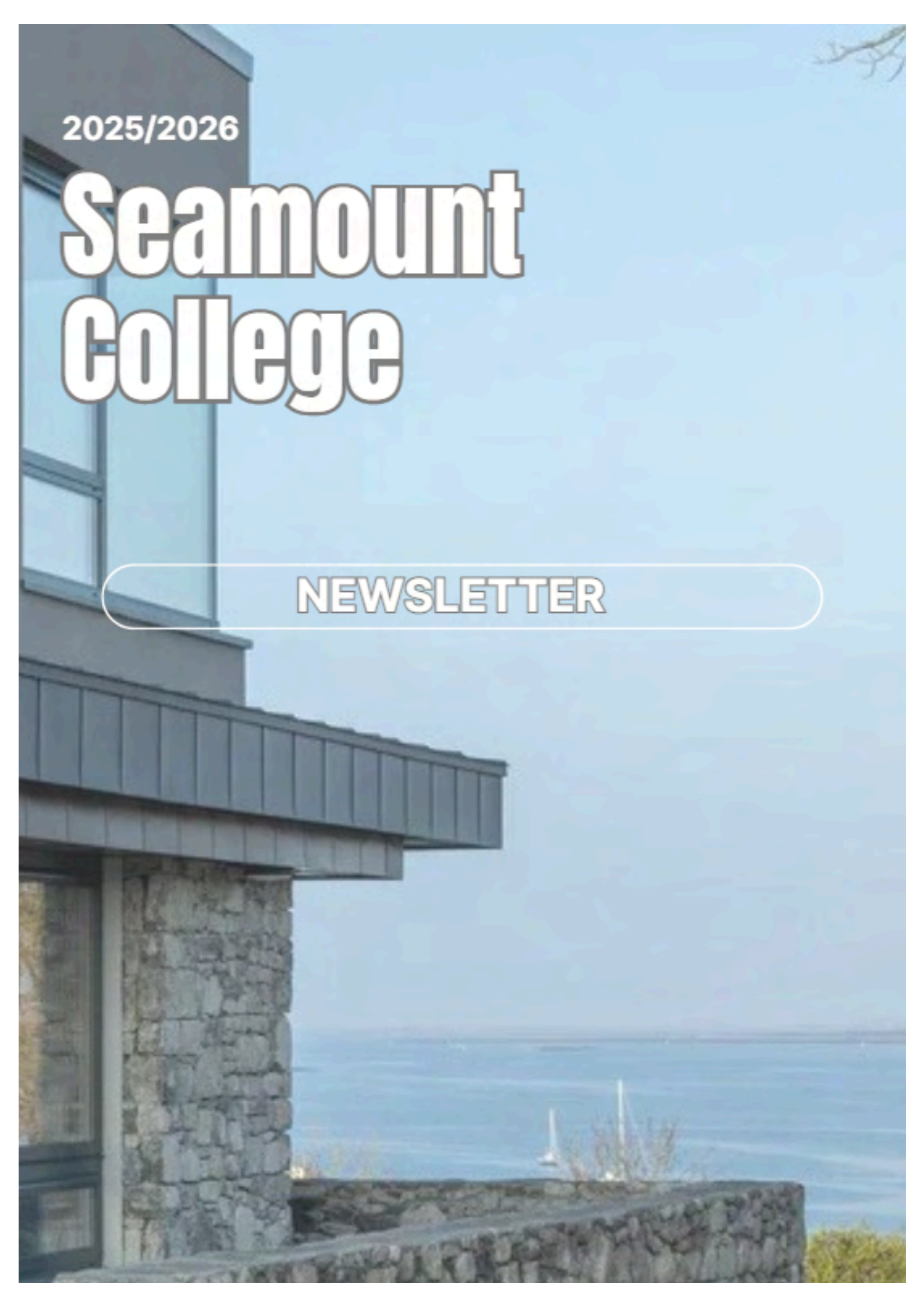


2025/2026

Seamount College

NEWSLETTER



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Editor note

Our school community is built on positivity, support, and care. Through a wide range of events and activities, students are encouraged to feel included, valued, and inspired. The dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our students, and the contributions of all combined help create a welcoming environment where everyone can thrive.

I am grateful to every member of our school community whose efforts make our school such a positive and supportive place to be. Sincere thanks to all staff and student contributors, especially Mr. Earley for his photography.

Wishing you all a healthy, successful and enjoyable summer.



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Principal's Address

The Mission Statement of Seamount College reads:

Our aim is to provide, with the support of parents, a holistic, Christian education in a caring and respectful environment where teaching and learning lead to the development of the full potential of each individual in the school community.

We believe that character formation is fundamental in preparing young people for life.

It is our hope that students will leave us adequately prepared for life, with a healthy self-image and the ability to adapt in a rapidly changing world.

As I reflect on the many activities and events captured in this newsletter, I can clearly see each element of our mission statement brought to life through the experiences of our students.

At Seamount College, we place a strong emphasis on academic excellence and work diligently to ensure that every student is well prepared for progression beyond secondary school. Equally important to us is the development of the whole person, helping each young person to recognise their own value and place in the world, to become informed and responsible citizens, and to care for both their community and their environment.

These qualities are nurtured through participation, teamwork, collaboration, and a willingness to challenge ourselves and embrace new opportunities. The wide variety of activities showcased in this newsletter reflects the enthusiasm, talent, and commitment of our students, supported so generously by our staff.

I would like to sincerely thank the staff members who give so willingly of their time and energy to provide these opportunities for students to grow and develop. While this work can at times be challenging, it is immensely rewarding and brings great pride as we witness the achievements, confidence, and personal growth of our students.

Beir bua agus beannacht,

Maighr ad Mhic Dhonnhuail



Deputy Principal's Address

As Deputy Principal of Seamount College Kinvara, it is my privilege to reflect on another vibrant and successful year in our school community. As we look back on the many events and activities captured in this newsletter, we are reminded that education extends far beyond the classroom. Some of the most valuable learning takes place through the experiences that challenge students to grow in confidence, develop character, and discover their place in the wider world. All of this feeds into the process whereby our students are given the opportunity to fulfil their full, and unique, potential.

Throughout the year, our students have embraced the many opportunities available to them, whether through sport, music, drama, leadership roles, environmental initiatives, community outreach, and the many extracurricular activities that enrich school life. These experiences help to develop resilience, teamwork, independence, creativity, and responsibility — qualities that will stand to them long after their school days have ended.

This year has also been particularly enriched by the opportunities for cultural exchange and international learning through our Erasmus programme and our French Exchange programme. These experiences broaden horizons, foster understanding, and allow students to build connections and confidence in ways that simply cannot be replicated in a classroom setting. They are a wonderful example of the wider learning experiences that help prepare our students for life in an ever-changing and interconnected world.

To our 3rd and 6th Years currently facing into examinations, I want to wish you every success in the weeks ahead. This is an important time, and while exams are a significant milestone, they are only one part of your journey. Trust in the work you have done, believe in your abilities, and approach each challenge with confidence and determination.

None of the opportunities reflected in these pages would be possible without the generosity and commitment of our staff, who give so willingly of their time and energy to ensure our students can experience all that school life has to offer. I would like to sincerely thank all of those involved in the countless activities and events that populate our school calendar. Your dedication creates the environment in which our students can thrive, not only academically but personally and socially.

I would also like to thank our parents/guardians for their continued support and encouragement, and our students for the enthusiasm, positivity, and spirit they bring to our school each day. At Seamount College we are also extremely fortunate to be able to call upon a wide network of past pupils, community members and associates with specialist knowledge. Their ongoing generosity of time and effort adds greatly to the learners' experience within our school.

This newsletter is a celebration of much more than achievements and events; it is a reflection of a school community where young people are encouraged to grow into capable, compassionate, and confident individuals, ready to meet the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Regards,



Student Representative Council (SRC)

A year review

As the academic year draws to a close, we in the Student Representative Council (SRC) would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been an incredibly busy, rewarding, and memorable year in Seamount College.

From the very beginning of the school year, the SRC took an active role in supporting our school community. One of our first responsibilities was mentoring the incoming first years. We were there to welcome them on their very first day, guide them around the school, help them learn how to use their lockers, and answer any questions they had as they settled into life in Seamount College. Throughout their first month, the SRC members met with first years on a weekly basis, offering guidance, support, and encouragement as they adjusted to secondary school life.

The SRC also proudly represented the school during the Open Evening for incoming students and parents. Members guided groups around the school and shared their experiences of student life in Seamount. Our school captains, Caoimhe Walsh and Lukas Burbach, addressed all incoming students and parents alongside our Principal, Bean Mhic Dhomhnaill and Vice Principal, Mr Cuddy, speaking warmly about the strong sense of community and opportunity within our school.

Another great honour for the SRC this year was being chosen to welcome President Catherine Connolly during her visit to Seamount College. It was a privilege to represent our student body on such an important occasion and showcase the spirit and values of our school community.

The SRC played a major role, organising and running the annual Christmas Concerts for both the junior and senior years. This event highlighted the incredible talent within Seamount College and brought students and staff together in celebration.

Advocating for students remained a key focus for the SRC. We had the opportunity to meet and speak with the Minister of State at the Department of Education and Youth, Micheal Moynihan and Senator Shane Curley regarding the absence of a PE hall in Seamount College and the impact this has on students. It was important for us to ensure that student voices and concerns would be heard at this visit. The SRC also addressed the school body at official assemblies and masses throughout the year, keeping students informed and encouraging participation in school life.

One of our biggest achievements was organising the Spirit of Seamount (SOS) Day, which was a fantastic success and a wonderful celebration of school spirit, community, and student involvement. In addition to these events, SRC members were involved in many other activities and occasions throughout the year, always aiming to contribute positively to school life and represent the interests of students.



Student Representative Council (SRC)

A year review

Finally, we would like to sincerely thank the teaching staff and our peers for placing their trust in us and voting us onto the SRC this year.

It has been a true honour to represent the student body and act as their voice throughout this academic year. We have thoroughly enjoyed the experience and are incredibly grateful for the opportunities, memories, and friendships that came with it.

Thank you to everyone who supported the SRC this year and helped make it such a successful and enjoyable one.





First Year



Second Year



Staff



2025 / 2026



Sixth Year



2025 / 2026



Third Year



Fourth Year



Fifth Year

Opening school mass

Our patron, Bishop Michael Duignan joined us to celebrate our Opening school mass with Fr. Hugh Clifford.

The school building was blessed and many thought provoking readings reminded us of the strength of our community.

Music and kind words encouraged us to come together for the year in unity and faith.

Thanks to all involved for all the organisation on the day.



Stripe Young Scientist

Euan Burke and Finn Mannion, both third-year students, achieved second place in the Junior Group (Biological & Ecological category) at the Stripe Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition in January 2025.

Having been unable to meet the students during the event, President Catherine Connolly visited the school on 5 December 2025. During her visit, Euan and Finn presented their project,

“Calculator Assessing War’s Environmental Cost and Outcome.”

The President demonstrated a strong interest in their work, engaging thoughtfully with the students and posing insightful questions about their research.



President Connolly visits Seamount College

Seamount College in Kinvara was visited by President Catherine Connolly as part of her official engagements in late 2025.

It was an honour and a privilege to welcome the President to our school. She was welcomed in by our talented musicians and shown the corridors of the school, greeting staff and students alike. She also had a particular interest in Finn and Euan's Young Scientist project "*Calculator Assessing War's Environmental Cost and Outcome.*"

President Connolly also took part in an Ciorcal Comhrá with students from all years and discussed a wide variety of topics as Gaeilge.

In her address to the school community, President Connolly spoke about the importance of unity, empathy and moving forward.

It was truly an unique and wonderful experience that inspired us all to come together and it is a memory we certainly won't forget.



TY Mini Business

By Molly O'Brien and Molly Daly

At the beginning of the year, all TY's were tasked to come up with an idea for a mini company. Once a mini company had been created, each group would create a document to regularly update research, brainstorm and plan.

On the 12th of December, the school had their annual Christmas Mini Company Market. This market gave the opportunity to all mini businesses to sell and promote their products. Another market was held for students to sell their products on the 30th of January.

The products sold ranged from handmade jewellery to sweet bags, to Christmas trees to fireplaces. Every mini company put forward a business report in order to be selected for the Student Enterprise County Fair.

The school selected four of these to put forward. The companies were;

- '*Anam Cara*' by Emily McTigue
- '*Seodra Grá*' by Amy Patterson and Grace Mullen
- '*Tinebeo Firepits*' by Micheál Minogue
- '*S.C.K Florals*' by Molly O' Brien and Fiadh Quinn

The County Fair was held on the 12th of March where all four companies along with numerous others were judged. On the day '*Tinebeo Firepits*' by Micheál Minogue won most creative business.

Getting the opportunity to set up a mini company has been a very successful learning experience for all the TY students.



Careers Evening

by Kate Fahy

The careers evening was held on the 26th of November 2025. Students had a wide range of different careers and people to discuss with in order to help them choose which career path is best for them.

Students were welcome to bring parents and guardians to this careers day to give an insight to not just the students, but the parents/guardians too.

There were various people with different professions, from people who went into medical practice, to engineers, to law students and people pursuing the art and design sector. Students got to explore all aspects of work and job options.

Colleges such as UG, UL, ATU and more came to the careers evening to help inform each student on which college would suit them best and what courses they have to offer.

There were many post graduate students at the careers day also. They helped to give an understanding of what the workplace is like after graduating from college.

Students had the chance to go around to different rooms and sit and chat with the different people in their professions. This allowed students to ask questions and get a deeper understanding of the jobs they are thinking of pursuing.

The students at Seamount College really enjoyed learning about the different professions and colleges you can enter. What a great opportunity it was for our 3rd-6th year students, along with their parents/guardians.



TY Musical: 'Sister Act'

By Emily McTigue

Between September and November, our TY musical took over. The name of our musical was "Sister Act". The shows took place on the 4th, 5th and 6th of November. We had two matinees and three evening shows in Kilcorman Hall.

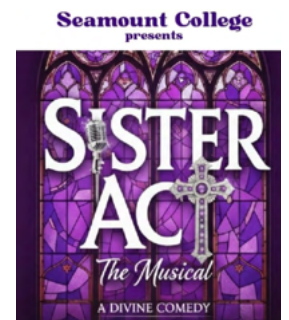
There were 94 TYs who took part and 39 second years. Sean Power directed the musical, along with Claire Egan as music director and Mrs. Vega who organised Google classroom announcements and kept TYs updated. Costumes were given to each participating student mostly consisting of simple nuns habits and glittery nuns habits for the girls and bell bottom pants and colourful blouses for the boys.

There were many scenes and dances which were memorable to the audience such as "Spread the love around" our finale, and "Raise your voice" featuring all of our nuns ensemble. I was lucky enough to play Deloris and enjoyed each step of production and getting to know my cast members.

The main lead roles were played by;

Emily Mc Tigue- Deloris
Grace Mullen- Mother Superior
Lauren Britton- Mary Robert
Clara Forrest- Mary Lazaruz
Abby Finnegan- Mary Patrick
Karim Abdelmonien- Curtis

Ciaran Kelleher- Monsignor
Ultan Krause- Eddie
Francis Irwin- TJ
Noah Farrell - Joey
Josh Burke- Pablo



Some performances which were honourably mentioned by the audience were "The life I never lead", "When I find my baby", "Sister Act" and "Here within these walls". These performances were mentioned throughout the week by the audience, crew, cast members and teachers but every performance was heavily praised and loved by audiences each day. The backstage crew, made up of 14 TY boys, helped move the set and organise props behind the scenes with Eoin Fordham being the backstage manager.

The audience had an amazing reaction with each night ending in standing ovations. On the final night many said they would return if there was another night of performances.

All cast members were sad to see it end but were very happy with the overall experience, many saying they would take part in a musical again. It was a super learning experience and very enjoyable. I would encourage future TYs to take part in musicals as it's an excellent way to get to know others and make lasting memories whether you're playing a lead or behind the scenes.



Model U.N.

In January, nine TY students took part in the annual Model United Nations conferences across three busy days at the University of Galway campus.

Karim Abdelmoniem-Campero, Joshua Burke, Luke Finn, Chloe Gao, Ciaran Kelliher, Grace Kerin, Lily Mossman, Michael Mulcahy, and Agnes Naughton represented the school at the conference.

The event involved group debates where students were assigned a delegate and discussed varying world issues. They were given scenarios to work through in crisis sessions and divided into committees focusing on disarmament, economic policy, social policy, and many more.

Students were awarded for their contributions to each committee, where Lily Mossman picked up an Honourable Mention Award for her work on the Disarmament and International Security Committee.

The Model UN team spent lots of time preparing and were fully engaged in the conferences across the three days and represented the school incredibly well.



5th Year LCVP

by Hannah Kelly and Elena Alfonso McGovern

This year's LCVP class organised and planned many activities for the school community. This included planning our trip into Thermo King for our career investigation write up as part of the Leaving Cert project.

Two of the students contacted the Thermo King to ask if they would give us a tour of their company. We collected money and permission slips from everyone in the class as well as getting permission from the school.

As a class we also organised an orienteering day for the 1st years. We spoke to the staff and students to arrange the day. Clues and answers were made by our class and set up around the school. On the day the 1st years were very enthusiastic about getting a break from the school books. Our class was split up and stationed around the school to ensure it was enjoyed by all. It was a great success and a memorable day for the 1st years.

As a part of Daffodil Day the LCVP class got in contact with volunteers who collect money for Daffodil Week. The day before daffodils were collected and tied into bouquets using friendship bracelets made by the younger year groups in Religion class. On the Friday of Daffodil Week, there was a stand set up at the local farmers market and the Daffodils were sold. All the profits went to the Irish Cancer Society.

We'd like to thank Ms. O'Donnell for all her work and assistance this year.



Sleigh What!? Our Christmas concert was amazing!

by Rose Keegan

The Seamount College Christmas concert was held on Thursday the 18th of December 2025. There were loads of amazing acts like jokes, singing, music, dancing and much more.

The show lasted around 1 hour and a half but I'm sure with the fun all the students were having watching and performing, no one wanted it to end. After the first few acts, the SRC had a lovely surprise, with jokes ready to entertain the crowd and a teacher vs students game held on the stage.

The teachers ended up winning but with the fun both teams had, I don't think anyone was walking off that stage disappointed. The SRC did an outstanding job, alongside the supervision of Ms. McLoughlin. Everyone's effort with organising, planning, performing and helping on the day did not go unnoticed and on behalf of Seamount College, we thank you.

A wide range of notable acts and talents were performed by Seamount students on the day. The very talented 1st year, Kyle Mahon, performed 'Killeagh' by Kingfisher, which really got the crowd going. Seamie Dalton then performed a modern dance routine, followed by Dara Fallon, who performed an Irish dancing routine and both were flawless! A group of the main characters from this year's TY musical then performed songs from the musical, highlighting the wonderful performance and effort that was put together in November. 1st Year Lewis Gao also amazed us all with his keyboard skills.

The Leaving Cert boys and Ms. O'Reilly's wonderful choir performed lots of lovely songs to finish it out. The day was very much enjoyed by both the senior and junior groups and finished off the first school term wonderfully.



ISTA 3rd year quiz

Euan Burke, Finn Mannion, and Oscar Tynan were successful in winning the Irish Science Teachers Association (ISTA) 3rd Year quiz.

The quiz was held at Atlantic Technological University (ATU), Galway on the 26th March 2026 .

Competing against 39 other teams, the students secured first place following a closely contested tie-breaker round.

An excellent achievement. Well done to all involved.



Irish Science Teachers' Association
C6l-Oid6 na hC6ircann



Neuroscience workshop

A selection of Senior cycle students went to 'My Brilliant Brain Workshop' organised by University of Galway.

The Transition Year students that went took home their knowledge and went on to organise a 1st year workshop of their own.

The 1st years played games that tested their reaction time, their senses and their memory. It was a very enjoyable and educational experience for all.



SciFest

In January, TY students took part in this year's SciFest competition.

Students showed fantastic dedication in the months leading up to the event as they developed research questions, carried out background research, formed hypotheses, conducted investigations, analysed their data, and created posters to present their findings to two external judges.

The variety of projects was incredibly impressive, covering topics such as hair and beauty, sport, mental health, laughter, the psychology of gambling, environmental science, medicines, AI, slime, microbiology, and much more.

Well done to everyone involved for all of your hard work, and a special congratulations to our category winners!



Science week

Science Week took place from the 10th to the 15th of November.

The week started off with a dingbat quiz and lunchtime Science quiz. A highlight of the week was the Senior cycle baking competition where TY, 5th and 6th year students showcased their excellent baking skills.

Caoimhe Naughton took home first prize with her Ag. science themed cake.

The Junior cycle students showed their creativity with the cell model competition, the joint winners were Darragh Mudyara, Dexter Cobb and Anna Costello.

The week concluded with Dr. Barry Fitzgerald coming in to talk to 1st year and TY students about “*The Science behind Superheroes*”. Well done to everyone who participated throughout the week



S.C.K. Photography club

The SCK Photography Club had a wonderful second year with eight different competitions, our first ever exhibition and a membership of over 40 students across the six year groups.

Congratulations to the Senior Photographer of the Year - Sarah Divilly (4C) and our Junior Photographer of the Year Lochlan Hill (2A).

Both students showed not only enthusiasm and skill throughout the year but also a desire to learn and build on their current abilities.

Many thanks to Mr. Earley for all his organisation and work throughout the year and of course, thanks to all the students who came to the meetings, entered the competitions and helped with everything along the way.

Here's to next year!



Stay updated by following
us
[@sckphotographyclub](https://www.instagram.com/sckphotographyclub)



Common ground Creative Cluster

Through the art of stone relief sculpture, our Creative Clusters project seeks to embody and celebrate humanitarian virtues such as compassion, empathy, justice, and resilience. This collaborative journey fostered creativity, critical thinking, and a deeper understanding of the shared human experience, leaving a lasting legacy within our school and community.

Our take on the theme was to design and create stone relief sculptures based on 12 virtues that all students should endeavour to apply in their lives and in their relationships with others.

We worked with Irish Natural Stone in the Burren where we did workshops on how to create the final sculpture panels which will be made into planters for our school outdoor space. We then plan to plant flowers, trees, shrubs, plants in them that are symbolic of the carvings on the planters.

We also learned about the work that Irish Natural Stone are doing in conservation work on the Four Courts, Dublin. This was of great benefit to us as we are studying Georgian architecture as part of visual studies for the Leaving Cert. As a follow on activity, we plan to visit Georgian Limerick to further enhance our knowledge of Georgian architecture.



Art and Photography exhibition in KAVA

By Vira Gretska

On the 24th of February, the local gallery, KAVA, hosted an opening night of an Art and Photography exhibition, presented by 5th and 6th year Seamount College students. Presenting and preparing an exhibition is a part of a 5th year study where students learn how to manage and plan out their own exhibition and improve their critical thinking skills.

This year the Photography Club of Seamount College had a chance to present their work along with the Art students. The theme was “*Essence*” which allowed a great range of approaches and many talented students from different year groups showed enthusiasm in their participation.

The exhibition was open for 5 days for public and primary school visits. We had a lot of people coming in to see our students' work, many kids from St Joseph's National School in particular really enjoyed the exhibition and were very interested in students' work.

Students from TY, 5th and 6th year were helping at the gallery every day, minding the exhibition and meeting the visitors. Mr Earley and Mr Kenneally put a huge amount of effort into preparing the art works and photographs for the exhibition, framing and delivering each art piece/photograph to the gallery.



K A V A



Art and Photography exhibition in KAVA



Erasmus 2025/2026

Our latest installment of the Erasmus+ project took place this year, with 20 students from 5th year taking part. We collaborated with French students from Dunkerque, France and Dutch students from Huizen in the Netherlands.

We hosted the visiting groups in October 2025 and took part in many activities. These included Biodiversity experiments, GAA sports, nature hikes and a trip to the Aran Islands. Our visitors very much enjoyed Kinvara and Galway, appreciating the generosity that was extended by the staff, students of Seamount College and wider community.

Our students then visited Europe in February. We made our way to Dunkirk first and travelled to Huizen then midweek. We took part in many unique cultural, ecological and educational activities and the week was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

An Erasmus+ project has benefitted our students by giving them real world experiences beyond school. They have gained cultural awareness by meeting peers from different countries, improving their confidence and independence by living and working in a new environment. It has helped develop their language and communication skills through daily interaction and built upon teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving abilities. Our students have formed lasting international friendships and strengthened their approaches for future study opportunities. Many thanks to Mr. Dowling, Ms. McCarthy, Ms. Kennedy and all the staff who assisted along the way.

Students who took part;

- Elena Alfonso McGovern
- Emma Considine
- Grace Coy
- Maisie Curtis
- Seamus Dalton
- Evie Daly
- Lily Darabi
- Grace Delaney
- Sophia Dunne
- Emma Fahy
- Gabriela Heery
- Orlaith Ganly
- Ciara Ivers
- Abigail Hiseman-Priestly
- Mia Noone
- Jack Kelly Niland
- Ozzy O'Connor
- Emily O'Dea
- Annabel Wasserman
- Síofra O'Connor



Stay updated with
Seamount College & Erasmus+
Follow: @cisane_erasmus



Erasmus 2025/2026



**Applications for the next Erasmus+
project will open up in September
2026 for 5th year students**



6th Year Ecology trip

6th Year Biology students headed to Monivea Woods for their annual Ecology field trip.

They carried out a series of ecology experiments alongside an ecology lecturer and PhD students from the University of Galway.

As an added bonus, students had the chance to get up close with spiders, snakes, and scorpions.



Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge took place in March this year. It is an important part of our school year because it helps students experience the Irish language as something living, social, and enjoyable.

It encourages pride in Irish culture and identity, supports language skills and most importantly creates inclusive and creative opportunities that nurture a positive school atmosphere

During this week, we had biongó, céilithe, tomhas an lae, comórtas t-léine and Dúróin Dúnmharaithe, as well as lots of classroom activities during the week to celebrate the Irish language.

Seachtain na Gaeilge shows that Irish can be modern, fun, and part of daily life. It was a huge success and thanks to all who organised and took part in a wonderful celebration of language and culture.



SEACHTAIN
NA GAEILGE



Díospóireachtaí an Phiarsaigh agus Uí Chadhain- Gael Linn

Bhí bliain iontach ag ár bhfoireann sinsir agus sóisir i mbliana.

D'éirigh leis an dá fhoireann trí bhabta as a chéile a bhuachan agus bhain siad áit amach sa chraobh réigiúnach. Éacht iontach a bhí ann agus léirigh siad díograis, obair foirne agus spiorad scoile den chéad scoth i rith na bliana. Táimid fíorbhródúil astu.

Foireann sóisir: Aoibhe Lally, Bébhinn Whitney, Suman Ní Chadla agus Daniel Curley

Foireann sinsir: Éabha Burke, Mícheál Minogue, John Elwood agus Niamh O' Sullivan.



Gael Linn



Comórtas Tráchtairí Uí Mhuirheartaigh- Gael Linn

Comhghairdeas ó chroí le hÉabha Burke san Idirbhliain a bhain an triú áit amach sa chomórtas tráchtairí i mbliana.

D'fhreastail sí ar bhronnadh na nduaiseanna i bPáirc an Chrócaigh agus bhuail sí le tráchtairí TG4.

Éacht thar a bheith speisialta a bhí ann. Mar aitheantas breise ar a cuid oibre, craoladh a píosa ar TG4 freisin- dochreidte! Maith thú Éabha!



TY French Exchange

20 of our TY students took part in a French exchange with our partner school in Dunkirk, France.

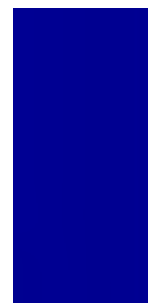
Among the highlights for our students were a trip to Paris, fun and frolics at the famous Carnaval de Dunkerque, visits to the iconic sites of Operation Dynamo, and attending ice hockey matches.

Our students were fantastic ambassadors for Seamount during their respective stays in France. They showed the French students how to play hurling and camogie and engaged very well with their host families.

The last of the French students left Kinvara last on the 10th of May.

Huge thanks to all the TYs and their families for welcoming them into their homes at this busy time of year and to Ms. Connolly for all her hard work.

Bonnes vacances!



Connacht Chess finals event

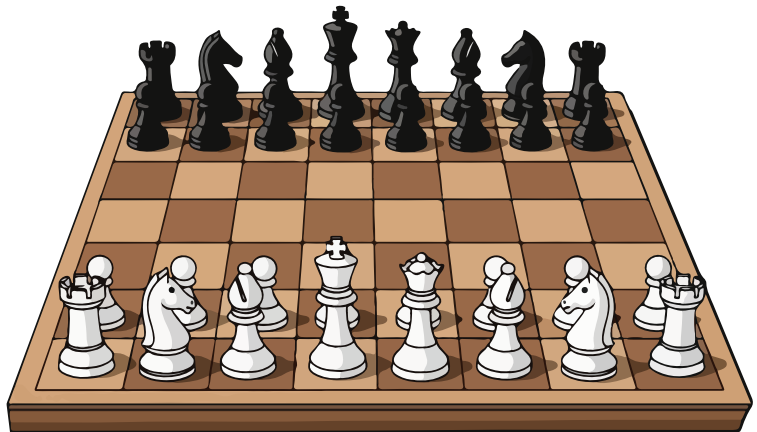
From the beginning of the new year, a number of students began playing chess while on their breaks.

A team of eight later attended the Connaught Finals:

- Evelyn Naughton
- Karolina Conole
- Gabriel Chaves Silva Rodrigues
- Lochlann Hill
- Fall Troake
- Lewis Gao
- Ben Curley
- Srithik Ramesh
- Hugo Calvey

The team had great success and are intent on expanding chess in the school.

A special mention to 1st year Lewis Gao who won the team's Star Player medal with an unbeaten record, overcoming the strongest opponent from each of the opposing five teams.



Hello from the HUB!

The HUB is where our students come to for some quiet time, support and to relax when needed.

Our students are from across the year groups. Friendships are formed in the HUB between students from all years while partaking in both academic and fun activities. Wordle and Dobble are firm favorites. If you think you are good at Dobble, please feel free to join us at breaktimes but be warned, we have some very sharp Dobble players in the HUB! We are also busy improving our skills at Technology, Art, PE, Computers and Home Economics.

Here in the HUB, we celebrate student birthdays and milestones and have at least one fun outing per year. A trip to the cinema is always a good day out. There is always a Teacher and/or SNA in the HUB so why not pay us a visit the next time you are on the 2nd floor of the old building. You'd never know who you would meet!



TY Trip to Italy

This years TY group were part of another successful trip to Italy. They visited fantastic destinations such as Venice, Verona, Lake Garda and the exhilarating, Gardaland theme park.

It was a wonderful experience for our students and most definitely, they will have memories that will last a lifetime. Many thanks to the teachers who travelled with the group and to Ms. Kennedy for her organisation and management of the trip.



Athletics

2026 has been a year of unprecedented success for the SCK Athletics teams.

Over the summer of 2025 Orlaith Mannion (6D) won gold in the Senior Girls 100m Hurdles at the All-Ireland Schools Track & Field Championships in Tullamore.

Claudia Coyle (TY) won gold in the U-16s mile event.

Special mention to Ciarán Considine, Olivia Hodgins, Ciarán Kelleher and Amelie Danjou who also qualified for the All-Ireland Championships. We were fortunate to have many competitors representing Seamount - they did us proud at the highest level.

Donal Coyle (2B) won the All-Ireland Schools Cross Country Junior Boys in Belfast earning the opportunity to represent Ireland at the SIAB Cross Country in Wales. He finished a very credible 10th place in a very tough international field.



Athletics

In the Connacht Schools Athletics Finals, Seamount Athletes collected 4 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze in Athlone and in Sligo on May 2nd.

The day started with a comprehensive win by Orlaith Mannion in the Senior Girls 100m hurdles. She followed this up by winning the 100m sprint to complete another Connacht sprint - hurdle double.

Jack Taylor came 3rd in the minor boys shot put. In a very strong field (where a national schools record was smashed), Jack threw an impressive 12.03m to win bronze.

Claudia Coyle came second in the Inter Girls 800m. She ran a time of 2:19 but the weather wasn't conducive for setting fast times in sprinting or in middle distance races. It should be noted that Claudia won Connacht Schools gold in the 1500m steeplechase in Sligo on May 2nd.

Next up was Ciarán Kelleher who won silver in the Senior Boys 3000m race walk in a race where the winner broke the Championship Record set by a former Olympian.

Ciarán Considine came 3rd in the 3000m in 9:32 which is under 16 minute pace for 5000m. Another impressive performance.

To complete the day, Dónal Coyle won gold in the Junior Boys 1500m in a fast 4 minutes and 24 seconds. This was only 3 seconds off the championship best on a windy day.

Overall - superb results. All 6 athletes have qualified to compete in the All-Ireland Schools Athletics finals in Tullamore on May 29th and 30th.

Well done to all the athletes and coaches involved, especially to Mr. Ó Conghaile for his organisation and support.



Camogie Super 9's

A group of our u15 girls competed in the Super 9s competition which was held in St. Flannan's this year.

They had 4 games in total and were narrowly defeated in the shield quarter final by Presentation Athenry.

The girls showed great heart and determination in all their games and represented Seamount with pride.

The competition was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Ms. Gill for all her organisation and work.



Minor Camogie Connacht Champions

On May 20th, our Minor Camogie team were crowned champions of Connacht after an immensely tense battle with Portumna C.S.

The game was played in Tynagh GAA in front of a big crowd consisting of family, friends and students. Portumna started strong and with the aid of the breeze, they found themselves 2 points ahead of Seamount at the interval.

A quick regroup and conversation at halftime worked wonders as our girls fought tenaciously for every ball and score. Portumna battled right to the end but we held out for a 3-7 to 2-8 victory in the end.

Scenes of great celebration ensued afterwards as family and friends joined the team with cheers and congratulations. A wonderful win and a reflection of this groups hard work and dedication to their sport.

Well done to Ms. McGrath on her hard work with this team and thanks for her generous time giving with this group.



Junior B Camogie Connacht champions

The Junior Camogie Panel had a super championship, coming away as Connacht Junior B Champions defeating HRC Mountbellew on the 15th of December in Glenamaddy All Weather pitch.

The girls started strongly, leading 0-8 to 0-2 at half time after a superb first half performance. HRC Mountbellew stormed back into the contest in the second half with two goals, but our girls showed great character to see out the game. Final Score 1-13 to 2-7 to Seamount. Joint Captains were Mia Walsh and Éabha Burke.

They then went on to contest the All Ireland Post Primary Series on the 14th of February. They came up short in the semi final against a very strong Coláiste Mhuire, Johnstown team from Kilkenny, who went on to win the All Ireland Junior B Championship.

Well done to all involved and especially, once more to Ms. McGrath.



Senior Camogie

Our Senior Camogie team once again competed in the 'A' division this year.

They recorded a strong win against St. Bridgid's Loughrea and ran St. Raphael's, as well as eventual winners, Pres. Athenry close.

Although the campaign finished without silverware, it is important to note the hardwork, preserverence and detemrnation that was shown by the squad.

Mr. Dowling, Ms. McGrath, Ms. Kelly and Mr. Cuddy would especially like to extend thanks to the 6th year panel members who will be departing Seamount this summer.

From us four, sincere thanks for your time and effort from when you very first wore the Seamount jersey to the last. You are leaving the jersey in a good place and indeed the future looks bright for Camogie in Seamount College. We hope that you have memories to last a lifetime.

To these Senior players, we wish you continued success in all and every professional, personal and sporting journeys that you may undertake in life.



1st Year Hurling

The 1st years had a great year overall. They were captained by Emmet Fahy and Dara Hanrahan. They were in a group with Portumna, Presentation college Athenry 'B', and St. Brigid's Loughrea.

We played Portumna in our first game and ran out 5 point victors in our first game. In our second game, in very wet and windy conditions in Kinvara, we defeated the Pres. Athenry. Finally, we had a great win against St. Brigid's, putting up a good score on the day.

We topped the group and earned a spot in the semi-final against Holy Rosary College. There were some super performances on the day in probably our best team performance. We scored 6-14 and qualified for the Connacht final.

Unfortunately, Portumna got the better of us on the day in Raheen pitch in Athenry. It was a close affair in a great contest. Overall, it was a positive year with plenty of stars for the future on display for Seamount. The future is bright with such talent coming through.

Well done to Mr. Burns on all his work and time with this team.



Joint captains
Emmet Fahy and Dara Hanrahan



Senior Hurling

The Senior hurling team showed great commitment and determination throughout the year despite facing a difficult campaign.

Competing in a strong group with Clarin College and St. Cuans Castleblakeney, the team battled hard in every match and continued to train consistently and positively from the start of the year to the very end.

Although results didn't go our way, the effort and dedication from the players all year was commendable. The team exited the championship in the quarter final stage to a very strong Holy Rosary College, Mountbellew team.

While this year proved challenging on the scoreboard, the experience gained will stand to all players moving forward.



Hockey

The Senior 'A' team had a very competitive season. They faced a much tougher side of the draw in the cup competition. They saw off Salerno 2-1 in the semi final and were narrowly defeated 3-2 in a thrilling game v Jes. In the league final it went right down to the wire and the girls lost on penalties (again to Jes). Senior B team came runner up in their competition.

U16A team had a very strong season, losing narrowly in the league finals.

U16B team had a short season and unfortunately didn't qualify from their group.

1st year 'A' team was one of the strongest Seamount has seen in many years. They impressed all the way through their league but it ended in heartbreak with a loss to Jes on penalties in the final.

Well done to all coaches and players involved on great organisation and efforts across the year. The future is certainly bright.



Boys Juvenile Gaelic football

On May 18th, our Juvenile U15 Gaelic football team had a fantastic victory in the Connacht Final against a very talented St. Brendan's Belmullet team on a final scoreline of 4-18 to 4-13 after extra time.

This tight affair was level at half time and again at the end of full time. Our lads found a way and seemed to get stronger and stronger as the game went on.

This topped off a great season for this group of players who also captured the Galway school's competition back in January.

An excellent achievement by all. A special thanks to Mr. O'Meara for all his work with this team.

A special mention to our Boys 1st year team also who reached the Connacht Semi-Final losing narrowly to Mohill. Great effort and determination was shown by this group all year. Thanks to Mr. Dowling for his work here.

The future of football is certainly looking good in Seamount.



Seamount LGFA.

This year Seamount had an under 14 and Junior ladies Gaelic football team.

The Junior team played well all year winning two games against Colaiste an Eachreidh and Clarin College.

The under 14 team started the year out strongly with wins against Colaiste an Eachreidh and St. Brigids Loughrea.

They made it through to a quarter final where they were unlucky to lose out to Colaiste Mhuire, Ballygar.

Well done to all the girls who played during the year, especially to our Junior and Senior players of the year Grace Linnane and Molly O'Brien.

Thanks to Ms. Gill, Ms. McCarthy and Ms. McDonnell for their time with both panels.



Active Schools week and Sports day

Our annual Active Schools Week took place on the week beginning Monday 27th April, where the aim was to energize the school day, while providing fun, physical activity opportunities for students and staff.

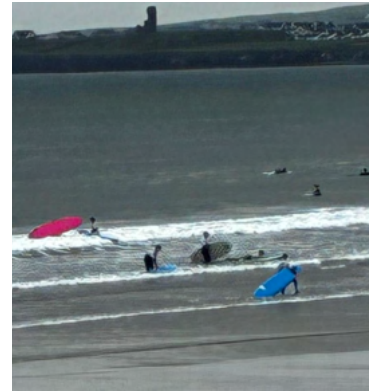
Long-term health and wellness was the focus of the week; fostering positive attitudes towards exercise. The week began with all TYs actively taking part in an Anti Discrimination in Sport Practical Workshop.

One of the TY future leaders classes then successfully organised and ran a hotly contested tournament for all 2nd years.

2 bus loads of TYs then departed for Lahinch on Thursday to put their surfing skills to the test and had a brilliant time surfing the Wild Atlantic waves along Lahinch Beach.

The week culminated with our annual Sports Day on Friday, where every class competed for their own year groups' coveted trophy.

Sports & Activities included mixed teams in Soccer, Volleyball, Tag-Rugby, Basketball, Tug-of-War, Relay and Sprint



Active Schools week and Sports day



Active Schools week and Sports day



3rd Year Home Economics Practical Exam

Our 3rd Year Home Economics students completed their cookery examinations in April. Each student was required to plan, prepare, cook and serve either a starter and dessert, a lunch and snack, or a complete main course.

The standard was excellent throughout. The students' hard work, commitment and strive towards excellence were clearly evident in the quality and variety of dishes produced.

Many students showed great creativity, organisation and confidence throughout the examination process, and it was wonderful to see the pride they took in presenting their dishes.

The practical examinations highlighted not only excellent cookery skills, but also important life skills such as time management, organisation, independence and problem-solving. As this practical examination was worth 50% of their overall grade, students dedicated a huge amount of time and effort to preparation and practice, which was truly commendable.

We hope that students will continue to cook and use the valuable skills they developed during their three years of Junior Cycle Home Economics into the future.

We are extremely proud of all that they have achieved and wish them every success in the future. Well done to each and every one of you on such a fantastic achievement.



Gaisce

In early May, 35 Transition Years completed their Gaisce President's Award bronze medal award with an overnight stay and 25km hike in the Burren.

The trip included two hikes, one over Oughtmama, Turlough and Abbey Hill and a second hike around Flaggy Shore.

This completed their Adventure Journey which is the culmination of months of work since October including volunteering in the community, developing personal skills and practicing various different sports.

Congratulations to all the students for their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm. It's been wonderful to see Gaisce become so popular in Seamount again. Thanks to Mr Earley and Ms Tierney for all their efforts throughout the year.



Green Schools

In mid May, at the Green Schools awards in Dublin, Seamount College were very successful and it is testament to all the hard work and dedication that is ongoing by students and staff in the school.

On the day, they have picked up the Regional Marine and Global Citizenship Award for the West and North region.

To add to this, our group were also awarded the overall National award for Regional Marine and Global Citizenship Award for secondary schools.

This was a great achievement. Thanks to all the students who put in such great time and effort all year.

Green Schools and Global Citizenship Education are incredibly valuable to our school because they teach how to care for the environment, respect others, and make responsible choices in daily lives.

Combined they also help create healthier, more inclusive communities while preparing students to become active and informed citizens of the world.

A special thanks to Ms. Leydon for her continued work with Green Schools in Seamount.



Green Schools

Overall, this year was an exciting and busy time for the Green Schools Committee as they worked to not only maintain the greener practices being held at Seamount College but also to build upon and educate the school community on how we can help the environment both locally and on a wider scale.

The Green Team began within the school gates by giving the flower beds and polytunnel some well needed TLC and prepped them for the multitude of vegetables, fruits, and flowers that would be grown there over the course of the year.

With the help of the local Kinvara Tidy Towns group, the team were kept busy with beach cleans and workshops, and a highly successful drive for selling the Kinvara Cares keep cups, as part of one of the main goals of the team to eliminate the use of disposable and single-use cups at the school.

With the marine focus in mind as it was the theme of this years Green Schools competitions, the team completed a marine biodiversity course online so that they could pass on what they learned to the entire student body. They did so by hosting bake sales, an insightful workshop with Cuan Beo, speaking at the Love My Bay Marine Awareness event, and a Marine Ambassadors table quiz.

The efforts of this years Green Team did not go unnoticed both in school and further afield, as some of our members picked up the Medtronic Regional Innovation Project Award. The fantastic and busy year came to a close when the Green Team members took to Dublin, where they were awarded the Regional Award for Green-Schools Global Citizenship and Marine Environment for the West and North region, which automatically shortlisted them for the national award.

A hard year of work paid off, as seen on the page previous, Seamount College were awarded the National Green-Schools Global Citizenship and Marine Environment out of 82 secondary schools across the country. Well done to all involved!



Global Citizenship Education (GCE)

Seamount College has a long standing history with Global Citizenship Education (GCE). GCE benefits both our school and our students by helping young people develop the knowledge, skills, and values needed to live and work in an interconnected world.

Through activities like teamwork, debates, community projects, and intercultural learning, students become more confident, responsible, and active members of society. GCE helps create a more inclusive and respectful environment, increases student engagement by connecting learning to real-world issues, and strengthens the school's reputation as a forward-thinking institution. It also supports cross-curricular learning and prepares students for future careers by developing adaptability, collaboration, and global awareness.

This year was incredibly busy and GCE has continued to flourish under the stewardship of Ms. McGuane and the especially the current TY's who's passion and initiative were outstanding.

Thanks to Róisín Gill, Kate Roche, Chloe Gao and Saoirse Trimble, who created a PowerPoint covering all the work done this year. It will be available to view via the schools social media.

Thanks to Ms. McGuane for her continued work in promoting GCE in school. Also, we'd like to extend a major thank you to all the speakers and guests who came to speak to our students this year. Strengthening links to local communities is invaluable and we thank each and every one of you for your generous time and your sharing of expertise.

A list of some highlight activities;

- Daffodil week
- Global Ireland Young Leaders Programme
- National Tree week
- Walk for Water
- Down Syndrome Ireland talk with Ailis Malone
- STEM Lego
- Air Quality testing
- March for safer roads
- Mother and Baby home talk with Dr. Mary Harney
- Kinvara Tidy Towns
- Growth of food and pollinator friendly flowers



A catch up with Ms. Fitzgerald

It's hard to believe it's a year since I said goodbye to Seamount and Seamount said goodbye to me. I was deeply touched by the kindness and generosity shown to me in those final weeks: coffee mornings, lunches, dinners, nights' out, hikes, thoughtful gifts, fabulous flowers, kind words... even poems.

Although there was a very special formal send-off on May 30th that brought me to tears, the reality of retirement didn't truly hit until August 24th. Everyone else was returning to school the following day, except me. It was time to remove myself from the staff WhatsApp group. I was officially retired.



As retirement approached, I viewed it as an extended “Gap Year for Seniors”, and I’ve done my best to make sure it lived up to that description. It got off to a cracking start — literally. I crashed my bike into a concrete drain in Spain and broke my elbow. Thankfully, that was the extent of the damage. Bruised from head to toe at the time, I’m living proof of the value of a cycling helmet!

That unfortunate beginning certainly hasn't dimmed my love of travel. Since May 2025, I've visited Spain (twice), Greece, Slovakia, Poland, Cambodia, Vietnam and Singapore, as well as London, Rome and Vienna. Closer to home, I've also ticked several places off my Irish travel list: far-flung Cavan, Fermanagh, Wexford and West Cork among them.

There has also been plenty of walking, hiking and cycling and hopefully much more to come. I've climbed the highest mountains in Connacht and Ulster, and I hope to add Leinster and Munster to the list in the coming year.

Do I miss SCK? Absolutely. I miss the people in Seamount, both staff and students. I'm lucky to still regularly meet many wonderful Seamount friends, but I do miss the daily chats, laughs and fun.

Retirement has brought freedom and opportunities for adventure and new experiences, but it also reminds me how fortunate I was to spend so many years working alongside such great people.



A catch up with Ms. Fitzgerald



A word from Mr. Dowling

It was brilliant to catch up Ms. Fitzgerald. Her retirement last year marked the close of an extraordinary chapter in education, but the impact she made will remain for years to come in Seamount.

Known for her kindness, compassion, and tireless dedication, she brought warmth and encouragement into every classroom, corridor and chat. She left a lasting impression on countless students and colleagues alike.

Though retired, she is impossible to forget, as her influence and example continue to inspire us all every day. All of us at Seamount send continued well wishes for happiness, good health, and to many more wonderful (and hopefully safe!) adventures. We can't wait to hear from you again.



Spirit of Seamount (SOS) day

We had an incredible day celebrating everything that makes our school community so special in our first ever Spirit of Seamount (SOS) Day organised by our Student Council.

Students and staff truly embraced our "Rock Your Funky Socks" Initiative, showing their support for inclusion and diversity in the most colourful and creative way. Almost 300 Kindness Cupcakes were sent by students to others across the school, spreading smiles and little moments of joy all around.

The tea, chats, and breacktime music gave everyone a chance to connect and recharge. Our Shout Out Boards were filled with appreciation for both teachers and students, creating a wave of positivity which could be felt throughout the school.

Prize winners:

- Rock your socks: Eoin O Shaughnessy, 2nd Year & Emma Cullinane, 6th Year
- Cake Decorating Competition: Caoimhe Naughton & Eleanor Costello
- Pay it Forward Bingo: Darragh O Loughlin, Ettore Aschieri, Grace Fordham and Anna Costello



University of Galway Musical Society (GUMS) awards

In early May, our talented TY students took the University of Galway Musical Society (GUMS) Awards by storm, and we couldn't be prouder!

A massive shout-out to our nominees and winners:

Karim A. – Nominated for Best Male Actor for his fantastic performance as Kurtis!

Emily McTigue – Crowned Best Female Actor for her incredible portrayal of Deloris!

Lauren Britton – Took home the Rising Star award for her brilliant role as Sr. Mary Roberts!

To top off a great day, we were delighted to reunite with past pupil Liam Farren. Liam is now a member of GUMS and gave a spectacular performance for all the schools in attendance.



Teacher vs. LC students soccer fundraiser

This year under the guidance of Ms. O'Donnell, The 5th year LCVP group organised a soccer game between the Teachers and the LC students. It was held on the 18th of May with an electric atmosphere of students and staff shouting encouragement (and directions!) to their teams.

The game was competitive and played in good spirits throughout. On the day, the LC's got the rub of the green. Peter Horan opened the scoring with a sublime finish that gave Mr. Dowling no chance. It was an uphill battle from there for the teachers. Mr. Burns and Mr. Cuddy pulled 2 back and referee, Ms. Feehily, may have tried to assist once or twice but eventually, the students deservedly ran out 4-2 winners. They were sure to remind their teachers frequently of this.

It was a wonderful occasion, one that was enjoyed by both teams. Most importantly, all proceeds of the game were given as part of the ongoing fundraising for Daffodil week which supports cancer charities.

Well done to the LCVP students, Ms. O'Donnell, Hugh in the coffee truck and each and everyone involved in making it a stand out day.

The LC's may have won this time but the teachers will be back in 2027!!



Annual awards ceremony

Our annual school awards ceremony was held on May 14th. We look forward to this time every year as the awards promote a positive learning environment, encourage student achievement, and build school pride.

We were delighted to commend the following students for their excellence:

- First Year: Luke Huban
 - Second Year: Karolina Conole
 - Third Year: Ava Hynes
 - Transition Year: Grace Mullen
 - Fifth Year: Ettore Aschieri
 - Sixth Year: Orlaith Mannion
-
- Spirit of the Year Junior Student: Daniel Curley
 - Spirit of the Year Senior Student: Tara Lyons

Well done to all our winners, as well as the Tutor, Sporting, Subject, Musical, Gaisce, Photography and Debating awards.

A special thanks to Ms. Kerrigan also for all her work organising day and to Mr. Earley for his photography

Full range of photos are available on the schools Facebook page.



TY Graduation

Our TY graduation took place on Tuesday 19th May. Friends and family gathered in school to celebrate a wonderful occasion, marking the closure of a memorable chapter in our students journey in Seamount.

This group were involved in numerous activities all year. These ranged from trips (home and abroad), to music, sport, biodiversity initiatives, GCE events, fundraisers and much more that together fostered an inclusive school environment.

Many of these have been shown in this newsletter and on behalf of all the teachers involved, we would like to thank the students for their co-operation and interest in the many projects this year.

Speeches from management reflected the successes of the year and the experience gained that will help each student approach their Leaving Certificate cycle.

Each student received a certificate of completion with a smile on their face as they set their sights on enjoying a happy and healthy summer.

A big thank you to Ms. Kennedy for all her work this year in organising and looking after the TY's. Thanks also to the many teachers who brought their expertise and donated their time generously to make this year a unique and memorable learning experience.

Full range of photographs from Mr. Earley available on the schools Facebook page.



LC Graduation

The LC graduation took place on Thursday 21st May. A large crowd gathered in St. Joseph's church to mark the occasion. Overseen by Fr. Hugh, the theme of the graduation was '*Sailing to new Horizons*'. This was a fitting theme as our LC group will very soon embark on new life journeys.

This group began their time in Seamount in 2020. A difficult beginning due to the circumstances but despite the challenges, this group began to knit together and friendships flourished.

These bonds were commended by year head Ms. Cullen in her speech as she also noted their empathy and compassion towards each other as highlight features of their time.

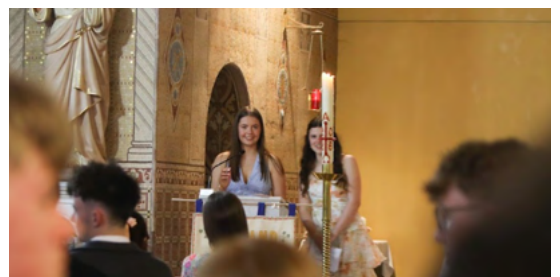
Bean Mhic Dhomhnaill wished the group well on their journey and was sure to state that Seamount and Kinvara, will always be home. She encouraged the group to be brave and ambitious and to approach life's opportunities in good faith.

Excellent music and singing filled the church with life, as smiles and stories amongst students, friends and family brought vibrance and celebration to all.

Leah Lordan and Molly Naughton signed off on the evening with a special address that reflected on the groups journey. It drew laughs, smiles and a few happy tears. A wonderful conclusion to a special ceremony.

Many thanks to Ms. Vega, Ms. McLoughlin, Ms. Cullen, Mr. Gaffney, Mr. Earley and Fr. Hugh for their incredible contributions to this special evening. Full gallery of Mr. Earley's pictures are available via the school's Facebook page.

On behalf of everyone at Seamount, we wish the LC class of 2026 the very best in their exams and that they may continue to succeed personally and professionally in all of life's adventures



Poem for Reflection

*In Kinvara where the salt winds
kiss the bay,
The Walls of Seamount glow soft
in May.*

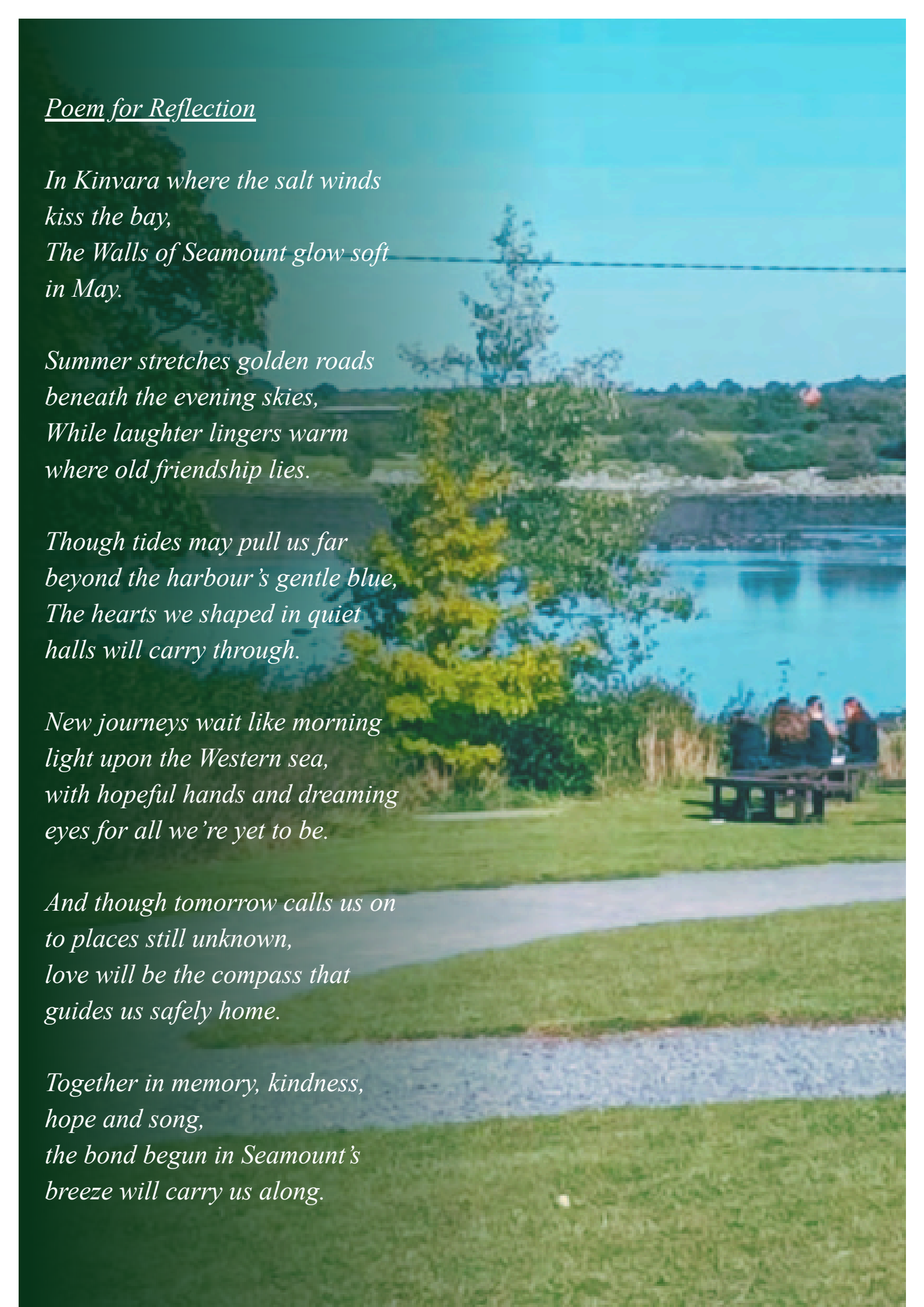
*Summer stretches golden roads
beneath the evening skies,
While laughter lingers warm
where old friendship lies.*

*Though tides may pull us far
beyond the harbour's gentle blue,
The hearts we shaped in quiet
halls will carry through.*

*New journeys wait like morning
light upon the Western sea,
with hopeful hands and dreaming
eyes for all we're yet to be.*

*And though tomorrow calls us on
to places still unknown,
love will be the compass that
guides us safely home.*

*Together in memory, kindness,
hope and song,
the bond begun in Seamount's
breeze will carry us along.*



2025/2026

Seamount College

NEWSLETTER

