



# Blackrock College Bulletin

2024-2025 Bulletin No. 8

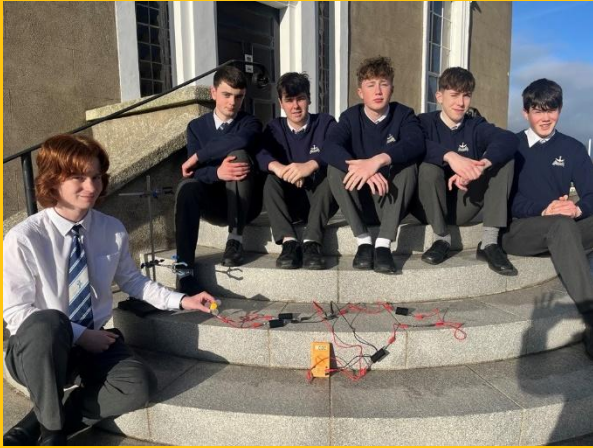
## Leaving Certificate 2024



**Congratulations to Jack Murphy, Donnacha O Riordan, Harry Sheridan, Sam Merren and William Daniel Begley,** on their Entrance Exhibition Awards to Trinity, based on their Leaving Certificate results.

Their achievement reflects well on them, their families, teachers and the College. We wish them well for their time in Trinity.

## Science Department Update



**W**e are thrilled to announce that the Science Department has recently expanded its inventory with a variety of new electronics equipment, perfect for enhancing STEM education and hands-on learning experiences. Among the exciting new additions are high-quality solar cells, motors, and fans – all designed to support student exploration of key scientific concepts in renewable energy, engineering, and physics. Here is Mr Fagan's 4th Year

Physics students powering a D.C. motor using solar panels on the first fine day of the year.



## TY Trip to the Young Scientist Competition & Funderland

**T**he Transition Year students had a most enjoyable day out on Thursday 9th January. The boys spent the morning at the BT Young Scientist competition in the RDS. The boys showed great support to year mates Rory Staunton and Sean Mullane with their excellent entry on software that helps artists chose colours. There were also lots of fun shows and activities such as the one seen below ("Hang Time"). In the afternoon, the boys crossed the road to enjoy a few hours in Funderland. This was a just reward for all their hard charity work in the first term.

# Economics and Commerce Society's Annual trip to London



The Economics and Commerce Society's annual trip to London, started with an early morning flight from Dublin. Upon arrival at Gatwick, the group travelled to Canary Wharf for an insightful session with Euronext, where CEO Simon Gallagher and Head of Continental Equity Sales, Nathalie Ruiz discussed the history of Canary Wharf, stock

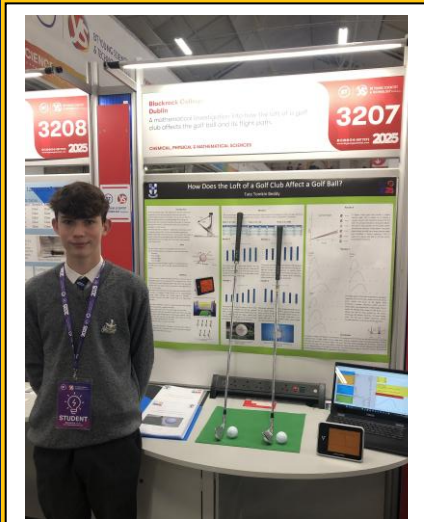
exchange operations, and the importance of technology to their operation. After lunch, the group enjoyed a guided boat ride along the Thames, viewing iconic landmarks such as the Tower of London, Shakespeare's Globe, and the London Eye. The day continued with a tour of Park Plaza Westminster Bridge, where Hotel Manager Holger Marass presented to the students on management, leadership, and communication—key topics for Leaving Certificate Business students.

The evening included a delicious dinner and a cinema outing in Mayfair. Saturday's activities featured a visit to the Imperial War Museum and lunch at Market Halls, Victoria. Despite our soccer match being cancelled, the group enjoyed shopping and leisure activities at Westfield Shopping Centre. The trip concluded with a return to Dublin, leaving everyone tired but enriched by the experience.





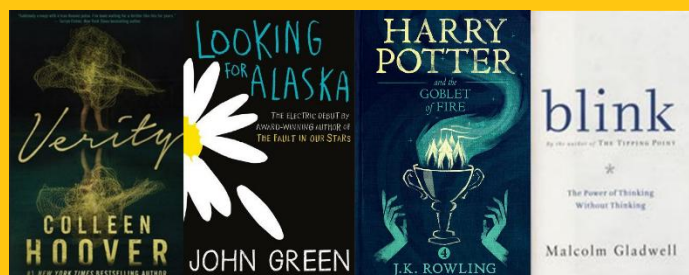
## BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition



We are delighted to extend a huge congratulations to our talented students, Sean Mullane, Rory Staunton (TY), and Tate Tomkin Beddy( Third Year), for their outstanding achievements at this year's BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition. Sean and Rory impressed with their project, **"An Artist's Invaluable Tool: Coding a Tool to Generate Mutualistic Colours"**, while Tate demonstrated his skills with **"A Mathematical Investigation into How the Loft of a Golf Club Affects the Golf Ball and Its Flight Path"**. A special congratulations to Tate for earning a prestigious Display Award! Both projects stood out from over 2,000 entries and

making it to the RDS is an incredible feat, as only 26% of projects are selected for the showcase. We are immensely proud of their hard work, innovation, and dedication, and it's fantastic to see their efforts recognized on such a prominent stage. Well done, Sean, Rory, and Tate! All the 2<sup>nd</sup> and TY students visited the exhibition and were very impressed by the standard of projects.

## Book Bites: 20 second interview between Blackrock College Librarian, Andrea Dillon and Laboratory Technician, Sarah Shetewi



**What book(s) are you reading at the moment?**

*Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell

**What was your favourite book as a Teenager?**

*The Fault in Our Stars*, I know typical!

**Books or movies?**

Movies, I was a book person before becoming an adult.

**What three books would you take with you on a desert island?**

1. *Verity* by Colleen Hoover
2. *Looking for Alaska* by John Green
3. *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* by J.K Rowling

**When I say book what's the first word that comes into your head?**

Authors.

## Past vs Present Basketball Match

Commiserations to captain **Aaron O'Halloran (Sixth Year)** and his squad on a hard-fought loss to the past team, led by Aaron's brother **Ronin O'Halloran (Class of 2022)**. The game was highly competitive and played in great spirit and is a celebration of the links formed across year groups in their time playing basketball in the College. Aaron was joined by fellow Sixth Years **Michael Breslin** and **Sam Curley**, who coached the team due to an injury.

We thank them in particular for their contribution to basketball over their five years in the College and look forward to welcoming them back for future games.

## Junior Rugby Belfast trip

**51** pupils from 3rd Year had a short tour to Belfast from Tuesday 7th - Wednesday 8th January. They trained at Ulster University before having an overnight stay at the Hilton Templepatrick. On the Wednesday they played three matches against Belfast Royal Academy and Methodist College.

## JCT and SCT Hartpury Trip

**56** pupils from 2nd-6th Year went on a short tour to Hartpury, Gloucester. They left on Friday 10th and returned Sunday 12th January. During the Friday they toured Hartpury College and then have an evening of team building activities. On the Saturday the SCT played against Hartpury College, winning 55-12 and the JCT played against Bromsgrove School winning 45-5. The Saturday evening saw both squads participate in Go Karting



## Senior Badminton

The U19A Badminton team displayed incredible skill and determination in their semi-final match against Sandford Park last Wednesday. Although the team drew in games, they ultimately fell short on points, showing great resilience throughout. The players, **Conor McFarland (Sixth Year)**, **Adrian Ho (Fourth Year)**, **Scott Zhu (Third Year)**, and **Cian O'Flannagáin (Fourth Year)**, should be commended for their hard work and sportsmanship. While the outcome was not in their favour, their performance was a testament to their dedication and teamwork. Well done to all involved!

## Senior Soccer

The Senior Soccer team have had a successful start to the new term. In the league 1/4 final, they had to dig deep to see off a well drilled Old Bawn CS. Trailing 2-1 at half time a **Jack Kelly (5th Year)** saw us bring the game to extra-time. It took a Sam Mooney's wonder-strike to see the squad qualify to the semifinal against Clonkeen College.

In the Leinster Cup an outstanding performance by the squad saw them qualify through to the last 8 after a 4-0 win against Patricians College Newbridge. Next up in the cup is St. Fintan's HS - we wish the squad well!

## Rowing

The Blackrock College Rowing Club recently held its annual Blessing of the Boats Ceremony on December 1st, hosted by the Stella Morris Rowing Club and officiated by Fr. Paddy Moran. The event marked the beginning of the rowing season, featuring an exciting day of races that highlighted the dedication and talent of the rowers. Families, some spanning three generations, gathered to witness the athletes' hard work, followed by a social with tea, coffee, and homemade treats. Special thanks were given to the coaches and parent committee for organizing the event.

On January 10th, the Senior Squad of the rowing club travelled to Seville, Spain, for their annual training camp, aiming to improve the performance of their J18 and J16 rowers ahead of the regatta season in March. The camp included intensive training sessions focused on technique, endurance, and speed. The team also had time to explore Seville, visiting landmarks like the Setas de Sevilla. The camp was a success, preparing the rowers for upcoming challenges, including the National Indoor Championships on January 18th. Gratitude was extended to the teachers, Ms. Madigan and Mr. Swan, for accompanying the team.

**Don't Forget – Mark Your Calendars!**

### **MORNING MASS**

Join us for Morning Mass in the College Chapel any school day morning at 8.15am.

You are welcome either in person or online. If you have any special intention or anniversary you would like remembered, please email [fmadden@blackrockcollege.com](mailto:fmadden@blackrockcollege.com) or phone 01 – 275 2125.

All are welcome.

### **Sacrament of Confirmation**

For students wishing to be confirmed in the Third Term, please register before the end of February with

[fmadden@blackrockcollege.com](mailto:fmadden@blackrockcollege.com)



**NCH** NATIONAL CONCERT HALL - AN ANNUAL CELEBRATION

# LEMAN CONCERT XXXIX

LOCATION: NATIONAL CONCERT HALL  
DATE: SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2025  
TIME: SHOW STARTS AT 7.30PM  
TICKETS: €30

PURCHASE TICKETS AT [WWW.NCH.IE](http://WWW.NCH.IE)





## Don't Forget – Mark Your Calendars!



### **Sunday to Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>**

Catholic Schools' Week

*For more information, see [catholiceducation.ie/catholic-schools-week-2024/](https://catholiceducation.ie/catholic-schools-week-2024/)*

### **Friday to Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>**

RockMUN

### **Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

6<sup>th</sup> Year Senior Study Commences (9:30am-12:30pm)

### **Monday to Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>**

Wellbeing Week (*Mental Health Action Day*)

### **Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**

SCT v St, Mary's College (3.00pm Donnybrook)

Past V. Present Debate (7:30pm)

### **Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**

5<sup>th</sup> Year Parent-Teacher Meetings (4:15pm-6:45pm)

### **Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**

Annual Cake Sale for Machakos

### **Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**

D.E.A.R. (*Drop Everything and Read, 3:25pm-3:45pm*)