

# SHELF

# AWARENESS

Issue 6

May 2026

Turning Pages



Opening Minds

## SUMMER (BOOK) LOVIN'

As summer approaches, the library stock seem to whisper, "Let's get out of here - and take us with you". And with holidays on our minds, books offer the perfect getaways of adventure without queues, mystery without mayhem, romance without awkwardness... So tuck a novel in your picnic basket or pack a memoir in your carry-on - wherever you're headed, a story makes the journey sweeter.

Sandra Downey (Library Co-ordinator)

Currently reading: "Sabbia Nera" by Cristina Cassar Scalia

## SHELF CONFIDENCE



Fionn Carey (5th Year) is the winner of Cómhra / ARTiculation 2026, a public speaking competition focused on Irish heritage. He defeated 7 other competitors in the final in UL with his wonderful presentation on "Loop Head: A Journey through my Heritage" ★

Oleksandr Mosiichuk (6th Year) won 2nd Place in the Irish National History Competition 2026 thanks to his incredible History RSR essay on the causes of the Holodomor, Ukraine's devastating Stalin-made famine of 1932/33. He is pictured with judge, Dr Sarah Anne Buckley of UG. ★



## SHELF HELP

Meet our fantastic Transition Year Librarians! Introducing the final members of the team...

### EOGHAN HENDRICK



Currently reading: "Dune Part II" by Frank Herbert

Reader Recommendation: "The Bright Sword" by Lev Grossman is a brilliant retelling of the King Arthur story.

### ALFIE CARROLL



Currently reading: "1984" by George Orwell.

Reader Recommendation: The non-stop intrigue of "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Browne.

### LEON SHEIL



Currently reading: "Babel" by R.F. Kuang

Reader Recommendation: "A Monster Calls" by Patrick Ness - a beautiful story of grief and loss.

### JOE CRANE



Currently reading: "Five Survive" by Holly Jackson.

Reader Recommendation: "One of Us is Lying" by Karen McManus - suspense with a brilliant twist!

### TOMMY MULDOWNEY



Currently reading: "Hunger Games: Catching Fire" by Suzanne Collins.

Reader Recommendation: I love the wacky characters of "The Faraway Tree" series by Enid Blyton.

### PAUL TALLON



Currently reading: "The Stand" by Stephen King.

Reader Recommendation: "All Quiet on the Western Front" by Erich Remarque is a masterpiece.

# SHELF REFLECTION

Today a reader, tomorrow a leader!  
Find out about the books that made us!



Ms Kinahan

Me in 3 words:

Optimistic; Creative; Introverted  
Currently reading: "The Family Secret" by A.J. Carter.

A book I loved and why: "Kill for Me, Kill for You" by Steven Cavanagh. The ending was so unexpected with such a good twist!



Ms Clarke

Me in 3 words:

Organised; Passionate; paring  
Currently reading:

"Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver & "Attacking the Space: Inside Rugby's Tactical and Data Revolution" by Sam Lerner.

A book I loved and why: "Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow" by Gabrielle Zevin - all about videogame developers, I haven't looked at a videogame the same since!

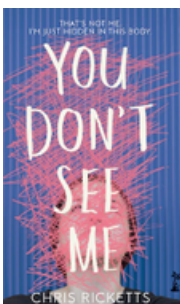
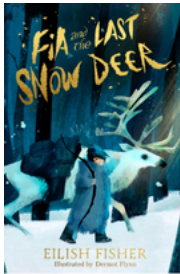
# SHELF EXPRESSION



Library Events and Activities

Our Book Clubs have been shadowing children's book awards all year and the final votes are in...!

On 21st April, we attended the Great Reads Awards Ceremony in DCU to find that the host was a past pupil of St Benildus College, Alan Nolan, author of the wonderful Molly Malone and Bram Stoker series! These awards are for Irish debut children's and young adult authors. Shortlisted by school librarians, the books are judged by primary and secondary school students, including us! This year's winners were "Fia and the Last Snow Deer" by Eilish Fisher (Primary) and "You Don't See Me" by Chris Ricketts (Secondary).



**"Never judge a book by its movie!"**  
(J.W. Eagan)

**HELP US WIN €1,000 FOR OUR LIBRARY**  
**CABHRAIGH LINN €1,000**  
**A BHUACHAN DÁR LEABHARLANN**

Nominate us and you could win a €120 gift card!

Ainmnigh sinn agus d'fhéadfá cárta féirín €120 a bhuachan!

[nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize](http://nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize)

NATIONAL BOOK tokens

Read for Good



SCAN ME!

SCAN ME!

Then we were off to the KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards 2026 at the International Literature Festival Dublin in Merrion Square on 18th May. The Junior Juries' Award was won by "Solo" by Gráinne O'Brien, while the Book of the Year Award went to our own top pick, "Don't Trust Fish!" by Neil Sharpson and Dan Santat!



Thank you to all our T.Y. Librarians and helpers



Dylan Craig, Joe Sheridan & Luke Murray for their hard work, enthusiasm and invaluable help throughout this year!

Wishing happy holidays to all of our school community. Have a wonderful summer!

