. The Christmas Yankee candle is lit and the heating is on. The Christmas tree is lit while Home Alone is on the TV. People are wrapping up Christmas presents and they putting them under the tree. The smell of the house is the smell of Christmas and warmth.

The kids are trying to sleep but just can't. The clock strikes 11:00PM and the kids have just flaked off. The hardest part about Christmas is trying to go a sleep. They wake up at 2:00 am, they go inside to the parents' room and they say 'go back to bed'. They turn on the TV to try and go asleep but can't and they have to watch TV for hours while they go back asleep for 20 minutes every hour. Then their faces light up with joy as their clock says '5:30' and they can wake up their parents!

As part of our sixth year religion class, we decided to organise a Christmas Jumper Day for Friday 11th in aid of Crumlin's children hospital. Derek and I went around the school to inform all the classes, and with the help of all the teachers, we managed to generate enough hype. On the Friday we had a great turnout across all the years for Christmas jumpers, some even wore decorations in. The whole school raised just over €1000 for Crumlin's hospital and there was an enjoyable day in it for everyone involved.



Robert Mulligan (Sixth Year)



WISHING YOU ALL A

Merry Christmas

