

# The Blab of DVS

Monday  
12<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Issue #2

Latest news and bulletin updates

By Korina Frankham

## Table Quiz- Feachtas

### The latest updates

Comhghairdeas leis na daltaí a ghlac páirt sa chomórtas Tráth na gCeist Boird Feachtas as Óg-Ghluaiseacht Gaeilge.

Drumshanbo Vocational Students, from third and fifth year, represented our school at the Irish Feachtas Quiz in Summerhill College, Sligo. The students travelled up to Sligo after lunch to compete in the quiz. The quiz consisted of multiple rounds with different themes, including a name the song round and a name the celebrity round. Drumshanbo Vocational School placed third overall, just missing the top two spots by two points to move on to the final in Dublin.

We would like to give a special thanks to an tUasal Mac Raghnaill for organising the event and accompanying the students on the day.



DVS Table Quiz Team in Summerhill College

## North Connacht Cross Country

By Maeve Hopkins

On the 15th of January, pupils from schools around North Connacht participated in the North Connacht Cross Country in Lough Key Forest Park. A big congratulations to Conor Keane, who qualified in the Minor Boys category. Well done to everyone who participated on the day.



DVS Second Year Students participating in the North Connacht Cross Country Run.

## T.Y abroad trip

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of March the TYs travelled to Cologne, Germany, for their abroad trip. They travelled through the night and arrived in Cologne in the early morning.

During their visit they enjoyed time in a waterpark, a theme park, the Cologne Cathedral, Marksburg Castle and they went bowling. Marksburg Castle and the Cologne Cathedral provided the students with lots of information about the culture and history of Cologne.

The trip was 6 days long, including the travel there and back. The students returned in the early hours of Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of March.

## Congratulations to Kevin óg English

By Korina Frankham

Drumshanbo Vocational School would like to congratulate our first-year student Kevin Óg English, who secured a silver medal at the Connacht Athletics Indoor Finals held on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> of February.

Competing in the Under-15 60-metre sprint, Kevin delivered an outstanding performance, recording a time of 7.91 seconds. Kevin managed to surpass his previous personal best.

We wish him every success in future competitions.



## Blood Brothers Trip

Our 2nd year and LCA students went to see 'Blood Brothers' by Willie Russell in the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, in Dublin.

The play follows the story of twin brothers who were separated at birth. The students watched the scenes of them growing up, not knowing they were related, to their final parting.

Watching the play in person, will help the Junior Cycle students answer future exam questions involving staging and costume design.

A big thank you to Mrs O'Neill, Ms McLoughlin, Ms Moran, Ms Byrne, Ms Shanley, Hugh Bracken and Siobhán Cullen for accompanying the students on the trip.

## Cadette Girls Volleyball

The school would like to congratulate the Cadette Girls Volleyball team,

following their victory in the semi-final held in Street, Co. Westmeath, earlier this year.

DVS were up against strong teams from Scoil Mhuire, Strokestown, County Roscommon and St Mary's Holy Faith, County Dublin.

The U16 Girl's C League Final took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January, at the University of Galway. The DVS girls played Alfasteiner School, Scariff, Co Clare. Unfortunately, it was a loss for the school, but our U16 girls put on a brilliant performance, and it was a great achievement to reach the final.

## Transition Year Workshops

Transition Years had visits from a wide range of guest speakers, who held talks and workshops on various topics.

The students produced a short-film on the issue of fast fashion with the help of filmmaker Thomas Quain.

The Transition Years also hosted Leitrim hurler Zak Moradi. They watched and discussed the themes and issues shown in his recent documentary 'HOME: The Story of Zak Moradi.'



Back, left to right: Maria Byelyakova, Leah Casey (captain), Gabriela Mora Diaz, Annie Mulvey, Emma Scollan. Front, left to right: Yaroslava Kutsehub, Brianna Guckian, Pixie Christie, Stefanie Reynolds.

## Drumshanbo Vocational School Student Council 2025/26

The school's Student Council for the 2025/2026 academic year was appointed earlier this year. The members are: Bartosz Czaja, Sophie Gillard, Ronan Guckian, Matthew McKeon, Tom Rynn, Aisling Keaveney, Amelia Scollan, Connie Doogan, Liam Farrell, Leah Casey, Liam Meehan, Rachel Guckian, Donnacha Rynn and Orla Dwyer.

The school wishes the council success in the year ahead and is confident that these students will serve as strong representatives of the student body,

effectively communicating students' views and contributing fresh and innovative ideas to the school community.



## Lá Fhéile Bríde

The Irish Department marked the arrival of spring by making St Brigid's Crosses with various groups of students, using traditional rushes. This activity celebrated an important element of Irish cultural heritage associated with St Brigid's Day.

Reflecting on the season, the poet Raifteirí wrote:

*"Anois teacht an earraigh, tá an lá ag dul chun síneadh, is tar éis na Féile Bríde, ardóidh mé mo sheol"*

**"Now with the arrival of spring, the days are getting longer, and after St Brigid's Day, I will hoist my sail".**

The department commends the students for their enthusiastic participation.



## Fairtrade Ireland



DVS Second Year students showcasing their Fairtrade ingredients

During *Fairbruary*, an initiative led by **Fairtrade Ireland**, students participating in **WorldWide Global Schools** engaged in a series of educational activities focused on Fairtrade products.

The Junior Cycle Business Studies and Home Economics classes explored the principles underpinning Fairtrade, an alternative model to conventional trade that fosters equitable partnerships between some of the world's most disadvantaged farmers and workers in developing regions and consumers worldwide.

By enabling producers to trade under Fairtrade terms, this model ensures fairer prices, improved working conditions, and greater opportunities for communities to enhance their quality of life and plan sustainably for the future. Fairtrade thus represents a meaningful mechanism through which everyday consumer choices can contribute to poverty reduction.

The school community would like to extend its appreciation to Ms Wynne's Home Economics class, whose students showcased their practical skills by preparing Fairtrade chocolate and banana muffins, demonstrating both their culinary talents and their engagement with ethical sourcing principles.

## Register of Electors visit DVS

Representatives from the Register of Electors, Albert and Sharon, visited Drumshanbo Vocational School to facilitate voter registration among students.

During the visit, a significant number of 16- to 18-year-old students were either registered or pre-registered to vote, promoting early civic engagement and awareness of the electoral process.

## Congratulations Éabha Simon

We want to congratulate Éabha Simon, our Fifth-Year student, who achieved a Distinction in Higher Level Irish in the Junior Cycle 2025 examinations.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of March, Éabha was presented with a certificate at the University of Galway in recognition of this outstanding accomplishment. We are very proud of her.



Local Primary School students celebrating Seachtain na Gaeilge in DVS

## Seachtain na Gaeilge in DVS

On the 9<sup>th</sup> March, **Seachtain na Gaeilge** commenced at Drumshanbo Vocational School, marking a vibrant celebration of the Irish language and culture within the school community.

A diverse programme of activities was organised to promote the use of Gaeilge, including traditional dancing, quizzes, a poster competition, a picture-story showcase, and an interactive workshop for local primary school pupils.

Sixth-year Irish students attended a performance centred on the picture stories featured in the Leaving Certificate oral examination. The production, delivered by Aidan and Ciarán of **High Rock Productions** through their show *"Caith Amach É"*,

offered an engaging and humorous interpretation of the 20 prescribed picture stories for the 2026 oral examination. Following the performance, students participated in a focused workshop designed to support their oral preparation.

The event proved to be an enjoyable and enriching experience for all involved.

Sixth-class pupils from schools in Arigna, Strabagban, Drumcong and Cootehall, accompanied by their teachers, recently visited Drumshanbo Vocational School for a cultural and educational event celebrating the Irish language.



## Seachtain na Gaeilge in DVS (continued)

The visiting students were welcomed with a performance of traditional music by the school's Trad Group. A range of engaging activities was organised by third- and fifth-year students, including games, a *tráth na gceist* and interactive dance sessions,

featuring both traditional and contemporary styles, all conducted through Gaeilge. The school extends its sincere thanks to Ms L. McLoughlin, Mr Mac Raghnaill, Ms Moran and Mr Shannon for their guidance and support in assisting students with the organisation of this workshop, which successfully promoted Irish language and cultural awareness.

## Congratulations Bartosz Czaja

Warm congratulations are extended to our Transition Year student, Bartosz Czaja, who has been selected to participate in the **Global Ireland Young Leaders Programme**, run by the **Irish Department of Foreign Affairs**. As part of the application process, Bartosz submitted a piece entitled '*Youth Perspectives in Foreign Policy*'.

He is among a select group of students from across the country who will take part in a three-day programme, during which they will gain insight into Ireland's global diplomatic efforts, the role and life of a diplomat, and will visit an embassy in Dublin.

As a **WorldWise Global School**, we are delighted to see Bartosz afforded this prestigious opportunity. We are very proud of his achievement.

## Student Enterprise Programme

The **Local Enterprise Office Leitrim** hosted its annual *Student Enterprise Programme* County Final at The Bush Hotel earlier this term. Drumshanbo Vocational School was represented by three Junior, three Intermediate, and four Senior entries in this year's competition, achieving notable success with winners in each category.

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams”

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Sincere thanks are extended to Ms Feeney and Ms Traynor for their coordination of the Student Enterprise Programme.

Congratulations are extended to all participating students, whose commitment and hard work over recent months were clearly reflected in the high standard of their projects.

### Editor's Note:

If you would like to have news or announcements published in the newspaper, please visit the Newsroom (Room 208) at lunchtime on Mondays.