



CHANEL COLLEGE

SPRING 2021

Message from the Principal

I would like to welcome everyone to our spring newsletter. A huge congratulations to Ms Reilly and the Transition Year students who successfully participated in the 8th Annual Creative Engagement Art Exhibition. Everyone at Chanel College is extremely proud of these students.

January 2021 saw school migrate back into a system of remote learning. We have all had to undergo a crash course in Microsoft Teams over the past twelve months. Thankfully, we have been in a position to maximise its potential and this enabled the delivery of live online lessons for all students. As effective as remote lessons are, we were nonetheless delighted to welcome our Leaving Certificate students back into Chanel on March 1st. We are looking forward to building back up to full capacity over the coming weeks.

This hasn't been an easy process for anyone. It is the social aspect of education that we all miss the most. If Covid-19 has taught me anything it is the value of face to face interactions. Our students, parents and staff deserve huge credit for the commitment, patience and resilience they have shown over the last twelve months. I do believe there is light at the end of the tunnel. As the vaccine rollout continues, the restoration of a sense of normality now appears on our horizon. While there is still a journey to get there, no doubt with more bumps along the way, I do think there is reason to be optimistic. We are getting there.

Dara Gill
Principal



SPRING 2021



Congratulation to Ms E. Reilly's TY Art students whose Artwork for the creative engagement will be presented on the front cover of the Creative Engagement National Art's Brochure and the National Exhibition. Ms E. Reilly's TY Art students work was picked from all schools / organisations from all over Ireland and this is an exceptional achievement. These will be sent to all schools in the country, all art centres, all art organizations, to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Art and Culture. ***'It is an exemplary Art project, that we worked very hard on and I'm very proud of all involved'*** - Ms E. Reilly.



Name of CE Coordinator: Emma Reilly.

Title of the Project: Neon Wellness Creative Voice.

Materials used: Neon, neon glass.

Name of Teachers involved: Emma Reilly.

Name(s) of Artist(s) involved: Sean O'Duigeannain.

Year group & no. of students: TY, 15 students.

Jason Campbell, Aron Cooling, Jack Curley, Luke Donegan, Tyler Fetherston Fitzsimons, Brandon Field, Vakaris Galinatitis, Jack Gillies, Carl Graydon, Sean Kearney, Stefan Madden, Brandon Molyneux, Gerald O'Regan, Luke Talbot, Aaron Ward.

Student Reflection - Luke Talbot

I really enjoyed this project. It was fun to create designs, edit and come up with a final design and see it come to life. I learned new things about neon art and how it has made, and a career in art and getting to see an artist do their job was really cool. I managed to learn new skills like researching, careers in art, about neon artwork and designing. I enjoyed the experience of working with the artist and my teacher to create the piece. It was something very different and I am very grateful for the experience.

Location

Once our class decided on creating a neon piece, we then had to decide on a place to display the artwork. We wanted the piece to be somewhere in the school where it could be appreciated and be seen throughout the day. So, we decided to place it under the stairs. I think this was a great spot for 2 reasons, 1 - many people would see it, staff, students, visitors and even parents. As it is the main hallway of the school in front of the office. 2 - the space is dark and not around natural light so the full neon effect can be seen from this point. After deciding on that spot, we had the old artwork and posters removed and got that section of the wall repainted white, to make the neon piece pop even more. I think the piece is in a great location as many people will see it, especially students on their way to class, the piece offers something new and exciting. It brightens up the hallway and can put a smile on people's face and gives them something to think about and appreciate.

Kandinsky

In class we brainstormed different designs. The class came up with lots of logos and icons that we could have in the piece. The next step was research in class, we researched artwork and neon artwork. After we researched the neon artwork and contacted a neon artist- Sean O' Duigeannain, we realized that we could not have a highly detailed piece because it was going to be made from glass neon tubes. So, we decided to make an abstract piece. We researched the artist Wassily Kandinsky, an abstract artist. So, we went back drawing and came up with simpler designs. Just like Kandinsky, we wanted colourful abstract lines, not too detailed. I think the research part was interesting and we got to learn about neon art and how it was made. It improved my research skills. Kandinsky's artwork also inspired the class for future projects and pieces.

Design process

In class we went through many stages of designs looking at layout and composition. We decided on a portrait piece with a silhouette in the corner. Next to the design me and Ms Reilly brainstormed more ideas and added in different shapes and lines into the surrounding piece. We went through many stages of designs and different layouts. We got in touch with the artist and he suggested making the piece landscape. So, we took ideas from everyone in the class and added their elements to the landscape piece which worked out a lot better. I really enjoyed creating the different shapes and lines and fitting them into the piece. When we had our final design, we moved onto colour.

Design process (cont..)

We used neon markers on a drawing of the piece. This gave us an idea of what it would look like at the end. We printed the drawing off and experimented with lots of different colour stories and combinations. I found this part really fun and I learned more new skills of using the markers and what colours mix and go together nicely. We sent it back to the artist and we learned that only certain colours can be made in the neon, dark colours such as black could not be made. So, we got back to the markers and tried again till we had a piece we were happy with. The piece went through lots of back-and-forth designs but eventually with the artists edit we had our final piece. He showed us on his computer what the piece would look like with colour and on different backgrounds so we could see the full effect of the neon. Which was really cool.

The final piece

I think the project went very well and the final design in my opinion is an amazing piece. The piece is abstract so it can mean different things for everyone. But the main point of the piece is how we are all connected, and the lines represent everyone's voice and creativity. The piece shows how we all come together in an environment like school and work together.

- **Luke Talbot**



Student Artwork,
Chanel College, Dublin.

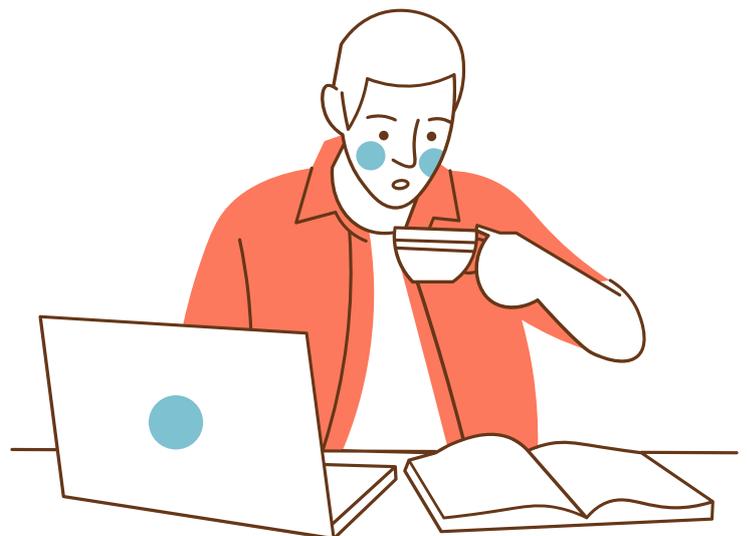
*Official opening by Ms. Catherine Martin T.D.,
Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media*



HOME SCHOOL LIFE



1. Routine: Get up at the same time everyday. Write out a timetable of your online classes.
2. Log on: Go on your subject Team sites and transfer the work assigned into your journal / sheet.
3. Plan: Pick a time slot for when you can do assignments during the times you don't have class (Don't forget to press submit!).
4. Tick: Mark off the work in your journal /timetable as you complete it to get sense of satisfaction.
5. Fresh air: After an online class or after doing an assignment take a few minutes and get some fresh air to clear your mind (Open the window / go for a short walk / run).
6. Check-in: Get in touch with your school friends and see how they are getting on!





Despite the constraints of Remote Learning, Ms. López engaged in some very active learning in her online 1st Year class recently.

1st year Spanish students are doing weekly challenges in which they explore the traditions and culture of Spain and Spanish speaking countries.

This time students were learning about the New Year's Eve celebration which involves eating "the twelve grapes" (Las doce uvas de la suerte or "The twelve grapes of luck"). A tradition that consists of eating a single grape with each clock chime on the strike of midnight on the 31st December to welcome in the New Year.

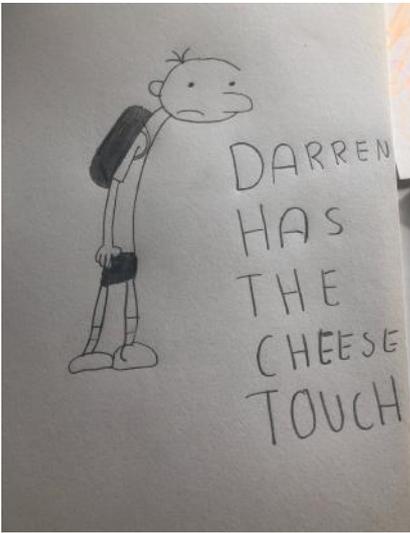
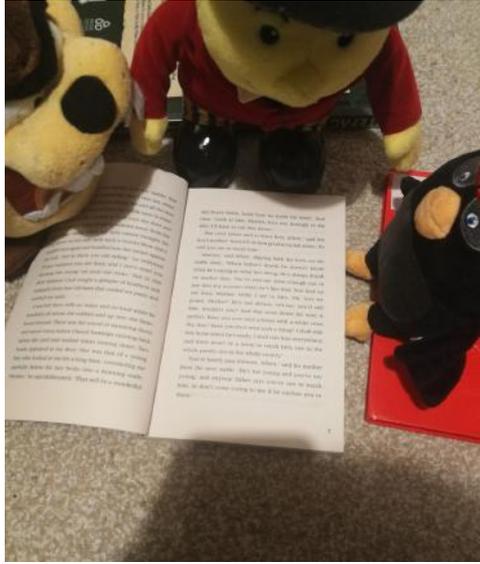
The twelve grapes date back from at least 1895 but became established in 1909. In December of that year, some of Alicante's vine growers popularized this custom to sell an abundance of grapes from an excellent harvest. According to the tradition, eating the twelve grapes leads to a year of good luck and prosperity.

The Puerta del Sol in Madrid is the most famous place it is practiced and where the tradition first started. The twelve grapes are associated with the time ball and clock of the Royal House of the Post Office in Puerta del Sol, from where they ring in the New Year and broadcast it on major Spanish television channels since 1962.

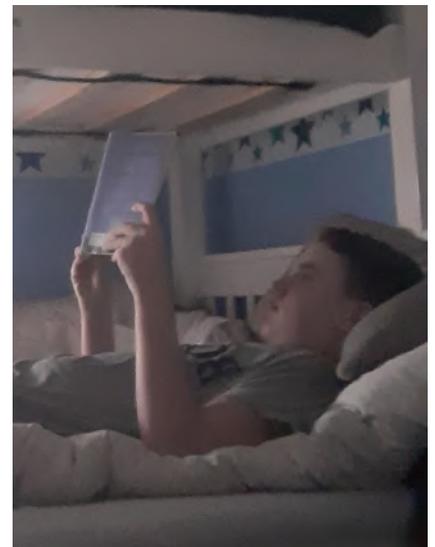
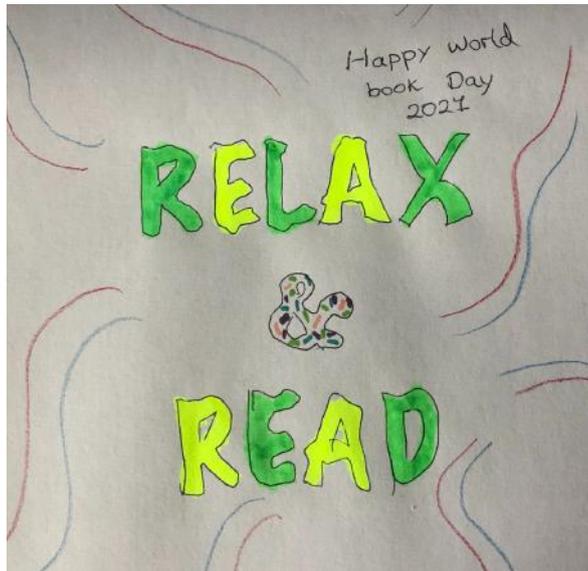
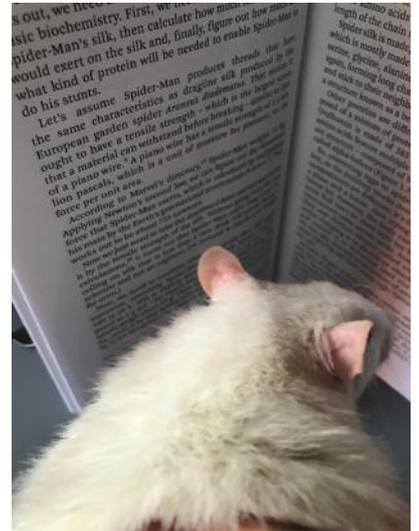
People also partake in the main squares of cities all around the country. This tradition has also been adopted in places with a broad cultural association with Spain and Latin American countries. It is very much part of the Hispanic Christmas festivities.

As part of the Specification for the new Junior Cycle in Spanish, students have to be familiar with the traditions of Spanish speaking countries and their cultural aspects. In the video students are eating the twelve grapes and wishing each other Feliz año nuevo (Happy New Year). At the same time they also practise numbers and greetings. We wish a belated Happy New Year to all students and teachers in Chanel College for 2021. ¡Feliz año nuevo!

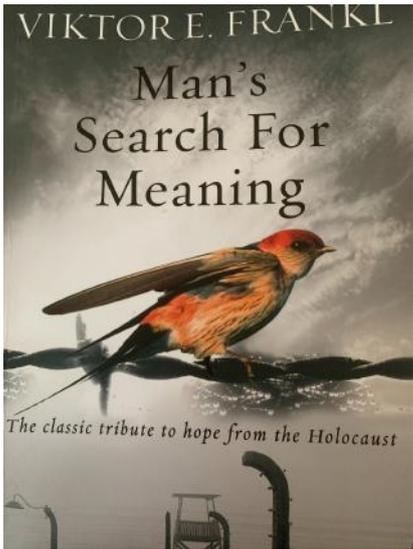
- Ms McGowran



Students were asked to send in images celebrating world book day - they did not disappoint...

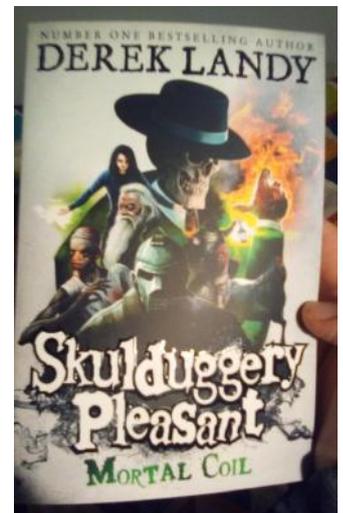
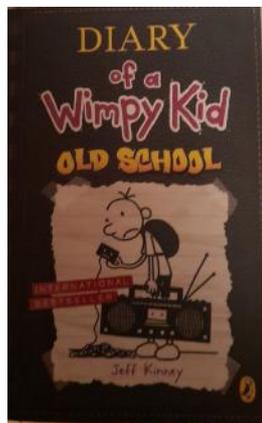


WHAT'S ON YOUR BOOKSHELF?

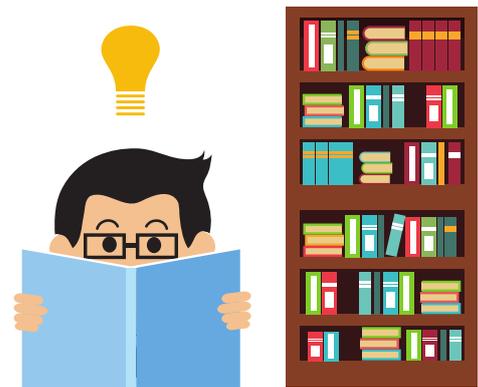
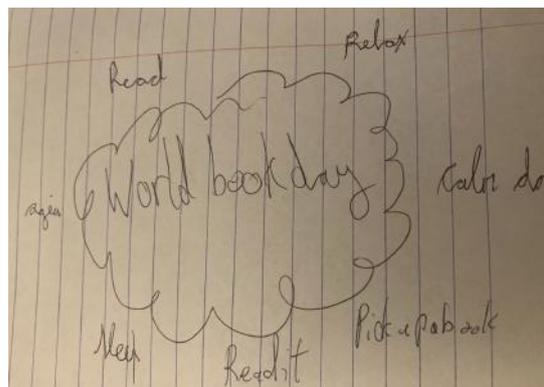
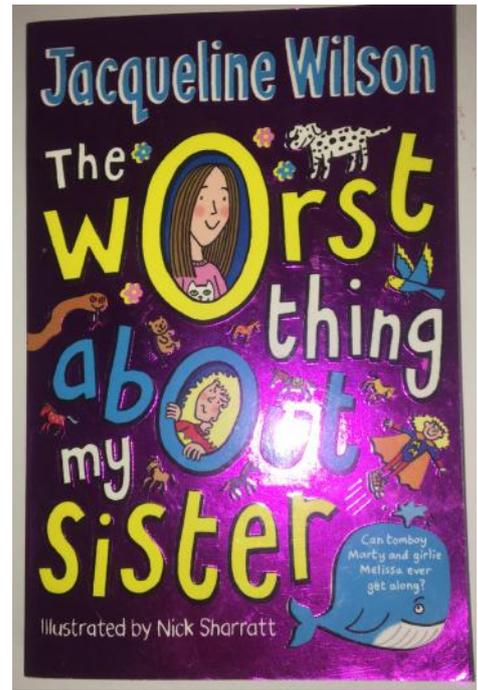
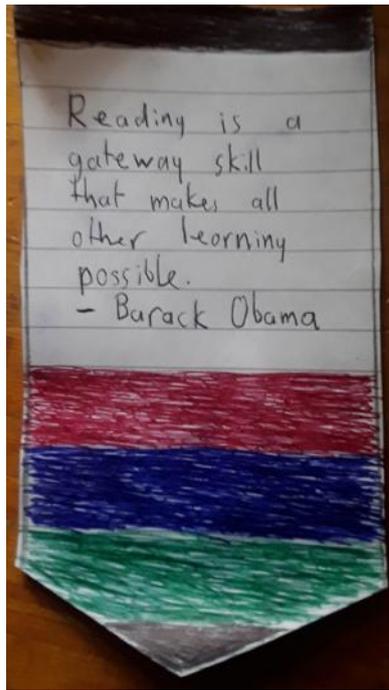
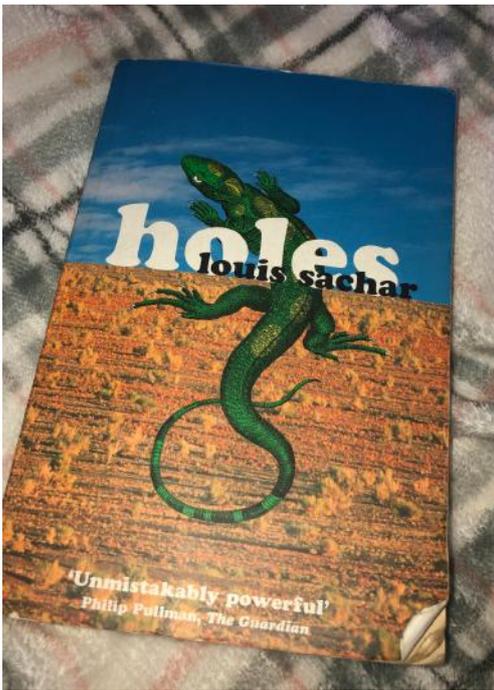
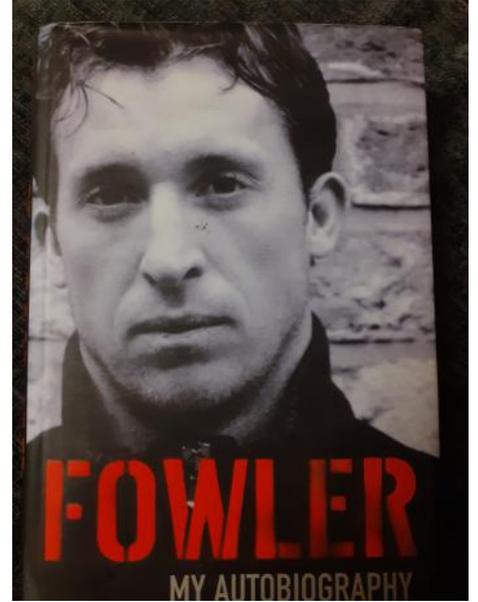


"A room without books is like a body without a soul."

- Cicero



WHAT BOOKS DO YOU REMEMBER?



Loss

The word resonates with me, this year, wrought with it to the point where you can't even keep track. We've lost so much, so much of our daily freedoms and much, much worse, our loved ones. Sometimes it's like this must be leading to something, that there HAS to be a reason but as I sit in the screaming silence, I can't possibly think of one. I'm trying to put into words something we're all going through and I'm sorry if I'm failing but every single time, I try to put it into words-it's like chipping away at an ice berg. 2020 was a bastard of a year and even now its shadow is cast over us. This year took, and took and took and never gave back and even now the brightest moments struggle to eclipse the darkest. This year was meant to be when we entered maturity, we would soar higher than we ever did and instead we spent most of it grounded, and all I can think is 'What a waste'. Now I know what you're thinking, that all this angst is good for nothing but I honestly think it's good to stop and experience your sadness for a moment, to take it in and realize things didn't go that well, you didn't get what you want, you won't get to see that person again. Only through that do I think we can keep standing. I lost someone on the last day of 2020, like a bitter cosmic punchline so the year could go out with a cry instead of a bang. I think it's important we realize we don't have to pretend it's okay, and that we can grieve because that raw tugging in your throat, the spike of ice in your stomach when your thoughts cross a certain subject, that's what loss feels like, and I learned what that was in 2020.

Indignation

I like to think most of you are morally upstanding citizens of whatever country you reside in and have abided by the restrictions but even the most sanctimonious of us feel a familiar trill of anger whenever we see new rules being implemented. That's why I chose the delightful word 'indignation' it is defined as anger or annoyance provoked by what is perceived as unfair treatment. I think it's rather apt, when you ponder upon it, I don't think the rules are unfair, I think the root cause of why they keep having to implement new rules is unfair, to be more specific, the selfish derelicts who insist on enjoying their nights out no matter the circumstances. It's an unusual sort of anger, isn't it? One we can't properly express sat in our homes nor even behind a screen it sort of feels smothering in a way. We sit and try our best not to stagnate and wait every day for the announcement of 'Hey! Its all over, go back to your lives!' and when it doesn't come the frustration builds and builds and how else do we express it in confined conditions like this. It's really a test of our patience against their ignorance, how long we're willing to stick it out for people who both don't appreciate it nor recognize it as something needing doing. So, like I said, Indignation.

Compassion

A weird one I know; from the outside you'd think this was one of the most depressing years in human history what with the apocalyptic number of disasters that occurred during its tenure. With the BLM movement finally getting the attention it needs to strive toward real change, spurred on by the tragic murder of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor real social change was finally being enacted, with months of lockdown having made people vulnerable and open to these ideas. Millions of people connected and showed support for each other when lockdown hit, donating to those who lost their jobs and even their houses due to being made redundant by the pandemic. Essential workers became the pillar of the economy and people stood outside their door and clapped for healthcare workers, it was an unprecedented show of human compassion and despite all the negativity, racism, ignorance and selfishness for once it seemed kindness outnumbered the cruelty. It sort of gave me hope for humanity, y'know? Seeing people be kind without expectation of recognition or reward because people were hurting in the same way they were and wanted to relieve that pain.

- **Walter Melontrotter (Sixth Year)**

SPRING 2021

Three Words that Sum Up 2020

The first word that sprung to mind was **panic**. When news emerged from Wuhan about coronavirus in late January everybody was understandably anxious and confused. The world had scarcely seen a virus spread so quickly and the only thing that spread faster than it was fear. This could be clearly seen by people acting on impulse buying ridiculous amounts of essentials such as toilet paper. Seriously what is my elderly neighbour going to do with two dozen rolls of toilet paper. The only plausible excuse would be he was building a fort. Actions like this only served to multiply the public's feeling of fear. The uncertainty and misinformation surrounding this whole pandemic makes panic the first word I would use to represent last year.

What arose from the panic seen at the beginning of the pandemic is my second word, **perseverance**. In nearly every country, citizens were asked to abide by restrictions to prevent the spread of the virus. Stuck at home for weeks on end, we saw how caring communities can really be. GAA club members visited elderly residents while gyms offered free online classes. It was an incredibly difficult time for all but as nations we overcame the virus. Countries such as New Zealand are now corona- virus free offering a light at the end of the tunnel for people around the globe. We found ways to cope from embarrassing ourselves on Instagram with our 5k run times to trying to not fall asleep watching Riverdale. The pandemic highlighted the strength of the pandemic and it made me really proud of everyone who struggled on.

In the midst of the health crisis, a tragedy struck that really opened my eyes to the hidden evil in the world. George Floyd was brutally murdered by a cop in Minneapolis, sparking the ignition of the BLM movement and protests around the world. This is why my third word is **empowerment**. These protestors fought endlessly for equal rights and the resilience they showed across the globe was truly remarkable. There is still a long way to go to defeat institutionalized racism but I feel if we stay united that it is a real possibility. 2020 was by far the toughest year of my life and I'm definitely not alone. The three words I chose panic, perseverance and empowerment encapsulate the chaos that 2020 created but also the problems that were highlighted.

I hope the best for all of your health's in this coming year and that we can leave this health nightmare behind us. I strongly recommend that you use your platforms to highlight the fight against racism in any form.

- **Conor Crowley (Sixth Year)**



The council continues to meet remotely every two weeks to discuss issues and concerns of students.

The energy and enthusiasm of the team has not wavered since the lockdown. We are very happy to welcome Oisin Furey and Karl Rigney from 1.1 and 1.4.

Our I.S.S.U representative, Ciaran Crowley along with Eoghan Brennan and Aaron Freir attended the most recent online meeting and got valuable information on the leaving cert and junior cycle.

Find out who your rep is!

Ask about the activities of the Student Council!

- Ms Gorman

C H A N E L C O L L E G E

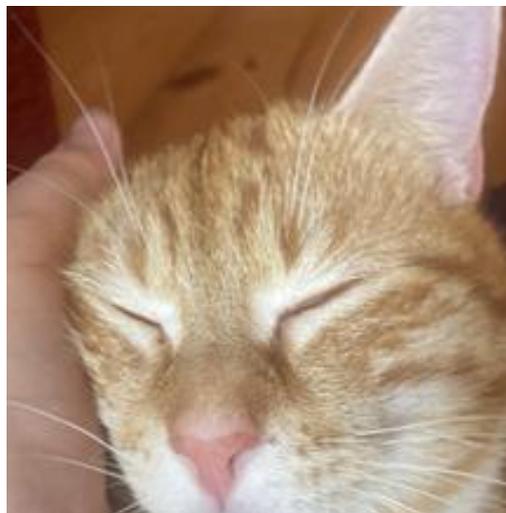
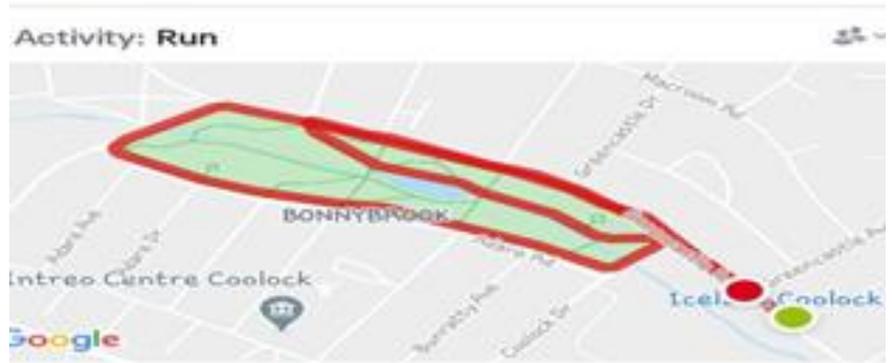
**STUDENTS
OF
TODAY**



**LEADERS
OF
TOMORROW**

S T U D E N T C O U N C I L

Ms Harding asked her students to think about what gave them meaning during the pandemic. What gives you meaning during lockdown?





TIMMY AIGBE

Leaving Cert Class of 2020



Congratulations to our former pupil, Timmy Aigbe, who received the Trinity College Entrance Exhibition Award for his fantastic results in the Leaving Certificate.



FIGHTING WORDS

The Write To Right

On 11th March the class of 4.1 took to zoom to participate in a Fighting Words workshop. 'i enjoyed working with the facilitators and the break out rooms were good.'

- Seamus O'Driscoll

(Virtual) Writer Of The Year 2021

Write any original piece for a chance to win the 2021 Writer Of The Year Competition!

Short stories/Poems/Blogs/Reviews/Diary Entries/Advertisements/Newspaper Reports/Editorials/Plays/etc

Selected stories may be entered into national competition.

**Spot prizes awarded for genre.
Please send any entries to Mr Greene.**



Maidin mhaith
Good morning

Tá súil agam go bhfuil sibh go maith
I hope you're keeping well

Bíodh lá deas agat
Have a nice day

Slán go foill
Bye for now

Bain taitneamh as an deireadh seachtaine
Enjoy the weekend!

Fan noimead
Wait a minute

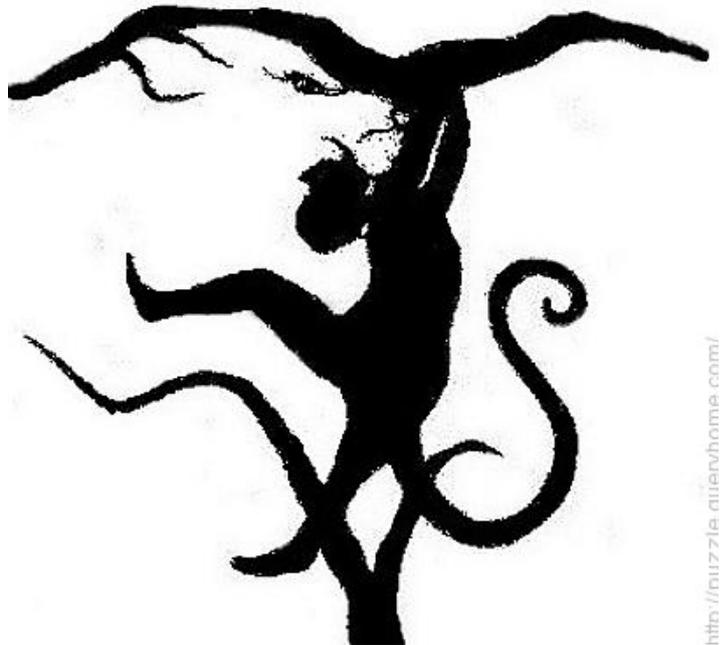
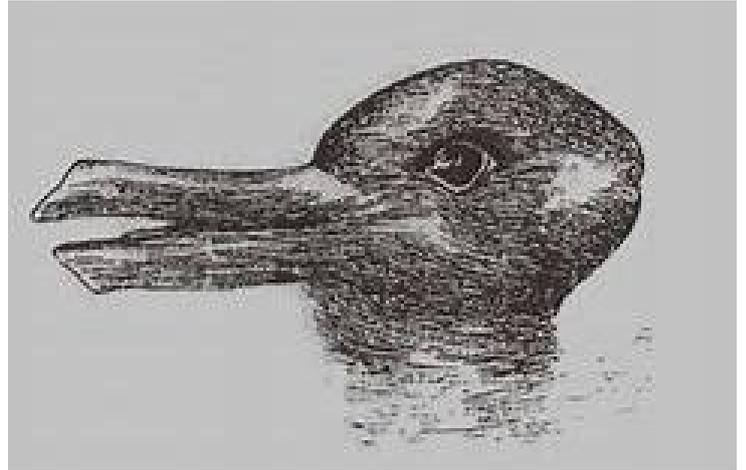
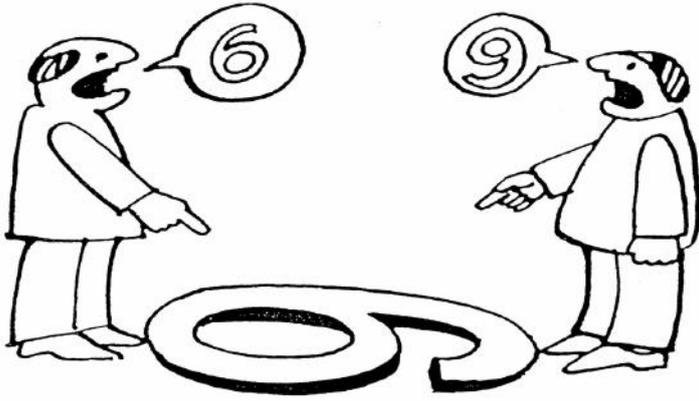
Tóg aire!
Take care

Beir bua agus beannacht
All the best

Le gach dea-ghuí
With every good wish



Here in Chanel we recognise that each person has a unique perspective - what do you see below?



<http://m171a.nielsen/home.com/>



POSITIVE THOUGHT FOR SPRING

THE
flowers
WILL BLOOM

"Deep in their roots, all flowers keep the light."
- **Theodore Roethke**

Keep the light, Chanel!

SPRING 2021