

## Presentation Wexford Newsletter

PRINCIPAL: MR WILLIAM RYAN  
DEPUTY: MS MARY DOOLEY  
DEPUTY MS CAROLINE RYAN

*Our Best, Always*

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### Christmas 2020 Newsletter

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## Presentation Community Raise Movember Funds

*Ellen Aylward*

This term saw a fantastic fundraising effort from the entire school community at Presentation, Wexford as staff and students came together to raise well over €2,000 for the Movember cause.

Members of staff donned their moustaches for the month of November while others, both male and female, took part in clocking up the kilometres supported by our student body and wider community.

Speaking about the initiative, organiser Mr Rikki O'Leary expressed his thanks for the support and the positive reaction.




"It went really well. We managed to raise a substantial amount of money for a great cause, and the awareness and support from the students, staff and parents was fantastic. Hopefully this is something that we can build on going forward. I think we all know of somebody that has been affected in this area and hopefully we can keep shining a light on it here."



### Christmas Edition


Welcome to the final edition of the Presentation Newsletter of the calendar year. It has certainly been 12 months that nobody could have anticipated but we're thankful for the blessings and opportunities that were granted to us over this term. We would like to wish everybody in the Presentation community and beyond a very **Happy Christmas** and a peaceful New Year.






*Great progress has been made on our **new school building** this term. We're looking forward to welcoming classes to the new wing for the start of the new academic year.*









**PRESENTATION  
SECONDARY SCHOOL  
WEXFORD**

Team captain Presentation  
Second...

€2,159 Team funds raised



*With just a few sleeps left until his busiest night of the year, Santa took some time out to deliver prizes to some of our top **VShare** point receivers.*

# Principal's

## Address



Welcome All,

As the Christmas holidays approaches I would like to say a massive thank you to each and every member of the school community, students, staff and parents, for complying with all of the new procedures that have been put in place in PSS, Wexford since August.

It has not been an easy few months as we learned to grapple with the new normal, but, as always the determination & dedication of our school community shown through.

I am forever grateful to the hardworking staff of the school and to our excellent students who have been a pleasure to deal with since August.

I look forward to seeing you all in January 2021 and I wish each and everyone one of you a peaceful and restful Christmas break.

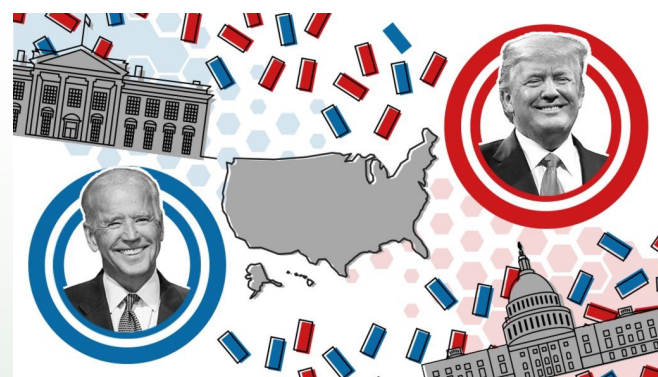
May 2021 bring some kind of semblance to a more normal year.

Every best wish now and for the new year.

*William Ryan*

## US Election Grabs Presentation Interest

*Ciara Martin Reports*



Much needed respite from Coronavirus conversation was granted this term as the school joined the rest of the world in being hooked by the US Presidential election that ultimately saw former Vice President Joe Biden destined for the White House.

Chatter was not just confined to the Politics and Society classrooms, with the corridors awash with opinions and discussion from the latest debates or fallout.

Speaking about the election, American student Angelina Harris declared herself delighted with the outcome.

“I was supporting Biden all the way. The school really reacted and a lot of students seemed hooked on the political world. I think this is positive for America and the future holds stability and peace for our country”, said the Chicago native.

Our Gaeilge Instagram account saw a lot of interaction with their polls and comments and it was fantastic to see our students engage with a major milestone in the political world.



# Fabulously Festive Christmas Carol Service



It's not the normal carol service we are usually treated to as a whole school community but we were able to enjoy a pre-recorded version, with some truly phenomenal group and individual performances.

A big thank you to Ms Lorna Mahon, our choir and Michael Benson for capturing something so wonderfully festive for all of us to enjoy.

Click on the pictures for the link!

## 20/21 Podcasts Launched

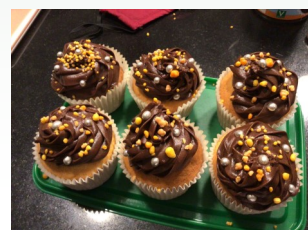
The first episode from this year's PresCast team has been published. Well done to our hosts Ellen Aylward, Chloe O'Toole & Katie Dempsey and to Ciara Cloney for all the editing and fantastic new artwork.

Transition Year students Orlaith O'Hanlon & Suzie White have also been working tirelessly over the last few weeks to bring our library and reading enthusiasts the first episode of their Story Time podcast. Click on the pictures to listen– also available wherever you get your podcasts!



## Christmas Baking Delights

Well done to our Home Economics students who whipped up some delicious Christmas themed treats in class this term.



Kate Freeman and her good friend 'Snowy' pictured at the **TY Christmas Craft Fair** as we came to the end of our term. Well done to all of our mini-companies who showcased their products and provided students with the opportunity to pick up those last minute gifts.



# 2020 not all bad with Equestrian Stars recognised

Our equestrian club were recently crowned winners of the Doagh Novice league for the third year running. This makes us the only school to have won the league since it began in 2017!

We also came 4th in the national league with Katie Cullen (TY) being named as joint winner of the national novice individual league. Emily Roche (5th), Ciara Moore (5th), Alisha Deery (TY) and Olivia Rankin (3rd) all received prizes also for their consistent individual performances throughout the year.

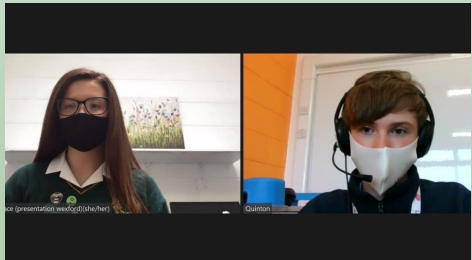
Unfortunately due to Covid-19 the finals of all these leagues were unable run and placings were decided on current standings. We look forward to the possibility of being able to compete again in the new year!



## Student Council– How does it work?



Congratulations to 5th Year student **Ellen Curran** who has been elected as a regional officer for the Irish Second Level Students' Union board.



*Eimear Doyle sat down with her sister Sarah to find out a little bit more about how the **Student Council** at our school works.*

- \* The student council is the **voice of the student body** in the school. there are three representatives from each year. They are a voice to Mr Ryan and management.
- \* They **raise issues** from day-to-day things like the uniform, vending machines, school facilities for students and the canteen. To long-term issues like schools policies to improve the school environment.
- \* The students council assist us and organise fundraisers and **represent the school** at events and meetings with management.
- \* This student council is a **great opportunity** to work with others and build friendships. They work closely with the Irish second level student union (ISSU) They not only have a voice in school but they have a voice national.
- \* To be **elected** to the student council you must first get two sponsors from two people. Then you will get a form to fill out and your two sponsors will sign it.
- \* **The student council worked with Mr Ryan** this year to abolish the rule that you can only have red and clear nail polish now you can have any colour nails you want.
- \* As a **first-year representative** you observe the meetings until Christmas so that you understand and are aware of how the meeting runs and how they work together.
- \* At the beginning they do a training day. This is a very beneficial and sheds light on certain aspects of the student council. Once elected they sign a **student council constitution** stating the basic rules and regulations of this you can cancel and outlining the roles of all the members.
- \* **They meet twice a month** for 30 minutes to an hour depending on how many things are on their agenda.
- \* We hope after reading this you have a better understanding and an interest in **joining the student council** next year.



# Green Schools Begin work on 5th Flag

Presentation Wexford's Green Schools Committee have now started working on obtaining their 5th flag for **biodiversity**. We were awarded our 4th flag for the Travel Theme during lockdown in the Spring when our wonderful and hardworking committee completed the final inspection process online.

We have a new and even bigger GSC with the addition of many TY students who will be doing biogas a TY module with Ms. O'Muire this year. We also welcome Ms O'Muire to our committee.

On Tuesday 8 December the GSC took part in a webinar on biodiversity given by Mark Nolan.

We look forward to working with the school community on this theme in the next 2 years

## Green Code for Our 4 Themes



What we do today will affect us tomorrow,

If we don't reduce waste now, the Earth will be in great sorrow.

Presentation girls are saving energy,  
So our Earth won't become history.

We saved so much water,  
All for our sons and daughters.

Help the greenschools by taking a walk or carpool!



## 5th Year Peer Mentors Announced

Congratulations to all of our 5th Year Peer mentors who commenced their work this term. Linked to a 2nd year tutor class, the students have already engaged tremendously well with their classes.

### Peer Mentors

**Rang Aoife:** Isabelle Roche, Erin Murphy, Lucy Walsh, Jessie Byrne

**Rang Brigid:** Ribh Sexton, Amelia Miksiewicz, Fiona Cousins, Molly Davis

**Rang Cliodhna:** Rachel Murphy, Rita Redmond, Rebecca Fannin, Katie Keegan

**Rang Deirdre:** Anna Ryan, Ellen Curran, Ciara Dolan, Rebecca A Murphy

**Rang Etain:** Emmeline Turley, Jody Boyle, Ciara Power, Molly Calder

**Assistant Coordinator:** Roisin Stafford



Congratulations to 2nd year student Alex Krupska who Was awarded 1st prize in the 11-13 category of the Wexford Credit Union's 'Imagine More' art competition!





## 2019/20 Awards Ceremonies



*'Spirit of TY' Ribh Sexton & Erin Murphy with their trophies.*

Our awards ceremonies are usually among the key events in the school calendar, as the recipients and their families come together on a May evening to celebrate their academic & extra curricular success.

Prizes and accolades were handed out for a wide range of strong curricular and extra-curricular performances at both our school and TY awards days, with Principal Mr William Ryan noting that 'not every student is fortunate enough to receive an award and that it should be cherished.'

TY Coordinator Ms Jacqueline Hartnett echoed her Principal's praise, noting how impressed she has been with this cohort, adding that 'the resilience and positive attitude' shown by this group of girls in light of the many challenges of the current climate will set them up well as they continue their studies.




*Rang Caoimhe's Niamh Walsh, Claudia Rochard, Tara O'Grady, Emma Kelly & Catherine Brennan pictured with their academic awards.*



Congratulations to Amy Jackson & Andrea Fielding, winners of our **Science Week Quiz** run by Peer Mentors.


## Interactive Platform for Incoming 1st Years

**PRESENTATION  
SECONDARY SCHOOL  
WEXFORD**

Information for  
prospective  
students &  
parents/guardians

This interactive resource will be  
updated at different stages  
throughout the 2020-21 year, in  
order to provide key information  
to our incoming  
First-Year students & their  
parents/guardians.

Click on the different flashing icons



Incoming 1st year students and their parents/guardians can click on image left to access our interactive resource for key school information and up-dates.

A big thank you to Mr Rolston, our Primary School Liaison, and all of our students who gave an insight into school life for our incoming 1st year cohort. .





## Incredible Artwork Shines Light on Positive Mental Health

Well done to TY student **Dara Kelly** for her incredible artwork entered into the Wexford Mental Health Association's Expression Project for 2020. The theme was 'Positive Mental Health is.....' Dara created her piece to show the different state of minds of the same boy. She says, 'It emphasises the difference a positive outlook can have. I believe the quote supports the drawing remarkably as we see that the boy who "stands where the sun is shining" is so much happier. I believe the piece encourages others to stand where the light is shining and to have a more positive outlook on life. "



A big thank you to Conor from **Sound Out Rhythm** for delivering his Drumming Workshop for our TY students this term.



'**I can do it**' showcased their wonderful design at the **Junk Kouture** national finals in Balluybeg House, Wicklow this term. Well done to Molly Calder, Lily Stout, Lucy Walsh & Ms L. Murphy for their work in preparation for their photoshoot.



*Eimear O'Neill & Emily O'Reilly taking advantage of some fine Autumn weather on the **new benches** in our outdoors spaces.*



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