

GRAPEVINE

SUMMER 2021

Issue 75



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Note from the Editors

Hi and welcome to this year's summer edition of Grapevine! As Rosa Parks said; "To bring about change, we must not be afraid to take the first step. We will fail when we fail to try". We believe this quote aligns with this years experiences very well, as we were faced with circumstances unlike any other. We have been in and out of lockdown all year and we've had to give up many opportunities. On the other hand, we have made it through and things are starting to look up.

There is something really encouraging about people sharing their stories and thoughts through writing, whether that be a short recount of events or an opinion piece or even just an idea on a page. It gives us courage to continue expressing ourselves and reassurance that everything we do has meaning and a purpose.

Reading these articles made us feel this way, To be surrounded (mostly virtually this year) by so many incredible, thoughtful people gave us a stronger insight into the fact that each of our lives are so very different, yet we come together in a place where we can put these perspectives together. Grapevine is a unique voice because it is not one voice, but the voice of our school community.

From MUN to environmental projects to personal views, there will definitely be something to spike your interest. Throughout this magazine, we urge you to keep an open mind and be open to new possibilities.

Finally, we would like to say a huge thank you and goodbye to Aleena Manoj and Elena Gallagher. As editor and layout designer, each gave time, energy and creative flair to the magazine. They will be missed.

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School News

Congratulations to Andrew Porter



Past pupil Andrew Porter has been chosen for the British and Irish Lions. At 25 years of age, Andrew has already earned 37 CAPS for Ireland and is one of the most formidable scrummagers around, according to lionsrugby.com.

The Show Must Go On!

During the lockdown in April Third Year students took part in an online Distance Challenge. The challenge was chosen during COVID restrictions to keep up the team/form spirit and to get out and do something new.

The student council reps from each form set up a group on an app called Strava for their form to take part in. Everyone logged into an account and joined the team, we all worked together to cover as much distance as possible and the competition was remarkably close.

Congratulations to forms 3BE who came first place with a total of 1335.7km and 3KE who came second with a total of 1225.2km. The two forms enjoyed a pizza picnic during 6th period on Monday the 10th of May.

It was a very enjoyable experience, and it was nice to be able to get out and have something to do. Well done to all the students who kept the competition going in their form group and also a big thank you to our form teachers, Ms. Keddy and Ms. Lynott, who encouraged us along the way

History Competition

First and Second Year students took part in a history competition organised by their teachers. First Years wrote about an historical photo or place and Second Years researched the title "My Hero in History".

The winners were:

First Year - Alexander Silverman on The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus and Alisha Manoj on Martin Luther King.

Second Year - Christian Naughton (1st) and Sara Devey (2nd)



MUN

This year, the MUN community in Andrew's did nothing short of thrive. In fact, over the course of the year, both new and experienced delegates got a chance to attend four different conferences! The online conferences that replaced the physical ones gave new delegates the perfect chance to get used to debating without being thrown into the deep end.

THIMUN

Talking about the deep end, the year started off with a bang, the first conference being The Hague International MUN conference. Though the idea of going to the Netherlands lay on everyone's minds, the THIMUN conference allowed delegates to experience professional debating, discussing topics from nuclear deals to domestic violence.

CBC MUN

Then came the Claregalway conference, or the CBCMUN. This one provided delegates with the chance to experience some of the less professional side of MUN conferences. Filled with some laughs, and the occasional mistake, the conference let delegates debate while adding a fun air to it.

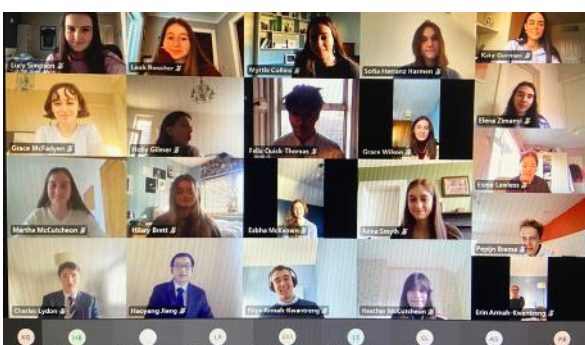
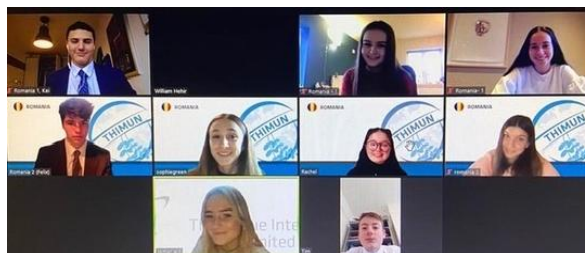
EPSOM

Next was the Epsom College MUN. Similar to the previous one, this conference was filled with intense debating with the occasional laugh which would relieve some of the tension that can sometimes be felt in a conference.

SAIMUN

Finally, to end on a very good note, the St Andrew's MUN. Once again taking place on Zoom and Teams, the SAIMUN conference ran smoothly. Delegates not only got the chance to debate here, but also to Chair.

Our brilliant chairs, and admins in the backend, kept the spirits up with a constant smile on their faces. Onlookers got the chance to see the whole Andrew's community, ranging from some of our brilliant Second Years to our experienced Sixth Years.



Green Committee



The GS/EG (Green School/Environment Group) committee continue to meet up online throughout lockdown. We continued to raise awareness through our social media platforms and planned for the return to school. We boosted followers by advertising the Instagram page on SAC formal Twitter and Instagram pages. We currently have 230 followers.

The page has been highlighting issues around the SDG's (Sustainable Development Goals) and Environmental issues. The project has been supported through Instagram and the girls have given a presentation to the 4th year sustainable development classes. The students have also presented their project online to 5th and 6th class students in Kill of the Grange NS.

Students have engaged with climate strike initiatives by making posters and posting them online.

The transport survey results: We are surveying the whole student body to see how they get to school prior to Covid and today. We are looking into new ways of travelling. 375 students have responded so far, and a summary of the results received thus far can be seen on this [link](#).

Support for SAC plastic free school continues through online awareness. Many students choose not to take the bottles of water in the packed lunches from the canteen and widespread use of reusable bottles is evident especially after the school supplied new water fountains in the house areas.

GS/EG

There are, currently, 65 members in the group and we meet regularly online. All updates and events are shared on an email to the group to ensure that all students are up to date on activities and that they have ample opportunity to get involved with projects to take action.

This group is student led and facilitated by Mr Simon Moore, Ms Sue Adams, Ms Kirsty McArdle and Ms Sile O'Callaghan. The students led multiple projects over the course of the year to raise awareness about the environment.

SAC Still Plastic-Free

The plastic-free SAC project continued from last year. Building on the success of eradicating plastic bottles from school the students continued to raise awareness virtually and selling the remainder of the school bottles.

Environmental awareness is also raised through the school television screens, in the newsletter and through the environmental notice boards and posters. We also received a donation of a plastic sculpture from the art students at IADT. This is a 'sea monster' made from materials salvaged from the sea to highlight ocean pollution.



Green Committee



The GS/EG have done the following and are in the process of completing....

1

2000 Tree Project – We planted 'Pocket Forests' and a total of 2000 trees. We reached out to other school communities to help plant the trees and shared the saplings with 4 other schools.

2

We are in the process of developing biodiversity in the school grounds. Areas have been put aside for this. A 'green wall' with wildflowers is planned for house area 2 to attract pollinators.

3

A 'green policy' for the school is currently being written.

4

We are taking part in the 'Global Air Project.' Please see [this](#) website for information. The results showing levels of NO₂ µg/m³ are as follows.

Area 1: St Andrew's College Gate Main road = 22.36 NO₂ µg/m³ = Medium

Area 2: Drop off area = 17.12 NO₂ µg/m³ = Low to Medium

Area 3: On the school pitches = 16.14 NO₂ µg/m³ = Low to Medium

5

200 tie-dye masks, made by 4th years, were distributed for a donation to the Seal Sanctuary in Courtown, Co. Wexford.

6

Various beach & park cleans occur on an ongoing basis. e.g. IB – CAS has a requirement for a community project such as this.

7

We plan to create a plastic Art installation of plastic waste in conjunction with the Art department.

8

There is a drive to get students to cycle / walk to school and the 1st SAC Cycles was held between April 19th and May 19th. The winning year group for kilometres cycled won a picnic for their year group. DLR have put in many cycle lanes and students have responded in numbers to them by opting for the bike.

9

We run a WOW / COW (Walk on Wednesdays/Cycle on Wednesdays) for students from Blackrock station to try and encourage this.

10

Poetry with an environmental message has been put on the walls about the school.

11

1st year did a competition encouraging cycling and walking to school before Christmas and 3 of the best responses have been selected as winners and are displayed in reception.



M u s i c

Virtual Music

Donagh Kelly

4th Year

Connected | Brian Tate

"I'm over here and you're over there, there is something between us that's greater than air." Engaged in a virtual video project during lockdown, it is all about being connected.

Virtual Insanity | Jamiroquai

The TY Musicianship class embraced this apt song, took the Teams notification sound and used it as a sample in this iconic track that they created over lockdown.

Times Like These | Foo Fighters

A melancholy, infamous track created by the Beginners Music class on keeping with the times that we are in, done entirely in lockdown.

Hooked on a Feeling | Blue Swede

An in school TY project, created by both classes who collaborated to create a final video.

Because of Covid, every class has had to make changes in the way they do things this year, and I would say that this is especially true for the music department.

For obvious reasons, there hasn't been many live performances, but the music and choir departments found other ways that we could perform, through videos and recordings.

Even though it might look relatively easy to put something like this together, it actually takes a large amount of skill and teamwork.

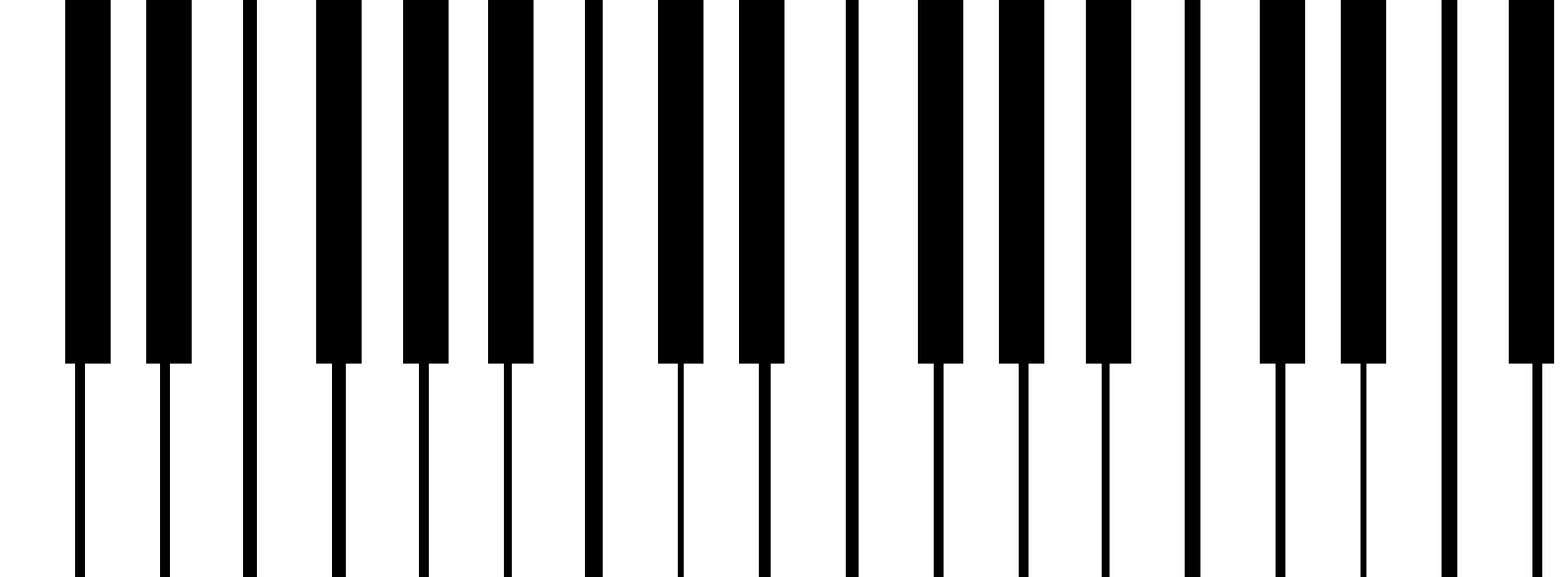
For example, for a choir video, each singer needs to be recorded individually using studio microphones and an audio interface. Then all the recordings are compiled together into an audio software, for example Garageband, to create the sound of a full choir without any Covid complications!

Even when we moved to online learning, we could still record tracks this way by sending the individual parts to our teacher.

As a student that was in both the music and choir classes, I had the opportunity to take part in loads of these projects throughout the year. However, I think the one I am most proud of is our performance of Don't Look Back in Anger for the Hot press YouTube channel.

This was one of the rare occasions where we got to play together, and the finished product turned out to be a really fun video that I can't wait to look back on in a few years.

If I learned one thing from the whole experience of music in TY, it would be that if you put in the work and you're doing what you love, it's easier than you might think to make a good thing out of a bad situation.



This year it was harder than ever to collaborate, but the music in St Andrew's didn't stop. Our students found a way to sing, produce and perform together in a safe way. Students learned to record, edit, mix and make videos to share with the school. We thought you might enjoy listening to some of them. Click on the links below to listen!

6th Year

Viva La Vida | Coldplay

A multi-tracked project for some of the Valedictory Choir members during lockdown.

Changes/Home/Freedom | David Bowie/Edward Sharpe/George Michael

A multi-tracked mash-up from the 6th year music class during lockdown.

Czardas | Monti

An extraordinary, classical, unstrumental trio.

Senior/ Junior School

World in Union | Gustav Holst & Charlie Skarbek

Over 200 students from junior and senior schools took part, ranging from 9-18 instrumentalists. It was individually recorded in school and edited together. All instrumentalists and singers from all music classes took part.

Senior School

Sisi Ni Moja | Jacob Narverud

"We are one", another virtual choir track in which 71 choir members from all years took part in - 39 audio tracks and 22 video tracks were submitted during lockdown.

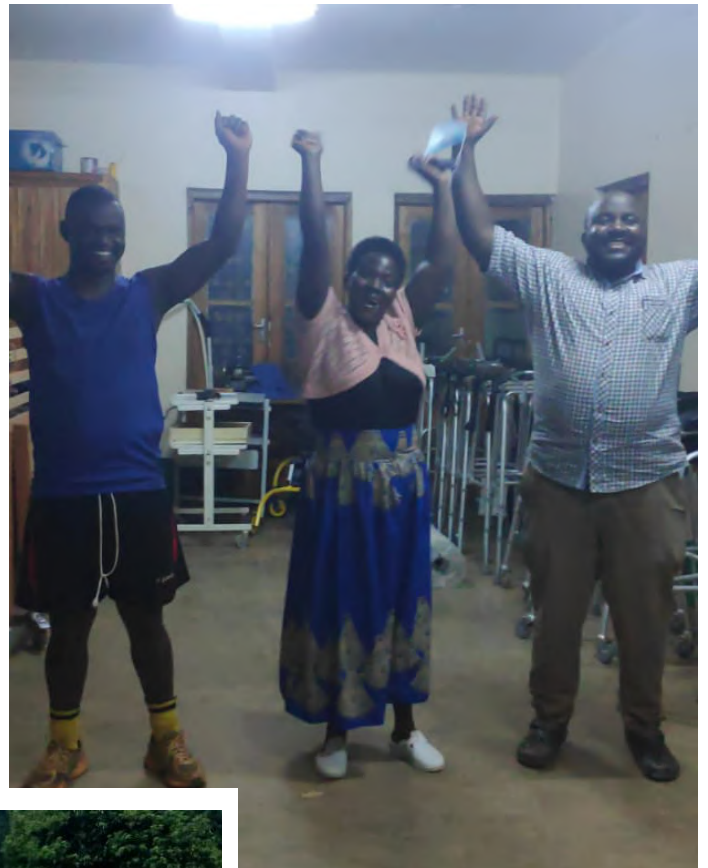
UGANDA

Building Projects

Whilst only the exam years are currently attending school in Rubiriizi secondary school, SAC have helped with the construction of new staff accommodation. This project is vital as the school fights to retain staff who are usually drawn away from the valley to the larger regional towns.

Rubiriizi school, like many rural institutions, is in limbo as Uganda holds its breath to see how Covid will affect rural life in the coming months. Over the past year, there have been significant transport and commercial restrictions including school lockdowns, but relatively little 'reported' infection in the local area.

However, authorities and our friends in the hospital and school fear the effect of the virus and its wide-ranging medical impact has yet to arrive.



DONATE

If you would like to donate a small sum of money to the Kisizii Hospital and School, please click on the link to the left of this message. This will take you to a go fund me page. Thank you for your contribution.



Kisiizi: Covid Update

Former SAC students (class of 2007) Stuart Garrett and Dr Rosie Plunkett are the co-founders of CHEEERS. This is a registered Irish charity that supports healthcare education programmes in partnership with Kisiizi hospital.

Stuart and Rosie first visited Kisiizi with the first ever TY Uganda trip back in 2005. Stuart recently said that his career as a physiotherapist and his passion for Africa started with that trip, but 3 weeks ago, he and Megan welcomed baby Ellie into the world and sleep deprivation could make him say anything at the moment!

Pictured above is the container of medical equipment that CHEEERS, with the help of the SAC TY Uganda project, sent to Kisiizi hospital.

The TY Uganda project has also donated funds to the hospital as they prepare for the expected, but not yet fully felt, arrival of Covid to rural Uganda. Many folks in the Kisiizi and Rubiriizi community are deeply anxious as they see the tragedy unfold in India.

Old Man Belfield

Ruben O'Mahony

If you've ever spent a significant amount of time in the Booterstown/Clonskeagh area, you may have been lucky enough to catch a glimpse of an old wiry-haired man in a long beige trench coat with a long untamed grey beard to match.

He carried a smouldering cigarette in his mouth and has an old, tired face, permanently locked in his characteristic ill-tempered frown, a man constantly perused by a flock of seagulls like a captain ahead of his loud squawking battalion, forever leading them into battle.

If you have caught a rare glimpse of this unusual figure then you may have just been in the presence of a mortal god amongst men, you have been lucky enough to witness the inelegant grace of an infamous legend. Old Man Belfield.

I first encountered this man several years ago when I first moved into the area. I was walking my dog early one morning and he appeared, as if out of thin air, on the path ahead of me.

I was entranced by his gawkish stature and the parade of seagulls, hounding the man for bread. He looked at me with his cold eyes, I felt his stare pierce through my soul. Oddly though I felt a strange warm feeling inside, this man had looked through the entire fabric of my being yet for some reason I was comforted by this.

I continued on my way and thought very little of the man over the coming months, until I spotted him again. He stood outside the local SPAR smoking his iconic cigarettes and feeding his small army of birds' bread.

I found myself staring at this man for what felt like a lifetime until he eventually moved out of view. I had to know more about this truly strange man.



Old Man Belfield was a local homeless man who had been living on the UCD grounds for over 30 years. His real name was Michael Byrne and by the time I met him, he was nearing his late 60s.

There were many stories about Mr. Byrne, it was rumoured that he used to be a professor at UCD before falling into hard times.

If you were one of the few lucky enough to get to talk to him, you too might have agreed with this, it was believed that his intelligence was unparalleled as he had an incredibly large vocabulary and was knowledgeable on a wide range of subjects. It is unlikely that you would ever get to witness this knowledge as for 30 years he didn't say a word.

Many other rumours were surrounding Old Man Belfield, many believe he saved a woman from an assault, acting as a modern-day vigilante. Others truly believe he is some sort of god, sent here to stay silent and judge our characters to find those truly worthy of eternal glory.

“A fiercely private person, we thank those of you who quietly looked out for Michael. We will miss him around the campus.”

"Mr Byrne was remembered as a "gentle soul" and "a still centre to all the activity" on campus. He was described by one graduate as "a silent guardian of UCD in his grey cloak."

Tributes to 'Old Man Belfield', The Irish Times



I don't believe that last theory, I think he is just a kind-hearted, peaceful soul, a man who walks this earth in search of birds to feed.

Michael Byrne died on the 11th of January 2021. After 30 long years walking around UCD, he finally passed at the old age of 71. It is unusual for someone who lives on the streets for 30 years and smoked at every possible opportunity to live that long.

His death struck the neighbourhood to its core, it was the final nail in the coffin of a community already lacking in camaraderie due to isolation from the Coronavirus. But somehow even through death, Old Man Belfield was able to unite a broken community, as his final act of good faith, he brought together a neighbourhood through mourning.

The day of Old Man Belfield's funeral was a solemn one, the whole neighbourhood stepped outside their front doors, gripping signs of condolence and dressed in all black. A blissful silence fell over Booterstown as the large hearse crept through the streets.

Stories and rumours were shared about this potentially great man, anyone who had attended UCD had at least one story about him. As these stories came pouring in, I began to wonder, was this man a living saint, an unspoken guardian angel or was he just a cypher lost in a world of mundanity, could it be possible we had projected this mysticism on to an ordinary man?

He never asked to be seen like this, he never asked for anything, he refused all forms of handouts unless you were offering him cigarettes. But I still couldn't help but wonder if he was truly a miracle on earth or a nobody.

It has been a few weeks since Michael Byrne's death and the community still lives in mourning. It's a different place from what it used to be, the streets feel a little bit emptier, the community feels a little bit shakier and there has been a large reduction in the seagull population.

I never thought I'd miss the sound of those flying sky rats but since they've left there is an eerie silence that lingers and hangs in the air. I underestimated the impact one man's death could have on a community and myself.

If the rumours are believed to be true then Michael Byrne was someone to look up to, I regret not knowing more about him until after his death. He was such a small character in my life yet somehow his passing has left a mark on me that I didn't expect.

I later found out some of the rumours about him were true. Only recently a woman came forward stating that Old Man Belfield had saved her from an attempted assault. This has finally put my mind at ease, I finally know that Old Man Belfield was a truly great man.

This simple fact has had a large impact on my thinking and it has restored my faith in humanity. In a world that feels so cold and isolating it is a great comfort to me to know that there are a few truly great souls among us.

I am deeply saddened that I will never be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of Old Man Belfield ever again, his long grey hair and parade of seagulls will forever be etched into my mind.

In the years to come, Michael Byrne's name will likely fade into obscurity as everyone's does, but I know I won't soon forget his name; I won't forget who he is; I will never forget what he did for me and my community.

As William Shakespeare said in this Sonnet 18 "So long as men can breathe or eyes can see, so long lives this, and this gives life to thee."

Rest in peace Michael Byrne.

Sixth Year Valedictory with a Difference



Fergal Francis



Sophie Rice

This year's Sixth Years have had a different road to travel when compared to previous years. Two years of Covid lockdown could have knocked them down, but instead they came out fighting and made this year one to remember. To mark their final day, the sun shone and they enjoyed their time together.

The final assembly was filled with good advice and real warmth.

Ms Marshall, Ms Lynott and Mr Canning all gave short but heart-felt speeches. It was particularly emotional for Ms Lynott, who retires from her role as Deputy Principal this year.

Class of 2015-2021

There was an overwhelming sense of gratitude towards their form teachers, subject teachers, including the canteen staff who fed them and the nursing staff who looked after their every major and minor injury over the years. In the words of one student "it became a home from home" thanks to these individuals.

The school wishes all the form groups a happy and fulfilled future, wherever it may lead.

To 6H, 6MCC, 6MR, 6ME, 6M, 6P, 6R, 6RY, 6RI, we will miss you all! Stay in touch and enjoy the journey you find yourselves on.

Ms Gina Mockler

What Is Our Value?

Varshika Mecheri

Who are we and what is our value. Can we be measured by our skills; can a price tag be placed upon each of us. Are we as a collective, people who have expertise in different fields of knowledge and nothing more?

As a race we are selfish beings, we take everything we can get, squeezing the life out of every opportunity. Our relationships, conversations, actions all leading to one innate goal, to achieve. To achieve something to better ourselves.

We cannot help but look at each other as tools, as measures of use and purpose. In order for us to reach our goals, making advances in science, engineering, technology and more, we label people by what they can do. It is efficient and ultimately, inevitable. Nonetheless, I believe a price cannot be placed on our potential.

Stepping into a world where our value is limited and competition is all around us is truly a daunting task. The only thing I can think of to make it any better is to somehow gather up a strong base of belief in oneself.

As extremely receptive and pliable animals, our surroundings are everything (literally and figuratively). These effects may not have an immediate response but we are our environment, we are a collection of experiences.

Some may say the way we process information and our unique sense of perception is what makes us who we are. Yet I cannot help but question if we think the way we do because of the way the world has forced us to think and respond to situations. This is not to say we are not each of us unique, our collection of experiences greatly vary, each experience affecting the next and so forth.

In this respect, we are indeed completely different, it is just bringing to light the fact that we make choices, which in turn result in various outcomes. Intentions are everything.

I believe that categorising people is something we are always doing, it is a reality we need to confront. In full, we will never mean to each other what we mean to ourselves, we cannot expect anybody else to understand our intricately woven minds.

My only hope is that the way we categorise each other doesn't become an indestructible barrier to our ability to fulfill our potential as separate, beautifully crafted, human beings.



ELLIE MALONEY

St Andrew's Artists of the Future

Our current 6th Year students have had great success with portfolio submissions for degree programmes in Art and Design this year. These are some of the courses that our students have been accepted for:

Ebba McDermott

Paris College of Art (Fine Art)
Parsons New York (Fine Art)
TUD (Fine Art)
IADT (Fine Art)
NCAD (Fine Art)

Stuart Hill

IADT (Animation)

Jacques Reidy

IADT (Graphic Design)
NCAD (Graphic Design)
TUD (Visual Communications)

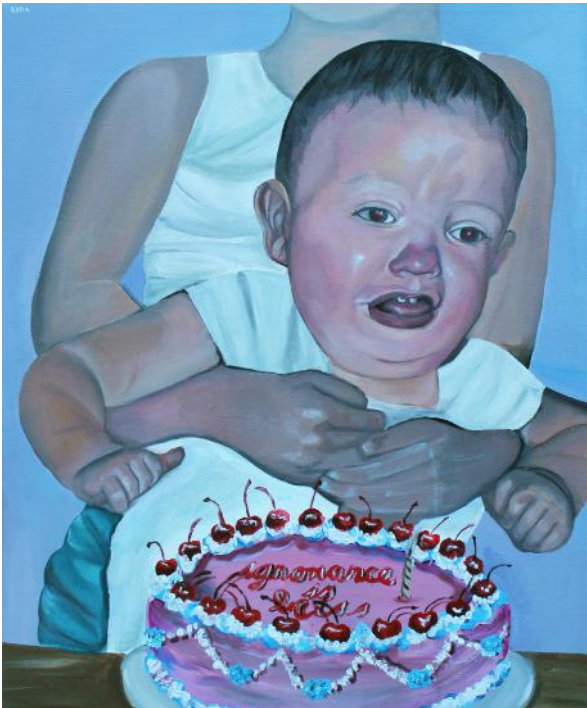
Sam O'Reilly

IADT (Art)
NCAD (Fine Art)

Elisbeth Maloney

IADT (Art)
NCAD (Fashion/Textiles/Fine Art)

EBBA MCDERMOTT



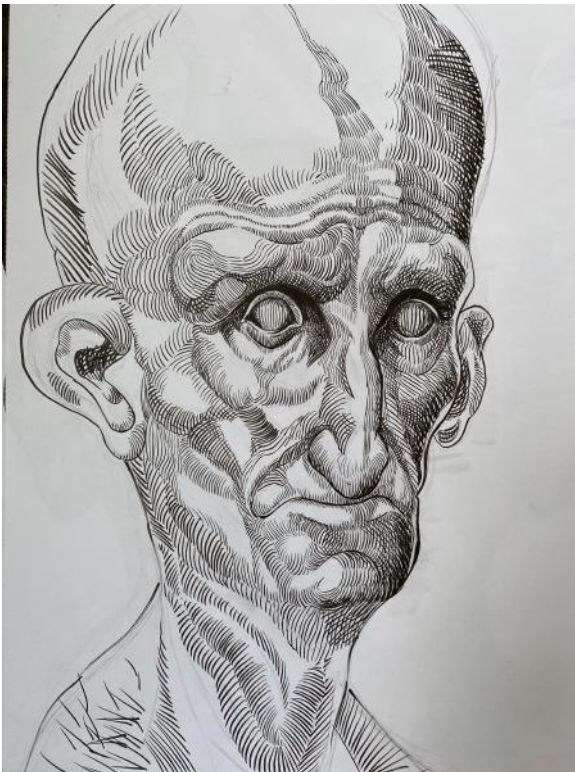
STUART HILL



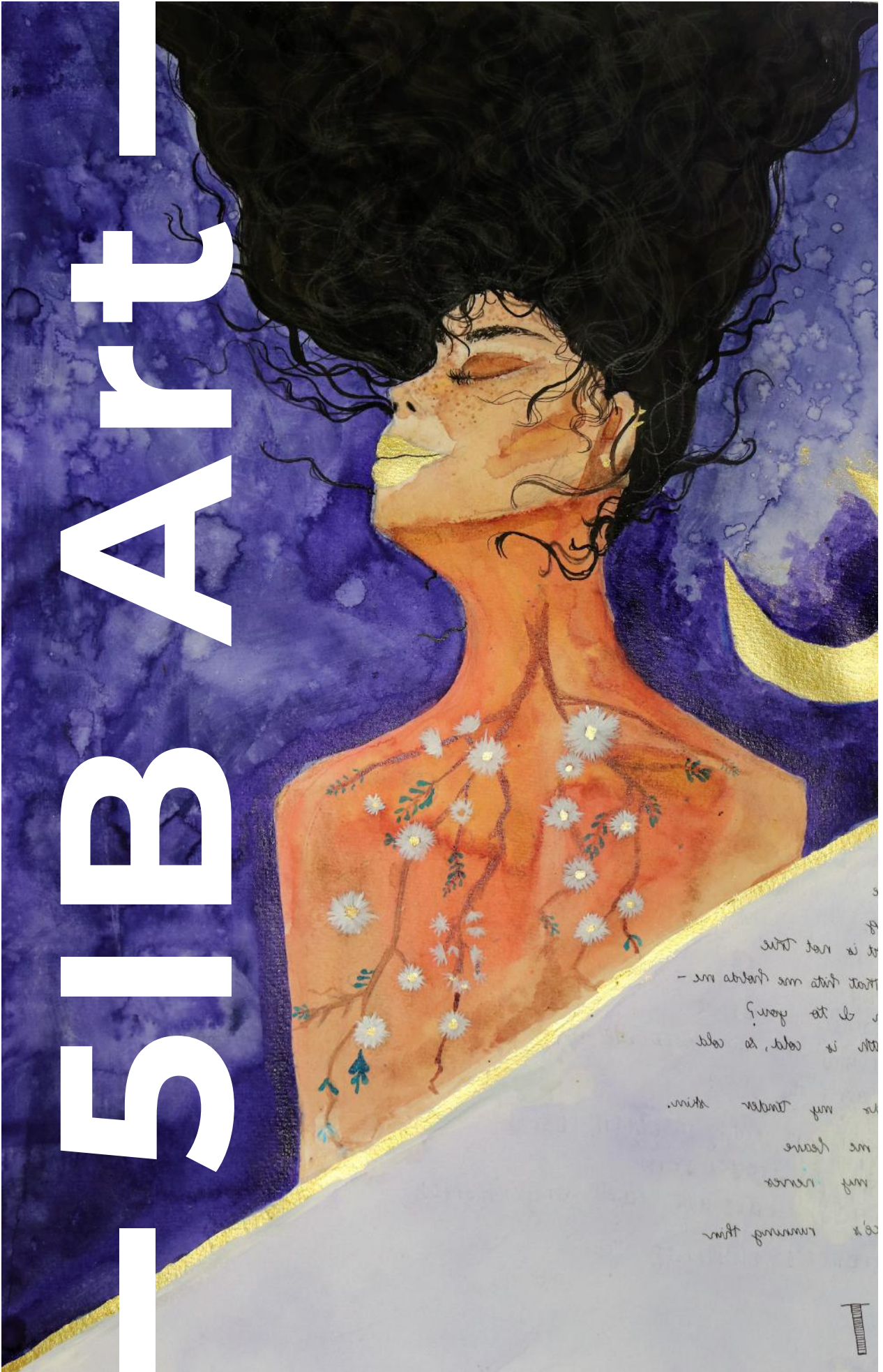
JACQUES REIDY



SAM O'REILLY

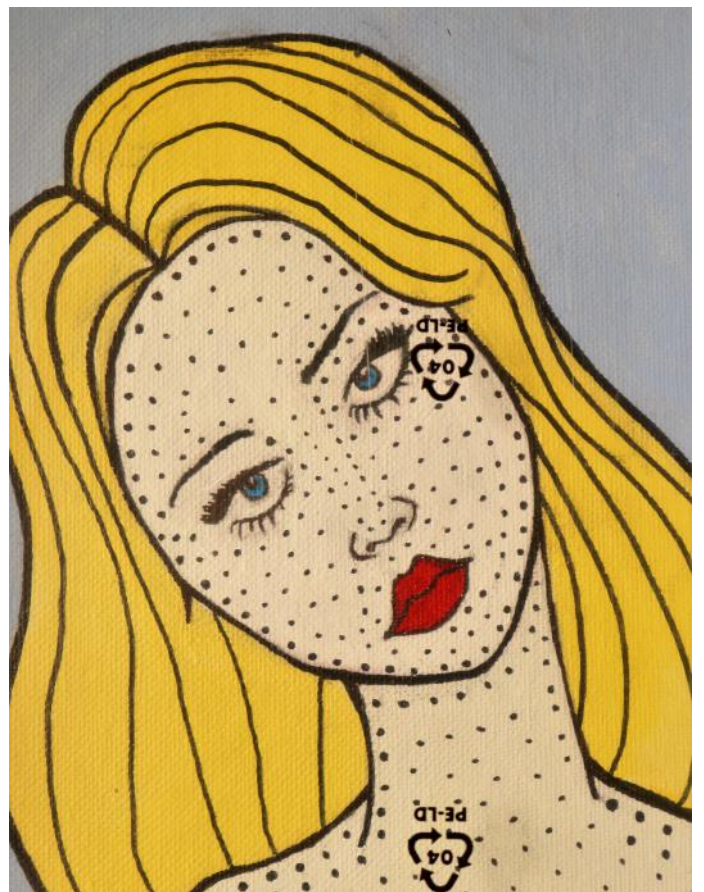


51B Art II



L to R: Alex Tyler, Ilona Plissonneau, Omar Williams,





L to R: Ilona Plissonneau, Sondos Shamma, Ciara O'Regan



Is GOAT Milk Really the Greatest of All Time?

By Amelia Flanagan and Zara Griffin

The subject of climate change can often be overwhelming, and we may feel as though we can't make any difference to such a large-scale issue. However, we're all becoming familiar with the term 'think global, act local'. This means that to solve global issues, we must start in our own home.

Milk is something we all have in our fridges, but it has a large environmental impact. Two students from St. Andrew's College, Dublin, have done a study on milk to show you that we don't all need to go vegan to do our part to help the planet. It starts with small steps, that eventually become big steps, such as choosing a different type of milk.

We're all familiar with cows and their produce, but unfortunately, there's no escaping the fact that cows do a lot of harm to our environment. The methane they emit causes approximately 23 times more global warming than carbon dioxide.

In fact, if cows were their own country, they would be the world's third-largest emitter. Currently, the next best solution seems to be plant-based milks such as oat milk, almond milk or soy milk.

Unfortunately, a lot of these plants, except for oats, cannot be grown here in Ireland and eventually end up having a similar impact on the environment to cow's milk. Another negative to plant milk is that while it is an excellent alternative in taste and texture it is not at all nutritionally equivalent to animal milks.

And that's where goats come in! Goat's milk is a more sustainable alternative to cow's milk while also having all the natural nutritional benefits that plant milks lack. Nutritionally, goat's milk is easier to digest, better for people with a lactose intolerance, doesn't cause eczema or acne and contains four times more probiotics than cow's milk.

Sounds pretty good, right? Goats have a similar milk yield per acre to cows, emit 30-80 kg less methane per annum per acre, they are more water-efficient, their manure can be used as fertilizer, and they are grazers meaning they can eat anywhere. So... in due course, goats will 100% be the solution to our cow problem!



Follow us on Instagram!

@sac4environment

ALEXIA D'ARCY

20X20 CAMPAIGN

"IF SHE CAN'T SEE IT, SHE CAN'T BE IT"



Are Female Athletes Not Worth Watching?

From a young age I loved watching sport with my dad. I would go to rugby matches and football matches. I would ask him "when can we watch the women play in the large stadia?" and he would reply "I'm not sure..."

The tagline for 20x20 is 'If She Can't See It She Can't Be It'. This campaign seeks to raise awareness of women in sport and increase participation. The movement asked young girls for their favourite sports star and they all replied with male names. Sexton, Ronaldo, Messi and even Rory McIlroy, the golfer. Not a woman in sight. This is an issue in the Modern World. Are women's sports players really not good enough? I don't think so!

The belief underpinning 20x20 is that by increasing our exposure to women's sport – not just seeing it in the media, but also seeing girls on our streets and in our schools playing, or seeing our families wanting to tune into a women's game – it becomes 'normal' and part of our culture.

The Irish hockey team's success in 2018 and 2019 was so exciting, like Sonia O'Sullivan and Katie Taylor and recently Rachel Blackmore, and it was something that united us as a nation.

Traditionally, that is a spot reserved for men's sport. Men's sport has had a huge head start, so women's sport needs positive bias now, so that it too, can take up that role in the future.

This investment is not just about money, everyone can make an impact by: watching women's games if you're a sports fan, giving female athletes a profile if you're a journalist, ensuring equity for women if you're a sporting organisation and supporting girls to find the sport or physical activity they love if you're a parent or a teacher.

Our mission:

SEND A POSITIVE MESSAGE TO YOUNG ATHLETES.

As a nation, we love sport. The motivation for journalists is not coming from some moral obligation to give a handout to girls and women, nor is it a favour from the general public to go to games, because girls and women need them to, or 'deserve' it. It's because if we all play, we all win.

20x20 is not a 'women for women' initiative, it's society for all of society.

It's about change and progress. It's showing our girls, and our boys, that women playing sports are not inherently less worthy of our attention. As well as getting 50% of our population healthier and happier by increasing participation.

The skill and success already out there is incredible, there just isn't enough noise. For a nation that loves sport, more sport is surely better?

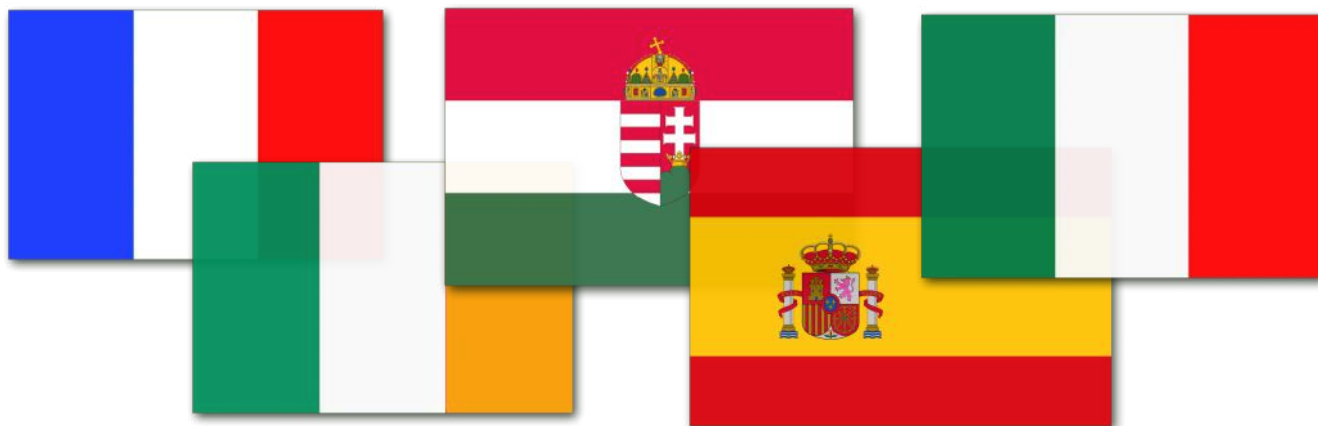
What I ask of you today is to see change in Ireland, to use our influence politically, economically and socially. We all need to use our voices to encourage women in sport and stand together to deliver this change.



VIDEO : YOUTUBE

An International Perspective

Mona Manno



Español

Hola a todos!

Yo me llamo Mona, tengo 16 años y vengo de Hungría.

En este artículo me gustaría hablaros de porque mi mundo es plurilingüe.

Yo hablo muchos idiomas: húngaro, italiano, español, inglés y este año empecé a estudiar francés. Me siento muy afortunada por tener la oportunidad de usar estos idiomas cotidianamente.

El húngaro lo hablo con mis compañeros húngaros y mis abuelos. El italiano lo hablo porque crecí en Italia. Viví 4 años en Roma y 4 en Milán, y empecé allá la escuela primaria. Este idioma lo uso con mi papá, mi hermano y algunos compañeros italianos porque afortunadamente estoy en contacto con algunos.

El español lo aprendí creciendo con mi mamá y todavía sigue siendo el idioma que uso con ella. El inglés, en vez lo uso aquí en Irlanda en la escuela con mis compañeros.

Yo creo que hablar muchos idiomas es una cosa fundamental. Por un lado porque aprendemos y nos informamos más sobre la cultura de otros países, aprendiendo a aceptar personas de culturas diferentes que la nuestra y por el otro lado porque el mundo de hoy se está convirtiendo siempre más internacional!

English

Hi everyone,

My name is Mona, I am 16 years old, and I am from Hungary.

In this article I would like to tell you about my multilingual world.

I speak a lot of languages: Hungarian, Italian, Spanish, English and this year I started learning French. I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to use these languages in my daily life.

I speak Hungarian with my Hungarian classmates and my grandparents. I speak Italian because I grew up in Italy. I lived for 4 years in Rome and 4 years in Milano, and that's where I started my primary school. I use this language with my father, my brother and my Italian classmates because, thankfully, I am still in contact with some of them.

I learnt Spanish growing up with my mother, and it is still the language that I use with her. English, I use here in Ireland with my classmates in school.

I think that speaking a lot of languages is fundamental. On one hand because we learn more about the culture of other countries, learning to accept people of different cultures than ours and on the other hand, because the world of today is becoming more and more international.

Q&A WITH MONICA LYNOTT



Q: Tell us a little about your career to date.

A: I qualified as a teacher in 1983 here in Ireland. My first job was in Ealing, London where I taught in an all-girls' school for nine years. Then I returned to Ireland, taught for a little while in St Gerard's before coming to St Andrew's in the mid-nineties.

Q: What advice would you give to someone interested in teaching as a career?

A: Always keep an open mind. You will always be challenged in this profession, because it is ever changing. So listen and always stay positive, the outcomes are so important. It is a privilege to work with young people.

Q: And what are your fondest memories of St Andrew's?

A: Oh, I have so many! I suppose my fondest would be when I was Transition Year co-ordinator in the early noughties. I have very warm memories of that time. A particular one is launching the first TY Uganda project with Mr Hickmott and Mr Micallef. Watching that first group of students and teachers go to Africa was wonderful. I also loved all the extra-curricular activities from that time and watching all the students get so involved.

On a personal level, it would be all the fond memories of my two children - Lewis and Faye - when they attended the school. Those special moments, like valedictory, will always stay with me. So, I suppose both on a professional and personal level I have many happy memories to take with me.

Q: What do you think you will miss most about teaching?

A: Perhaps witnessing the successes of the students. I don't mean the obvious ones - points, awards, medals - although they are so important. It's the more modest successes, such as overcoming fears and achieving what seemed impossible. It's those moments between classes, that are just as important as what is accomplished in the classroom.

Of course, I will miss my friends and colleagues, all the laughs and the stories! We all have the same goal, to see students learn and engage and that is something I will miss.

Q: Finally, what are your plans for the future?

A: I love history, so I plan to travel to many European cities and visit historic sites, museums and galleries. I also love art, so I think I might take a course in Art History in Trinity College. I would love to volunteer too, so I hope to work in an animal shelter with dogs. Finally, I intend to spend as much time as I can with family, to laugh and have fun!

Gerry McCaughan



Gerry McCaughan is one of the calmest, kindest and unassuming people you will ever meet. Most of us would envy a fraction of his calm nature. Gerry taught mathematics, applied mathematics and IB mathematics to a high level; he is a true mathematician. Any help you ever needed, it was never a problem. There was never a math question he couldn't do. The students loved his passion for the subject, in fact some even got him to sign their math book at the end of the year!

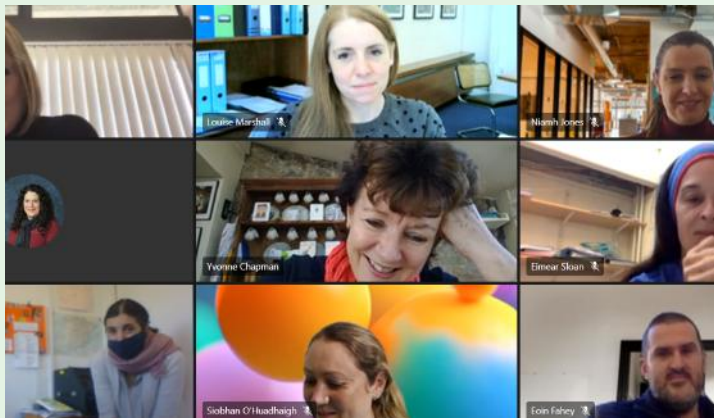
Gerry's interests go beyond the classroom to music, sport, swimming and travel to name a few. He can engage on any topic you can think of! He was an avid supporter of St Andrew's rugby, basketball and hockey. He was boarding master for many years also. He ran the prize-giving ceremony every year and he was an active Union representative. There are very few parts of the College Gerry hasn't been involved in, yet he always did so quietly and in the most unassuming way.

His greatest passion however was for music. He loved techno, but also punk and, according to some, is a secret rocker. He remembers being given a cassette tape many years ago by one of his students, asking him for his opinion. The band went on to be a pivotal punk band of the 80s: Paranoid Visions.

That is his nature: empathic, unflappable and totally reliable. He was always there for help and advice and it has been a privilege to have worked alongside him.

We wish Gerry a very happy and healthy retirement and hope he enjoys every minute of it.

Ms Paula Cadden



Ms Yvonne Chapman

St. Andrew's College Modern Foreign Language department is so sad to say goodbye to its most respected and longstanding member, Yvonne Chapman. She is the glue that kept us together.

Yvonne is a language enthusiast. She is one of the few members that can be claimed as much by the Spanish teachers, the French teachers or the Latin speakers alike. She can start a sentence in French, move to Spanish or Italian halfway through, finish with a Latin quote and never claim any credit for it!

Yvonne is always the person to turn to in moments of need. Her positivity and dynamic attitude were contagious to all her colleagues and students. I am sure her diary is already full of people who would like to get her views or advice.

Her choice as the Droichead coordinator was obvious as she was the best at supporting and helping new nervous teachers. We probably all went through Yvonne's hands at some stage in our career in St. Andrew's. She went above and beyond her duties as a teacher and a colleague.

Yvonne can lose a set of keys, her phone, her school bag faster than anyone.... but she can find you a lesson plan, a place to rent or to buy, faster than anyone you have ever met.

One of her most precious pieces of advice was probably to always check the SACA list before booking a beautician appointment!

We all adore you, Yvonne. You are a true, fun and kindhearted person. We will miss you greatly.

MFL Department



HILARY RIMBI



Hilary has worked in St Andrew's College since 2001, but before that she worked all over the world, mostly South Africa, but also Australia and indeed Zimbabwe where she met her husband. This international experience made her perfectly suited to the role of IB Form Teacher and subject teacher. Hilary is so modest about her achievements.

She is a superb teacher. Her students have won so many awards over the years and she has inspired so many to excel in the sciences. She too has won many awards for her work as a teacher and science writer. Hilary has always been courageous, speaking out when no one else would and showing the courage of her convictions no matter what. She will always be respected for that by the staff.

Hilary's two daughters – Mary and Patricia – both attended St Andrew's and we know Hilary is looking forward to spending her retirement with her family in this new chapter of her life.

Finally, many years ago Hilary had the idea of planting rose bushes for each IB year that left the college. These can be seen on the driveway up to the school. Hilary, we will remember your courage, dedication and great sense of humour each time we see those flowers bloom. Thank you for everything.

Mr Paul Reidy

Cathy Buckley Barnes



Cathy started in St Andrew's in 2001, where she job-shared for the next twenty years. So many of our students have such fond memories of her care and concern.

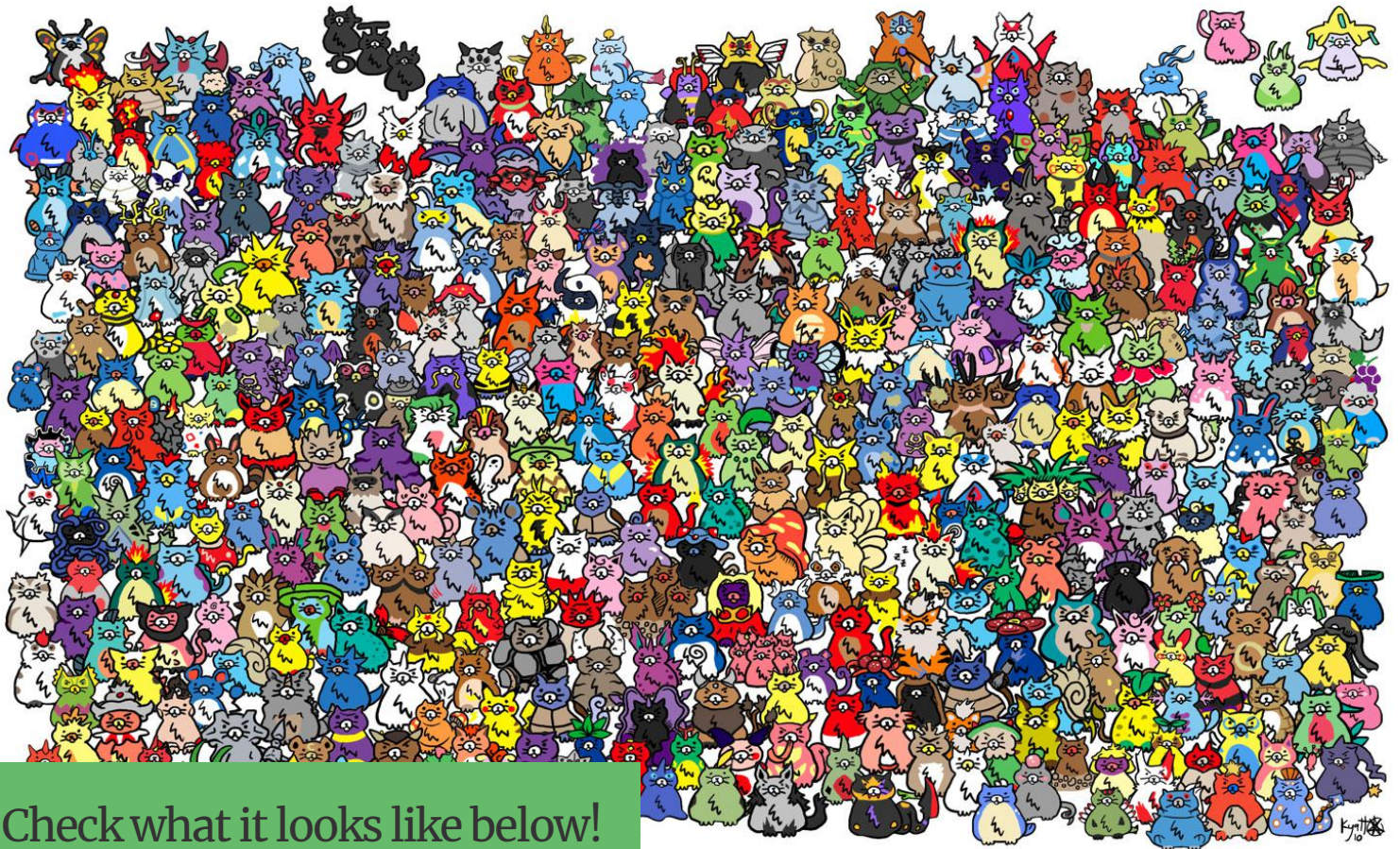
Cathy had a huge interest in the sporting life of the school, attending many matches to show her support. There was always an open-door policy for the team players and a special box of biscuits for whoever got the winning try, goal or point.

We would all like to wish Cathy a very long and happy retirement and hope she can soon resume supporting her favourite team!

Sandra Belton



ST ANDREW'S RETIREMENTS 2021



Check what it looks like below!

Find the Grapevine!

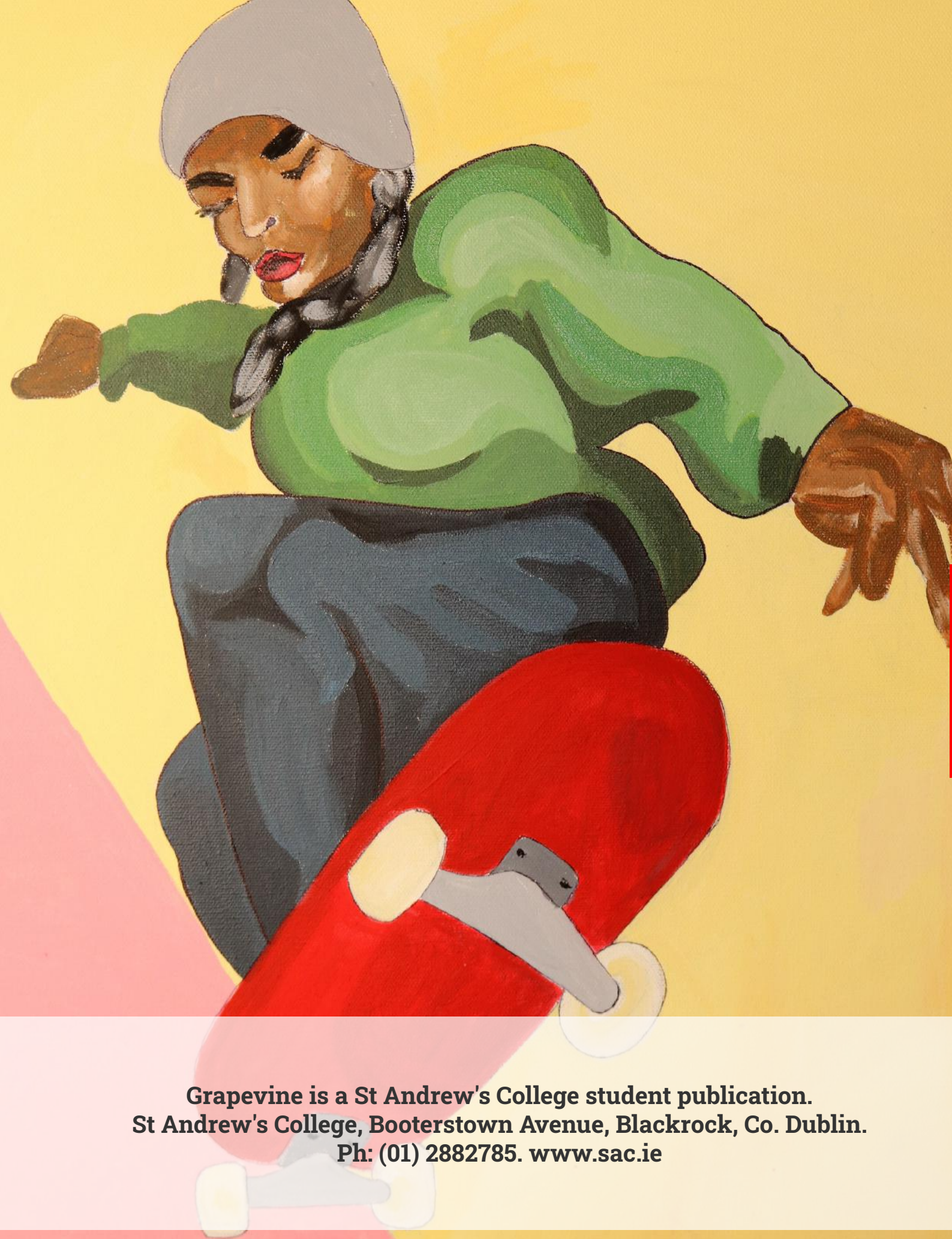


Take part in our little game and find the grapevine as quick as you can! Make sure to check behind all the purple cats, or is this message here to trick you?

Share with your friends and family and compete to see who can find it first!

00:00 2 min Silent Timer - count UP

02:00



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