



# Blackrock College Bulletin

15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## Rock Ed 2024



**R**ockEd 2024 proved to be a brilliant evening of captivating speeches from the students! MCs Zack Egan-Ruane and Harrison Carr kept the audience on their toes with excitement between talks as Binghong Wang, Calum Burke, Paddy Shanahan (Transition Year), Tate Tomkin Beddy, Daire Moran, Arlo Liddy, Dan Hayden and Ross Murphy (Third Year) astounded RockEd's

spectators with their intriguing presentations. From the power of film to Ireland's great electoral system to the Eurovision Song Contest, the students' talks were nothing short of fascinating as they explained these interesting topics to the audience.

**I**t was wonderful to see these students discuss RockEd 2024's wide array of themes with such passion and have this opportunity to share a piece of themselves with the audience. Another extremely entertaining RockEd this year, and an incredibly high standard has been set for future renditions of the show!!! - Calum Burke



**I**n addition to our student speakers, we were delighted to welcome our guest speakers Alex Cooney from *CyberSafeKids* and Michelle Kerrigan from *Care After Prison*. It was a privilege to hear them share their knowledge and experiences. A big thank you to all involved in RockEd this year, it was a joy to work with such a talented crew and group of performers. And, as always, a big thank you to the House Staff and the Maintenance Department for facilitating this event!

**Recording:** Andrew Clancy (4th Year)

**Production:** John Ding (4th Year) & Rory Staunton (4th Year)

**Lights:** White Vans Production Limited

**Sound:** One Louder Sound Ltd

**Facilitators:** Dr. Louise Maguire & Mr. Cathal Maher

# Junior Debating News

**B**lackrock College Junior debaters have had a busy term so far!

Debating in Clonkeen College in Round 1 of the Junior MACE on Saturday October 26th were:

**Rock A:** Tate Tomkin Beddy & Ross Murphy

**Rock B:** Paddy English & Daniel Goss

**Rock C:** Dan Hayden & Daire Moran

**Motions debated include:**

1. This House Would make voting compulsory.
2. This House Believes That true crime media does more harm than good.
3. This House Would stop imports from countries with bad environmental records.

Great thanks to our senior judges: Daniel Burns (TY) and Jamie Browne Lynch (5th Year).

Round 2 is on Saturday November 23rd in St. Andrew's College.

**D**ebating in UCD in the **Junior Schools Debating Competition** are:

**Rock A:** Dan Hayden & Simon Quinn

**Rock B:** Tate Tomkin Beddy & Ross Murphy

**Rock C:** Daniel Goss & Eamon de Valera

**Rock D:** Daire Moran & Neil Doyle

**Motions debated include:**

1. This House Would make voting mandatory.
2. This House Believes cancel culture does more harm than good.
3. This House Would make organ donation mandatory.

There is some great competition out there and the debaters have competed diligently to secure some excellent results thus far:

- Tate Tomkin Beddy & Ross Murphy came 1st in **UCD Round 2.B**
- **Blackrock C:** 5th in The Clonkeen MACE
- **Blackrock A:** 6th in The Clonkeen MACE
- In the **speaker tab**, Dan Hayden came 4th, Ross Murphy came 8th, Daire Moran came 11th and Tate Tomkin Beddy came 13th (with 62 debaters competing in this round).





## Irish Defence Forces Career Talk

Transition Year students attended an Irish Defence Forces Career Talk delivered by Rory Behan, a representative from the 7th Infantry Battalion last week. The three entry levels for joining the Army i.e. as a Cadet, a Recruit or as an Apprentice were discussed in great depth by Rory. Students found this talk most informative and interesting on all aspects of the Irish military.



## Transition Year Tours

Last Wednesday November 6th, all Transition Year students had the privilege of participating in a variety of activities across Dublin. The students were divided into groups based on their Religion classes, with each group heading to a different destination for a unique learning experience.

To start, two classes visited Explorium, where they engaged in hands-on scientific activities, including the exhilarating experience of riding a G-Force bike.

Meanwhile, another two classes went to Croke Park, where they embarked on the Skyline Tour, taking in breathtaking views, followed by an in-depth tour of the Croke Park Museum.

In addition, two other classes visited GoQuest, an adventure centre filled with escape rooms. Finally, the last two classes visited Awesome Walls, where students were divided into smaller groups and given the opportunity to try rock climbing.



## Science Week 2024



**S**cience Week kicked off with some special visitors when Blackrock College welcomed Dave, the reptile specialist, for an engaging hands-on educational session with the students. Dave, a renowned herpetologist with years of experience working with reptiles, shared his knowledge on various reptile species, their habitats, behaviours, and conservation efforts. The event aimed to enhance students' understanding of reptiles and foster a sense of respect and curiosity for these amazing animals. Students enjoyed meeting the python, tarantula, iguana, scorpion and snapping turtle.

Other science week events included: 2<sup>nd</sup> Year scavenger hunt, Chemistry magic show, 6<sup>th</sup> Year lectures from leaving certificate biology and chemistry examiners, 3<sup>rd</sup> year science table quiz, photography competition.



## Science Week in the Library



**A** number of events took place in the library as part of science week. Ms A. Dillon gave conspiracy theory classes to Ms Petitt's and Ms Moroney's TY science classes, teaching students the reasons some people believe in conspiracy theories and the difference between criminal conspiracies and conspiracy theories. Students were invited to take part in two quizzes: the Friday Kahoot Science Trivia Quiz and a How it Works Quiz where students could locate the answers from selected *How it Works*

*magazines* in the library. Students also had an opportunity to view the Women in Science exhibition on the main floor of the library.



## Road Safety Life Saver Project



**T**ake 10km off your speed was the message from An Gardaí Síochána who delivered the Life Saver Project to our Transition Years. This presentation provided invaluable information to our students highlighting the devastating effects that road traffic collisions have on people's lives.

## A New Twist to Cinema Club

**E**very Tuesday a group of students attend Cinema club. Cinema club has varied from students watching movies to seeing how things work behind the scenes. This year, there's a new addition to cinema club – a movie quiz. After students watch a short clip of something like a short movie, they are invited to take part in a movie quiz on YouTube, where they can work against each other or collectively call out the answers. Past quizzes included guess the movie from the scene, guess the movie character and guess the marvel character. It's all a bit of fun and a great way for students to enthusiastically start the day. All students are welcome to attend cinema club, which takes place every Tuesday at 8am in the upstairs room in the library.

## Shanahan Cup 2nd Leg



**C**ongratulations to Guy Smith, Maurice Nelligan, Max O'Hare, Tom Delaney (all 2nd year), Dan Moran & John Healy (both 3rd year) on their victory in the 2nd leg of the Shanahan Cup which took place in the INSS, Dún Laoghaire on Wednesday November 6th. Sailing in near perfect conditions the boys excelled to victory – well done!! The boys are looking forward to the 3rd leg of the competition.

## Badminton



**T**he U19A Badminton team celebrated a decisive victory against Gonzaga College with a score of 5-1. Our players showed exceptional skill and teamwork throughout the match. Conor McFarland (Fifth Year), Adrian Ho, Leopold Marten (all TY) , and Scott Zhu(3rd Year) led the team to victory, each delivering standout performances that contributed to the impressive win.

## Noel Turley Cup



The 2024 Noel Turley Trophy match delivered an exciting evening of rugby at Ollie Campbell Park. Our SCT faced off against friends and rivals from St. Michael's College in a thrilling, closely contested game that ended with St. Michael's edging out a 26-22 victory. We extend our congratulations to both teams for an outstanding display and our gratitude to Old Belvedere RFC for their warm hospitality.

## Cross Country

Last week, our school's junior and intermediate cross-country teams proudly competed in the Raheny Shamrocks Cross Country Relay held on November 6th. The junior team, made up of Christian Byrne, Eli Cassidy, Jack Moloney, John Cox, and Timo Prendergast (all 2<sup>nd</sup> Year), displayed great teamwork and resilience across the challenging course. In the intermediate category, Sean Goggin and Jamie Simson (both Third Year) represented the school with impressive speed and endurance. Both teams showcased their dedication and spirit, making the school proud with their excellent performances. Congratulations to all the runners for their hard work and commitment!



Jamie Simpson and Sean Goggin in their Intermediate 3000m



Jack Moloney, John Cox, Eli Cassidy, and Timo Prendergast (L-R) at the start of the Junior boys 2000m.

## U19 Basketball

After an impressive run in the national cup competition, Blackrock made it into the top 8 teams in the country. Their place in the quarterfinal was hard-earned. With Vice-Captain Sam Curley (6th Year) out for this game, the squad knew they were in for a tricky match-up. After a few possessions, Gearóid Nutley (5th Year) finally put 'Rock's first points on the board. 'Rock found it difficult to catch up on the 18-point lead Éanna had set going into the second half.

Any chance of a 'Rock comeback was further denied early in the final quarter. Éanna's drive and determination were just too much for 'Rock side to match.

**Top Scorers:** Aaron O'Halloran (16), Gearóid Nutley (5)

**Next up** is the Quarter-Final of the League against Templeogue College!

## U16A Basketball Quarter Final

The U16 squad travelled away to Lucan for their Quarter-Final match against Coláiste Phádraig. It was a tense match from the beginning with both sides fighting to assert dominance. The first quarter ended in a close score of 19-13 to a well-organised Phádraig side.

The team continued their strong offensive and defensive run into the final quarter, but unfortunately this was not enough to turn the tide of the game. The hit in the second quarter was just too much for the team to reverse.

Despite their challenging run in the league, the team showed perseverance and resilience against their competition.

**This game's top scorers** were Adrian Ho (4th Year) (9 Points), Captain Peter Gilligan (16 points) and Daniel Chambers (17 points).

## Water Polo

Congratulations to 2nd Years Cian Hughes (back right) and Shane Ferguson (front right) members of Sandycove Water Polo Team who came 2nd in the U13 All Ireland Water Polo Competition over the midterm. Blackrock College Water polo Team would welcome all players that would like to try the sport. Come along on Tuesdays and Thursdays afterschool.



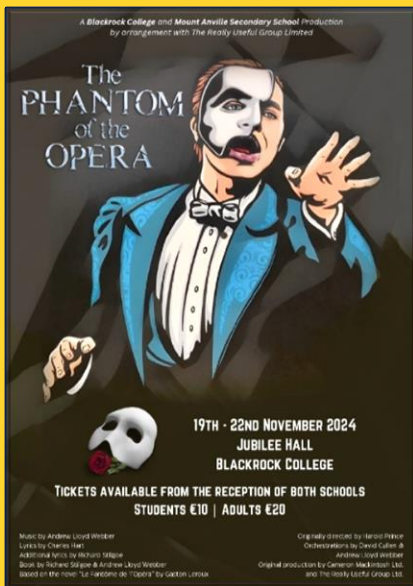


## Don't Forget – Mark Your Calendars!



**Monday to Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Blackrock College Radio



**Tuesday to Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>**

School Musical –

***The Phantom of the Opera***

**Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**

Union Night at Musical

**Monday & Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**

Irish & MFL Christmas Aurals

**Thursday & Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**

6<sup>th</sup> Year 24-Hour Fast for St. Vincent de Paul (*commences 1:30pm*)