



Blackrock College Bulletin

Bulletin No. 01 2025 – 2026

The Bob Geldof Centre

Work has commenced on The Bob Geldof Centre, which will be located beside the library in the main College building.

We hope to complete the construction of this new facility in early 2026.

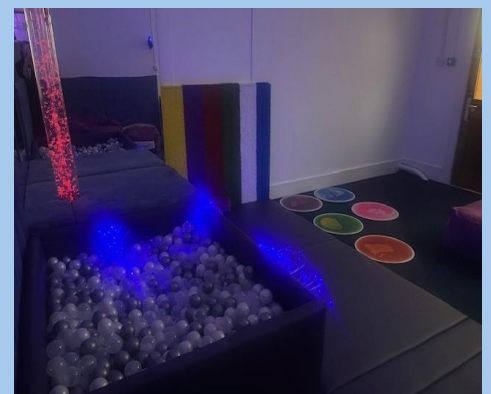
The project will also see the introduction of a new soundproof Music Room which will be available to all our music pupils.



The Oasis Sensory Room

We are delighted to introduce our new sensory room known as 'The Oasis.'

Our specially designed room provides a quiet place for pupils, with a range of sensory experiences on offer, such as soft lighting, bubble tubes, and fiber optics. A relaxed seating area with soft mats, weighted blankets and soothing music complete the space.



Dragons' Den Launch 2025/2026

The 2025/2026 edition of *Dragons' Den* at Blackrock College was officially launched in partnership with the College Business Department and the College Union. This exciting initiative offers students a unique opportunity to develop entrepreneurial skills, receive expert mentoring, and compete for a prize fund of €2,000—generously sponsored by MFO Properties and Coen Steel.

This year's panel of Dragons, chaired by **Aidan Corless**, includes **Alain Barr, Gwen Layden, Emma Maye, Conor Hoey, Rory Geoghegan**, and **Robert Henderson**. Each Dragon addressed the students during the launch, sharing valuable advice and reinforcing a central theme: the importance of resilience and the courage to step outside one's comfort zone.

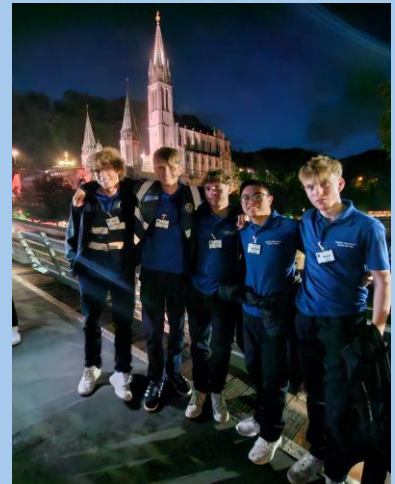
Thanks to the time, energy, and enthusiasm of our Dragons, the competition continues to thrive. Students will benefit from mentoring sessions, networking opportunities, and a dedicated workshop on how to craft a compelling business plan.

We look forward to seeing the creativity and innovation our students bring to this year's competition!



6th Year Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025

Five of our 6th year students travelled with 29 other schools on the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. One hundred and six assisted pilgrims also travelled. It was an incredibly positive experience for the students and Pilgrims alike and wonderful memories were made, memories that will last a lifetime.



House Captains Build Leadership Skills at Two-Day Retreat

On August 21st and 22nd, House Captains from 2nd to 6th Year took part in a memorable two-day leadership retreat designed to foster teamwork, self-awareness, and resilience.

Day one was held on campus in Blackrock, where pupils met facilitators Ciaran and Stevie. Activities included a reflective campfire session, where students wrote down a personal weakness on a piece of wood, shared it with the group, and symbolically let it go by throwing it into the fire. The day also featured a nature walk and energising boxing exercises, followed by an inspiring talk from guest speakers Caelan Doris and Brian Kingston, who shared their experiences of leadership and overcoming adversity.

Day two took the group to Glendalough for an early start. Pupils split into their respective houses, each joined by a past pupil, and explored the historic monastery and graveyard before beginning a scenic hike. The walk provided time for reflection and connection, culminating in a summit lunch and a refreshing swim in the lake—much warmer than expected! The retreat concluded with a return to Dublin, leaving students feeling more united, motivated and ready to lead.



Tennis – Outstanding Representation at Irish National Junior Tennis Championships

We are proud to share that seventeen of our talented tennis players qualified for the Irish National Junior Championships, held at Fitzwilliam Lawn Tennis Club at the end of August. Among the standout performances, three boys reached the finals: **Zac Naughton** (Fifth Year), **Jack Moloney**, and **Ronan Doyle** (both Third Year). Zac and Jack went on to win their respective titles—an incredible achievement!

The full list of pupils who competed includes:

Sixth Year – Freddie Bracken, Jamie O’Nuallain

Fifth Year – Zac Naughton, Harry Forde

Transition Year – Ben Connolly, Thomas Callan, Tommy Hayes, Christian Hannon

Third Year – Ronan Doyle, Scott Hamilton, Michael Dunn, Jack Moloney

Second Year – Max Naughton, James O’Brien, Conor Emerson, Ethan Farrell, Alex Hamilton

Congratulations to all who took part—you’ve done the school proud!



Golf

Freddie Bracken (Sixth Year) was part of the victorious Leinster Under 18 team that won the recent Interprovincial Golf Series at Millicent GC. Freddie has represented Leinster at both golf and tennis. Well done, Freddie!



Inter House 10s

Friday 5th September, saw a great turn out from Third Year, with captain Carl Grady leading **Shanahan** House to victory. They beat **Browne** House in a pulsating final.

Player of the Tournament went to **Michael Li**.



The Class of 2028 saw **Leman** defeat **Duff** in the A competition, while **Ebenrecht** defeated **Browne** in the B competition. Well done to Transition year pupil, **Paul De Fautereau** who was awarded player of the competition.



Some further action from the day:



Junior Rugby Teams Launch Season with Enthusiasm

The Junior 3rds to 5ths began their rugby season with great energy, holding their first training session on September 1st. Just two days later, 62 boys participated in internal practice matches, following focused work on skills and game principles. The teams then officially kicked off their competitive season with fixtures against Wilson's Hospital (Junior 3rds) and Kilkenny College (Junior 4ths and 5ths). It was a strong start, setting the tone for an exciting season ahead.



Art Club

Well done to 2nd Years on their creations made at Art Club recently.



Team *JOPARRY* comprised of **Harry Treacy**, **Johnny Grehan** and **Patrick O'Brien** (Second Year) made the tallest free-standing work, while Team *STATE OF EMPIRE* **Aodhfin McMahon** and **Aaron Wang** (Second Year) demonstrated a use of clean lines and an understanding of aesthetics.

TY Tours: Hell and Back 2025

On Wednesday, 10th September, over 200 Transition Year students took part in the first TY tour of the academic year—an exhilarating 8km “Alive Outside” obstacle course at Kilruddery Estate in co. Wicklow.

Despite the mud and rain, the Class of 2028 showed remarkable determination and teamwork, supporting one another through every challenge. From climbing walls to crawling through trenches, the boys gave it their all—shedding blood, sweat, and tears along the way!

It was a fantastic display of spirit, fitness, and camaraderie.



Clubs and Societies Day

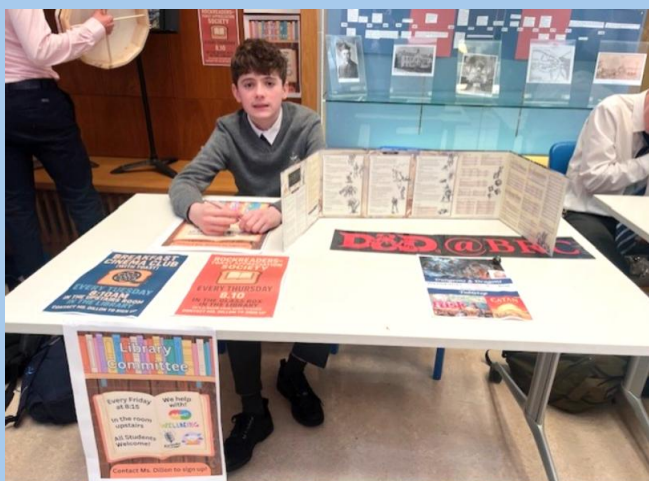
Our annual *Clubs and Societies Day*, organised by the Student Wellbeing Committee, was a fantastic success. The hall was buzzing with excitement as students explored the wide range of clubs, societies, and sports available at the College.

Getting involved in extracurricular activities is a key part of student wellbeing—it helps build friendships, encourages physical activity, and fosters a stronger sense of connection within the school community. The event was a great opportunity to highlight these benefits and promote the importance of balance and engagement in school life.

It was wonderful to see so many students eager to learn more and get involved. Well done to the Student Wellbeing Committee for organising such a vibrant and meaningful event!



Clubs and Societies Day



Clubs and Societies Day



Some of the many extracurricular activities to choose from:

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

1-2 PM WEDNESDAYS
IN THE LIBRARY
WITH MS. NÍ MHÁIRTÍN



Improve your research, teamwork and public speaking skills and learn about global issues!

FIRST MEETING: WED 3RD SEPT


AILO
All Ireland Linguistics Olympiad
The Problem Solvers' Challenge

Test your mind...
against the world's toughest puzzles in logic, language and linguistics

Win the opportunity to represent Ireland at the International Linguistics Olympiad

Run by


Part of


Supported by



Linguistics Club
Fridays 12:50-13:30
Latin Room


LUNCHTIME CREATIVE HUB

EVERY THURSDAY
FROM 1:00 - 1:35 PM
Upstairs Art Room
FOR ALL YEARS

FUN ART PROJECTS	MUSIC
PAINTING	DRAWING
CLAY	QUIZ & GAMES
CARD MAKING	HANG OUT

See you There!

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB



IN THE LIBRARY
EVERY WEDNESDAY
AT 2PM
ALL STUDENTS WELCOME

ART CLUB



WEDNESDAYS
1.00 - 3.00

Don't Forget – Mark Your Calendars!



Friday, September 12th

Karl Ashe Trophy Semi-Final

Monday, September 15th

College Sailing Regatta

Wednesday, September 17th

Higher Options 6th Year R.D.S.

Thursday, September 18th

Machakos Mass (6:15pm)

Friday, September 19th

School Closed (***Classes Suspended***)

Monday to Friday, September 22nd – 26th

Environment Action Week