



# Blackrock College Bulletin

29<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## Dragons' Den Final 2024

**W**hat a fantastic event!

On Friday morning, we gathered to celebrate creativity, ambition, and the spirit of entrepreneurship among our cohort of Transition Year students. This event was not just a competition; it was a platform that empowered our future leaders to showcase their ideas, hone their skills, and step into a world of possibilities.

### Finalists:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: BRC Aquaponics (Paddy Shanahan)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Uniform Exchange (Hugo Bourke and Ben Ryan)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Aqua Pod (Andrew Kearney and Padraig Matthews)

Runners-up:

Litho Glow (Lochlan Gulliver)

TuneFusion (Conor Byrne)

Another Chance (Conor Mahony and Eoghan O'Neill)

Congratulations to all the finalists for their engaging and charming pitches. Each pitch reflected the hard work and dedication that our finalists have put in over the past 12 weeks.

Thank you to our esteemed panel of Dragons, who brought a wealth of experience and insight to this competition, in particular regarding the thorough feedback provided during each of the mentoring sessions. Without them, this event would not have been possible. We would like to thank the Past Pupils' Union Centre for their ongoing support of this fundamental project in Transition Year. Finally, a big thank you to Marcus O'Connor, MFO Properties for sponsoring the €2,000 seed capital on behalf of the Past Pupils' Union.



## Blackrock College Radio

The Transition Year group produced a wonderful week of radio from 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The News Team were in from 6.30am in the morning until late. The Tech Team proved so talented in editing and polishing the boys' work. The management team certainly deserve praise for their strong leadership of our fledgling radio stars. Highlights include interviews with Garry Ringrose, Shane Walsh, Rossa Fanning and Ardal O'Hanlon. A special thanks to all the teachers who helped out. A final thank you to Eduardo and Ben Kieran-Glennon (Class of 2022) who were in everyday with the boys.



## Dublin South SHC



Blackrock College was well-represented in Dublin South's outstanding victory in the Dublin South Schools Senior Hurling Championship semi-final against Laois, with a final score of 7-19 to 3-12. Three of our students, Hugh Egan, James Neary, and Callum Dee, (Sixth Year) made significant contributions to the team's success. Hugh Egan impressed with a

remarkable 2-3, while Callum Dee added to the tally with a point. James Neary also played a key role, coming on as a substitute at halftime. Congratulations to our talented players for their performances in this superb team effort, and best of luck to Dublin South in the final!


## International Men's Day

To promote the school values of Be there, Be caring, Be respectful, Be grateful and be truthful and to commemorate International Men's Day. Ms Pierce's and Ms Foster's TY History Classes prepared projects that were displayed in the exhibition area in the library. Students had to choose a man they admired who has helped make a positive difference. Examples include James Clerk Maxwell who discovered the theory of electromagnetism, Nicholas Winston who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish children in Nazi occupied Czechoslovakia and John Hume who helped negotiate the Good Friday Agreement.

**RESPECT**

Name: Shane Maxwell  
Year: 4<sup>th</sup> Year


I have great respect for James Clerk Maxwell



**He has made a difference by:**  
Maxwell made the most significant discovery of our age - the theory of electromagnetism. He is rightly known as the father of modern physics and electrical engineering. He also laid down the foundation for fields like special relativity and quantum mechanics. He also made lots of fundamental contributions to mathematics, astronomy and engineering.

**We should follow his example by doing the following:**  
We could follow his example by remain curious about the world around us, remaining humble and collaborating with other people, stay committed to long-term goals and inspire other people.

**INTERNATIONAL MENS DAY**  
November 19



## News from Junior Debating



Three teams from Blackrock College competed in the St. Andrew's MACE on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

Rock A: Tate Tomkin Beddy & Ross Murphy  
Rock B: Daniel Goss & Paddy English  
Rock C: Daire Moran & Arlow Liddy

Motion 1: This House would ban school uniforms.  
Motion 2: This house supports celebrities making political statements and endorsements.  
Motion 3: This House believes that creating new lead characters for minorities is better than recasting them in existing roles already played by actors/communities.  
Final motion: This House Believes That the environmental movement should take more radical action.

Ross and Tate qualified to speak in the final. Ross was 6th best speaker on the tab and best speaker of the final. Tate was joint best speaker on the tab.

We were delighted that we had some senior judges to assist: Jamie Browne Lynch, Leo Fowler, Henry Brown and Shane Hamilton.

## Blackrock Rowing Club

As the first term comes to a close, the Blackrock College Rowing Club is celebrating a fantastic start to the season, with impressive performances in early competitions. At the Castleconnell Head of the River on October 26th, the J16 8+, stroked by Andrew Clancy (4th Year), clocked the fastest overall J16 time, while the J18 8+, stroked by Matthew Neary (6th Year), secured the second-fastest time overall. On November 16th, at the Erere Fours Head in Enniskillen, the J15 4x+, stroked by Jon-Luc Elias (4th Year), claimed second place, just seconds behind the leaders, with another J15 4x+, stroked by Max Raingill (4th Year), posting a competitive time. With high hopes for the Head of the Shannon this weekend and the regatta season ahead, we extend our gratitude to the rowing parents committee and coaches for their unwavering support.



## The Daisy Project

We were delighted to welcome Edel Carey from the Irish Wheelchair Association on Monday afternoon to present to TY students on Disability Awareness. With a focus on the accessibility of our everyday environments like schools, restaurants and other public spaces this workshop gave students a practical view of the barriers people with disabilities experience daily. It was a most informative and eye-opening session for students.



## Transition Year Soup Run

The Transition Year Soup Run commenced this week under the leadership of Ms Crimmins, our 6<sup>th</sup> Year chaplain. Every Tuesday, TY students accompanied by staff members and Mr John Carlin from the Legion of Mary, will travel into the city centre where they will serve tea, coffee and sandwiches to anyone who requests assistance. Clothes, hats, gloves and socks are also distributed. We thank John for making this project available to Blackrock College TY students and **if you have any good quality second hand hoodies, jackets, tracksuit bottoms, beanies or gloves that you would like to donate to the TY Soup Run project please give them to your son to hand in at check-in** during the year. TY students plan on setting up clothes collection points in each of the check-in areas.



## Three-in-a-Row for IRFU Charitable Trust

Since 1978, the IRFU Charitable Trust has been a constant life-changing support to over 36 seriously injured players and their families. In 2019, retired rugby players came together and formed an indoor rowing team as a mark of respect and solidarity and to continue raising much needed awareness and funds for their injured teammates. With the help of Blackrock College 4th Year 'foot holders' - Jack Dolan, John Donnelly, Daniel Ennis, Daniel Larkin, Donnacha Murray, Joseph Norris and Stephen Wall, who had a tougher job than the rowers, the 29 mixed rugby rowers made history on 28 September 2024 with a third World Record (adding to their 2019 & 2021 records). Irl Head Coach Andy Farrell, as well as rugby legends Ollie Campbel, Rob Kearney were among those there to witness and cheer the rowers and 'foot holders' on. Congratulations to all involved!



## IT Support Local Parish Centres

Some of our Transition Year students have engaged in a programme supporting older people in local parish centres with embracing new technologies through the provision of 1:1 tuition. The local communities supported are Glathule, Kilmacud and Mount Merrion.

## Dublin U-17 Metropolitan League

### Coláiste Éanna 2      Blackrock College 2

This was an excellent match against a very strong Coláiste Éanna side. While we were missing a number of players through injury, the strength of the wider squad showed. We started very well, with great discipline and intensity in our press and probably deserved to be ahead based on the first 30 minutes of the performance. Unfortunately, we fell behind before half time and then 2-0 behind midway through the second half. With only 3 minutes to go Tom O'Donovan (TY) scored a 30-yard screamer to give us a slim chance. The character and resilience of the squad captained by Daniel Noonan (TY) showed as we pushed to the very end and a superb Seán Cox (TY) cross was headed in by Tom O'Donovan in what was literally the last act of the game.

### Blackrock College 3      Clonkeen College 2

This was a match played out in cold and very wet conditions and the match became a real battle throughout. The ability to dig deep was huge and the squad wasn't found wanting. Having gone 1-0 and 2-1 behind Cillian Hall (TY) twice equalised for us before a top class Seán MacManus (TY) finish sealed the win for us with three minutes to go. Next up is Arklow CBS in the Last 32 of the FAI Schools Leinster TY Cup on Friday 6th December, 12pm kick off.

## Senior Rugby Tour – Clifton College Bristol



On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 44 members of the Senior rugby squad and 7 staff under the leadership of Mr Creighton, our Director of Rugby, travelled to Clifton College, Bristol for matches at both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Senior XV level. A bright and sunny Friday was followed by a very wet and windy Saturday. Despite these challenging conditions, our squads played some excellent rugby and emerged victorious in both fixtures, with

our 1<sup>st</sup> XV winning with the final kick of the game. Plenty of positives were taken from this trip and we thank our hosts Clifton College for their most welcoming and generous hospitality, and we look forward to receiving them back to Blackrock College in November 2025.

## FAI Schools Leinster Cup

The Senior Soccer team has had an impressive run recently, securing a spot in the next round of the cup and finishing their Metro League pool on a high note. In a hard-fought match against Cross & Passion College, Kilcullen, an early goal from Peter Walshe (6th Year) eased initial nerves. Charlie Harty (6th Year) extended the lead early in the second half, followed by a crucial goal from Cormac Sheahan (6th Year) that sealed the game. Despite a late CPC goal in the 75th minute, our defence held strong to secure the win. The team then capped off their Metro League, South, campaign with an outstanding 6-1 victory away to Marian College. Goals came from Charlie Harty, Tommy Horkan (2), Conor O'Neill (2), Cormac Sheahan, and an own goal. They now eagerly anticipate their quarterfinal clash with Templeogue after Christmas.



# Phantom of the Opera

The curtain closed (and the chandelier crashed!) on Friday night, after four sell out performances of 'The Phantom of the Opera' at the Jubilee Hall. Audiences were enthralled by the spectacular singing and acting; the stunning set; the dazzling lights; the fabulous costumes and the beautiful 20-piece orchestra! Congratulations to all involved both on stage, backstage and in the orchestra pit... This show will live long in the memory of those lucky enough to have been there! Thanks to our patrons Maria and Neil Keogh, and sponsors Meadhbh and Fergal Leamy, and Grace and Conor Mullany for supporting this Blackrock College and Mount Anville Production.





## Don't Forget – Mark Your Calendars!



### Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024

TY Parent-Teacher Meeting 4.15-6.45

### Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

TY Coffee and Mince-Pie morning in aid of SVP

