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Review of 'To All the Boys I've

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"Ode to the Junior Cert"

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School News, Events and more...



A Termly Newsletter Written and Produced by TY '18

The TY Tea



Winning poem from Senior Cycle Poetry Competition titled "Ode to the Junior Cert"

*As I'm older now,
I can't help but allow,
My thoughts to shift and wander
About how I felt like an islander,
At the time of the examinations,
I never had speculations
That others would
Be just as misunderstood.*

*Sitting there
Trying to care
Words float
Like a boat
Across the still water
Trying to be an achiever
But failing,
Eventually bailing.*

*No shifting of paper
As I was in a separate centre.
Knee going up and down
Trying not to drown.
Head up,
Back up.
Re-read
Just breath.*

*I smile as I remember
The day I got told by my teacher
"This is only the Junior Cert,
Now comes the Leaving Cert,
That's what the training is for"
Oh my...What an adventure.*

Neidín Facer 5th Yr

Making a good first impression counts!

By Elisa Marie Rose and Helen Ponsetti Morro

After a month in an Irish school we, the exchange students from Germany, have noticed many differences between our schools in Germany and St. Aloysius. Here will we discuss those interesting views.

We immediately noticed a big difference in the timetable, as for some German students the school day starts around 8 o'clock and ends either at 1 or 4pm. Lots of subjects are different too, for example most of us don't have Home Economics, Enterprise and Careers as subject choices and we have a completely different PE programme. The most obvious difference is that none of us wear a uniform in Germany, we wear our normal clothes everyday and there are no makeup rules.

There are positive and negative sides to this fact: on the one hand every student can express a side of their personality through the way they dress and present themselves. On the other hand there are often bullying issues and attacks on students because of "different" or "bad" clothing or styling choices. Overall the students in Ireland seem to be more open-minded and inclusive than students in Germany. In this school the people (*students as well as teachers*) seem to treat each other more politely and respectfully. In many German schools the number of students without good manners (*teachers as well as students*) treated without respect is increasing.

In our schools, there are also no social areas for the students, this means you can go wherever you want during the breaks. The seniors are also allowed to leave the schoolground at lunch or breakfast time to get something to eat or just to get some fresh air.

The mobile phone rules are not as strict in our schools either and many teachers let the students use them in class and during break. It was a surprise for us when we found out that there was free food for breakfast at the cafeteria, because none of us have that luxury at our schools.

Another aspect of school life that is different is the 'Transition Year'. This is not an option in Germany, in most cases students just go directly from "Junior" to "Senior Cycle" or leave the school after the Junior Cycle, which means finishing school at Grade Ten of the German school system.

Both school systems have their advantages and disadvantages and for us it is interesting to experience the Irish one for a year. We are really enjoying these differences and will inevitably see our German schools with a different perspective when we go back.

A review of the Asian Representation in the film “To All The Boys I’ve Loved Before”

By Kate Healy

It’s no secret that the movie “To All The Boys I’ve Loved Before” has found a place in the hearts of teenagers around the globe. With relatable characters, interesting and entertaining plot and funny moments as well as serious ones, the movie has had the public gushing and begging for a sequel. But what really stood out to people was the Asian representation within the movie and how hard author Jenny Han had to fight for that representation to be included.

Jenny Han is the author of the book “To All The Boys I’ve Loved Before” and was very excited for the movie adaption of her hit novel. She said her goal for this movie was to ‘make a new modern-day classic for the Asian girls who also felt a lack of representation’. The author claimed she had yet to see one Asian American girl star in a teen movie and felt it was important to highlight Asian culture.

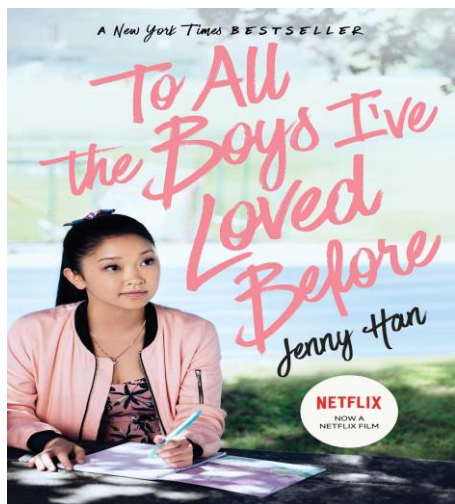
However, this task was not as easy as it should have been. Many film offers wanted the role of Lara-Jean to be cast to a white actress which was very disheartening for Jenny Han to hear. She refused all offers until she finally got an offer that agreed Lara-Jean should be played by an Asian American actress. She was overjoyed that an actress being Asian ‘wasn’t seen as a liability’.

Actress Lana Condor played the role of Lara-Jean and the movie was a huge hit, impressing many people with how it highlighted Asian culture and identity. Many girls of Asian culture within St. Aloysius were pleased with the movie and also gave very good constructive criticism as well as their opinions;

‘I think it was a good start in representing and introducing Asians into the media although there’s still some stereotyping involved in the film (eg: Lara-Jean being smart and nerdy). I think if we start casting more actors and actresses of different backgrounds people will start seeing there is more to Asians than just being nerdy or smart like we’re portrayed in the media’ –Shradha Neupane , Transition Year.

‘I, ll always say it (the representation) is never enough but thats because of how little representation for Asians there is in the media. However, I do think this movie did a good job representing Asian teens’’. –Sandy Murphy, Transition Year.

‘To All The Boys I’ve Loved Before’ may not have been a flawless film but it is most definitely has begun to introduce the idea of casting more Asian roles and it is safe to say that this is very important because, like Jenny Han puts it herself; “There is real power in seeing yourself as a hero, because then you believe you can do anything”.



TY Students have been working on podcasts which are ready to be listened on our school website, www.stalscork.com. The first podcast is a very funny, highly entertaining and interesting discussion of ‘*Fascinating Facts*’ – filled with fast-paced, witty nuggets of knowledge.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS AND UPDATES

Non Uniform Day Sept & Oct –

The last non uniform day an autumn coloured theme. Every student contributed two euro towards funding recycling bins for the students benefits around the school. We raised a massive amount of four hunderd and ninety six euro!

Our next ‘no uniform day’ is on the 24th of october. This months theme is ‘Halloween fancy dress’. Students will be asked to dress up in their spooky costumes to impress the judges. Senior girls will judge the junior girls and visa versa and girls will win out of the junior and senior category.

Every girl around the school really enjoys and looks forward to these days every month organised by the student council. The student council and I really hope that everyone gets involved in our upcoming ‘no uniform day’.

Other News -

The Student Council were involved in professional discussions surrounding the topic of the school uniform. The type of changes and issues raised was the idea of changing the tights being worn with the school skirt, the possibility of a school blazer for formal occasions, and an investigation of materials used for tracksuit pants that may be more hard-wearing for PE. There are a number of challenges to take into account and so, this is an ongoing but interesting discussion.

Let's Recap >>>

Junior Cert: A student reflection

The people involved in the Junior Cert 2017/2018, woke up on the 12th September, the day we had all been dreaded. Some of us were nervous, some people were excited and a lot of us were just sick of waiting for our results. We got our Junior Cert results at 11:30 AM, it was a warm, sunny day. We were in Shalom, where the whole year gathered with Ms Long, Ms McGlade and a few more teachers were present. While Ms Long was giving us a speech, we held our breathe, staring at the pile of brown envelopes, waiting for our names to be called out. After getting our results some of us were crying with happiness, we all let out a collective sigh relief and the stress that we had, was gone in a split second. We went our seperate ways and everyone celebrated this big achievement differently. Some people hit the town, either going to the cinema or a disco, others stayed in watching Netflix and eating Italian or Chinese take-away.

As the days slip by, we think about the Junior Cert results less and less. Some people did say that after this day the J.C. would never be mentioned again or that everyone would forget about it. This hasn't exactly happened yet but hopefully after reflecting back on it again today, we wont ever have to talk about it again! ☺

By Ciara Looney, Christina Kuzmanovic, Lydia Punch and Mily Rahman



Head Girl Annual Note

Hi Everyone,

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Ruth and I am seventeen years old. I am proud to represent each, and every one of you as Head Girl this year.

I think it is very important to be happy at school and I will try my very best to make sure everyone in our school family feels the same. I am very approachable, so please, if you want to meet with me, stop me in the school corridors or school grounds. I am a good listener and love to hear all your ideas brought up by your Student Council representatives.

I really want to bring everyone's thoughts and ideas to the table.

One of these ideas floating around the Student Council meeting is "The Green School Initiative", so please let's work hard together to achieve our first green flag. All ideas, comments and feedback are very welcome.

And remember: be happy, always.

Ruth

Ms. Long with Amanda, Jiang and Aoife discussing possible uniform changes



First Year Pupils participating in a debate with Presentation Boys



Student Achievements...

1st year: Samantha Samsonova- won gymnastics nationals in Dublin.

2nd year: Allyshia Murphy – 2nd place in a dance competition

Sophie Relihan- came first in a dance competition

Kate Lane – came first in a dance competition

3rd year: Alma Krausse - Phoenix Scouting Ireland, for being the best cook.

Jessica O'Brien - Awarded a Certificate from the Lord Mayor for 10-years of school attendance

4th year: Sarah Lane - Top 400 maths and science for Junior Cert, on October 20th going to DCU junior science Olympiad selection test. Top 6 from this goto Botswana as the Irish Team.

5th year: Elizabeth Ekunwe – Awarded a Certificate from the Lord Mayor for 8-years of school attendance

Jennifer Nmetanu - in horse-riding for show jumping, won a rosette.

Jasmine Odabi- was elected share a representative role for St. Als to help the poor and elderly people.

Jiang O'Neill - got through to the second round of rotary.

Aoife Foley - got a scholarship in the institute of the arts Barcelona for 2 weeks in summer.

Lananh Dunne and Sophie Babington - elected secretaries for school meitheal team. Meitheal team raised 371 euro for meitheal events by running a cake sale. They organised many events for the students in 1st year, quizzes, time capsules, Halloween events etc.

6th year; Tina Tony and Jennifer Timis – received Gaisce awards

School Activities and Clubs Free to Join

WHAT GOES ON IN SCHOOL...

Camogie: Thursday 4-5pm Mr.Foran/Ms A. Curran

Basketball: Tuesday 4-5pm Ms.Gaine

Gaelic football: Thursday 4-5pm Ms.Foran/Ms A. curran

Athletics: SENIORS ONLY!! Ms B.Curran

Library: Monday 12:20-12:45pm

Student council: Tuesday 12:30pm Ms.S.O.Donovan

Homework club:

1st Years=Monday/Thursday 3:45-4:45pm

2nd – 6th Years = Monday-Thursday 3:45-4:45pm

Ploughing Championships

By Sarah Lane and Joelle-Cleo Gomes

On Tuesday 18th of September all of the T.Y.'s went up to Screggan, Co. Offaly for the National Ploughing Championships.

On the 18th of September the TY's went on a trip to The National Ploughing Championships 2018. This was the 87th time that this event has been held. This year the event took place in Screggan, Co.Offaly. It was an early start for us all with the bus leaving school at 7:30am. There were over 1700 exhibitors and a total of 280,000 visitors spread over three days. At the event 600 acres of land were turned into 150 stalls to showcase animals, Irish sports, food and many other Irish traditions. It was remarkable to see so many different people from different counties working together to make this event a great succes. Afterall, The National Ploughing Championships is the largest ploughing event in Europe. But, as always, the main aim was to get as much free goodies as possible. We thoroughly enjoyed it and can't wait to go back !!



Agony Aunt to the rescue...



Dear Agony Aunt,
My friend and I got into a little fight and I was a bit upset about it. But we made up in the end. It's still a bit awkward now and I really just want it to go back to how it used to be. Please help...

A Chara,
I think yourself and your friend need to talk about what went wrong initially. It seems like you need to be honest and explain what upset you, equally this might help your friend explain what you might have done wrong to upset her. I really believe this will help ye both move on properly.

Dear Agony Aunt,
I have a friend who always wants to copy my homework off me. I feel like we are going to get in trouble. I'm scared to say no incase I accidently hurt her feelings. Please help me deal with, it's starting to make me resent our friendship.

A Chara,
That habit needs to be broken early on, I know it will be hard but you are better off to tackle this problem now while ye are still friends. If she has a problem with this, it may mean she's not a true friend. You don't deserve to be used like that, if it persists then tell a teacher.

Dear Agony Aunt,
My friend keeps stealing my pens without asking or when I'm not looking. I want to be nice about it, so how can I get her to stop stealing my pens and to use or get her own?
Please help me!!

A Chara,
I would definitely recommend telling her this bothers and annoys you. This could be a birthday present idea – maybe buy her pens as a gift and it might subtly give her a hint...
A practical idea might be to keep your pencil case in your school bag rather than the desk. I hope this helps somewhat.

Alt trí Ghaeilge Céard atá ag tarlú?

Bíonn a lán cláranna difriúla, suimiúla ar TG4. D'fhéachamar ar cúpla ceann le linn ár rang Gaeilge. Mholfaimís “Hector”, clár taisteal le Hector Ó hEochagáin. Téann Hector go dtí tíortha difriúla. Foghlaimíonn sé agus an lucht féachanna mas gheall ar an gcultúr agus na daoine sa tír. Labhraíonn sé faoi na buntáistí agus na míbhuntáistí a bhaineann le maireachtant san ait.



Survey Results...

Top Rated Senior Cycle Recommendations

Series

1. Strangers Things
2. Riverdale
3. Vampire Diaries
4. American Horror Story
5. Peaky Blinders

Movies

1. To All The Boys I've Loved Before
2. The Kissing Booth
3. Young Offenders
4. Mean Girls
5. Sierra Burgess Is A Loser

Top Rated Junior Cycle Recommendations

Series

1. Riverdale
2. Stranger Things
3. 13 Reasons Why
4. Pretty Little Liars
5. The Vampire Diaries

Movies

1. To All The Boys I've Loved Before
2. Newsies: The Broadway Musical
3. The Marvel Movies
4. Stardust
5. Beauty and The Beast



Baby Steps

A discussion about mental health and an inclusive community

By Courtney McGrainor

Mental Health Week was promoted from the 7th-13th October and this is a reflection of awareness and acceptance. I imagine most of us know someone who is a member of the LGBT+ community, even though it may not be openly discussed. As someone who is a member of this community, I can confess to feeling unaccepted at times. Even now, a voice within me is wondering if talking about this topic will make people uncomfortable, when that should never be the case.

As easy as it is to discuss the negatives, it's so important to focus on the positive in the hope of moving forward. And we have, 25 countries have legalized same sex marriage, and countries like Australia are soon due to legally do the same.

The LGBT+ community is also being embraced by the mainstream media with successful celebrities like Hayley Kiyoko, Ellen Page and Traye Sivan among many others. Representation is very important for young members of the community. Without role models or positivity like we are beginning to see in Ireland, someone's mental health, their identity and self-worth can be jeopardised. Mental health is a subject we are all still learning to understand and value in our daily lives and relationships.

It's so important that as a community, we make sure all students feel accepted and welcomed while we take baby steps towards a more inclusive world where we're all just be seen as equal people.



coming soon >>>

In The Next Issue

Pictures of the best dressed from October's non-uniform day.

Articles from TY pupils

Mini-Company Promotion

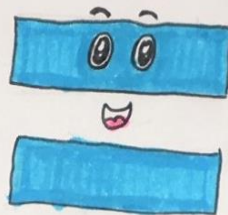
Full Comic

And Much More...

Visual Literacy by Sarah Lane, Cnoc Mhuire
Coinciding with Maths Week:



I want to see how things add up in the world



I want to encourage equality



I just want to make a difference