



# BLACKWATER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

*Committed to quality education*

## TY Times

**2022-2023**

2ND EDITION

IN THIS EDITION OF THE TY TIMES WE DISCOVER WHAT NEW AND VISITING STUDENTS THINK OF BCS, WE ACKNOWLEDGE ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENTS IN ALL YEARS AND OF COURSE, WE GIVE UPDATES ON RECENT TY ACTIVITIES. ALSO, DON'T MISS OUR TEACHER SAYINGS SECTION!



### TY HOUSE POINTS

TY House Groups:

- TYA Sharks
- TYB Armadillos
- TYC Chipmunks
- TYD Monkeys
- TYE Giraffes
- TYF T-Rexs

### Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl ar fud na tíre idir an 1 Márta agus Lá Fhéile Pádraig (17ú Márta). Bhí eachtraí ar siúl anseo sa scoil idir an 9ú agus an 15ú lá Márta. I measc na heachtraí bhí an Pop-Up Gaeltacht ar fáil do dhaltaí sa 5ú agus 6ú bliain ag am lóin gach Deardaoin. D'eagraigh daltaí ón idirbhliain Tráth na gCeist do na daltaí sa chéad bhliain agus ghlacamar go léir páirt i gcéilí sa halla spóirt.

Bhaineamar go léir taitneamh as an seachtain sin agus bhí gach duine ag déanamh iarrachta cúpla focal a úsáid. 🍀

### **Observations from new TY students**

ПЕРШИЙ ДЕНЬ У ШКОЛІ

OUR FIRST DAY IN BCS



Наш перший день у школі був дещо несподіваним, ми не знали куди йти і що робити, дуже хвилювалися. Це було щось абсолютно нове. Вчителі допомогли нам знайти наш клас, а потім здебільшого допомагали учні. Усі були дуже привітними та допомагали, коли виникали запитання. Загалом, це було дуже незвично. У моїй старій школі було лише близько 300 осіб. Я ще ніколи не був у такій великій і сучасній школі. Було таке враження ніби дивлюся фільм чи серіал, ніколи б не подумав, що буду вчитися в такому місці. Система освіти дуже відрізняється, але мені подобається тут вчитися.

Our first day at school was a bit unexpected. We didn't know where to go and what to do. We were very excited. It was something completely new. The teachers helped us find our class, and then mostly the students helped us. Everyone was very friendly and helped when there were any questions. Overall, it was very unusual. My old school was only about 300 people. I have never been to such a large and modern school before. It was as if I were watching a movie or a series, I would never have thought that I would study in such a place. The education system is very different, but I like studying here.



# TY & 5th Year German Exchange



## Lismore to Heidelberg



On Wednesday January 25th the TY and 5th Year German students had a very early start as we headed off to Dublin Airport ahead of our exchange in Heidelberg, Germany. When we arrived many hours later in Heidelberg after taking many trains, we met our partners and headed back to their houses.

The following morning, we met up again in Kurfürst Friedrich Gymnasium and enjoyed a traditional German breakfast provided by our host school. Afterwards, we went on a historical tour of Heidelberg then we returned to the school and went to our afternoon classes.

On Friday we headed to the nearby city of Mannheim, where we got a tour of the palace and had to wear traditional German dresses and suits from that time period. We had a bit of time to go shopping and get food before taking the tram back to Heidelberg.



We spent the weekend with our partners and host families. Heidelberg Castle was quite a popular destination and so was the basketball match and the ice-skating rink.

On Monday we got a taste of what school is like in Germany with our exchange partners. The next day we took the train to another nearby city called Speyer. In Speyer we went to the Technik Museum Speyer and then a short walk around the city to see the Cathedral and then a bite to eat after. Overall, it was a very enjoyable day.

On Wednesday we walked to the Kurpfälzisches Museum in Heidelberg where we saw some artwork. On our final full day, we attended school and then in the afternoon, the German and Irish students all headed to the Firebowl to have some fun and play a few games of bowling. We had another early start the day after as we took the final train of the trip towards Frankfurt Airport to fly home.

## Heidelberg to Lismore

On Wednesday March 1st, it was the Irish students turn to host our German exchange partners. We collected them from the school at 10pm that night and brought them back to our homes for the next 10 days. The following morning, the Irish and German students had breakfast together. The German students then headed down to the Heritage Centre in Lismore for a while and to finish off the day we all did a scavenger hunt around Lismore.

On Friday, the German students had their first taste of school in Ireland. For the final 2 classes of the day, we gave our German students a demo of hurling and gaelic football. We spent the weekends with our partners to show them some of the many sights in Ireland.

On Monday morning both the Irish and German students headed to Cobh to the Titanic Experience and then we had a bit of time in Cork City to do some shopping and get something to eat. The German students spent Wednesday and Thursday in school, experiencing what life is like as a BCS student.

On Thursday, the German students went to the House of Waterford Crystal and afterwards they went to the beach in Tramore. It was a bit of a miserable day, but they enjoyed themselves. Everyone had an early start the following morning as we said goodbye at 6am and wished them well on their journey back to Heidelberg. It was a very enjoyable 10 days for all.





# BCS through the eyes of a German exchange student\_

Hello what is your name?

My name is Theo.

Where in Germany are you from?

I am from Heidelberg.

What are the biggest cultural differences you found in Ireland compared to Germany?

The people in Ireland are much more friendly and talkative and the food is different.

How do you find the school compared to your school?

It is much bigger than my school and more modern, and you have to wear a uniform unlike my school.

Have you had any negative experiences here?

No, I have not.

What was your initial impression of Blackwater Community School?

It was very big and modern.

How do you find the person you are living with?

They are very nice and welcoming.

Why did you decide to do the exchange?

I have always been interested in it since I heard about it and wanted to see what it was like.

Would you repeat this experience yes or no and why?

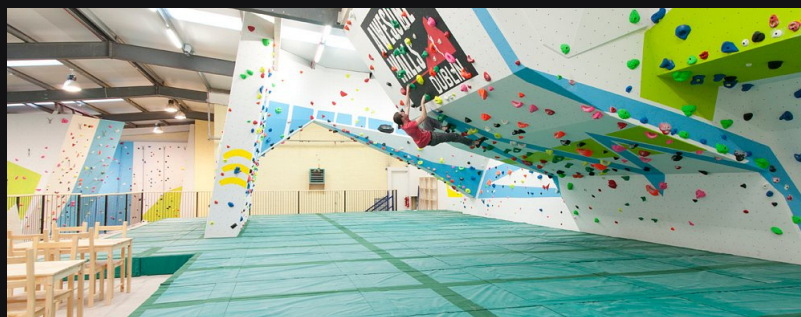
Yes, I would like to do a full year exchange as I found it enjoyable.

What have you done in Ireland that you have found interesting?

There has not been a particular activity but just seeing and experiencing the culture in Ireland is interesting.

## Rock-Climbing Competition

On the 27th March, TY students went to Cork and took part in a rock-climbing competition organised by Awesome Walls. There was a team and individual competition for both juniors and seniors. This event was ideal for both complete beginners looking to try something new and experienced youth climbers hoping to secure the national title for their school. Transition Year students that took part in the rock-climbing competition said they all enjoyed the experience



## Equestrian

On Friday 10th March BCS had six students competing in the showjumping interschools in Sceilig equestrian centre.

The Blackwater White team was Jessica Collender, Ava Moloney and Siofra Marsh. The Blackwater Blue team was Jack Corkery, Darragh Buckley and Fiona Mulcahy.

Team White came second with a score of 0 and was in the speed round. Well-done to everyone involved and thanks to Ms Murphy for organising it. Well-done to our TY students Jessica and Fiona.

# MUNSTER & ALL-IRELAND BADMINTON



On Friday the 10th of March Blackwater travelled to UL to compete in the Munster badminton competition. We started at 10:30. The U19 girls were already through to all Irelands so there was no work to be done for them. The U16 boys played Clare and won comfortably and got through to All-Irelands. The U14 boys played four different teams before coming out on top. They also qualified for the All-Irelands.

The All-Irelands took place on the 22nd of March in Gormanstown, Co.Meath and our students were lucky enough to travel up to the night before. All teams played excellently. Well done to the U19 girls and U16 boys who won silver in their Division 1 finals. Well done also to the U14 boys who played very well.

Congratulations to the TY students involved: Molly Kenneally, Síbhe Collins, Kate Ahern & Niamh Ryan.

## TY Mini-Company Fair



TYs participating in mini-company were recently selected to go to the Park Hotel in Dungarvan to the county finals of the student enterprise programme.

We would like to congratulate Katelynn O' Neill, Bronagh Motherway and Aideen Reddy who won the Student Choice Award. Their business, 'Hooked Crochet' provides handmade crochet products including bags hats and bracelets.



## The Briery Gap Interview



Recently, the TY students took part in the Briery Gap competition. They performed in the light entertainment group. Their performance was a talent show where all participants had a different part and then brought them all together at the end. We recently interviewed TY student **Bronagh Motherway** to find out all about it.

**What is the Briery gap about?**

The Briery gap is about showing your skills and your love for drama.

**Where is the Briery Gap held?**

The Briery gap is held in the Fermoy Youth Centre and the final is held in Macroom.

**What did you**

I performed a song by Ed Sheeran called A-Team, and our overall performance was like a talent show so we all had individual parts.

**Why did you decided to take part in the Briery Gap?**

I decided to take part in the Briery Gap because I have been playing music since I was about six years old, and I have taken part in a few dramas with my dad since I was seven.

**How long was your performance?**

The performance must be exactly fifteen minutes.

**What was involved in the making of your performance?**

We had to get all the teachers, gather students together and practice. It took time to make the Briery gap come to life.

**How many groups were involved in the Briery gap?**

I know for sure that there were 15 groups from different counties, gathered around from Munster especially.

**Who were you against?**

We were against a crowd from Limerick, Killarney, Cork, and Tipperary.

**Would you recommend students to take part in drama?**

I would recommend students to take part in drama because you get to express your love for drama and acting.

Thank you Bronagh for telling us about your Briery Gap experience.



## Examples of recent TY Work Experience

### Lismore Food Company

*I did my work experience in Lismore food company on the week starting the 20th of March. Throughout the week I was packing boxes, organising orders, and moving palettes. Along with that I tried new products, gave my opinions, and made a few promotional videos for the company. Overall, it was a very enjoyable experience, and I learned a lot about the day to day running and management of a business.*

### Veterinary Clinic

*I did my work experience in Duntahane Veterinary Clinic from the 20th – 24th of March. Throughout the week I was attending surgeries like neutering, removing tumours etc. I went on calls out to farms where there were emergency surgeries and other routine check-ups. I did jobs around the clinic, and I also accompanied vets in clinics. Overall, I really enjoyed my experience and it will be beneficial for me in the future.*

### Eurofins

*I did my work experience in Eurofins in Dungarvan during the week of 20th of March. For my week of experience, I did various jobs such as print and stick labels, fill glass bottles with water, make agar gel, clean and dispose of hazardous waste such as E. coli. I also learned about lots of various bacteria and how to test for them. Overall, I loved it there and would recommend others to do it.*

### Hairdressing

*For my TY Work experience, I worked with a hairdresser for the week. My mam dropped me down at around 10 every morning and I washed and blow-dried clients' hair. I think I would like to do hairdressing or something along those lines when I'm finished school and I think that the work experience has helped me to figure out what I want to do after school. Working in the hairdressers is a good way of improving my social skills because I was working with strangers, had to be able to keep a conversation going and ensure that the clients were happy with their experience at the hairdressers. I have more interest in doing eyelashes and eyebrows when I'm finished in school but the hairdressing can also be a side job. I liked working there. I also was cleaning up the salon. The job would definitely tire you out but I think that it is a fun job.*

## Some common TY teacher expressions

Ms. Bennett - "Oh fruitcake!"

Mr. Kearney - "Lads, ok"

Ms. Toft – "It's only yourself you're fooling"

Ms. Barrett – "Would you go onto a building site with no helmet?"

Ms. McCarthy – "Let's roll"

Mr. Fennessy - "To call a spade a spade"

Mr. McCraith – "O Mo Dhia!"

Mr. Murphy – "Geography is life" & "Develop, develop, develop"

Mr. Murray – "Right lads"

Ms. Heneghan – "Ok hun"

Ms. Lineen – "Alright folks"



## Artifice 2023

**Well done to TY student Meadhbh Duffin who won a Purchase Prize this week as part of the Artifice Exhibition in the Lismore Castle Art Gallery.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR TY

*APRIL 1-16*  
*EASTER HOLIDAYS*

*APRIL 17-19*  
*TRIP TO ACHILL*

***We hope you enjoyed our 2nd edition.***

***The 3rd edition of the TY Times is due out in May.***

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