

Activities and Initiatives in Youthreach Hospital Sept.-Dec. 2016

By Claire Ryan

Get into Golf – ran from September – November

The idea, initiated and planned by Claire Ryan and Debra McDonagh, was to set a challenge to students to:

- Operate outside of their 'comfort zone' and try something that they may never have a chance to do
- Avail of physical exercise in order to improve mental well being
- Work within a group social setting improving discipline and patience
- Learn the skills necessary for golf from PGA Professional (Marian Riordan)



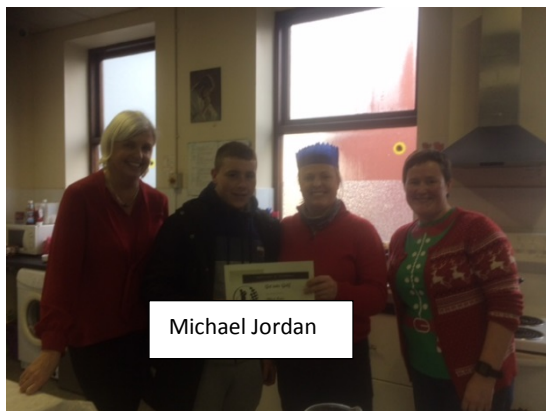
6 students took part, with 6 new students commencing lessons in 2017

Claire Ryan Jan. 2017

Students receiving Golf certificates in December at Christmas dinner



Debra McDonagh (Student Support), Simon McSweeney (Student),
Marian Riordan (Golf Pro), Claire Ryan (Resource Person)



‘Hospital 800’ Years Arts and Culture Week September 2016 —by Claire Ryan

As part of this week long celebration, the Youthreach Hospital Campus housed a local photography exhibition, a poetry reading night and welcomed members of the local public to view work carried out by students. The building itself was illuminated at the opening of the festival.



Part of the local photographic exhibition housed in Youthreach Hospital



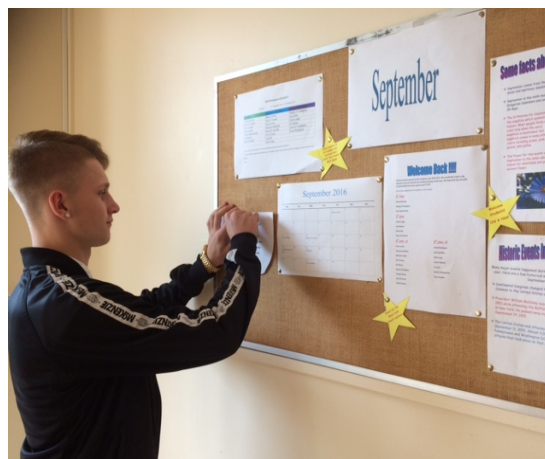
The Youthreach Hospital building in all its illuminated glory

Health Promotion

Youthreach Hospital continues to retain its Gold Standard Award in health Promotion under the supervision of Niav O’Connell. As part of the work Niav works with two students in planning and maintaining a Health Promotion and a student information noticeboard.

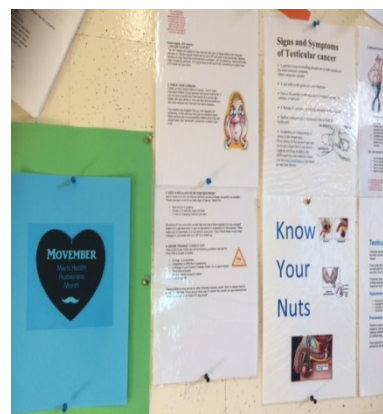


Health Promotion Noticeboard



Student Noticeboard

As a health promotion action Emily Rodriguez organised a Movember Information Coffee Morning in the centre. It was organised with the aim of promoting men’s health within the centre, as many times health promotion centres a lot around women’s health. Information on men’s cancer was placed on tables and Emily also provided fun facts about November.



Tidy Towns and Local Area Involvement

Students in Youthreach Hospital continue to partake in Tidy Towns initiatives and charity work for local charities. This year JJ Lynch worked on maintaining and repairing signage in our wildlife area and is also constructing an ‘insect hotel’. Sean O’Farrell worked on making new bat boxes, and bird houses for the wildlife area. Eric Beary made a dog box to be donated to the Limerick Animal Welfare (LAW) sanctuary in Kilfinnane. He also organised for Chris Samways to visits the centre to give a talk on the work of the organisation. Staff and students also contributed food and other required items to the sanctuary.



JJ working on new signage



Chris Samway's visit



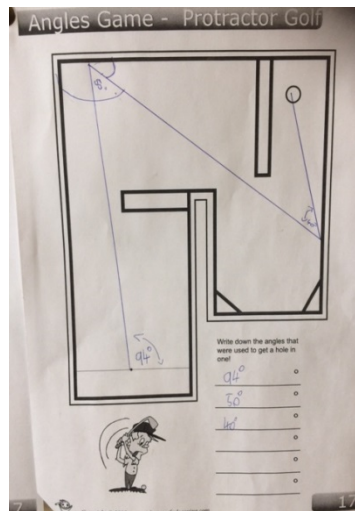
Bat boxes in construction

Literacy/Numeracy Initiative

During this time a new initiative was launched and coordinated by Melissa Moore-Carey, Daragh Bailey and Claire Ryan. The initiative included word of the week, in which students took the word and e.g. put it into a sentence to illicit meaning. Maths challenges were also set weekly for students to complete. Drop Everything And Read (DEAR), which is silent independent reading, was also undertaken by the students. Literacy and numeracy also incorporated the golf initiative. On completion of the initiative successful students went on a trip to Cork on December 7th.



Drop Everything And Read



GOLF Math challenge



Initiative Noticeboard

Student and Class of the month and Points Trips

Each month teachers vote on a student of the month from each class and an overall class of the month. Votes are cast on the basis of work completed, behaviour and overall progress.



Class of the month Nov.'16 6A6B

Student of the month Nov.'16 JJ Lynch



6A Student of the month
Nov.'16 Cumani Roche



The centre also operates a star system in order to promote positive behaviour. There is a six week trip for students who obtain the required amount of stars in the six week period.

5th Years	
Name	Week:
Evan Daly	
Calvin Leigh	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Levi Moran	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Kevin O'Connell	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Zack Walsh	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Dannacha Scully	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Kellie Byrnes	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Vicky Dineen	★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Junior Cert	
Name	Week:
Pierce Noonan	
Hayley O'Callaghan	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Sam Healy	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Andrew Moran	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Shailelle	★ ★ ★ ★ ★



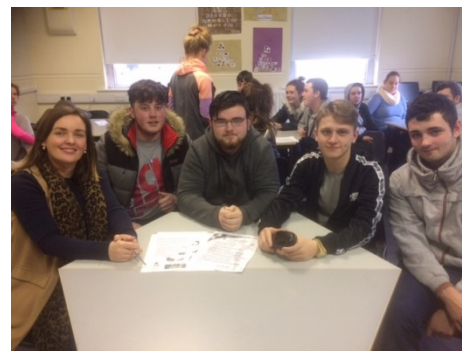
Events organised and run by students

As part of their Practical Achievement Task students organised and ran events within the centre.

Cumani Roche organised and ran a very successful Halloween Fun Day. It was a great opportunity for both staff and students to take time out from academic work and have some fun.



Ciara Curtin organised and ran a table quiz for both staff and students. This was to remind everyone to mind their mental health and that having fun can help this.



The winning team: Niav, Donnacha, Jamie, Simon & Connor

Simon McSweeney organised and ran 'Secret Santa' for December 21st. Presents were given out after our Christmas dinner.



Video work with Jay Red

A group of students took part in the writing, acting and shooting of a video to enter the Drugs.ie National Youth Media Awards 2017. The theme of their work was 'Why do some young people use drugs?' Jay Red, a videographer/music maker, worked on the video production with them on a weekly basis and a small grant was awarded in order for this work to be carried out.



Ice-Skating and Christmas Dinner

Our annual ice-skating and Christmas dinner happened on December 21st, with Lorraine cooking us up a great feast.

This year we had the pleasure of inviting our surrounding neighbours. Tom O'Sullivan went knocking on doors with invites and we were delighted with the amount of neighbours who accepted. It was a great opportunity to show local people some of the work we do.



