



Digital Learning





Digital Learning with iPad

Heavy Metal

What is the traditional gift for a 10th wedding anniversary? That's right it is the lesser known, aesthetically questionable aluminium. As we move into our 10th year of the iPad Programme, we are delighted to reflect on our iPad union which has been a decade of innovation, creativity and vision. As students complete their studies with us and move on to Third Level and beyond, we know that they are equipped with digital skills that will assist them in a myriad of fields. To ensure that our teachers have ample exposure to technological pedagogies, our Digital Coordinator, Mr. Hughes, provides in house continuous professional development opportunities through the Apple Teacher Programme over the course of the year.



Apple Teacher Portfolio is a new recognition badge that educators can earn through Apple Teacher Learning Center, the self-paced professional learning platform. The free offering helps educators make the most of digital learning with iPad in the classroom through each phase of their lesson planning to help students activate prior knowledge, explore a topic more deeply, and apply understanding.

For educators, Apple Teacher Portfolio becomes a compilation of their most creative and engaging lessons, a body of work ready to share with leadership and peers. Reflecting on what worked - and what didn't - leads to transformation in the teaching practice, and the portfolio acts as a journal to capture those milestones (adapted from apple.com). Congratulations to our teachers who achieved the Apple Teacher Portfolio this year and thank you to our Digital Coordinator and resident musician, Mr. Hughes.





Digital Champions

'It's easy to stand in the crowd but it takes courage to stand alone.'

MAHATMA GANDHI

Not all superheroes wear capes, some can be seen with iPads, headphones and an inkling for social responsibility, and so it is with our tremendous Digital Champions. This is a group of Second Year students who step up and volunteer to educate and inform our student body on the responsible use of IT in our school community. In 2023/'24 our dedicated team consisted of Charlotte Hannon, Grace Dolan, Grace Whelan, Holly Matthews Kearns, Kelly Chen and Molly Sewell. They decided to focus on the theme of 'Fake News'. Firstly, they created a public display on the dangers of fake news, how to spot it, how to combat it and how to report it. The display covered some of the major fake news events of the last few years and the perilousness of 'alternative facts'. The next step in this campaign was to bring the information to the classrooms.

With this in mind, the Digital Champions split up and each taught a lesson to every First Year CSPE class on the dangers of fake news. The lesson began with a quiz to determine the base level knowledge of the students, then the Digital Champions informed the students how to spot fake news items on social media and ended with a Kahoot. The feedback from the First Year groups and their teachers was very positive. In the Spring, the Champions invited our local community Garda, Marion Power in to talk to all Second Years about the law regarding social media. Garda Power covered a range of topics from the laws around online bullying to the sharing of explicit images. The presentation was very informative and everybody was clear on the legalities of certain online actions.

Our Digital Champions ended the year on a high point by creating a video montage of Second Year events that occurred in 2023/'24. This montage, set to upbeat music, was shown at the end of year celebration for Second Years. The video included sports and cultural events and the end of year trip to Emerald Park. We would like to commend our Digital Champions for their socially responsible work throughout the year.

