

LOUGH ALLEN COLLEGE

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Transition Year News

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ISSUE

KEY PROGRAMME

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On Monday 8th of October, a group of ten students took part in the first three day residential of the KEY Programme in Lauren House, Hollywood, Belfast along with our teacher Mr Doherty. This is a cross border enterprise programme. On arrival we met students from two other schools in Northern Ireland namely Glastray College and St. Columbus College. We participated in lots of activities both indoors and outdoors where teamwork was the theme. On Tuesday we went canoeing, it was great crack. That night we sat around a camp fire and ate hot dogs and sausages. We also played games. On Wednesday we did some KEY training on communication and then it was time to go home. We were all very sad. The food was amazing in Lauren House. We met lots of new friends on this adventure and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. This was the first of four residentials throughout the school year. The next three day residential takes place on December 3rd—5th. The students that attended this programme included: Eimear Kelly, Mary Clancy, Natasha Mc Loughlin, Megan Wynne, Craig Doherty, Alanna Grogan, James Gallagher, Sean Hazlett, Darragh Woods and Martina Gallagher.

LOUGH ALLEN ADVENTURE CENTRE

While one half of the class went on the KEY Programme, the remaining transition years went to Lough Allen Adventure Centre where Mr Currid provided us with a warm welcome. On our first day there, we were separated into two teams and joined from the adventure centre by Nemo, Ryan and Tom. We did archery and abseiling. The following day we went windsurfing and canoeing. On our last day we kayaked down Lough Allen to an island where we had lunch. While on the island we learned how to put up tents and light a camp fire. It took 3 hours to paddle this journey. The whole experience was tiring yet enjoyable and fun and one which we all wish to repeat. The students that attended this adventure included: Madalina Neacsu, Jessica Bodally, Megan Fee, Roisin Mc Govern, Jonathan Kelly, Pdraig Clarke, Cathal Mc Ternan, Sean Mc Gourty, Loren Henry and Enda Charters.



PHOTO GALLERY



"I really enjoyed the KEY Programme. I made new good friends whom I got on with straight away. The food was nice, the accommodation was great and I can't wait for the next residential!"

Natasha Mc Loughlin



DISABILITY AWARENESS

Katie Burke gave an enlightening talk to us about the whole area of disability. What made this talk more real was the fact that Katie was in a wheelchair. Everyone listened attentively to Katie who gave a great insight into life in a wheelchair and we discussed the difficulties that she faces every day. Katie brought some wheelchairs and crutches to our class. We had good fun having races on these wheelchairs and crutches. We also made sandwiches blindfolded. Mrs Killoran organized this talk for our class which made us appreciate our ability to walk, hop and run.

COMHAIRLE NA NÓG



On Thursday, 18th of October, we attended Comhairle na Nóg in the Bush hotel, Carrick on Shannon along with our teacher Ms Flynn. This organisation is a council for the youth. We met with other students from Drumshanbo and Manorbhamilton and did some workshops on bullying and facilities that are needed in Leitrim. It was good that our opinions as young people were listened to.