

# SOLAS MAGAZINE

ST. AIDAN'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN HILL, CORK, T23 YE02  
 NEWSLETTER ISSUE 37, SUMMER 2023

**40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EDITION**

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**It has been a magnificent year for sport in St. Aidan's Community College.**

In keeping with a very long tradition of successful basketball teams, this year saw the U16 boys win the much-coveted All-Ireland title under the expert coaching of Jordan Blount and Ms Furlong. Intense training and incredible dedication to their sport, paid off for the U16 boys. Thank you also to their sponsors, their manager and wonderful supporters who helped them celebrate in style.



1st Year Boys Soccer



1st Year Gaelic Football Team

The 2nd year boys had a great season and reached the All-Ireland junior qualifiers while the girls' teams did us proud in their league matches.

Justin Raheem was selected to the Ireland U16 men's basketball squad and Sam Aluko's talent also saw him selected to the Cork schoolboys U14 soccer squad.

The year finished on a high with our senior boys' soccer team lifting the Tom Murphy Shield following their Munster final win. Congratulations to the team and their coach, Mr Duggan.



**All-Ireland U16 Champions 2023**



Coach Jordan Blount  
 And His Winning Team



Proud Captains Justin Raheem  
 And Sean Noonan



2nd Year Girls Basketball Team



Munster Senior Soccer Champions



## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Every month and at the end of each half-term, we aim to acknowledge and reward the efforts of our students to achieve their personal best and strive to improve their academic performance. Students are nominated by teachers for effort, hard-work and commitment to their studies.

“Excellence is not being the best; it is doing your best.”



## AN GAELTACHT



Gaeltacht Scholarship winners, Erin Buckley, Dagmara Rzeznik, Abigail Landy, Aoibhe Kenneally, Caoimhe Jestin Kelleher, Christina Kelleher, Bobbi Dineen, Molly Manley and Abigail Sheridan



Chloe, Nicole agus Rónán



TY Trip to Cloichear, Baile an Fheireatearaigh



Bronnadh Fáinne Airgid ar Dhónall, ar Rónán agus Chiara



6th year trip to An Gaeltacht 2023

“AR SCÁTH A CHÉILE A MHAIREANN NA DAOINE”

## CELEBRATING 40 YEARS IN ST. AIDAN'S CC





## Congratulations to the Solas Awards Winners 2023

**John O' Brien Maths Memorial**  
 Ronan O'Keeffe  
**English**  
 Jack Kearney  
**Science**  
 Xavier Ticao  
**Gaeilge**  
 Ciara Greaney  
**Technological**  
 Craig Ricken  
**Art**  
 Aoife Higginston  
**Music**  
 Kathy Cullinane  
**Modern Foreign Languages**  
 Aoife Higginston  
**History**  
 Sarah Kearney  
**Business**  
 Ronan O'Keeffe  
**Home Economics**  
 Chloe Foo  
**Geography**  
 Darren Ahern  
**PE**  
 Molly O' Neill  
**Female Setanta**  
 Racheal Aluko  
**Male Setanta**  
 Ciarán Kavanagh  
**Exceptional Pastoral Achievement**  
 Courtney Davis  
**Edward Pope**  
 Mairead O'Gorman  
**Junior Pupil Endeavour**  
 Erin Buckley  
**Senior Pupil Endeavour**  
 Daniel Smith



Adam and Sarah Kearney  
English and History



Daniel Smith  
Senior Pupil Endeavour



Andrea Palmero Garcia  
5<sup>th</sup> year Student of the Year



Adam Crowley  
2nd year Student of the Year



Ciaran Kavanagh  
Male Setanta



Class of 2023 Award Recipients

## Congratulations to the Solas Awards Winners 2023

**JCSP**  
 Summer Coleman  
**LCA**  
 Rachel Kelleher  
**Exceptional Co Curricular**  
 Rosaleen Brady- Creative Schools  
**Best Class**  
 Class Killian  
**1st Year Student of the Year**  
 Maya Bieszczad  
**2nd Year Student of the Year**  
 Adam Crowley  
**3rd Year Student of the Year**  
 Emily O'Brien  
**4th Year Student of the Year**  
 Sarah O'Sullivan  
**5th Year Student of the Year**  
 Andrea Palmero Garcia  
**6th Year Student of the Year**  
 Chloe Foo  
**Junior Academic**  
 Emily O' Brien  
**Senior Academic**  
 Ronan O' Keeffe  
**Dr Steele Community Award**  
 Jordan Blount  
**Best Junior Cycle 2022**  
 Sarah O' Sullivan  
**Best Leaving Cert Applied 2022**  
 Paul Wall  
**Best Leaving Certificate 2022**  
 Eoin Leahy  
**Deputy Principal's Award**  
 Abby Kenneally  
**Principal's Award**  
 Xavier Ticao



Darren Ahern  
Geography



David o'Donovan  
Class Killian Best Class



Emily O'Brien  
3rd year Student of the Year  
and Junior Academic



Kathy Cullinane  
Music



Mairead O'Gorman  
Edward Pope Memorial



Molly o'Neill  
Physical Education





# UNIVERSITY LINKS

St. Aidan's Community College's careers department continues to foster links with Cork's two universities through their access and outreach programmes.

As a DEIS school we benefit from a range of supports given to our students by the universities including the ever-popular Easter Camps, Xperience Week and Science Camps.

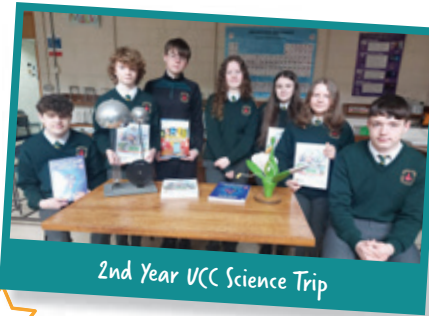
The Student Achievement Awards evening in UCC is one of the highlights of the year and a memorable event for the nominated students, their families and teachers.



1st Year Xperience Camp UCC



TY Easter Camp



2nd Year UCC Science Trip



UCC plus Student Achievement Awards



Caoimhe and Molly @ the Aula Maxima UCC



UCC plus Student Achievement Awards

# CAREERS

Many thanks to Mr Forde for his work each year in providing excellent careers advice to our students. Visits to UCC, MTU and Colleges of Further Education and Training, as well as site visits to industry continue throughout the year providing students with key knowledge and skills to make informed choices about their careers.



TY Janssen site visit



MTU open Day



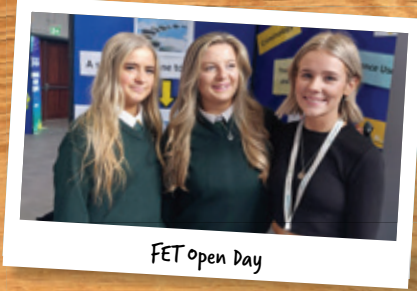
TY J&J site visit



MTU open Day



FET open Day



FET open Day



MTU open Day

# SCHOOL TRIPS

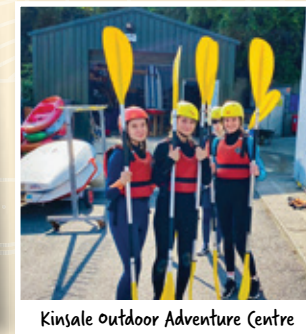
Whether educational or motivational, team-building or just fun, there have been many memorable school trips in 2022-3.

The TY's have enjoyed trips to An Gaeltacht, the Waterford Greenway, Kenmare's Eclipse Adventure, Kinsale's Outdoor Education Centre and closer to home, Farran Woods and Zipit!

1st years enjoyed a team building day in West Cork Secret and a visit to Mayfield library. 5th years headed to the city centre for a walking tour and went further afield to the Tralee Wetlands for their biology field trip, while our exam classes focused on their Irish language skills in Kerry's Gaeltacht.



Tralee Wetlands



Kinsale outdoor Adventure Centre



Kinsale outdoor Adventure Centre



1st Years at Mayfield Library



Cork City Walking Tour



TY 2023 Eclipse



Kinsale outdoor Adventure Centre



Waterford Greenway



TY 2023 Eclipse



West Cork Secrets

# CREATIVE SCHOOLS

St Aidan's Creative Schools Initiative saw the creation of a student led team who worked throughout the year on drama, script writing, visual art, music and song-writing and collaboration with subject departments where the chosen theme of "What's your Story?" was explored.

Many thanks to Ms Lee for facilitating this amazing initiative. We would also like to thank Graffiti Theatre Company and The Kabin Studios for their respective drama and music workshops.

A fantastic performance and display of this incredibly creative year's work was held on May 10th, to the delight of parents, students, mentors and the Creative Schools Team.



Creative School Art



Graffiti Theatre Workshop



Music Workshop with Alex and Rosaleen Brady from The Kabin



Creative School History Project

"Creativity is Intelligence having Fun"  
- Albert Einstein



# Best of luck to the Leaving Certificate class of 2023

“The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven’t found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle.”  
- Steve Jobs



A CORK EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD SCHOOL  
A Pathway for Every Learner  
Registered Charity Number: 2003271

## ST. AIDAN'S CLASS OF 2023



Congratulations to the Leaving Certificate Class of 2023

## Biodiversity

Many thanks to Mr Mc Grath and his Biodiversity Team who have transformed the open spaces, the indoor courtyards and the college entrance with a stunning range of plants, flowers and trees that have taken us through the seasons with a spectacular display of colours.

“It is that range of biodiversity that we must care for, the whole thing rather than just one or two stars.”- David Attenborough

