

Hot off the...

The CUS Press

April 2019 – First Year Newsletter Edition 3

TALK TO JOE



Eight First Years recently interviewed Mr. Parkes. We were curious about a number of things, and, from the questions we asked him, we discovered some interesting information...

Joe's Favourites

Pre-match meal: Pasta and chicken (yummy!!)

Food: Steak and chips, vinegar, no salt (He doesn't like pizza - what???)

Messi or Ronaldo: Messi because he is more of a team player

Hobbies: Golf and gardening. Walking his dog

T.V programme: *Blue Planet*, *Match of the Day*

Film: *Cool Hand Luke* starring Paul Newman.

Music: The Beatles and listening to classical music on Lyric F.M.

Year: 1976 - The year his first child was born.

Other profession: Would have liked to be a Garda if not involved in rugby.

Football team: Liverpool - We learned that Mr Parkes played as an apprentice player at Liverpool in the 1970's. He was there for 10 months and played as a centre forward. Apprentices had to clean the boots of senior players. He cleaned *Kevin Keegan's* boots! He was managed by Liverpool legend Bill Shankly. He then returned to Ireland and played for Shamrock Rovers.

Rugby:

Mr. Parkes went to school in De La Salle Churchtown. He worked for many years at the Irish Glass Bottle Company as a personnel officer. While there he took his Rugby coaching badges. He also played for various amateur teams including St. Mary's and the Gardaí as well having trials for Leinster. He played Number 8 or second row.

We realised that Mr. Parkes is a great coach because of all his playing experience under excellent leadership on various teams. He has been coaching for 20 years, 16 of which have been in CUS. He told us that he is delighted with all levels of First Year rugby. He felt we had an excellent attitude right from the camp last August. Skill and communication levels had really improved. He also felt that CUS could win the Junior Cup in the next few years because we have beaten, or very narrowly lost to all the best teams and because we have a great attitude. He also didn't invent the "Heine Muller"!!! (Ask a First Year.)

Mr. Parkes was a lot of fun to interview and we would like to say thanks very much for everything.

- Isaac Jones, Ruben Maguire, Aidan Walsh, Ciaran Ryan, Josh Gordon, Kyle Ellis, Jack O'Neil, Rian Powell

Killary



This year, a large number of First Years went to Killary Adventure Centre in Co. Mayo. There were lots of activities involving state-of-the-art facilities. My personal favourite was the kayaking and gorge walking. My group started with kayaking. We played various games on the water and by the end we were all soaked. When we were finished, we started the gorge walk. The start of the gorge walk was very steep and was the hardest part – not to mention Baltic water temperatures! The rocks were slippery but there were no fatalities. - Alex Molloy

There was a range of enjoyable activities in Killary, but my personal favourite was the Turf Challenge. My Group did it as our last activity. So, at 10 o'clock on Sunday Morning, we headed down to the dressing rooms and got changed into our wet suits. We then headed to the Bog with our instructor, Sapphire. We climbed over wooden climbing walls, balanced and walked across a slippery log over a deep bog, swung on a long rope into a viscous bog that smelled utterly rancid and slid down a series of these pipe-like slides which were rather slow,





so we had to kick water down them to speed each other up. At the end, we slid down a long slide which had water flowing down it, and we landed in this large pool of water. A few of us then walked over to the river where another group was kayaking, and dove into the river. It was an extremely enjoyable activity and the perfect way to cap off a Wonderful experience in Killary. We can't forget those who bravely jumped off the cliff into Ireland's chilly Atlantic – Rian Powell and Eoghan O'Reilly!

– Noah Empereur

On the 22nd of March 1st Years went to the Galway-Mayo border. We were in Killary Adventure Centre. Everyone had a great time but personally I enjoyed the high ropes the most. It was activities that we all had to climb up poles and work in groups to complete challenges while we were up on a platform. The platforms were about 20 metres high so it was quite scary for all of the brave souls who

tried to make it up. Everybody enjoyed the food, especially Lauren's flapjacks. There was a general consensus that there that we would recommend all incoming first years to do this in years to come.
- Conor Cullen



Irish Young Philosopher Awards

The Irish Young Philosopher (IYPA) awards take place every year. It is an opportunity for young people to showcase their philosophical ideas. Last year President Michael D. Higgins attended the event. Students from 3rd Class to 6th Year in secondary school can submit a project.

The idea of Irish The idea of the IYPA was created by Dr. Danielle Petherbridge from the UCD school of philosophy. Students can submit a project of many variations such as, posters, mindmaps, storyboards, podcasts and much more.

The event takes place at UCD in Belfield.

- Daíre Walsh

Climbing to New Heights on Everest



On the 31st of March 2019, my family and I will be flying out to Kathmandu and begin our journey to Everest Base Camp (EBC).

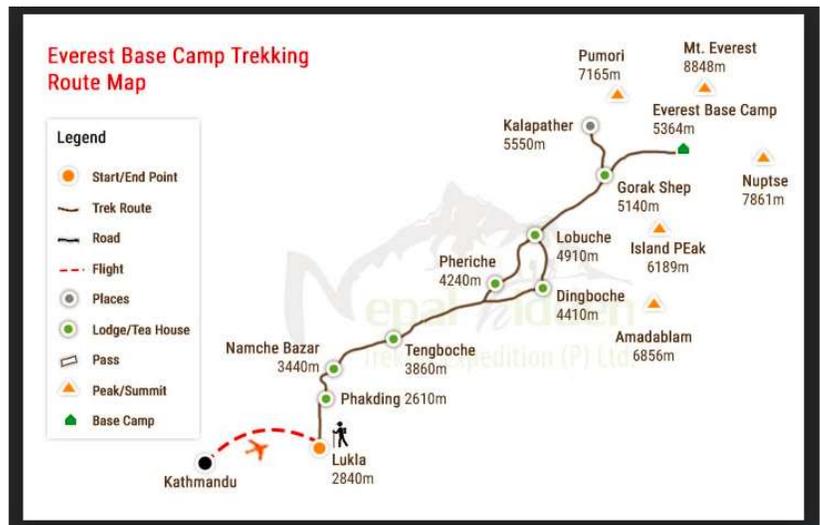
In preparation for this, we have set off on a hike nearly every single Sunday for the past fourteen months. We've climbed over 40 peaks in the Wicklow mountains. We also did the Wicklow Way and various other mountains throughout the country.

The hiking gear we will be bringing to EBC consists of a down jacket, merino wool thermals and leggings, hiking trousers, hiking boots and other layers. We will put most of our gear into duffel bags which our Sherpas will be carrying. The main risks we will be facing on EBC are altitude sickness, food poisoning and dehydration. There are also yaks which could push you off the side of a mountain

if you don't stand on the mountain side to let them pass.

The main highlights going on the EBC trip will be reaching EBC, seeing the Buddhist monasteries and all of the mountain ranges. Also sunrise on Kala Patthar, where you're supposed to get a great view of Mt. Everest. You have to get up at 2 am to trek up to Kala Patthar!

The temperature on the EBC trip changes drastically. In Kathmandu, the temperature will be around 30 degrees. We then fly up to Lukla (which is meant to be one of the most dangerous flights in the world) which will be around 12 degrees and the lowest temperature on the trip will be about -15 degrees. On the way up to EBC, we will be staying in teahouses, which have basic accommodation and get more basic the higher you go up.



The total trip is 18 days. The trek up to EBC, which is 5,364 metres and Kala Patthar which is 5,500 metres will take about 8 days up and then 4 days down. The other days will consist of travelling and preparation. The 31st of March is approaching fast and I will provide an update IF I get back!

- Josh Scully

Red Army

On 4TH February 2019, my brother, Ben Moran (CUS past pupil) was commissioned as an officer into the army. The day began with the soldiers and their families gathering at Christ Church for a service and they then marched to Dame Street with a flyover by the Irish Aircorp. The cadets were commissioned in Dublin Castle with the Taoiseach in attendance. It was a very proud day for my family.

- Kyle Ellis



The Two Amigos



¡Hola!

Me llamo Luca. Soy bajo y tengo el pelo castaño y los ojos marrones. Me gusta el baloncesto y la natación. Mi cumpleaños es el once de julio. Tengo trece años. Vivo en Dublín. Tengo un hermano y una hermana y no tengo mascotas en casa.

- Luca Mesolella

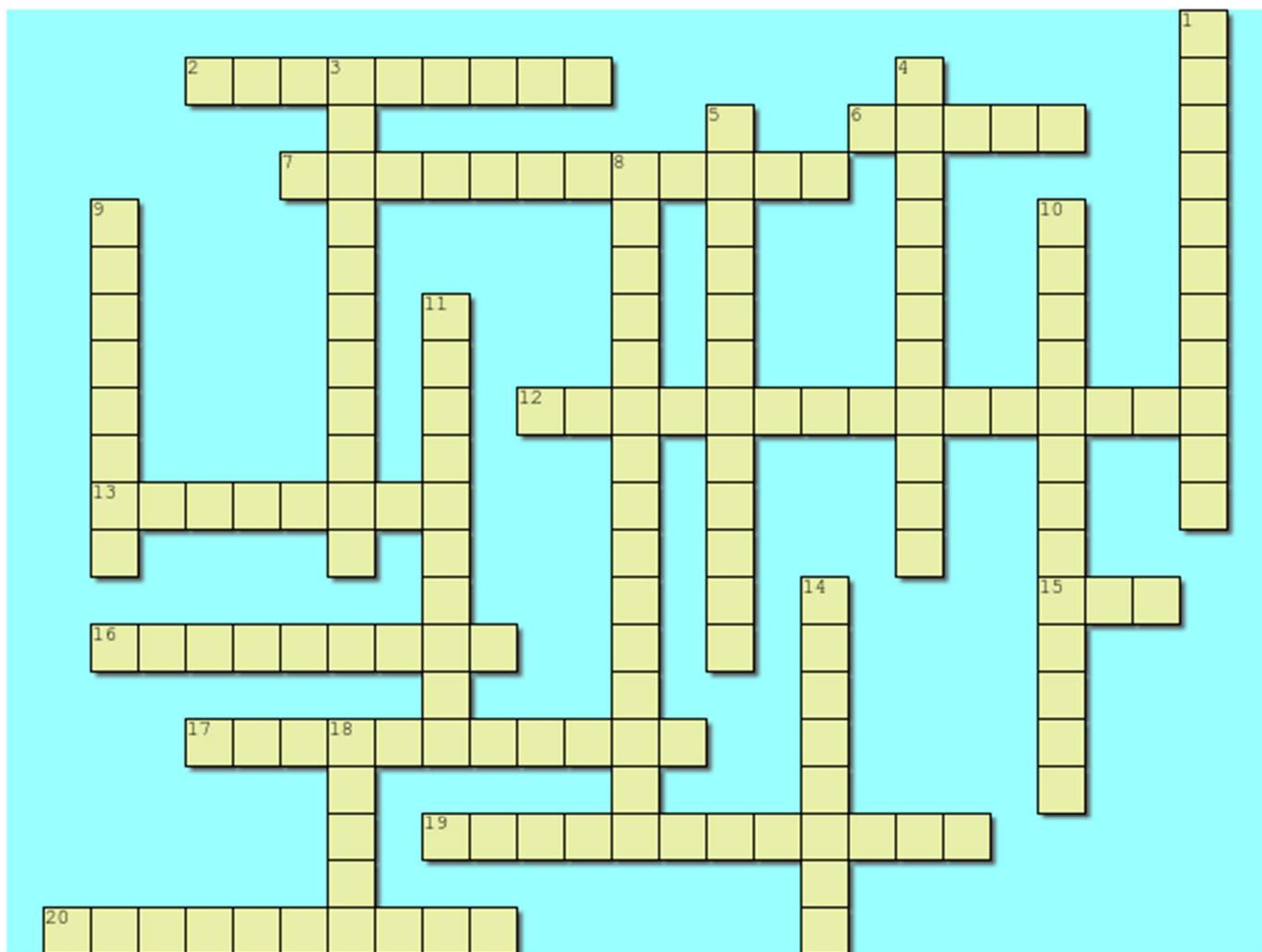
¡Hola!

Me llamo Alex. Vivo en Dublín. Tengo el pelo morreno y corto y los ojos marrones. Somos cinco en mi familia – dos hermanas y yo. Me gusta el fútbol y la natación. Mi cumpleaños es el veintiseis de junio. Tengo trece años.

- Alex Molloy

An Chéad Bhliain: Achoimre

Complete the crossword below using vocabulary from 1st year Gaeilge. Smaoineamh: Zac Barry Déanta ag: Daltaí ón gcéad bhliain



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

BRONNTANAIŠ STAIR SPÁINNIS RUA NAOMHPÁDRAIG BOSCALITREACH PRÁTA ANEARRACH
DEIREADHFÓMHAIR ANCHÁISC PÁISTEONAR CROIMÉAL TEANNTÁINFIACLA ÉIDESCOILE
MEÁNSCOIL PICTIÚRLANN SEOMRAGRÉINE LEABHARLANN REILIGIÚN MARÓG NOLLAG

Across

2. Amen
6. Is sceallóga mé anois.. céard a bhí mé cheana?
7. Bíonn céiliúradh don fhear seo ar an 17ú Márta
12. Cuireann an fiacloir na rudaí seo ar d'fhiacla muna bhfuil siad díreach
13. 'Adiós'
15. Cén dath atá ar ghruaig Ed Sheeran?
16. Freastalaíonn daltaí idir 12-18 inti
17. Duine gan aon deirfiúr nó deartháir
19. Tá solas gréine sa seomra seo
20. Cén séasúr ina bhfuil Feabhra, Márta agus Aibreán

Down

1. Bíonn grán rósta agus scannán inti
3. Shh... táim ag léamh anseo!
4. Na rudaí a fhaigheann tú ar do bhreithlá
5. Milseog a itheann tú ar an Nollaig
8. An mhí ina bhfuil Oíche Shamhna
9. An fhéile a bhíonn san earrach
10. Cuirtear litreacha sa bhosca seo
11. Éadaí a chaitheann daltaí ar scoil
14. An rud atá ar aghaidh Marty Whelan
18. San ábhar seo, bíonn tú ag foghlaim faoin am atá thart

Eco-Warriors!



Sean Gaughan and James Davison, of class 1A1, got together to record an interview, with the aim of helping us all catch up on what has been going on with Green Schools recently, and how each of us can play our part...

SG: What are the Green School committee doing to help the environment?

JD: We try to reduce waste and single use plastic in the school, and we encourage people to bring their own reusable water bottles and cutlery.

SG: As we know, the locker areas have been considered an untidy area in the past. What has been done to remedy this?

JD: We're making sure the locker areas are clean by not allowing bags or coats in each area. We also have removed all books and

bags from the top of the lockers by putting them in lost and found, and have placed a number of recycling bins around the areas. Hopefully everyone will make good use of them!

SG: Has there been any change in the school since these changes have been put in place?

JD: Since we have put all of the recycling bins around the place, we have seen a great difference in the amount of waste every month, and we appreciate everyone's help. We are still taking non-recyclable items out of the recycling bins, though, which contaminates them, so there's still plenty of work to be done!

No Glory in War

My chest is pounding, there's explosions everywhere, all around lay my dead comrades covered in blood. There's screams and shrieks of agony all around me. I can't move my legs, they feel as if they're trapped under boulders but they are not. There is nothing on my legs, so they must be partially paralyzed. The loud gunshots deafen my ears and my eyesight is going because everything is just a blur. My trench is covered in bodies and is practically deserted. This can only mean one thing. Suddenly, my thoughts are blown away as a tired, panting man covered in blood screams at me, he says only two words but he gets the message across "They're coming!" That is enough for me to snap back to reality, the enemy are coming and they are coming to kill. I get up and run, I can see the tops of their bayonets through the mist. Suddenly a German soldier comes around from another trench, and spots me. I hear eager shouts as they chase me through the mist. I look for a place to hide, but they are closing in, I swiftly turn a bend and see a very well hidden burrow in an open area covered in gravel. To my luck the burrow is hidden under all the gravel. I dive down into it and hunch up so that I am holding my knees. I can hear the heavy footsteps crash down into the asphalt as they pursue me. When they get to the ground above me, they stop. I can hear them shout at each other as they look for me. My heart beats faster than it ever has. To my relief they keep on running.

As I lie here on the freezing cold ground it brings back memories of my childhood. It takes my mind off the harsh reality which unfortunately I am in. I think back to the days when my best friend Joe Wilson and I would play our little soldier games. Our games always portrayed a gentle, fun war which was only fought for entertainment. We were sadly too young to realise that war was completely different. Joe and I both lived in Hackney, London which was unfortunate because it was probably one of the poorest areas in England. Joe and I never got an education due to the fact that my parents didn't work and Joe's dad owned a run down hardware store. We were both deeply deprived from most things, even food and water. Both of our family's were lucky to be alive as many didn't survive, even though they had more money than us. We fought through the hardest of times by sticking together and fighting the hunger away. These thoughts bring me back to the reality. The shelling has started back again and it's preventing me from sleep.

Morning has come and I have decided to leave. I realise that if I stay any longer I might never be able to leave because the enemy could advance at any moment and then I'll be properly stuck. I pop my head out over the burrow to see nothing but a deserted wasteland. I gather my belongings which consist of an empty water canister and a rifle, then head off. I make sure to keep low and out of sight. I have not spotted anyone yet but that does not mean they haven't spotted me. I see a deserted trench line and know this must lead to an occupied trench. I jump in and jog lightly through it. As I make my way through I spot the horrific scenes all around me. Blood, bodies and more blood. I have to make a huge effort to pass safely over all these dead bodies as I fear I may awake them by stepping on them. As I continue my journey it just gets worse, I pass huge monstrous rats feasting on the decomposing corpses all around me. I pass soldiers with giant holes in their heads and some missing different body parts.

As I continue on through the trench the corpses suddenly look fresher as if they were only killed minutes ago. I push away the idea and continue on. I begin to sweat. I start wondering if I'm about to walk into my death unaware of any of it until I hit the ground with a hole in my head. My head starts to hurt, as I think about how little food and water I've had. I start hearing shouts but I don't know if it's even real or just me hallucinating from my lack of water. The sounds of footsteps sound clear and close. Is this my fate coming to get me? The only thing my body allows me to do is walk forward. I am exposed to visceral sights beyond my wildest nightmares, I stop, and I wonder..... how much more can I endure?

- ***This story was submitted to the Sebastian Barry Award by Jack O'Neill. It stood out as the best among many great entries from First Year. Sebastian Barry is a past pupil and the current Laureate for Irish Fiction.***