



Transition Year Students in Social Action Drive to Raise Money for Charity

Transition year students in Garbally College organised a huge fundraising day for their chosen charities 'The Simon Community' and 'Ballinasloe Social Services' in December 14th before breaking up for their annual Block Week work experience. This Charity Drive consisted of a Pop-Up Barber Shop, a Soccer Tournament, a Car Wash, and a Pop-Up Sweet Shop. To add to the festivities Megan from Little Spoon Mobile Coffee Shop parked her van at the school Concert Hall to provide much needed coffee, tea, and hot chocolate to the school community. Megan donated half her turnover from the day to the Simon Community, her chosen charity. Thank You Megan.

The Pop-Up Barber Shop was a huge success. The Salon was managed and run successfully by a team of transition year students led by Michael Keary, Jack Flaherty, and Ben Feehily. They secured the services of current Leaving Cert student Ryan Fallon, past pupil Kyle Blackweir and two local Barber's and all round 'good eggs' Declan Broderick and Conor Duane. The Barber Shop operated at full capacity from 9am until 330pm. A total of 42 students and teachers had their manes tamed for the Christmas holidays. The turnover for the day was €630. The barbers deserve special praise as they worked tirelessly and voluntarily. They espoused the Garbally values of Respect, Compassion and Justice. Thank you again Ryan, Kyle, Declan, and Conor.



Garbally Alumni and Barber Kyle Blackweir about to cut Garbally Principal Mr. Paul Walsh's hair.



Left to right: Barber Ryan Fallon, Shameer Umar, Ms Roisin Mc Sharry, TY Programme Coordinator. Jack Flaherty, Barber Declan Broderick, Barber Conor Ruane, Micheál Keary, Barber Kyle Blackweir and Joseph Smyth.

The Soccer Tournament was organised and managed by TY3 students Tadhg Mc Laverty, Kai Grennan Keighery, Darragh Costello and Joshua Mc Laverty. They were amiably assisted by Enda Fournet, Conor Kelly and Eanna Kelly in the smooth operation of this competitive and sometimes contentious event between 1st year and 2nd year Garbally students. The event was a huge success. Overall, the tournament raised €265 for the Ballinasloe Social Services. Special thanks to teachers William Carr and Michael Gallagher for guiding the students with the event.



Ty students Tadhg Mc Laverty and Joshua Mc Carthy along with a line of students ready to play.

TY1 students and 5th year Evan Mc Morrow, operated a professional and successful car wash on the Garbally Campus. Special thanks to students Joseph Frehill, Charlie Mooney and Fiachra Mc Donagh for taking the lead in ensuring the event was a huge success. Students were blessed with a particularly mild and sunny winter day, which allowed them to do their work without getting too cold or wet. Overall, the Car Wash raised €300 for Ballinasloe Social Services. Thanks to all 30 car owners for entrusting their cars on the day for a wet 'n wild makeover.



Students busy washing away.

The Pop-Up Sweet Shop was a welcome retreat for students during small and big break. Thanks to students Eoin Grehan, Jack Finn, Keith Winters, and Luke O Connor for taking the initiative in operating this not-for-profit shop for the day. All four students are taking part in the Mini Company enterprise project in TY. Their teacher Sharon Ryan was very pleased that they used their business skills to develop a social enterprise philosophy on the day. A total of €92 was made on the day. Well done lads.

When all the legal tender was counted after a long but thoroughly enjoyable day, €1587 was raised by the combined efforts of all three Transition Year classes and their class initiatives. Transition Year Programme Coordinator Ms Roisin Mc Sharry and Team Teachers Ms Fiona Broderick and Mr William Carr were very proud of their student's achievement in raising such a huge amount of money for their chosen charities. A cheque for €900 will be presented to The Simon Community and a cheque for €687 will be presented to Ballinasloe Social Services in January 2022.

