

The Diary of a TY Student!

10th September 2011 – My first blog!

My name is Amy Murphy :) I'm fifteen years old and I have just started TY in Avondale C.C. It's been good so far!! This is my first blog. It's part of my Communication class, as blogging is a way of communicating with people who have similar interests like you. We have four classes a week of Communications. Next Tuesday in Home Economics we are making "Shepherd's pie" YUMM! We made pitta pizzas last week (well I didn't get to because I was out when they got the recipe) but I tasted the others and they were amazing! ha-ha! I can't wait for triple P.E. next Tuesday. We're starting kickboxing (it's part of our TY course). It's going to be great. In October all of us in TY are heading to Killary ahhhhh :D That is going to be the best experience ever!! We get to do all kinds of different sports like rock climbing, archery, bog walking, boating, abseiling and kayaking. I can't wait to try out some new sports!! Well so far TY has been great with all the blogging, cooking and kickboxing and it just keeps getting better and better...

24 September 2011 - JC results, Kickboxing and CSI

It's now my 3rd week into Transition Year and it is deadly :) I got my J.C results last week. I was over the moon with them. I hope I do as well as this in my Leaving Cert.! Football is starting back next week in school ... I can't wait. In Home Economics Ms.Byrne has opened up a huge opportunity for us. We can apply to cook in the Brooklodge Hotel at one of their stalls and sell our food!! Next week the people from the Brooklodge Hotel are coming into talk to us about the food they produce in the hotel. We started kickboxing in P.E. last week. It is amazing. It's a great experience and it shows us how to defend ourselves if we so happened to get in a fight. In Science we are doing a CSI project . This week we took our fingerprints and had to identify what type they were, just as if we were on a crime scene. We also looked at manmade and natural fibres under a microscope. It was so cool. That's all that has happened so far and I'm sure more exciting stuff will happen next week :)

30 September 2011: Transition Times are fun!

This is my 3rd post since starting 4th year. I am now 4 weeks into Transition Year and I'm having loads of fun!! It's only one week now until Killary. I'm so excited. I can't wait to go it will be great craic. Football started back this week and we have a match in 2 weeks :) Also in 2 weeks I am doing Irish dancing with Sinead for the Swedish students visiting our school!! I have been practicing really hard for this upcoming event and I hope it will be a huge success (fingers crossed)!! Well that's it for this week!

9 October 2011 - Brook lodge and the Swedish Visit!

This week I have plenty of news. First of all we are all going to Killary on Wednesday ...Can't wait... I better start packing my wellies ha ha :) Also, I applied for a job working at The Slow & Wild Festival in The Brooklodge Hotel and I was successful.

I was only one of many applicants who was successful and gets the chance to work with the best chefs in Ireland. I am over the moon with this. We are going to the Brooklodge on Monday 10th October, to explore the fields of organic crops and the peaceful gardens of the Brooklodge. We will be shown how to pick, prepare and cook organic crops into tasty dishes. Tomorrow, forty Swedish students and five teachers are visiting our school and I am gladly doing a bit of our traditional Irish dancing for them. I am so nervous... I hope they will enjoy it. Well that's all for this week I'll update you next week on what we did in Killary and any other exciting things that might happen throughout the week.

16 October 2011 – Killary, Killary, Killary!

Well I went to Killary on Wednesday and came back on Friday and boy was it amazing! No words can explain how unbelievable it was ... those were the best 3 days of my life!! The activities just got better and better but my favourite out of them all was the Ringo Riding. This is where 2 people go on a ring each at the back of a speed boat. And the Elite Turf Challenge...My group; group 1 was chosen to represent our school in this challenge. The aim was to beat the record which was 2 hours and 20 mins. We did it in 1hour and 50mins... we broke the record and we won a load of stuff for our school! The turf challenge was tough. We went through bogs, rivers, forests, jumping off cliffs, rat tunnels, underground pipes, climbing ropes, sprinting up hills and throwing each other over high built walls! It was just an amazing experience and if I got the chance I'd love to do it all again. I also really enjoyed the gorge walk; this involved climbing a waterfall ...it was so cool!! The giant swing and the Zip

Wire were both crazy and so much fun but the high ropes were the scariest of them all :) Ms Killary was a great laugh and was some craic. This involved the girls dressing up the lads in the girl clothes. Paddy Byrne aka Penelope won it!! He deserved it. I'd love to go back to Killary again. It was just mad! I'd pay double the amount of money to go back there ... I loved it!!

23 October 2011 – Talks and Projects are underway!

This week my class "Trans 2" started our Geography project. This involves drawing a food pyramid on the canteen wall and painting it. So far it looks great...we have drawn it out and all we need to do is paint it but we won't get to paint it until we come back after midterm because next week we're on work experience.

For work experience I'm working in my old primary school assisting staff and students and doing P.E. It's going to be a great experience. Also on Tuesday we had a Dental Talk. It was quite interesting. The dentist informed us on how to care for our teeth properly and she showed us what foods to eat and what not to eat. Also we had an autism talk as well. I learned so much more about autistic people and I found that they look no different to us and they have the same hobbies and interests as me too!! The Wild and Slow Festival is coming up in a few weeks. This week we started making a few products such as jelly muffins and jam. We did this by boiling wild berries and crab apples and then hung them over a bowl and drained the juices out of the mixture. We then used the juices to make our products. It is great fun making them. The week after we come back from the midterm I'm doing Community Links which involves me designing and painting a room. I'll tell you more about this in more detail next week. Well that's it for this week.

9th November: Work experience :)

From the 24th - 28th of October all Transition Years do a one week period of work experience in a career they would be interested in pursuing when they leave school. When I leave school I plan to be doing something in the area of sports like a P.E teaching or Sports science. For my work experience I went to my old primary St Laurence National School in Roundwood. Throughout the week I taught a huge number of P.E classes, arts and crafts and assisted with yard duty at break times. I was mostly teaching P.E for the week which I loved as I am very sporty. I play at least five different sports and my whole life is dedicated to sport. Working in the primary school was a great experience. I learned a lot through the week about teaching P.E classes which will be handy for when I become a P.E teacher in the future. I would definitely be interested

in teaching and I will look into it in more detail in TY. I can't wait until our 2nd phase of work experience. I plan to go to my sister's crèche or Roundwood playschool to assist staff and children and help out with the kids in minding them and doing work with them such as art and crafts as I am very artistic and love to draw it is one of my many hobbies.