


# TY Christmas Newsletter 2021



Transition Year Home Ec  
Happy Christmas

Feliz Navidad





Welcome everyone to the 2021 Christmas edition of the Transition Year Newsletter. What a busy term we've had!! Our Transition Year students here in Coláiste Clavin have shown themselves to be such a wonderful and inspiring dynamic group of young people, eager to take on everything life has thrown at them. A term where they showed great spirit, great enthusiasm and zest for learning in a completely different format than before.

As always, it's my absolute pleasure to be the Transition Year coordinator, and see the great work done by our Transition Year teachers and students every year. Another group of wonderful young people, who have shown such a wonderful connection with each other, no matter the situation they were in. An absolute credit to the school community. In such a short space of time, these students have shown maturity, self-respect and care to their fellow students. It is a pleasure for their teachers to have them.

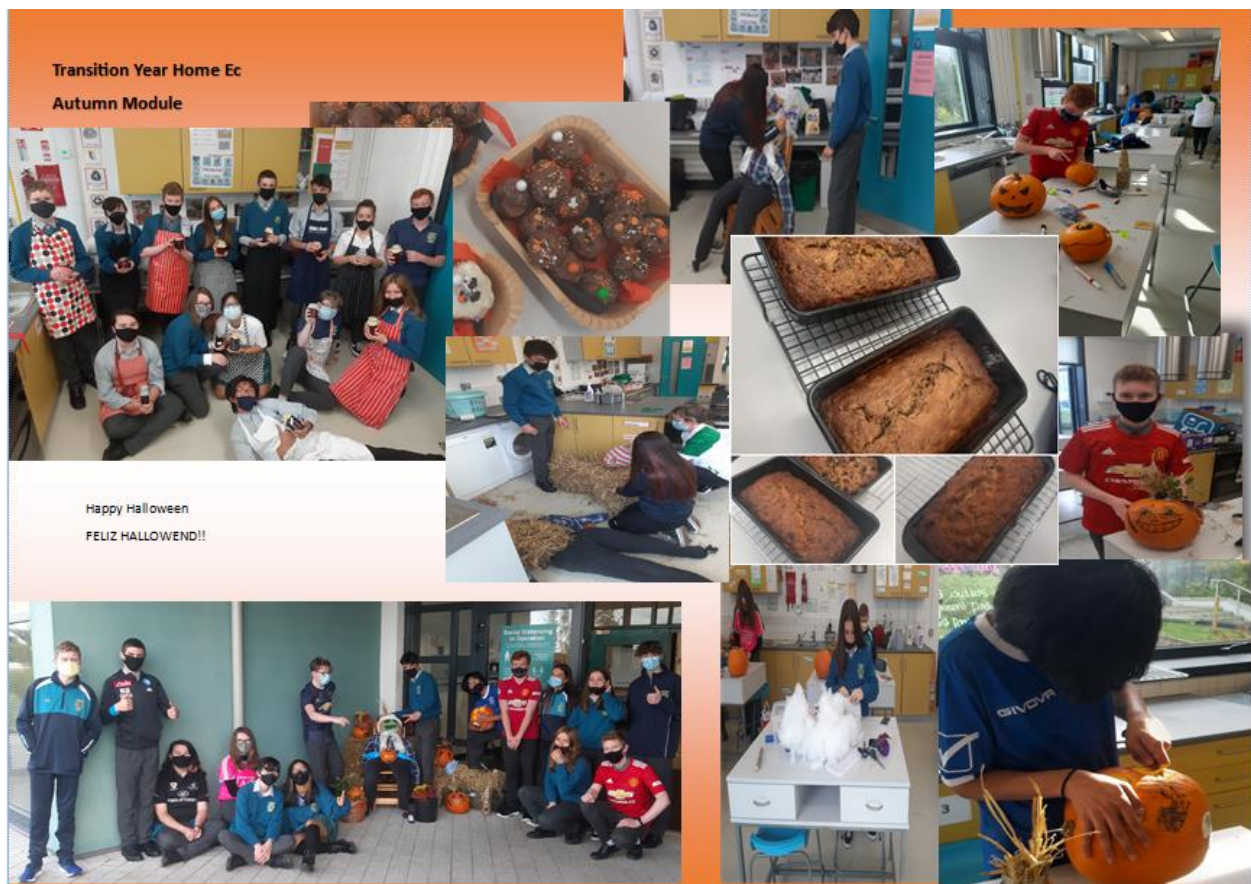
Don't forget to look back on the Halloween newsletter for all the fantastic achievements up to that point. In this newsletter, once again, you will find mix of teacher, student and Twitter reviews to enjoy.

Thank you teachers, parents and students. Have a wonderful Christmas, let's hope it is a blessed and safe Christmas for everyone. Stay safe!!

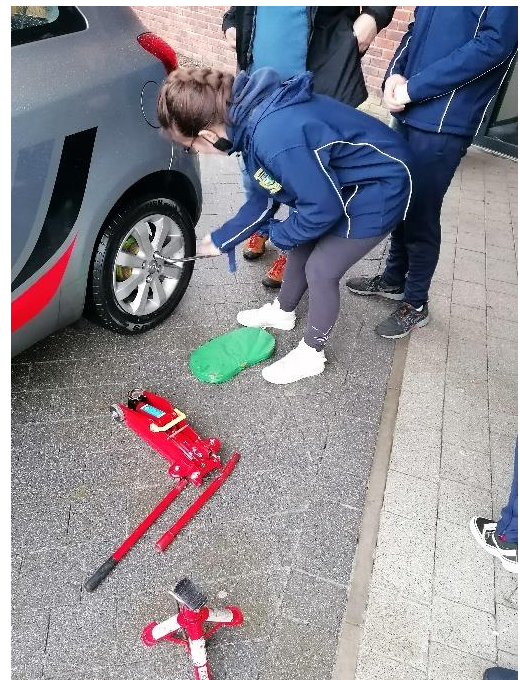
*Sandra O'Rafferty, TY Coordinator*

## *Sneak view of Halloween term (in pictures)*

Guided by the Home Economic's department, Ms Jill McCoy has kept the Transition years very busy last term in preparation for Halloween. Such a fun time for everyone!!



Driver Education Workshop  
(Irish School of Motoring)



*On 8<sup>th</sup> November, we were brought outside and saw a black Renault Clio and a silver Opel Corsa car.*

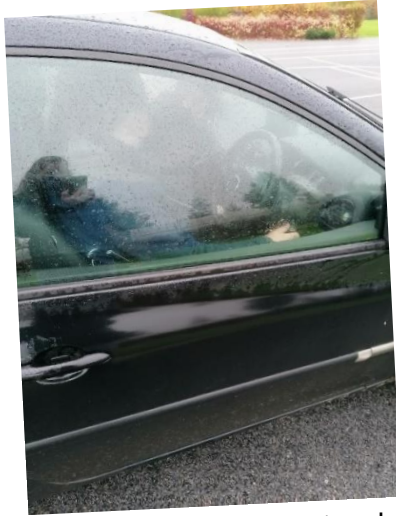
*First, we learned how to change the wheel on the Opel Corsa.*

*Next, we all took turns driving the Renault Clio around the basketball court with Joe the driving instructor sitting in the passenger seat. We drove forward, in reverse and shown how to change gears.*

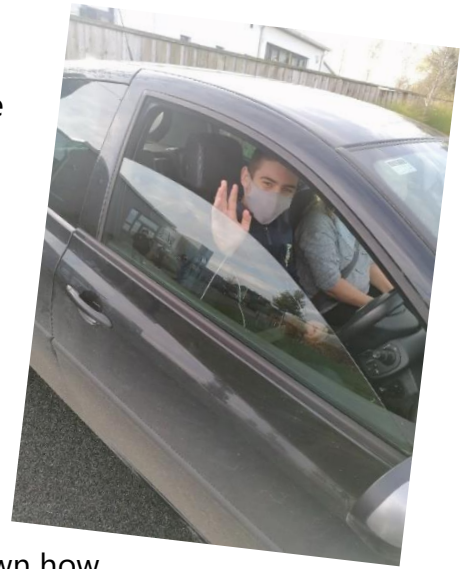
*After we did the normal driving, we were given a pair of drunk goggles to show people appear when driving with too much alcohol in their bodies/system. Wearing the goggles, we had to move the tennis ball with a golf club to a cone marked on the green and then hit the tennis ball as far as you can. We, the TYs all tried playing rounders with the drunk goggles on. It was funny watching someone running with the drunk goggles on.*



*Written by Jamie*



On the 8<sup>th</sup> of November we were sent outside to do some work with vehicles. The first thing that we did was remove and put back the wheel of an Opel Corsa. Then we had to do a few turns in a car



at a driving course. We were shown to go forward, backwards and then we were shown how to change the car's gears. Then we put on some goggles that made us feel drunk and the objective was that we had to hit a tennis ball towards a cone while staying balanced during the time that we spent wearing them. It felt awful but thankfully I didn't fall otherwise I would have had a lot of cleaning to do. All in all, it was a decent time and I will have no problem with doing it again. Even if it's for five or ten minutes.

*Written by Kieran*

## Mystery Trip -> Causey Farm Experience:

The transition year students were so excited to find out at the last minute they were going on a trip to Causey Farm after being told in advance they would need to bring a full change of clothing and to wear old clothes. They got the

“experience” of the traditional way of living baking bread (drinking buttermilk), meeting some of the unusual farm animals, feeding a camel was rather interesting. going on a trailer ride (some thought they were heading for slaughter) and being brought to the bog where they experienced what it felt like to jump into bog holes. They had great fun until they heard there were no showers and had to be power hosed clean. But even that didn't kill their spirit. Students really enjoyed the full experience.



Mystery trip

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of November the transition years, LCA's and le cheile students went on a mystery tour to causey farm. They got to do a wide range of activities including baking bread, seeing animals, and bog jumping. Even the teachers got involved in the bog jumping. We also got to get a tour of a few of the farmahobia events that were on that night. Thanks to Causey farm for giving us an enjoyable time. Hope to be back soon



*Written by Aaron*





A decorative border of green holly leaves and red berries surrounds the text.

## Redesign Workshop:

Transition Year students took part in a workshop run by James Fahy from Re-design Ireland. The aim of this workshop was to get them to become more environmentally conscious about their consumer choices and to be aware of their daily carbon footprint.

This course is designed to aid students in applying their learning to real-life situations and fostering problem-solving skills for real-world problems as the Earth continues to heat in the coming decades.

“

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- *Firstly he showed us videos and photos of the animals he saw on the places where he had been in the last years: Costa Rica, Brazil, Malaysia, Canada, Mexico, Peru, California, Colombia.*
- *We played a game in groups of 4:  
He asked a question and we had 30 seconds to answer, then one of each group played rock paper or scissors and who won was the first saying one of his answer, then we got points depending the answer.*
- *He asked us questions about biodiversity, gases contaminants, sea issues...*
- *We watched a video about earth, why is so special, what was the first thing that was created in the earth(bacteria).*
- *We were assigned to each group a sphere and we had to talk about its important, function.*
- *We played a Kahoot.*
- *After break we talked about anthology, pollution in the world.*
- *We watched a video about how humans are destroying the planet.*
- *Then we played again kahoot.*
- *He showed us a video about global extremes, and we talked about natural disasters, climate change.*
- *We completed two questionnaires about our carbon footprint.*
- *We did an atmosphere and environment quiz.*

Student feedback

"Best workshop so far this year"

"Such an enjoyable day"

• Finally, we made a video in groups about some of the topics we learnt during the class. In my opinion it was one of the most interesting topics we have done, and I would strongly recommend it.

- Primero nos enseñó videos y fotos de los animales que vio en los sitios en los que ha estado en los últimos años: Costa Rica, Brasil, Malasia, Canada, Mexico, Peru, California, Colombia.
- Jugamos a in juego en grupos de 4 personas: Nos hacia preguntas y teniamos 30 segundos para responder, luego uno de cada grupo jugaba con

el resto a piedra, papel o tijera. Quien ganase era el primer o en décor su respuesta, ganando puntos dependiendo de esta.

- Nos hizo preguntas a cerca de la biodiversidad, gases contaminantes, problemas marinos.
- Vimos un video a cerca de la Tierra, porque es tan especial, que fue la primera cosa que se creó en la Tierra (bacteria).
- Se nos asignó a cada grupo una esfera y teniamos que decir porque era importante, su función.
- Jugamos al kahoot.
- Despues del recreo hablamos de antologia,contaminacion en el mundo.
- Mas tarde vimos un video de como los humanos estamos destrozando en planeta.
- Luego jugamos de nuevo al kahoot.
- Nos enseñó un video de los extremos globales, hablamos de desastres naturales, cambio climatico.
- Completamos dos cuestionarios sobre la huella que dejamos de carbon.
- Finalmente hicimos un video en grupos sobre algunos de los temas que aprendimos durante la clase.

En mi opinión ha sido uno de los talleres más interesantes que hemos realizado y lo recomiendo encarecidamente.

“

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*Written by Abril*

## Languages Connect Day:



This workshop was a very entertaining, fun, and very useful thing. We have the opportunity to learn other languages, and we have a little more general culture from other countries.

Not only was that, but we also spent time together as a class.

We had dancing, food, laughter and a chance to learn languages.

*Written by Ines*

## Bulbs for Bees Initiative:

Transition year students got involved in the Bulbs for Bees initiative through Gaisce. Bees play a significant role in the pollination of vital food crops. It is estimated that one third of the food we consume each day relies on pollination by bees. The bee population has become under threat in recent years, and we all have a part to play ensuring they don't die off. TY students planted a total of 50 pollinator friendly bulbs which will blossom and provide much needed carbohydrate rich nectar for these bees. Great work by all involved. #BulbsForBees



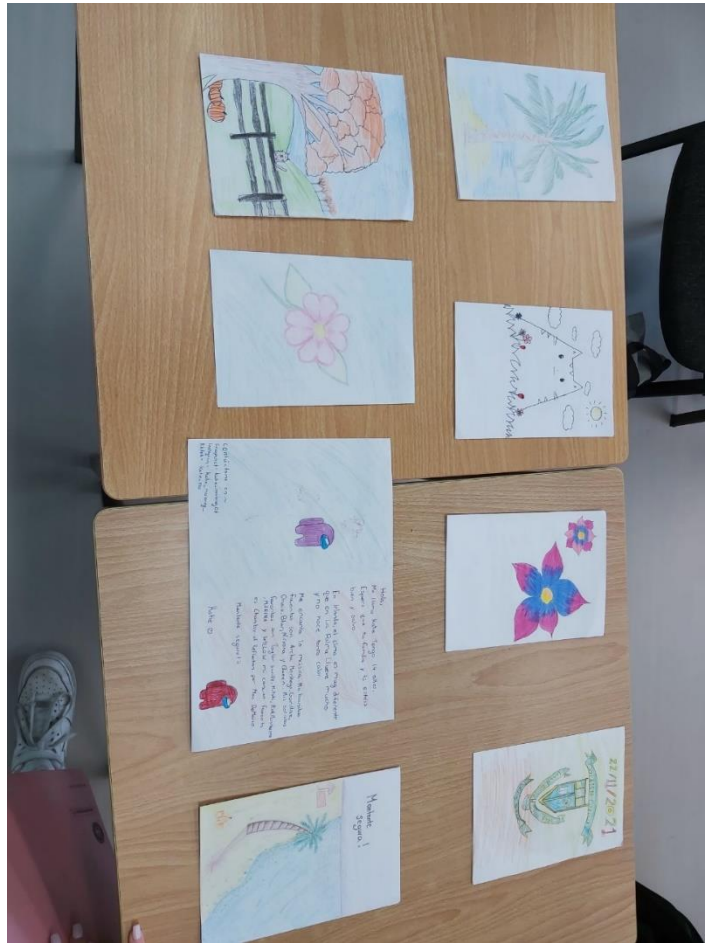
Written by Mr Brian Farrell

## La Palma Support from T.Ys:

### Twitter report:

The T.Y students designed a writing template that 1st 2nd & 3rd yr students used to write messages of support in Spanish with Miss Shine & Miss Oliver to students who suffered school closures due to the volcano eruption in La Palma.

Well done to all involved



## National Reptile Zoo:

TY's were delighted to be included in meeting some exotic animals when the National Reptile Zoo took a visit to the school. They were grateful to Ms Rebecca Evans who arranged the visit to the school

" On the 26<sup>th</sup> of November the T.Y class had gotten a chance to see animals we don't normally see here in Ireland for example.

The first animal we have seen was a snake, We were told fascinating facts like how snakes smell with their tongues and see with infrared instead of normal vision. After we got to know about snakes we got to hold the snake. Everyone was shocked on how it felt but you could feel all the muscles move.



The next animal we seen was a snapping turtle. The fact that we were all surprised about the turtle was he had an estimated bite force of about 450kg. Another really fascinating fact is his tongue is make to look like a worm so small animals would go in trying to get a snack and then the turtle would get its food. We weren't allowed to hold him for our safety

The last animal we seen was a lizard. We only got a brief look at this animal but from what we were told and seen the animal was a small, agile animal.

Over all the everyone enjoyed the class we had to see the animals and would like to thank the 'National Reptile Zoo' for letting us experience it. "

*Written by Daniel*



## SOAR Workshop:

The transition year students participated in the SOAR foundation workshop for a full day and got to wear own clothes into school, so they felt more themselves and felt more comfortable.

There was 3 parts to the workshop , the first part was trying to get the students up in front of the class and sing the first few lyrics of their favourite song , Not every student participated but after we spoke about the feelings we felt about getting up and singing and our feelings in general. The second part was about opening up to the fellows students and saying things about yourself other people wouldn't have known and we stood in two lines across from each other and saying "step to the line if....." it was very emotional for some students but we did it together. The last part was about the goals you would like to achieve in life and future job etc... It was a very good workshop and it worked well for all the students. Thank you

*Written by Teighan*

## Guidance:

In class TY'S created questions in relation to a teacher's college experience and asked Ms. Olivier all about her college experience which was insightful. We are planning on going to Maynooth University in the spring to take a campus tour and learn more about the college courses, clubs and societies on offer.

*Written by Stacey Higgins*

## CV & Interview Skills Workshop:

For our Bank Of Ireland talk on the 13th of December, we were informed on how we could present our CV (Curriculum Vitae) to our employers in the most professional form. There's no certain format it needs to be but there is a recommended, from the oldest to latest dates of education / work. We were told we "almost want to be bragging" In our CV as we are trying to convince ourselves to be hired.

## College Awareness week:

College awareness week took place from the 22nd to the 26th of November. For it, the Ty's attended online college tours of places such as Maynooth and Trinity. There was also a raffle which took place to win a hoodie! To win the hoodie, you had to ask any teacher a question in relation to college and have them sign a piece of paper. You then had to put the slip of paper into a box to enter the raffle. Sadly, nobody in the Ty group won anything but it was fun to participate in nonetheless

*Written by Yanin*

## Opera Ireland Workshop:

In the Opera talk on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2021 a guy came into the Ty's and some of the 5<sup>th</sup> years to talk about opera and the history of opera. It was very interesting to learn about something new. For example we talked about how operas aren't the expensive. We also listened to a video of a lady singing opera.

*Written by Rian*



## Maths in TY:

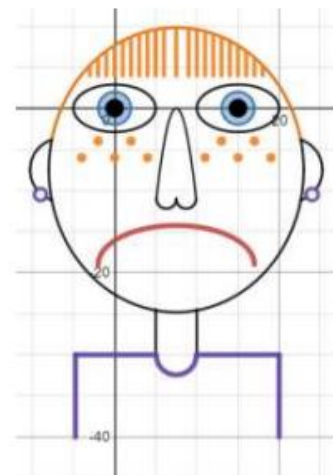
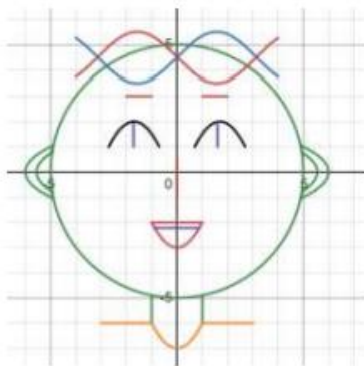
### Maths in TY

In the past few months in Maths we have been exploring a wide range of mathematical ideas. This started in Maths week when the TY students taught problem solving based questions to 1<sup>st</sup> year classes. The TYs took a lot from this and maybe even realised how difficult teaching can be!



Written by Eric  
Syzmanski

This term we have been focussing on graphing equations. We have been using [desmos.com](https://www.desmos.com) as a quick way to plot functions or graphs. We have been plotting straight lines, curves, circles and many more. This all geared up to the first part of our Christmas assessment where the TY students had to draw faces on a graph using equations in various forms. This has given the students a great resource to use in future years to aid their mathematical understanding. Some examples of their work drawn using only mathematical equations!



In the new year in Maths we will be studying even more problem solving based questions and competitions.

## Law Education Workshop:

On the final day before the Christmas holidays, Transition Year students were put through their paces as they faced a court room situation. Led by the witty and talented James Fahy, students discovered the difference between solicitors and barristers, the different types of courts depending on the amount of the claim and all the various law terminologies. Various stories were told of both a serious and humorous nature. Students gladly took part in various courtroom roles, having a challenging time.

## TY Aware (Cognitive Behaviour Analysis)

### Programme:

TY students took part in a very valuable workshop from AWARE over a 4 week period. They focused on the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) entailing how thinking and behaviour are intertwined. It equipped the students to deal with the challenges in life with a new set of eyes

TAKEN FROM [WWW.AWARE.IE](http://WWW.AWARE.IE)

**This programme will help students to:**

Understand the interaction between thoughts, feelings and behaviour

Recognise unhelpful thinking styles and learn how they might change them

Build inner confidence and foster positive thinking

Learn how to manage anger and irritability

Identify unhelpful behaviours and learn how to make small, practical changes

Understand how to break a problem down into manageable steps, make a plan and put it into action

Improve wellbeing by making small, easy changes to their lifestyles

## Inspire Ireland Poetry Slam:

For many the best workshop we have had so far, this workshop was through a video conference with a very funny and nice man who explained to us what poetry consists of in a funny and entertaining way, this man managed to catch the attention of all the class, at the end of the workshop we ended up making a poem for each student.

Para muchos el mejor taller que hemos tenido hasta ahora, este taller fue a traves de una videoconferencia con un hombre muy gracioso y majo que nos explicó en que consiste la poesia de una manera graciosa y entretenida, este señor consiguió coger la atencion de toda la clase, al final del taller acabamos haciendo un poema cada estudiante.

*Written by Diego,  
Spanish student in TY*

### BLIND LOVE

Someone told me that if i could go back  
5 years, what would i tell myself?  
I'd tell myself that love is not worth it,  
Certain things can blind a man or a  
woman  
But I've never met a man that has never  
been blinded by love.  
Just forget about it for a few years.

### True Love

It was just a second  
To lost my love  
And without respond  
I swear that was true love.  
I lost my star,  
Searching for a universe,  
And I lost myself in a black hole.  
We were just freaks,  
And we end with heartbreak



## Zenith

I walk on silver lining  
Balancing my will  
My fate is intertwining  
With this cloud of endless still  
The expectations they left  
The harsh words they sent  
Do nothing but push me ahead  
I look high through the clouds  
The utopia above  
If only I could fly there, free as a dove  
But what does freedom mean  
To somebody like me?  
Someone alone on this thread  
Just an everlasting dread  
I cannot feel ardor  
It truly is a bore  
This cycle they adore, the one that hurts me more  
They say these years are great  
I stand high in rebate  
But what's the point of thriving in this world that's only  
dying?

## Flowers

Flowers never know how pretty they are  
The only reflective surface they'll ever see is rain  
Even if you were to put a mirror in front of them they  
wouldn't know  
Because flowers can't see  
If you tell a flower it's pretty, it won't know  
Flowers can't hear either  
But flowers are lovely  
Not just the stem, but every petal  
I've never disliked a flower just upon seeing them  
I hope flowers grow some eyes

## EVERYDAY

Everyday I think of you.  
Hoping i will see you  
again someday.  
Stressing out everyday  
to find you.  
Been looking since  
may.  
Got a little phone call  
hoping its him.  
A voice i haven't  
recognised came  
through  
He told me that  
I will never see again



## DAY IN THE LIFE

Every morning when they wake up,  
They get changed into their uniform.  
The food they have is sandwiches,  
They drink apple juice at lunchtime.  
They go to work at 8:30 in the morning,  
And go home at 6 o'clock in the evening.  
After dinner they rest on their couch,  
And they go to bed and have a big deep sleep.

## We all Matter.

There's this thing called  
matter, we all know matter  
and

we are all made of matter  
since it's everywhere and  
it's everything.

Your parents matter, your  
children matter, your  
siblings matter and your  
friends matter.

I say this since not only we  
know and love matter but  
we are also made of  
matter.

No matter how you feel or  
do things. At the end of  
the day, we all matter

**Some wonderful poets immersed**

**from our TY group**

# TY Artwork

TY Students did some fantastic work in preparation for Careers Week, Languages Week, Angels (Clay Modelling) for Xmas and the Choir Backdrop



*Merry Christmas  
everyone and stay  
safe!!*

