



# Transition Year Newsletter

## Affirm Challenge Excel (ACE)

### 1st edition

Our Transition year students have been exposed to so much over the past few months. A taste of the variety of activities and opportunities experienced includes promoting safety to learning about leadership, co-operation and working as part of a team to sampling and discovering new subjects. They range from developing academically, socially, culturally and politically to gaining knowledge of working life and discovering career opportunities.

#### Promoting Safety:

As well as getting an opportunity to do a **First Aid course**, a **Road Safety Module** and **Mock Car Demonstration**. Transition Year Students also got to attend an **Interactive Safety Centre** which was run by Limerick City Community Safety Partnership. This was an exposition of realistic safety situations which students were invited to navigate, followed up by discussions a Q&A session with representatives from Limerick City Council, HSE & An Garda Siochana.



#### Leadership and Co-operation:



Outside of regular class our students took part in "**Gold of the Desert Kings**". This programme encourages people to address the issue of Effort versus Productivity. Our students experienced the benefits of teamwork, planning, setting goals and taking necessary risks while having lots of fun!

Applications and interviews for the **Anois Programme** also took place this term and congratulations to the eight successful candidates who will spend a week in January working on enhancing and developing their leadership skills.



### Civic, Political and Social Education

**European Youth Parliament** Ireland held their first regional session of the 2010/2011 year from the 15th to the 17th October. **Three of our students** took advantage of this opportunity and along with 120 delegates from schools around the province of Munster were led by approximately 35 Alumni from all over Ireland and Europe. The weekend consisted of teambuilding exercises, a day of committee work and a day of GA. EYP is one of the largest European platforms for political debate, intercultural encounters, political educational work and the exchange of ideas among young people in Europe. It turned out to be an exciting and educational experience for all.

### Culture

**New Subjects:** One class group were given the opportunity to go on an historical tour of Limerick City enhancing their **Local History Module**. A number of students participated in a Poetry Workshops organised by **Cuisle Limerick City International Poetry Festival**. All T.Y.'s wrote "**Poetry Through Rap**". Each class group participated in workshops with Limerick Theatre Group and there was a day of **personal development through drama**. Two of our students are currently involved in **writing articles for "Adolessons"**, a magazine written and produced by the youth of Limerick. We are especially looking forward to next term where our fabulous T.Y.s will take to the stage with their production of "Pigtown"!! Our thanks goes to Tony Cusack who is offering his expertise and knowledge to enable this production to go ahead.

Our students have had their first introduction to a lot of new subjects this term, Applied Maths, Psychology and mental Health to name but a few. Although some students in our country struggle with maths, our students have been exposed to different methodologies which has helped to motivate and generate greater understanding of the subject. Through games such as **Archery, Maths Seminars** and other active approaches used, our teachers have helped to foster a better attitude towards mathematics.



### Work Experience

Sincere thanks to all employers who have once again facilitated two weeks work experience. This is always a highlight of the year for our students.

**Social Placement, Enterprise, Gaisce, Mental Health Public Speaking Competition, Young Scientist, Surfing and Golf** and so many more opportunities have been experienced during term.

**Our thanks to all the teachers who helped to organise these events for us. It is much appreciated and is what makes TY so successful and worthwhile.**

***This is just a flavour of all the activities that were done this term. We are all looking forward to the next term and everything that comes with it.***

**Seasons Greetings**  
**From Nicola Cunningham & Elaine O'Leary**

**Editors: Paul Obande, Alan Casey and Brian O'Riordan**

