

*School Improvement Plan/DEIS  
Autumn Newsletter*



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Welcome Note

**Our aim is**  
**“To cultivate what is native to the soul”**

**Our approach**  
**“Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí”**

A Chairde,

We wish to celebrate the achievements of our school community and congratulate our students and staff on grasping all opportunities made available to them this term. It has been so refreshing witnessing school life return to its vibrant normalcy. We are, as always, so proud of how our students navigated through the last two years.

Our newsletter illustrates the lengths our students and staff go to improve our day to day experiences at the RCS. We are continually looking for ways to progress and grow as a school community.

We could not be more proud of our students and staff for their resilience and perseverance over the last few years. This term has been particularly busy with fantastic achievements by our students. We would like to pay particular gratitude to our teams, groups and individuals who excelled in competitions, tournaments etc. and who excelled in promoting our school and our values.

Our newsletter this year outlines our DEIS targets for the coming years and our progress so far. We would like to thank our committees for continuously working towards these targets.

We, as a team and a community, look forward to brighter days ahead in a spirit of partnership and respect.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

**John Gorman**  
**Principal**

**Dáire Gillen**  
**Deputy Principal**



*John Gorman*  
PRINCIPAL



*Dáire Gillen*  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Core Values



### *Our Core Values*

**RESPECT**

**TEAM**

**KINDNESS**

**RESPONSIBILITY**

**CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENT**

**STUDENT CENTERED**

**BEST PRACTICE**

**SELF ACCEPTANCE**

## *The Rosses Community School*

**Operates  
reflective  
practice**

**Solutions  
based  
approach**

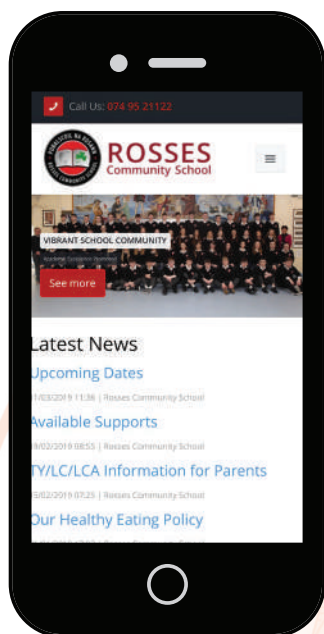
**Strives  
for best  
practice**



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

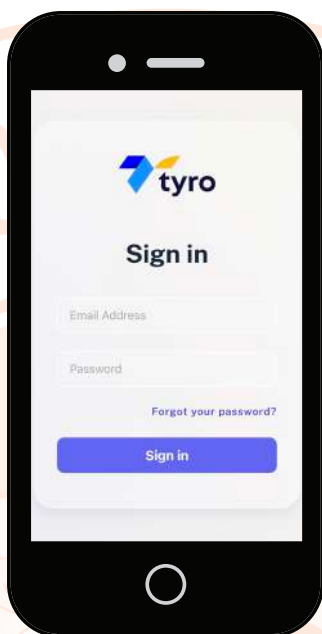
## Keeping You Informed

### *Keeping You Informed*



Website

[www.rossescommunityschool.ie](http://www.rossescommunityschool.ie)



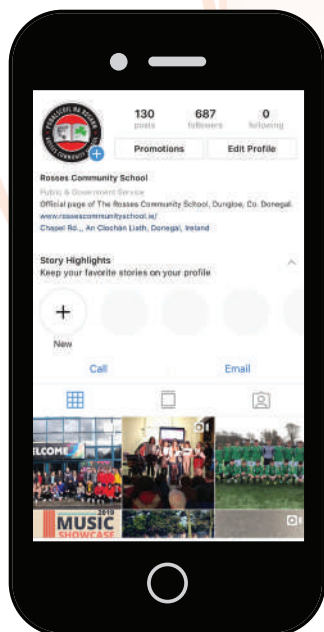
Tyro

[www.tyroschool.b2clogin.com](http://www.tyroschool.b2clogin.com)



Facebook

[www.facebook.com/rcsdungloe](http://www.facebook.com/rcsdungloe)

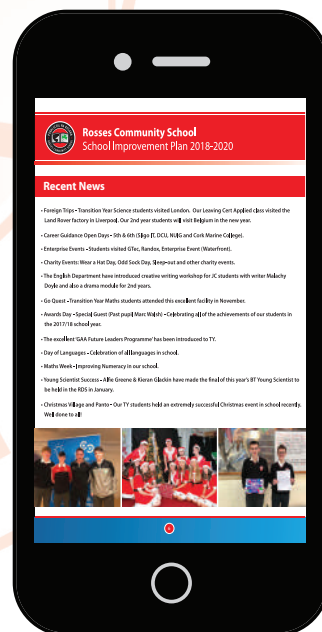


Instagram

[www.instagram.com/rossescs](http://www.instagram.com/rossescs)



Happening This Week



PDF Newsletter

# Committees

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1. School Attendance
  2. School Participation
  3. Retention
  4. Educational Transitions
  5. Educational Attainment
  6. Literacy and Numeracy
  7. Partnership with Parents and Others
  8. Management and Leadership
  9. Teaching and Learning
  10. Infrastructure
  11. Bealach straitséiseach na Gaelige
  12. Student Council / Student Voice
  13. Wellbeing
-



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## School Attendance



RCS keeps parents informed with daily text messages regarding student absences. Please remember to update the Tyro app to ensure accurate attendance records.

### How to add a note on TYRO

1. Open/ Log in to the Tyro App
2. Select your students name
3. Click on purple + on bottom right of screen
4. Click absence request
5. Select 'Request Type' - Full day(if only absent one day) or partial (attending appointment) or multiple days (Absent for more than one day consecutively)
6. Select date(s) (start and finish date for multiple days absent)
7. Enter reason for absence (Drop down menu)
8. Add note to explain previous step
9. Click send Request

Adding an absence note on Tyro is quick and easy. Keeping records updated helps us support your child and maintain clear communication.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## School Attendance



Our Wellbeing Fishing Programme, run with the support of Rosses Anglers, is a great example of how engaging activities help keep students motivated and excited to be in school.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## School Participation



70 Third Year students enjoyed a fantastic History tour to Dublin, organised by Mr. O'Donnell. The trip included guided visits to Croke Park and Glasnevin Cemetery, where students explored the history of the GAA and learned about key figures in Irish history, such as O'Connell, Parnell, Collins, and De Valera.



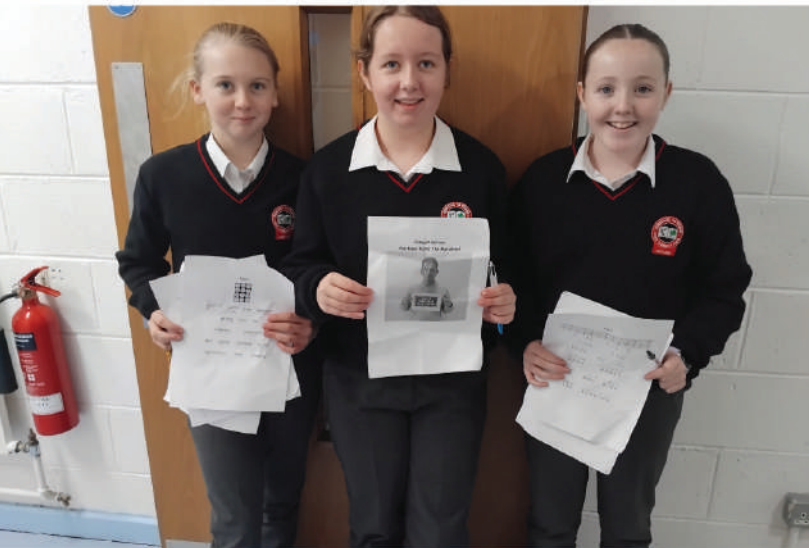
RCS celebrated European Day of Languages with students wearing European football jerseys and enjoying activities organised by TY students. Une journée spéciale célébrée!





# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## School Participation



Students showcased their teamwork and critical thinking in the Murder Mystery Numeracy Challenge, an engaging activity that encouraged active participation and collaboration.



2nd Year and TY students took part in a fascinating forensics workshop, exploring the Antwerp Diamond Heist and JFK Assassination. They learned about forensic techniques and crime-solving procedures. Thank you to Alison and Forensic Fun for delivering the workshop!



Luke Clerkin, Patrick O'Donnell, and Cianan McDaid proudly represented RCS as part of the first Donegal Southwest MacRory Cup squad, contributing to a hard-fought victory against Holy Trinity College, Cookstown, in the opening round of the competition.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Retention

2024

83.41% - 3rd Level

6.45% - World of work

3.38% - Gap Year

1.69% - Deferral college place

1.69% - Arsenal FC Training programme London

3.38% - SOLAS

RCS is proud to highlight the diverse achievements of our 2024 graduates, showcasing the strength of our student support systems as they progress to third-level education, professional training, and other ambitious pathways.



RCS students explored future career opportunities at the World Skills Expo in the RDS, showcasing our commitment to supporting students in discovering their passions and planning their next steps.



Building skills for the future - students practicing bricklaying techniques at the World Skills Expo.



Students engaging with cutting-edge technology at the World Skills Expo, hands-on experience in virtual welding.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Educational Transitions



The incoming first-year class of 2023/24, who joined us in September. A total of 81 students embarked on their journey at RCS. We wish them a rewarding and enjoyable experience during their time with us.



RCS 6th Year students explored future opportunities at the ATU Sligo Open Day today, gaining valuable insights into courses and campus life.



## Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

### Educational Transitions



Well done to our 5th Year students who celebrated their graduation from the STEM programme at ATU Sligo. Through hard work and dedication, they achieved a Level 6 in STEM Skills, gaining valuable experience in coding and innovation.



6th Year students from RCS took part in the ATU Donegal Open Day, discovering pathways for their next steps in education.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Educational Transitions



Highlights from our Incoming 1st Year Induction, showcasing a warm welcome and an engaging start to their journey at RCS.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Educational Attainment

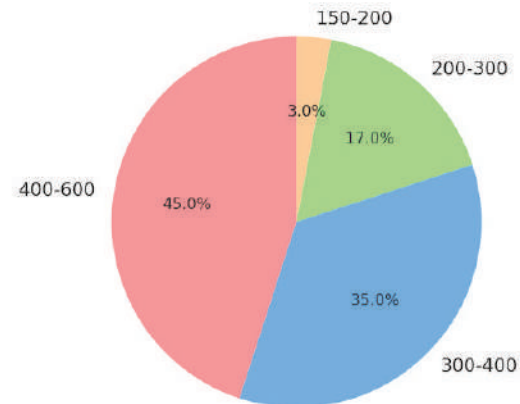
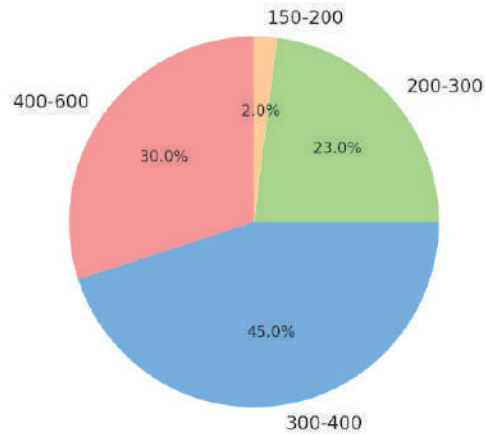
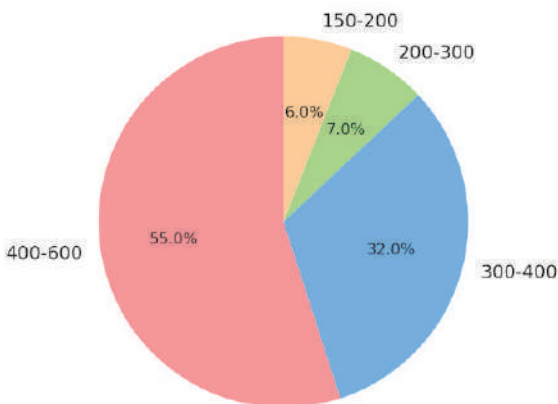


Mia O'Donnell, TY, has been named Donegal LGFA U16 Player of the Year—a well-deserved recognition for her hard work and talent. The entire RCS community is proud of her outstanding achievement. Well done, Mia!

Distribution of Points - 2024

Distribution of Points - 2023

Distribution of Points - 2022



Student achievements in 2022, 2023, and 2024 are showcased in this comparison, reflecting consistent progress and hard work. The results highlight the dedication of our students and the support of staff and parents at RCS.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Educational Attainment



Congratulations to Ryan McGee (TY) and Joe Santiago (2nd Year) on winning the Runners-Up Prize in the Maple Stores Halloween Art Competition. Well done!



Congrats to past pupil Colin Glackin on representing Ireland in Indoor Bowls, winning 1st place in the Home Nations competition and placing 8th worldwide.



Leah Ward and Chloe Boyle represented RCS in the Rotary Youth Leadership competition. Leah won the club finals and advances to the Zone Finals, highlighting the hard work and achievements of our students.



Aoibhinn Boyle has been honoured with a Spotlight Award from the Royal Irish Academy of Music for her outstanding performance in musical theatre exams this year. She is pictured here with her teacher, Sara Laughlin.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Literacy and Numeracy



Maths Week at the RCS: Congratulations to Chloe Wilson for correctly guessing the number of sweets in the jar. Well done, Chloe!

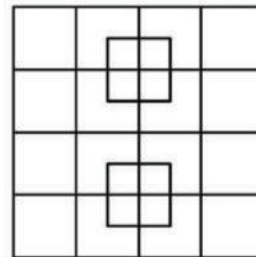


Maths Week at the RCS: TY students enjoyed a trip to Jail Escape Rooms and the cinema in Lifford as part of our Maths Week celebrations.



Maths Week at the RCS: Well done to our 1st Year Murder Mystery winners from classes 1A, 1B, and 1C. A great effort from everyone involved!

### How many squares do you see?



### 30 Second Number Crunch

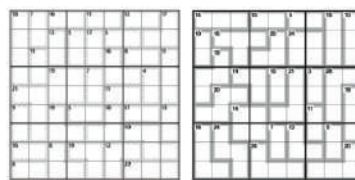
Starting at the left with the number provided, work your way across the line, applying all the mathematical instructions to your running total. Don't reach for your calculator, that would be cheating!

Start:	25	-6	x3	+6	2/3	-6	2/3	-13	x3	+18
46	-7	x2	+3	+7	x2	-14	75%	-6	x2	
-36	x2	+8	80%	+2	+7	2/3	-12	+7	+9	
Intermediate:	120	+41	x2	+66	1/2	x3	+57	2/3	+74	1/2
93	x3	+68	x2	+54	3/4	+38	x2	-78	40%	
-23		x2	-88	40%	+67	+5	+99	x2	+89	

### Killer Sudoku

The objective is to fill the grid with numbers from 1 to 9 in a way that the following conditions are met:

- Each row, column, and 3x3 square contains each number exactly once.
- The sum of all numbers in a cage must match the small number printed in its corner. No number appears more than once in a cage.



## MAKE SIX

Insert mathematical symbols (no digits) to make each equation equal six.

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 2 & 2 & 2 = 6 \\
 3 & 3 & 3 = 6 \\
 4 & 4 & 4 = 6 \\
 5 & 5 & 5 = 6
 \end{array}$$

Maths Week at the RCS: All students participated in this nationwide initiative to promote Mathematics. Families were encouraged to get involved using the activities in our Maths Week booklet.



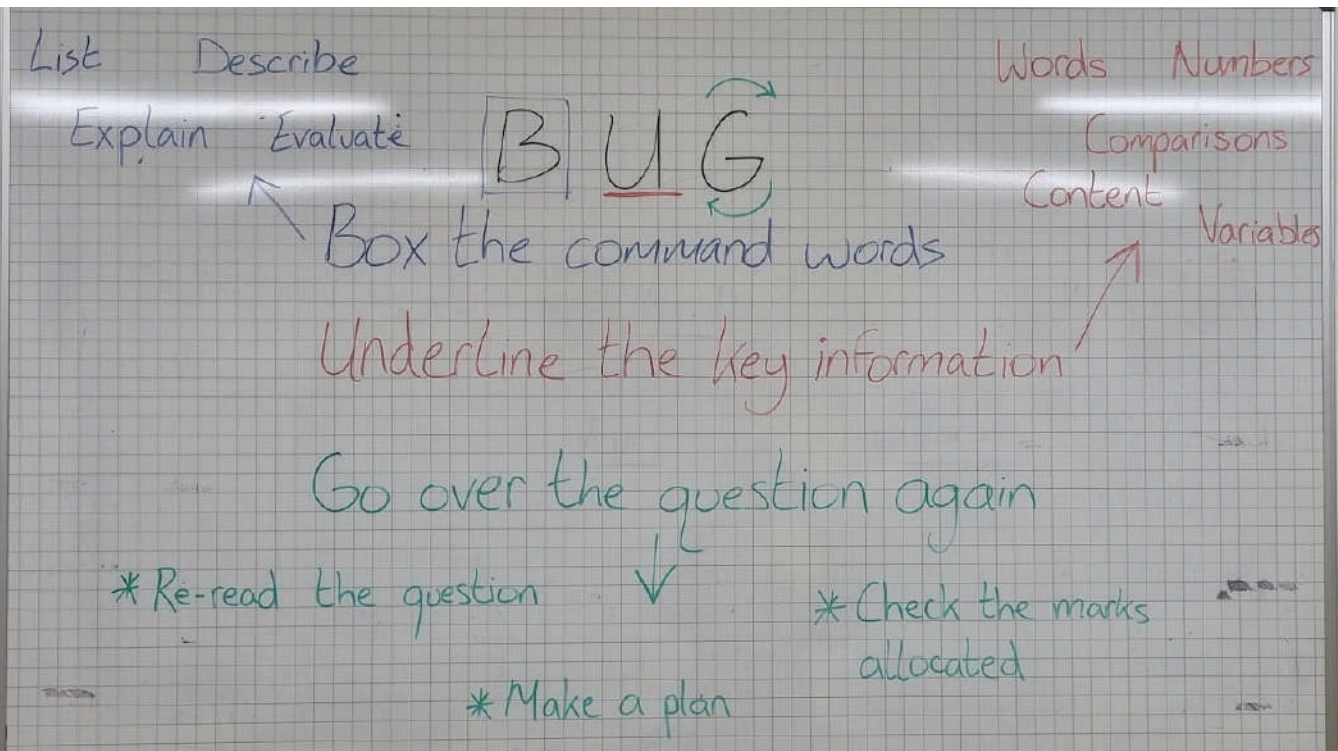


# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Literacy and Numeracy



A snapshot of our Numeracy Wall, designed to support students with visual strategies and tools to strengthen their mathematical skills and problem-solving abilities.



Encouraging thoughtful responses through the BUG strategy - helping students break down and tackle questions with confidence and clarity.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Partnership with Parents and Others



Thank you to Rosces Credit Union for generously sponsoring a new set of jerseys for this year's football teams. Buíochas mór daoibh for your support in promoting school sports and teamwork!



## National Ploughing Championships 2024

Our students had a wonderful time at the Ploughing Championships in September, enjoying the great weather and vibrant atmosphere.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Partnership with Parents and Others



The staff and students of RCS are proud of Dessie, our Caretaker, and all the current and past pupils who represented CLG An Clochán Liath in the Senior County Final. While the result didn't go their way, reaching the final was a fantastic achievement. Comhghairdeas to the entire team!



## Roses Community School Parents Activities

### Yoga

Starts Friday 15th November

9:30am - 10:30am

RCS Gym Upstairs

Instructor - Noreen Boyle - 5 week block



Want to sign up? Contact Gavin Ward on 087 470 7800

Roses Community School recently offered yoga classes for parents, promoting relaxation and wellbeing as part of our ongoing support for the school community.



Transition Year students attended the RSA Road Safety Roadshow, an informative and engaging event made possible through our partnership with the RSA.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Partnership with Parents and Others



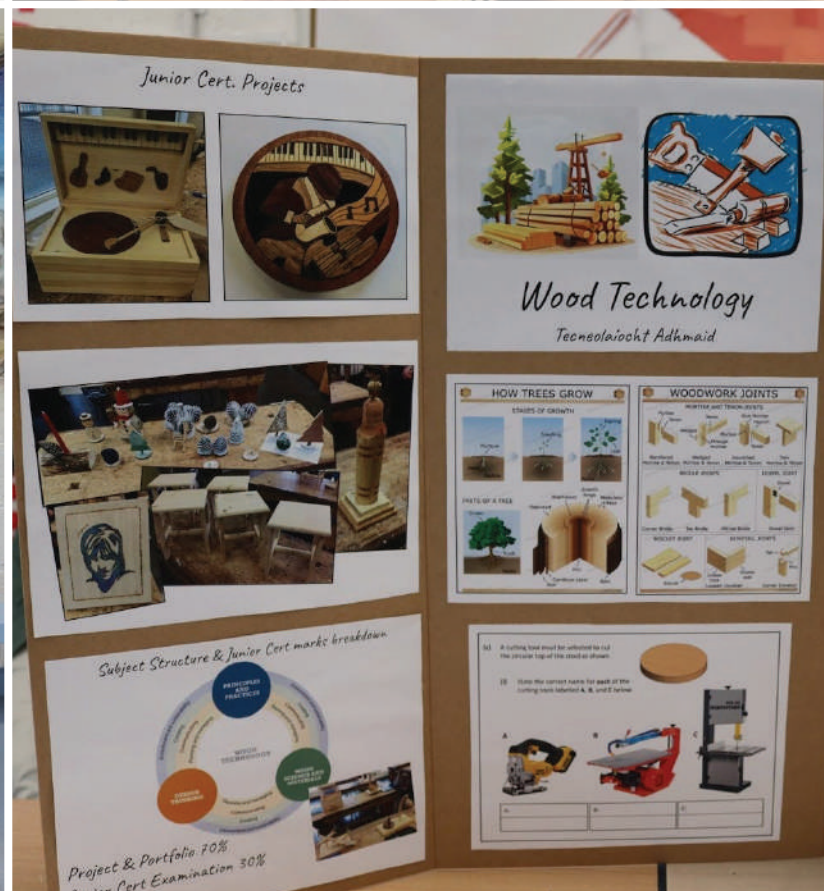
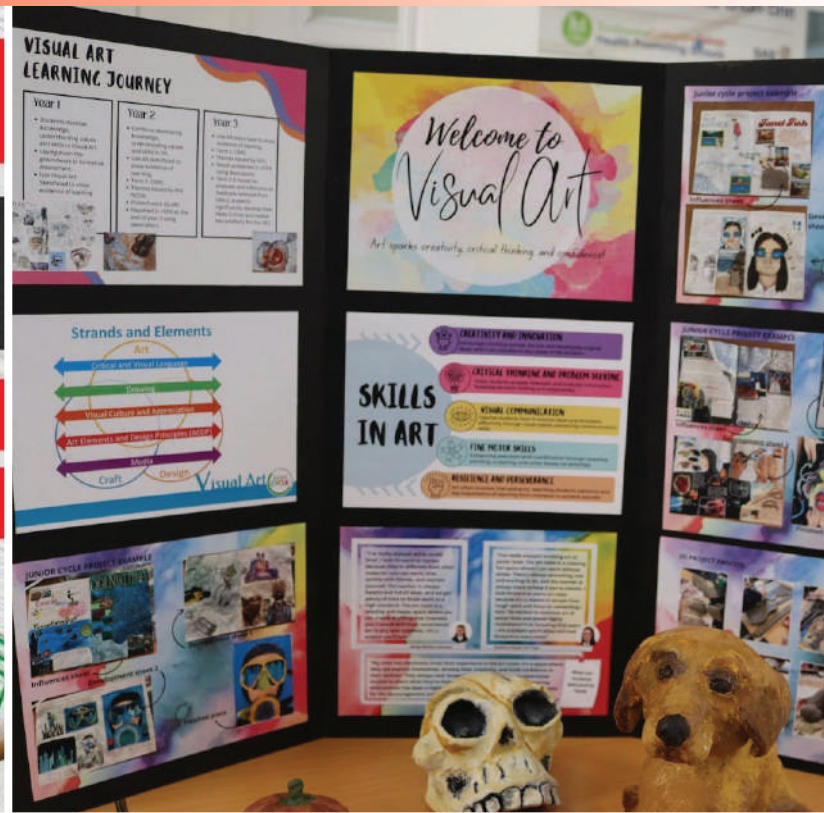
### SUBJECT OPEN DAY

For parents of incoming 1st Years.

This is a great opportunity to speak to staff one to one about their subject. Special Needs & Pastoral Care Teams will also be available to meet with parents.

**WEDNESDAY 20TH NOV**

**2 - 4PM**



Parents of incoming 1st Years were warmly welcomed to our Subject Open Day, where they had the opportunity to explore the wide range of subjects and supports available at RCS. A great insight into the learning journey ahead.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Management and Leadership



EDUCATION • LEAD STORIES • NEWS

### WEST DONEGAL SCHOOL LEADS THE WAY WITH MOBILE PHONE BAN!

Pobalscoil na Rosann is proud to be a phone-free zone! This policy has encouraged greater interaction among students and staff while fostering a positive and focused learning environment. Thank you to parents, students, and staff for their support and enthusiasm.



Efficiency meets innovation: RCS benefits from its new partnership with Tyro, a next-generation education management system.



Gary Boyle.

### Gary Boyle confirmed as Donegal Under 20 manager

Congratulations Mr. Boyle on your appointment as the County GAA Under-20 Manager. A fantastic achievement that reflects on years of dedication to sport and leadership both in school and on the field.



## Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

### Management and Leadership



Farewell to Ms. Dearbhla Fox, who leaves RCS after 18 years to take up a new role as Guidance Counsellor in Coláiste Colmille, Ballyshannon. Thank you for your positive impact and dedication. Ádh mór!



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Teaching and Learning



6th Year Geography students visited the River Barra to study the geomorphic processes of transport and deposition, a key part of the Leaving Certificate Geography curriculum.



5th Year Art students exploring Visual Culture with a trip to Newgrange and An Gobhla, blending history, craftsmanship, and creativity for a truly immersive experience.



During Languages Week, TY students Ellie and Muireann led a 2nd-year project on Spanish-speaking countries, fostering cultural learning and collaboration.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Teaching and Learning



6th Year LCPE students took part in an Anti-Doping Workshop today, facilitated by SNA Owen Bonner. A valuable session promoting health, integrity, and awareness in sports.



RCS students travelled to Mallorca as part of a student exchange trip, gaining valuable language skills and cultural insights. This immersive experience enriched their learning and provided a unique opportunity to apply their studies in real-world settings.



Construction students toured the National Children's Hospital, guided by Paul Duffy. A fascinating insight into this iconic project.





# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Infrastructure



History made at RCS as the first official match takes place on our newly commissioned astro turf pitch, showcasing our commitment to top-class facilities for students and the wider community.



Our new basketball court provides students with state-of-the-art facilities, promoting physical activity, teamwork, and a love for sports.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Infrastructure



Lighting up opportunities at RCS! The newly installed floodlights on our astro football field ensure students can enjoy top-class facilities year-round, enhancing sports participation and school engagement.



Work in progress on the new athletics facility at RCS, bringing exciting opportunities for our students in the near future.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Infrastructure



Introducing the new art room at RCS, a creative space designed to inspire and support our students' artistic talents.



One of the new standard classrooms added in the latest construction at RCS, providing modern and comfortable learning spaces for our students.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Bealach straitséiseach na Gaeilge



Tá Cistin na Cearnóige oscailte agus faoi lán seoil arís i mbliana. Bhí am iontach ag na scoláirí ag cócaireacht agus ag idirghníomhú lena gcairde agus pobal na scoile.

Béim a chur ar bheocht na Gaeilge i bPobalscoil na Rosann: Léirigh an taispeántas seo ag imeacht na chéad bhliana cruthaitheacht na mac léinn agus ról lárnach na Gaeilge atá i dul i dtreis sa scoil anseo.



Comhghairdeas leis an ghrúpa bailéad agus grúpa drámaíochta Chlub CLG An Chlocháin Léith as an mbua i gCraobh Chontae Scór le gairid. Tá muid fíorbhródúil astu agus as an pháirt a ghlac siad i gcomórtas Leathcheannais Uladh.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Bealach straitséiseach na Gaeilge



### Na Reacairí

1. [Intreoir](#)
2. [Anna Ni Bhaoil](#)
3. [Rubai Nic Giolla Bhríde](#)
4. [Eibhlín Ní Chnámhshí](#)
5. [Claire Nic Giolla Easpaig](#)
6. [Ellie Ní Ghallchóir](#)
7. [Cian Mac Grianna](#)
8. [Mia Ní Dhochartaigh](#)
9. [Bridín Breathnach](#)
10. [Méabh Ní Dhufaigh](#)
11. [Aoife Nic an Bháird](#)
12. [Sile Nic Suibhne](#)
13. [Róise Ní Shearcaigh](#)
14. [Liam Mac Aoidh](#)

Togra é seo a cuireadh le chéile mar ais teagaisc do na múinteoirí Gaeilge a bheidh ina chuidiú acu agus iad i mbun ranga. Beifear ábalta féachaint ar an fhocal scríofa agus beifear ábalta éisteacht lenár gcanúint féin agus na nathanna beaga deasa atá againn. Beidh foireann na scoile ábalta úsáid a bhaint as chomh maith agus iad i mbun foghlama. Tá muid iontach buíoch de gach duine a bhí páirteach agus a chuidigh linn leis an togra seo. Go raibh maith agaibh uilig! Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine!



Tá béim a chur de shíor againn ar uathúlacht agus tábhacht ár dteanga dhúchais, feictear ar an chlár anseo sleachta spreagthacha, nathanna cainte agus seanfhocail na Gaeilge le haird phobal na scoile a ardú agus a nascadh leis an tábhacht sin. 'An rud is annamh is iontach'. Ag ardú Spiorad na Gaeilge sa scoil.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Student Council / Student Voice



Jack Devenney, James Doyle, Meabh Cannon, and Susan Doherty proudly represented RCS at the ISSU Donegal Regional Council, showcasing leadership and teamwork.



TY students Meabh Cannon, Cindy Chen, and Grace Andrews will proudly represent RCS at the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition this January. Their voices and ideas are shaping the future—best of luck with your project!



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Student Council / Student Voice



Introducing the RCS student leadership team (from right to left): Dylan Doherty (Head Boy), Alannah O'Donnell (Head Girl), Shaun Boyle (Deputy Head Boy), and Ellie Boyle (Deputy Head Girl).



Presenting the RCS Student Council, a team of passionate students working together to represent their peers and enhance school life for everyone.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Wellbeing



Our U16 Girls Basketball team had a fantastic first outing of the year, showcasing teamwork, resilience, and a positive spirit in two fast-paced games. A great example of how sport supports wellbeing and camaraderie.

### Roses Community School triumph in Donegal senior boys county championship in Convoy

RCS overcome a strong Carrick team in a thrilling final to secure the county title after an impressive tournament run on Tuesday afternoon



Roses Community School that overcame Carrick on Tuesday in Convoy

Well done to our Senior Boys on becoming the Schools County Champions



RCS students delivered incredible performances at the Donegal Schools Cross Country Championships in Carndonagh. Highlights included the 1st Year Boys winning the best overall team award, gold for Tristan Greene in the 2nd Year Boys race, and silver medals for Eli Duffy, Evan Ward, and Leah Ward. Well done to all who competed!



Our senior boys enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Celtic Park, cheering on a fantastic 3-1 win over RB Leipzig. A memorable night of football and team spirit in Glasgow.





# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Wellbeing



Cheering on the Boys in Green! RCS students had an incredible night at the Aviva, celebrating Ireland's win against Finland.



RCS students soaked up the atmosphere in Glasgow and Parkhead on their recent trip. A great experience for all.



# Autumn Newsletter - Dec 2024

## Wellbeing



A proud moment for RCS as we raised over €2,600 for Gemma's Legacy of Hope. A special thank you to Mr. Mangan for leading this fantastic initiative and to everyone who contributed to this vital charity supporting North West Donegal.



The RCS staff joined Movember in full force, sporting mustaches for a great cause and inspiring the whole school community.



A selection of RCS students also joined in on Movember, turning mustaches into a movement.



**Pobalscoil na Rosann**

An Clochan Liath, Co. Dhun na nGall

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