



# CHRISTIAN BROTHERS SCHOOL

MOUNTGARRETT, NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD

## Transition Year Weekly Memo

Week Beginning Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### Upcoming events

#### TY Interviews – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January

As part of the Transition Year programme, students will take part in competency-based mock interviews with local Garda Kevin Burke and former CBS principal Pat Rossiter. These interviews are designed to develop key life skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving and self-reflection, which are commonly assessed in job, college and Garda recruitment interviews. This experience provides students with valuable, real-world interview practice in a supportive setting and helps build confidence and self-awareness.

**An interview preparation booklet is attached to this email. Students should use this booklet to prepare fully for their mock interview. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to support this preparation by practising the sample questions in the booklet with their child.**

#### TY E-Portfolios - Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January

Transition Year students have been working on their e-Portfolio which takes the form of an online website showcasing the wide variety of activities and learning experiences they have taken part in throughout the year. The e-Portfolio also includes student reflections allowing them to reflect on their learning and personal development and the key skills gained during Transition Year. The completed e-Portfolios are due to be shared with Ms.Codd by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of January and will later be shared with parents and guardians.

#### Manual Handling Practical Test – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January


All students should now have completed the online Manual Handling Theory Certification on Dulann. An instructor will be coming into the school to complete the physical and practical part of the manual handling test with them. Students must bring tracksuit bottoms to wear for the activity and the session will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

#### Red Card Immigrant Council Talk – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 9:30 -11:00am

Transition Year students will take part in a Red Card Immigrant Council talk on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January from 9:30–11:00. This session will give students the opportunity to learn about migration, racism, equality and social justice in an engaging and age-appropriate way. Through discussion and real-life examples, students will be encouraged to think critically about stereotypes, discrimination, and the importance of inclusion and respect in Irish society.

- **TY Parent Teacher Meeting** Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January @4:15-6:30
- **Certificates** – 13 completed Dulann certificates are due on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January

<b>Gaisce</b>	<p>Students who have signed up to complete Gaisce should continue to complete their weekly tasks as required. A key element of the Gaisce programme is an overnight adventure, which will take place on <b>Wednesday, 15th April</b>, when students will stay in the International Outdoor Adventure Centre in Tagoat, Co. Wexford. As part of this challenge, students must complete a physical activity over the two days, involving a total walk of 25 km. We are planning to walk from St Helen's Beach along the trail, with day one involving a walk down to Carnsore Point and day two involving the return walk back up to St Helen's Beach; however, this route is subject to change. It is essential that students have appropriate sportswear and suitable footwear for the walk. To prepare, students should begin walking regularly now to build up their fitness levels and should also start wearing in their runners in advance to help reduce the risk of blisters during the challenge.</p>
<b>Work Experience Forms</b>	<p>Ms.Codd will meet students individually this week to discuss their previous work experience and the employer feedback form.</p> <p>The next block of TY work experience will take place on:  <b>Tuesday 3rd – Thursday 6th February</b>  <b>Monday 9th – Friday 13th February</b></p> <p><b>Students who are not attending the optional TY on Tour trip are expected to take part in an additional week of work experience for that week ( Beginning Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.)</b></p> <p>To get the most value from the TY work experience programme, students are strongly encouraged to secure two different work placements across these weeks.</p> <p>All work experience forms for the February block must be <b>submitted by 16th January</b>. Forms are available on the TY notice board.</p> <p><b>Garda Vetting for Work Experience</b>  Students should be aware that Garda Vetting is required if they are working with children, vulnerable people or in certain public settings during work experience. Students must be over 16 years of age to apply for Garda Vetting and the process can take a few weeks, so once students turn 16, they are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. It is the responsibility of the employer to process the Garda Vetting application, but students should always ask about Garda Vetting when arranging a work experience placement. Being prepared in advance will help avoid delays and ensure that students are eligible to take up their chosen placement.</p>
<b>TY on Tour</b>	<p>TY on Tour is coming up soon with the trip scheduled to depart on 2nd March for three nights. Students who are not attending the optional TY on Tour trip are expected to take part in an additional week of work experience for that week instead. A full itinerary will be shared at the end of January when final numbers and details are confirmed.</p> <p>Parents and students are also reminded of the payment schedule  €150 non refundable deposit due Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November  €100 Friday 12th December  €100 Friday 30th January.</p>
<b>Monday</b>	<p><b><u>TY Core Subject Exams</u></b>  Maths @ 10:45 – 11:15  Irish @ 12: 45 – 13:15</p>

	<p>English @ 3:30 – 4:00</p> <p>Students will have study periods between the exams.</p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<p><b><u>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January</u></b>  Mock Theory Test @ 2:40</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p><b>No School for all students</b></p>
<b>Thursday</b>	<p><b><u>Driver Education</u></b></p> <p>Due to the scale of this activity, it will now be delivered over three days. TY3 students will attend the programme for the full day today, TY2 students will attend on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February and TY1 students will attend on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> February. O’Brien’s Driving School will visit the school to deliver a Driver Education and e-scooter safety training programme. Students will learn the basics of road safety, responsible driving and the rules of the road. They will also have the opportunity to drive a vehicle with a qualified instructor, providing valuable hands-on experience in a safe and controlled environment.</p>
<b>Friday</b>	<p><b><u>Zak Moradi Talk @ 10:45</u></b></p> <p>Former Leitrim hurler Zak Moradi, originally from Iraq, will visit the school in January to speak with TY students about his life growing up as a Kurdish refugee and beginning a new life in Ireland. His story sheds light on the challenges faced by those forced to leave their homes and start over in a completely new culture. It is important for students to learn about the refugee experience so they can better understand issues of displacement, empathy and inclusion in today’s world. Zak’s journey shows how resilience, community and sport can help people find hope and belonging, even in difficult circumstances.</p>
<b>Thought of the Week</b>	 <p><b>"All our dreams  can come true, if  we have the  courage to pursue  them."</b></p> <p>Walt Disney</p> <p><small>@HMMYOFFFOUR@DISNEY</small></p>