



# Blackrock College Bulletin

4<sup>th</sup> October 2024



## 6<sup>th</sup> Year Retreats

**O**n the eve of the retreats, Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Year parents/guardians gathered with their sons in prayer for a special mass in the College Chapel. Attendance was so large, that the congregation overflowed into St Patrick's Corridor.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Year Retreat Programme took place between Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> of September at nine locations all around the

island of Ireland, including Ardraccan, Balbriggan, Ballintubber, Carlingford, Cootehill, Donegal North and West, Glendalough and Knock. Fr. Paddy Moran delivered a fantastic homily reminding the boys that the Leaving Cert is "a measure of their work, not of their worth".

The retreats afford an opportunity for the Class of 2025 to quietly reflect and pray in a tranquil environment. They play a significant role in building solidarity for the years ahead. They are a reminder of our dependence on God and His ever-present care.



## Environmental Awareness Week



**T**he Green Schools Committee hosted various events during Environmental Action Week which took place from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September. Mr Brennan helped install air-quality monitors to improve campus air. A litter patrol was conducted throughout the week reminding everyone that caring for our waste is a shared responsibility. On Tuesday students attended a 'Climate Café'

in the library and listened to a short presentation on ethical energy use and proper waste disposal in exchange for a fair-trade hot chocolate. On Friday, guest lecturers Kedar Friis-Lawrence and Charles Carr of Emerald Aquaponics Ireland gave a lunch time talk in the library and later to all TYs and staff in the lecture hall on aquaponics and vertical urban-farming technology. Thank you to Mr Brennan and the Green Schools Committee for their hard work and for encouraging all of us to have a more positive impact on the planet.

## Commissioning of the House Captains



The commissioning of the House Captains took place over two days in the College Chapel. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year were commissioned by Mr Madden and Mr O'Neill on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year were commissioned by Ms Crimmins and Mr O'Neill on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Leadership is about humility, putting others first. It may be simply a kind word, a decent act, a simple gesture.

We thank Mr Madden, Mr O'Neill and Ms Crimmins for making this happen and we wish the House Captains well.



## HOUSE CAPTAINS ~ 2024 - 2025

	Browne	De Valera	Duff	Ebenrecht	Leman	Shanahan
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Year</b>	Declan Cadden Darragh O'Neill	Jeremy Carroll Andrew McConn Walsh	Shane Hamilton Ben O'Halloran	Jack Luff Ben McElligott	James Neary Edward Wilson	Alex Doorly Michael Walsh
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Year</b>	Alex Aschenbrenner Gavin Laing	Louis Innes Ted Taylor	Donnacha Barry Ian Duane	Ben Guerin Charlie O'Connor	Jack Deegan McGovern Conor Sheehan	Finn Hamilton Geoffrey Wall
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Year</b>	Daniel English Matthew Leamy Patrick Ryan	Patrick Agnew Louis Waldron Ariston Xourafas	John Clarke Max Raingill Paddy Scally	John Donnelly Andrew Kearney Daniel Rogan	Stephen Moloney Donnacha Murray Tom O'Donovan	Hugo Bourke Collie Breslin Jack Sheeran
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Year</b>	Ben Casey Donnacha Sheehy	Leo Errico Hugo Glynn	Jeff Keogh Peter Le Roux	Ryan Cunningham William Hegarty	Ryan Hanley Jack O'Neil	Marcas McGovern Simon Quinn
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year</b>	Felix Burke Jack Fitzgerald	Harry Garvey Adam Nutley	Gabriel Farrell Ross Leahy	Frank Menton Conor McNamara	Charlie Duggan Seb Keane	Michael Davy Harry Totterdell





## Karate Champion

**S**am Rooney (3<sup>rd</sup> Year) won gold in the U15 category at the Karate International HDKI World Championships Tournament last weekend in Dublin (the next World Championships are in 2026 in Japan). An incredible achievement for him and the Irish team and all his coaches. A testament to the hard work and dedication that he put in.

## Hope Cup Charity Regatta Fundraiser



**O**n September 21st, Blackrock College Rowing Club participated in the annual Hope Cup, a charity regatta hosted by Stella Maris Rowing Club, offering a variety of boat classes, from modern 8+ to traditional skiffs. The event provided early race practice for the boys, with highlights including a crew of Eoin Fitzpatrick, Hugo Higgins, and others in the 8+, coxed by Andrew Clancy. With food and refreshments provided, the day was a joyful and positive experience, enjoyed by all participants.

## Karl Ashe Final

**O**n September 20<sup>th</sup> the 6<sup>th</sup> Year Dayboys had an excellent and keenly fought contest against the Transition Years in the Karl Ashe final on the front lawn, finishing with a score of 2-7 to 1-3. The TY's were superb, and 6<sup>th</sup> years were delighted to come away with the win. In the presentation afterwards, 6<sup>th</sup> Year Captain James Neary, spoke superbly as we remembered Karl on his 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A huge well done to all involved!



## U19A Basketball League Competition

The U19 basketball team secured a 48-43 victory against Coláiste Eoin in the second round of the league, despite two players being out due to injury. Vice-captain Sam Curley (6th Year) led the offence, scoring an impressive 33 points, including three consecutive three-pointers. Strong teamwork allowed 'Rock to dominate the first quarter, with a 30-25 lead by halftime. The defence, led by Cian Cooper (5th Year), played a crucial role in maintaining the lead, while Jack O'Connell (5th Year) kept the team composed with smart passing and key shots. Coaches and players look forward to their next match against St. Andrew's.

## St. Andrew's - U19A League Competition

The U19 Blackrock basketball team faced a challenging match against St. Andrew's, resulting in a 71-42 defeat. Despite an early struggle, 'Rock fought back, especially in the third quarter with standout plays from Cian Cooper and a strong offensive push led by Sam Curley, who scored 33 points. Curley's leadership alongside captain Aaron O'Halloran was crucial in narrowing the score to 46-38 before St. Andrew's pulled away. Though the game ended in defeat, the team showed resilience and determination. They now prepare for the A Cup Competition against Coláiste Éinde. Thanks to coaches Luke Brophy, Eric Brandt, Maitiu Heckmann, Mr. Somerville, and Ms. Fitzsimons.

## U16A Basketball League Competition

Blackrock's U16 basketball team faced a well-organised St. Andrew's side, falling 66-30 in their league matchup. Despite the loss, captain Peter Gilligan and vice-captain Daniel Chambers each scored 8 points, with notable contributions from Tom O'Brien and Adrian Ho. The team demonstrated strong defensive communication and continues to improve as they move forward in the competition. Their next game is against Gonzaga. Special thanks to coaches Luke Brophy, Eric Brandt, Maitiu Heckmann, Mr. Somerville, and Ms. Fitzsimons.

## Sailing Regatta





## Cross Country

**B**lackrock's Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Cross Country teams excelled at the Blackrock Cross Country Relays on September 18th, 2024, competing against 420 students from 18 schools. The 2nd Year team, including Ronan McDonagh and Cillian Conolly, earned a silver medal, narrowly behind Castleknock. The 3rd/4th Year team won their race with a decisive run from James Foot, while the Senior 5th/6th Year team, led by Charlie White and Will Collins, held their lead from the second leg, securing first place in their relay.



## Percy Jackson Book Display

**E**ach term Ms A. Dillon and the library committee create a book display at the front of the library. This term's theme was *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan.



## Dragons' Den: Mentoring Session 1

**T**he first Dragons' Den mentoring session for Transition Year students took place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Students were provided with an opportunity to pitch their initial business idea, product or service to a Dragon. Based on the idea and potential for growth, the Dragons provided feedback to the students, which they will have the opportunity to action prior to their next mentoring session in 2 weeks. There was a great level of determination and enthusiasm amongst the boys. We are very grateful to MFO Property Professionals for sponsoring the event.



## Don't Forget – Mark Your Calendars!



### **Wellbeing Week**

Monday to Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Monday to Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>

### **Matthew 25 Programme 3 (T.Y.)**

Monday to Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>

### **Swimming Gala**

Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>

### **Literacy Day**

Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Jersey Day**

Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>

### **Maths Week**

Monday to Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>

### **Oide – Whole School Training Day (Class Suspended)**

Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>