



*School Improvement Plan/DEIS
Autumn Newsletter*



Autumn Newsletter - October 2020

Principal's Welcome

Our aim is
"To nurture what is native to the soul"

Our approach
"Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí"



John Gorman
PRINCIPAL

Dear all,

At a time of crisis we truly get to see what we are all made of. The last few years have certainly tested our school community with many challenging moments and events.

What has been abundantly clear in all that time is how our school community rises to each and every challenge. The lockdown last March really showed how committed and adaptable both our staff and students have been.

Over 80% of our students attended online classes daily and our staff delivered those in a way that only about 8% of second level schools across the country could do so. The continuous pursuit of best practice and drive for school improvement means many of our students and staff are at the cutting edge of education provision. This is exemplified in the many pictures and projects showcased in this document since March and throughout our opening term.

Our students and staff are constantly working to improve and our school improvement newsletter seeks to showcase this. There is a phrase that often sticks in the mind "*make every day your masterpiece*", this is very evident in what our wonderful school community is currently delivering. Much of it is innovative and world class.

Stay safe and take care,

John Gorman
Principal



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Deputy Principal's Welcome

A Chairde,

I hope that you and your family are doing well and are staying safe and well at this very strange time. Little did we know when we released our last newsletter at Easter what lay ahead for us all. I am delighted that we are now back in school and back to some sort of stability and normality for our students, staff and our families. It is very important that our students have the opportunity to attend school and meet with their peers and their teachers.

In saying that, our students excelled in adapting to the situation thrust upon them, and we, as a staff, could not be more proud of their achievements. Our students showed their resilience, their ingenuity and their ability to persevere in such difficult times.

In our first term back at school, we have all had to get used to a new way of working and of studying. Our students have closely followed all of the public health guidelines and have made our jobs so much easier. I would like to thank you all for this.

Although we have had to restrict our daily activities, students have continued to find unique ways to express their creativity and unique abilities.

I would also like to congratulate our school committees, who continue to work on improving our day to day experience and the service we offer for the benefit of all at the Rosses Community School.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Dáire Gillen
Deputy Principal



Dáire Gillen
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL





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Core Values

Core Values

Respect

—

Encouragement

—

Collaboration

—

Kindness

—

Accountability

—

Celebrate achievement

—

Student Centered

—

Best Practice

The Rosses Community School operates through reflective practice and reflective approach to all aspects of school life.

The Rosses Community School operates a solutions based approach to all aspects of school life.

The Rosses Community School strives for best practice in all aspects of school life.



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Keeping You Informed

Keeping You Informed



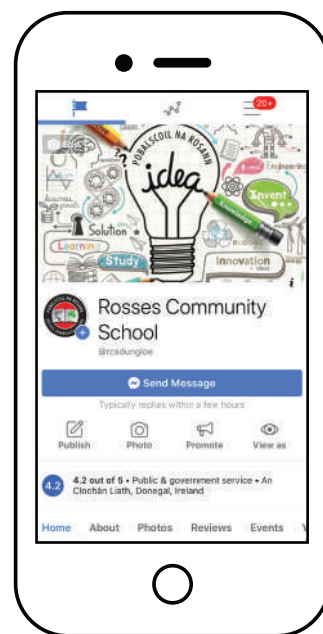
Website

www.rossescommunityschool.ie



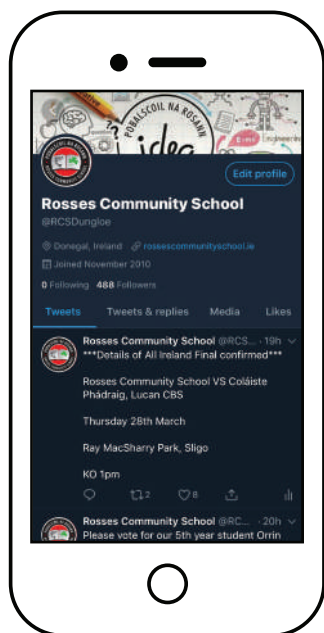
VSware

www.rossescs.vsware.ie



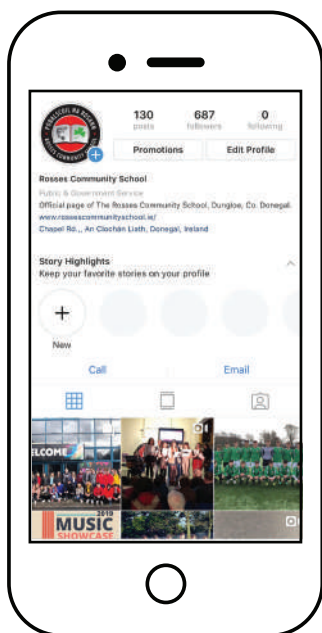
Facebook

www.facebook.com/rcsdungloe



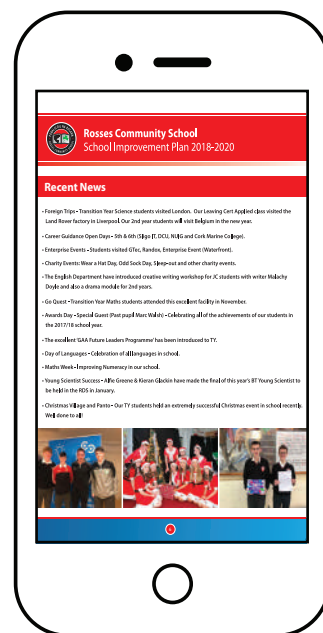
Twitter

www.twitter.com/RCSDungloe



Instagram

www.instagram.com/rossescs



PDF Newsletter

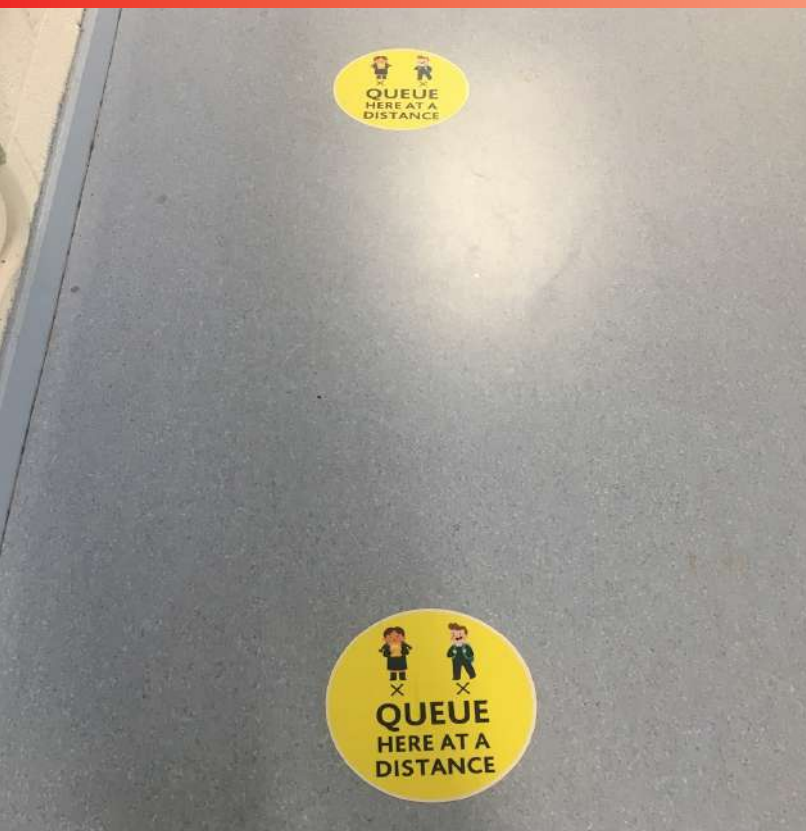
Committees

1. Management & Leadership
 2. Teaching & Learning
 3. Partnership with Parents & Others
 4. Student Attendance, Attainment & Retention
 5. Infrastructure
 6. Bealach straitséiseach na Gaeilge
 7. Student Council / Student Voice
 8. Wellbeing
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Management and Leadership



The school's queue system reminding students of social distancing.



Mr Gorman with Hannah Duffy, Emily Croke and Erin Gallagher in 5th Year who were presented with awards on behalf of Scifest and LYIT in early October.



The one-way-system implemented in the school for this year.

3 KEY THINGS TO ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT WILL KEEP US SAFE!



1. WEAR A MASK



2. WASH YOUR HANDS



3. KEEP YOUR DISTANCE



2 METERS



School Management reminding students of our collective role in staying safe.



Keeping our school safe

We all wish to protect our school community and our families and loved ones. In order to do so we have to do our level best to ensure that the protocols for doing so are followed, both inside and outside the school. We will all work closely together to ensure we maintain a healthy and hygienic work environment.

Key things to remember:

- Regular hand washing and sanitising being a vital part of our daily school and home routine.
- Observing cough and sneeze etiquette at all times.
- Daily washing and changing of clothes.
- Face masks are mandatory where 2m distance cannot be accommodated.
- Ensuring we do not present for school if displaying any Covid symptoms or feeling unwell.
- Consult with your GP regularly if you have underlying conditions.
- Arrangements will be put in place for those not in a position to attend.

School based regimes for keeping high levels of hygiene:

- All staff and students will clean their work stations immediately after use.
- Students will use their own materials only, to avoid the possibility of transmission.
- School and facilities will be cleaned on a daily basis, using the appropriate products, by cleaning and caretaking staff.



Mr Gorman and Mr Gillen highlighting the key safety messages in school during these times.



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Management and Leadership



A beautiful mural of the old mill at Dungloe Pier painted by Kevin Gallagher in Mr Gillen's room.



1st Year student Mark Boyle using the new cashless payment system installed by the school as a safety measure at this time.



Perspex screens installed at the school canteen for the safety of students and staff.



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Teaching and Learning



West End star, Emma Warren visited the school to teach our TY Cultural class the Brush Dance.



1st Year students enjoying Ms Zara Holmes' drama classes.



Mr Carey with TY Geography students using air filters to test air quality as part of the Globe Programme Air Quality Campaign in October.



TY student Layla McBride's terrific images from the 'Happiness' project with Jenny Doherty.

Home Economics students creating delicious treats in Autumn!

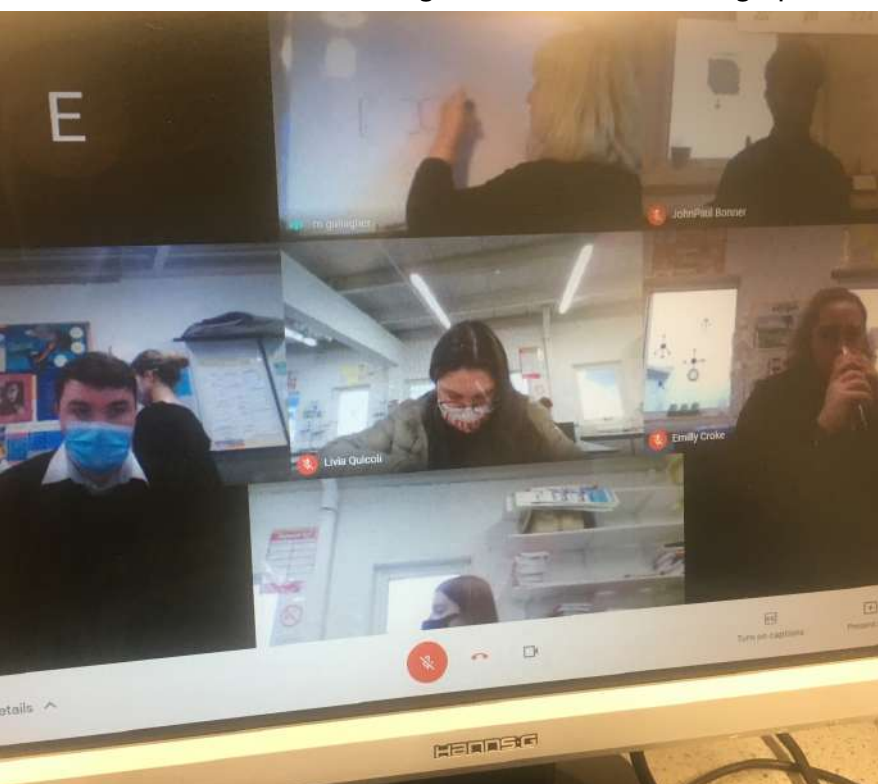


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Teaching and Learning



Our first Leaving Cert PE students taking up the subject at senior cycle with Mr Gary Boyle.



Michelle Gallagher teaching her Leaving Cert Science students remotely via Zoom as this time.



This Autumn, the MFL Dept has welcomed past pupil Donovan Doherty to work as a Spanish teacher and language assistant.



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Partnership with Parents and Others



TY student Jamie Bonner on work experience in the community in SuperValu.



TY students and teachers enjoying the sun in September on a trip to Arranmore where they trekked and kayaked.



John Shovlin appreciating nature on the River Walk in Dungloe.



Mairead Ni Mhaonaigh in the RCS in October sharing her musical brilliance with our students.

Dublin South Central Parenting Support Champions

November Parenting Classes

Date	Time 1	Time 2	Topic
9 Nov	10am - 11.15am	7pm - 8.15pm	Looking after your families mental health during the Covid-19 crisis
16 Nov	10am - 11.15am	7pm - 8.15pm	Parenting through Stressful Times
23 Nov			

Partners: ParentsPlus, onefamily

Free online parenting workshops on mental health and dealing with stress in November 2020. Details on the school's Facebook page.



TY students reach the lighthouse in Arranmore in September after a long trek!



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Student Attendance, Attainment & Retention



Some of our best-dressed (and spookiest) students for Halloween Fun Day in the RCS for 2020!



Ellie Boyle, Brooke Bullon and Sarah Walsh, winners of the Science and Nature photography competition.



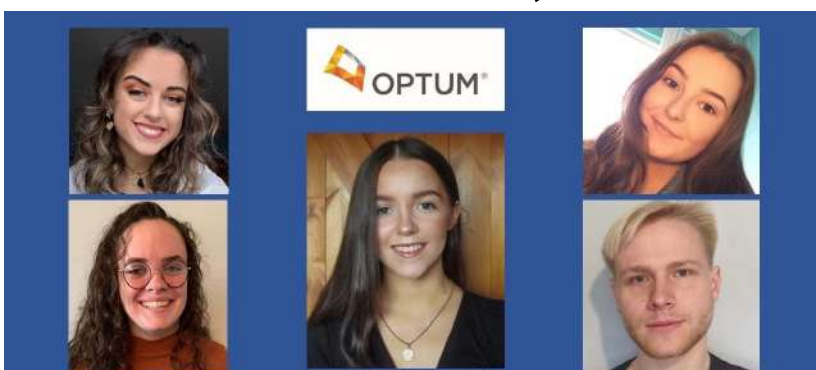
2nd Year Maths 'Secret Code' Competition winners in October were Millie Hanlon, Mickey Joe O'Donnell, Mia Boyle and Cornelia Browne. Well done!



1st Year Maths quiz winners in October were David MacShane, Summer Bowman, Odhran Boyle and Aisha Bonner. Congratulations to all.



Shaun Boyle in 2nd year was presented with his Certificate of Outstanding Achievement for competing in the Scifest competition which took place online during the school closures in May.



Optum Ireland Healthcare Scholars 2020

Former RCS student Saoirse Bonner winning this year's Optum Ireland Northwest Healthcare Scholarship Award for 2020/21. We are proud of you Saoirse!



Another former RCS student Bridget McDyer winning a top award at NUIG for her Athletic abilities. Through Bridget's leadership, the NUIG Athletics Club also won the NUIG Club of the Year award. A huge well done Bridget!



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Infrastructure



Our spinning bikes and mats in the gym are set up for socially distant exercise.



The high quality and variety of equipment in our gym allows students to stay fit and healthy during the current restrictions.



A number of new goalposts with netting which were purchased earlier this term for our Astro-Turf pitch.



3rd Year students using machinery in Woodwork to complete Junior Cert projects.



The newly-refurbished Home Economics room which took place during the summer.



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Infrastructure



Music students singing behind the perspex screens recently fitted for the safety of all.



Each classroom is equipped with hand-sanitising stations and information on use of PPE.



TY students using video-conferencing and one of the school's Pro-Wise screens.



Nuachtlitir an Fhómhair

Bealach straitséiseach na Gaelige sa scoil



'Seanúr!' Scoláirí Phobalscoil na Rosann i mbun an cheoil traidisiúnta agus an rac-cheol. Ag coinneáil traidisiúin láidir an cheoil sa taobh seo tíre beo beithíoch agus i lár an aonaigh.



Cuideachta ag am lóin idir cheol agus chluichí.



Cuideachta ag am lóin idir cheol agus chluichí.



Coiste na nDaltaí don Scoilbhliain 2020-2021. Is é an mana atá acu, 'An Ghaeilge agus an Chultúr a chur chun cinn agus a bheith lárnach i ngach ghné de shaol na scoile!'



Scoláirí agus a gcuid múinteoirí ag glacadh páirte sna ceardlanna, Aistear Spáis. B'iad seo ceardlanna a bhí ar siúl mar pháirt den tseachtain eolaíochta a bhí a eagrú ag an t-Áiléar Eolaíochta i gcuideachta, Pleanáil Teanga na Rosann.



Aistear Spáis - Bhain idir scoláirí agus mhúinteoirí taitneamh agus pléisiúr as na ceardlanna.



Tá na daltaí ag foghlaim Mata fríd an Ghaeilge anois.



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Student Council / Student Voice



The 5th Year mentors in the RCS for 2020/21. Congratulations to all!



The 6th Year Prefects from the class of 2020/2021.



The Student Council members in school for 2020/21.
Best of luck to all involved.



At Halloween, Mrs Gribben's First Year Spanish class 1D celebrated the Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) festival.



Saoirse Doherty in 3rd Year rehearsing for her Junior Cert Music practical.



3rd Year student Ellie Ward singing for classmates in a slightly changed setting in Ms Laughlin's class!



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Wellbeing



John O'Sullivan and Damian Krysiak in 3rd Year performing drama in Ms Zoe Holmes' class.



Maks enjoying the calm of fishing at Dungleo lake this Autumn.



The winning team from the Junior Soccer League held in school during September and October. Isabella Sweeney, Claire Diver, Amy Gallagher, Ellie Ward and Erin Gallagher. Well done girls!



Charley Duffy in 3rd Year getting into the Halloween spirit.



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Wellbeing



Students enjoying some hurling drills on the astro-turf recently.



Jenny Doherty's Make-Up students getting creative for Halloween 2020!



TY student Saoirse Diver showing great creativity as part of the 'Happiness' project.



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