

# THE RCS SCÚP



## SUCCESS ACROSS THE BOARD

Oran Gleeson, Sports Writer

RCS has had an amazing year of sporting success across all sporting areas this season. Our incredibly talented teams have brought immense pride to our school!

A fantastic display of sporting achievement this year from our RCS teams saw almost all of our sporting teams reach the final stages across an array of sports!

In the month of May alone, our 1st year ladies soccer team won the Leinster soccer championship. Ms. Miller said, "they are incredibly talented." Mr. Gillard wanted to commend Laura Murphy (team captain) on her amazing work throughout the year.

This was followed a week later by RCS minor

camogie team winning the Leinster minor camogie crown in Kildare (Final Score 4:7 to 0:2)

Our younger teams were no doubt inspired by the success earlier in the term from their senior counterparts with RCS bring home the gold in their leagues as well.



Our boys Senior Hurling team pucked off the winning season with a January win in the South Leinster Hurling finals, closely followed by our Intermediate Camogie girls. It was seven years since the south county school fielded a camogie team, so to make it all the way to this development decider at the first attempt was an achievement in itself!

The boys' soccer teams also had their fair share of triumph, with both the u17s and the 1st year teams getting to the Wexford-Wicklow final, and the u15s remain unbeaten this season. RCS' soccer coaches had plenty of praise "they're getting better every year and they played amazingly every match" said Mr. Flood, Mr. Foley also added that "we've had the best number of active players in the school since ever".



Read more about our sporting success on our Sports Special inside on page 6 and 7.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

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INTERNATIONAL FOCUS ON UKRAINE · ENTERPRISE · ART GALLERY WALL... AND MUCH MORE

# TRUMP V BIDEN: WHO WILL WIN?

OPINION PIECE BY PADRAIC BARRY

*Right now, in the United States of America, their two main political parties are gearing up for the Presidential elections.* In the time between now and the 5th of November both the Republican and Democratic parties will be running for the primary elections. This is relevant for us because, as the old adage goes “when America sneezes, the world catches a cold.” This means that with the USA being seen as a global leader, other nations tend to follow America. What happens in America affects the rest of the world, whether this is for good or bad.

Primary elections are where regular people get to vote on the candidate they would like to see represent their party in the National election (also known as popular vote). The United States is one of a handful of countries to select candidates through popular vote in a primary election system; most other countries, such as Ireland, rely on party leaders or party members to select candidates.

Despite only half of the primaries being finished, there is a clear winner for both parties already. For the Democrats, current President Joe Biden is set to represent as he has not lost a single Primary election so far. For the Republicans, former President Donald Trump is the clear favourite having won all but one of his Primaries. The question now remains out of these two who shall be the future President of the United States of America?

## Will It be Trump?

Trump is one of the most controversial American Presidents in history, at least overseas. However, at home in America, Trump still has a massive following as seen by the massive turn outs at his numerous rallies. Over 100,00 people turned out to see Trump in Willwood, New Jersey on the 12th of May of this year. Trump has also shown that this is not just a small set of radical party members as he has regularly commanded between 45-49% of US opinion polls. These polls are not run by government bodies and do not encompass the entirety of the United States’ election areas, but they are a useful metric to gauge roughly how well a candidate is doing.

The next fact in favour of Trump comes from the Primaries where he has won all, but Nevada, with a massive majority. Nevada however was not even truly a loss. Nevada does not run a typical primary election running both a primary and another election called a caucus. The caucuses used to be the most popular way of electing U.S. presidential candidates but were superseded in most states by the primaries. In the five states that use them, they function the same as primaries with the primaries still being run but having no impact. But out of all five states who run both elections, Nevada is the only state to block candidates from taking part in both at the same time.

Trump decided to run for the caucus because it was the only election with real impact. Only one candidate ran for

## Key Vocabulary

### United States of America:

Commonly known as the United States (US or U.S.) or America, is a country primarily located in North America. Country of 50 states. Make sure you refer to it by its’ full name in exams!

**Democracy**: means 'rule by the people'. In a democracy, like the USA or Ireland, the people elect the government and have a say in how it is run. They do this by voting in elections.

**Primaries**: A type of election run by state and local governments. Voting happens through secret ballot. Some states hold “closed” primaries in which only declared party members can participate. In an open primary, all voters can participate, regardless of their party affiliation or lack of affiliation.

**Caucuses**: A type of election run as private meetings by political parties. They are held at the county, district, or precinct level. In most, participants divide themselves into groups according to the candidate they support. At the end, the number of voters in each group determines how many delegates each candidate has won.

the Republican primary. This was former UN Ambassador Nikki Hayley. However, in a shocking turn of events Hayley actually lost the election to; nobody. The reason for this fascinating turn of events is that many Republican voters were outraged by Trump’s absence as many believe that the other Republican candidates don’t represent them. Therefore, they decided to vote for “none of these candidates” rather than be seen to support anyone else other than Trump.

This shows just how strong the support for Trump is within his own Republican party really is as no other candidate can defeat Trump to become leader of the Republican party.



(Image: Financial Times)

### SO WHY NOT?

Despite the huge support for Trump among Republicans, he still may lose the overall Presidential election. The main case against Trump include the serious of lawsuits filed against him in multiple states for his involvement in the January 6th insurrection but also shady business dealings and real estate fraud. While the details of all these cases is far outside the scope of today's discussion here is a brief overview of where Trump is being sued and why:

- **New York:** Trump is being sued for allegedly paying hush money to "Stormy Daniels" ahead of the 2016 election. This could make the trial, the first former criminal trial of a former US President
- **New York 2:** A civil suit is being brought against the Trump family due to them inflating property values in order to get bank loans with the property as collateral. So far, the judge has ordered him to pay \$454 million in penalties.
- **Florida:** Trump stands convicted of holding classified documents at his residence in Mar-A-Lago
- **Georgia:** Trump and 18 others are being sued are accused of trying to overturn the 2020 Presidential election by unlawful means. These means include forgery of documents and planning to make false statements.
- **Federal Inditement:** this case revolves around the January 6th attack on the Capitol where Trump attempted to overturn the lawful change of Presidential power. Trump has claimed Presidential immunity and so this case will be delayed.

All these cases pose a threat to Trumps re-election chances as they have hurt his public image. However, the biggest threat to Trump is the nearly half a million dollars he will be forced to pay in New York. Losing that much money will prevent Trump from being able to campaign effectively. Then there comes the chance of imprisonment. While it is unlikely Trump would face jail time before the election, the threat looms large and has already lost him the support of the more moderate voters.

### Biden

The biggest threat to Trumps re-election chance is Biden. Biden has proven to be extremely popular among younger voters with a massive 56% saying they will vote Biden opposed to 36% voting Trump. While some opinion polls do point towards Trump it seems since the onset of the trails a majority have been voting Biden.

In short, while Trump does have a vocal minority supporting him, I find in face of recent evidence it is unlikely he will win this November.

## "While it is unlikely Trump would face jail time before the election, the threat looms large

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## Democracy at Ramsgrange Community School

Ramsgrange Community School is proud to support Student Voice in all elements of school life. Student Voice is one way RCS tries to be democratic for students.

Whether through informal and formal surveys on Teams, restorative conversations or simply being asked their opinion, students at RCS are given multiple platforms to share their thoughts and feelings and perspectives. Being an effective and active member of student voice, means respectfully advocating for things you believe in and understanding things from multiple points of view to come up with new ideas.

In our most recent End of Year Awards ceremony, our Student Leadership Team were elected and we look forward to seeing how they will bring their student perspective and approach to improving student life for students across the school.

In the new academic year, students will also be invited to run for positions on the Student Council team. The Student Council plays a really important role in ensuring that students' points of view are shared with our teachers and school leadership and this can help bring about improvements. We encourage all fellow students to try get involved next year!



PHOTO OF NEW STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Back Row: Mr Flood, Shane Meehan, Aaron Ely, Sean Cassidy, Bobby Murphy, Daniel Nolan (Headboy), Cillian Browne (Deputy Headboy), Ms Moore.  
Front Row: Kiera Roche (Deputy Headgirl), Ellie Donnelly, Jane Furlong, Amy Symes, Aileen Byrne, Sarah Assinder (Head girl), Irene Hanlon, Valeria Fedai

# FOCUS ON STUDY SKILLS

By Valeria Fedaiil

## What are study skills?

Study skills are the skills you need to enable you to study and learn efficiently – they are an important set of transferable life skills.

## Key points about study skills:

You will develop your own personal approach to study and learning in a way that meets your own individual needs.

Study skills are not just for students. Study skills are transferable - you will take them with you beyond your education into new contexts.

## Some Study Strategies to help you in your exams and beyond

### Time Management

Time management is a way to find the time for all the things you want and need to do. It helps you decide which things are urgent and which can wait. Learning how to manage your time, activities, and commitments can be hard. But doing so can make your life easier, less stressful, and more meaningful.

### Peer Teaching

One of the methods that can be beneficial when working towards a complete understanding of a topic is teaching others. Teaching others not only cements the knowledge you have but makes your weaknesses in the subject evident, presenting you with areas to study further to better your understanding.

### Presentation

Effective presentation and speaking skills allow you to speak in detail about a subject with prompts that help you make sure that the information you use is correct. This keeps the details of the subject in your mind for longer.

### Note-Taking

Note-taking encourages recall and retention of information as it helps students transfer information from their working to long-term memory.

- Choose the notes you take carefully
- Eliminate excessive words and be concise
- Rewrite your notes later in an attentive manner
- Summarise and further condense your notes

### Asking questions

Asking questions of your teacher, colleagues or even a search engine allows you to enhance your understanding of any topic. Questions stimulate discussion and creative and critical thinking, as well as determine how students are thinking.

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## Five Tips for Good Study Habits

1. Manage your time

2. Teach your peers

3. Consider your note taking during and after lessons

4. Practice presenting your learning

5. Be proactive about asking questions and seeking help

# THE TRUTH ABOUT VAPING

BY DANIEL NOLAN

*More than one third of young people aged 13 to 16 years old have said they currently vape, according to a recent study commissioned by Foróige Sligo.*

As a secondary school student, it is more than likely that you have felt pressure to vape. This article will delve into the negative effects of vaping and how to avoid it.

The most common reason students start vaping is peer pressure to 'give it a go'.

At lunch times, many people are forced to vape every day. A great way to avoid this is to join an extracurricular activity. There are lots of clubs available at lunchtime here in RCS, where you can meet like-minded people and keep yourself out of uncomfortable situations.

If you do happen to find yourself being pressured to vape, whether it be in school, at home or elsewhere, make sure to say no with confidence. Don't be afraid of upsetting a friend. Being loyal to a friend doesn't mean that you must do something you do not want to do. Often, they may not actually want to vape themselves, but they feel they have to in order to be 'cool'.

If you see someone else being a victim of vaping peer pressure, you have the opportunity to help them. Talk to them and let them know that what they are going through isn't right and offer support.

If you are vaping, it is important to understand how a vape works as well as the harm you are doing to your body.

Vapes heat an e-liquid until it becomes a vapour. This vapour, which contains nicotine and other harmful chemicals, is inhaled into your lungs.

Nicotine is a highly addictive substance. It gives the user a short sense of pleasure, leaving the body craving more.

In a recent study, a chemistry research team in RCSI used A.I to simulate the effects of heating the e-liquid chemicals in vapes.

Their study revealed many hazardous chemicals, including 153 that are classed as 'health hazards'. Professor Donal O'Shea, Head of the Chemistry Department, stated that 'it is plausible that we are on the cusp of a new wave of chronic diseases that will emerge 15 to 20 years from now due to these exposures.'

This study shows that the all the risks of vaping are not yet clear, and that it could have a worse effect on users than previously thought.

**"...We are on the cusp of a new wave of chronic diseases that will emerge 15 to 20 years from now due to these exposures."**

Professor  
O'Shea, RCSI

Negative effects of vaping include:

#### **Addiction**

Vaping can lead to nicotine addiction. Addiction in the growing brain may lead to later addiction to other substances.

#### **Brain risks**

Nicotine affects your brain development. This can make it harder to learn and concentrate during class. Some of these brain changes are permanent.

#### **Sports**

If you play sports, vaping will affect your performance. It can lead to lung inflammation.

#### **Money**

Vaping is quite expensive. Money spent on vapes can be spent on things you need or enjoy.

#### **If you decide that you want to quit:**

Pick a day to stop vaping.  
Get rid of all vaping supplies.  
Understand that withdrawal will be hard.  
Pick up a new hobby to reduce temptation.

Deal with withdrawals and cravings using the 4Ds.

**Delay** - Wait for the urge to pass. This can take a few minutes

**Drink Water** - Sip water slowly and hold it in your mouth for a while

**Deep Breathing** - Breathe in slowly for 4 seconds and out for 8.

**Distract** - Talk to a friend or change task to take your mind off the urge.

For further support to quit vaping, use [www.spunout.or](http://www.spunout.or) or [www.quit.ie](http://www.quit.ie) for ideas and advice.



**Ramsgrange Community School has recently joined Wexford's 'Not Around Us' initiative**

The purpose of 'Not Around Us' in Wexford is fourfold:

- Helping to protect children and young people from second-hand smoke exposure
- Contributing to the de-normalisation of smoking for children and young people
- Raising awareness and support amongst all stakeholders in the county on tobacco/vape free Ireland and everyone playing a part in supporting it
- Signposting to HSE Quit services



# RCS SPORTS

Continued by Oran Gleeson

## Football

We have had a highly successful year overall with all our football teams. Our both our lady's senior and junior teams making it to the Leinster ¼ final, but sadly lost after two hard fought games. Our boys' football team has had an amazing season this year. The seniors got to the south Leinster final but unfortunately lost after a very hard-fought game. The junior team won the south Leinster shield final.



## Hurling

All our boys' hurling teams had an incredibly successful year. With our 1st years, 2nd years and our junior teams all making it to the south Leinster semifinal, but unfortunately lost. The senior boys team took it a few steps further and fought their way into the Leinster Final, but after fighting tooth and nail, they narrowly lost. The coaches of the teams had nothing but praise for the players, especially for the first years, as this was the first time our school has had a 1st year only team. "they were outstanding, they were extremely competitive in every match



Jimmy Corish in the SL Final

## Soccer

We have had great success this year with our soccer teams, both junior and senior. The u17 boys' soccer team fought their way to the Wexford-Wicklow final, but unfortunately lost a very hard-fought game. Our 1st year boys' team also made it to the Wexford-Wicklow final but to unfortunately lost as well. While no team brought home any silverware, their coaches had plenty of praise "they're getting better every year and they played amazingly every match" said Mr. Flood. Our 1st year girls' soccer team, after an incredible game, brought home the Leinster cup. "They are an incredibly talented bunch," said Ms. Miller



FAI Leinster Schools First Year B Cup in Ajax Athletics



## Rugby

We had an incredible rugby season this year, considering that this is the first time that our school has ever had any rugby teams. Our u14 girls' team competed in two blitzes and they won all but one of their games. The u16 girls' team got to the Leinster ¼ final but unfortunately lost on points. Their coach, Niall, was immensely pleased with how all the teams performed, "there was a massive interest in training. I have nothing but respect for all the players' characters and discipline. And I hope they enjoyed it all"



Junior Girls Rugby Team Leinster Qualifiers Day



RCS Minor Camogie Team

**Basketball**



Our basketball teams also had a great year. The u19 and the 1st years both made it the south Leinster ¼ final “attendance and dedication were outstanding this year,” said Mr. Reynolds. Our U19 girls team was just short of qualifying this year but put in a tremendous effort and did the school proud. Best of luck to all teams next year!



**Orienteering**

2nd Year student Eanna Grennan ensured Ramsgrange Community School remains on the map for Orienteering Greatness! Finishing 1st in the All Ireland Secondary School Orienteering Championships in April, he's really done us proud. Leah Shannon also placed excellently for the Seniors, coming in in 3rd place in her category. Well done to both!



**We wouldn't have a single sports team if it were not for the amazing contribution of our teachers and snas for their roles as coaches, mentors, supervisors, supporters, cheerleaders, mentors, celebrating**

Thank you... 

**TO ALL OUR AMAZING COACHES AND MANAGEMENT TEAMS FOR GIVING UP ALL YOUR FREE TIME TO SUPPORT OUR SPORTS.**

**Athletics**

Our very own Isabel Aspel (Izzy) has been identified by Athletics Ireland as being “one of the county's top combined events prospects as well as being versatile across a range of track and field disciplines” will be representing RCS this Friday having gotten through to the All Ireland Finals!



**COACHES AND MANAGERS:**

- Ladies GAA Football: Ms L Moore, Ms A Coughlan, Ms R Ryan, Ms J Healy, Ms A Roche.
- Ladies GAA Camogie: Ms L Moore, Ms S Sinnott, Ms A Coughlan
- Boys GAA: Mr B Furlong, Mr G Molloy, Mr J Meaney, Mr S O' Hanlon
- Girls Soccer: Ms H Miller, Mr W Gillard, Ms L Cullen
- Boys Soccer: Mr D Foley and Mr D Flood
- Athletics: Ms J Shovlin and Ms J Healy
- Girls Basketball: Ms S McGrath and Ms A Healy
- Boys Basketball: Mr B Molloy and Mr J Reynolds
- Orienteering: Mr S O'Hanlon
- Equestrian: Ms A Roche

## Political Update on situation in Ukraine

by Valeriia Stepanenko

*Political update on the situation in Ukraine: a counter-offensive, an aid package and an underground school – everything about this in our latest Ukrainian news article!*

According to Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, Poland has begun to build fortifications on the border with Belarus. Polish Defense Minister Władysław Kosiniak-Kamys has also stated that their country is increasing the number of troops on the border with Belarus to “protect the Polish borders” and to avoid making past mistakes. In addition, according to Der Spiegel, the Baltic states (Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) and Poland may send troops into Ukraine if Russia succeeds, warning Germany that this is exactly what will happen due to their policy of not supplying Ukraine with enough weapons from Western partners. As it was stated, “they will not wait for the deployment of Russian troops on their borders”.

## Політичне оновлення про ситуацію в Україні

*Політичне оновлення про ситуацію в Україні: наступ, пакет допомоги та підземна школа – все про це в нашій останній статті українських новин!*

Згідно з прем'єр-міністром Польщі Дональдом Туском, Польща почала будівництво укріплень на кордоні з Білоруссю. Міністр оборони Польщі Владислав Косіняк-Камис також заявив, що їхня країна збільшує кількість військ на кордоні з Білоруссю, щоб «захистити польські кордони» та уникнути скоєння помилок минулого. Крім того, згідно з Der Spiegel, країни Балтії (Литва, Латвія та Естонія) і Польща можуть ввести війська в Україну, якщо росія досягне успіху, попереджаючи Німеччину, що це саме те, що станеться через їхню політику непостачання Україні достатньої кількості зброї від Західних партнерів. Як було зазначено, «вони не чекатимуть

At the same time US Congress has finally allowed an aid package for Ukraine. The EU has also finally given official approval to use profits from frozen Russian assets for Ukraine. This means a lot more support and help for Ukraine and, hopefully, with strengthening of the defense forces and fighting off the aggressor. Very recently, Russia has begun the offensive in the Vovchansk direction, entering the city and capturing and killing many civilians there. The Ukrainian army has been very successful in holding back the counter-offensive, but the fighting is still going on in real time. At the same time, Russia has been gathering many

troops around the Kharkiv and Sumy regions, preparing for a bigger counter-offensive, which was meant to start in May-June. Now it has started.

Meanwhile, life tries to keep going. The first underground school for children was built in Kharkiv, Ukraine. This is due to the constant shelling of the city, its proximity to the Russian border and the very short time for getting to the shelter during air raid alarms which led to many tragedies. One such example is the recent Russian airstrike on the hypermarket “Epitsentr K” where many civilians were killed. It was also built so that children could talk



A CLASS AT THE METRO SCHOOL, KHARKIV. PHOTO: OLENA KLYMENKO/SUSPILNE KHARKIV  
ЗАНЯТТЯ В МЕТРО ШКОЛІ, ХАРКІВ. ФОТО: ОЛЕНА КЛИМЕНКО/СУСПІЛЬНЕ ХАРКІВ

зазначено, «вони не чекатимуть розміщення російських військ біля своїх кордонів».

Водночас Конгрес США нарешті дозволив пакет допомоги Україні. ЄС також нарешті офіційно надав схвалення на використання прибутків від заморожених російських активів для України. Це означає набагато більше підтримки та допомоги для України і, з надією, зі зміцненням сил оборони та відсічі агресору.

Зовсім нещодавно росія розпочала наступ на Вовчанському напрямку, увійшовши в місто та захопивши і вбивши там багато мирних жителів. Українська армія дуже успішно стримує наступ, але бої все ще ведуться в реальному часі. У той же час росія стягувала багато військ навколо Харківської та Сумської областей, готуючись до

більш масштабного наступу, який мав початися в травні-червні. Тепер він розпочався.

Тим часом життя намагається йти далі. Перша підземна школа для дітей була побудована в Харкові, Україні. Це пов'язано з постійними обстрілами міста, його близькістю до російського кордону та уже коротким часом для того, щоб дістатися до укриття під час авіаційної тривоги, що призвело до багатьох трагедій, як-от нещодавній російський авіаудар по гіпермаркету «Епіцентр К», де загинуло багато мирних жителів. Вона також була побудована для того, щоб діти могли спілкуватись один з одним та мати офлайн освіту. Передбачається, що в корпусі навчатимуться 900 дітей у дві зміни. Школа розпочала роботу 13 травня. Крім того, ще є метро

with each other and have offline education. It is estimated that 900 children will study in the building in two shifts. The school began working on the 13th of May. Additionally, there are some metro schools that were established on the upper floor of an underground station in Kharkiv and that many students attend.

The upcoming summer is promised to be quite eventful. The new Russian counter-offensive is supposed to begin very soon; Poland, the Baltic states, Finland and Norway have agreed to create a "wall of drones" on the border which would allow for the protection of their borders against Russia and Belarus; the EU doesn't want the frozen assets to be used for Ukrainian army; and a lot more underground schools are planned to be built in Ukraine in future. Amidst all this chaos, it is important to remember that bad things don't last forever and there will always be good things after bad things. Tune in for more news!



Photo: Educational premises of the metro school in the crossings of the Kharkiv metro. Photo: kharkivosvita.net.ua  
 Фото: Навчальні приміщення школи метро в переходах харківського метро. Фото: kharkivosvita.net.ua

школи, які були створені на верхньому поверсі метро в Харкові, і які відвідує багато учнів.

Літо обіцяє бути досить наповненим подіями. Новий російський наступ має розпочатися зовсім скоро; Польща, країни Балтії, Фінляндія та Норвегія погодилися створити на кордоні "стіну безпілотників", яка б дозволила захистити їхні кордони від росії та Білорусі; ЄС не хоче, щоб заморожені активи використовувалися для української армії; і в майбутньому в Україні планується побудувати ще багато підземних шкіл.

Посеред усього цього хаосу важливо пам'ятати, що погані речі не тривають вічно і завжди будуть хороші речі після поганих речей. Слідкуйте за новинами та приємних канікул!

## Animals Rights : What is the issue?

### Opinion piece by Eoin Byrne

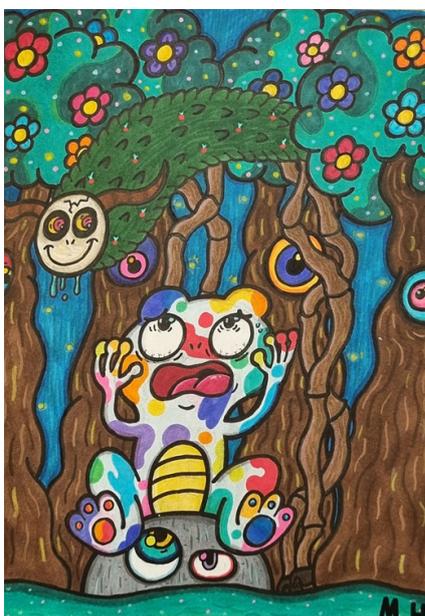
This is a complicated topic, as humans have treated animals poorly throughout our entire co-existence. We have never hesitated to kill a fly that was annoying us, trap woodland creatures for sport, or eat meat for dinner. Our evolution has literally revolved around the killing and consuming our fellow inhabitants of Earth. We have grown up so numb to treating most animals this way that it is engrained into our language with phrases like 'killing the two birds with one stone', or 'taking the bull by the horns'. The only animals consistently treated well by the average person are pets, such as dogs or cats, despite them inadvertently causing problems for some ecosystems they are brought into (such as killing large numbers of birds or smaller creatures).

However, the reason for this divide may be because of a lack of common empathy between humans and animals.

As humans, our ability to communicate and recognise common suffering means we are inclined to treat each other better,



to have more 'humanity'. This obviously isn't always the case, but it is generally true that humans make an effort to understand each other. Since it is harder to make this emotional connection with animals, we might see them as lesser, as more simplistic forces of nature. This is true sometimes too, animals such as hippopotamus and coyotes are dangerous to humans who live near to them. However, we must take into account that humans cause more suffering to animals when we limit them as 'lesser beings', and that we are (specifically greedy corporations) destroying what makes our planet beautiful for the sake of turning a profit. Humans and animals can co-exist in peace if we abandon the principle of human progress over these beautiful creatures.



Artwork by Matthew Howlett



# Teacher Feature!

By Muireann Barry, Holly Cassidy and Stephanie Smith

## Who are this issue's "Featured Teachers?"

Over the past few weeks, the RCS Teacher Feature interviewers have been working hard to gather some fun facts about a few of the teachers working right here at our school!

We contacted two super staff members and asked them interesting questions such as their favourite part of RCS, their hidden talents, and much, much more!

## Miss McGuire



### 1. Why did you want to be a teacher?

My top reason for wanting to become a teacher is definitely because I have always and still love helping people. As well as that, I also love seeing when students get that 'Lightbulb Moment' and understand what I'm teaching!

### 2. What is your favourite part of teaching?

My favourite part of teaching is 100% the students in the school who make no two days the same.

### 3. What is your favourite thing about RCS?

My favourite thing about RCS is the sense of community within the school and how everyone is always there for each other and looking out for one another.

### 4. What's your special/hidden talent?

My hidden talent is actually showjumping! In fact, I was showjumping in the All-Irelands at just 14 years old.

### 5. If you could have any pet in the world, what pet would you have?

Definitely a giraffe so I can feel small beside it! 😊

### 6. If you could pass on any wisdom to your students, what would you share?

There is so much to life after exams. Ultimately, it's not the end of the world.'

Ms Edwards  
School Principal

1. How are you finding your new position as principal?

It is a huge honour and privilege to be the principal of this wonderful school. Every day I am so blessed to be part of a community that is incredibly special. The students here continue to amaze me with their willingness to get involved in activities, look after each other and strive for their best. The staff are outstanding, and I am so lucky to be part of this team.

2. What made you pursue your career in teaching/as principal?

I always wanted to be a PE teacher because my PE teacher in secondary school was such an inspiration! I then decided to combine business and PE for my degree and went from there to teaching. I started my career in RCS and have loved being here for the past 23 years. When the opportunity came up as deputy principal and principal, I knew I wanted to give it a go and I am so glad I did.

3. What is your favourite thing about RCS?

The people!

**“Always do your best- some days your best is better than others and that’s ok.”**

Ms Edwards



4. What's your special/hidden talent?

There are so many .... where do I start...only kidding! That's a hard one, I'm a good swimmer and love to swim all year round!

5. If you could have any pet in the world, what pet would you have?

I'd live beside the sea somewhere warm and I'd have a pet dolphin that would visit me every day!

6. If you could take the whole school on a school tour to anywhere in the world, where would you bring them?

On Safari in Africa, it's definitely on my bucket list!



7. If you could pass on any wisdom to your students, what would you share?

Always do your best- some days your best is better than others and that's ok.

# Community Outreach

Written By Jonah Flynn

## What has Ramsgrange Community School done for the local community?

- Our school has done plenty of Community Outreach activities, so here are the highlights from this year for you.
- At Halloween, the TY classes went down to Ramsgrange national school to read scary Halloween stories to the pupils there.
- Over Christmas, our school ran a Foodbank and a shoebox appeal for people in need. We also ran a Christmas Market.
- The TYs again, ran a tag Rugby match for a local charity. Most of the students in years who did work experience helped at charity shops throughout for instance St. Vincent de Pauls..
- Some of the students planted Daffodils around the village.

## What is Community Outreach and why does it matter?



Community Outreach is an organisation such as a school reaching out to the local area and community. This could be anything from litter picking to planting flowers. Community Outreach matters because if there was not people and organisations willing to do things to help communities, life and our towns would be very dull, we would never learn any new skills or meet any new people.

## The Miracle of Resilience

*Valeriia Stepanenko*

It was an ordinary visit to the doctor in a hospital in Vinnytsia for Roman Oleksiv with his mum until... Air raid alert, howling sirens, whistling of a rocket, boom! The rocket attack in Vinnytsia. On the 14th of July 2022 8-year-old Oleksiv was one of the 202 survivors of that Russian attack.

The small boy from the family of musicians suffered 45% burns, including severe fourth-degree burns on his back, lost his mum among the 27 victims along with a doctor, and had his insides burned too. The doctors said Oleksiv did not

have any chances to survive due to how bad his injuries were.

Bandages, surgeries, constant medical examination became his new reality. He was brought to Dresden, Germany to get better medical treatment. The boy was given a compression mask which covers his legs, arms and most of his head and face to prevent scarring. He had to learn how to walk from the beginning.

After the rocket attack, many things happened to him apart from the surgeries. Oleksiv and his dad helped many soldiers and civilians with surgeries and therapies by

gathering money for or consulting them. A film will be shot in London about him and many Ukrainians who suffered the same injuries as him. Oleksiv has also met Pope Francis.

The boy's medical treatment is still going to continue for a few years, and he will have to go through many physical therapies and plastic surgeries. But despite all odds and obstacles, the 8-year-old keeps going. Oleksiv became a symbol of resilience and embodiment of the Ukrainian state and nation.



Photo: Roman performs at a ballroom dance competition in Lviv (Telegraph.co.uk)

Фото: Роман виступає на конкурсі бальних танців у Львові (Telegraph.co.uk)

## Чудо стійкості

Це був звичайний візит до лікаря у лікарні у Вінниці для Романа Олексіва з його матю, доти... Повітряна тривога, завивання сирен, свист ракети, бух! Ракетний обстріл Вінниці. 14 липня 2022 року 8-річний Олексів був одним із 202 тих, хто вижив у тому російському нападі.

Маленький хлопчик із родини музикантів отримав 45% опіків, у тому числі важкі опіки спини четвертого ступеня, маму серед 27 постраждалих із лікарем, а також мав обпечені нутрощі. Лікарі казали, що Олексів не мав взагалі ніяких шансів вижити через те, наскільки поганими його травми були.

Перев'язки, операції, постійні медичні огляди стали його новою реальністю. Його привезли до Дрездена, Німеччини, щоб отримати краще медичне лікування. Хлопчику дали компресійну маску, яка покриває його ноги, руки та більшу частину його голови та обличчя, щоб запобігти створенню рубців. Йому довелося вчитися ходити з самого початку.

Незважаючи на зниження чутливості рук і ніг, Олексів повернувся до балету та гри на баяні. 8-річний хлопчик також почав навчатися одночасно у двох школах – українській та німецькій – і зайнявся уроками плавання, щоб покращити координацію його пальців.

Після ракетного обстрілу багато речей з ним відбулися, окрім операцій. Хлопчик та його тато допомагають багатьом військовим та цивільним з операціями та терапіями, збираючи гроші для них або консультуючи їх. Про нього та багатьох українців, які постраждали від таких ушкоджень як і він, у Лондоні знімуть фільм. Олексів також зустрівся з Папою Франциском.

Лікування хлопчика ще буде тривати кілька років, і йому доведеться пройти через багато фізіотерапій і пластичних операцій. Але попри всі шанси та перешкоди, 8-річний продовжує йти. Олексів став символом стійкості й уособленням української держави та нації.

# Enterprise Excitement!

Feature by Holly Cassidy

It has been a busy and exciting year for our many entrepreneurs here at RCS! From bath bombs to dinosaurs, all kinds of new ideas and products have been created and shown to the world! With a grand total of 21 businesses participating in a range of competitions and activities, and winning prizes too, these fabulous groups are sure to amaze you...



Our **highest achieving award** was presented that evening to second-year Holly with her eco-friendly cleaning solution business, 'Sparkly Clean' for 'Intermediate Overall Winner'.

An amazing feat for our second year student! She then went on to represent Wexford in this category at the SEP All Ireland National finals in Mullingar Park Hotel on May 9th! We're incredibly proud of her achievement in getting so far!

Other groups from RCS who competed in the Student Enterprise Program were 'New Dimensions' (TY), and 'The 3 Amigos' (1st year). A massive well done to everyone involved!

## Student Enterprise Program

The Student Enterprise Programme (SEP), an initiative run by the Network of Local Enterprise Offices of Ireland, is Ireland's largest and most successful student enterprise programmes.

As part of our RCS TY experience, we enrolled in this competition with our innovative entrepreneurs competing this year. In this program the budding entrepreneurial groups and sole traders were asked to create a business- that could be anything! - and create it, including its branding, the product/service, its advertising and much more! Sales are very important to new enterprises, so any business you can give them is greatly appreciated!

The students participating in this competition completed interviews with judges and told them all about their business in early March this year. Afterwards, they were invited to attend the SEP County Finals in the Wexford County Council Buildings. Here a winner was chosen out of ALL the participating students and schools in Wexford for a range of awards. Some of these included the environmental award and best poster.

### So how did we do?

We did GREAT! One of our transition year groups took home a prize with the company 'Bubbles & Co'. This phenomenal group creates their own homemade soaps, bath bombs and body scrubs and is run by Kevin, Louise, Valeriia, Johnathan and Ellana. At the Student Enterprise Program awards, they won 'Best Pitch'. This was followed by a win in the 'Wellness' category for Kate, Lauren, Sarah-Kate, Aaron and Louise with their enterprise 'Scribbles of my Soul'. They offer a wellbeing journal that they wrote and created themselves.





**NFTE**

The Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) is a cutting edge, world recognised, youth entrepreneurship education and development programme. It is another one of the competitions in which young entrepreneurs in RCS participated in. The students competing travelled to pitch their business to a group of judges in the hopes of impressing and advancing in the competition. The enterprises involved were...

- ‘Sea Glass Designs’ - who offer handmade cards for any event decorated with stunning upcycled sea glass.
- ‘Bowled Records’ - a funky business that handcrafts bowls from upcycled vinyl records.
- ‘Scribbles of my Soul’ - who created a fabulous wellness/wellbeing journal.
- ‘Sparkly Clean’ - An innovative enterprise that produces eco-friendly cleaning solutions.
- New Dimensions - Who offer ‘flexi-rexes’. These are incredible 3D-printed fidget toys in the shape of dinosaurs! Other designs are also available.



**How did NFTE go?**

Shortly after the entrepreneurs had pitched their companies, we received news that ‘New Dimensions’ and their flexi-rexes had impressed the judges and advanced to the national semi-finals, and then, the finals! Aoibheann, Ben, Adam and Evan in transition year, who run the enterprise, represented Wexford at the senior

NFTE national finals, and while they may not have won, everyone at RCS is beaming with pride for them.

# Ramsgrange Community School is proudly international: Focus on Ukraine

**WRITTEN BY: YELYZAVETA MOLDOVAN**

Despite being located in a very rural part of the country, RCS is blessed to have a wonderful blend of nationalities.

After Irish national students, our next largest majority are Ukrainians. Our student body is

made up of 7% Ukrainian students!

In this issue, we will share some Ukrainian words through a fun wordsearch and a delicious recipe that you can enjoy from home!



## Recipe: Vareniki

### Description

A national dish of Ukrainian cuisine, which is a dough filled with various fillings, both vegetable and berry.

### Ingredients for the dough

Wheat flour - 250 g + 100 g (for the dough)

Egg - 1

Cherry - 250 g

Water - 110 ml

Butter - 30 g

Salt - to your taste

Sugar - to your taste

### Cooking

1. Add salt to the flour and mix. Make a well in the flour and pour the liquid into it in parts, gradually kneading the dough.
2. Put the dough out on the table and gradually mix in the rest of the flour, about 15 minutes. The dough should be so dense that it will be quite difficult to knead. Shape the dough into a ball, gathering it inwards from all sides, and seal it in cling film or a bag.
3. Place the dough in a small container. Pour warm water into a large container and put the container with the dough in it. Leave for at least 1 hour.
4. Remove the pits from the cherries and put them in a sieve to drain the excess juice.
5. Remove the cling film from the dough and divide it into several parts. Roll it out thinly on a floured table. Cut out round dumpling shapes and put them on a plate, immediately covering them with cling film.
6. Put 0.5 teaspoon of sugar and cherries on each circle. Connect the edges and pinch carefully. Form all the dumplings in this way.
7. Salt the boiling water and add the dumplings one by one. Stir and wait for it to boil again. After boiling, cook until tender for 3-4 minutes.
8. It is best to serve these dumplings with sour cream, pre-buttered.

## Wordsearch

V	C	A	W	H	E	A	T	B	G
I	O	H	I	A	M	H	H	O	O
C	T	F	I	E	L	D	R	R	F
A	W	A	R	E	N	E	S	S	M
W	M	H	C	O	S	S	A	C	K
H	R	U	S	H	N	Y	K	D	U
R	O	V	I	B	U	R	N	U	M
A	Y	G	O	V	E	R	L	A	H
C	O	A	T	O	F	A	R	M	S
B	O	S	U	P	F	N	O	E	S

### Ukrainian vocabulary

VIBURNUM - symbol of Ukraine

AWARENESS -

COAT OF ARMS - a yellow trident on a blue shield

WHEAT - is the most widely grown crop in Ukraine.

BORSCH - traditional Ukrainian dish

COSSACK - people who fought in the steppes away from their families.

GOVERLA - is the highest point of the Ukrainian Carpathians.

RUSHNYK - traditional, embroidered canvas.

FIELD - Ukraine is a big farming country, just like Ireland.



# Ramsgrange Community School пишається бути міжнародною: З фокусом на Україні

Written by: Yelyzaveta Moldovan

Не дивлячись на розташування у самісінькому пригороді країни, RCS благословен мати неймовірну суміш національностей.

Після ірландців, найбільша кількість наших учнів, українці. В нашій шкільній спільноті 7% українських учнів!

Тому ми поділимось декількома українськими словами через веселий пошук слів та смачний рецепт, яким ви зможете насолодитися в дома!



## Вареники

### Опис

Національна страва Української кухні, що являє собою тісто, наповнене різною начинкою, як овочевою, так і ягідною.

### Інгредієнти для теста

Борошно пшеничне - 250 г + 100 г (у заміс)

Яйце куряче - 1 шт.

Вишня - 250 г

Вода - 110 мл

Масло вершкове - 30 г

Сіль - за смаком

Цукор - за смаком

### Приготування

- 1.одати у борошно сіль і перемішати. Зробити в борошні лунку і частинами влити туди рідину, поступово замішуючи тісто.
- 2.Тісто викласти на стіл і потроху вмішувати решту борошна, близько 15 хвилин. Тісто має бути настільки щільним, що вимішувати його буде досить важко. Надаємо тісту форму кулі, збираючи його зі всіх боків усередину, і запечатати в харчову плівку або у пакетик.
- 3.Помістити тісто в маленьку ємність. У велику ємність налити теплу воду і відправити туди ємність з тістом. Залишити мінімум на 1 годину.
- 4.З вишні повиймати кісточку і скласти в сито, щоб стік зайвий сік.
- 5.Зняти з тіста харчову плівку й поділити на кілька частин. Тонко розкачати його на столі присипаному борошном. Круглою формою вирізати заготовки для вареників і скласти на тарілку, відразу накривши їх харчовою плівкою.
- 6.На кожен кружечок викласти 0,5 чайної ложки цукру та вишеньки. З'єднати краї й ретельно защипнути. Таким чином сформувати всі вареники.
- 7.Киплячу воду посолити і вкинути туди вареники по одному. Перемішати і чекати повторного закипання. Після закипання варимо до готовності протягом 3-4 хвилин.
- 8.Подавати такі вареники найкраще зі сметаною, попередньо змастивши маслом.

## Wordsearch

Г	О	В	Е	Р	Л	А	Щ	П	П
Р	У	Ш	Н	И	К	У	П	О	О
К	А	В	Н	Ь	Д	І	О	Х	Л
З	Е	Р	Н	О	Р	Ш	Н	Б	Е
Ь	П	Н	Ь	К	Б	У	П	Т	І
С	В	І	Д	О	М	І	С	Т	Ь
У	П	Т	Б	З	Р	Н	В	І	О
З	Е	Р	Х	У	Г	Е	Р	Р	Б
М	У	Г	Е	К	Б	О	М	Л	Н
Б	О	Р	Щ	К	А	Л	И	Н	А

Поле	Калина	Свідомість
Герб	Зерно	Борщ
Козак	Говерла	Рушник





LILLIE PURCELL AND GRACE FRENCH



MAYA SHANNON



LANA BOWEN



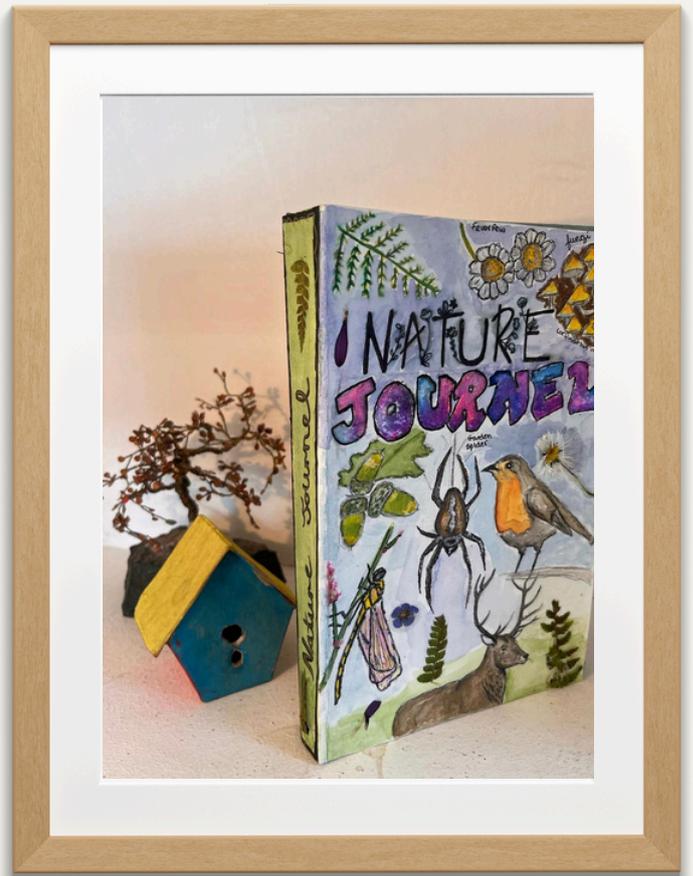
CILLIAN BROWNE



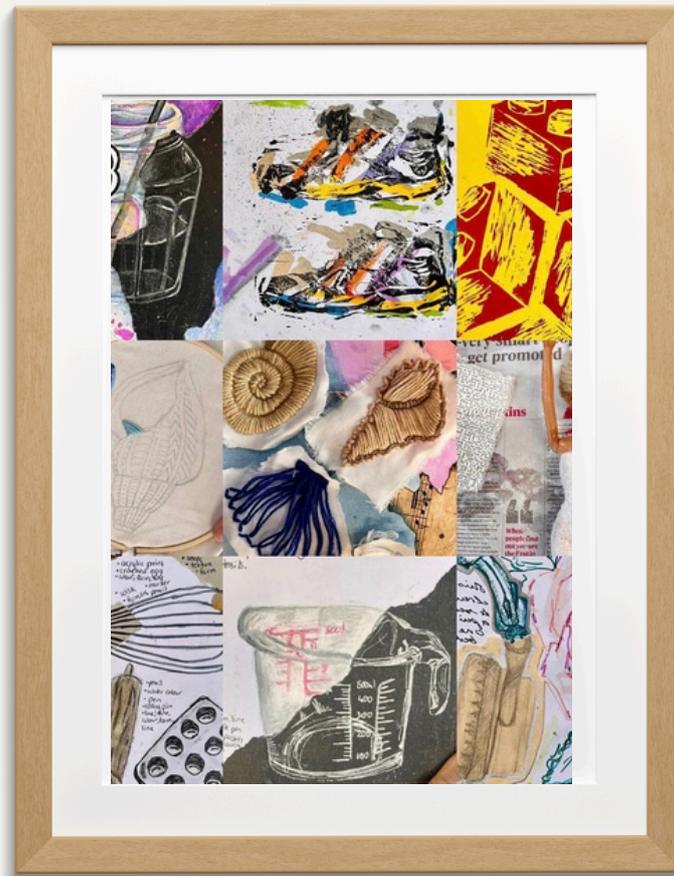
KAYLA H HUTCHINSON , FAYE KAVANAGH AND RIONA O'CONNOR



LEILA LAFFAN



EMMA ANNE MORGAN



3RD YEAR COLLAGE



BEIBHINN EDWARDS

# Our Wow Wall

WITH THANKS TO ANNA ASSINDER AND KEELA BYRNE FOR COLLATING



*Written by Rowena McGrath*

**The RCS Art Club is run from 1.10 pm to 1.50 pm on a Wednesday and Monday.**

**The Art club is an amazing club run by Ms. Bennett. Every day is different and it is always exciting. It is a place where imagination knows no limits!**

**This St Patrick's day the Art Club made a dragon that competed in the Carraig on Bannow Parade and won Judges' Favourite Prize! The students in the club helped make the dragon from scratch using fabric and hula hoops.**

**They are now designing the theme for the graduation. They are working on backgrounds, table decorations etc. Art club is open to anyone who wants to embrace their creativity, explore their artistic talents and spend time with a great group of students and teachers!**

**We hope to see you next year !**



# Litter in our School

Sarah Assinder

Recently a noticeable increase in littering has been seen across our school grounds. Urgent attention is needed to address and tackle our school's mindset regarding litter and our "litter problem".

### Problem Areas

- Central area at lunch time
- Rubbish stuck in benches outside
- Litter placed in incorrect bins

### Plan to tackle the problem

The Greenschool's Committee have implemented a trial litter picking rota for first year students during CSPE time. Small groups of students pick up all the litter from the grounds of the school. Once collected, the waste is disposed of correctly in relevant bins. If this proves a success, it will be carried forward to next year starting in September.

If each of us takes personal responsibility for our own litter, we can make our school a cleaner space for all.



Ramsgrange has applied to take part in the Tidy Towns competition for the first time this year. Lets help our local community by ensuring we keep the area clean and litter free.

Judging will take place between June and August!

# Word Search - RCS Words

By Muireann Barry



- |                |             |             |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Home economics | Highlighter | Crafts club |
| Flashcards     | Community   | Drama club  |
| Geography      | Woodwork    | Teamwork    |
| Respect        | Success     | Religion    |
| Hurling        | English     | History     |
| Science        | Canteen     | French      |
| Irish          | German      | Maths       |
| Study          | Teams       | Notes       |

### Student Reflection: Litter picking at RCS

by **Abbi Troy**

Throughout the month of April, our 2nd Year's for 2C did their CSPE CBA (class room based assessment) on helping our community and school by litter picking.

They picked up litter around our school and Ramsgrange once a week for 4 weeks and, on average, picked up nine bags of litter a week.

By doing this they got recognised by Tidy Towns for their great efforts in help keeping Ramsgrange littler free!

How ever there is still a significant amount of litter in our community so always remember to bin rubbish and maybe even go litter picking yourself.



Thanks to all who participated in our Community Clean-Up this morning! 🌱 Extra Thanks to the students at RCS for their weekly litter picks- because of your efforts we noticed significantly less to collect compared to previous group cleans! [An Taisce National Spring Clean](#)



## RCS Lotto Fundraiser

A huge thank you to your Mammies, Daddies, Grannies, Aunties and Uncles and all that have supported our RCS Lotto Fundraiser.

Thanks to your support, we have been able to purchase a full suite of examination tables and chairs which will benefit all students going forward in examinations.

It allows us to use the gymnasium as an exam hall and also ensures students are as comfortable as possible during these crucial periods.



As a thank you, anyone signed up for May, will be entered into the Summer Giveaway!

To be in to win, make sure an adult (over 18) signs up at [www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/ramstrangec/s/](http://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/ramstrangec/s/)

This Newspaper was brought to you by:

Writers:

'Hello, I'm Oran Gleeson, and I am currently in 3rd year. I have thoroughly enjoyed working on the RCS newspaper this year, and I can't wait to see how we improve and develop it next year!

'Hello' I'm Padraic Barry in 3rd year. I really enjoyed contributing to RCS' first newspaper and can't wait to see where it goes next year!

'Hi! I'm Muireann Barry. I'm in second year and I've had an amazing time being on this newspaper these past few weeks and I can't wait to create more editions!! 😊

'Hello, I'm Sarah Assinder. I am a fifth year student. I have really enjoyed being involved with the newspaper team this term and look forward to what's to come next year!

'Hi! I'm Holly Cassidy. I am in second year and I have loved helping to create the RCS Newspaper this term! I can't wait to see what new ideas and creations will be included in the future!

'Hello, I'm Valeria Fedia and fifth year student. For me it was interesting experience working on RCS Newspaper. I will wait for new tasks next year!

'Hello everyone, my name is Rowena McGrath and I am a second year student. I enjoyed working with a great team to create this amazing newspaper for you all to read, I hope you all enjoy reading it!

'Hi! I'm Jonah Flynn and I'm in second year. I have loved working on the newspaper and it will be wonderful to see what is in the newspaper next year!

'Hi I am Keela Byrne. I am in second year I loved being apart of making this newspaper this year and can't wait for next year

'Hi I'm Anna Assinder and I am in second year. I can't wait to work with this wonderful team again next year!

'Hi! I am Abbi Troy. I am a second year student and have loved being on the RCS newspaper so far and can't wait to write more for it in the future!

'Hello, I am Stephanie Smith. I am in and Year and loved helping with this newspaper. I hope to do it again next year!

Also contributing: Yelyzaveta Moldovan, Daniel Nolan, Eoin Byrne.

Editor and Graphic Designer:

'Hello, I'm Ms Kehoe (Deputy Principal). It's been a pleasure working with the team this term to see what we could get together in just a few weeks. I've been so impressed with the skill and enthusiasm of the team and look forward to training up some editors and graphic designers next year so that our Newspaper can appeal to all interests!



While every effort has been made to ensure that everything here is factual and that we've been as inclusive as possible, the Student Newspaper is part of the RCS Learning Experience and we may not always get things right.

Please note that any omissions of any big event, issue or person is not intentional. However, if you feel something is missing or there's a lack of balance, we'd love an article from you for the next issue!

Opinions expressed by students in articles are those of the individual students and not necessarily those of the school.

# Summer

THU  
**30**  
 MAY  
**2024**  
 7PM

GIVEAWAY COMPETITION

Every line in our lotto draw on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024 has a chance to **WIN** our Jackpot and has a **FREE** chance to win one of three sensational Summer Giveaway Competition prizes. This nationwide competition is open to all people who have a ticket in a lotto run by our service provider 'Our Fundraiser'

TAYLOR SWIFT

2 x VIP Concert Tickets

COLDPLAY

2 x Platinum Concert Tickets

€1,000

Holiday Voucher

At 7pm on Thursday 30th May 2024 a participant from a qualifying organisation will be chosen at random by 'Our Fundraiser' for each prize. They must answer the phone within 5 rings and correctly answer the quiz question below to win a prize. This competition is subject to our terms and conditions which can be found at: <https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/terms-and-conditions>

Taylor Swift is playing her June 2024 concerts in Ireland's capital city. Which city is it?

(a) Dublin (b) Galway (c) Waterford

TO WIN

*Good Luck!*