



Cian Branigan, Kaelah Maguire, Sophie Murray, Deputy Principal Caroline Toole, and Principal Alan Mynes.

with the adjusted papers. Sitting the exams was also not as stressful as I anticipated because of all the support from teachers and other students.'

Kaelah Maguire has opted to attend Drogheda Institute of Further Education to work on her portfolio next year and then on to university in Belfast after that. She discussed the demands of creating a portfolio alongside studying and how she was unwilling to let one or the other slip in her final year in Ballymakenny College.

'I always wanted to do art and I tried to do my portfolio during the Leaving Cert, and it was just too much, so a lot of people I know went to DIFE to do the portfolio course and I've heard only amazing things about it so

I decided to take the year out to do it.' Kaelah is looking forward to pursuing her passion.

Lastly, Dorota Rusin will be studying English with Religious Education in DCU, she intends to become a secondary school teacher. Her career choice was again based on choosing subjects which interested her. Mirroring Christopher's advice that preparation is key she said 'The lead up to it was really stressful but actually doing exams wasn't so bad. I think because the school makes it so similar to winter exams and summer exams it was very relaxed when we actually got to do them.' Support inside and outside school from family and friends undoubtedly paved the way for results students should

be proud of.

Familiar themes emerged amongst this years' group with students discussing challenges such as stress and the overwhelming nature of the Leaving Certificate exams. Students often opted for colleges closer to home reflecting wider societal issues and students from the class of 2022 also highlighted the determination of a cohort driven to succeed, but not at the cost of their mental health. Involvement in extracurricular, time spent with friends, family and time off, all factored into the students overwhelming success.

'The range of opportunities available to students graduating this year is very welcome and it's very rewarding to see our

students choosing some very interesting pathways. It's a great reflection of the diversity of our student body. The choice of courses in colleges, universities and further education provides plenty of scope for this talented group of students. We also have a resurgence of interest in apprenticeships which provides an opportunity to learn and progress whilst working,' says principal Alan Mynes.

'Our students worked through some very challenging times over the last two years. The Leaving Certificate can be anxious time for students and teachers alike, so we are delighted that this group performed so well and wish them well in their future careers and lives. Well done to them all!'



Scoil Aonghusa in Drogheda is getting a very special visitor on Tuesday September 20th.

Ukrainian ambassador to make special visit to Scoil Aonghusa

By ALISON COMYN

On Tuesday September 20th Ms Larysa Gerasko, the Ukrainian Ambassador to Ireland will visit Gaelscoil Scoil Aonghusa, Sunday's Gate, Drogheda at 10 a.m.

During the ceremony the Irish and Ukrainian flags will be raised alongside the lighting of a special candle of remembrance and peace by a pupil from the Students' Council.

The children of Rang 5 will welcome Ambassador Larysa in the different languages of the European Union and pupils and staff of the school will share Irish language songs, traditional music and dance with the Ambassador and members of the Ukrainian community living in Drogheda.

The school was recently awarded a European Flag as part of the Blue Star Programme. Ambassador Larysa

will lead the flag raising ceremony to raise this European Flag in the school for the first time as a gesture of solidarity with Ukraine and a celebration of cultures.

The Blue Flag Programme is an education initiative for primary school pupils with the aim of fostering a better understanding of the European Union and how it affects the lives of Irish citizens.

It introduces pupils to the workings of the EU, its importance to other countries and cultures and aims to foster a strong sense of awareness of the EU that reaches far beyond the school walls.

Ambassador Larysa will be shown the school's 'Wall of Welcomes', greeting school visitors in the various languages spoken by parents and children in the school community.



Budding engineers of the future from TY St Oliver's CC in the DkIT engineering department.

St Oliver's kick off new term with DKIT visit

St Oliver's CC TY Engineering has kicked off the year by developing their entrepreneurial skills with DKIT.

Throughout the week, students, with their teacher Mr Donnelly explored the subjects of science, engineering, business, and marketing to bring a product from concept to reality.

They had a great time exploring the college and developing their skills.

Watch this space as they compete in a Dragon's Den style competition to promote and sell their products!



TY students from St Oliver's CC getting hands-on experience in DkIT recently.